

**International Sociological Association
Research Committee 34 – Sociology of Youth
Report on activities 2006-2010**

1. Introduction

The past four years (2006-2010) proves to be a fruitful period for our Research Committee. Even though life has been very busy for our Executive board members, we enjoy very much happy working together as a team. There have been many conferences to be organized and significant tasks to be dealt with. The major activities (information is mainly provided by members of Executive Board) are highlighted in the following sections.

2. Composition of Board for the Research Committee 2006-2010:

Position	Name	Organ. Affiliation	Country	Year
President	Ngan-Pun Ngai	Chinese Univ of Hong Kong	China	2006
Past President	Helena Helve	University of Tampere	Finland	2006
Secretary	Howard Williamson	University of Glamorgan	United Kingdom	2002
V/P Europe	Carles Feixa	University of Lleida	Spain	2002
V/P Europe	Carmen Leccardi	University of Milan-Bicocca	Italy	2006
V/P Asia	Vinod Chandra	University of Lucknow	India	2002
V/P Africa	Charles Ukeje	Abafemi Awolowo University	Nigeria	2006
V/P Oceania	Ani Wierenga	University of Melbourne	Australia	2006
V/P Americas (N)	James Cote	University of Western Ontario	Canada	2006
V/P Americas (S)	Tom Dwyer	Rua Sao Carlos do Pinhal	Brazil	2006
IBYR*	Clarence Batan	University of Santo Tomas	Philippines	2006
Treasurer	Natalia Waechter	Institute for Advanced Studies	Austria	2006

The RC34 consists of an **Executive Board (2006-2010)** of 12 members and an Advisory Board (**2006-2010**) of 14 members. All the Executive Board members were elected at the RC34 meeting during the ISA World Congress 2006 in Durban, South Africa. As for the members of the Advisory Board, they were all appointed by the President after the World Congress. The Executive Board includes President, Organisational Secretary, Treasurer, IBYR Newsletter Editor, 7 Vice-Presidents and the immediate Past President.

Members of Advisory Board: In the first Executive Board meeting in Durban 2006, it was resolved that the President was responsible to appoint the members of the Advisory Board in conformity with the provisions in the Committee statutes. Scholars of high standing and outstanding personalities in the field of youth research and have shown strong commitment to the Committee might be appointed to the Advisory Board. The members are:

Claire Wallace, University of Aberleen, Scotland
 David Everatt, Strategy & Tactics, South Africa
 Gunilla Holm, Uni West Michigan, USA (had changed to Uni of Helsinki)
 Henk Vinken, Pyrrhula (Ind consultant), Netherlands
 Juergen Hartmann, Dalarna University, Sweden
 Ladislav Machacek (past Treasurer), Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia
 Lynne Chisholm, Uni Insbruck, Austria
 Lyudmila Nurse, Hart Group, England
 Ola Stafseng, University of Oslo, Norway
 Reingard Spannring, Uni of Innsbruck, Austria

Shen Jie, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China
Siyka Kovacheva, University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Songxing Su, Institute for Youth Population Studies in Shanghai, China
Sylvia Trnka, The Vienna Institute of Demography, Austria

3. Members

All current members of the RC have been notified through the ISA and are on the ISA list of RC members. It is assumed therefore that all are members both of RC34 and the ISA. However, the records of the Organisational Secretary indicate a membership of **170** (at May 10th 2010) while the ISA records suggest 168. These will be checked and reconciled in due course. Anyway, our RC has reached a landmark membership record coming from **48** countries. Compare with the membership of 129 in year 2006, it has gained a **30%** membership increase in year 2010. A profile of the membership at May10th 2010 is as follows:

This is based on current institutional affiliation:

Current Membership of ISA Research Committee 34 (Youth) [170 members, 48 countries] (129/42)

13 – Australia
11 – China, India
9 - USA
8 – Japan, Mexico, Russia, United Kingdom
7 – Finland
6 – Canada, Romania
5 – Austria, Brazil, Spain
4 – Argentina, France, Ireland,
3 – Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, South Africa
2 – Belarus, Denmark, Portugal, Sweden
1 - Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palestine, Philippines, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Turkey, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Seen differently from 2006:

Europe: 79 (65); The Americas [North: 15, Central: 8, South: 10]: 33 (27); The Far East: 21 (16); Africa: 7 (7); The Near East: 3 (4); India and Sri Lanka: 12 (3); Oceania: 15 (7).

