

## **International Bulletin on Youth Research**

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE 34 INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

2011 (2/2)

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE 34



### Strong Youth Research Stream in Australia Attracts a Crowd

Report from down-under by **Dr. Ani Wierenga** VP for Australia, New Zealand & Oceania

Follow us on twitter or send a *youth tweet* from your side of the world at <u>www.twitter.com/</u> <u>rc34youth.</u>

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n June 2011, the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) Conference brought together young people, youth led and youth sector organisations as well as academics and government officials to discuss and learn about youth, change, policy, and practice. Some 320 delegates from across all states and territories converged at Sydney for the First National Youth Conference in four years. People came to access the most recent information about what is happening in the area of youth policy, research, development and practice, and to develop networks and contacts throughout the youth sector. Built around the theme 'interrupting transmission', the event provided an opportunity to think about the ways we might interrupt unjust patterns, and to interrupt ourselves to enable reflection on the position of young people and the youth sector.

The conference was hosted by Australia's newly funded national peak body for youth affairs, the AYAC. The emergence of AYAC represents a victory for many advocates – including a vocal youth

research community – who have been campaigning for some years for Government Funding for a national peak body.

To continue strengthening conversations between research, policy and practice, RC34 and the Australian Youth Research Centre co-sponsored the research stream at the conference. Meanwhile, the newly formed Australian Sociological Association (TASA) youth thematic group provided communications support.

The reach and engagement of the conference was extended by lively Twitter discussions throughout the conference – 4000 tweets in total. RC34's Trudi Cooper was acclaimed from the main stage in the first 24

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### **Update from your RC34 President**

This update is being written in the immediate aftermath of the horrific tragedy in Norway on July 22. A number of RC34 members have expressed their sympathies and outrage through our mailing list <<u>rc34@uwo.ca</u>>. There are ongoing discussions of what RC34 can do to express it support for Norway and to help us all understand this form of violence. I will keep everyone posted on these developments.

Since the last Newsletter we have been busy with the early preparations for the 2012 Forum in Buenos Aires. With the assistance and sage counsel of the other members of the Programme Committee (Ani and Howard), a Call for Sessions went out earlier this year, and the enthusiastic response to this has been transformed into a Call for Papers that is now available on the ISA website: www.isa-sociology.org/buenos -aires-2012/rc/rc.php? n=RC34. Please pay close attention to the special rules of participation for this conference set out by the ISA, especially those who want to have multiple involvements - there

are two maximum: <u>www.isa-</u> <u>sociology.org/buenos-aires-</u> <u>2012/guidelines-for-</u> <u>programme-coordinators.htm</u>.

Abstracts will be accepted beginning in late August. I paste the ISA instructions here for abstract submission for your convenience:

"From August 25 through December 15, 2011, on-line abstract submission will take place. The system is designed in order to make this process as user-friendly as possible. With this in mind, it will allow Programme Coordinators and Session Chairs to view abstracts and, more importantly, enter scoring, decisions, and comments. They will also be able to download the abstracts for offline review. Programme Coordinators will have the ability to monitor the work being done by the Session Chairs and are responsible for the final session planning. They will decide whether papers are accepted for oral or poster presentations, or distributed papers. Programme Coordinators can transfer papers between sessions."

Meanwhile, preparations are underway



for a "Transitions" conference in Tampa, Florida, in January of next year, jointly organized with RC04 (Sociology of Education) – thanks to Jeylan for overseeing RC34's part of this. And RC34 has agreed to a collaboration with the Raiiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) in Sriperumbudur, India, for the conference, "Enhancing Competencies of Adolescents and Youth: A Life Skills Approach," in late November of this year. Thanks to Vinod Chandra for arranging that collaboration.

I hope everyone can make arrangement to attend as many RC34 events as possible, but in this time of retrenchment, we all understand the financial constraints in doing so.

Best wishes,

James Côté



### For updates visit <u>www.rc34youth.org</u>

## **Upcoming Conferences 2011**

# **Society for Longitudinal** and Life Course Studies

### SLLS International Conference 2011

Bielefeld, Germany Venue: Ravensberger Spinnerei 26th- 28th September 2011

This is the second conference of the Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS). The conference will take place in Bielefeld, the location of the World Congress of Sociology in 1994. The venue is the Ravensberger Spinnerei near the centre of the city. Situated in a small park, the venue consists of several buildings of industrial architecture (a former spinning mill). In addition there is a small movie theatre and a beer garden. Hotels and all other places of interest can be reached by walks within a few minutes. The university building can be reached by tram within 15 minutes.

