



SWEDISH  
COLLEGIUM  
for ADVANCED STUDY

**Sunday, 19 February. 13:00 – 14:30. Room: IHC - Silver Oak II**  
**ISA RC 13 SESSION**

**Session:** National Identity, Democratization and the Promise of Leisure

**Session Convener(s):** Ishwar Modi, India International Institute of Social Sciences, Jaipur

**Chair:** Christianne Luce Gomes, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

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I) *Leisure and Geopolitics of Knowledge: Reflections on the Latin American Context*

Christianne Luce Gomes, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Rodrigo Elizalde, Universidad Bolivariana and Otium Group/ Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

II) *Reflections about National Identity and Promises of Leisure in Democratization: A Brazilian Draft*

Maria Inácia D'Ávila, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Tania Barros Maciel, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

III) *Multicultural Societies: The Formation of Sociability Territories in the City of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

Regina Andrade, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

Rita Manso, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

Cibele Vaz, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

IV) *Leisure as Transversal Axis of Intersected Public Policies: Innovations and Challenges for Brazil and Latin America*

Leila Mirtes Pinto, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Patricia Zingoni, Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais and Prefeitura Municipal de Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais

## ABSTRACTS

### Session description

The contemporary rise of nationalist sentiment in many parts of the world is regarded as an aspect of globalization. As political ideology has receded, it is to some extent replaced by national identity. The push to better the human condition is central to changing ideologies. In affirming that identity, leisure plays a crucial part. Leisure is culture-dependent and focuses on the general wellbeing of individuals and societies. It is used in contexts such as development, freedom, life satisfaction and happiness. Evidence over the past three decades has shown that as incomes of individuals and societies have risen, so have standards of living. Happiness indices have risen in a majority of nations. Over recent decades, economic development, democratisation and increasing social tolerance have increased the propensity of people to have free choice. This in turn has led to higher levels of happiness and human development on a global scale. Contributors are invited to make presentations consistent with this RC13 conference sub-theme at the IIS Congress to be held in Delhi February 16-19, 2012. The theme of the Congress is: After Western Hegemony: Social Science and its Publics.

### Papers

#### I) *Leisure and Geopolitics of Knowledge: Reflections on the Latin American Context*

Christianne Luce Gomes, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Rodrigo Elizalde, Universidad Bolivariana and Otium Group/ Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

This paper is based on the results of a research which intended to expand a critical reflection on leisure and the geopolitics of knowledge in Latin American context and in Western societies in general. The discussion was based on analyzes about the leisure considering the eurocentric thinking, the modernity, the ideology of progress and the dichotomies that limit the conceptions on leisure, human beings and the world. As a human need and as a dimension of culture, leisure can be a social time-space of resignification and empowerment. This reflection helping to stimulate sensibilities and help the understanding of leisure and the knowledges produced in Latin American context about this theme an intercultural perspective, encouraging a critical thinking about societies, in the search for social transformation, committed to the building of a humane and solidary world.

#### II) *Reflections about National Identity and Promises of Leisure in Democratization: A Brazilian Draft*

Maria Inácia D'Avila, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Tania Barros Maciel, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

An understanding of a "national identity" comprehend a set of psycho-sociological and cultural characteristics that indicates the multifaceted dimensions of a particular country or region, not in an essentialized sense, but as issues and processes of groups, associations and social movements that emerge with democratization, shifting the consume of everyday life, such as cultural goods, and by extension a growing number of leisure activities.

To analyze this matter for the so-called emerging countries like Brazil – integrating the BRIC (Brazil-Russia-India-China) – about the intersections that points to issues of gender, race, age, socioeconomic status. The improvement of basic living conditions in countries like ours has raised the life expectancy. This happened in most developing countries and the United Nations predicts that by 2050 the population over sixty will be two billion, being nowadays around 600 million.

Developing countries are still facing challenges to the promise of leisure for these growing populations, as the weekly working hours have not decreased as expected, the retirement age of workers increased, and the

democratization of leisure is not so evident when it is considered that a great number of activities are not accessible to young people unemployed and poor adults, with restricted severance payments, whose number is also increasing in those emerging countries.

