

	1996	1997
JANUARY	American Economic Assoc. Jan 5-7. San Francisco, CA	Linguistic Society of America Jan 2-5. Chicago
FEBRUARY	Int'l Social Networks Conference 2/ 22 - 2/ 25, Charleston, SC	Int'l Social Networks Conference Feb 12-15. San Diego, CA
MARCH	Southwest Social Science Association Houston, TX Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics March 15-17. Boston	
APRIL	Western Social Science Assoc. April 26-29. Oakland, CA	
MAY	European Social Science History May 9-11. THE NETHERLANDS Population Association of America May 9-11. New Orleans Eastern Academy of Management May 9-11. Crystal City, VA	
JUNE	Canadian Sociology & Anthropology Assoc June 1-5. Brock U., ON, Canada Classification Society & Numerical Taxonomy Group June 13-16, Amherst, MA Int'l Network on Personal Relationships June 29 to July 3. Seattle, WA	

	1996	1997
JULY	<p>Social Science Methodology July 1-4. Colchester, UK</p> <p>The Communication Network July 12-14. U. of Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>8th Int'l Conf. On Socio-Economics July 12-14. Geneva, Switzerland</p>	
AUGUST	<p>Academy of Management. August 10-13. Cincinnati, OH</p> <p>American Sociological Association Aug 16-20. New York, NY</p> <p>American Political Science Assoc. Aug 29-Sept 1. San Francisco, CA</p>	
SEPTEMBER		
OCTOBER	<p>3rd Systems Science European Congress Oct 1-4. Rome, ITALY</p> <p>Georgetown Linguistics Society Oct 11-13. 1996</p> <p>NWAVE - Linguistics Oct 15-20. Las Vegas, NV</p>	
NOVEMBER	<p>Boston U. Conf. on Lang. Develop. Nov 1-3. Boston, MA</p> <p>INFORMS: Complexity & Orgs Nov 4. Atlanta, GA</p> <p>American Anthropological Assoc. Nov 20-24. San Francisco, CA</p>	
DECEMBER		

MEETINGS

International Network on Personal Relationships (INPR). *Saturday June 29 to Wednesday July 3, 1996 Seattle, WA*

The goals of the 1996 INPR conference include continuation of interdisciplinary work on personal relationships, discussion of current issues concerning relationship scholars, and exploring innovations for future research. For more information contact:

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The Communication Network. *July 12 - 14, 1996. University of Geneva, Switzerland*

Vanessa Hoffman
(202) 994-9148, fax (202) 994-1606
email: vhoffman@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu

The Eighth International Conference on Socio-Economics. *July 12 - 14, 1996. Geneva, Switzerland.*

SASE
2808 Central Avenue SE
Albuquerque, NM 87106 USA
+1 505 277-5801, fax +1 505 277-4215
email: SASE@UNM.EDU

American Sociological Association. *August 16-20, 1996. New York, NY. New York Hilton and Towers & Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers.*

Theme: "Social Change: Opportunities and Constraints". Preregistration deadline is June 19. For more information contact:

ASA
tel: 202 833 3410 ext. 303
fax: 202 785 0146
email: meetings@asanet.org

Note: There will be a session at the ASA on Chaos and Complexity. Ray Eve and Sara Horsfal will be co-organizing a session entitled "Using Chaos and Complexity Theories to Explain Social Change". Contact: Sara Horsfall email: sth8987@acs.tamu.edu.

Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association Annual Meeting. *June 1-5, 1996. Ontario, Canada*

There will be a social networks session organized and chaired by Peter J. Carrington Sociology, University of Waterloo. Some papers included:

Aaron Dantowitz and Barry Wellman, "The Small World of the Internet"

Caroline Haythornthwaite and Barry Wellman, "Status, Task and Intimacy On and Off Line."

Merrijoy Kelner & Beverly Wellman. "How People Seek Help: Individual and Social Influences on Decision-Making for Medical and Alternative Health Care"

Contact:
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 web:
<http://www.cosc.brocku.ca/learneds/english/eCSAA.html>

Joint Meeting of the Classification Society of North America and The Numerical Taxonomy Group. *June 13-16, 1996. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003 USA*

The 1996 annual meeting of the Classification Society of North America will be held jointly with the Numerical Taxonomy Group at the Campus Center Hotel which is located in the center of the University of Massachusetts Campus. Both hotel and dormitory facilities will be available. Several restaurants are located in the hotel complex.

