

To: SSSP Board of Directors and the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee
From: Eberhard Raitelhuber and Alan J. Spector, Co-Chairs of the Transnational Initiatives Committee and Morena Tartari, Chair of the Ad hoc Transnational Virtual Initiatives Committee
Cc: Héctor L. Delgado and Michele Koontz
Date: July 15, 2021

Re: Joint Report from the Transnational Initiatives Committee (TIC) and the Ad-hoc Transnational Virtual Initiatives Committee (TVIC)

1. TIC Members:

The following members comprised this year's Transnational Initiatives Committee (TIC):

- *Eberhard Raitelhuber, University of Salzburg (Co-Chair, 2020-2021)
- Alan Jay Spector, Purdue University, (Co-Chair, 2020-2021)
- *Josephine T. V. Greenbrook, University of Edinburgh (Chair-Elect, 2020-2021)
- *Shahla Ali, University of Hong Kong (2018-2021)
- Chelle Jones, University of Michigan (2019-2022)
- Nicholas H. Johnson, University of Massachusetts Boston (2020-2023)
- Nathalie Rita, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2020-2023)
- *Diana Therese Montejo Veloso, De La Salle University (2020-2023)
- Héctor L. Delgado, University of La Verne, (Ex-Officio Member, Executive Officer, 2020-2021)

2. TVIC Members:

The following members comprised this year's Ad-hoc Transnational Virtual Initiatives Committee (TVIC):

- *Morena Tartari, University of Antwerp (Chair, 2020-2021)
- Miriam S. Gleckman-Krut, University of Michigan (2020-2021) (resigned on September 26, 2020)
- *Fatime Güneş Anadolu University (2020-2021)
- Ligaya Lindio McGovern, Indiana University (2020-2021)
- Pattie Thomas, College of Southern Nevada (2020-2021)
- John Foran, University of California at Santa Barbara (2020-2021)

* Denotes Non-U.S.-based members

3. Annual Meeting of the United Committees

The TIC/Ad-hoc TVIC had its joint official Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, July 7th**, before the SSSP Annual Virtual Meeting as requested by the Board of Directors. Eberhard Raitelhuber, Alan J. Spector, and Morena Tartari oversaw the meeting and ensured that the minutes of the meeting were recorded and reported.

Throughout the year, we met 13 times online, while our members live in distant time zones with a maximum of 17h difference.

4. About TIC

This year, Eberhard Raithelhuber and Alan Jay Spector will be stepping down as Co-Chairs of the TIC and will be replaced by Chair-Elect Josephine T. V. Greenbrook. They will be rotating off of the TIC committee this year, as well as Shahla Ali.

According to the TIC's by-laws, the TIC will need a new Chair-Elect for 2021-2022, and replacements for members who will step back. These new TIC members shall be nominated by the President-Elect in consultation with the Committee on Committees and appointed by the Board of Directors.

We have provided the relevant language from the by-laws below:

The Transnational Initiatives Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Chairperson-elect, and four members, of whom at least two must be international members, each serving three-year staggered terms and a graduate student member. In addition to the appointed members, the Executive Officer shall serve as an ex officio member.

Following criteria stipulated in the by-laws governing standing committees, the Transnational Initiatives Committee shall be reconstituted each year with a turnover membership of at least one-third, and no member may serve on the same committee of the Society, whether by election or appointment, for more than three consecutive years.

The 2021-2022 Transnational Initiatives Committee shall consist of the following members:

CHAIR: Josephine T. V. Greenbrook (international)

CHAIR-ELECT: Diana Therese Montejo Veloso (international)

1. Chelle Jones (graduate student: 2019-2022) (2019 member)
2. Nicholas H. Johnson (graduate student: 2020-2023) (2020 member)
3. Nathalie P. Rita (graduate student: 2020-2023)
4. Henry Parada (international: 2021-2024)
5. Morena Tartari (international: 2021-2024)
6. Héctor L. Delgado (Voting, Ex-Officio Member: 2021-2022)

5. About Ad-hoc TVIC

The Ad-hoc TVIC is an ad-hoc appointed committee for the year 2020-21. It was inaugurated in order to develop virtual forms of reaching out globally. This happened long before the SSSP decided to hold its 2021 Annual Meeting in a fully virtual form. In addition, the TVIC was installed to flexibly include more transnationally engaged SSSP members who help realize TIC's mission. Actually, the TIC and TVIC have built one group which consisted of up to 8 active members.

