

International Commission of Historical Demography
14th General Assembly

During the 20th International Congress of Historical Sciences in Sydney, Australia,
the General Assembly of
the International Commission of Historical Demography (ICHHD/CIDH)
an affiliated international organization of
the International Committee of Historical Sciences
(CISH/ICHS)
was held on Friday, July 8, 2005, at 2:00 P.M, in
Mathews Building, Room 310, University of New South Wales (UNSW),
Kensington Campus.

Chair, Prof. Robert McCaa, University of Minnesota (USA).

Present : 22 members+ 32 proxies = 54 votes. No quorum requested.

Agenda

1. Quinquennial Report by Robert McCaa, President
2. Financial report by Mario Boleda, Treasurer
3. Replacement of out-going members of the Board
4. Activities 2005-2010
5. Other questions

Robert McCaa, President of the International Commission of Historical Demography welcomed the audience and presented his report, together with Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux (hereafter AFC), General Secretary. The following was expressed.

On behalf of the outgoing board, elected August 11, 2000 at the 19th congress of the International Committee of Historical Sciences in Oslo, I am honored to present to this General Assembly, jointly with Professor Bob McCaa, our President, the report of activities of the International Commission on Historical Demography for the five-year period 2000-2005. This report will also be available later in a French version. We want first to thank all our session organizers, this means, for the seven sessions that we were able to hold during this meeting in Sydney.

1/ Professors **Kees Mandemakers**, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, forming a team with **Lisa Dillon**, University of Montreal (Canada) and **Soren Edvinsson**, University of Umea (Sweden) who arranged the first day as a plenary session of 4 panels dedicated to the state of the art of "New sources for historical demography".

2/ Prof. **Solvi Sogner**, University of Oslo (Norway), who organized the panel on « Aging in historical perspective », with the help of **Pamela Sharpe**, University of Western Australia (Australia) and also the panel on « Domestic Service and domestic servants », with the help of **Lucienne Hubler**, Switzerland..

3/ Prof **Robert McCaa**, University of Minnesota, who organized the panel on « Re-visioning virgin soil epidemics ».

4/ Prof. **Alison Mackinnon**, for organizing with **Mary Louise Nagata** a double panel « Fertility decline in interdisciplinary perspective ».

5/ **Peter Sköld** for organizing the panel « The historical demography of native peoples and minorities in comparative perspective ».

6/ **Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga** for organizing with me (AFC) « Inheritance systems in comparative perspective », the only totally bilingual panel.

We address also special thanks to **Mary Louise Nagata** for her constant dedication to the Commission, while she was in Geneva, Paris and Minneapolis, and now as Professor at Francis Marion University (Florence SC, USA), Coordinator of the Organizing Committee. We are also grateful to our local organizers:

Alison Mackinnon, University of South Australia, Adelaide

Pamela Sharpe, University of Western Australia, Nedlands

Glenda Strachan, Griffith University, Brisbane

Portia Robinson, Macquarie University, Sydney

Peter Gunn, independent scholar, Adelaide.

who helped us in recruiting papers and framing our scientific program.

1. REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2000-2005

I-History of the Commission

As not everybody present today may be familiar with the history of our Commission, let us note that this Commission is now forty-five years old and is the oldest group of historical demographers in the world.

Today marks our 14th General Assembly.

The Commission was founded on the occasion of the World History Congress in Stockholm in 1960. Four years later, in 1964, it was accepted as an internal Commission of the International Committee of Historical Sciences, just after the first International Conference of Historical Demography held in Liège, Belgium (1963). That explains why the Commission was formally located in Liège, in honor of its first president and founder Paul Harsin, who was also the President of the International Committee of Historical Sciences (CISH/ICHS) (1965-1970).

In Oslo 2000, by a large consensus and after a vote by secret ballot, we amended our statutes and became an independent International Association, affiliated to CISH. We preserved our main by-laws. The first rule was the manner of recruitment: members are chosen by cooptation from among the most prominent specialists in the field; the second is election of the Board every five years during the World Congress; the third is to send an annual report of activities to the International Committee of Historical Sciences.

