Research Committee on Sociology of Leisure RC13

Programme Coordinator

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Call for Papers

Mapping Leisure and Life through the Ages

Following the central theme of the XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology – **Sociology on the Move**, the Research Committee 13 has come up with a theme: **Mapping Leisure and Life through the Ages**, which aims to accommodate a comprehensive and extensive program addressing the specific areas of relevant leisure studies in different societies all over the world.

The theme of each session to be organized by RC13 is designed to reflect a particular area of contemporary leisure issue in relation to one or two other important social phenomena. Hopefully, these sessions will provide leisure researchers larger space and greater freedom to share, to exchange and to explore theories, policies and practices that can enhance our understanding of leisure and boost up the quality of leisure studies at local, regional and international levels. In order to achieve this purpose, we need support and active participation of ISA members from all over the world by joining us at the Gothenburg World Congress.

We sincerely invite colleagues and friends to submit abstract(s) of paper(s) (around 300 words, with authors' names, affiliation, e-mail, and paper title) to the Program Coordinator (Ishwar Modi) with a copy to the chairpersons / organizers of the concerned sessions by December 15, 2009.

Any individual may participate on up two sessions, although this may be reduced to one session if there are too many papers submitted. Once your presentation is approved, you must then submit an abstract of your paper on-line (instructions will be made available in due course). Abstracts are only accepted by the system from those who are already registered for the Congress. The deadline for submission of approved abstracts on-line by ISA is May 4, 2010.

Proposed sessions

Session 1: Mapping Leisure and life Through the Ages

Presidential Session of RC 13

Organizer: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Session 2: Leisure and tourism: Harbinger of peace and conflict resolution

Joint session of RC01

Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Session Organisers: Giuseppe Caforio, CEMISS, Italy, gcaforio@fastwebnet.it, Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, Jaipur, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Jan te Kloeze, Foundation WICE – DSL, The Netherlands, jantekloeze@hetnet.nl

Tourism which has become a well accepted and world wide form of leisure can make important inputs into cross cultural understanding. Seeing people – how they live, their achievements, and their environments – can lead to experiences that would generate mutual respect and fellow feeling. Much of the conflict in the world may be a result of lack of knowledge about the 'other'. Tourism organizers – governments, companies, local group – have an interest in creating safe places for people to visit. Consciously planned tourism can enable people to experience other cultures and not merely be voyeurs from the outside. Scholars have begun to trace the role of businesses and civic organizations in mitigating conflict. Through this call we hope to highlight research that examines the direct or indirect impact of tourism on conflict resolution and peace building

Session 3: Theoretical and Methodological Dimensions of Leisure

Session Organiser: Ken Roberts, University of Liverpool, UK, k.roberts@liverpool.ac.uk

This session will encourage presentations on the theoretical and methodological dimensions of leisure as also the application of the present theories in explaining the leisure phenomenon. Since leisure is being studied across the disciplines, the importance of multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches and theoretical positions can hardly be overemphasized. Need to go beyond the existing methodologies to comprehend the reality of the leisure phenomenon is equally important if leisure itself has to become a mechanism and a theoretical tool to understand the wider social reality.

Session 4: Leisure and education

Joint session of RC04 Sociology of Education and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Session Organizerss: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in Ari Antikainen, University of Joensuu, Finland, ari.antikainen@joensuu.fi, & A. Gary Dworkin, University of Houston, USA, gdworkin@mail.uh.edu

Co-Chairs: Gerald Fain, Boston University, USA, fain@bu.edu and Prof. Narsimha Reddy, India, nrkankanala@lycos.com

Interface between leisure and education can hardly be overemphasized, more so in a fast moving world where there is no time for reflection. For improving the quality of life, leisure education is essential. Leisure modes themselves can become a medium of education, leading to excellence and innovation in performance. As such should leisure be left to evolve and manifest on its own or should it be subtly guided? Need for active interface between leisure organizations and educational institutions requires exploration.

Session 5: Migration, leisure and community cohesion

Joint session of RC05 Racism, Nationalism and Ethnic Relations, RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee] and RC31 Sociology of Migration

Session Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in (RC13), Peter Ratcliffe, University of Warwick, UK, Peter.Ratcliffe@warwick.ac.uk (RC05), and Marco Martiniello, FNRS and University of Liège, Belgium, m.martiniello@ulg.ac.be (RC31).

Co-Chairs: Gustavo Verduzco Igartua, Mexico, gverduz@colmex.mx and Veena Sharma, India, vsharma136@gmail.com

Large scale migrations taking place due to various social, geo political and economic reasons are causing problems of lack of community and social cohesion and ethnic harmony. Migrants often face jealously, resentment, and competition from local people. Cultures and customs of migrants are often seen with suspicion arising from inherently insular motives. Can leisure become a bridge between the communities local and migrant? Can expressions of leisure become a platform for ethnic harmony, community cohesion and understanding?