It is a shared conviction among the TIC-/TVIC members that this committee should continue to be appointed and that the 2020-21 Ad-hoc TVIC should be kept active throughout the next SSSP term 2021-22. New Ad-hoc TVIC members shall be nominated by President-Elect in consultation with the Committee on Committees and appointed by the Board of Directors. This decision should take into account the proposals for nomination that the acting TIC Co-Chairs (Alan Spector) and the TVIC Chair (Morena Tartari) make (see below).

6. Goals achieved by TIC and TVIC in 2020-21

Mainly, we achieved three results:

- 1) Extended financial support for participants at the 2021 Annual Meeting.
- 2) Co-sponsorship of 4 sessions during the Annual Meeting, plus one social event.

- 3) Planning of the first free virtual global outreach day in February 2022.

Ad 1). Extended financial support for participants of the 2021 Annual Meeting

Due to the proposals that the SSSP Board adopted, the TIC fund (4,000 USD in 2021) was used to subsidize both the registration fee and membership dues for students and scholars located in the Global South, including students and scholars from politically, economically, and culturally oppressed groups in countries not considered part of the Global South, to participate in the SSSP virtual annual meeting. Instead of supporting only one or two participants from the Global South, we were for the first time able to provide subsidies for roughly 25 people. Many of them are first-time conference participants and new SSSP members. More information at [https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/853/Virtual Annual Meeting Funds Available/](https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/853/Virtual%20Annual%20Meeting%20Funds%20Available/)

Ad 2). Co-sponsorship of 4 sessions during the Annual Meeting, plus a social event.

This year, the TIC/Ad-hocTVIC have successfully organized four sessions (regular sessions and critical dialogs) at the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting (for details see below), plus the session “Social: 'Meet the World', a Virtual Lunch for all participants of the conference” to develop thriving networks across borders and continents (more details below).

Ad 3). Planning of the first free virtual global outreach day, postponed to February 2022

This event will be organized by TIC/TVIC under the name “Reimagining Our Worlds from Below: Transnational Conversations on Resistance, Movements and Transformations - A Free Virtual SSSP Global Outreach Conference” from February 22 to 24, 2022. Due to its development of a new format to reach out globally, the TIC/TVIC was able to attract the climate justice/environmental justice hub at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies of the UCSB as a co-host for this event.

The Board dedicated USD 2,000 to this conference for technical support. The pre-announcement for this virtual meeting which will follow the “nearly carbon-neutral conference model” developed at UCSB will be communicated soon. In a nutshell, up to 50 presentations will be pre-recorded, made available during several weeks on the conference website, and discussed in intensive virtual pre-conference Q&As in a written form. Likewise, during the conference days, all discussants and presenters will gather in real-time. These sessions will also be recorded and put on the website for several weeks after the conference (see the text of the pre-announcement below).

Recommendations – Action Items for the SSSP Board:

- 1) Regarding the provision of funds
- 2) Regarding the reappointment of the Ad hoc TVIC for another term
- 3) Regarding the future revision of the general structure of the TIC (by-laws, memberships composition, role within SSSP)

Ad 1) Provision of funds – participation fees for the Annual Meetings

The Board should decide that for future Annual Meetings the TIC funds can be used to support the conference participation of a high number of people beyond the United States and Canada – and especially those from countries outside the global North – to subsidize

- (a) their conference fee and
- (b) their (annual) membership fee.

The latter applies especially if interested people from the Global South would become a “First Time Member”. Whereas we know that, currently, it is impossible to imagine how our Annual Meetings will be organized in the future (in-person, virtual, or hybrid), we think that SSSP should strive for supporting a high number of potential beneficiaries, and not just a few. Therefore, the TIC travel funds need to be increased.

Generally, we consider it desirable to keep virtual participants beyond the US/Canada and the Global North free of any costs and expenses. Moreover, the fees for an in-person participation at our Annual Meetings for people who are based in the Global South should be attuned to the relatively lower income situation of people living in these countries, when compared to the US. The current structure of the participation fee for the Annual Meeting does not take this into account.

Ad 2) ACTION ITEM: Reappointment of the Ad hoc TVIC for another term

In light of the rationale articulated above, the TIC and TVIC propose the following Action Item:

- The extension of the appointment of the 2020-21 Ad-hoc TVIC committee.