We observed all these rules and we registered statutes with the CISH/ICHS in 1987, as an International Association :

“of members of different nationalities, whose aim is to encourage the study of the history of population and of human society in the world, and to further scientific exchange between the researchers. The CIDH/ICHHD takes an interest in initiatives

aiming at the development, the diffusion and the teaching of the science of historical demography.”

According to the English version of the legal text, the Board is composed of 10 persons.

Membership categories include:

- ordinary members,
- honorary members,
- national correspondents,
- institutional members.

The list of members is updated regularly by the Board. Today, 272 members of 41 different nationalities are listed and were invited to participate to Sydney or send a paper. To compare :

There were, in 1987, 106 members of the Commission ; in Madrid, 1990, 142 members. In Montreal, 1995, there were 261 individual members.

The Board used cooptation to arrive at the present membership list, forming a strong network.

We have done our best to keep contact with scientists from countries all around the world, representative of the community of historical demographers. We improved our presence in Latin America and in Asia. We have still few members in the Baltic countries, in Russia or countries from the former USSR and Africa. All suggestions for recruiting and enlarging the network are welcome.

As usual, all paper-givers at this Sydney Conference became ordinary members. The list is updated every year by the Board.

Since Oslo, we mourn the loss of Tamara Haveren and Peter Laslett who both dedicated their life to international scientific exchanges between historical demographers and historians of the family. We shall not forget them.

Antoinette also notes the passing of Guy Cabourdin, Professor at University of Nancy II, who was President of the Société de Démographie Historique (1984-1987) and who first put her in contact with Portia Robinson, Professor at Macquarie University, Sydney, because he was visiting Australia regularly in the 1980's.

II Scientific Activities for 2000-2005

A/International statutory meetings

1- In Oslo 2000, during the 19th World History Congress, the International Commission for Historical Demography hold sessions on 3 themes :

- Family strategies revisited (organizer : Tamara Hareven, United States)
- The role of purposive behavior in mortality reduction (organizer : Bruce Fetter, United States)
- Demographic characteristics of migrants : pools of departure and arrival (organizers: Anne-Lise Head-König, René Leboutte and Tamas Farago)

A pre-conference was organized in Oslo (1999) by Solvi Sogner et Bruce Fetter, to prepare the mortality session. See the related discussion forum:
<http://www.h-net.org/~demog/mortality.html>

In Oslo 2000, we counted around 75 participants and 45 papers.

2. Here, in Sydney, 2005, we have 7 different topics, 70 participants and 50 papers.

B/ Intermediate meetings

2002, Buenos-Aires, 13th International Economic History Congress, 22-26 July:

-Session 14 The socio-economic role of heiresses in family transmission patterns

(16th-19th c.) organizers : Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux and Ofelia Rey Castelao (2 days)

-Session 29 Domestic service in comparative perspective : the long run (16th–20th c.), organizers : Solvi Sogner and Raffaella Sarti (2 days) and a Board meeting

2002, Den Hague, ESSHC, 27 February -2 March, 2002, 4th European Social Sciences History Conference

30 sessions Family/demography network, co-chairs were Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux and Frans van Poppel and a Board meeting

2004, 25 March, European Social Sciences History Conference (ESSHC04), Berlin, Germany, 5th ESSHC

Session Fam 36, room 1070, Humboldt University : discussion of our Call for 20th International Congress of Historical Sciences, Sydney and a Board meeting

Besides, we also assemble at the annual Social Science History Association Conference (SSHA) every fall in the US, where, thanks to the Family/demography network, we are able to meet regularly.

Now we also participate in the biennial European Social Science History Conference usually held in the Netherlands.

October 17-19, 2003, a conference was dedicated to the memory of Tamara Hareven, in Luxembourg, organized jointly by the ICHD and Professor Jean-Paul Lehnrs (University of Luxembourg): “The History of The Family: Past, Present and Future. In Memoriam Tamara Hareven”.

