

CFR GAZETTE



Newsletter of the
Committee on
Family Research
(RC06/CFR)

*International Socio-
logical Association*



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RC06 President's Column



Dear RC06 Friends,

As mid-2022 draws near, cannot help but feel that turmoil and strife are part of living in the world today: pandemics, violence, war, refugee surges, famine, climate catastrophes. Political upheaval and more assail us everyday in the news. For some, sadly, all this is close-up. It heartens me, however, to see sociologists making important contributions to explaining and understanding what is happening. And to see so many, out of the goodness of their hearts, stepping up to help and to care for those in need. We truly are global in our caring.

Most RC's, including ours, have been slowed in activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. We do have new members, however, which is welcome news. I am pleased to say as well that plans are actively afoot for the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in 2023 (25 June – 1 July) in Melbourne, Australia. Have a look at the conference website: [XX ISA World Congress of Sociology \(isa-sociology.org\)](https://www.isa-sociology.org) The theme, “**Resurgent Authoritarianism: The Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions, Politics, and Economies**” could not be more timely. Important to note is this from that site:

The XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023 will be in a hybrid format. While we strongly advise and encourage everyone to come to Melbourne and enjoy in-person participation in the Congress, on-line presentations will also be possible. Oral sessions will be a mix of in-person and virtual presenters, based on the presenters preference. For further details see: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/melbourne-2023/deadlines-2023>

➡ **Do please keep the deadlines noted in mind. They sneak up on us quickly.**

RC06 has had a very good response to our call for session proposals. And we have been successful in having an Integrative Session approved, “Constructing the foundations for Asian sociology: A case

of family and gender studies.” Participating units are Japanese Sociology Association, Vietnamese Sociological Association and RC06. You may recall that our RC co-sponsored a conference with the Vietnamese Sociological Association, in Fall 2019. As a result of that very successful conference, the VSA became a national organization member of ISA.

In addition to our RC sessions, a splendid set of plenaries and semi-plenaries as well as professional development sessions are planned at the World Congress: for junior sociologists, on publishing, diversity in RCs and ISA, ISA and RCs and the United Nations, time organizing, and free access to knowledge.

As always, I am immensely grateful to valued and generous colleagues on the RC Board for their support of our RC. In particular, immense thanks to Barbara Barbosa Neves, our always efficient, energetic long-serving RC Secretary who keeps us on top of deadlines and is always ready to volunteer. Cannot imagine RC06 without her guiding hand. Thanks also to interim Board member Lukasz Czarnecki who has not only taken responsibility for our newsletter but also agreed to work with Barbara to co-coordinate our program for the World Congress. And thanks to Aušra Maslauskaitė, interim Board member, for keeping us on social media, increasingly important in present times. I warmly thank all Board members for their support and help.

I end on a sad note with news of my Canadian and University of Victoria colleague, Dorothy Smith who passed away last week after suffering a fall. She was 96. Many sociologists throughout the world will know of Dorothy’s deep insights into the social world with her concepts of Institutional Ethnography and Relations of Ruling. She had published *Simply Institutional Ethnography: Creating a Sociology for People* (with Alison Griffith, University of Toronto Press) just a couple of months ago and, as most people will know, she had a distinguished career and made a huge contribution to sociology and beyond through her work.

Here is a link to a recent tribute video: <https://vimeo.com/701440448>

She will be deeply missed not only by those of us who knew her, but by the international sociology community.

With best wishes,
Susan McDaniel
President, RC06

June 2022

Editor's Column



Dear RC06 Members,

Thank you for sharing your information on publications and announcements for this Newsletter. There is a call for papers on singlehood in the *Journal of Family Theory & Review*.

Thank you – each of you – for your publications including a book, chapter, and articles that we have here. There is also a new journal to consider on family issues, i.e. *Families, Relationship and Societies*.

Finally, I especially welcome New and Returning Members.

With my best regards,

Lukasz Czarnecki

Call for Papers

Special Issue of the Journal of Family Theory & Review

Theorizing Singlehood

Guest Editors: Erin S. Lavender-Stott, Karen Benjamin Guzzo, Susan L. Brown, and Wendy D. Manning

[Submissions due: September 1, 2022](#)

Where are all the singles? Singlehood is on the rise yet largely remains at the margins of family science. The share of adults who are married has declined throughout the world, and a growing number of people live alone or outside of co-residential partnerships. Compared to marriage and cohabitation, less is known both theoretically and empirically about singlehood, including reasons for the rise in singlehood, the meaning of singlehood, social norms surrounding singlehood, and the implications of singlehood on the individual, familial, and societal level. Further, family science has not fully considered how singlehood might vary across contexts and groups. Singles are not a monolithic group but instead are heterogeneous along a number of socially significant dimensions.

