



International Bulletin on Youth Research

IBYR

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE 34
INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



2011 ISSUE 1

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Youth Studies in North America

The study of youth is a vibrant area of interdisciplinary research in North America, with many venues for its regular presentation. Prominent among these is the Sociology of Childhood and Youth section of the American Sociological Association, as well as other ASA sections, such as Aging and the Life Course, Medical Sociology, Social Psychology, Mental Health, the Sociology of Education, Work and Occupations, and others. Annual conferences of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood feature work on youth psychological well-being and behavioral adjustment by psychologists and sociologists. Current research documenting pathways of movement between role configurations in the increasingly extended and diversified transition to adulthood, and the consequences of these pathways, changing patterns of family formation and fertility, and immigration falls under the umbrella of demography, presented at annual meetings of the Population Association of America. Studies of desistance from crime and deviance (for most) and intensification (for a minority) are presented at annual meetings of the American Society of Criminology. The biennial meetings of the Society for Research on Adolescence (including the transition to adulthood) provide another interdisciplinary forum for discussion of youth issues.

Moreover, frequent specialty conferences are held each year, which examine this period of the life course. For example, Pennsylvania State University's 18th Annual Symposium on Family Issues, organized by the Department of Sociology, focused on "Early Adulthood in a Family Context" (Oct. 12-13, 2010). A four-part series of conferences ("Improving the Experiences of Young Workers in North America: An Interdisciplinary Educational Program") was sponsored by the *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health* in the US and the *Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation* in Canada. Throughout these meetings, social scientists, practitioners, and policy makers examined youth labor and safety issues, since young workers often have less work experience than older workers and are more prone to work-related

injury. The most recent in the series was held November 18-20, 2010 in Washington, DC (others took place in Toronto and Chapel Hill, N.C.)

Professor Frank Furstenburg (University of Pennsylvania) heads a wide-ranging and highly productive MacArthur Network on Transitions to Adulthood, which has sponsored numerous conferences. The most recent, the "Seminar on Intergenerational Ties and Transitions to Adulthood in Developed Countries," was held at Bocconi University in Milan November 8-9. The MacArthur Network has addressed youth issues surrounding education, the labor market, changing attitudes and norms, developmental changes, and others. It has sponsored several books on these topics, including *On the Frontier of Adulthood*; *On Your Own without a Net* (focusing on vulnerable populations, e.g., youth leaving foster care, juvenile justice facilities and prisons, youth with special health needs, and homeless youth); *Price of Independence, the Economics of Early Adulthood*; and *Hollowing out the Middle* (examining how small towns precipitate youth exodus). An extensive list of informative working papers may be found on the Network's website (<http://www.transad.pop.upenn.edu/publications/index.html>).

RC34 is joining with RC04 (Sociology of Education) in co-sponsoring an "interim" ISA conference on "educational transitions"---including transition to and from college, the school to work transition, transitions back to school, etc. It will be held January 13-15, 2012 at the University of South Florida (Tampa). A call for papers will be issued to members of both RC's early in 2011.

This brief description only touches the surface of the many recent events and initiatives in the field of youth studies in North America.

Jeylan Mortimer
VP North America, 2010-14

Letter from the new RC34 President

Dear RC34 members:

As your new president, I would like to thank everyone who attended the World Congress in Gothenburg and contributed to the RC34 programme. The conference was successful in many ways, but in part because of our growing popularity it has become apparent that we will need to make some adjustments to how we organize our sessions. Based on member feedback at the General Meeting, our new executive committee has already discussed ways in which the best work of our members can be most effectively presented at future conferences. Please find the minutes of the General Meeting and the Executive Meeting on the IBYR website: <http://www.rc34youth.org/>

For those who haven't heard, there will be another midterm Forum in 2012 (as in Barcelona in 2008), and the ISA Executive recently announced that it will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from August 1 to 4. A call for papers and further details will be announced soon, and I will pass the information on to you, but you can also check at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/>.

The 2014 World Congress will be in Yokohama, Japan, from July 13 to 19, and also promises to be an exciting experience. I will keep you all apprised of developments. The initial information is available at <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>.

Meanwhile, our IBYR Editor, Clarence Batan, has set up a Twitter account for RC34 from which he will announce new IBYR postings, and I will post information concerning the ISA and developments relevant to youth studies, including important publications and events. Your Executive Board members will also post regional news relevant to RC34. I encourage all members to follow "rc34youth" on Twitter. If you do not already have a Twitter account, it is free, easy to set up, and user-friendly.

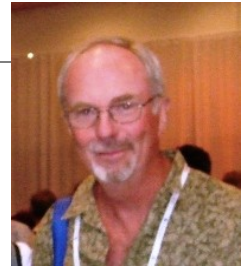
I have also set up a mailing list of RC34 members <rc34@uwo.ca> that we can all use for communications about RC34 business, as well as to make announcements and to pose questions to other RC34 members (which may be particularly useful before conferences as people need to coordinate travel and hotel plans). Like LISTSERV, using one email address to contact all 180 members also

gets around some server limitations (like my own) on the number of email addresses that can be listed for one message. To use rc34@uwo.ca you must send the message using the e-mail address you have given the ISA, otherwise the list does not recognize you as an approved user. The list is also set up with high security so spammers cannot access your email address.