C/ Board meetings

The Board constituted at Oslo includes 10 members:

BOLEDA Mario, University of Salta (Argentine), treasurer

FAUVE-CHAMOUX Antoinette, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (France), general secretary

HAYAMI Akira, Reitaku University (Japan), vice president

HEAD-KÖNIG Anne-Lise, Université de Genève (Suisse),

KUKLO Cezary, Bialystok University (Pologne),

McCAA Robert, University of Minnesota (USA), President

MOOSVI Shireen, Aligarh University (Inde),

SOGNER Sølvi, University of Oslo (Norway),

SONNINO Eugenio, Université de Rome La Sapienza (Italie),

TEDEBRAND Lars Göran, Umeå University (Sweden).

The Board met 7 times, without mentioning many personal contacts between members, thanks to new facilities in communications.

- 11 August, 2000, Oslo, Norway

- 8 June, 2001, Helsinki, Finland

- 25 July, 2002, Buenos-Aires, Argentina

- 25 October, 2002, St. Louis, MO, USA

- 12 September, 2003, Munich, Germany
- 27 March, 2004, Berlin, Germany
- 5 July, 2005, Sydney.

And the Sydney organizing Committee met in Baltimore, November 2003 and in Chicago, November, 2004

III- Publications 2000-2005

A/ Bilingual Bibliography (French/English)

After the change in statutes, voted in Oslo, 2000, the Commission is no longer responsible for the BIDH, the *International Bibliography of Historical Demography*. Anyway we are concerned by its current dormant situation. The annual BIDH on paper concerned 1978-1995, under the editorial responsibility of Etienne Hélin. The *International Bibliography of Historical Demography* (BIDH) last paper issue was published in 1997 covering 1994-1995, 240 p. 1139 references. A double issue was published also in 1996 covering 1992-1993.

This was a unique printed publication in the field under the editorship of Professor Etienne Hélin who had to suspend publication, despite the support of four academic partners, including us (ICDH/CIDH) in joint partnership with the French Société de démographie historique, the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris) and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), formerly headquartered in Liège, Belgium, but situated in Paris.

The project for an International Bibliography on line, proposed by the President, Bob McCaa at last General Assembly in Oslo has not yet materialized, due mostly to an unsolved copyright problem with Société de Démographie Historique (SDH). (The Minnesota Population Center was prepared, with the agreement of Etienne Hélin, to assume all editorial responsibility, beginning September 2000, with the advice of an international editorial board). The Société de Démographie Historique refused to transmit its part of the copyright and decided, at Fall 2000, to give full responsibility to Professor Michel Oris, University of Geneva, to update and assume the revival of the BIDH/IBHD on the University of Liege website. The site actually provided some serious updates and a good working online search engine for the BIDH/IBHD data bank until July 2004. Since then, the site has been « frozen » to searches and also--a major problem--frozen to correspondents who want to enter new references.

We express fervid hopes that this problem can be solved by the Société de Démographie Historique in a near future.

B/ Other publications since Oslo 2000:

Special issues of scientific journals were published with selections of CIDH papers.

-*The History of the Family, an International Quarterly,*

- numero 4 of 2000, Claude Morin, guest editor,

"Beyond kinship and household: godparents and orphans" (Selection of papers presented in Montréal 1995).

-"Lutter contre la mort: Le rôle des politiques publiques," *Annales de démographie historique* 2001-1. Papers selected from the Oslo 2000 conference organized by Bruce Fetter and edited by Patrice Bourdelais.

- *Living in the City*, 2004, Rome, University La Sapienza, 670 pages. Proceedings of the Conference of September 1999, Rome, Italy, organized and edited by Professor

Eugenio Sonnino, University La Sapienza.

The Sydney ICDH programme was available on various web sites

www.hist.umn.edu/~rmccaa/ichd/

www.cishsydney2005.org/

linked to

UNSW website: www.unsw.edu.au

and on IISG

Kees Mandemakers arranged the papers of the plenary session to be available.

Most of the papers of this session can be down-loaded from :

<http://www.lifecoursesincontext.nl/sydney2005.html>

2- Financial report 2000-2005 presented by the Treasurer, Mario Boleda, University of Salta (Argentina), and read by Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, in his absence.