Figures in round brackets are numbers from 2006

4. Activities July 2006 - April 2010

Generally speaking, our RC members actively organized, supported and participated in various academic activities. There were about 10 – 50 members participating in each of the RC conferences who either involved in paper presentation, program organization, or attendance. As an international youth research committee, our RC was particularly active in organizing or participating in academic activities in different part of the globe. Our members of the Executive Board as well as other members have been invited to participate in various international, regional and local youth research seminars, symposiums, conferences either as keynote speakers, panellists, plenary session speakers, or paper presenters. Members have been actively involved in various kinds of youth research activities, including academic visits

and exchange. The following sections briefly outline the major events organized during the past four years:

4.1 Asia, including China and Japan

Sociology of Youth was one of the main subjects in sociological discourse in Asia in the last four years. Our RC has been very active in motivating youth researchers in India, China and in many countries in Asia Region. The most important activities of the RC in the last four years were reported as follows:

- a) **In 2007**, our RC organized 8th International Conference on ‘**Asian youth and Childhoods 2007**’ during 22-24 November 2007 at Lucknow, India. The conference was the 8th conference in the series. Rest seven conferences were held in China and Macau. This 8th conference extended its scope to child related issues and therefore it attracted good number of scholars as delegates from 22 countries. The three days conference covered issues like - Youth and new challenges; Youth and media; Youth and Employment; Youth and Leisure; Youth and Health; Youth and Politics; Youth and Nation Building; Youth and new Technologies etc. Prof Nagai Ngan-Pun, President of RC34, Dr Alison Cocks, and Secretary of RC53 represented their Research Committee as official representatives. It was well received and got a wide coverage in the Local and National print and electronic Media. The Conference was organized by Dr Vinod Chandra, Vice-President of RC34 for Asia, including China and Japan. In addition, Dr. Vinod Chandra had identified some of the most representative papers presented at the Conference and edited them to become a book titled “*Growing Up in a Globalized World: An International Reader*” published by Macmillan Publishers India Ltd I 2009.
- b) **In 2008**, after a great success of the 2007 Conference, a pressure was created to raise children and youth issues at the national level conferences in India. Dr Vinod Chandra and his colleagues have convinced the Indian sociological Society (ISS) to take up the agenda of young people in its Annual Conferences. The outcome was that the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) had organized its XXXIV All India Sociological Conference during 27-29th December, 2008 on the theme ‘**Youth, Globalization and Social Transformation**’ at the Department of Sociology, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. The conference attracted a large number of delegates not only from India but also from different parts of the world. It was perhaps for the first time in the annals of ISS that a large number of foreign delegates participated in the annual event. Professor Mokong Simon Mapadimeng (South Africa), Professor Jayant Lele (Canada), Professor Volkmar Gessner (Germany), Professor Andrew Gordon (USA), Professor Hanne Petersen (Denmark), Professor Jacek Kurczewski and Joanna Kurczewska (Poland), Professor Pertti Koistinen (Finland), Professor Peter Robson (U.K.), Dr. Olle Frodin (Sweden), Miroljub Jevetic (Serbia), Professor Kieran Allen (Canada), Dr. Sana Nissen (Norway), Professor Sangeeta Sinha (Canada), Dr. Mira Savara, Dr. Nishiyauchi (Japan), Mr. Hom Gaurtala (Nepal) etc. Many of these noted scholars chaired various sessions in the conference. The most interesting sessions in this Conference was on “*Youth, Class, Technology and Gender: the interface*”; “*Youth and Information Technology and Social issues, Youth Human Rights and Globalisation*”; “*Youth and Marginalised*”; “*India’s youth: Are they marginalized or are they mainstreamed?*”. A special Syposium was organized on ‘*Globalization, Youth and Challenges of Reconciliation in Transitional Societies*’ and it was chaired by Professor T. K. Oommen, the Past President of ISA.
- c) **In 2009**, a National Seminar was organized in Lucknow on “Challenges Before Indian Youth in 21st Century” during 19-20 February 2009 by Dr Vinod Chandra. The seminar was a huge success as it discussed Youth and politics; Youth and Employment; Youth and History; and Youth and Higher Education in separate four sessions in two days. Total 350

