



International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
Union internationale pour l'étude scientifique de la population

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In this issue: First Council meeting • New Constitution ratified • Membership dues and profiles • IUSSP Laureate • Data Revolution activities • Seminars and workshops • IUSSP statement at 51st session of the CPD • International Population Conference • News from the members • What is demography? • Regional population associations • Other announcements • N-IUSSP • Calls for papers • Training opportunities • Job opportunities • Calendar

First meeting of the new Council 2018-2021

The first meeting of the new IUSSP Council took place at INED, in Paris, on 20-21 March 2018. The Council focused mainly on how to restructure IUSSP activities to better serve the needs of members and to better address emerging issues of scientific and policy importance. It made several decisions that will take effect in the coming days. ([Read more](#))

New IUSSP Constitution ratified

The Constitutional amendments presented at and approved by the General Assembly in Cape Town were ratified by the membership: 89% of the votes were cast in favour of the amendments. The participation rate was just over 50%. **The new IUSSP Constitution is effective as of 1 January 2018.** ([Read more](#))

Membership dues and member profiles

With a whole new set of members who joined to attend the 2017 conference (45% new members and student associates since the Call for Papers was first advertised) and the decisions made by the new Council, it is timely to provide an overview of the membership fee structure and various discounts, **including new attractive options.** ([Read more](#))

IUSSP Laureate

2018 Laureate – Bob McCaa

The IUSSP Council has elected Bob McCaa as the 2018 IUSSP Laureate. The Laureate ceremony will take place during the PAA 2018 Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Denver Downtown (1550 Court Place) on Wednesday 25 April starting at 5:30 pm in Governor's Square 12. **Save the date!** ([Read more](#))



Data Revolution activities

Bayesian Small Area Estimation at PAA 2018

This Two-Day Short Course on Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data – Methods and Applications will be held at the PAA 2018 Annual Meeting in Denver, United States, 24-25 April 2018, 9am-5pm, facilitated by Sam Clark (The Ohio State University), Zehang Li and Jon Wakefield (University of Washington). ([Read more](#))

Demographic Research in the Digital Age at PAA 2018

The Research workshop on Demographic Research in the Digital Age will be held at the PAA 2018 Annual Meeting in Denver, United States, on 25 April 2018, from 1 to 5 pm., facilitated by Emilio Zagheni (University of Washington), Francesco Billari (Bocconi University) and Guy Abel (Shanghai University), with Dennis Feehan (UC Berkeley) as keynote speaker. ([Read more](#))

Bayesian Small Area Estimation at APA 2018

The course provided at PAA 2018 on "Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data: Methods and Applications" will also be given at the 2018 Asian Population Association Conference, in Shanghai, China, 10-11 July, facilitated by Sam Clark (The Ohio State University) and Zechang Li (University of Washington). ([Read more](#))

Seminars and workshops

International Seminar on Pandemics

The IUSSP Scientific Panel on Historical Demography organized an International Seminar on Pandemics: Reflections on the Centennial of the 1918 Spanish Influenza Virus in Madrid, Spain, 27-29 November 2017, preceded by a training workshop on quantitative approaches to influenza and mathematical modelling of pandemic infectious diseases. ([Read more](#))



People and Pixels Revisited

The Population-Environment Research Network (PERN) a very successful cyberseminar from 20 to 27 February 2018 on "People & Pixels Revisited: 20 years of progress and new tools for population-environment research", which focused on ways that social science researchers have used remote sensing data to answer research questions, especially related to land use and land cover and their drivers, but also health and poverty. Access complete set of [11 expert statements](#) (4-5 page overviews) as well as an [overview webinar](#) featuring all the panel contributions (1 hour duration). ([Read more](#))



IUSSP & the United Nations

IUSSP statement at 51st session of the CPD

IUSSP's Written Statement to the 51st session of the Commission on Population and Development in New York, 9-13 April 2018, is now available on the [Population Division's website](#) under Agenda item 3. The statements are available in [English](#) (original version), [French](#), and [Spanish](#). ([Read more](#))



International Population Conference

IPC2017 Conference Report and Survey

The final [IPC2017 Conference Report](#) and [Survey report](#) are now available. These documents were added to the documents listed at the beginning of the previous article on the conference highlights. ([Read more](#))



News from the members

Members' new publications

- *Why Demography Matters*, by Danny Dorling and Stuart Gietel-Basten.
- *Migration and Environmental Change in the West African Sahel. Why Capabilities and Aspirations Matter*, by Victoria van der Land.
- *Egyptian Female Labor Force Participation and the Future of Economic Empowerment*, by Huda Alkitkat.
- *La famille à distance. Mobilités, territoires et liens familiaux*, edited by Christophe Imbert, Éva Lelièvre and David Lessault.
- *Dynamic Demographic Analysis*, edited by Robert Schoen.
- *A Longitudinal Approach to Family Trajectories in France. The Generations and Gender Survey*, edited by Arnaud Régnier-Loilier.

([Read summaries](#))

New IUSSP members

Nine new members and 27 new student associates joined the IUSSP between 1 December 2017 and 28 February 2018. ([See list](#))

In memory

- **Anatole Romaniuc** (1924-2018)



On the IUSSP website

What is demography?