This special issue invites submissions about singlehood, broadly defined as unmarried individuals (i.e., legally single) who do not live with a romantic partner. Submissions could review published theoretical work on singlehood, consider how existing family theories can be adapted or expanded to incorporate singlehood, or develop new theoretical approaches to understanding singlehood as a family form. Submissions that focus on non-U.S. populations or take a comparative approach are encouraged, as are those that focus on singlehood within specific populations (e.g., sexual and gender minorities or Black, Indigenous, Asian, Latinx, or multiracial populations) and/or adopt an intersectionality approach. Submissions that consider singlehood at specific life course stages are welcome. Papers that consider from a theoretical perspective how singlehood is linked to individual well-being and social relationships and/or how changes in singlehood impact society and social institutions are also appropriate.

The *Journal of Family Theory & Review* (JFTR) is a multidisciplinary journal with a goal to advance family science as a field. It publishes original contributions in all areas of family theory, including theory development, critical analyses, reviews of existing theories, new applications of theory, essays on theory construction, and analyses of the linkage between theory and methods. JFTR also publishes original integrative reviews of literature in family-related content areas. JFTR does not publish empirical reports, with the exception of meta-analyses. JFTR encourages integration and growth in the multidisciplinary and international domains of inquiry that define contemporary family science. The journal incorporates a broad range of social science and transdisciplinary fields, including human development and family science, family therapy, sociology, social work, developmental and social psychology, nursing, communication studies, health, demography, gerontology, anthropology, political science, history, philosophy, ethnic studies, gender and sexuality studies, and others.

Manuscripts are due by September 1, 2022, and the special issue will be published in September 2023. Manuscripts must be submitted via the Manuscript Central submission portal at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jftr>. Be sure to note that the submission is for this special issue. Manuscripts should not exceed 35 double-spaced typed pages of text. For detailed manuscript preparation guidelines, please refer to <http://www.ncfr.org/jftr/submit-jftr>.

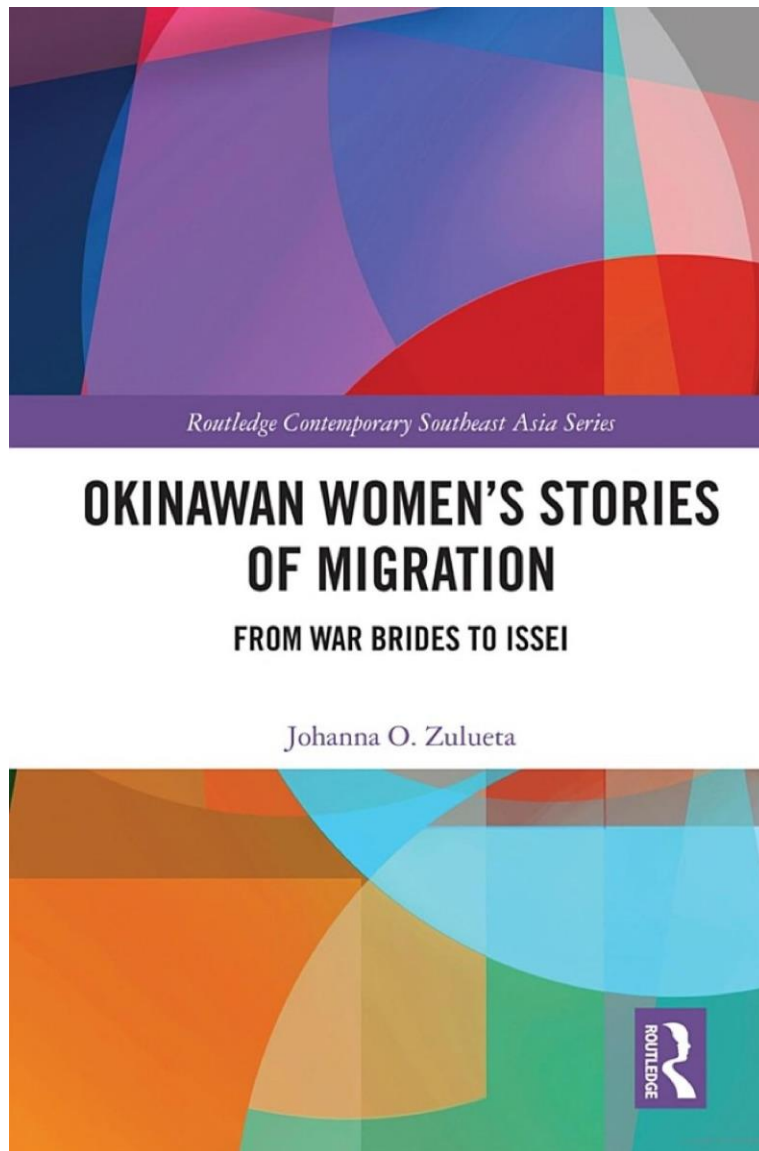
For additional information or questions or to discuss submission ideas, please contact the special issue editors:

Erin Lavender-Stott (Erin.LavenderStott@sdstate.edu), Karen Benjamin Guzzo (kquzzo@bgsu.edu), Susan L. Brown (brownsl@bgsu.edu), or Wendy D. Manning (wmannin@bgsu.edu)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Zulueta, J. (2022). *Okinawan Women's Stories of Migration: From War Brides to Issei*, Routledge.
<https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781003100027/okinawan-women-stories-migration-johanna-zulueta>



Description:

The phenomenon of “war brides” from Japan moving to the West has been quite widely discussed, but this book tells the stories of women whose lives followed a rather different path after they married foreign occupiers. During Okinawa’s Occupation by the Allies from 1945 to 1972, many Okinawan women met and had relationships with non-Western men who were stationed in Okinawa as soldiers and base employees. Most of these men were from the Philippines.

Zulueta explores the journeys of these women to their husbands’ homeland, their acculturation to their adopted land, and their return to their native Okinawa in their late adult years. Utilizing a life-course approach, she examines how these women crafted their own identities as first-generation migrants or “Issei” in both the country of migration and their natal homeland, their re-integration to Okinawan society, and the role of religion in this regard, as well as their thoughts on end-of-life as returnees.

This book will be of interest to scholars looking at gender and migration, cross-cultural marriages, ageing and migration, as well as those interested in East Asia, particularly Japan/Okinawa.

Book Chapter

Dixon, A. L. Sinikka. (2022). "Life course events as a tool to make sociology relevant to everyday life". In Thomas Fletcher (ed.), *Family Events. Practices, Displays and Intimacies*, pp. 163-176, Routledge. Critical Event Studies Research Series.

Book link: [Family Events: Practices, Displays and Intimacies - 1st Edition - Thom \(routledge.com\)](https://www.routledge.com/Family-Events-Practices-Displays-and-Intimacies-1st-Edition-Thom/book/9781138111111)

Abstract:

An unprecedented exploration of the intersection of events and family studies, *Family Events* uses events as a lens through which to explore the concepts of families, family practices, family displays and family intimacies.

Family Events explores the idea that how families come to be and, moreover, come to be defined as 'families' relies on events: whether that be via 'family events' - those which serve to celebrate being part of 'my' family - (e.g., birthdays, weddings, funerals), 'events experienced as a family' (e.g., a holiday or day trip) or 'events which impact families' (e.g., recession, war, global health emergency). *Family Events* brings together contributions from the social sciences, leisure and event studies which focus on a variety of different event contexts, including the life cycle, death and illness, sport, holidays, and community and religious festivals.

Family Events offers a multitude of insightful perspectives on the intersection of events and family studies, and is a valuable resource for academics and students with a research interest in events, leisure and the family.

Thomas Fletcher is a Reader in the School of Events, Tourism and Hospitality Management at Leeds Beckett University. His primary research interests are in equality and diversity, social justice and families within the contexts of sport, leisure and events. He is the author of *Negotiating Fatherhood: Sport and Family Practices*. Tom was Chair of the Leisure Studies Association-between 2017 and 2021.

Articles

Augustijn, L., & Steinbach, A. (2022). Custody (child). In Reference Module in Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Psychology. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-91497-0.00029-1>

Abstract: In light of high separation rates across Western countries, decisions on children's physical custody arrangements affect unprecedented numbers of families. As a result, researchers have paid considerable attention to investigating the potential link between physical custody arrangements and mental health. Most of these studies have found a positive relationship between joint physical custody and children's mental health, whereas the findings on the relationship between joint physical custody and parents' mental health is much less conclusive. In addition, the possibility that families self-select into joint physical custody needs to be considered carefully when investigating the relationship between physical custody arrangements and mental health.

