
MEETING CALENDAR

SIMMEL

A colloquium on Georg Simmel will be held in June in Bielefeld, West Germany. For information, contact Heinz-Jürgen Dahme, Fakultät für Soziologie, Universität Bielefeld, Postfach 8640, 4800 Bielefeld.

CANADIAN SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY

The annual Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association meetings will be held 6-9 June at the Université d'Ottawa. Selected sessions (and paper-givers) include:

- 6 June: Sex, Gender and the Reproduction of Labour Power in Advanced Capitalism (Livingstone, Secombe, Luxton); Socio-economics (Greer-c, Blute, Novak, Rush); Ethnicity & Interethnic Relations in a Northeastern Mining Town (Gold-c, Vasiliadis, Lame, Giacomo).
- 7 June: Feminist Approaches to Family Studies (Nett, Baker, Jacobson); Intersections of Marxism with Sociology: Paradigms & Problems (Bodemann-c, Daniels, Goodman, Dickinson); Political Economy of Communications (Morrow, Kopinak, Raboy); Data Bases for Hierarchical, Network or Text-Oriented Data and Other Non-Standard Data Structures: SAS, SIR and Beyond (Jones-c, Carrington & Wellman, Denton & Davis); Sociology of Canadian Jews (Schoenfeld-c, Glickman, Bodemann); Sociology of Work (Jones-c, Hunter & Manley, Minai, Smucker);
- 9 June: Quality of Life in Canada (Davis-c, Atkinson & Murray, Rhyne, Matsui).

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

An international conference on personal relationships will be held 18-23 July at the Sociology Dept., Univ. of Wisconsin. Information from Steve Duck, Psychology Dept., Fylde College, Univ. of Lancaster, Lancaster LA1 4YF or Robin Gilmour (Psychology & Social Relations Dept., Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MS 021380).

Sessions:

19 July: Communication processes in the initiation, maintenance and dissolution of interpersonal relationships: Charles R. Berger, "Social cognition and the development of interpersonal relationships"; Arthur Bochner, "Dialectical processes in interpersonal relationships"; Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, "Marital interaction processes: recent theoretical and empirical advances"; William Rawlins, "Communication processes in the growth of cross-sex friendships"; Gerald R. Miller & Margo Marie Senter, "Honey, vinegar and the sweet sorrows of parting: selecting communication strategies for achieving dissolution."

Friendship Behaviour:

James P. Flanders, "Household televiewing as a behavioural sponge which competes with personal relationships and generally wins"; Steven Jay Lynn, Larry Gorkin, Judith Rhue, Michael Nash, Steven J. Sherman, "Self disclosure: Normative information vs reward-cost factors"; Barry McCarthy, "Dyads, cliques, and conspiracies: friendship behaviours and perceptions within long-established social groups"; Sally Planalp, "Cognitive processes in interpreting relational implications of messages"; D. Siegel, "Attributional bias in close relationships: 'mind-reading' in couples"; Paul T. P. Wong & Valerian J. Derlega, "An attributional analysis of self disclosure."

Types of relationship:

Wyndol Furman, Duane Buhrmester & Wendy Ritz, "Qualitative features of sibling relationships"; Harold P. Gershenson, "A description of the relationships of white adolescent mothers with their own mothers"; Maureen Hallman & Steven Smith, "Determinants of cross-race friendship choices"; John Reisman, "Toward the meaning and measurement of friendliness"; Paul H. Wright, "The Acquaintance Description Form: new developments."

Poster session:

Gerald R. Adams, "A dialectical-interactional perspective to the social psychology of physical appearance"; Dorothy Miell & Steve Duck, "Strategic styles in attraction and acquaintance"; Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, "A typology of marital relationships: predicting communication in ongoing relationships"; Julie Indvik, "The variable nature of relationships at work: the influences of job level, career stage, and competence on peer and superior-subordinate relationships."