There are various ways of defining demography... For its website, the IUSSP decided to ask three of its distinguished members – Peter McDonald and Jacques Vallin, Honorary Presidents and Emily Grundy, former Secretary General – to give us their own definition.

([Read more](#))

Regional population associations

PAA 2018 in Denver, 26-28 April

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA) will be held in Denver, United States 26-28 April. The IUSSP will have a booth and will organize two preconference workshops as well as a special session on 25 April for its 2018 Laureate Bob McCaa. ([Read more](#))



EPC2018 in Brussels, 6-9 June

The 2018 European Population Conference (EPC 2018) of the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS) will be held in Brussels, Belgium, 6-9 June 2018 on the theme "Population, Diversity and Inequality." Registration for the conference is now open. Early bird fees are only available until 1 April 2018. ([Read more](#))



2018 APA Conference, Shanghai, 11-14 July

The 4th Asian Population Association (APA) Conference will take place in Shanghai, China, 11-14 July 2018. Access the Conference website to read more on the programme, schedule and key dates (e.g. early bird registration fee until 15 May). ([Read more](#))



Other announcements

Share your research data on adolescents

The Population Council recently launched The Girl Innovation, Research, & Learning (GIRL) Center, a global research and thought leadership hub that generates, synthesizes, and translates evidence on adolescent girls. The GIRL Center is building an Adolescent Data Hub, a global portal where researchers and organizations can share and gain access to high-quality data on adolescents and young people. ([Read more](#))



2nd John Caldwell Memorial Lecture at IASSH

The second Professor John Caldwell Memorial Lecture was organized during the 15th annual conference of the Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) on 17 November, 2017 in Hyderabad, India. Prof. S. Parasuraman (Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai) delivered the lecture on the theme – “Can India be a hope for the troubled world?”. ([Read more](#))



Open Access book: Contested Childhoods

Contested Childhoods: Growing up in Migrancy. Migration, Governance, Identities, edited by Marie Louise Seeberg and Elzbieta M. Gozdzia, is an **open access book** selected by [Choice magazine](#) as an outstanding academic title for 2017. Migrancy as a social space allows majority populations to question the capabilities of migrants, and is a space in which an increasing number of children are growing up... ([Read more](#))



N-IUSSP

N-IUSSP's recent articles

- Internal migration and spatial de-concentration of population in Latin America, by Jorge Rodriguez Vignoli and Francisco Rowe.
- The rights of homosexual families in Europe: the LawsAndFamilies database, by Arianna Caporali and Marie Digoix.
- Age, gender, alcohol, and traffic accidents in Brazil, by Luciana Conceição De Lima and Valdeniz Da Silva Cruz Júnior.
- Summertime, and the livin' is easy ... and longer, by Tina Ho and Andrew Noymer
- Retirement timing and grandparenthood in Sweden, by Linda Kridahl. Thinking about the future: the four billion question, by Massimo Livi Bacci.
- Global population, development aspirations and fallacies, George Martine.
- Relationship stability is important for abortion decisions in Finland, by Heini Väisänen.
- Older immigrants' living arrangements in the U.S. and sending countries, by Zoya Gubernskaya and Zequn Tang.
- Dementia risk on the rise as old-age life expectancy increases, by Ezra Fishman.



- All U.S. states are becoming more racially diverse... for now, by Barrett A. Lee, Michael J.R. Martin, Stephen A. Matthews and Chad R. Farrell.
 - 30 years of experience of the two-child policy in Yicheng, China, by Yu Qin and Fei Wang.
- ([Read articles](#))
-

Calls

IUSSP calls for papers

- International Seminar on Incidence and Safety of Abortion: New Evidence and Improvements in Measurement, Accra, Ghana, 3-5 December 2018. Deadline for submissions: 15 May 2018.
-

Other calls for papers

- 13th Population Association of Southern Africa Conference, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 16-20 July 2018. Deadline for submissions: 26 March 2018.
 - NCCR LIVES Best Paper Award 2018. Deadline for submissions: 12 April 2018.
 - International PhD Workshop on Migration and Integration, Berlin, Germany, 3-4 July 2018. Deadline for submissions: 20 April 2018.
 - British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Conference 2018, University of Winchester, United Kingdom, 10-12 September 2018. Deadline for submissions: 24 April 2018.
 - Special Issue of Population and Environment on "Theoretical and Methodological Advances in Environmental Decision-Making Research." Deadline for submissions: 15 May 2018.
 - Fertility across time and space: Data and research advances, Wittgenstein Centre Conference 2018, 3rd Human Fertility Database Symposium, Vienna, Austria, 5-7 December 2018. Deadline for submissions: 1 June 2018.
-

Training opportunities

- Barcelona Summer of School of Demography, Barcelona, Spain, 18-27 June 2018. Deadline for applications: 31 March 2018.
 - Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data - Methods and Applications, side event at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the PAA, Denver, United States, 24-25 April 2018. Deadline for applications: 1 April 2018.
 - Demographic Research in the Digital Age, side event at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the PAA, Denver, United States, 25 April 2018. Deadline for applications: 1 April 2018.
 - Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data - Methods and Applications, side event at the 2018 APA Conference, Shanghai, China. Deadline for applications: 1 April 2018.
 - Life Table and Decomposition Analysis for Population Health Research (using R) at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Rostock, Germany, Deadline for applications: 10 April 2018.
 - European Doctoral School of Demography 2018/2019. Deadline for applications: 15 April 2018.
 - Two-week intensive course on "Matrix Approaches to Health Demography" at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR), Rostock, Germany, 5-16 November 2018. Deadline for applications: 15 August 2018.
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Job opportunities

Jobs/fellowship/post docs

- ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowships at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Deadline for applications: 23 March 2018.