Session 6: Leisure and the family in contemporary society

Joint Session of RC06 Family Research and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Session Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Rudolf Richter, University of Vienna, Austria, rudolf.richter@univie.ac.at

Co-Chair: Susan M. Shaw, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, sshaw@healthy.uwaterloo.ca

Family is undergoing drastic changes the world over. This is equally true both for its structure and functions. Structurally speaking the number of nuclear and single parent families is increasing. These changes are leading to not only a reduction of the family's leisure functions but also leading to many stresses and strains impacting both children and parents. The leisure functions hitherto performed by the family have been taken over by other social and commercial organizations thus leading to a dilution of the cohesiveness of the family. Focus question: Can leisure be a medium for the reinstatement of family solidarity?

Session 7: Leisure: Future perspectives

Joint Session of RC07 Futures Research and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Session Organizers and Co-Chairs: Scott North, University of Osaka, Japan, north@hus.osaka-u.ac.jp and Dirk Steinbach, Center of Future Studies,

Salzberg University, Austria, dirk.steinbach@fh-salzburg.ac.at

Are we having fun yet? In some ways the future of leisure looks grim: peak oil, warming climate, and economic instability threaten to transform life as we've known it. Will our appreciation for leisure be transformed as well? Amid these changing circumstances, what forms of leisure will be possible, desirable, sustainable in the foreseeable future? How much of the leisure past will societies carry forward and what will they be compelled to leave behind? This session invites submissions that explore possible future trajectories and definitions of leisure, and their social impact. Papers on all geographic and cultural regions are welcome irrespective of methodological approach.

Session 8: Leisure in times of economic crisis

Session Organisers and Co-Chairs: Alan Law, Trent University, Canada, alaw@trentu.ca and Luiz Octavio de Lima Camargo, Centro Universitario SENAC, Brazil, luiz.lcamargo@sp.senac.br

Global prosperity coupled with all round economic growth in the developed countries and also in several developing countries particularly the so called tiger economies of the east Asian countries including China and India on the one hand and that of South Africa and Brazil on the other, had

generated hopes of the emergence of a 'Leisure Society' wherein it was believed that people will have less of work and abundance of leisure and incomes. However, the present economic crisis seems to have shattered the dream of such a society in the foreseeable future. How the present global economic crisis in the wake of globalization going to shape not only the future of leisure but also its contemporary patterns in varied socio-economic and cultural settings is a question that requires thorough debate and deliberations.

Session 9: **Social transformations and changing leisure patterns**

Joint session of RC09 Social Transformations and Sociology of Development and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Session Organizers: Fredrick Wherry, University of Michigan, USA, ffwherry@umich.edu and Ishwar Modi, University of Rajasthan, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Co-Chair: Habil Zsuzsanna Benko, University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary, benko@jgypk.u-szeged.hu

The fast changing socio-economic and political milieus in many continents of the world - e.g. Latin America, Eastern Europe, South Africa, Asia - due to factors like globalization, privatization, colonial heritage, religion, modernization, large scale migrations etc., traditional leisure practices have undergone significant changes and modifications, giving rise to several new/hybrid forms of leisure. The interconnection and mutual impacts of these social transformations and leisure practices require more serious analyses in order to bring out the co-relationship between them. In pursuance of these issues debate and delebrations on such a theme as "Social Transformation and Changing Leisure Patterns" can hardly be overemphasized.

Session 10: Leisure and tourism: Environmental dimensions

Joint Session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee] and RC24 Environment and Society

Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Ralph Matthews, University of British Columbia, Canada, Ralph.matthews@ubc.ca

Co-Chair: Teus J. Kamphorst, Foundation WICE – DSL, The Netherlands, teus.kamphorst@wice-dsl.nl

The tourism industry has gained a momentum that is perhaps out of all proportion among other leisure related activities. Commercial concerns often override the overall individual and social benefits that might accrue from this activity. One of the casualties in the race for 'reaching' more places and attracting larger 'numbers' of persons is the natural and cultural environment. Culture is often 'performed' rather than lived for the benefit of the tourist. The impact on the natural environment may be ignored as tour mangers look for more facilities in areas that hitherto have maintained a pristine and clean environment.