The conference comprises keynote lectures and parallel group and poster sessions. The topics the conference will address extend across the whole range of longitudinal and life course studies, for example: Life course stages from infancy to old age (including physical, psychological, social developmental and ageing processes and functioning); household, and income dynamics; intergenerational transfers and returns to learning; gene-environment interaction; 'mixed', and comparative methods; innovative methodology in design, measurement, analysis and research practice (quantitative and qualitative); longitudinal research and policy.

#### For complete details visit:

www.longstudies.longviewuk.com/pages/ conference.shtml



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## **Upcoming Conferences 2011**

# SSEA Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood



3rd International Conference on Life Skills Education Enhancing Competencies

of Adolescents and Youth:

A Life Skills

Approach

22<sup>m</sup>-25" November 2011

The 5th Conference on Emerging Adulthood will bring together a diverse international group of scholars to present symposia, papers, and posters on development from the late teens through the twenties, with a focus on ages 18-25.

For complete details visit: <u>www.ssea.org/index.htm</u>

The 3rd International Conference on Life Skills Education focus to bring various stake holders into a platform to debate and discuss issues and innovative practices associated with the conference theme. The stakeholders include eminent scholars, researchers, practitioners, trainers and agencies which are working on the same platform.

For complete details visit: <u>www.rc34youth.org</u>

November 22-25, 2011 Sriperumbudur, India

# **Upcoming Conferences 2012**

### Call for Papers: RC04 & RC34 Conference on Transitions

January 13-15, 2012 Tampa, Florida, USA RC04, ISA Research Committee on Sociology of Education, is joining with RC34, ISA Research Committee on the Sociology of Youth, to co-sponsor an ISA Interim Conference on "Transitions".

For complete details visit: <u>www.rc34youth.org</u>

### Call for Papers: Symposia on Juvenile Violence and Access to Justice

July 15-20, 2012 Vienna, Austria

For complete details visit: www.ca2012.univie.ac.at/home/

#### The 54 ICA International Congress of Americanists

Congress theme: *Building Dialogues in Americas* 

Americanist scholarship is marked by a vibrant diversity of ontological, epistemological, and methodological questions. Since its inception, Americanists have gathered at ICA meetings to discuss empirical and normative scholarship, liberal and conservative politics, positivist and post-positivist perspectives, as well as activists and theoretical approaches, among other things. While these specializations often have been artificially separated, we aim to facilitate sharing of insights, questions, methods and viewpoints that could foster dynamic dialogues.

### Strong Youth Research (from page 1)



hours of the conference by being the most tweeted presenter with her research analysis of hot contemporary issues surrounding youth work.

RC34's Kitty te Riele teamed up with Leslie Tobin at Dusseldorp Skills Forum, community agencies and young people to organize a powerful main stage plenary session on the challenges and options jointly facing young people, non formal learning organizations and the youth sector. In the context of rapid social change and the Government's 'Learn or Earn' policies, many young people who would have found their way into apprenticeships are finding themselves stuck at school for longer. Plenary panel speaker, Johanna Wyn, explained: 'mainstream school system is failing to meet the needs of a significant proportion of young people'. Young people on the panel shared insights as to what can and does work for them.

The research papers highlighted topics of interest to wider audiences. Pam Nilan shared her research about being young, Muslim and unemployed in Australia. Lesley Patterson shared insights from biographical research in New Zealand. Brady Robards' work on social media was picked up in an interview for JJJ news that evening.

Research Session themes included: culture, identity and belonging youth work and professional development for youth work, participation, health and wellbeing, youth in communities, youth transitions, and alternative (non-formal) learning. In all there were 28 research papers presented, spanning the practice – theory nexus.

The research stream was well attended by researchers, practitioners and managers. Running throughout the conference and averaging 75 people across sessions, there were some very full sessions and also some early morning-after quiet ones. RC34 members were joined by others to chair sessions, provide high quality research input, and also some spectacular chairing amidst lively debates.

Peer refereed research papers will be available via AYAC's website (<u>www.ayac.org.au</u>) in the near future.

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Participants (Sunshine Coast Flexi Learning Centre, Central coast Alesco, and Hands on Learning) sharing their experiences as part of AYAC's National Conference panel discussion "Tacking the Imperative to Earn or Learn".

