Cocta News

International Political Science Association

Two panels sponsored by COCTA plus an additional round-table jointly sponsored by COCTA and the IPSA Research Committee on Politics and Ethnicity will be held during the World Congress of Political Science in Washington, D.C., in August 1988. Plans for the panels have been made by Jacques Gerstle and Jan-Erik Lane in consultation with their COCTA colleagues. Subject to last-minute revisions, the following schedule may be announced:

(A) *Epistemological and Theoretical Foundations of Conceptual Analysis.* Chair: Jacques GERSTLE, Sorbonne, Paris.

(1) GERSTLE, J.: Concepts, theories and research programmes in political science. -(2) SCHEMEIL, Y. (Grenoble): Culture and situation: History of a system of concepts. - (3) DOBRY, M. (Nanterre, Paris X): Conceptual case study: The political crisis.

Discussants: Judith GILLESPIE (Univ.of Minnesota, Duluth), George GRAHAM (Vanderbilt Univ.)

(B) *Joint panel with IPSA Research Committee on Ethnicity.* Chair: Dennis L. THOMPSON, Fred RIGGS. To be organized as a round-table discussion of the INTERCOCTA project for ethnicity research.

(C) *Growth, State, and Periphery.* Chair: Jan-Erik LANE (Univ.of Umea)

(1) GILLESPIE, J.: Problems of political leadership in peripheral regions: A comparative perspective. - (2) NORD, Douglas (Univ.of Minnesota); WELLER, Geoffrey (Lakehead Univ.): Establishing political institutions for the periphery: A comparative analysis.

Discussants: G.Paul SHARP (UMD), Marianne STEWART (Rutgers Univ.)

(3) TEUNE, Henry (Univ.of Pennsylvania): Growth.

Discussants: Kenneth BOULDING (Univ.of Colorado), Rogers HOLLINGWORTH (Univ. of Wisconsins), Kenneth JANDA (Northwestern Univ.)

(4) HOLLINGSWORTH, J.Rogers (Univ.of Wisconsin): The State.

(5) BOULDING, Ken (Univ.of Colorado): Human betterment.

Discussants: Richard KIMBER (Univ.of Keele), Elinor OESTROM (Indiana Univ.).

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INTERCOCTA

(1) As a special project of COCTA, under the sponsorship of the International Social Science Council and UNESCO, INTERCOCTA will be responsible for the *joint panel on "ethnicity research"* to be held during the IPSA Congress. The paper on "growth" to be presented by Henry TEUNE, with comments by K.Boulding, R. Hollingsworth, and K.Janda, is also sponsored by INTERCOCTA. It represents the first effort to analyze a "key concept" used in many social science subject fields. The original essay by Teune will be published separately and, it is hoped, a future symposium volume combining his revised text with commentaries on it will constitute a volume in the INTERCOCTA Encyclopedia.

(2) The *Pilot Project on Ethnicity Research* has already led to the preparation of pilot studies in English and Russian. Plans have now been made for a third version in French, and the possibility of additional texts in Spanish and Arabic have been discussed. A *Symposium* designed to test the reliability and usefulness of the English and Russian pilot texts will be held in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, during July 1988. Academician Yu.V. Bromley and Fred W.Riggs are co-chairs of this symposium which will include among its participants L.M. Drobizheva, M.N.Gouboglo and T.V.Tabolina from the Soviet Institute of Ethnography in Moscow, Slivo Devetak, M.Cerar-Gostincar, J. Menase-Kranjec, and I Sumi from the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia; N.K.Kadetodad, J.Pathy, and Surendra Chopra from India; Jean Laponce, Robert Jackson, and Cyril Belshaw of Canada; M.M.Balzer, N.Gonzalez, R.A. Morris, and M.O.Heisler from the U.S.A.; E.Casino, Philippines; M.del Olmo, Spain; and K.K.Lee, South Korea. Others may be added. An explanation of the purposes and structure of this symposium is given in the following excerpt from the *abstract* that was used to announce it:

"In place of semantic analysis of key words used in discourse on ethnic processes and problems, the Symposium will utilize the newly formulated "onomantic" paradigm to see whether or not key concepts used by researchers can, after they have been defined, be designated unambiguously, either by existing or by newly coined terms. Authors of papers will have the pilot edition (in Russian or English) of an onomantic (INTERCOCTA) glossary for authors writing research reports relating to ethnicity. For the purposes of the Symposium "ethnicity" will be understood as involving any ethnographic problem or processes relating to or affecting minority communities and cultures, whether their members live only within a single state, or co-exist transnationally (i.e. in several states). Each paper will deal with a specific conceptual and terminological problem, treated with reference to the glossary.

The goal of the exercise is to evaluate the glossary and determine how it can be used most effectively to improve the clarity of works dealing with ethnic phenomena. Among the approaches open to the authors of papers are the following: 1) take a concept that has a variety of terms and evaluate them in terms of convenience and their likelihood of being misunderstood (ambiguous); 2) take a concept that has no established term, demonstrate that it is not yet included in the glossary, and then suggest suitable terms for it; 3) describe an experience in which the author has, in the past, attempted to introduce a new concept or term related to ethnicity, showing what obstacles had to be overcome and assessing the utility of the glossary, if it had been available; 4) identify several useful meanings of a term used by ethnographers (anthropologists) and suggest other unambiguous terms that could be used for each of these meanings....