A short course will be held on Thursday, June 13, and there will be a welcoming reception that evening. Further details of the schedule can be found in the November, 1995 CSNA Newsletter, and a registration form is attached to the February, 1995 Newsletter. Special sessions currently planned include:

- General consensus theory (Robert C. Powers).
- Pathfinder networks and proximity graphs (Donald Dearholt).
- Classification in Social Network Analysis (Stanley Wasserman).
- Graduate student session (Peter Bryant).
- Information retrieval and classification (Stephen Hirtle).
- Image analysis and estimation (Sridhar Lakshaman and Anil Jain).
- Biological applications of consensus theory.
- Reticulate evolution.
- Software demonstrations.

Keynote speakers will include Herman Friedman of Fordham University, Donald Geman of the University of Massachusetts, Bruno Leclerc of C.A.M.S., Paris, Philippa Pattison of the University of Melbourne, D. L. Swofford of the Smithsonian Institution, and F. James Rohlf of SUNY at Stony Brook.

The organizers of the meeting encourage the presentation of contributed papers that cover a wide range of applications and methodology that involve exploratory data analysis viewed in its broadest sense. Papers related to evolution and molecular biology are of particular interest to the numerical taxonomy group. Short abstracts of papers should be sent to the appropriate program chair, as well as any suggestions for symposia, special sessions, topics, panel discussions, requests for further information, or other contributions. The deadline for submission of abstracts is April 15, 1996. The program chair for the CSNA program is Melvin F. Janowitz, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003 USA, telephone (413)-545-2871, Fax (413)-545-1801, e-mail csna96@math.umass.edu. The program director for the NT meeting is Pierre Legendre, Department de sciences biologiques, Universite de Montreal, C.P. 6128, succursale Centre-ville, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. H3C 3J7, telephone (514) 343-7591, fax (514)-343-2293, e-mail legendre@ere.umontreal.ca.

If you intend to come it is important that you register as soon as possible so that appropriate housing will still be available. All talks will be held at the Campus Center Hotel. There will be dormitory housing available at approximately \$25 per night; hotel rooms are discounted to a rate of \$58 for a single room and \$68 for a double. There is an attached enclosed parking garage. The traditional short course on cluster analysis will occur on June 13, with instructors Stephen C. Hirtle, Pierre Legendre, and Glen

Milligan. There will be a CSNA Social that evening. Friday will consist of CSNA sessions, followed by the CSNA business meeting and an evening banquet. Saturday will be mostly CSNA talks, but there will be an afternoon joint CSNA-NT session, with the CSNA portion of the conference ending late that afternoon. Following this, there will be an NT mixer. On Sunday, there will be NT sessions, the NT business meeting, and a buffet lunch. Complimentary continental breakfasts will be served Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Here are the invited speakers and titles of their talks:

- Donald Foster: Shakespeare's Who Done It: The Case of "A Funeral Elegy"
 Herman Friedman: Classification and Clustering: A Perspective on Applications (after dinner speaker)
 Donald Geman: Tree Structured Shape Recognition
 Bruno Leclerc: A Survey on the Consensus of Classification Trees
 Phillipa Pattison: Algebraic Bases for the Analysis of Binary Data
 F. James Rohlf: Application of Geometric Morphometric Methods to Evolutionary Studies
 David Swofford: Advances in Methodology for Reconstructing Evolutionary Trees: Bringing the Technology back to the Biologists.

Academy of Management. *August 10-13, 1996. Cincinnati, USA*

Theme: "Learning from unusual events". Nearly all teaching cases describe unusual organizations or unusual events. The organizations are unusually large, unusually successful, or unusually long-lived. The events involve important decisions, new challenges or opportunities, or potential or actual disasters. Research does say unusual events are more noticeable and more memorable. But how can people effectively transfer learning

about unusual events? Are most teaching cases giving inappropriate examples?

Research also suggests that unusual changes, including accidents and jolts, stimulate career transitions, technological innovations, strategic reorientations, and the formation of new industries. They provoke paradigm shifts, frame-breaking, and breakthroughs. They evoke unlearning. How do the behaviors before, during, and following unusual changes differ from normal behaviors?

Unusual events force managers to break free of routines, to use unfamiliar knowledge, and to process disordered information. Can such reactions be more effective?

People and organizations are dynamic systems: Theories say researchers can learn more about dynamic systems by observing how they react to abrupt changes, because such reactions expose tacit assumptions and latent abilities. But what do the causal processes during abrupt changes tell us about normal causal processes?

Since all exceptionally high-performing organizations must be unusual, to understand excellence, researchers and managers must study unusual events. What properties or configurations distinguish exceptionally high-performing organizations?