This scenario is even more complex when examined closely, the issues of women, because of the domestic work "invisibility" multiplying their working hours, when they are working outside home, and consequently less chance of "leisure", and also the true international campaign to become productive the elderly groups: they are encouraged to work not only for their well being, but as a "force for development" with an endless multiplication of benevolent services, such as family responsibilities, as they continue to be responsible for more young people who still live with their parents for lack of economic conditions.

Thus, the promise of leisure has different facets for the contemporary debate, in a global consumerism the discussions remain oblivious to issues of national identity, if we take into account the visible claims of emerging groups, they are elderly retirees, unemployed young people, the poorest traditionally discriminated by race or sex, that almost nothing can really benefit from affirmative action policies in the present and so-called democratization of opportunities for development.

### III) *Multicultural Societies: The Formation of Sociability Territories in the City of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

Regina Andrade, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

Rita Manso, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

Cibele Vaz, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

This paper is an extension of a former work in Cultural Identity done at the Mangueira Favela territory in Rio de Janeiro- Brazil, since 2004, now expanded to the Cinelandia territory. The objective is to depict how the multicultural character of a contemporary society may enrich the sociability of the city territories. Cinelandia focus of this work, was chosen because it was the scenario of most significative cultural and social moments of the city of Rio de Janeiro since the colonial period and mainly in the First Republic. Nowadays Cinelandia no longer has the glamour of those old times, but somehow, it keeps that period still alive to the ones who now take part of this territory. Considering the fact that contemporary society is inevitably multicultural, what characterizes it as plural, demands the recognition of cultural differences that may permit the dialog and the comprehension of one another. The complexity has been the main characteristic of the contemporary theoretical production in its effort to comprehend and explain reality. Paradigms of different study fields have been questioned, revisited and denied. The multicultural issue drives the research to the recognition of society as a set of plural identities that build not only different races, but also different genders, cultural standards and social classes. We think that what differs from that is commonly associated with the multicultural societies approach, which focus on the difference by the vies of the prejudice or the inequality. On other hand, this work depicts the multicultural character as an influence that enriches the construction of the sociability in the city territories. The question proposed by Stuart Hall (2003) to the recognition of the particular and the universal, the difference and the equality demands a study that goes beyond the common sense and requires new arguments that deals with the multi-layers that build the identity. Imagine the multicultural issue considering the differences not as social inequalities, but as an element that not only enriches the built of sociability territories, but also drives to a new multicultural logic. This way, plural and heterogenic territories will be considered fundamental because that is where the differences are permanent and also build the sociability. Public spaces are the sociability territories that get closer to this proposal. For instance, we focus on Cinelandia, a melting pot where almost everything fits and where the difference is a vector of integration.

IV) *Leisure as Transversal Axis of Intersected Public Policies: Innovations and Challenges for Brazil and Latin America*

Leila Mirtes Pinto, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

Patricia Zingoni, Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais and Prefeitura Municipal de Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais

This work is the outcome of reflections about studies and experiences of management on public policies in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay and analyses the challenges of intersected management that integrates leisure. It gathers bibliographic research and documental analyses of the international meeting that took place in Brasilia/Brazil for putting up a Latin American net for integrated actions between leisure, sport and education, promoted by the Brazilian Government (Ministry for Sports with the Ministry for Education) with support of the Organization of **Iberian-American States** for Education, Science and Culture (OEI). It identifies possibilities and limits for an intersected arrangement in public democratic policies, considered essential strategy at social vulnerable contexts in Latin America. It acknowledges that leisure, understood as educative space/time/opportunity for the improvement on quality of life, is an innovation for several Latin American contexts, which are diverse and at the same time convergent as for the dream of overcoming social injustice and inequalities. Finally, this research unveils that the innovation on leisure intersected policies must improve: 1) consciousness of concepts and intentions, senses and meanings, redesigning the commercial treatment of leisure; 2) greater comprehension of the reality (social and educational possibilities and limits); 3) articulation of the educational actions on leisure with the other ones that express multiple dimensions of social and human development; 4) new architecture of public management, which privileges the diversity of knowledge and cultural experiences; the articulation of systemized knowledge with governmental action; the redesign of the space and time available in the cities; the strengthening of synergic collective actions nets; the valorization of solidarity and of the continuing dialogues between State and Civil Society (on the local, regional, national and international levels).