20 July: Charting the development of relationships:

Leslie A. Baxter & William W. Wilmore, "A longitudinal study of communication in same-sex and opposite sex relationships"; Steve Duck & Dorothy Miell, "A structured diary of the development of relationships"; M. A. McLaney & J. J. Steffen, "An exploratory analysis of relationship development"; Alexis J. Walker, "A longitudinal-sequential study of casual dating relationship."

Processes of growth in relationships:

Rodney M. Cate & F. Scott Christopher, "Factors involved in premarital sexual decision making"; Howard J. Markman, "Recent advances in social cognitive and social skills conceptions of the development of close relationships: have we reinvented the wheel?"; Gerald Marwell, Kathleen McKinney, Susan Sprecher, Stevens Smith & John Delamater, "Legitimizing factors in the initiation of heterosexual relationships"; Greg J. Neimeyer & Robert A. Neimeyer, "Personal constructs in the development of relationships: some conceptual and empirical refinements"; Malcolm R. Parks, "The role of network factors in the development of romantic relationships."

The social context of premarital and marital relationships:

Robert M. Milardo, "Interdependent relationships: lovers and friends"; Elliot Robins, "Social Networks of newlywed husbands and wives"; Catherine A. Surra, "From courtship to marriage: Patterns of interaction between partners and their social networks." Duscussant: Michael P. Johnson.

Friendship in childhood and adolescence:

Grazia Atrili, "The development of relationships in pre-school children: child-child and adult-child relations"; Wyndol Furman & Tish Willems, "The acquaintanceship process in middle childhood"; Reed W. Larson, "Family and friends as contrasting interaction systems in the daily lives of adolescents"; Sherri Oden, Sharron Herzberger, Peter Mangione & Valerie Wheeler, "A developmental study of peer relationship formation."

Poster session:

Joel B. Bennet, "The changing nature of interpersonal processes: A model for viewing interdependence in and over time"; Colin Brydon, "From play to talk to trust: The development of adolescent friendships"; Phil Erwin, "Similarity of attitudes and constructs in children's friendships"; Robert Hays, "Growth and change in developing friendships"; Michelle Landberg, "Age, self concept and sex as predictors of friendship expectations in adolescence"; Mary Lund, "The development of commitment to a close relationship"; Harriet Sants, "The relationship between patterns of friendship, self concept and conceptions of friendship in young children."

21 July: Loneliness:

Jenny DeJong-Gierveld, "Loneliness and the degree of intimacy in personal relationships"; Peter Favaro & Ruth Formanek, "Living but lonely: children complain about their friends"; Warren H. Jones, Bruce N. Carpenter & Diana Quintana, "Interpersonal and personality predictors of loneliness in two cultures."

Disordered relationships:

Bram Buunk, "Jealousy: some recent issues and findings"; Elizabeth A. Lopez, "Help that is not helpful: a look at depressed individuals and their close relationships"; Harry T. Reis, "Determinants, consequences and characteristics of social relationships."

Poster session:

Wyndol Furman, Diane Buhrmester, Phillip Shaver & Tish Willems, "Changes in relationships and social networks during the transition to college"; Steven Jay Lynn, Anne V. Peterson, John Garske & Judith W. Rhue, "A study of homophobia and intimacy between males."

22 July: Research strategies in the study of disengagement:

Tom Berndt, "Why do children's friendships end? Problems with levels of analysis"; Brian Bigelow, "Disengagement and the development of social concepts"; Leslie A. Baxter, "Disengagement as a process rather than an event"; John J. La Gaipa, "A longitudinal approach to relational change."

Antipathy, rivalry, conflict and disregard:

Colin Brydon, "Enemies exist. But friends . . .?"; Bram Buunk, "The role of extramarital relationships in the divorce process"; John H. Lewko & Brian J. Bigelow, "Children's personal accounts of the formation and dissolution of friendships through sports"; Miriam J. Rodin, "Some empirical correlates of disregard: who's invisible to whom?"; Helgola Ross, "Adult sibling rivalry"; Valerie A. Wheeler, "Reciprocity within first grade friend and non-friend dyads in a conflict-of-interest situation."