Extreme cases may form bases for statistical criteria that are superior to those in wide use. That is, it may be better to select explanations that minimize the numbers of anomalies than explanations that minimize errors of all kinds. How would such criteria alter the inferences from statistical studies?

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3rd Systems Science European Congress.
 Oct. 1- 4, 1996. *Rome.*

Any system entails problems of borderlines, internal and external relations, structures, emerging properties, as well as problems of modes of observation and of standpoint of the observer, of representation and modeling, of simulation and strategy.

Systems Science combines theoretical, practical and methodological approaches related to the study of these problems. It contributes to the synergy of the various disciplines by a renewal of approaches and methods, in order to promote scientific, economic, social and technical development. It stands at the crossroads of epistemology, science and technology, and opens new perspectives of action. The Congress aims at providing the Systems Science experts of all European countries, in the framework of their scientific traditions, with the opportunity to compare and exchange their various respective approaches. The Program Committee will accept papers dealing with epistemology or theory as well as applications, with an emphasis on subject matters listed below:

- Systems Science History and Evolution
- Epistemology, Methodology, Technology
- Transdisciplinarity of Systems Science Models
- Models, General Systems, Formalization
- Practice and Experiment in Natural Systems (Physical, Biological, Medical, Ecological...)
- Practice and Experiment in Technical, Administrative and in Socio-economical Systems
- Openness and Closedness in systems
- Organization, Networks, Hierarchy, Complexity
- Dynamics, Adaptation, Self-organization, Emergence, Chaos
- Coherence, Autonomy, Auto-reference

- Cybernetics, Automata, Robotics
- Psychology, Family Therapy
- Management, Decision, Strategy
- Social and Business Ethics
- Cognition, Information, Communication and Multi-media, Education, Natural Language,
- Neural Nets, Artificial Life and Intelligence.

The organizing committee consists of G. Minati (gianfranco.minati@iol.it), E. Pessa (Chair), M-P Penna, H. Sedehi (sedehi@help.it), M. Olivetti-Belardinelli.

Boston University Conference on Language Development. *Nov 1-3, 1996. Boston.*

Focus: First and second language acquisition.
 Abstract deadline: passed. Contact:

BU Conference on Language Development
 Boston University
 2 Cummington St.
 Boston, MA 02215
 tel: 617 353-3085
 email: langconf@louis-xiv.bu.edu

INFORMS: Applications of Complexity Theory to Organization Science. *Nov. 4, 1996. Atlanta Hilton.*

Abstracts due May 15. For information contact:

Philip Anderson
 Amos Tuck School
 Dartmouth College
 Hanover, NH 03755-9000
 email: philip.anderson@dartmouth.edu

Also see their web page at <http://www.stern.nyu.edu/informs>

American Anthropological Association. *Nov 20-24, 1996. San Francisco.*

Conference theme is: "Anthropology: A Critical Retrospective". Abstract deadline has already passed. For information, contact: AAA Meetings Dept., 4350 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203. Tel 703 528-1902, ext 2. Email: liz@aaa.mhs.compuser.com.

Linguistic Society of America. Jan 2-5, 1997. Chicago. Contact:

LSA Secretariat
1325 18th St., NW Suite 211
Washington, D 20036-6501
email: zzlsa@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships. The International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships (ISSPR) is a nonprofit organization of professionals interested in all aspects of personal relationships. The purposes of the Society are to stimulate and support research and scholarship on personal relationships, to encourage cooperation among individuals around the world and in various disciplines who are engaged in the scientific study of personal relationships, and to encourage the application of research findings.

The international emphasis of the organization is reflected in our choice of sites for our bi-annual conference. Members in Canada, England, Holland, Israel, and the United States have all hosted conferences. We plan to continue alternating between North America and other continents as conference locations.

The members of the Society are dedicated to interdisciplinary discourse. Anthropologists, sociologists, historians, social psychologists, communication scholars, psychologists, developmentalists, and those with other perspectives on personal relationships are all encouraged to join.

Members receive a 1-year subscription to *Personal Relationships*, a quarterly journal sponsored by the society and published by Cambridge University; a membership directory; and a subscription to the *ISSPR Bulletin*, a semi-annual newsletter. If you are interested in joining ISSPR, visit our website at:

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/~baldwin/isspr.html>

or contact:

Dr. Anita Barbee
Kent School of Social Work,
University of Louisville,
Louisville, KY 40292, USA.

SFAA sessions on networks & cog anthro. I am planning to organize two sessions at the 1997 meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) to be held in Seattle, Washington, on March 4-9 (a few weeks after the 1997 San Diego Sunbelt). Ed Liebow (Battelle Memorial Institute), a social network analyst, is organizing the conference.