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Tentative answers to these questions (suggestions) can be found in the INTERCOCTA glossary for ethnicity. Are they satisfactory or unsatisfactory? If unsatisfactory, what better answers can be found? It is hoped that the Symposium will not only provide an exciting and novel intellectual experience relevant to the interests of ethnographers (anthropologists) working in many countries, but it will also help the editors of the Russian and English glossaries to improve their work, and it will inspire those who are planning to develop parallel glossaries in other languages, e.g. in French and Spanish."

(3) *The Congress in Trier.* During September 28 to October 1, 1987, a world congress on *Terminology and Knowledge Engineering* was held in Trier, F.R.G. Fred Riggs presented a report on the basic theory of INTERCOCTA under the heading "Social science terminology" and chaired a session at which papers on the experience of participants in development of the Russian language glossary for ethnicity research were presented by Yu.V. Bromley, L.M.Drobizheva, and M.N. Gouboglo. T.V. Tabolina gave a report on plans for a new INTERCOCTA glossary that would report concepts and terms used in research on the Soviet Way of Life. I.Dahlberg also gave a paper on "Computerization of definition texts: A new approach" in the special meeting of the Society for Conceptual and Content Analysis by Computer (SCCAC) of Prof.Klaus Schmidt (Bowling Green, OH), which preceded the Trier Congress.

Most of the papers presented at the congress were reproduced in a volume published in advance for use at this meeting: H.Czap and C.Galinski (Eds.): *Terminology and Knowledge Engineering.* (Frankfurt: INDEKS Verlag 1987). COCTA members will find much information relevant to their interests in this volume. A supplement volume containing reports on congress debates and papers that were not available when the first volume was prepared will be published by INDEKS Verlag in the near future.

(4) *Consultations in Paris.* Following the Trier Congress, Fred Riggs went to Paris for further consultations with UNESCO and the International Social Science Council on future plans. He was able to compare, together with T.Tabolina the Russian and English texts of the glossary work on the basis of a translation of the Russian version into English accomplished by G.Blankoff-Scarr, from Belgium. With her help also, it can be anticipated that it will be possible to match equivalent Russian and English terms in the respective INTERCOCTA glossaries.

During this week in Paris Riggs investigated also the feasibility of launching a French version of the ethnicity glossary. Eric de Grolier, consultant to the ISSC, has agreed, with UNESCO support, to prepare a feasibility study. Jean Cuisenier will play a focal role through the Musee des Arts et Traditions Populaires which he directs. Other consultants include Georges Condominas, Jacques Gerstle, Jean Leca, Alain Rey in Paris, plus Alain Landry in Ottawa and Pierre van der Crain in Brussels. Further contacts are needed in Switzerland and Francophone Africa. Every effort will be made to secure the necessary funding in Paris. A good foundation for the third INTERCOCTA glossary for ethnicity research has been laid.

(5) *Other Projects.* Meanwhile, exploratory work continues on other INTERCOCTA projects. Preliminary studies have come from György Rosza and associates on the feasibility of a project on the "Hungarian Way of Life" and a parallel proposal from the Institute of Ethnography in Moscow on the "Soviet Way of Life". A proposal from the Institute of State and Law at the Soviet Academy of Sciences has reportedly been completed. The Spanish version of an INTERCOCTA glossary for development studies has been received from CENDES, in Caracas, Venezuela. A report on the concept of "development" in English has been prepared by Jan-Erik Lane. The feasibility of a parallel English-language glossary for development is under investigation. Iqbal Narain, director of the Indian Council for Social Science Research, writes that he has named Daya Krishna to chair an advisory committee to formulate proposals for an INTERCOCTA glossary of Indian indigenous concepts, utilizing ideas discussed at the round table in Jaipur, which followed the World Congress of Sociology in New Delhi, last summer.

(6) *Meetings.* The time has come for a new meeting of the INTERCOCTA Committee, the last one took place in Paris during the World Political Science Congress in 1985. It is proposed that such a meeting could be held with minimal cost in association with the World Anthropology Congress in Zagreb, in July 1988. The possibility of holding such a meeting in Ljubljana just before the Congress is under investigation. The agenda of such a meeting would include evaluation of all the INTERCOCTA projects that have already been started, and planning for future work.

(7) *Support from UNESCO.* Significant support has been given by UNESCO to the development of INTERCOCTA projects. It has published "Help for Social Scientists." (Reports and Studies in the Social Sciences, No.57) and will shortly publish the "Manual for INTERCOCTA Editors", in the same seriees -both works are by Fred Riggs. Another essay by Riggs, "A conceptual encyclopedia for the social sciences", appeared in the *International Social Science Journal*, vol.39, Feb.1987. Further information about these documents may be obtained directly from UNESCO, c/o Dr.Z.Guelekva, program officer. Readers will recall that the intellectual foundations of the INTERCOCTA exercise are presented in *The CONTA Conference*, 368 pages. These proceedings, published by INDEKS Verlag in Frankfurt, are available to readers of IC for DM 30.00/USD 15). They still constitute the most comprehensive and stimulating introcution to the problems of conceptual and terminological analysis as they have evolved in the INTERCOCTA exercise.

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