delegates took part in the deliberations. It was reported in various Social Sciences and Humanities Journals in India.

- d) **In 2010**, another National Seminar on ‘Construction of Indian Youth’ was organized by Dr M V Lakshmi in Hyderabad during March 28-29, 2010. It discussed the basic challenges in construction of Indian Youth in New Millennium. It attracted many eminent scholars from South India from various Universities and Colleges.
- e) **In 2007**, in China, including Hong Kong and Macau, our RC34 in association with The Chinese University of Hong Kong Department of Social Work and the China Youth & Children Research Association, co-organized “**The Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau Youth Research Roundtable Conference**”, which was successfully held at the Cho Yiu Conference Hall at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China in May 12-13, 2007. The aim of the conference was to provide an academic arena for youth researchers in Chinese society to disseminate their novel research findings and to engage in theoretical and practical discussions on youth issues in an era of cyber information. The main theme of the conference was “*New Youth Agenda in an Era of Cyber Information*”. More than 40 scholars including 10 members of our RC34, coming from Mainland China, Macau and Hong Kong attended and presented their papers in accordance with the four sub-themes of the conference: Internet World and Youth, Unemployment, Poverty and Youth, “Deviance, Delinquency and Youth” and “Identity and Youth”. The two-day conference attracted about 100 participants from different fields to attend and share their views with the paper presenters. Moreover, an editing book (in Chinese language) based on the collection of the Roundtable Conference papers titled: “*New Youth Agenda in an Era of Cyber Information: Theories, policies and Practices*” has been scheduled to be published by the Social Sciences Academic Press (China) in August 2010. The editors include: Ngan-Pun Ngai, Sek-yum Ngai, An Guoqi and Yang Changing.
- f) **In October 2007**, our RC was invited by the Academy of Youth Development at the China Youth University for Political Science, China to participate in “**The International Symposium on Youth Leadership in a Transformational Society**” in Beijing. A team of our RC members including the President were accepted the invitation and attended the Symposium. The event has promoted the understanding and relationship between our RC and the Academy of Youth Development which have further strengthened the mutual collaboration in organizing an international symposium in 2009.
- g) **In October 2009**, in China, our RC34 in association with The Academy of Youth Development at the China Youth University for Political Science, and Shijiazhuang Information Technology Institute organized “**The International Symposium on Higher Vocational Education and Youth Development**”, which was successfully held at the City of Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, china, in October 17-18, 2009. The themes of the Symposium included “Global economic crisis and transformation of both patterns and methods of higher vocational education”, “Contributions of higher vocational education to the transition of youth from school to workplace”, “Higher vocational education and specific state youth policy”, and “Case study of higher vocational education programs”. The Symposium had attracted many participants, including some of our RC members.
- h) Apart from organizing international conferences (mainly co-ordinated by our VP for Asia), the President had visited to a number of universities and research institutes/research centres in China and Taiwan, for example, Wuhan University, Nankai University, Nantong University, China Youth University for Political Science, Zhejiang University of Technology, National Taiwan University, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, China Youth and Children Research Centre, Hangzhou Youth and Children Research Institute, Guangzhou, Hong Kong & Macau Youth & Children Research Institute, etc. These visits have

promoted our RC's image and further strengthened our presence in the Asian Pacific region.

