

FIRST NEWSLETTER (2002-2006)

of the

Research Committee on the Sociology of Aging (RC11)

of the International Sociological Association (ISA)

- Outline of this newsletter:
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(1) Welcome to all RC11 members

Dear colleagues,

I feel very much honoured for being in the position to introduce the first newsletter following the election of a new Executive Board for the period 2002-2006 at the XV World Congress of Sociology in Brisbane, Australia in July 2002. The Brisbane Congress was a great success for RC 11: We experienced a lot of stimulating debates in our sessions, involving well-established as well as young researchers, academics as well as practitioners, people from all continents, working in the field of the sociology of ageing, covering a whole range of age-related issues, including state vs. market vs. community, social support, health and well being, households, gender, quality of life, intergenerational and life course perspectives, care services, cultural gerontology, social exclusion, and a joint session with RC 19 (Poverty, Social Welfare and Social Policy) and RC 20 (Comparative Sociology) concerning the politics of pensions. Moreover, I am more than happy to announce that RC11 has grown more in the past two months than it has in years before!

(2) Purpose of the newsletter

The main purpose of our newsletter is to stimulate the exchange of thoughts, ideas, and information between researchers in the field of the sociology of aging from all over the world. In order to facilitate this exchange the newsletter will be published twice a year from now onwards.

In order to produce an informative newsletter I rely on your help, on your input as experts in the field of gerontology about ongoing developments, such as upcoming conferences, recent publications and government reports, changes in social policies and legislation affecting the elderly, reviews for journals, conference reports and abstracts from conferences, short country reports from members, or graduate student news.

Therefore, I would like to encourage you to send me any information you think may be of interest to others in our discipline. Thank you very much indeed in advance! The information provided in this newsletter is also the result of a collaborative effort by all new Executive Board members. I would like to thank you all for your contributions! Alison Kirkman – thank you very much – recorded the following minutes of the Business Meeting in Brisbane:

(3) Minutes of the Business Meeting in Brisbane, July 10, 2002

Draft Minutes for RC11, Sociology of Ageing Wednesday 10th July, 1530hrs, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Present: Michael Fine (Chair), Sara Arber, Libby Brook, Ingrid Connidis, Susan Feldman, Diane Gibson, Caroline Glendinning, Paul Higgs, Andreas Hoff, Teresa Jacobs, Arvind Joshi, Allison Kirkman (minutes), Anne Martin-Matthews, Peter Oberg, Ronica Rooks, Cherry Russell, + those on attendance list to be added

Apologies: Lars Anderson, Alan Walker

Michael welcomed all present to the meeting.

He also provided the meeting with an overview of the purpose of the Research Committee and its recent past history.

- The last meeting was at the ISA meeting in Montreal.
- The committee is required to produce a newsletter at least annually.
- Stan Ingham was the last editor and had produced an excellent newsletter. However for the past two years there had been no newsletter and this needed to be rectified.

Michael pointed to a number of areas that the RC could address.

- Working on the quality of research in ageing was one possibility.
- Another possibility was the organising of an inter-congress meeting

The limitations for the RC were also listed:

- No large grants for research available to the RC
- Also people involved usually had fulltime commitments in their work and therefore the goals of the RC should be realisable and modest.

Nominations for Executive Board

- President: Lars Anderson, Sweden
(nominated: Michael Fine, seconded: Ingrid Connidis)
- Vice Presidents: Michael Fine, Australia
(nominated: Sara Arber, seconded: Diane Gibson)
- Sara Arber, UK
(nominated: Anne Martin-Matthews, seconded: Michael Fine)
- Secretary: Susan Feldman, Australia
(nominated: Diane Gibson, seconded: Michael Fine)
- Treasurer: Anne Martin-Matthews, Canada
- Newsletter Editor: Andreas Hoff, Germany
- Members: Ingrid Connidis, Canada
Caroline Glendinning, UK
Paul Higgs, UK
Therese Jacobs, Belgium
Arvind Joshi, India
Allison Kirkman, New Zealand
Peter Oberg, Sweden
Tesuo Ogawa, Japan (currently studying in UK)
Ronica Rooks, USA
Cherry Russell, Australia
Alan Walker, UK (If he accepts the nomination)

Michael approached two more members after the meeting and both accepted nomination to the Executive:

Marvin Formosa, Malta
KWOK Hong-King, China/Hong Kong

- Associates: Libby Brooke, Australia
Janece Mather, (PG student), Australia - graduate contributions for the newsletter
Diane Gibson, Australia to be an adviser to the committee.