One session will be on social networks and the other will be on cognitive anthropology. For now, I am leaving the scope within these two categories open. If there are many people who would like to present in one session or the other, then multiple sessions will need to be created and additional organizers recruited for these sessions.

If you are interested in presenting a paper in either of these sessions, please contact me. The deadline for abstracts is October 15, but I would like to have definite commitments (but

not necessarily abstracts) much earlier to know whether there is sufficient interest. For more information on the conference (including registration and other forms), visit the conference WWW site at:

<http://www.seattle.battelle.org/services/e&s/sfaa97/indexst.htm> .

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ASA Session on Chaos/Complexity: There will be a session at the ASA on Chaos and Complexity. Ray Eve and Sara Horsfal will be co-organizing a session entitled "Using Chaos and Complexity Theories to Explain Social Change". Contact: Sara Horsfall email: sth8987@acs.tamu.edu.

Networks Session at Social Science Historical Association meetings. The annual meeting is in New Orleans next November. I am organizing panels that deal with issues relating to social networks and history. 5 panels have been proposed, and there is room for others as well if you would like to take the lead in helping put them together. The five panels are:

1. Social networks and the diffusion of innovation and heterodoxy in historical context
2. Social networks and collective action in historical context
3. Social networks and disease diffusion in historical context
4. Social networks and economic action in historical context
5. Social networks and the analysis of qualitative data

Peter Bearman
bearman@gibbs.oit.unc.edu

Papers to be presented at the Social Networks session of the Annual Meetings of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association (see above):

Aaron Dantowitz and Barry Wellman, "The Small World of the Internet". In the late 1960s, Stanley Milgram performed a classical experiment that argued that only a few steps connected any two people in the world. With the growth of the internet, many claims have been made that the small world has been shrunk even further. To check that, we are performing a variety of experiments in which we ask a sample of internet users to send a message either (a) directly to an online person we have designated (and about whom we give only a bit of information), or (b) if they don't know this person themselves, to forward the request via the internet to someone(s) they think might know the target person. We are in the field now, but shall have results by the time of this conference.

Caroline Haythornthwaite and Barry Wellman, "Status, Task and Intimacy On and Off Line." To what extent do people communicate differently by e-mail as compared to face-to-face contact? How are these differences affected by the social status, task and social closeness of the people interacting? To address these questions, we have collected social network data from a university research group of computer scientists (N=25). Each participant was asked which kind of task they did with which other participants, and the frequency of their use of e-mail, unscheduled face-to-face encounters, or scheduled face-to-face meetings for each task. Thus these data are amenable to analysis in terms of interacting dyads (our focus here), personal networks (who does A interact with,

about what, and by what means?), and whole networks (what is the clustering or role structure of this research group?) This paper reports on what kinds of communication media are used for which tasks, thereby addressing both scholarly and public concerns that e-mail may be more useful for instrumental than socioemotional matters. We further inquire into the extent to which people of different social status in the group (faculty members, graduate students, support staff) have different patterns of communication, and how social closeness (from acquaintance to intimate) affects the nature of the relationship and the media by which network members communicate.

Merrijoy Kelner & Beverly Wellman. "How People Seek Help: Individual and Social Influences on Decision-Making for Medical and Alternative Health Care". In a country where physician/ hospital health care is free, why do people pay to use more expensive and less-recognized alternative practitioners. We compare the personal relationships and network characteristics of the patients of family physicians with those of patients of four types of alternative practitioners. These practitioners, ranked from the most institutionally legitimate (as ranked by judges) and widely used (the rankings are identical): chiropractors, acupuncturists/ traditional Chinese doctors, naturopaths, reiki practitioners. How has their choice of practitioners and their thinking about health been affected by their personal relationships, the social networks in which these relationships are located, social situations (e.g., paid worker or "homemaker"/ with/ without children or spouse), sociodemographic characteristics (e.g., age, gender), health problems and previous patterns of health use? The data come from detailed in-person interviews performed in 1994 with 300 Subjects: 60 patients of each of the five treatment modalities (including family physicians). Within each modality, four practitioners in metropolitan Toronto were randomly chosen,

and 15 Subjects were chosen for each practitioner. As metropolitan Toronto contains a wide diversity of health-care practitioners, Subjects had a wide array of practitioners to choose from.

The interview schedule paid particular attention to the role that personal relationships play in health-care decision making. Interviewers asked in great detail about who social network members are, what are their relationships to Subjects, and how they affected the Subjects' use of particular health-care modalities. The data suggest complex patterns of relational influence, and the use of several types of practitioners, both sequentially and simultaneously. The data also contain much information on symptoms and health history, as well as on relationships between patients and practitioners.