At the same time, the ISA has updated their website to provide links to current events and discussions of issues, like "Universities in Crisis" <<http://www.isa-sociology.org/universities-in-crisis/>>, which includes entries by some RC34 members, and "Global Dialogue" <<http://www.isa-sociology.org/global-dialogue/>>, available in 5 languages.

I look forward to serving you during my term as your president and will do all I can to promote RC34 and youth studies worldwide.

Best wishes,
James Côté
President



Meet our new RC34 Board



NEW RC 34 Board of Directors (2010-2014)

From left: Ngan-pun Ngai (Past-President), Howard Williamson (Secretary-Treasurer), Natalie Waechter (VP for Europe), [Clarence M. Batan](#) (IBYR editor), James Côté (President), Maurice Devlin (VP-Europe), Jeylan Mortimer (VP-North America), Ani Wierenga (VP- Australia), Tomahiko Asano (VP-Asia).

Not in picture Rosa Maria Camarena (VP-South America), Sharlene Swartz (VP-Africa, Near East and Middle East), and Shen Jie (VP-Asia).

Youth Affairs Conference 2011 in Australia

The Australian Youth Affairs Coalition is excited to announce that the national youth affairs conference will be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre in Darling Harbour from Monday May 30th to Wednesday June 1st 2011. This will be the first national youth affairs conference in Australia in 4 years. The conference will bring together young people, youth workers, government representatives, researchers and others with an interest in youth to discuss current issues and emerging trends amongst Australia's young people.

ISA RC34 researchers from around the globe were well represented at the last conference and brought some valued international inputs. A youth research stream will again be offered in 2011, and a call for papers will follow shortly.

For further inquiries contact, Dr Ani Wierenga, University of Melbourne at wierenga@unimelb.edu.au.

Negotiating Political Identities: Multiethnic Schools and Youth in Europe

New book by Daniel Faas, "Negotiating Political Identities: Multiethnic Schools and Youth in Europe" published by Ashgate in April 2010.

Avail of a special 35% discount (European orders) until 31 October or 20% discount (non-European readers) by clicking the [attached voucher](#).

Synopsis

Globalization, European integration, and migration are challenging national identities and changing education across Europe. The nation-state no longer serves as the sole locus of civic participation and identity formation, and no longer has the influence it once had over the implementation of policies. Drawing on rich empirical data

from four schools in Germany and Britain, I examine how schools mediate government policies, creating distinct educational contexts that shape youth identity negotiation and integration processes. The study is the first of its kind to bring together between-country and within-country differences in identity formation among young people. By delving into the discourses of ethnic majority and Turkish minority youth, I unravel a wide range of factors shaping contemporary identities and offer new insights into the particular role school policy approaches play in this process. The talk situates these discussions within broader European and transatlantic theoretical and empirical debates on immigrant incorporation and offers a much-needed synthesis of European and Ameri-

can scholarship.

Review: "This ground-breaking book combines an unusually sophisticated theoretical approach with a rich and multi-layered empirical study of the development of ethnic and political identities among Turkish and native youth in four schools in Germany and England. The result is a strong argument that school level policy approaches are very important in influencing how young people categorize themselves. This book should be required reading for anyone interested in migrant integration, multiculturalism, education in Europe and beyond".

- Mary C. Waters, Harvard University, USA

For updates visit www.rc34youth.com



News from the M.A. EYS

Welcome to the M.A. EYS Short Course!

It has been many years in the making. We hope that you will benefit from it and, in doing so, will also contribute to the development of the full M.A. in European Youth Studies, for which the Short Course is a pilot. It is a pilot in many ways. It seeks to be innovative in the recruitment of participants, endeavoring to draw a balance of individuals with backgrounds in youth research, youth policy and youth practice. It involves a significant consortium of European universities whose staff contribute in a variety of ways. It seeks to incorporate and integrate content that spans, inter alia, European Youth Realities and Policy, European Youth Research and Theoretical Foundations. But most crucially perhaps, it aspires to a creative methodology, one which can accommodate modern virtual, in harness with more traditional teaching and learning methods, and one which accords equal respect across the spectrum from formal to non-formal educational pedagogy.