Repairing relationships:

Kathryn Dindia, "Relationship rejuvenation;" Howard J. Markman and others, "The short-term results of a cognitive behavioural program for premarital couples designed to prevent marital distress"; Clifford I. Notarius, "Toward a model of behaviour change in marital therapy"; Roelf Jan Takens, "On the nature of the psychotherapeutic relationship."

COMMUNICATIONS AND THE FUTURE

The World Future Society's 4th General Assembly meets 18-22 July in Washington, D.C. (Sheraton Washington Hotel). It includes a panel on "Telecommunications Networking" which includes Roxanne Hiltz, Peter & Trudy Johnson-Lenz, Jessica Lipnack & Jeffrey Stamps, Robert Theobald, Ivan Frisch and Lee Wright (19 July).

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGY

Program details of the American Sociological Association annual meetings are still sketchy (6-10 Sept., San Francisco). Some announced sessions of interest are:

Rethinking the Nature of Urban Life (Lyn Lofland, Gerald Suttles, Claude Fischer, Manuel Castells, Richard Sennett).
 Dilemmas of Development (Gerhard Lenski, E. H. Cardoso, Alejandro Portes, Immanuel Wallerstein, Marion Levy).
 Kin Structures & Household Units (Rae Lesser Blumberg, Bernard Farber, Frank Furstenberg, Jr., Barbara Laslett, Andrew Cherlin).
 The Making & Unmaking of the State (Theda Skocpol, Reinhard Bendix, Gianfranco Poggi, Michael Hechter).

plus two round table discussions organized by the ASA's Theory Section:

1. Individual, Family & Gender in Current Theory (Harold Benenson & Chiara Sarcena):

Some underlying assumptions of new-Weberian and neo-Marxist class theories appear increasingly problematic for the development of a fully social conception of class relationships. These center on the problem of the proper unit of class analysis, and the relation of individuals and families to class systems. Two deficiencies are common to otherwise heterogeneous class theories. First is the assumption that labor participants (or income-earners, economic actors, etc.) can be treated as abstract individuals, whose extra-economic relationships (particularly as defined by family modes of life and gender divisions) are unimportant or derivative. Second is the premise of a unitary mode of connection between the class system and the family unit via the adult male breadwinner.

We wish to examine: 1) the extent to which these assumptions in fact characterize contemporary theories; 2) the adequacy of such assumptions as the family and gender bases of class relations change; 3) the connection between these assumptions and substantive shortcomings of major approaches; and 4) the alternative ways of conceptualizing relationships between individual activity, family processes, and gender divisions as elements of class theory.

2. Toward a Theory of Friendship (Ruth Wallace, George Washington U.):

A number of contemporary theorists are working toward an understanding of the phenomenon of friendship in rapidly changing societies. With high geographic mobility in modern societies, where encounters with friends are less frequent and briefer, friendships now take on new forms and new meanings. The analysis can be sharpened if we draw on insights from classical as well as from contemporary theorists. We can understand the present better if we can recombine and update the components of the theoretical visions of the classical sociologists, some of whom (e.g., Tonnies, Simmel, Durkheim, Weber, Mead, and Cooley) recognized the importance of friendship in their own times, even though they may not have analyzed it explicitly.

CYBERNETICS

The annual meeting of the American Society for Cybernetics will be 18-20 Oct., in Columbus, Ohio. It will overlap with the American Society for Information Science meetings. Send program proposals to John Hayman, Hayman Assocs., Box 1626, Clanton, AL 35045.

SOCIAL SCIENCE HISTORY

The Social Science History Association will hold its annual meeting 4-6 Nov at Indiana Univ. The association brings together scholars who use theories and methods from social science disciplines for historical research. Program information from Elyce Rotella, Economics Dept., Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN 47405 (812-337-1021).