Analysis is just beginning, and much more detailed findings will definitely be available by the time of the conference. Preliminary results suggest that those with more wide-ranging social networks (larger, more structurally complex, more heterogeneous) are associated with choosing the more alternative modalities (e.g., not chiropractors or physicians). People go to alternative practitioners principally for chronic, not acute, health problems. Women comprise the great majority of those going to alternative practitioners, as much as 85% of those seeing naturopaths and reiki practitioners.

Conferences, People & Changes

Network News is a regular column whose function it is to disseminate news about INSNA, the professional association for social networks researchers.

1996 Conference. This year's conference was held in Charleston, South Carolina in February. This was a new site for the conference and was a big success. Congratulations and thanks to John Skvoretz and Katie Faust for doing such an exceptional job organizing the conference, and to the graduate students at the University of South Carolina for all their help.

1997 Conference. Next year's social network conference will be held February 12-16, 1996 at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego, California. The conference is being organized by Pat Doreian (pitpat@vms.cis.pitt.edu, 412-648-7537) and Sue Freeman (sgfreema@uci.edu). The deadline for submitting abstracts is December 15, 1996. Contact Pat for program information and Sue for local arrangements information.

1998 Conference. The '98 conference will be held in Sitges (near Barcelona, Spain), jointly organized by the Dutch (Frans Stokman, Tom Snijders, Evelien Zeggelink) and the Spanish (José Luis Molina, Josep Rodriguez). The dates have not yet been finalized, but are expected to be around May. Email addresses for the Dutch are: F.N.Stokman@appsw.rug.nl, T.A.B.SNIJDERS@appsw.rug.nl, and E.P.H.Zeggelink@appsw.rug.nl. Addresses for the Spanish are: Jlm.OPS@hermes.asertel.es, jardiaz@iscdz.eco.ub.es.



Sitges

1999 Conference. The '99 conference will return to Charleston, South Carolina at the Hawthorn Suites Hotel. Contact John Skvoretz (skvoretz-john@sc.edu) for information.

2000 Conference. The new century will be ushered in by a new site: the '00 conference will be held in Vancouver, BC, hosted by Bill Richards. For information contact Bill (604 251-3272 or 291-4119, richards@sfu.ca) at:

School of Communication
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby B.C. V5A 1S6
CANADA



Vancouver (aerial view)

INSNA volunteers. Devon Brewer (ddbrewer@u.washington.edu) has agreed to become INSNA's Promotion Manager. He will take care of letting other associations know about us and include our meeting dates in their calendars. He will also be writing to network researchers who are not INSNA members to invite them to join. Our membership has remained constant over the years (300+ members), but the number of networkers in the world has increased, which means our share of the market is declining. Devon will be working to reverse that trend.

Our WebMaster Mark Dawson is moving on to a non-academic job requiring both his computer and ethnographic skills. While I am sorry he is leaving us, I am delighted to report that his duties will be taken over by **Cathleen McGrath** (coauthor of *KrackPlot*) at Carnegie Mellon. She can be reached at cm3t@andrew.cmu.edu. It is my goal to radically expand the INSNA web site this year and I know Cathleen is the perfect person to do it. I believe we shall soon be able to use the Web to register for conferences, renew subscriptions, review and revise member information (such as email address and interests), and possibly even read *CONNECTIONS* (if desirable).

We also have several new Associate Editors, each assigned to a specific field, whose job it is to recruit articles for *CONNECTIONS* in their particular field. The editors (and their fields) are:

Al Wolfe Anthropology
alwolfe@cfrvm.cfr.usf.edu
 Candy Jones Business
cjones@aol.com
 George Barnett Communications
combarn@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu
 Michael Link Political Science
link@jopa.sc Carolina.edu
 Dave Kenny Psychology
kenny@uconnvm.uconn.edu

Prospective authors do not have to contact the associate editor for their field: just submit the manuscript directly to the main editors, John Skvoretz (skvoretz-john@sc.edu) or Katie Faust (katie-faust@scarolina.edu).

New INSNA address. I have moved from Sociology to Management, and from the University of South Carolina to Boston College. Effective immediately, all INSNA correspondence should be addressed to:

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Tel: 1+ 617 552-0452
 Fax: 1+ 617 552-2097
 email: steve_borgatti@msn.com



Manuscript submissions for *CONNECTIONS* should still be sent to John Skvoretz or Katie Faust at Dept. of Sociology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208

— *Stephen P. Borgatti*
steve_borgatti@msn.com