Newsletter

The following suggestions for possible newsletter content were made:

- Electronic newsletter available on RC11 website and emailed to members
- List publications of ageing - members to send these in
- Reviews for journals
- Conference reports
- Abstracts from conferences
- Government reports on ageing
- Short country reports from members
- Graduate student news

Any other business

By Clare Ungerson - Membership inquiry about how to join RC11

By Michael Fine - Inter-congress meeting, where to have it and possible themes

- Three locations suggested - Malta, Brussels, Berlin
- Themes at the last meeting in Melbourne included feminist perspectives, health promotion etc. The publication from that meeting has been an excellent resource.
- RC gets a profile from having a publication
- Topic suggestions: methodology as an overarching theme; theory and methodology; different models of ageing cross culturally; social policy and policy responses; pensions and services

By Michael Fine - Advice sought for election of ISA officers. Michael to use his discretion but Christine Inglis and ? (?theoretician from SA) preferred candidates.

It was noted that the next ISA meeting would be in Durban and that the Nordic Congress in Gerontology is planned for 2004.

The meeting decided to follow the meeting with a social gathering and to do this on Thursday night also after the evening session.

The meeting closed at 1640hrs.

(4) NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD of RC11 (FUNCTIONS, WHO IS WHO?)

The members of the new executive will introduce themselves in this section. Contact details are also included. Please note that the list is provisional at present. We may seek to recruit one or two additional members to the Executive from countries/regions where our current representation is weak. *Thus, Merril Silverstein (U.S.A.) joined the executive since the Brisbane meeting.* This list can also be found at our homepage on the ISA website at: <http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/rc11.htm> which was recently updated.

A. President

Lars Andersson PhD is Research Director at the Stockholm Gerontology Research Center, and Associate Professor of Gerontology at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. He is also President of the Swedish Gerontological Society, Upcoming President of the Nordic Gerontological Federation, Fellow of The Gerontological Society of America, and Appointed member of the WHO Expert Advisory Panel on Ageing and Health.

He has edited the forthcoming *Cultural Gerontology* (Greenwood Publ.) and *Socialgerontologi* (in Swedish) (2001), contributed chapters in several books, and published extensively in scholarly journals. In October (hopefully), the book *Cultural Gerontology* (Editor Lars Andersson) will be published by Auburn House (Greenwood Publishing Group), Westport, CT, USA.

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B. Vice Presidents

Michael Fine BA (Hons) *Sydney*, PhD *Sydney* is currently a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, where he is responsible for courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In addition to courses in research methods and design and general sociology, this year he has introduced a new course called *Human Services: Organisations, Structures and Policy*. This course, inspired by his work with aged care services, looks more broadly at the way in which social science disciplines can shed light on the continually changing and contested character of health and welfare, social care or human services – as they are variously known in different countries – can be understood.

Michael is a keen researcher and has published a number of reports, monographs and journal articles, mainly in the field of human services and ageing. Currently he is engaged in research on *Individualised Service Delivery*, an ARC funded research project being undertaken with Prof. Anna Yeatman and others that covers developments in a range of different service fields, including aged care, and considers the links between the emergence of services designed for individuals with broader social and political developments. He is also working on a book on the sociology of care and human services.

Prior to taking up this position at Macquarie in 2000, he was a Senior Research Fellow in the Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) at the University of New South Wales, undertaking research in the areas of aged care; disability and social policy from 1989. From 1996 at the SPRC he led research teams that won competitive contracts for evaluations of a number of high profile projects funded by Commonwealth and State governments. Prior to that he taught at Sydney College of Advanced Education in the Institute of Nursing Studies, and at Sydney University. His doctoral research was an ethnography in an aged care nursing home in the Netherlands.

Michael is strongly committed to an engaged and active form of scholarship and intervention, and has long worked with a range of different community groups and political campaigns. In addition to being a member of the ISA and TASA, the Australian Sociological Association, he is a long-term member of the Australian Association of Gerontology and a former president of the NSW Branch of that organisation. In addition to being a proud father of three Michael is also a keen amateur musician and member of the Solidarity Choir in Sydney.