# **Upcoming Conferences 2012**



**2012 Biennial Meeting In Vancouver** 14<sup>th</sup> SRA Biennial Meeting March 8-10, 2012

Preconference Events: March 7, 12:00 PM – 11:00 PM Vancouver Convention Centre: All Sessions



Conferència Joves i Societats a Europa i a la Mediterrània Conferencia Jóvenes y Sociedades en Europa y en el Mediterráneo Rencontres Jeunes et Sociétés en Europe et autour de la Méditerranée Conference Young People & Societies in Europe and Mediterranean

BARCELONA • 7,8 i 9 de juny de 2012

6th Conference Young People and Societies in Europe and Mediterranean

### Conference Theme: Itineraries and Identities in an Internationalization Context

The global economic crisis and its political and social effects on Europe and some North-African countries, provide new angles from which to analyse young people's position, their itineraries, and their role in society.

For complete details visit: <u>www.jornades.uab.cat/jse</u>



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### RC34 Call for Papers: 2nd ISA Forum of Sociology in Argentina

**For complete details visit:** <u>www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/rc/rc.php?n=RC34</u>

### Research Committee on Sociology of Youth, RC34

*Main theme:* Social justice and democratization

### **Programme Coordinators**

James COTE, University of Western Ontario, Canada, cote@uwo.ca Ani WIERENGA, University of Melbourne, Australia, wierenga@unimelb.edu.au Howard WILLIAMSON, University of Glamorgan, United Kingdom, howardw@glam.ac.uk

Number of allocated sessions including Business meeting: 16.

### Deadlines

- On-line abstract submission from August 25 to December 15, 2011.
- All Forum participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) need to pay the early registration fee by **April 10, 2012**, in order to be included in the programme. If not registered, their names will not appear in the Programme or Abstracts Book.
- On-line registration will open August 25, 2011.

### **Call for papers**

### **Proposed sessions**

in provisional order Only abstracts submitted through <u>ISA website plat</u>form will be considered.

#### Session A

#### Youth cultures from a cosmopolitan perspective

#### Chairs

Vincenzo CICCHELLI, Université Paris 4, CNRS, France, vincenzo.cicchelli@parisdescartes.fr Ian WOODWARD, Griffith University, Australia

A large body of cross-disciplinary research in the last few decades has focused on the development and impacts of a global society, and more recently on the cosmopolitan consequences of such changes. Notably, however, there is a lack of knowledge and understanding of the emergence of transnational shared practices, values, norms, behaviors, cultures and patterns amongst young people. This session focuses on adolescence and youth from a cosmopolitan perspective. Within sociology the idea of cosmopolitanism has re-emerged in the last two decades as a major focus for debates about social change, globalization, and cultural differences. It also represents a significant theme in questions of public policy and political ethics suited to the challenges of a global society. The cosmopolitan challenge within sociology seeks to explore the ethical, political and cultural implications of the radical relationality and decentring increasingly institutionalized by global society. At its core, the session urges us to consider whether we are witnessing the globalisation or the localisation of the condition of youth. Furthermore, it considers how youth experience in this context should be contextualised within the dynamics of contemporary theories of cosmopolitanism.

Part of the social scientific challenge of such an idea is findings its articulation at the level of the 'really existing' layer of everyday life. This session is consistent with the perspectives of the emerging cosmopolitan awareness and practices that are derivative of globalised world, in which nations are no longer the only units of analysis. We suppose that youth cultures are not

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### RC34 Call for Papers: 2nd ISA Forum of Sociology in Argentina

confined to nation-states, even if comparative works confirm the widely accepted thesis that national contexts still impact considerably on juvenile conditions. We endeavor to address how and in what ways young people are both the product and agents of this developing global frame of reference, and in turn ask what this means for rethinking aspects of both cosmopolitan theory and youth studies. Possible topics for consideration include: local and global belongings of young people; young people and cultural plurality; globalization and young people's futures; effects of risks and uncertainties associated with globalization; attitudes toward global politics, economy and environment; learning about global issues; young people and mobilities; the reception of global popular cultures.