Session 11: Ageing populations and leisure

Joint session of RC11 Sociology of Aging and RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee]

Organisers: Ishwar Modi, RC13, India International Institute of Social Sciences, Jaipur, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Sara Arber, RC11, University of Surrey, Guildford, UK, S.Arber@surrey.ac.uk

Co-Chairs: Francis Lobo, Edith Cowan University, Australia, f.lobo@ecu.edu.au

Aging populations in all parts of the world is a matter of serious concern, more so, in the context of breaking of joint and integrated families and the growth of nuclear families. Youngsters under pressure of career opportunities are moving away from home leaving older people behind causing them to live lonely and isolated lives. In the absence of other adults and children in the family they are at a loss as to how to spend their free time that has been forced upon them. How can leisure become a means for creating spaces for bonding with others, providing meaning to life and for utilizing their wisdom gained through life's experiences?

Session 12: Urbanizing societies and leisure

Joint session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure and RC21 Regional and Urban Development [Host Committee]

Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in, Ranvinder Singh Sandhu, University Amritsar, India, ranvindershandhu@gmail.com and Kulwinder Kaur, Jamia Millia Islamia University, India, kulwinder10@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Antonio Carlos Bramante, Secretary of Sports and Leisure, Sorocaba City, Brazil, bramante@uol.com.br

Urban centers are growing in an unwieldy fashion all over the world leading to innumerable infrastructural and civic problems. Problems of both private and public spaces are becoming acute leading to various kinds of deprivations as also alienation. The anonymity of city life causes loneliness and isolation leading to unforeseen mental stresses - these include factors like long commuting hours, impersonal social relationships, loss of identity, etc. Under the circumstances, leisure spaces and opportunities are also shrinking in spite of the realization that leisure can redeem the trauma faced by growing urban population. Such a situation also poses the questions of social justice in the broader perspective of sustainability. How leisure should be utilized and public spaces used to enhance the quality of urban life for all section of the people is a moot question.

Session 13: Leisure time: Women, work and family

Joint Session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee] and RC32 Women in Society

Session Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Elizabeth Mathew, Kerala University, India, ebmathew.eb@gmail.com

Co-Chairs: Scott North, Osaka University, Japan, north@hus.osaka-u.ac.jp and Ma Huidi, Center for Leisure Studies, Chinese Academy of Art, Beijing, China, mahuidi@china.com

Women's status and social image is changing fast the world over. Globally, though not everywhere, the most significant trend is probably women's increased participation in the labour market. However, throughout the world, women continue to be in charge of the greatest part of house work and child care. As such the distribution of time remains unequal between the genders practically everywhere, as shown by the Time Budget studies carried out, with men generally having more discretionary time for leisure than women. Constraints of the double day for employed women and non-employed women's primary responsibility for house-hold labour result

in domestic labour having a stronger effect on women's leisure than on that of men. Several studies have shown that women have significantly less time for both total and domestic leisure than men. However, at the world level, we can discern a strengthening of the values attached to leisure and a clear development of leisure practices. As such, how has women's leisure evolved in the midst of and outside the family needs to be examined and deliberated?

Session 14: Changes in Work and Leisure - Media and the Public Space
Joint session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure, RC14 Sociology of Communication, Knowledge and Culture [Host Committee] and RC30 Sociology of Work

Session Organizers: Chryssoula Constantopoulou chconsta@panteion.gr , Diane Gabrielle Tremblay tremblay.diane-gabrielle@teluq.uqam.ca and Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Co-Chair: Robert Stebbins, University of Calgary, Canada, stebbins@ucalgary.ca

Work ethos has laid emphasis on unions and demands for better work conditions from employers. Most of the time the changing dimensions of leisure – how it can be used to enhance working conditions and make them more favourable –has not been given due consideration. Public spaces are increasingly being used for self expression or for participation in various forms of cultural products. These often form part of the work time-space. An exploration of these could enable leisure spaces to becomes part of the working spaces.

Session 15: Leisure: A pathway to health and happiness

Joint session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure [Host Committee] and RC15 Sociology of Health

Organizers: Ellen Annandale, University of Leicester, UK eca7@le.ac.uk and Ishwar Modi RC13, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005@yahoo.co.in

Co-Chairs: Kinga Lampek, Pécs University, Hungry kinga.lampek@etk.pte.hu and Madhu Nagla, MDS University, Rohtak, India, bnagla@yahoo.com

Papers are welcome which address the following themes. Leisure has formed an important element in the maintenance of physical and mental health and resulting happiness. Inversely it can be said that activities undertaken for the enhancement of physical and mental health generally fall under the overall rubric of 'leisure', since they do not directly contribute to material production. All cultures have had inbuilt spaces for such activities – be they in the form of games, sports, festival or carnivals. Traditional leisure forms may need to be revived and given new attention and new impetus. In order to maintain the happiness and health levels of society it may be worth examining governmental and non-governmental initiatives being taken in this field