4.2 Australia, New Zealand and Oceania

In Australia, our RC (via Dr. Ani Wierenga, our Vice-President for Australia, New Zealand and Oceania) was involved in facilitating the presentation of academic papers for the “**Australian National Youth Affairs Conference – Are We There Yet?**”, which was organized in Melbourne, May 2007. The focus of the conference was about past learning, current realities, and future direction for youth affairs in Australia. The conference was hosted by the peak organizations in the Australian youth sector. Prof. Howard Williamson, our Organizational Secretary was invited to be a Plenary Facilitator of the Conference. Some of our RC members had attended and presented papers at the Conference. Moreover, our RC members also had a very good time to visit the Youth Research Center at Melbourne University and had a fruitful exchange with the Director, Dr. Johanna Wyn.

4.3 Europe, including Russian Federation

In Europe, including the Russian Federation, the Vice-Presidents, Prof. Carmen Leccardi and Prof. Carles Feixa, had organized a number of activities to promote research on youth sociology in the continent. The following were some of the significant events:

a) An international seminar on “**Young Adults: New Life Strategies?**” was jointly organized by our RC34 and the Department of Sociology and Social Research at the University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy. The seminar was held at the University of Milano-Bicocca in May 15, 2007. The conference provided an arena for youth research experts from different part of Europe to share their research findings on youth employment related issues and to engage in theoretical and practical debate on the new life strategies held by today's young people.

b) Another international seminar on “**Perspectives and Life Projects of Young Adults**” was jointly organized by our RC34 and Dipartimento di Sociologia e Scienza Della Politica, Università degli Studi di Salerno, sponsored by Presidency of Italian Sociological Association, and Department of Youth Policies Campania Region. The seminar was held at the Università di Salerno, Fisciano (Salerno) in July 9, 2007. The seminar discussed and exchanged views on a number of important life issues in related to the development of young adults. They included the unique life stories, opportunities and risks, passing out coping strategy, social capital, non-formal education, problems of transition, and generation conflict of young people.

c) A parallel program of our RC34 was held during the 1ST ISA Forum of Sociology: Sociological Research and Public Debate in Barcelona, Spain in September 5-8, 2008. The theme of the meeting is “**Growing Up in a Liquid World: Youth Questions and Public Debates**” with emphasis on youth theories and its influence in public debates. 7 Sessions (two parallel sessions in 6 of them), plus one Special Session (with Michel Maffesoli) and one joint session (with RC 13 and 53) were organised in cooperation with Agència Catalana de la Joventut & Secretaria de Joventut, Generalitat de Catalunya (Catalan Youth Observatory). More than 70 papers were accepted for presentation at the 4-day conference.

d) In March 26-28, 2009, The International Conference “**Young People, Europe, the Mediterranean. Territories, Identities, Policies**” was jointly organised in cooperation with RC 34, the Department of Sociology, University of Bologna; Polo

Scientifico-didattico, Forlì, Italy; Faculty of Political Science “R. Ruffilli” , University of Bologna, Forlì; and Italian Sociological Association.

e) In June 25-28, 2009, an International Youth Studies Conference “**All Change for Young People? Mobility, Markets, Media, Models of Practice**”, was jointly organised by the Department of Applied Social Studies, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, in cooperation with RC 34 and Youth Studies Ireland in Maynooth, Ireland. The conference was supported by the Youth Affairs Unit of the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in Maynooth, Ireland.