Barbosa Neves, B., Waycott, J., & Maddox, A. (OnlineFirst). When Technologies are Not Enough: The Challenges of Digital Interventions to Address Loneliness in Later Life. *Sociological Research Online*, 13607804211029298. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/13607804211029298>

Abstract: This article discusses sociotechnical challenges of technology-based interventions to address loneliness in later life. We bring together participatory and multidisciplinary research conducted in Canada and Australia to explore the limits of digital technologies to help tackle loneliness among frail older people (aged 65+). Drawing on three case studies, we focus on instances when technology-based interventions, such as communication apps, were limiting or failed, seeming to enhance rather than lessen loneliness. We also unpack instances where the technologies being considered did not match participants' social needs and expectations, preventing adoption, use, and the intended outcomes. To better grasp the negative unintended consequences of these technological interventions, we combine a relational sociological approach to loneliness with the *Strong Structuration Theory* developed by sociologist Rob Stones. This combined lens highlights the connection between sociotechnical factors and their agentic and structural contexts, facilitating a rich understanding of why and when technologies fail and limit.

Kumswa, S. K., Agboola, C, Kang'Ethe, S. (2022). Pertinent African accounts of ambivalence and benefits in commuter marriages. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 8(1), 2060537.

Abstract: The article attempts to unpack the ambivalence and benefits of commuter marriages. The study applied a qualitative paradigm, as well as a qualitative approach to investigate 17 participants between the ages of 30 to 52 (13 women and 4 men), of various occupations including bankers, civil/public servants, businessmen and women, lecturers, lawyers, teachers, managers of private organizations politicians, sales representatives, and medical doctors. All of them were married, had children and engaged in commuter marriages, but with the men being commuters while the women remained in the primary residence. The participants had an average of two children each. Data was analyzed thematically. Findings established ambivalence in commuter marriages; and underscored the benefits of commuter marriages, such as improved quality of life, opportunity to focus on work, personal goals and offering respite for leisure, and lessened women's bouts of stress to prepare meal for their husbands.

Querin, Federica (2022). Preferences for a mixed-sex composition of offspring: A multigenerational approach. *Population Studies*, 76(1), 1–18

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00324728.2022.2027003>

Abstract: Parents with two boys or two girls are more likely to have a third child than those with a 'sex mix'. However, little is known on whether these 'mixed-sex preferences' extend beyond the nuclear family. This study leverages the random variation in sex at birth to assess whether the sex of nieces and nephews, in combination with own children, matters for fertility choices. Using three-generational data from the US Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), I show that extended families (including grandparents, their children, and their grandchildren) are collectively more likely to have three or more grandchildren when lacking sex mix, whether the first two grandchildren are siblings or cousins. I explore the pathways for these offspring sex preferences, finding support for a preference for an uninterrupted line of male descendants. This multigenerational approach also contributes a new estimation strategy that causally estimates the effects of family sizes on outcomes beyond fertility.

Ulrike Zartler, Katarzyna Suwada & Michaela Kreyenfeld (ed.) (2022). Family lives during the COVID19 pandemic in European Societies. *Journal of Family Research*, 34(1)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.20377/jfr-2022-34-1>

Abstract: Objective: This chapter introduces the reader to the Special Issue "Family Lives during the COVID-19 Pandemic in European Societies".

Background: This Special Issue analyses how families, parents, and children have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and how they have been coping with its related challenges in different societal contexts.

Method: The studies collected in this Special Issue are based on qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods approaches and data that have been gathered during 2020 in a range of European countries. It covers the first lockdown period, the reopening phases, and the months thereafter.

Results: The 20 contributions of this Special Issue show that families shouldered large responsibilities during the pandemic. While the pandemic did not lead to radical shifts in gendered care patterns, mothers and fathers experienced the pandemic differently, with mothers reporting higher levels of stress. Moreover, there was great heterogeneity in how different types of families and children were affected by the pandemic. Single parents and parents and children in low-income households were most strongly affected in their social and economic wellbeing. Social and economic distress are strongly interwoven, and the developments during the pandemic aggravated existing social disparities.

Conclusion: This Special Issue underlines the importance of the family for the functioning of societies during times of crisis. It also shows that policy makers often adopted a too narrow view of what constitutes a family and did not adequately address family diversity in their decision making. This Special Issue furthermore emphasized that there is a danger that the pandemic will increase disparities between families. Thus, parents and their children need adequate support measures that are tailored to their needs, and that are designed to alleviate these social, economic and educational disparities.