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Sara Arber Professor BSc (LSE), MSc (London), PhD (Surrey) is Head of the School of Human Sciences and was Head of the Sociology Department 1996-2002. She joined the Department in 1974, following postgraduate work at the Population Studies Center, University of Michigan. She has remained at Surrey throughout her career apart from spending a year on study leave (1979-80) in India and Australia. She was promoted to a personal Chair in 1994.

Sara's research focuses on gender and class inequalities in health and on ageing and later life. She is co-director of the Centre for Research on Ageing and Gender (CRAG). She currently holds research grants from the ESRC on Older Men; from the Health Development Agency on social support, social capital and health; from the US National Institute of Aging for a comparative US/UK study of clinical decision-making for older patients; an EU grant for a comparative study of 'Sleep in Ageing Women', and a project for Anchor Homes to evaluate their refurbishment and rebuild programme in residential homes.

Her research primarily uses secondary analysis of government datasets, including the General Household Survey, the Family Resources Survey and the Health Survey of England. She is involved in comparative research on inequalities in health, comparing Britain with Scandinavia in collaboration with Professor Eero Lahelma from Helsinki. She has recently edited an international collection on The Myth of Generational Conflict with Dr Claudine Attias-Donfut, CNAV, Paris, and a special issue of Social Science and Medicine on 'Social and economic patterning of women's health in a changing world' (2002, vol. 5, no. 2) with Myriam Khlaf, INID, Paris.

Sara Arber was President of the British Sociological Association (1999-2001). She is an elected Academician of the Social Sciences. She was a consultant on the ONS/ESRC Review of Social Classifications and sits on various advisory committees. She chaired the Sociology Editorial Board (1992-95) and was Treasurer of the British Sociological Association (1988-90). She was a member of the Social Affairs Committee of ESRC (1984-87), and the S W Surrey District Health Authority (1981-90). She acted as Consultant to the US National Institutes of Health on Inequalities in Health (1993-95). She is currently External Examiner for the B.Sc Sociology, University of Stirling (1999-), and Doctoral Programme, University of Edinburgh (1999-).

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C. Secretary:

Susan Feldman was the inaugural Director of The Alma Unit for Women and Ageing and The Alma Unit for Research on Ageing: Gender and Health Across the Life-Span and is located in the Faculty of Human Development, Victoria University, Australia. This research and teaching Unit was originally established in 1993 as The Alma Unit for Women and Ageing. The Alma Unit works in conjunction with the core of the faculty based social researchers engaged in ageing studies and also in collaborative engagement with colleagues from other academic institutions locally, nationally and internationally. The Alma Unit also works in collaborative relationships with community organizations and government agencies.

As primarily a qualitative researcher Susan Feldman's interests include the life style issues facing older women and policy and teaching responses that will enhance the health and well-being of both men and women as they age. She is a partner in large epidemiological study of widowhood with the Australian Women's Longitudinal Study on Women's Health, Newcastle University and has also undertaken qualitative research about the meaning of widowhood for older Australian women. Her current research interests also include children's attitudes to ageing and older people, work that actively involves the engagement of older people within an education environment and studies that aim to understand the complex nature of 'ageing well' from a multicultural perspective.

Susan has had an eclectic background with over 20 years experience in direct service delivery, policy development and management of welfare, women's health and information services. She has worked in the area of homelessness and family violence within the Government and has been the author of numerous government and community reports on health and welfare issues, academic publications and is the editor of books about the ageing experience for older women. As an academic she continues to contribute to policy development and is a member of government and community based committees concerned with the health and well being of older people.

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D. Treasurer

Anne Martin-Matthews is a professor in the School of Social Work and Family Studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Her publications include *Widowhood in Later Life* and her research focuses on such issues as intergenerational relations and caregiving, women and aging, work/family balance, the relationship between formal and informal supports, home care services, and aging in rural environments. From 1996-2000 she was Editor-in-Chief of the *Canadian Journal on Aging/La revue canadienne du vieillissement*. Recently, she guest-edited, with François Béland, a special issue of the *CJA/RCV* entitled, "Northern Lights: Reflections on Canadian Gerontological Research", for the World Congress of Gerontology in 2001. She is a member of the scientific advisory committee of Canada's national Institute of Aging, one of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