The Board decided to continue the previous policy of not asking any regular fees from members. One justification of this choice is to preserve our capacity to recruit active members on scientific criteria, including in developing countries unable thus to pay consequent fees. Another justification is the high level of cooperation expected from members. We think that colleagues coming to our meetings, so often on their own, make already such a serious effort.

We have no specific budget. For the past 5 years, the annual fees to CISH were paid by the Minnesota Population Center. Thanks to Bob McCaa and Steve Ruggles.

5 times 650 Swiss Francs= 3250 SF = a total paid on CISH Lausanne UBS bank, account number : 24325519001X .

The question was raised whether we should go on paying fees to CISH for the 5 coming years, 2005 to 2010, since we received only 4 lines in the CISH printed program! The President Bob McCaa reported that he protested on this point at the CISH General Assembly the previous day. The answer was that in 2010 the CISH will provide a better treatment in the General Program to affiliated International Organizations.

Any time an important budget was provided, it came from the host organization. We must acknowledge, beside the outstanding generosity of the Minnesota Population Center, the contributions of all institutions which have been supporting our actions since Oslo, 2000. The following list is far from being exhaustive, for sure, each one of us being indebted to at least one or two sponsors.

-thanks first to the Centre de Recherches Historiques de l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales which hosted the Secretary, giving AFC major everyday help.

-Many universities and research centers sponsored our meetings, travels and publications :

Nichibunken in Kyoto (International Research Center for Japanese Studies) Japan,

Reitaku University, Japan,

University of Kyoto, Japan,

the University of Liège, Belgium,

Aligarh Muslim University, India,

The University of Rome, La Sapienza,

the International Institute of Social History (IISG), Amsterdam,

the University of Geneva,
 the University of Salta, Argentina, and many other institutions, including:
 The International Association for Economic History, the ICHS and so many national
 Committees in the CISH which sponsored participants.
 -many associations as the Social Science History Association (SSHA),
 Journals like *The History of the Family*, *an International Quarterly*, *Continuity and
 Change*, *Les Annales de Démographie Historique*,
 - on Internet, we do not forget the help of H-Demog, of the Family/Demography
 network at Social Science History Association.
 - thanks to all who helped in every day matters, in meetings, or other occasions.

The General Assembly voted unanimously acceptance of the Quinquennial Report and
 Financial report for 2000-2005.

3- Elections to replace out-going members of the Board of Directors

We needed to vote for replacements for three out-going members of the Board who
 indicated that they did not wish to serve an additional five-year term. Out of 10
 members, three members are in this case.

Our bylaws call for ten board members representing different countries. Other
 members may be coopted for specific projects, in particular to implement board
 priorities.

No one wanted to vote by secret ballot, so the Assembly voted on each seat.

1/ With unanimous approval, Akira Hayami, Emeritus professor at Reitaku University,
 Japan, was replaced by Futoshi Kinoshita, Professor at University of Tsukuba, Japan.

2/ With unanimous approval, Robert McCaa, Professor at University of Minnesota
 (USA), was replaced by Bruce Fetter, Professor at University of
 Wisconsin/Milwaukee, USA

3/ With unanimous approval, Eugenio Sonnino, Professor at University of Roma La
 Sapienza (Italy), was replaced by Kees Mandemakers, IISG, Netherlands

SPECIAL votes:

The Assembly elected unanimously Professor Akira Hayami as Honorary President of
 the Commission to thank him for his long dedication to the Association and also
 unanimously Professor Eugenio Sonnino as Honorary President of the Commission to
 thank him for his long dedication to the Association.

Coopted members of the Board:

Professor Ofelia Rey Castelao, University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), was
 unanimously elected Coopted member of the Board in charge of the Mediterranean
 region.

Professor Mary Louise Nagata, Francis Marion University/EHESS-Paris, was
 unanimously elected Coopted member of the Board as “ICHHD Network Coordinator”,
 Professor Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga, University of Cergy-Pontoise (France), was
 unanimously elected Coopted member of the Board, as “European Network
 Coordinator”.