The SSSP Board should take the decision to extend the Ad-hoc TVIC to the period 2021-2022. The Board should ensure that all active members of the current TIC / TVIC group who are not automatically members of the TIC during the next SSSP term are formally included in the committees' joint work (see the list below). Additional members who want to support the TIC/TVIC work plan for 2021-22 can be added. A Chair or the two Co-Chairs should be nominated amongst these persons:

- *Eberhard Raithelhuber
- Alan Spector
- Ligaya Lindio McGovern, Indiana University (2020-2021)
- Pattie Thomas, College of Southern Nevada (2020-2021)
- John Foran, University of California at Santa Barbara (2020-2021)

* Denotes Non-U.S.-based members

Ad 3) Future revision of the general structure of the TIC

According to our experience and view, the TIC needs highly dedicated members and a more flexible, bottom-up working structure in order to fulfill its mission. In principle, it should be able to receive and include any member who wants to join the efforts to achieve the committee's objectives. This year, we were able to allow for a broader inclusion through the installation of an Ad-hoc committee, the so-called TVIC. This was highly productive for our work. However, we consider that in a middle range the current by-laws regarding the TIC should be changed.

Annex 1: List of sessions co-sponsored by the TIC/TVIC during the SSSP Virtual Annual Meeting 2021

THEMATIC Session 033: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: The Global Political Economy of Covid-19 Pandemic: The Impact of and Responses from Civil Society and International Community

Date: Thursday, August 5 Time: 9:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Co-Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizers: Ligaya L. McGovern, Indiana University

Alan J. Spector, Purdue University Northwest

Presider/Discussant: Hindol Mazumdar, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Papers:

- "Big Events Theory and Measures May Help Explain Emerging Long-term Effects of Current Crises," Samuel R. Friedman, New York University Medical School, Pedro Mateu-Gelabert, CUNY School of Public Health, Georgios K. Nikolopoulos, University of Cyprus, Magdalena Cerda, New York University

Grossman School of Medicine, Diana Rossi, Intercambios Civil Society and Universidad de Buenos Aires, Ashly E. Jordan, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy and New York University, Tarlise Townsend, New York University Grossman School of Medicine, Maria R. Khan, New York University and David C. Perlman, Mount Sinai Beth Israel and Center for Drug Use and HIV Research

- “Sustainable Development Initiatives in Select Urban and Rural Communities: Implications to Pandemic Challenges, Responses and Mitigations in the Philippines,” Salvacion Lindio-Dorado, St. Scholastica's College
- “Anticipating the Future of the Third Sector and Sharing Economy in Malaysia and Transforming 21st Century Adult Learning in Post-pandemic Sustainable Cities,” Kean Chiew Har, Universiti Sains Malaysia and Elisha Nasruddin, Graduate School of Business, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- “The Church and the State in the Times of Covid-19: Documenting the Orthodox Church Response to the Pandemic,” Cezara Crisan, Purdue University Northwest
- “Covid-19 (SARS-2): The Vietnam Experience,” Trang Thi Nguyen, Thai Nguyen University of Education
- “Economic and Political Factors on the SARS-2 Pandemic in India,” Ujan Banerjee, Delhi School of Economics

THEMATIC Session 061: Developing Feminist Leadership and Research on Movements and Indigenous Communities in the Global South

Date: Friday, August 6 - Time: 9:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Co-Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizers & Presiders: Ligaya L. McGovern, Indiana University, & Morena Tartari, University of Antwerp

Discussant: Soma Chaudhuri, Michigan State University

Papers:

- “Conducting International Fieldwork: The Role of Feminist Research in Studying Marginalized Women in Neoliberal Regimes,” Ligaya L. McGovern, Indiana University
- “Political Leadership of Women and Women as Political Leaders: Lessons from Presidential Elections,” Barbara Wejnert, SUNY, University at Buffalo
- “Hearing the Voice of Indigenous Women in the CEDAW,” R.A. Dello Buono, Manhattan College
- “Feminist Movements in Combating Violence against Women in Turkey,” Fatime Güneş, Anadolu University, Turkey

Session 083: Beyond Migration: The Role of (Im)mobility in Community Inclusion and Exclusion

Date: Friday, August 6 - Time: 3:30 PM - 5:15 PM

Co-Sponsors: Community Research and Development & Program Committee

Organizers: Nathalie P. Rita, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, & Eberhard Raithelhuber, University of Salzburg

Presider & Discussant: Eberhard Raithelhuber, University of Salzburg

Papers:

- “Beyond Migration: Using the Lens of Mobility to Theoretically Bridge Racialized Segregation and Immigration Controls,” Nathalie P. Rita, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
- “Case Selectivity and Emotional Management at the Frontlines of the Migrant Crisis,” Alejandro Márquez, The University of Texas at Austin
- “Choosing Schools as Expanding Local Citizenship (or Not),” Fangsheng Zhu, Harvard University
- “Re-learning to be a Woman: Gender and Migration in the Somali Diaspora,” Nima Dahir, Stanford University

THEMATIC Session 104: CRITICAL DIALOGUE: The Rise of and Opposition to Authoritarian Race-Ethnic-Religious-Caste Oppression in Late Capitalism

Date: Saturday, August 7 - Time: 11:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Co-Sponsor: Program Committee

Organizer & Presider/Discussant: Alan J. Spector, Purdue University Northwest

Papers:

- “Colorblind and Racialized Approaches: The Framings of Border ‘Crises’ and Migrant Children at the U.S.-Mexico Border under Two Administrations,” Heidy Sarabia, California State University, Sacramento
- “Combating Unjust Laws: Civil Society Activism for the Rights of the Rohingya in Bangladesh,” Arnab Roy Chowdhury, Higher School of Economics
- “Ethnic Division as a Tool of Authoritarian Regimes: The Case of Ethiopia,” Taye Woldesmiat, Purdue University Northwest
- “Pakistan: How Religious Division Undermines Democracy,” Muhammad Shaffiudin Khan, Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir College
- “Religious, Caste and Ethnic Discrimination - A Foundation for Authoritarianism in India,” Subhasis Bandyopadhyay, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur

We are very pleased with the quality of the papers that we received.

Session 124: Social: 'Meet the World', a Virtual Lunch

This session invites all participants of the conference to develop thriving networks across borders and continents. This event will take place on Friday, August 6, 11:30 AM - 1:15 PM. The purpose of this Initiative is two-fold: 1) to encourage "globalization from below" where participants from many different countries can make connections with each other for future sharing of ideas and collaboration; 2) to integrate more social scientists, especially from outside Western Europe/USA/Canada into the SSSP, including the TIC and TVIC. This will help make SSSP stronger, more well-rounded, and more able to meet the needs of social scientists, students, and the community at large.

Annex 2: Text for the pre-announcement of the global outreach conference

Reimagining Our Worlds from Below: Transnational Conversations on Resistance, Movements and Transformations

A Free Virtual SSSP Global Outreach Conference
February 22 to 24, 2022

The Covid-19 pandemic has made more evident persistent, systemic inequalities that are rooted in and shaped by ideological, economic, political, social, and cultural structures. However, other transnational concerns exacerbate these inequalities, including dwindling natural resources, expanding conflicts, increasing authoritarianism, and widening wealth gaps. Amid all these, a deeper awareness of the damage of colonial and imperialistic histories are emerging, making it obvious that Western/Euro/American-centric solutions are no longer viable, and are, in fact, sources of social problems.

In response to the challenges these inequalities pose, the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) is hosting a free virtual international conference. It aims to provide a platform for scholars, activists, practitioners, students, professionals, governmental entities, non-profit organizations, and civil society from all over the world to network, share experiences and learn from each other across boundaries--as we reimagine forms of resistance, movements, and solutions to the unconscionable historic and existential challenges we face on our planet. We heartily invite you to join the conversation. Participation from the Global South is especially encouraged.

More information and the call for papers will be available soon on our conference website.

Organized by the SSSP Transnational Initiatives Committee & Transnational Virtual Initiatives Committee

Co-hosted by the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Contact: transnationalconversations@gmail.com

Point persons: Diana Therese M. Veloso & Pattie Thomas

Annex 3: List of TIC/TVIC meetings throughout the period 2021-22

To organize these sessions for the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting and to organize an outreach one-day virtual conference the TIC/Ad-hoc TVIC organized internal meetings with members on the following dates:

August 10, 2020 (TIC Chairs)

August 18, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs)

August 25, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

September 1, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

September 8, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

September 17, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

September 24, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

October 7, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

October 23, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs with Michele Koontz)

October 27, 2020 (TIC/TVIC Chairs with John Foran and Kenneth Hiltner, UCSB)

April 14, 2021 (TIC/TVIC Chairs)

April 28, 2021 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

June 25, 2021 (TIC/TVIC Chairs and Members)

Respectfully submitted,

Eberhard Raitelhuber and Alan J. Spector, Co-Chairs, SSSP Transnational Initiatives Committee

Morena Tartari, Chair, SSSP Transnational Virtual Initiatives Committee (Ad-hoc)