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E. Newsletter Editor

Andreas Hoff 'Diplom-Soziologe' (Leipzig) PhD (LSE) is a Research Associate at the German Centre of Gerontology in Berlin, currently working on the German Ageing Survey, a longitudinal, nationally representative survey of the German population aged 40 to 85, commissioned by the German government (Federal Ministry for the Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth) and originally established by Martin Kohli and colleagues at the Free University Berlin. At the same time, he teaches a course in European Social Policy at the Department of Sociology, Free University of Berlin. Previously, he was a Marie Curie Research Fellow at the Department of Social Policy of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), working in the field of family sociology and social policy; and collaborating in the international MESPA project (Masters of European Social Policy Analysis) at the University of Bath, UK. He studied Sociology, Social Policy and Economics at the University of Leipzig, (East) Germany and Manchester Metropolitan University, UK and got his first academic degree 'Diplom-Soziologe' (Masters equivalent) at the University of Leipzig. His research interests include: intergenerational solidarity, social support, informal vs. formal support, social networks and social integration, social policy and ageing, family policy, family sociology, European social policy, comparative sociology, voluntary organisations.

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F. Members

Ingrid Arnet Connidis is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario in London Canada. The department offers undergraduate and graduate training in aging. Her areas of research concern aging and family ties, with a special interest in sibling ties in middle and later life, multi-generational families, the intersection of aging, family and work over the life course and consequences for later life, and social policy issues. Recent and current writing explore the application of ambivalence to family ties (see, e.g., *Journal of Marriage and Family*, August 2002). Her book, *Family Ties and Aging* was published in 2001 by Sage (Thousand Oaks California). She has served on the Board of the Canadian Association on Gerontology and is currently engaged in a study of the multi-generational family relationships of gay and lesbian adults. Her first involvement with ISA Research Committee 11 was attending a wonderful meeting in Stockholm in 1992 – and she looks forward to being involved in planning another one.

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Marvin Formosa is presently a lecturer in sociological gerontology within the Institute of Gerontology, University of Malta. Previously, he was employed as Senior Technical Officer within the United Nations International Institute on Ageing (INIA) where he lectured on various International Courses. One of his most satisfying experiences was to co-ordinate an INIA International Course in Social Gerontology, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. His principal fields of interest include sociological gerontology, educational gerontology, and Pierre Bourdieu's sociological praxeology.

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Caroline Glendinning is Professor of Social Policy in the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre, University of Manchester, England. She has carried out research on community care policies and practice and the costs of family care for older people. She is currently leading a programme of research on the development of partnerships in health and social care services in England, with a particular focus on their impact on older people.

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Paul Higgs PhD is Senior Lecturer in Medical Sociology at University College London. His main interests are in social theory and ageing, particularly around what could be described as early old age. He is the co-author (with Chris Gilleard) of 'Cultures of Ageing: Self, Citizen and the Body' (2000) and is completing a follow-up volume 'Contexts of Ageing' to be published in 2003. He is also an editor of the newly launched journal 'Social Theory and Health'

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Therese Jacobs (° 1948) studied Sociology of Population and Family at the Universities of Antwerp and Leuven. She is appointed as a full time professor at the University of Antwerp. From 1999 to 2004 she is the general director of the Centre for Population and family studies (www.cbgs.be). This Research centre is a scientific institution of the Flemish Community in Belgium. The Centre is specialised in applied social research. Her expertise is in the field of family dynamics (living arrangements, divorce) and the living conditions of older people. In the 1990-ies she directed research on the children of the very old, with a special focus on informal care giving, and on characteristics of the housing of older persons. At the moment she directs a research programme on aging, including a survey on the living conditions of some 2400 persons 55+ (LOVO_1) and a survey of residents of rest homes (LOVO_2).

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Arvind Kumar Joshi M.A., Ph.D.(Sociology,B.H.U) is at present a Reader (Associate Professor) in the Department of Sociology at Banaras Hindu University. Prior to that he was Lecturer since 1983 to 1998. He was Visiting Professor in the Mahamakut Buddhist University, Bangkok (Thailand). He completed his Ph.D. research in 1982 on pre-independence Indian settlers of Andamans. The study is about the society of "banished" Indians and their descendants in the Andamans which came into being as a penal settlement. Arvind Joshi has attended and presented papers in several national and international conferences. He is a keen field-work oriented (micro level regional studies) researcher. Till date ten Research Scholars have received Ph.D. degrees under my supervision. Arvind Joshi contributed chapters in several books, and published extensively in scholarly journals. A book on "migration and Social Change" is in press. Current research projects include: "Social aspects of aging / problems of the aged"; "Institutional study of the Old Age Homes"; "Health and health care of the aged"; "Dalits in India: Waiting for Development."