*PAST CONFERENCES**QUANTITATIVE HISTORY*

An international assessment of Quantitative History was held 4-6 March, Washington, D.C. Conference topics included Mass Data, Methods, Theories, International/Comparative. For information contact Konrad Jarausch, History Dept., Univ. of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211.

COMPUTERIZATION IMPACTS

IFDO, the International Fed. of Data Organizations, and IASSIST, the International Association for Social Science Information Service & Technology met in Grenoble, 14-18 Sept. In the broad range of conference topics, "it became obvious that data archiving nowadays means more than handling survey data; that data archives have more and more to cope with historical, process-produced aggregate and textual data. New or remodelled data management and documentation have to be applied to cope with the problems these data pose. Conference abstracts (90 Fr.) available from Banque de Donnees Socio-Politiques, B. P. 34, F-38401 Saint Martin d'Heres, France. (Source: Quantum 21.)

COMPUTER-BASED CONFERENCING SYSTEMS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A workshop on this subject was held 26-30 Oct. in Ottawa, Canada. (Proceedings available from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa.)

Conference Conclusions:

We expect that in the next decade the use of computer-based conferencing systems (CBCSs) in developed nations will become a major vehicle for domestic and international scientific and technical information exchange.

We believe that the provision of adequate and reliable CBCSs to serve the scientific and technological communities nationally within developing countries and internationally among them and with developed countries would greatly contribute to the successful development of these communities.

It is our belief that unless the developing nations can participate in this electronic community of science and technology they will suffer from a disenfranchisement of a serious nature.

We perceive the threat of scientific and technical disenfranchisement to be twofold: first, the lack of access to the resources of the developed nations and, second, and perhaps more important, the inability to gain timely access to results and techniques found in the developing nations themselves.

Increasingly, international research is being undertaken in such areas as forestry (the proper utilization of biomass resources), agriculture (the development of nonplantation resources), and bioengineering (interdisciplinary synergies that interact with the above). Computer-based conferencing would greatly assist the participation of developing nations in these and other international areas of research by enabling them to obtain and exchange scientific and technological information and contribute innovations and information to the world-wide scientific community.

We perceive the technical requirements for full and effective utilization of international computer-based conferencing for any country to consist of the availability of CBCSs, availability of reliable domestic and international telecommunication facilities and services, indigenous technical expertise in computer-based conferencing, and domestic implementation of universally accepted procedures for CBCS interconnection. Additionally, we see the administrative requirements for full and effective utilization of international computer-based conferencing for any country to be effective representation to ITU and relevant committees in compliance with their procedures; the existence of indigenous applications expertise; an informed approach by government to transborder data flow policies in relation to scientific and technological information; the existence of a governmental focal point for facilitating the implementation of computer-based conferencing and the existence of a professional organization with the objectives of promoting indigenous expertise, identifying communication needs, and ensuring international representation in professional forums.

SUNBELT SOCIAL NETWORK CONFERENCE

Held 12-14 Feb. in Tampa. (Next year: Laguna Beach, California.)

Also see Abstracts section.