f) In November 20 , 2009 an International Seminar “ **Young People and Social Change after the Fall of the Berlin Wall - Anniversary Seminar of Youth Research, Policy and Practice**”, was organised by RC 34 in cooperation with: CEU (Central European University), Centre for the Study of Imperfections in Democracies (DISC), CEU; Council of Europe, Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the Field of Youth; Department of Sociology, University of Milan-Bicocca; University of Lleida; and Italian Sociological Association in Budapest, Hungary. Moreover, numerous articles have been developed from the conferences and have published in different publications.

g) Besides, our RC had actively participated in the following academic activities:

i) Participating in the **Nordic Youth Research Symposium** on 10 June 2008 in Lillehammer, Norway. Our VP of North-America, Prof. James Côté gave a keynote speech, the President, Prof. Ngai Ngan- pun presented ISA RC 34 to the participants and our Past President, Prof. Helena Helve chaired a session on “youth, social capital and employment”. Also, other Executive Board members and RC 34 members presented papers in the Symposium.

ii) Participating in the **International Youth-Researcher Meeting 2006** organized by the Federal Ministry of Social Security Generations and Consumer Protection in Vienna, and **International Conference on youth Policy and Research** organized by The Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth and United Nations **in 2009**. A number of members of our Executive Board including the President and members of the Advisory Board had been invited either to chair some of the sessions or present papers at the Conferences.

iii) Of course, there were also many other activities which had been carried out in the region, for example, many of our RC Executive Board and Advisory board members like Prof. Ola Stafseng, Prof. Lynne Chisholm, and Prof. Helena Helve had been involved in the **M.A. EYS project**.

4.4 North America

North America has historically contributed few members to RC34. Currently, we have 4 members in the United States and 8 in Canada. In fact, the sociology of youth has not had much of a presence on this continent. Adolescent Psychology has been much more vibrant, with some 1400 members in the Society for Research on Adolescence (based in the United States), a number of them are sociologists. Against this background, Prof. James Cote, VP for North America, have attempted to draw attention to the field and our organization by organizing the following activities:

a) In 2007, a session on “**New Approach to the Transition to Adulthood**” was organized at the 3rd Conference of Emerging Adulthood in Tucson, Arizona, USA, with an invitation to RC34 members to contribute to a critique of this new approach to the transition to adulthood.

b) In Canada, An attempt has launched to generate interest in conferences on youth policy. Both Canada and the United States lack coherent policies, so there is an urgent need to make governments aware of this deficit.

i) Toward this end, the Government of Canada have been engaged through the Policy Research Initiative in Ottawa as part of participation in several policy roundtables and a paper titled *Changing dynamics of youth integration/inclusion in Canada: Emerging pressures*. The Policy Research Initiative is considering holding a policy conference as part of its research programme *Investing in Youth*.

ii) At the Provincial level, negotiations with the Ontario Ministry of Children & Youth Services to hold a regional youth policy conference have been made, which would involve the invitation of RC34 members to share their knowledge of policies in their home countries. A letter of support for a longitudinal study planned with Prof. Helena Helve (Finland) has also been secured that compares Canadian and Finnish educational and youth policies.

Most recently (March 2010), Prof. James Cote, VP of North America chaired a panel session at the 2010 meetings of the SRA, and invited panelists all of whom are RC34 members (Jeylan Mortimer, Vappu Tyyska, Marc Molgat). The session was titled **Adolescent psychology and the sociology of youth: Differences and similarities, and implications for theory and practice**.