- MSCA Fellow - Demography of historical influenza pandemics Centre for Welfare and Labour Research, OsloMet, Oslo, Norway. Deadline for applications: 30 March 2018.
- Assistant Professor Population Studies, University of Groningen. Deadline for Applications: 31 March 2018.
- Director of International Research. Guttmacher Institute. Deadline for Applications: 31 March 2018.
- 4-year PhD Position: "Social Inequalities, Child Development and Longitudinal Research" Trinity College Dublin. Deadline for applications: 31 March 2018.
- Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Demography and Population Studies. University of Cape Town, South Africa. Deadline for Applications: 2 April 2018.
- 2-3 highly qualified Post-Docs / Research Scientists to join the newly established Laboratory of Digital and Computational Demography, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR). Deadline for applications 8 April 2018.
- University of Southampton. Commonwealth Shared Scholarship opportunity for MSc Demography. Deadline for applications: 10 April 2018.
- The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR). Third-Party Funding Manager. Deadline for applications: 22 April 2018.
- 3 doctoral students at the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED), Paris, France. Deadline for applications: 18 April 2018.
- UNFPA: Technical Specialist, GRID3 Project, Population Data for Development, Kinshasa, Congo, DR. Deadline for applications: 12 April 2018.
- UNFPA: Technical Specialist, GRID3 Project, Population Data for Development, Johannesburg, East and Southern Africa Regional Office. Deadline for applications: 12 April 2018.
- Assistant or Associate Professor and Postdoctoral Researchers in Migration at Shanghai University. Deadline for applications: 31 May 2018.

Calendar

Forthcoming IUSSP meetings & other events

- **IUSSP Seminar on New and Emerging Family Forms around the World**, Barcelona, Spain, 21-23 March 2018.
- **IUSSP Short course on Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data: Methods and Applications**, Denver, United States, 24-25 April 2018.
- **IUSSP workshop on Demographic Research in the Digital Age**, Denver, United States, 25 April 2018.
- Pre-PAA African Population, Environment and Health Mini-Conference at CU Boulder, Boulder, United States, 25 April 2018.
- 2018 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver, United States, 26-28 April 2018.
- **Workshop on Climate-Migration-Health with a focus on trapped populations**, Boulder, United States, 17-18 May 2018.
- International Sociological Association (ISA) Joint Conference for RC06 (Family) & RC41 (Population). Singapore, 17-19 May 2018.
- REVES@30: Past, Present, and Future Trends in Population Health, Ann Arbor (Michigan), United States, 30 May-1 June 2018.
- European Population Conference 2018 (EPC 2018). Brussels, Belgium, 6-9 June 2018.
- 5th Annual International Conference on Demography and Population Studies, Athens, Greece, 18-21 June 2018.
- 6th Migration Conference (TMC 2018), Lisbon, Portugal, 26-28 June 2018.

- **IUSSP Short course on Bayesian Small Area Estimation using Complex Survey Data - Methods and Applications**, Shanghai, China, 10-11 July 2018.
- 4th Asian Population Association (APA) Conference. Shanghai, China, 11-14 July 2018.
- International Conference on Social Identity and Health 4, Lausanne, Switzerland, 12-14 July 2018.
- 13th Population Association of Southern Africa Conference, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, 16-20 July 2018.
- Australian Population Association Conference, Darwin, Australia, 18-20 July 2018.
- XVIII World Economic History Congress - WEHC 2018, Boston, United States, 29 July-3 August 2018.
- 62nd ISI World Statistics Congress 2019, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 18-23 August 2018.
- XXe Colloque de l'AIDELF 2018, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgique, 28-31 August 2018.
- Conference on the Postponement of Parenthood, Villa Vigoni, Lake Como, Italy, 3-6 September 2018.
- 2018 World Social Science Forum. Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan. 25-28 September 2018.
- VIII International Congress of the Latin American Population Association (ALAP), Puebla, Mexico, 23-26 October 2018.
- European Consortium for Sociological Research 2018 Conference, Paris, France, 29-31 October 2018.
- **IUSSP Seminar on Incidence and Safety of Abortion: New Evidence and Improvements in Measurement**, Accra, Ghana, 3-5 December 2018.