#### Session B

# Youth cultures and new social movements in the context of the digital revolution

#### Organiser

Dan WOODMAN, University of Melbourne, Australia, daniel.woodman@unimelb.edu.au **Chair** Airi-Alina ALLASTE, Tallinn University, Estonia,

alina@iiss.ee

Technological developments have enabled new forms of participation in international communities as well as the rapid exchange of ideas and cultural products. The lives of many young people are being reconfigured by the microchip and new digital technologies. Social networking and mobile communications offer new possibilities for sociality and community. New cultural trends and (political) worldviews are often global in reach, spreading quickly to different locations while also developing unique local characteristics in different places. Yet technological advances also have a more sinister side for young people; technologies like security cameras and I.D. scanners are eroding or reshaping the existing collective meeting places of youth.

The session will investigate the formation of different global sub cultural and/or culturally political formations within different locations and the role of technology in these formations. Papers that explore one or both of these themes will be considered. One focus is on the role of these formations in different societies – the changes that international subcultures and new social movements undergo when taken up in new societies and meanings that young people can attach to their participation in global subcultures and new social movements. A second focus is the impact of the digital revolution on youth cultural formations and young people's relationships.



#### Session C

# Young people as actors of development in transitional countries: Ethnic majority and minority youth Chair

Ilze KOROLEVA, University of Latvia, Latvia, Ilzek@petijums.lv

This session focuses on youth as a subject of action in transitional countries. The objective of the session is to discuss different types of youth participation and the impact of that participation on social and political processes. Political participation is based on identification with the country, location, or region, and can be regarded as practice of identification. Therefore we will also debate processes of identification of young people in transitional countries. Since many transitional countries' populations consist of large ethnic "minority" groups, we will consider ethnic majority as well as ethnic minority youth.

Participation of youth and democratic participation processes can differ from the traditional Western type of participation. In some transitional countries (such as some parts of Eastern and Central Europe) youth participation is rather low and, escaping from any organized form of participation, youth is often disengaged from the political processes and rarely develop the sense of citizenship, which is essential for building an inclusive, participatory democracy. In other countries (like at the moment in North Africa and the Middle East) youth movements are widespread. The main emphasis is put on the one hand on identification processes that are linked to political participation and on the other hand on problems of social justice and democracy in the participation of (ethnic majority as well as ethnic minority) youth in transitional countries.

#### Session D

Mass higher education, employment opportunities, and youth

#### Chair

Vinod CHANDRA, University of Lucknow, India, ccyrci@rediffmail.com

In the era of globalization, most of the countries have introduced structural changes in their higher education policies. There is shift in the focus of higher education. The concept of mass higher education was introduced and the emphasis was on the mass enrolment in higher education sector. Both vocational and non-vocational areas of studies have introduced new courses. In this transitional phase of higher education young people face many new challenges. Their absorption in the local, national and international job market is one of the important issues. The linkages between the existing labour market and the credentials produced by higher educational institutions in the phase of mass higher education are a subject to be examined.

This session is open for the discussion and debate on the phenomenon of mass higher education from a social-justice perspective, examining the challenges facing young graduates, transitions in higher education, and youth employment/ unemployment/ underemployment

#### Session E Youth and work in a globalized world

#### Organiser

Ada FREYTES FREY, University of Avellaneda, Argentina, afreytes@sion.com

#### Chairs

Rosa María CANAREBA-CORDOVA, UNAM, Mexico, rcamaren2001@yahoo.com.mx

Claudia JACINTO, University of General Sarmiento, Argentina, cjacinto@redetis.iipe-ides.org.ar

For youth, work has played a key role in the development and affirmation of personal identity and self-esteem, being a pathway for incorporation into the social life and the extension of social relations, as well as for the achievement of economic independence and emancipation from the parental family. However, in recent times young people have been experienced growing difficulties not only for getting a job and to maintain it, but also for coping with a deterioration of labor conditions. Globalization, the neo-liberal economic model and the recurrent economical crisis have posed new obstacles and challenges for youth work, exacerbating old uncertainties and instabilities in the lives of young people and introducing new ones.

This session intends to contribute to the empirical and theoretical debate on the relationship between young people and work at various levels of analysis:

- a) macro-social changes in public policy and the youth employment market, in the context of the international financial crisis, and their differential impact on labour opportunities and social inequality,
- b) the role of intermediary institutions (such as vocational training centres, internships organized by schools, or employment services) in the process of integration to labour market,
- c) subjectivities built at work and the ways in which young people construct meanings about labour;
- d) the ways in which young people construct their educational and employment trajectories in a complex network that links the macro-social level, the institutional mediations and the subjectivities.