4.5 South/Latin America

- a) In August 2007, researchers in the sociology of Childhood and Youth in Latin America met at the XXVI ALAS Conference in Guadalajara, México. Prof. Tom Dwyer, VP for South America, Zeyda Rodriguez, and Rosa Maria Camarena organized a meeting for sharing research findings on child and youth research. Over 30 papers were presented, and approximately 50 researchers participated in the sessions. A wide variety of social problems affecting youth were presented: gender and class inequality, unemployment, drugs, the changing situation of child and youth labour, sexuality, etc. A divorce between the educational system and the labour market was observed, and this aggravates strains that youth feel within and between both systems. Youth policies that are built up to combat or prevent problems and are seen as often treating young people as though they were children, this is especially so in relation to drugs and pregnancy. The discourse of protection becomes the basis of a whole policy field. In general it was observed that social policies are differentiated in function of the social classes of their clients.
- b) In September 2009, the Latin American sociology Association conference (ALAS) was held in the Federal University of Buenos Aires (UBA), Argentina. The Conference was coordinated by Mariela Macri (Instituto Gino Germani, UBA), Silvia Guemureman (Instituto Gino Germani, UBA) and Tom Dwyer (Vice President RC34 Latin America, Unicamp, Brazil). The most important number of contributions came from Argentina and its neighbours: Brazil, Chile and Uruguay, however papers were presented from many other South and Central American countries. A wide variety of theoretical and methodological approaches were presented. The variety of countries represented permitted a rich comparative perspective to be developed in specific cases. Of the 141 papers presented: 95 treated issues strictly related to the sociology of youth, 12 treated questions related to both youth and childhood and 34 were about issues classified as the sociology of childhood.

- c) In view of the participants and the papers presented at the above-mentioned conferences, according to Prof. Dwyer, VP for South America, it is possible to have a certain degree of optimism about the possibilities of producing a ‘new sociology of youth’ in Latin America. For example, a large variety of research techniques are being employed: ethnographic research, content analysis, historical research, surveys etc. The paper presenters chose a wide range of theories for conducting investigation and discussion which attempted to advance beyond merely descriptive understandings of the data. Moreover, the quality of the presentations made, the influx of young researchers into the area, the vigour of the debates held and the number of participants, it can foresee a successful future for the Sociology of Youth in Latin America.

4.6 Africa, Near East and Middle East

As Charles Ukeje, VP of the Africa, Near East and Middle East went to pursue his further study in the United Kingdom. He was unable to perform his role and duties as the VP of the regions. Little development has been achieved during the past four years.

4.7 International Bulletin of Youth Research (IBYR)

During the past four years, the Executive Board continued to keep close connection with our members and the international youth research community via the IBYR.

In September 2007, Clarence M. Batan, Editor of the International Bulletin for Youth Research (IBYR) launched an innovative idea to revamp the RC34 IBYR website by adapting a new address: www.rc34youth.org and a new lay-out design. The new web address is simple and easy to recall, and the new design is attractive and informative. It combines playful fonts, logos and pictures embedded in subtle earth colours, aiming at capturing the RC34’s thrust of youthfulness, and make the IBYR an arena for academic sharing in the growing field of youth studies. The new IBYR website uses a lay-out design from Wordpress.com, which was customized for RC34’s purposes. As of mid-May 2008, there was a total of 1,330 unique server website visits. Forty-six (46) individuals had already subscribed to the IBYR since January 2008. Based on the usage statistics, it showed a steady increase of usage and hits since its launching in September 2007. Moreover, the more than 30 countries usage statistics of the geographical origins of website hits also indicates the global reach of our RC34.

In August 2009, the web-based IBYR through its website, www.rc34youth.org was once more re-designed and re-launched. Using *Drupal content management system* and *Blix theme*, the website continues to serve as a venue for members and new online visitors to exchange significant information about conferences and youth-related activities around the world. Based on the *Google Analytics* report generated from August 28, 2009 to May 12, 2010, the website was visited 1,534 times where 1,208 were unique visitors. The report also suggests more than 3,500 page views from 102 countries around the world. While most of the pages visited may have been generated from mere general browsing, it is interesting to note that the “conference page” got the most hit, suggesting how the website has served to be the main source of crucial information among members about conferences organized or advertised over the website.

In the next few years, the IBYR envisions to continue providing web-based information about RC34 future activities across the world.

4.8 RC34 Leaflet

As a strategy of image building and a means to promote the activities of the RC34, a colourful promotional leaflet was designed and produced in 2007. A total of two thousand

copies of the leaflet were printed and distributed at various regional and international conferences. The content of the leaflet consists of RC34's history, structure, objectives, activities, membership, and information of the Executive Board, Advisory Board and Presidents.