Schnettler, S., & Steinbach, A. (2022). Is adolescent risk behavior associated with cross-household family complexity? An analysis of post-separation families in 42 countries. *Frontiers in Sociology*, 7, 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2022.802590> (open access)

Abstract: We examine whether complex cross-household structures of post-separation families are associated with higher risk-taking behavior in adolescence (substance use, bullying, early sexual onset) and whether the proportion, and thus statistical normality, of complex family types in a certain country is a potential moderator of this association. Drawing on representative data from 42 countries and regions from the Health Behavior in School-aged Children (HBSC) study in 2001, 2006, and 2010 (N = 506,977), we provide detailed analyses on adolescent risk behavior even for very rare family types, thereby accounting for the complex cross-household structure present in many post-separation families. We combine logistic and count regression models to analyze risk incidence and intensity. Controlling for relevant child and family characteristics, our results reveal a gradient along which adolescent risk-taking increases with family complexity: The incidence and intensity of risk-taking among adolescents is lowest in two-biological-parent and highest in two-household families with stepparents in both

households. The association decreases with a higher proportion of the respective family type in a country. However, the differences between family types, other than the two-biological parent family, are not as pronounced as expected.

Steinbach, A., & Augustijn, L. (2021). Children's well-being in sole and joint physical custody families. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 36(2), 301-311. <https://doi.org/10.1037/fam0000875>

Abstract: Joint physical custody (JPC), a parental care arrangement in which children live with each parent about equally after separation or divorce, is an increasingly common phenomenon in many countries. This is a major shift away from the standard of sole physical custody (SPC), in which children live primarily with one parent (usually their mother) after family dissolution. Although attention to JPC by social scientists is growing, and the effects of this arrangement on children's well-being are the subject of highly ideological debates, there is currently little empirical evidence with statistical power on JPC. Using data from Family Models in Germany (FAMOD), a survey of postseparation families conducted in 2019, we estimated four linear regression models for children aged 2–14 in SPC and JPC families, with analytic samples of up to 1,161 cases. We investigated the association between physical custody arrangements after separation or divorce and four dimensions of children's well-being: psychological, physical, social, and cognitive/ educational. The bivariate results provided support for the hypothesis that children living in JPC families fare significantly better than children living in SPC families on all four dimensions of well-being. However, after controlling for a set of child, parent, and separation characteristics, as well as for the quality of family relationships, the differences between children from SPC and JPC families disappeared. Additional analyses revealed that the parent–child relationships fully mediated this association. In sum, the quality of family relationships accounted for the positive association between JPC and children's well-being in this study.

Solodnikov V. V., Solodnikova I. V. (2022). Social representations of the family among Russian school-girls and all-girls education: field quasi-experimental research. *Sociologičeskaja nauka I socialnaja praktika*. Vol. 10, No 1. P. 73-94. DOI: 10.19181/snsp.2022.10.1.8861

Waycott, J., Kelly, R. M., Baker, S., Barbosa Neves, B., Thach, K. S., & Lederman, R. (2022, April). The Role of Staff in Facilitating Immersive Virtual Reality for Enrichment in Aged Care: An Ethic of Care Perspective. In CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (pp. 1-17). <https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3491102.3501956>

Abstract: Immersive virtual reality (VR) is being used as an enriching experience for people living in residential aged care, or nursing homes, where care staff play a critical role supporting clients to use VR. In HCI research concerned with technology use in aged care, however, the role of formal caregivers has received limited attention. We conducted interviews with 11 caregivers working in care homes that have implemented VR as part of the social program offered to residents. Our findings highlight tensions between the opportunities created by the immersive VR experience and the risks and challenges full immersion presents for people in aged care. In this paper, we draw on an ethics of care framework to make visible the care practices involved in facilitating VR in aged care homes, highlighting the care required to ensure that older adults experience benefits when using immersive VR, while risks and challenges are carefully managed.