Session 16: Growing up in 21century: Leisure, lifestyles and unequal chances of children and the youth

Joint Session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure, RC34 Sociology of Youth and RC53 Sociology of Childhood [Host Committee]

Organizers: Alexandra König, University of Wuppertal, akoenig@uni-wuppertal.de NP Ngai , The Chinese University of Hong Kong, npngai@swk.cuhk.edu.hk Ishwar Modi, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Co-Chair: Jose Machado Pais, University of Lisbon, Portugal, machado.pais@ics.ul.pt

The impact of childhood and youth on life chances and lifelong development is a growing area of concern. Familial as well as public and professional investment into educational careers, purposeful use of young people's leisure time, habitus formation, acquisition of health behaviour etc. is growing and this is reflected in a renewal of social policy which relies heavily onto investment into young people. This opens a new area of research between childhood and youth sociology, analysing such endeavours and their impact onto further life. The session welcomes papers dealing with childhood and youth in a biographical perspectives, analyzing social inequalities in childhood and youth and there significance for development, reconstructing public and private approaches of socialization of young people and their qualities and failures and identifying the significance of this phase of life.

Session 17: Body and nature in leisure: A gender perspective

Joint session of RC13 Sociology of Leisure and RC54 The Body in the Social Sciences [Host Committee]

Session Organizers: Veena Sharma, RC13, Prajna Foundation, India, vsharma136@gmail.com and Bianca Maria Pirani, RC54, "Sapienza", University of Rome, Italy, biancamaria.pirani@uniroma1.it

Co-Chairs: Julia Harrison, Trent University, Canada, jharrison@trentu.ca / Gisela Black Taschner, Brazil gtaschner@fgvsp.br

An understanding of the body is an essential aspect of experiencing leisure – for it is through the body-mind complex that leisure can be experienced. The body is also used as a means of providing leisure – art forms representing the body have throughout human history been a major form of expressing leisure and connecting with the environment and nature.. A different dimension to leisure can be provided by looking into the gender perspective and considering the role that the different genders play in social life and their specific requirements. As a body that performs the function of creation – of giving birth – there is a need to look into leisure of women in that role. The needs of the body and its care in and during that role need to be looked at from a leisure perspective also. Its role in maintaining a body-mind harmony and good health for a healthier society that is on the move. This can be looked at through the perspective changing traditions and the influx of new technologies.

Besides, there is the dichotomy between the leisure of men and women when it comes to leisure in which the body plays a specific role – examples of these may be in the use of harmonizing tools such as tai chi, aerobics or ballet. The martial arts which have largely been a domain of males have a different leisure dynamics.

Session 18: Emerging technologies and leisure

Joint Session of RC07 Futures Research, RC13 Sociology of Leisure, and RC23 Sociology of Science and Technology [Host Committee]

Session Organizers: RC23 Scott North, Osaka University, Japan, north@hus.osaka-u.ac.jp, RC07 Markus S. Schultz, USA, isarc07@gmail.com, RC13 Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Computer-related activities have become important leisure forms in recent times. In some countries, these have grown into an addiction to the detriment of other activities. Other technological developments that are available to almost every one are gadgets such as mobile

phones. An excessive preoccupation with networking virtually may have become detrimental to actual human contact that would be considered a major element of the leisure experience. How does technology contribute to the leisure experience

Session 19: Open Session

Session Organizer: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Session 20: Business Meeting

Chair: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in

Besides the above RC 13 Sessions and Joint Sessions with other ISA Research Committees, ISA RC 08: History of Sociology and ISA RC 37: Sociology of Arts are also organizing sessions on the themes related to Leisure wherein all RC 13 members are most cordially invited and expected to participate:

ISA RC 37: Sociology of Arts

Programme Coordinator

Jean-Louis Fabiani, Central European University, Hungary, fabianij@ceu.hu

Session 12: Leisure, culture and the arts

Organizers: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in and Jean-Louis Fabiani, Central European University, Hungary, fabianij@ceu.hu

The Arts are central in the definition of “cultural tourism” or “cultivated leisure”. But they are also a growing element in mass tourism, popular leisure and global competition among cities and countries to reaching wordly attention space. This session will aim at providing new analyses and fresh insights about the relationships between culture, the arts, tourism and leisure.

ISA RC 08: History of Sociology

Programme Coordinators

Christian Fleck, University of Gratz, Austria, christian.fleck@uni-graz.at
Andreas Hess, University College, Dublin, Ireland, a.hess@ucd.ie

Session 6: Leisure through the Ages: Comparative insights

Joint session with Research Committee on Sociology of Leisure
Organizer: Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, India, iiiss2005modi@yahoo.co.in