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Allison Kirkman is a senior lecturer in sociology in the School of Social and Cultural Studies, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. The School is also the home of the New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing < <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/ageing-institute/>>, an applied research centre established in 2000. My research and teaching interests are in the areas of gender, sexuality and health. These research interests grew out of my experience as a nurse and midwife prior to my shift into sociology. My current research in the area of ageing includes two main projects: the media coverage of ageing, and the situation of health care workers employed in residential and dementia specific care. My other professional involvements include being a member of the National Ethics Advisory Committee on Health and Disability Services and the immediate Past President of the Sociological Association of Aotearoa (NZ).

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KWOK, Hong-kin is assistant professor of the Department of Politics and Sociology of Lingnan University in Hong Kong. He is a graduate of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. His Ph. D. thesis was entitled "A Comparative Study of the Middle Class and Working Class Sandwich Generations, the Stress They Encounter and Their Coping Strategies in Contemporary Hong Kong Society". His research interest is mainly in family studies. His current major work is: "The caregiving role of the sandwich generation in coping with their elderly parents in Hong Kong: the trends and their policy implications" This research project is funded by the East Asian Development Network (EADN), receiving a sub grant from the Global Development Network (GDN) for the EADN, for the World Bank Development Grant Facility. He has also been conducting five research projects in elderly care studies, young-old partnership, and human psychological well-being. He has published four books and a number of papers and research reports. The books that he has published include one in Hong Kong society study, one in family study, and two in education study.

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Peter Öberg PhD has worked as a research assistant in social gerontology since 1985 at Kuntokallio Gerontological Centre for Training and Research in Finland, where he also was responsible for courses in gerontology. The research project concerned social contacts and loneliness among elderly. He wrote his master thesis in social policy at the University of Helsinki about feelings of loneliness among elderly. He continued as a research assistant at the Academy of Finland in a Nordic biographical project "Ways of life, ageing and well-being" which he continued as a holder of a one year-scholarship in the Department of Social Medicine at the University of Copenhagen. In 1997 he defended his PhD thesis "Life as narrative. On biography and aging" at the Department of Sociology, Uppsala University, where he now works as researcher. His latest projects have been on "Ageing, Body Image and Identity".

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Tetsuo Ogawa B.BA.,LL.B.,M.A.,Ph.D. is Research Associate at the Oxford Institute of Ageing, and Senior Member at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. In 1994-95, he was a British Council Fellow from Japan. His main research interest is in social policy and administration, with particular emphasis on citizens' rights, social exclusion, community development, social solidarity, and social policy development in ageing societies. In 1996, he contributed to the BBC TV programme "The Coming of Age". He has been involved with the UNRISD's research project: "Ageing, Development and Social Protection" as a UN consultant.

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Ronica N. Rooks Ph.D. is a W. K. Kellogg Scholar in Health Disparities research at the Institute for Social Research, at the University of Michigan. Previously, she was a postdoctoral fellow in Epidemiology, at the National Institute on Aging (NIA). She received her Ph.D. in Sociology, with concentrations in demography and social stratification, from the University of Maryland at College Park (UMCP). Prior to achieving her Ph.D., she worked at the National Center for Health Statistics as a part-time research assistant for the Health, United States, 1996-1997 and 1998 volumes, a pre-doctoral fellow in health and aging, and as an editor for the 1999 Chart book on Health and Aging. She also received here M.A. in Sociology from UMCP and a B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology and Economics from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Her current research focuses on explaining racial health disparities in chronic disease and physical functioning by examining socio-economic status (SES) and unfair treatment or discrimination. She is currently working with Dr. David Williams on the Ypsilanti Everyday Stress (YES) Health Study, to examine the relationship between race, discrimination, and hypertension and mental health outcomes. While at NIA she finished papers entitled, "The Association of Race and SES with Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Indicators among Older Adults in the Health ABC Study" and "Race and Walking Ability in Well-functioning Older Black and White Adults: The Health ABC Study." She is also finishing other papers including: "Reducing Racial Differences in CVD Indicators among Older Adults: Do Socio-economic Resources Matter?" which pertains to access to care, health insurance, and income adequacy, "Who's Getting Sicker Faster Among Well-Functioning Older Adults? Racial Differences in Chronic Disease in the Health ABC Study," and "Who Works? A Health Profile of Older Black and White Workers in the Health ABC Study."

