
BIENNIAL REPORT OF RN 11 SOCIOLOGY OF EMOTIONS

1. Board Information

Outgoing Board Members

Coordinator

Stina Bergman Blix (stina.bergmanblix@soc.uu.se)

Vice-Coordinators

Jonathan G. Heaney (j.heaney@qub.ac.uk)

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External Representatives

Stephanie Alice Baker (stepha-niealicebaker@live.com)

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Incoming Board Members

Coordinator

Jonathan G. Heaney, (j.heaney@qub.ac.uk)

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Advisory board

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External Representative

Juha Klemelä (jklemela@utu.fi)

2. Activities

Midterm Conference 2016

We organized a midterm conference that took place August 25–27, 2016, Stockholm University, Sweden. We had a total of 51 abstract submissions, 51 participants, and 45

presentations.

We were very pleased to find many countries represented among the participants (16), even though some countries were nevertheless stronger represented than others. Due to the amount of presentations we mostly had parallel sessions.

The conference turned out to be very successful due to in particular two special features. For the first time, we invited a keynote speaker, Professor Monique Sheer, and for the second time, we organized a Ph.D. workshop where participants could discuss their research with prominent scholars in the field. This was very well received.

Overall the quality of presentations was very high. We enjoyed a lively, intense and constructive discussion atmosphere.

ESA Conference 2017, Athens, Greece

At this year's ESA conference, we had a total of 168 abstract submission, 94 participants, 92 presentations in 24 sessions. We had two joint sessions with RN 13 'Family and Intimate Life'.

Communication

The network has an email list, a Twitter-account (https://twitter.com/ESA_Soc_Emotion) and a webpage (<http://socemot.com>) for communication purposes. At the business meeting, we discussed several ideas for increasing the information flow through these channels. We are currently looking for ways to use social media to give our members the possibility to present themselves and engage in networking.

Ph.D. Students

Given the good experience we had at our two past midterms, we have decided to continue to arrange Ph.D. workshops at our midterm conferences. We also decided on reduced fees for PhD students at the last midterm, and we will try to subsidize joint events like dinner at the conferences if possible.

Membership Development

Our informal membership base continues to grow with a total of 300 members subscribed to our email list. This reflects also in increased turnout at conferences and, this year, a multiplied turnout at the business meeting. At the same time, we are struggling to translate this into a parallel increase in terms of fee-paying members in good standing with ESA. We now have 83 members in good standing.

Collaborations

In Athens, we arranged a joint session with RN13, Family and Intimate Life with lively discussions around 8 presentations. Planned collaborations with other RNs for Athens failed because there were not enough submissions for joint sessions this year.

We have also been approached by the Latin American Group on Emotion sociology with suggestions for closer contacts and collaboration, e.g. participation in the Latin American Sociology Conference joint session of Sociology of bodies and emotions, or in the upcoming Congress of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies in Madrid next year. We are investigating the possibilities to engage in any of these alternatives.

Publication Outlets

Our longtime member Mary Holmes has initiated and edits a new Emotions Series at Routledge and members are encouraged to submit proposals to the series.

A group of members have been working for several years to start a new journal 'Emotions and Society'. The journal proposal received excellent reviews at Taylor & Francis and at Elsevier. The board approached the executive board of ESA to suggest some kind of affiliation and were met by interest. We had a meeting with the executive and Mary Holmes and Stina Bergman Blix were asked to write an article for the European Sociologist about the journal and different publications strategies. However, at the General Assembly in Athens, the President of ESA to our surprise denounced the initiative as selfish and narrow-minded. We will continue to work towards the launch of the journal elsewhere.

Other, Future

We are currently preparing our next midterm conference. It will take place in Edinburgh in Scotland, 29 Aug-1 Sep 2018. We are also exploring the possibility of future funding bids via the network and the incoming coordinator (JH) plans to organize a new 'working group' around this task in the coming months.