Submit your announcements

Feel free to share news from your institution and region so that we can keep all IUSSP members informed about recent or forthcoming events and opportunities in the population field. IUSSP members are welcome to submit information on conferences, job openings, post-doctoral positions, and research grants for inclusion in the newsletter and IUSSP website. Please send the information to contact@iussp.org and remember to include important dates for application deadlines (and photos when appropriate). Information should be sent by email or in a Word document so that it can be edited. For inclusion in the next Bulletin, please send information **by 1 June 2018**. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

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First meeting of the new Council 2018-2021

The first meeting of the new IUSSP Council took place at INED, in Paris, on 20-21 March 2018. The Council had a tightly packed agenda: beyond handling ongoing business and assessing the success of the Cape Town International Population Conference, it mainly focused on how to restructure IUSSP activities to better serve the needs of members and to better address emerging issues of scientific and policy importance and evolving donor priorities. **A report on the meeting will be shared with members next month.**

Among the decisions that were made, we can already announce:

- **Free Student Associate membership now for ALL students** (up to 4 years total). Until now, only students from low- and middle-income countries could register for free.
- **Fifty percent discounts now for ALL retired members.** The 50% discount was only for members from high-income countries.
- **Higher discounts for LOYAL members at the next IPC in Hyderabad** rewarding those who have maintained their membership since the previous IPC of 2017.

The Council also discussed various ways to better serve the members over the next four years and beyond and will be reaching out to members in the coming months.



Around the table, from left to right: Clémentine Rossier, Edith Gray, Paul Monet*, Philippe Migrenne*, France Meslé, Nico van Nimwegen, Mary Ellen Zuppan*, Tom LeGrand, Jean-François Kobiané, Shireen Jejeebhoy, Suzana Cavenaghi, Sam Clark and David Lam. (*IUSSP Secretariat)

Via skype: Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi and Parfait Eloundou-Enyegue.

Members ratify Constitutional amendments

The amendments approved by the General Assembly in Cape Town have now been ratified by the membership. **The new IUSSP Constitution is now in effect.**

The vote took place from 20 November to 31 December 2017, using e-Ballot (the secure online voting system used for the recent IUSSP elections). The electoral list included 1,927 members, of which 970 participated in the vote. The participation rate was **50.34%**.

Results:

- 'Yes' votes (in favour of the Constitutional amendments): 866 (**89.28%**)
- 'No' votes (against the Constitutional amendments): 8 (0.82%)
- 'Abstain' votes: 93 (9.59%)
- Blank votes: 3 (0.31%)

In accordance with article 18 of the previous Constitution (see below), **the amendments are effective as of 1 January 2018.**

***Article 18.5.** After approval by the General Assembly, proposed amendments shall be submitted to the members. The Secretary-General and Treasurer shall organise a secret ballot, and invite members to return ballot forms within a period of six weeks. If at that date fewer than half the votes have been cast, the Secretary-General and Treasurer shall once again invite members who have not cast their votes to return their ballots within a further period of six weeks. At that date the ballot shall be closed, and the votes counted. An amendment shall become operative if a majority of votes have been cast in its favour.*

DOCUMENTS

- **Proposed revisions** (using track changes)
 - **2006 Constitution**
 - **New Constitution**
-

Membership dues and member profiles

Membership dues:

IUSSP regular membership dues are set at €100 per year. This amount is always listed on first in the online dues payment form. Discounts which are available to members are listed on the payment form:

- Discounts for multiple-year membership.
- Discounts for members permanently residing in low- and middle-income countries employed by local institutions or government agencies.
- Discounts for retired members.
- Exemption of dues for members aged 80 and over.
- Free for students.

New: At its first meeting, the new Council made three decisions, which we will implement in the coming days:

- **Free Student Associate memberships for ALL students** (up to four years total). Until now, only students from low- and middle-income countries could register for free.
- **Fifty percent discounts for ALL retired members from low- and middle-income countries.** The 50% discount was only for members from high-income countries.
- **Discounts for LOYAL members for the next IPC in Hyderabad** rewarding those who have maintained their membership since the previous IPC in 2017.

These discounts are based on the information provided in the membership registration form (and are verified by the Membership Officer).

The list of low-income and middle-income countries is updated regularly based on the latest available World Bank classification (IUSSP groups lower-middle income countries with low-income countries).

Membership begins on the day you first join. When renewing, payment of 1 year's dues will add 12 months to the end-date of the current membership. Members are alerted to renew their membership before it expires as certain member benefits are conditioned by continuous membership (such as discounts for the International Population Conference or eligibility for the IUSSP Laureate Award). There is a grace period of 6 months after expiration during which membership renewal will cover the past membership period that was owed and during which members retain their original annual renewal date. After the grace period the membership expires and members who join will have a new start date.

- For more information see [Membership Dues](#).
- For all questions, please write to: contact@iussp.org.

Member profiles:

All members have an IUSSP Member Profile accessible via the [Membership Directory](#). It is initially filled with the basic information provided during registration but members are encouraged to further complete their profile to ensure they appear in searches using the various categories included in the membership directory search form ("Find a member").

- To complete your member profile, log in and go to: [Edit my Profile](#).
- Read tips on [how to create your profile](#) and [how to search the membership directory](#).

Bob McCaa – 2018 Laureate

The IUSSP Council elected Bob McCaa as the 2018 IUSSP Laureate in recognition of the crucial role he has played at IPUMS in centralizing, conserving and providing public access to detailed individual-level population data from all over the world.