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Cherry Russell BA, PhD (Sydney) is an Associate Professor, School of Behavioural and Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney. Cherry has conducted research on various aspects of ageing and the lives of older people and has particular interest in qualitative methodology and the application of research to policy and professional practice. Her research interests include: social isolation, health of older women and men, independence and ageing, older people's experiences of living in different residential environments, poverty and homelessness, and professional practice with older clients. She has been a member of various government and non-government advisory bodies and committees on aged care policy and research, and established Australia's first multidisciplinary graduate professional education program in Gerontology.

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Merril Silverstein is Professor of Gerontology and Sociology at the Andrus Gerontology Center of the University of Southern California. Dr. Silverstein's research is concerned with understanding how individuals age within the context of family life, including such issues as social support across generations, later life migration, life-course patterns of intergenerational exchange, and public policy toward caregiving families. He is a recipient of a FIRST Award from the National Institute of Aging to study grandparenting over the life-course, and a grant from the NIH Fogarty International Center to study aging families in rural China. He is also Co-Principal Investigator of the Longitudinal Study of Generations and Mental Health. Dr. Silverstein is a Fellow of the Brookdale Foundation, the Gerontological Society of America, and the Fulbright International Senior Scholars Program for his research on informal and formal support systems for the aged in Sweden.

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Alan Walker is an acknowledged expert on ageing in Europe and has been Professor of Social Policy at the University of Sheffield since 1985. His main research fields are social care, social gerontology and European social policy. He has conducted many studies within the EU about social exclusion and social integration, especially among older citizens. He has a long-established international reputation for his research in social gerontology. His specialist subjects include comparative social policies on ageing (pensions, employment, long-term care) particularly within the European Union. He also has considerable research expertise on ageing in China and South-East Asia. He is President of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Ageing and an expert adviser to the UN's Programme on Ageing. He chaired the European Commission's Observatory on Ageing and Older People and he is an adviser to the UN Programme on Ageing, and the House of Commons Health Committee. He is currently Director of the £3.5 million ESRC Growing Older Programme and of the UK National Collaboration on Ageing Research. Professor Walker is Chairman of Community Health Sheffield NHS Trust and is a patron of the National Pensioners Convention. His research interests include: Social care, social gerontology and European social policy on ageing; social exclusion and integration among older citizens within the EU.

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G. Associates

Dr Libby Brooke is a Senior Research Fellow in the Lincoln Gerontology Centre, School of Public Health, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. She is currently undertaking a three-year research project consisting of four organisational case studies of practices which support older workers' employment based on qualitative and quantitative analysis. Recent research publications focusing on older workers include a review of age discrimination legislation in three Australian states, a study of the utilisation of older workers in organisations and an analysis of the human resource benefits of maintaining an age-balanced workforce. Her academic interests include qualitative studies into quality of care from different perspectives in the service delivery system. Other research publications encompass older people in public housing and care, social isolation and social support. Her academic responsibilities have included lecturing in aged care policies and programs within post graduate gerontology courses.

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Janece Mather, (PG student) - graduate contributions for the newsletter

Janece worked as an aged care nurse before returning to study in 1998. Janece is completing her degree in Social Science by engaging in honours in Sociology. Her research interests include Sociology of the ageing body, and human-animal relationships. She would like to teach and engage in further research. Janece would like to engage with other researchers regarding her interest in the ageing body.

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(5) NEWS: Conferences, publications, etc.