Some twenty years ago a network of youth researchers across Europe formed. It had an explicit policy commitment, borne out of Europe's renewed opening up after 1989. This was also a political commitment, given both changes in the social construction of the life-course and the striking disparities in life chances that were prospectively going to guide and govern the pathways of young people in their working, family and civic lives. The network wanted to contribute to that political and policy debate, and to engage with youth practice. It started to do so in many ways, not least through the Circle of Youth Research Cooperation in Europe (CYRCE) and the International Sociological Association's Research Committee 34, which established the first generation of young youth researchers seminars that subsequently prompted the establishment of the European Commission/Council of Europe Youth Partnership youth research seminars. By the end of the 1990s, its members were embedded, for example, in the initial work of the first Partnership between the Council of Europe and the European Commission in the youth field (on Quality and Curriculum Development), and in the process that saw the emergence of the European Commission's White Paper on Youth, launched in 2001. The former led to the ATTE course (Advanced Training for Trainers in Europe), which has cemented a programme of European level youth worker training that manifests itself most recently in the TALE course (Trainers for Active Learning in Europe). The latter produced a youth policy momentum within the European Union that led to recent initiatives such as "Investing and Empowering" and "Youth on the Move".

From within this European network of youth researchers, a group emerged who were committed to consolidating this practice and policy evolution with a youth research-based initiative in higher education that might take what has come to be known as the 'magic triangle' of youth research, policy and practice to, arguably greater heights. Led by Lynne Chisholm from the University of Innsbruck, eleven university members of a core consortium, together with a number of associate partners, have worked for four years on a voluntary basis and then, with the support of an EU Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme curriculum development grant, for two years on a more formal footing. The Short Course in which you are participating lies at the heart of this curriculum development process.

The original Council of Europe research network has now transmuted into the recently established Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR), supported by the European Commission/Council of Europe Partnership in the youth field, whose task will be to contribute to stronger evidence-based youth policy making. The economic circumstances that now prevail in Europe also mean that youth practice will now both have to provide more robust evidence of its 'value' as well as root its activities more firmly within frameworks of understanding about 'what works'. Youth policy, for its part, continues to struggle to establish its voice and its distinctive contribution beyond and towards social, educational, employment and cultural policy making. These are difficult challenges that raise numerous tensions and dilemmas – socially, politically, intellectually, and ethically. The Short Course is explicitly about addressing such tensions, and we hope this will be achieved through collaborative endeavor by both staff and students of the course.

Welcome.

*Lynne Chisholm & Howard Williamson
Short Course Directors*

ISA Forum 2012 in Buenos Aires

To: Presidents and Secretaries of ISA Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to share with you that after a careful review and a voting process, the ISA Executive Committee has voted Buenos Aires, Argentina to host the ISA Forum 2012 (August 1-4). Please note that the theme for the ISA Forum and other important details of the scientific program will follow shortly.

Best,

Margaret Abraham

Vice-President Research, ISA

Dan Woodman Wins Worldwide Competition for Junior Scholars Engaged in Youth Research

The Research Committee 34 (RC34) – Sociology of Youth of the International Sociological association (ISA) has successfully completed its 2nd worldwide competition for junior scholars engaged in youth research. A total of 15 entries competed for the award. After stringent assessment by a adjudicating panel of 5 members, Dan Woodman with his paper titled “the Post Secondary School Transition and the Desynchronisation of Everyday Life” was chosen as the award winner. Dan will be invited to participate in the ISA World Congress on July 11-17, 2010 in Goteborg, Sweden. His conference registration fee will be paid by our RC34 and a travel grant at US\$500 will be awarded.

Photos from the ISA 2010 World Congress (Gothenburg, Sweden)





Editorial Staff

Clarence M. Batan
IBYR Editor

Debbie Mariz N. Manalili
Associate editor & Lay-out Artist

Recent Member Publications

René Bendit, Marina Hahn & Ana Miranda (Eds.) (2008). *Youth and the future: social inclusion processes and vulnerability patterns in a globalized world*, Prometeo Books (in Spanish)

Daniel Faas (2010). *Negotiating Political Identities: Multiethnic Schools and Youth in Europe*. Ashgate.

Charlotte Fabiansson (2010). *Pathways to Excessive Gambling: A Societal Perspective on Youth and Adult Gambling Pursuits*. Ashgate.

Nancy Lesko & Susan Talburt (Eds.) (2011). *Keywords in Youth Studies*. Routledge.

Jeylan Mortimer (Ed.) (2008). Social Class and Transitions to Adulthood. *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development*. Number 119. Spring.

Ngan-Pun Ngai, An Guoqi, Sek-yum Ngai & Yang Changing (Eds.) (2010). *New Issues on Youth in Information Age: Theory, policy and Practice*. Social Sciences Academic Press (in Chinese).

Abdoulaye Niang, Seydina Ndiaye & Abdou K. Diongue (2009). *Dynamiques et rôle économique et social du secteur informel des TIC au SENEGAL*. Centre de recherche pour le Développement intégré/Yam Pukri.

Kitty te Riele (Ed.) (2009). *Making Schools Different: Alternative Approaches to Educating Young People*. Sage.

Ken Roberts (2009). *Youth in Transition: Eastern Europe and the West*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Sharlene Swartz (2010). *Ikasi: The Moral Ecology of South Africa's Township Youth*. Palgrave MacMillan and Wits University Press.

Ani Wierenga (2008). *Young People Making a Life*. Palgrave Macmillan.

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