For more details on Bob McCaa's accomplishments and contributions to the population field please read the [letter of nomination](#).

The IUSSP Laureate will be awarded to Bob McCaa during a **ceremony that will take place during the PAA 2018 Annual Meeting** at the Sheraton Denver Downtown (1550 Court Place) on **Wednesday 25 April starting at 5:30 pm** in Governor's Square 12. The ceremony will include speeches by Steven Ruggles, Albert Esteve, David Lam and others.

Nomination letter for Bob McCaa

We are honored to nominate Robert McCaa, University of Minnesota Research Professor, for an IUSSP Laureate Award.

McCaa has been a member of IUSSP since 1970. Following training in demographic methods at the University of Pennsylvania Population Studies Center and the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, McCaa received his PhD in History from UCLA. From the early 1970s to the late 1990s, McCaa's work focused mainly on Latin American historical demography. He produced classic articles on marriage and fertility in 18th and 19th century Chile and Mexico, the role of smallpox in the demographic catastrophe of the 16th century, paleodemography, the demographic impact of the Mexican Revolution, and the household composition of the Nahua (Aztec) of ancient Mexico.

In the mid-1990s, McCaa had an idea that shifted the trajectory of his career and profoundly affected the field of population studies. He had been working on the IPUMS project, which was then a harmonized series of microdata samples from nine U.S. decennial censuses. With harmonized codes, consistent record layouts, and integrated documentation, IPUMS greatly simplified use of the microdata for analyzing long-run demographic change.

McCaa had a radical idea: IPUMS should be expanded to cover international censuses. McCaa's colleagues were uniformly skeptical, believing IPUMS was feasible only because the U.S. microdata were in the public domain. In the mid-1990s, most countries used census microdata solely to produce aggregated statistics. The only other countries with official census microdata products were Canada and the United Kingdom, which offered tiny samples restricted to researchers in those countries. A few U.S. researchers had obtained access to Brazilian microdata, and a group of Norwegian researchers were using Norwegian census microdata. Except for a few scholars with personal ties to a member of a national statistical office, other potential researchers were effectively locked out, and comparative research using census microdata for multiple countries was virtually impossible.

Despite the skepticism of his colleagues, McCaa persisted. The first breakthrough came in late 1997, when McCaa reached an agreement with the Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística (DANE), the Colombian census authority, to create an integrated public-use data series for the Colombian censuses of 1964, 1973, 1985, 1993, and 2000. McCaa obtained funding for the project from NICHD, and the Colombian microdata project launched in 1999. Next, McCaa concluded agreements with France, Kenya, Mexico, and Vietnam, and, with funding from the National Science Foundation, the IPUMS-International project expanded to Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Number of Person Records in Accessible International Census Microdata

The graph illustrates the growth of accessible international census microdata over time. The Y-axis represents the number of person records, ranging from 0 to 1,000,000,000. The X-axis represents the year, from 1995 to 2017. A red callout box indicates that 'McCaa Begins Work' around 2000, which coincides with the start of a significant upward trend in the data.

Year	Number of Person Records (Approximate)
1995	0
2000	0
2003	~10,000,000
2005	~50,000,000
2007	~100,000,000
2010	~200,000,000
2012	~400,000,000
2015	~650,000,000
2017	~1,050,000,000

IPUMS-International has become an indispensable tool for the United Nations, the World Bank, and statistical agencies worldwide. IPUMS-International will play a central role in the estimation of Sustainable Development Goals. Cross-national and cross-temporal microdata allow us to investigate the unfolding transformations of the world's population. Microdata are vital for understanding powerful large-scale trends such as economic development, urbanization, fertility transition, migration, population aging, and mass education. These data are also uniquely suited for assessing the consequences of social, economic, and demographic transformations in such diverse areas as family structure, economic inequality, and cultural diversity and assimilation. By creating a framework for locating, analyzing, and visualizing the world's population in time and space, these data provide unprecedented opportunities to investigate the agents of change, assess their implications for human society and the environment, and develop evidence-based policies to meet future challenges.

McCaa's work has multiplied the total quantity of microdata available for demographic research by more than an order of magnitude. All these data are available free of charge to researchers and educators around the world through the IPUMS data system. This is an astonishing achievement.

It is hard to overstate the difficulty of what McCaa has achieved. Statistical office directors often have little concern for microdata, viewing summary tabulations as the primary product of the census. Many directors required years of convincing, through numerous contacts and at multiple venues, before they appreciated the value of these data for researchers and would entrust an American university-based organization with their national statistical treasures. McCaa worked tirelessly, flying millions of miles, going to dozens of international meetings and census offices, giving papers and growing networks of academic and official statistician allies. He has attended international data confidentiality meetings across the globe, consistently representing the interests of researchers in retaining as much category detail as possible. Those who are familiar with McCaa know how relentless he can be, and how skillful a salesman he is. Population researchers can be thankful that a person with this rare combination of research and social abilities was positioned to take action at the historic moment when a global microdata revolution proved possible.