#### Session F

#### Youth identity construction: Between individualization and collective experiences of belongingness and resistance

#### Chairs

Ada FREYTES FREY, University of Avellaneda, Argentina, afreytes@sion.com Mariana CHAVES, University de La Plata, Argentina, mchaves@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

Natalia WAECHTER, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna, Austria, waechter@ihs.ac.at

This session intends to critically discuss the reflexive modernization thesis on individualization in the processes of identity construction. This implies to analyze the dialectic between individual subject and collective subjects in the construction of youth identity. The reflexive modernization theorists argue that in this period of late modernity, personal identity is marked by the disembodying from institutional and collective frames of meaning. In a context of multiple reference groups and identification models, the subject must construct a narrative identity from multiple and fragmented resources. There is also a weakening of collective identities and a negotiated participation in the political sphere. The session proposes to debate these theses on the basis of empirical research on youth culture, youth organizations and social movements. Submissions exploring the role that these collective experiences play in the process of youth identity construction are welcomed.

Some significant topics to address in the debate are:

- Which identity models and discourses are mobilized in these collective experiences?
- What kinds of relationships do the young people establish with these youth cultures and organizations?
- On which cleavages (gender, class, age, style, ethnicity, territory) and practices are identifications and solidarity based?
- What kind of subjective resistances and political identities are constructed?

SECOND ISA FORUM OF SOCIOLOGY SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DEMOCRATIZATION JUSTICE SOCIALE ET DÉMOCRATIZATION JUSTICIA SOCIAL Y DEMOCRATIZACIÓN AUGUST 1-4, 2012 BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

### **RC34 Call for Papers:** 2nd ISA Forum of Sociology in Argentina

#### Session G

### Youth work: Present tense, future (im)perfect?

#### Chair

Trudi COOPER, Edith Cowan University, Joondalup, Australia, t.cooper@ecu.edu.au

In many countries youth work is facing an existential crisis prompted by changes to social policy, to the social contract, and to marketization of both vocational and higher education. This session will explore how social changes are affecting the identity and direction of the youth work field. This may include: relationships between social policy and provision of youth services; vocational and higher education policy and youth worker education and training; professionalization and youth work; relationship between youth work and established professions such as social work, teaching, and psychology; implications of any of these for the future of youth work and provision of youth services.

Other possible topics include: cutback to services as a result of budgetary measures following the global financial crisis and ensuing sovereign debt problems; transfer of responsibility for youth services to charities and private providers; threats to education and training courses for youth workers as a consequence of market policies in provision of higher education and vocational education; social policy changes resulting in the introduction of multi-disciplinary teams, where youth workers are supervised by other professionals; (re-)consideration of self-managing youth work professional associations.

#### Session H

#### Generations and intergenerational relationships in the global age

#### Organisers

Carles FEIXA, University of Lleida, Spain, Feixa@geosoc.udl.es; Dan WOODMAN, University of Melbourne, Australia, daniel.woodman@unimelb.edu.au Chair

Carmen LECCARDI, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, carmen.leccardi@unimib.it

The notion of generational change has recently been used in the public sphere to understand such apparently diverse phenomena as the emergence of a wave of apparently selfish and narcissistic young people in the minority 'Global North' to the role of young people in shaping the democratic revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East. The concept of generations is also re-emerging in academic work in the sociology of youth.

This session aims to bring the reflection on generations by focusing on its characteristics in the 21st century. In this way we envisage that the session will take up again the discussion on generations that took place in the symposium on the same theme at the 1st ISA Forum of Sociology in Barcelona in 2008. In the present case we propose that the analytic focus be on intergenerational relations, with particular attention to the theme of redistributive justice. The growth of a multigenerational society (multiple adult generations present simultaneously on the same social scene) poses as a pressing priority the definition of a new social pact between the generations. The fall in the birth-rate together with the growth in average life expectancy brings with it not just the ageing of the population but also new inequalities in terms of the division of public resources between the generations. Questions such as public debt, employment and the conservation of the natural environment for the generations to come appear from this point of view to be of vital strategic importance. Notwithstanding the objectively problematic nature of the relations between generations today, there nonetheless seems to be emerging a prevalence of forms of intergenerational solidarity as opposed to conflict. The session intends to examine the causes and conditions of this 'intergenerational truce' and to take into consideration the future prospects of relations between the generations in the context of contemporary globalisation.