Honours/Awards (2022):

- **Congratulations to Isabella Crespi**

Isabella Crespi has been nominated co-editor for the Families Relationships and Societies Journal (Bristol University Press)

<https://bristoluniversitypressdigital.com/view/journals/frs/frs-overview>

- Barbara Barbosa Neves was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (UK) for her research on ageing, technology, and loneliness (2022)
- Barbara Barbosa Neves' article "The Role of Staff in Facilitating Immersive Virtual Reality for Enrichment in Aged Care: An Ethic of Care Perspective" awarded an Honorable Mention at CHI 2022, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
<https://programs.sigchi.org/chi/2022/program/content/68814>

Media Interviews/Op-eds (2022)

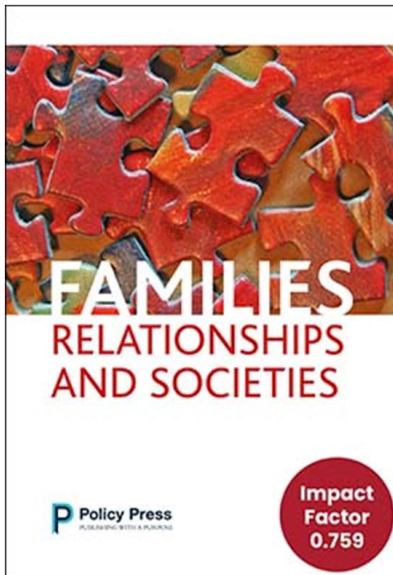
Barbara Barbosa Neves, ABC Op-ed: "[Digital inclusion among older Australians is more important than ever — here's why and what to do about it](#)".

Barbara Barbosa Neves, Media article for Meaningful Ageing Australia: "[What we still misunderstand about loneliness](#)", March.

Barbara Barbosa Neves, ABC Big Ideas (Radio): "[Living a healthy fulfilling life in older age](#)", March.

Journal FRS

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PUBLISHING WITH A PURPOSE

Announcements

ISA membership grants for students

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to let you know that ISA Executive Committee approved the creation of an ISA Solidarity Fund designed by the Finance and Membership Committee to boost student membership and to breach inequalities between sociologists in category A countries and those in categories B and C countries. In this first stage, a new student membership grant and a higher number of ISA World Congress registration grants were approved.

ISA membership grants for students

Grants will be paid from the ISA Reserve Fund. Each RC/WG/TG can allocate ISA membership grants for students as follows:

- up to 3 students from category A countries
- up to 5 students from category B and C countries

RC/WG/TG are responsible for the selection of grantees and shall inform Izabela Barlinska, Executive Secretary, isa@isa-sociology.org at their earliest convenience but no later than **December 15, 2022**. This deadline is set before the one for applying for registration grants which are only available to ISA members.

Registration grants to ISA World Congress of Sociology

Funds allocated to each RC/WG/TG for registration grants have been increased by 30%. Please consult Rules for ISA Registration Grants Allocation included in the Guidelines for Program Coordinators <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress/melbourne-2023/guidelines-for-program-coordinators-and-session-organizers-2023>

I hope you will find this information useful and let me know should you have any concerns.

Best regards,

Sawako SHIRAHASE

ISA Vice-President Finance and Membership

sshiraha@i.u-tokyo.ac.jp

30 May 2022

New & Returning Members

We welcome the following new or returning members (2022):

Yan Xia
United States

Bussarawan Teerawichitchainan
Singapore

Bahira Sherif Trask
United States

Daniela Cojocaru
Romania

Sigeto Tanaka
Japan

Dr. Shigeki Matsuda
Japan

Rumi Dey
India

Ingolfur Gislason
Iceland

Ria Smit
United States

Sampson Blair
United States

Lukasz Czarnecki
Mexico

Board of RC06 (2018-2023)

President	Susan McDaniel
Vice-President	Bahira Sherif Trask
Secretary and Treasurer	Bárbara Barbosa Neves

Members at large:	Marlize Rabe
	Anja Steinbach
	Jean Yeung

Provisional Board members at large:

Lukasz Czarnecki
(this newsletter's editor)
Aušra Maslauskaitė



The screenshot shows the RC06 website header with the ISA logo and 'RC06 Family Research' text. The navigation menu includes: News, About Us, Membership, Newsletters, Seminars, and Guest bloggers. The main content area features a post titled 'RC06 at the ISA Forum of Sociology' dated Mar 15, 2021. The post text states: 'More than 50 presentations were given at 15 sessions organized by the RC06 at the IV ISA Forum of Sociology. Recordings of the sessions are available for registered participants at the conference website. Thus, if you were not able to take part in the session due to the time difference, overlaps in the program or other constraints, please use the opportunity and enjoy the presentations.' Below the text is a small image of the 'IV ISA Forum of Sociology' logo. To the right, there is a 'Recent Posts' section with two entries: 'RC06 at the ISA Forum of Sociology' and 'IV ISA Forum of Sociology Program is out!', and an 'Archives' section with a 'Select Month' dropdown menu.