Perhaps because of his historical training, McCaa takes the long view when it comes to population data. The oldest data are not only as valuable as the most recent but are also at greater risk of loss. McCaa's preeminent contribution might well lie in his commitment to data preservation. As he scours the world, he always enquires about old census data that statistical offices may still retain. When old tapes were discovered that could no longer be read by the office, McCaa had them shipped to where they could be read and preserved. He has arranged to have entire archives of data migrated to modern media to prevent their loss. Numerous censuses from the 1960s to the 1980s would already be gone without his efforts, as attested by the frequent requests to IPUMS from statistical offices for copies of the data they once provided but subsequently lost. The older censuses represent the lives of millions of people, many of whom are not captured in other records. McCaa's efforts have retained the history of these respondents, and have also secured the latest rounds of census data for cutting-edge policy research.

McCaa preserved and shared a vast body of microdata dating from the past half-century. This represents a permanent and substantial addition to the world's statistical heritage. McCaa's prescient vision and tenacious effort has already directly resulted in thousands of research articles, PhD dissertations, and books, and we can anticipate that the ongoing torrent of new investigations will continue to flow for many decades to come. These data have opened new paths to investigate variation in demographic behavior across time and space. Only a few population scientists have had such a powerful impact on research spanning many disciplines across the globe. In recognition of all these contributions, we urge you to recognize Robert McCaa as a worthy recipient of an IUSSP Laureate Award.

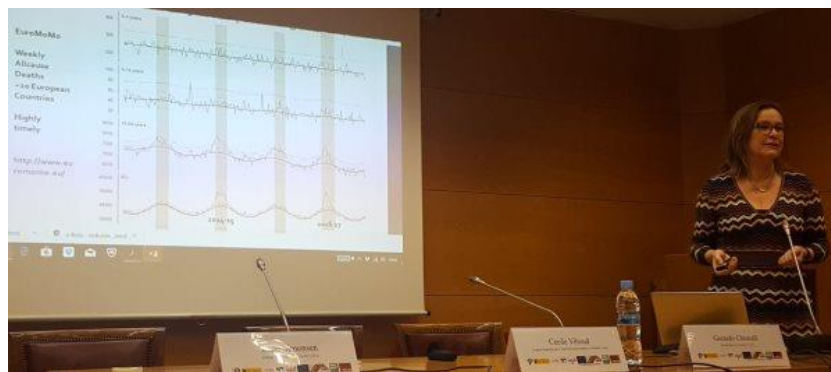
Steven Ruggles, Regents Professor, Director, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota
Albert Esteve, Director, Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

IUSSP International Seminar on Pandemics: Reflections on the Centennial of the 1918 Spanish Influenza Virus

Madrid, Spain, 27-29 November 2017

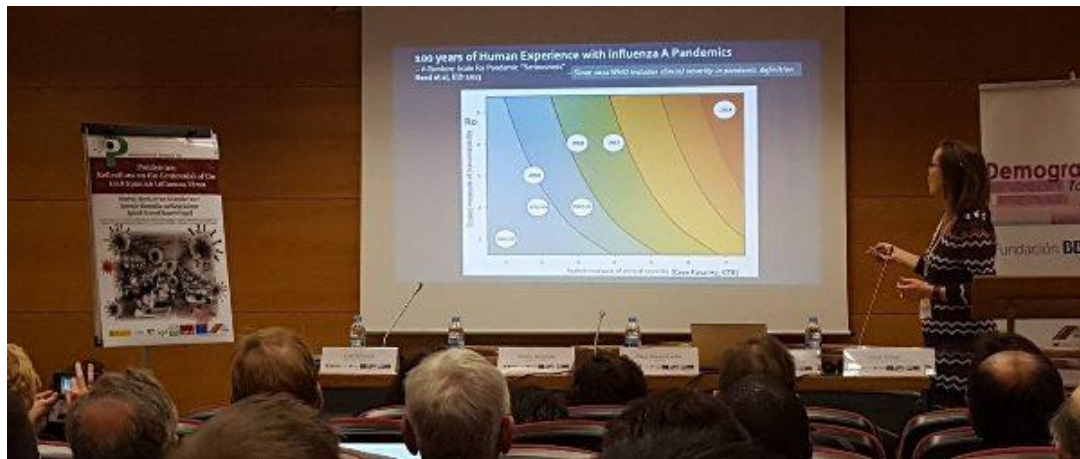
The International Seminar on Pandemics: Reflections on the Centennial of the 1918 Spanish Influenza Virus was co-organised by the **IUSSP Scientific Panel on Historical Demography**, the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), LONGPOP-ITN Project, Fogarty IC/National Institutes of Health (United States) and University of Castilla-La Mancha (Spain) in Madrid, Spain, 27-29 November 2017. The meeting took place at CSIC's Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences and brought together about 50 scholars to discuss new developments in the study of pandemics in the past with special attention to the 1918 Spanish influenza pandemic.