- J. A. Barnes (Cambridge), "Modelling: for real or for fun?" (to be printed in CONNECTIONS)
- Alvin Wolfe (Anthro., South Florida), "Improving communication among theorists & practitioners."
- Susan Greenbaum (Anthro., South Florida), "Bridging ties at the neighborhood level: weak or multiplex?"
- Gary Hurd & Bonnie Jenkins (Medical College of Georgia), "Applications of graph centrality in psychiatric diagnosis."
- Douglas White (Soc. Sci., California-Irvine), "Status entailment structures and roles as regular block-models: representation of social structure."
- Peter Marsden (Soc., N. Carolina) & Edward Laumann (Soc., Chicago), "Models of integration & microstructural analysis."
- David Matula (Comp. Sci., So. Methodist), "Cluster validity by concurrent chaining."
- David Knoke (Soc., Indiana), "Organizational sponsorship of social influence associations."
- Karl Reitz (Soc. Sci., California-Irvine), "Graph homomorphisms applied to definition of roles."
- Paul Holland (ETS) & Samuel Leinhardt (SUPA, Carnegie-Mellon), "Stochastic blockmodels."
- Malcolm Dow (Anthro., Northwestern), "Network autocorrelation: small sample properties."
- Peter Carrington (Soc., Toronto) & Greg Heil (Comp. Sci., Toronto), "Another new algorithm for finding block-models."
- John Sonquist (Soc., California-Santa Barbara), "Problems in getting computer software for network analysis cranked up and usable at your installation."
- John Boyd (Soc. Sci., California-Irvine), "The computation of relations satisfying semigroup constraint."
- Patrick Doreian (Soc., Pittsburgh), "Polyhedral dynamics & labor disputes."
- Linton Freeman (Soc. Sci., California-Irvine), "Euclidean representations of graphs."
- J. Miller McPherson (Soc., S. Carolina), "A hypernetwork approach to the study of community organization."
- Ronald Rice (Comm., Stanford), "Longitudinal system structure & role occupancy of research groups using a computer conferencing system."
- Ronald Burt (Soc., California-Berkeley), "Medical innovation again: relational vs positional norms."
- John Jessen (Comm., Stanford), "Communication networks as social support in a New England small-boat fishing village."
- Joung-Im Kim (Comm., Stanford), "Testing the strength-of-weak-ties hypothesis in diffusion networks."
- Debra Martin (Soc., Minnesota), "Time as a variable in communications network analysis."
- Lisa Berkman (Epidem., Yale), "Social networks: what are the health consequences?"
- Evelyn Bromet (Epidem., Pittsburgh) & Joseph Zubin (Biometrics, VA-Pittsburgh), "Exposure to stress, social network characteristics & mental health: an analysis of the effects of the Three Mile Island accident."
- Sidney Cobb (Cmty Health, Brown), "An approach to the relationship between social networks, the sense of social support, and health."
- Stephen Suomi (Psychology, Wisconsin), "Social network influences on development in rhesus monkeys: a transactional model."
- Bonnie Erickson (Soc., Toronto), "An urban voluntary association: a 1st report."
- Gary Hurd (Medical College of Georgia), "Networks and patient decisions about medical care."
- Noah Friedkin (Ed., California-Santa Barbara), "Consensus in social circles and structurally equivalent positions."
- Ronald Burt (Soc., California-Berkeley), "Disentangling relational contents as people perceive them."
- Jeff Johnson (Intercoastal Marine Resources, E. Carolina) & Marc Miller (Marine Studies, U. of Washington), "Fishermen's nets: ethnic relations in an Alaskan coastal community."
- Janet Salaff (Soc., Toronto), "The differentiating effects of social class on interaction in extended households."
- A. Ronald Gillis (Soc., Toronto) "Friends, relatives & strangers: the cognitive structure of the willingness to intervene."
- Michael Minor (Pacific Institute for Evaluation & Research), "Multiplexity and support networks."
- Gill McCann (Soc., Vermont), "Material entailment analysis of a scientific revolution."
- Larissa Lomnitz (Anthro., Mexico), "Urban resettlement in Mexico."
- Raymond Bradley (Soc., Minnesota), "Toward an integrated theory of relational analysis."
- Susan Greenbaum, "Acquaintanceship patterns of ethnics & non-ethnics."
- Martin Denoff (Soc. Sci., Tampa), "Length of hospitalization & patterns of adult schizophrenics."
- H. Russell Bernard (Anthro., Florida), Peter Killworth (Appld. Math., Cambridge) & Christopher McCarty (Anthro., Florida), "Index: an informant-defined experiment in social structure."