A. Conferences

Since it has become so common for conferences to promote their intentions, programmes and all other details of interest (accommodation, travel, etc.) on Internet websites, I see the purpose of this conference page mainly in pointing out upcoming conferences and indicating where to look for more information. All information provided here or in the 'Publications' section was either sent by other members of RC11 or I came across this information myself. Of course, I am aware that this list is by no means complete. Most of all, I regret that it includes information on upcoming events on two regions only: Asia/Oceania and Europe. In future, I hope to get much more information from you to (hopefully) have a more complete list covering the remaining regions as well. AH

- The Asia-Pacific Seminar on Regional Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing was convened by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) and hosted by the Government of China. It was held in Shanghai, P.R. China, from September 23-26, 2002.
- 4th International Conference in Cultural Gerontology on May 24–27, 2003 in Tampere, Finland can be found at: <http://www.uta.fi/konferenssi/cuge/>
- 36th World Congress International Institute of Sociology entitled "Social Change in the Age of Globalization" on July 7-11, 2003 in Beijing, P.R. China can be found at: <http://www.iis2003beijing.com.cn/>
- 5th International Conference of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies entitled "Challenges for the Quality of Life in the Contemporary World" on July 20-24, 2003 in Frankfurt/Main, Germany can be found at: <http://www.qualityoflife-2003.de/>
- 6th Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA) entitled "Ageing Societies, New Sociology" on September 23-26, 2003 in Murcia, Spain can be found at: <http://www.um.es/ESA/>
- 7th Asia / Oceania Regional Congress of Gerontology on November 24-28, 2003 in Tokyo, Japan can be found at: <http://www2.convention.co.jp/7thaog/index.html>

B. Publications

Social Policy Studies The inaugural issue Call for Papers

The Social Policy Studies, a newly established social policy journal based in Hong Kong, is calling for papers for its inaugural issue. The focus of the issue is on “Asian Welfare in Crisis”. We welcome quality papers on social policy and social services in Hong Kong and/or Asian countries, which take a critical look at the problems or crises experienced by these countries in recent years. The interpretation of ‘welfare crisis’ could be broad and flexible. It may cover policy issues and problems in individual countries, comparisons of welfare policy in different countries, or policy issues in the global context. Other ideas and suggestions are welcome.

The deadline of submission of manuscripts will be 30th December 2002. The first issue of the journal will be published by late 2003 or early 2004. You are very welcome to contact the Managing Editor (Dr. Chan Kam Wah, e-mail sskwchan@polyu.edu.hk) for further information and details.

Social Policy Studies Aims and Scope

Social Policy Studies is a bilingual journal catering to both Chinese and English readership, and published biannually. The objective of the journal is to encourage academic exchange on policy issues with a vision of developing better policy alternatives. We encourage critical analysis that helps to promote social equality and social justice and develop an anti-sexist, anti-racist, anti-discrimination, environmental friendly and an inclusive society. While its main focus is on Hong Kong and the Region, the Journal also welcomes quality articles in international or global context contributing to improvement of social policy analysis in general.

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Guideline for Contributors

1. Manuscripts should be sent to the Managing Editor:

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For enquiry, please contact Dr. Chan Kam Wah, telephone: (852) 27665737; Fax: (852) 27736558; e-mail: sskwchan@polyu.edu.hk

2. Social Policy Studies is a bilingual journal accepting papers in Chinese or English. Chinese paper should be around 12,000 words and English paper should be around 7,000 words.
3. Three copies of the manuscript, good spacing, typewritten on one side of A4 papers, should be sent to the Managing Editor. The cover page should include the title of paper, name of the authors, affiliation/institution, mailing address, e-mail address. The second page should include an abstract of around 150 words, and up to 5 key words of the paper. The number of word count should be included here. If the paper is accepted, the authors need to submit a diskette containing a file of the final version of the paper.

Authors should pay attention to the format of citing references. Format should conform to the Harvard-style system. Footnotes should be avoided as far as possible. References in the text should read as (Chan, 1996: 62-63), Lee and Chan (1998a, 1998b, 2000), (Lee et al., 1999) for more than 2 authors.

4. All contributions will be blind reviewed by at least two reviewers. To assure anonymity, identification of the authors in the paper should be avoided.
5. The Journal aims at publishing original contributions. When submitting, please make sure that your paper is not concurrently being considered for publication by another journal or in other format.
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(6) OUTLOOK

I sincerely hope, this first newsletter contained information useful for you. Once again, I would like to welcome you to RC11, also on behalf of the other executive board members. Future newsletters will be distributed biannually. I am still looking for ideas of how to improve this newsletter to make it more interesting for you.

Therefore, any comment, critique or suggestion will be very welcome!

Suggestions made so far include a special newsletter issue on ageing research centres or a special issue on ageing research in Asia.

I wish you every success with your work + always good health.

Best regards,

Andreas Hoff
Newsletter Editor