#### Session I

#### Juvenile violence, policing and access to justice Chair

Arturo ALVARADO, El Colegio de México, México, alvarado@colmex.mx

In the past decade, the world trend of youth homicidal violence has increased sharply, especially among those aged 15-25. This trend has been accompanied by an increased use of guns as the method of attack. According to the World Health Organization, in 2000 199,000 youth homicides occurred globally (9.2 per 100,000 populations. WHO, 2002, p. 25). The region with the highest homicide rate is Latin America (36.4). Nowadays many countries face threats of new types of violence, including violence exerted by gangs, by paramilitary groups, the new narcotics trafficking violent strategies, and the increase in homicide trends at massive levels, that are fed by other violence-related events such as interpersonal, intra-family or by organized crime. Both old and new types of violence have been linked to, though not necessarily generated by or against the youth. There is a marked preponderance of male over female homicide victims, but we must not underscore the importance of female violence.

Most nations in the developing World are young countries were average of 1/5 of its population is between ages 15-24. A large proportion of this population has suffered or will encounter a major eroding episode of violence throughout its life.

Despite efforts to solve these problems, still there is need for feasible, acceptable public policies that can reduce or eliminate violence and crime particularly those committed by the Youth. Another crucial one is building a system that will provide fair access to justice for all sectors of population.

This session invites presentations in several juvenile topics, including:

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- 1. Comparative studies of juvenile violence.
- 2. Studies on policing, with special attention to police profiling the youth.
- 3. Access to Justice.
- 4. Theoretical-comparative discussions about juvenile crime.
- 5. Juvenile crime prevention.

#### Session J Citizenship and in/exclusion

#### Chairs

Darcie VANDERGRIFT, Drake University, United States, darcie.vandegrift@drake.edu Ilze TRAPENCIERE, University of Latvia, trapenciere@inbox.lv

How do youth transition into categories of political and social adulthood? This panel explores how social processes act to include or exclude youth, and how youth shape, resist and experience transitions to adulthood. The category in question might be citizen, worker, and head of household. How do youth and young adults become enmeshed in a system of rights and duties conferred on members of a political body. What do youth do to perform and inhabit citizenship categories?

The processes of exclusion and inclusion form differently in diverse political and cultural contexts. In societies experiencing political transition, such as Eastern Europe or the "Arab Spring" countries present but a few examples. Within societies in transition to democratic traditions, young adults have been the catalyst demanding increased participation; the contours of class, race, familial status and other axes of social difference shape participation. At the same time, youth actively and creatively practice their participation, challenging and reforming previous categories.

In other transitions, such as to "head of household," a traumatic event such as the death of a parent severely quickens the pace, creating difficult circumstances under which they assume adult categories. As "workers," youth transitions to adulthood can be lengthened by the limited availability of jobs that enable self-sufficiency.

As they progress through educational systems that seek to produce citizens, curricula present youth with frameworks for performing citizenship, which students actively interpret and engage. As they reach majority age, youth also receive diverse messages about invitation to citizenship, which they accept or reject through various acts of participation, apathy, and resistance. Becoming a full citizen, the category that connects individuals with social and political incorporation, is a distinct transition for youth depending on social, temporal, and spatial location. This session will be in paper presentation format, although participants are warmly invited to present scholarship drawing from visual or participant action data.

#### Session K Keywords in youth studies

Session by invitation only

#### Chair

Nancy LESKO, Columbia University, United States, nancylesko@yahoo.com

We borrow the idea of "keywords" both from Raymond Williams' (1976) classic Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society and Bruce Burgett and Glenn Hendler's (2007) Keywords for American Cultural Studies. A keyword is neither a dictionary nor a glossary but, according to Williams, a "record of an inquiry into a vocabulary," which emphasizes the ways in which meanings are made and altered over time through contestations among diverse social groups or constituencies of youth studies. A focus on keywords creates a method of mapping the presence and transformations of words, ideas, practices, and institutions in youth studies.

This session's keyword presentations will address the following questions: Where does the term come from? What have been its uses and meanings over time? What effects have those uses produced? What knowledge or ways of thinking has it enabled? What has it obfuscated? What might be some alternatives? The session seeks to suggest the effects of the institutionalization of particular concepts in youth studies and the ways in which alternative formulations can offer alternative approaches to understanding the lives of youth.