4- Proposed activities for 2005-2010 will be examined by the new Board

Publications may follow the Sydney meeting, in various periodicals.

Among next meetings are

2005, 19-22 September, New Delhi, India, Conference on “**Secular demographic change: composition, pressure on land, regional variations, migrations**”, jointly organized by the Aligarh Historians Society and the International Commission for Historical Demography, with the help of Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). There will be three major themes at the conference:

A: Secular demographic changes

B: Land and population

C: Regional population development

2005, 3-6 November, SSHA Portland (Or), USA

2006, 6th ESSHC, 22-25 March Amsterdam, RAI (Palais des Congrès)

2006, Helsinki, 14th International Economic History Congress, 21-25 August 2006.

2006, 2-5 November, SSHA Minneapolis

2007 Conferences in the frame of the « Gender and well being. Interaction between work, family and public policies », a European Action ‘COST A34’ project:

- 25-27 April 2007 : seminar 2 “The transmission of well-being: marriage strategies and inheritance systems in Europe from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries”

2007, 15-18 November SSHA Chicago

2008, 7th ESSHC, March, Barcelona ?

2008, 23-26 October, SSHA Miami

2009 Utrecht, 15th International Economic History Congress, (? August) 2009.

2009, November, SSHA, Long Beach (Ca)

2010 8th ESSHC, March, Amsterdam ?

2010 21th International Congress of Historical Sciences (CISH), July?, Amsterdam (Netherlands)

2010, 18-21 November SSHA Chicago

5. CALL for topics for ICHD/CIDH Conference during CISH 2010, Amsterdam: the following sessions were proposed:

- “Historical demography of native peoples and minorities in comparative perspective », organizer: Peter Sköld, University of Umea (Sweden) peter.skold@cesam.umu.se
- “Politics of populations”, organizers: Bruce Fetter (USA) and Lisa Dillon (Canada)
 - session 1: « The quest for clean numbers: The historical context of population making » organizer: Bruce Fetter (USA) bruf@uwm.edu
 - session 2: « Construction of populations in the past » : organizer: Lisa Dillon (Canada) ly.dillon@umontreal.ca
- “Inheritance systems in comparative perspective”, organizers: Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga and Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux (France) Marie-Pierre.Arrizabalaga@lang.u-cergy.fr
- “ The effects of migration on demographic indicators”, organizer: Mary Louise Nagata (USA/France) ml@nagata.com
- “Micro-data and new developments in historical demographic research” organizer: Kees Mandemakers (Netherlands) kma@iisg.nl
- “Intergenerational aspects of demography”. Organizer: Sören Edvinsson (Sweden), soren.Edvinsson@ddb.umu.se

6- The new Board met during a short break, while Robert McCaa, outgoing President was still chairing the discussion. It was decided that Kees Mandemakers will be in charge with updating the CIDH/ICHHD website.

New Board 1st meeting

were present :

Marie-Pierre Arrizabalaga, Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux, Bruce Fetter, Futoshi Kinoshita, Kees Mandemakers, Mary Louise Nagata,

Absent : Mario Boleda, Anne-Lise Head-König, Cezary Kuklo, Shireen Moosvi, Ofelia Rey Castelao, Solvi Sogner, Lars Göran Tedebrand.

After internal deliberation, Futoshi Kinoshita announced to the General Assembly the following composition of the Board:

President: Bruce Fetter,

General Secretary: Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux,

Vice President: Kees Mandemakers

Treasurer : Mario Boleda.

President Bruce Fetter took the Chair for a short moment. He is greatly honored to accept the position and hopes to enhance the outreach of ICHD to other historians and historically-oriented social scientists in other disciplines. He welcomes suggestions for topics from the membership and hopes that we can continue to demonstrate the relevance of historical demography for historical and policy issues.

Next Board meeting will be in 2006, during 6th ESSHC, 22-25 March Amsterdam. In between, the President will meet some members during SSHA, Portland.

The meeting ended at 4 p.m.

Report signed by Antoinette Fauve-Chamoux and Mary Louise Nagata.

Paris, 22 July 2005

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