As for previous international seminars organized by the IUSSP Panel on Historical Demography, the seminar was preceded by a training workshop on quantitative approaches to influenza and mathematical modelling of pandemic infectious diseases. Lone Simonsen, Cecile Viboud and Gerardo Chowell, all well respected experts in the field of epidemiological research on influenza pandemics, shared their knowledge on the specifics of the Spanish Influenza – remembered as the worst pandemic in human history – and gave insights on modeling approaches for excess mortality and seasonality patterns. They introduced the Serfling regression model as a method to assess flu mortality and gave lectures on the requirements, strengths and disadvantages of this and other methods. In their introduction, they highlighted the importance for the mapping and analysis of infectious diseases of the number of secondary cases generated by an infected individual, also referred to by its mathematical abbreviation “ R ”. The extendable SIR model was introduced as a building block to understand the mechanics behind models for spatio-temporal spread or infection periods of pandemic diseases.



The training session was followed, that afternoon, by the official opening of the Seminar by Diego Ramiro, Chair of the Historical Demography Panel, and the first presentation by Lone Simonsen, who reminded the audience of the severity and spread of the Spanish influenza virus of 1918 and gave an overview of the landmark research on the deadly virus. Her presentation was followed by Cecile Viboud's on the age at death structure of the 1918 virus, which raised a lively discussion about infant mortality and the localization of the origin of the Spanish influenza. Peter Spreeuwenberg closed the first session with a challenging talk on estimations of the number of fatalities. Using Human Mortality Database death counts he emphasized that traditional estimates of the global number of fatalities related to the Spanish influenza might be exaggerated.

In a joint evening session with the Demography Today Lecture Series, sponsored by the BBVA Foundation, Cecile Viboud presented measures for influenza mortality and the peculiarities of pandemics with regard to the cause-specific age at death structure. With regard to more recent pandemic events, she also outlined the effectiveness and timing of school closings and other possible interventions.



The second day started off with the presentation by Tommy Bengtsson on an interesting approach to measure the effects of the 1918 pandemic on the life of individuals who were exposed to the virus through their mothers. Since it was assumed that exposure to the virus at a fetal stage was related to developmental problems regarding mental and physical health, the authors were looking at the economic outcome of these individuals. Apart from a slightly increased mortality, the early flu exposure seems not to have an impact on the flu babies compared to the reference groups. The presentation was followed by a presentation by Sven-Erik Mamelund, who reminded the audience of the importance to reduce socioeconomic inequalities in health. While it was for the longest time assumed that airborne viruses spread equal within a population, more recent contributions show that the Spanish influenza as other pandemic viruses affected deprived areas and less wealthy individuals more than others. He remarked that preparedness plans of the major health organizations and most governments did not take into account the social component. Following this, Enrique Acosta presented his research on the determinants of influenza mortality in the US. Applying an Age-Period-Cohort model, he was able to show that there was a pathological immune response which would confirm the early life exposure hypothesis.

By moving to the city level, Donald Olson opened a new perspective. As a member of the New York City Public Health Department, he spoke about the interesting role of pneumonian influenza today and in the past and pointed out the interesting relationship between the 1918 pandemic and the remarkable reduction in tuberculosis deaths in the New York. The next speaker, Laura Cilek, presented the first of her two papers in this session. Operating on a city level, she and her co-authors are working on the identification of spatial and social patterns of the different influenza waves in Madrid. Applying parametric bootstrapping they were able to resample the necessary background mortality patterns which are necessary for the estimation of excess mortality with only one year of base line mortality rates. This was followed by a presentation, Juan Cristina, a molecular biologist, who explained how a virus was built and how it developed over time into different strings. He further presented analyses with newly digitized data from Uruguay's capital Montevideo. Remaining at the urban level, Laura Cilek presented her second contribution on the city of Madrid. Addressing the socio-spatial differences within the city, she presented an analysis on structural mortality differences at a district level.

The next session was opened by Andrew Noymer, who presented the plausible bounds of the death counts of the Spanish influenza virus. Applying demographic backtracking techniques, he was able to show that recent contributions very likely overestimate the number of fatalities around the world. Alphonse MacDonald followed presenting newly discovered data from a colonial census in tropical Suriname. Surprising was the extreme speed with which the virus spread within a country where many areas were not connected through a road network or other ways of transport. He furthermore pointed out that conventional estimations in his country might be too low. The

next speaker, Bansal Shweta, presented her research on an influenza epidemic in India, where the highest number of fatalities was to be expected. Based on data from the British colonial records, she showed the particular spatial diffusion of the virus on the subcontinent. Surprisingly, her team found that neither wind nor weather had any impact on the way the flu spread. Another case study using Indian data, more precisely British colonial register data from the Punjab Province, was presented by Ritu Ranolia. She made a case for disentangling fever mortality from flu mortality for particular regions of India and indicated that ill-defined causes of death very probably affected the estimation of flu excess deaths. The strong differences in child and young adult mortality by district seem to support the hypothesis that a malaria outbreak at the time of the 1918 fall wave of influenza had influenced the estimation of flu deaths.