4.9 Junior Scholar(s) in Youth Sociology and Youth Research Competition (2006-2010)

The 2nd worldwide competition for junior scholar(s) engaged in youth sociology and youth research was launched in 2008 and the deadline for the submission of papers was October 31, 2009. The competition had successfully completed in early April 2010. A total of 15 entries competed for the award. After stringent assessment by an adjudicating panel of 5 members, Dr. Dan Woodman with his paper titled "the Post Secondary School Transition and the Desynchronisation of Everyday Life" was chosen as the award winner. Dan has been informed and 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.

4.10 Collaboration with various academic journals

Members of our RC 34 have maintained close contacts with various academic journals of youth research, such as *Young, Youth Studies Ireland, Youth Studies (in china), Journal of youth Research (in China), Forum 21: European Journal on child and youth Research*. A number of members were invited and served as editors or advisors of the journals' editorial boards or advisory boards.

5. Finances 2006-2010

From April 2007 to June 2010, the total income and expenditure for the period is Euro 6,371.75 and Euro 1,811.03 respectively. The surplus for the period is Euro 4,560.72. With the surplus Euro 1757.41 brought forward from last period (2002-2006), the total balance for the period (2006-2010) is Euro 6,318.13 as at June 1, 2010.

During this period, our RC received fees from ISA Madrid twice (Euro 2,865.- in 2010 and Euro 3,473.- in 2007). Additionally, Euro 33.- RC34 membership fee as directly received from a new member. As for the expenditure, it was mainly used for RC34's promotion and dissemination of activities, supporting the Junior Scholar(s) in Youth Sociology and Youth Research Competition (2006-2010) as well as sponsoring the organization of the Asian Youth and Childhood 2007 Conference. The details are: Euro 469.- was spent on the RC34's website and 400.- for printing and mailing the RC34 leaflet; Euro 400.- (US\$500.-) for the award of the winner of the Junior Scholar(s) in Youth Sociology and Youth Research Competition (2006-2010) in supporting the winner's partial costs for attending the ISA World Congress in Gothenburg; and Euro 736.- in sponsoring the Asian Youth and Childhood 2007 Conference.

In general, the budget of our RC34 is sound. The income has increased from Euro 1,757.- (in April 2007) to Euro 6,371.- (in June 2010) even though an amount of Euro 400.- (US\$500.-) still has to pay to the winner of the Junior Scholar(s) in Youth Sociology and Youth Research Competition (2006-2010) in the coming month (July 2010).

6. Conclusion

Throughout these four years, the Executive Board has been actively in achieving the general goals of our RC34. The degree of internationalization and recognition has increased with the increase of the number of members who come from 48 countries. Numerous high

quality conferences have been organized to serve as the regional or global meeting places for youth researchers and youth work practitioners from various disciplines to dialogue on youth issues which has greatly promoted international understanding and academic collaboration. It has brought together the West, the East, the North and the South, expanded the interdisciplinary network, established contact and collaboration with both governmental and non-governmental youth work organizations in different parts of the world, shared research outputs, practice experiences and intellectual ideas, and produced quality papers for accumulation and discovery of novel knowledge. All these have been built upon a tradition of open-mindedness of youth researchers, members of collective wisdom, creativity, and commitment of members of the Executive Board and Advisory Board.

Looking ahead, we should continue to devote our concerted efforts to promote international understanding, exchange and collaboration among youth researchers, youth practitioners, and youth organizations, with the aims to contribute to youth development, development of civil society and world peace.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone including members of the Executive Board and Advisory Board, colleagues, friends of RC34, and staff of ISA Headquarters, for their contributions, advice, guidance, and support during the past four years.

Ngan-Pun Ngai
President
ISA RC34
July 2010