#### Deadlines

- On-line abstract submission from August 25 to December 15, 2011.
- All Forum participants (presenters, chairs, discussants, etc.) need to pay the early registration fee by **April 10, 2012**, in order to be included in the programme. If not registered, their names will not appear in the Programme or Abstracts Book.
- On-line registration will open August 25, 2011.

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### RC34 Call for Papers: 2nd ISA Forum of Sociology in Argentina

#### Session L

Itinerary of research on youth studies in Argentina: Key analysis, perspectives and interdisciplinary views

Session by invitation only

#### Chairs

Pedro NUNEZ, FLACSO-CONICET, pnunez@flacso.org.ar Carles FEIXA, University of Lleida, Spain, Feixa@geosoc.udl.es

The session examine the key analysis, the perspectives and interdisciplinary views with which social science recently analyzed in Argentina the social processes that affected the youth as well as the transformation of cultural practices improved by young people in the new scenario. The session aims to promote a reflection on how it changed through the years what was understood as youth as "youth" and what is meant by "justice" and "democracy" from the visibility gained by new agenda items. This will be one of the axes that weaves proposed presentations: how categories, approaches and the interpretation of events around youth have been co-produced in recent decades and how these approaches can talk with readings about phenomena occur in other socio-political contexts.

This session is an opportunity to present different perspectives in the field of youth studies. The papers deal with topics concerning the predominant critical appraisals of youth political participation, the linkages among gender, sexuality and age, and the configuration of the field, trying to systematize the trajectories of youth studies performed in Argentina from 1960 to the present. The "youth question" will also be discussed as an academic and societal preoccupation in the light of the aforementioned processes.

#### Session M

*Priorities in youth studies in the BRICS countries: Changes and challenges for the future* 

Session by invitation only

#### Chair

Tom DWYER, University of Campinas, Brazil, tom@unicamp.br

In this session we shall discuss questions raised for youth research by the fact that youth in Brazil, Russia, India and China, (the original economically based definition given to the BRIC countries has been recently extended politically when South Africa was invited to become a member of the renamed `BRICS`), have experienced lives of rapid change, transformations in political power and increasing cultural globalisation. The timing of industrialisation, urbanisation, educational and individuation processes vary from one country to another, and also between the regions of each of these huge countries, factors which complicate the production of generalisations. China and Russia experienced historically unparalleled transformations over the last few decades as they moved from communist to post-communist economies, while Brazilian youth had earlier experienced regime change from dictatorship to democracy.

The participants of this session have been responsible for supervising the production of country reviews of the sociology of youth, observing where the field of youth studies exhibited certain priorities, continuities and ruptures. These reviews examine the 'state of the art' in eight areas of youth research:

- 1. History of concepts and theoretical and methodological assumptions into research on youth;
- 2. Demographic characteristics of youth;
- 3. Identity and generation;
- 4. Consumption and leisure;
- 5. Family, Marriage and Sexuality;
- 6. The State and political values;
- 7. Education and employment;
- 8. Internet participation and communication.

An overview of changing priorities over time will be provided in sociological terms that will indicate movements that lay undetected and/or not researched. Particular emphasis will be paid to the question of how the themes of the Buenos Aires ISA Forum, 'social justice and democratisation', have been represented over time. Finally possible future concerns and challenges for youth research will be discussed.

#### Session N

Open session on the Forum theme: Social justice and democratization

#### Organiser

Ani WIERENGA, University of Melbourne, Australia, wierenga@unimelb.edu.au Chair

Howard WILLIAMSON, University of Glamorgan, United Kingdom, howardw@glam.ac.uk

#### Session O

Special session on the Forum theme: Are the available youth sociology discourses adequate to capture the biggest questions of our time? Where are we going, what are we missing?

Open debate

#### Organiser

Howard WILLIAMSON, University of Glamorgan, United Kingdom, howardw@glam.ac.uk

Chair Ani WIERENGA, University of Melbourne, Australia, wierenga@unimelb.edu.au

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PREGNANCY IN MEXICAN ADOLESCENTS, REDEFINING EXPERIENCES Sexuality, reproductive health and public policies. the voices of prognant addrescents

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Jane Ribbens McCarthy and Rosalind Edwards. 2011. *Key Concepts in Family Studies*. Sage.

James Côté & Anton Allahar. 2011. *Lowering Higher Education: The Rise of Corporate Universities and the Fall of Liberal Education.* Toronto: University of Toronto Press . (To purchase, visit: <u>www.ivorvtowerblues.com/</u>)

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