The last session of the evening was opened by Howard Phillips, who brought the audience to the Transkei Region in rural South Africa. He skillfully compared the explanatory frameworks and cultural beliefs of the 1918 flu pandemic with the occurrence of HIV in the region in the late 1980s. Even though he found that bio-medical knowledge gained explanatory power over time, the popular beliefs about the ongoing HIV-AIDS epidemic can be retraced to the “black October” of 1918. Evanson Z. Sambala followed with an animated talk on the often unjustified exclusion of Africa from global estimations and projections. Using historical vital statistics, he centered his analysis on the Nyasaland region in Malawi, where the first flu case was detected in November 1918. Within a month the virus had disseminated to the whole region and caused a high death toll within the indigenous population which had never been exposed to a flu virus. Moving back to Europe, Lianne Tripp presented the interconnection between the Spanish Influenza, World War 1, and the Baby boom in Malta. Applying morbidity data for two of the three islands belonging to the island state, she pointed out the importance of related historical events and macroeconomic trends for the estimation of flu deaths. Joelinotahiana Rabarison concluded the second day with a presentation on a surveillance system for flu and respiratory diseases for Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. Based on the hospitalized population, the information gained from this statistical infrastructure will be implemented in national health plans.



The third day of the seminar was opened by Geoffrey Rice. His presentation on how the influenza had affected the Maori population had an interesting take on gender differences between European and indigenous people with regard to health-related behavior. With regard to the flu of 1918, the information remains scarce as it was only collected for Europeans prior to 1920. Returning to an urban setting, Gerardo Chowell presented results on the often neglected pandemic of 1889/90, the so-called Russian flu. As the most outstanding pandemic event in the nineteenth century, the Russian flu arrived in Madrid in mid-December 1889 and, similarly to the 1918 flu, had a very strong winter peak in excess mortality and affected the youngest age groups more than the elderly. The following speaker, Dahal Sushma, who was unfortunately unable to attend in person, video-presented live from Nepal. The focus of her talk was on tuberculosis mortality in the state Arizona (United States), which was found to be not only extremely high in Arizona but also related to the Spanish influenza. Advocating more awareness about regional tuberculosis base rates, Dahal and

her team found that the pneumonia and influenza death rates were extraordinarily high in Arizona during the winter wave. Rodolfo Acuña-Soto followed with another interesting example of interrelation between the occurrence of the Spanish influenza and important historical developments of the time. He pointed out that the 1918 influenza virus arrived in Mexico at the worst possible time, since the country was in the middle of a bloody civil war and suffering from a severe draught at the time. The fatality and the immediate spread of the virus had also social implications since it was found to disseminate faster in more deprived regions.

Andrew Noymer's second presentation introduced an alternative way to measure flu mortality by estimating changes in the Gompertz parameters and using age-standardized death rates for pneumonia and influenza mortality. He applied the technique to data on the two pandemics occurring in Hong Kong in 1968 and 2009 and was able to show the "age sparring" effects of the virus. Víctor R. Ocaña-Gutiérrez followed with a different approach to epidemic infectious diseases. Comparing access to e-news on the influenza virus and actual morbidity, he was able to show a correlation between the media coverage and the number of doctor visits. Referring to the data of two flu waves in 2013, he assumed that earlier media coverage of the first wave could have led to a higher awareness and a slower dissemination of the virus. Chwan-Chuen King then presented the impressive effectiveness of the integrated influenza surveillance system of Taiwan, an island state which is supposed to be under high exposure risk to avian flu because of the flyways of wild birds. The system is able to observe irregularities and trend differences within a minimum period of 6 hours. Findings for Taiwan support the hypothesis that more adapted and mutated viruses and not the most common strings will present the greatest risk, especially in high density areas. Benjamin Bob gave the last presentation of the seminar providing great insight into the possible impact of food production techniques on the spread of an influenza virus. He advocated the use of veterinary data to gain more information on how slaughter techniques could help to prevent the spread of avian flu viruses.

The seminar was closed by Diego Ramiro with a summary and discussion of possible publication strategies of the rich material presented at the workshop.

Read also:

- [Seminar Report](#)
- [Programme and list of participants](#)



New members and student associates

New members:

9 members joined the IUSSP between 1 Dec 2017 and 28 February 2018.

Argentina: Javier Lindenboim. **Bolivia:** Vladimir Pinto. **India:** Anil Kumar Indira Krishnan. **Kenya:** Lucy Kimondo ; Margaret Kungu; Beatrice Okundi. **Nigeria:** Emmanuel Etim. **South Africa:** Preston Govindasamy. **United States:** Sharon Sassler.

New student associates:

45 new student associates joined the IUSSP between 1 Dec 2017 and 28 February 2018.

Algeria: Rafiq Belouadah. **China:** Liangliang Sun. **Ethiopia:** Selamawit Moja. **Germany:** Sarah Ludwig-Dehm. **Ghana:** Lois Antwi-Boadi. **India:** Rinju; Anjali Bansal; Himanshu Chaurasia; Dinesh Chaurasiya; Raya Das; Prashant Dongardive; Mili Dutta; Samarul Islam; Omkar Joshi; Preeti Manchanda; Sreeja Nair; Lokender Prashad; Parul Puri; Soumendu Sen; Prashant Shekhar; Noli Tirkey; Akhilesh Yadav; Satish Yadav. **Nigeria:** Oladipo Adebayo; Opeyemi Adejo. **United Kingdom:** Joseph Strong. **United States:** Daniela Krotzer.