

## **BSA Race and Ethnicity Study Group Annual Report 2014-2015**

**Convenors: Dr Aaron Winter (Abertay), Dr Kehinde Andrews (Newman) and Dr Nirmal Puwar (Goldsmiths)**

### **Meetings**

The last RESG meeting took place at the 2014 BSA Annual Conference. The meeting was chaired by Nirmal Puwar, Kehinde Andrews and Aaron Winter collectively and minutes were taken by Kehinde Andrews. Business included:

- **Minutes from last meeting – new convenors, events, survey of group/field**
- **Agenda Items:**
  - Review: Past Year and Annual Report
  - Membership: Discussed membership numbers
  - Conferences: Discussed RESG ‘Mapping the Field’ Conference and Book Proposal and the Race, Ethnicity and Migration Stream Proposal for future BSA Annual Conferences.
  - Budget: Discussed the budget, use of funds and income generation.
  - Wider Engagement
  - Communication. Discussed the use of email, social media and future meetings. Professor John Solomos proposed starting a Twitter account, which we did in May 2014.
  - Future Activities: Discussed RESG sponsoring and badging events, the next RESG conference and next BSA Annual Conference

### **Membership**

Last year, the RESG had 111 members and 511 subscribers to the RESG JISC Mail list. That was an increase from 51 members as of April 2013. In 2014-2015, there were 108 members and 555 subscribers to the JISC Mail list. That is a decrease in 3 members and increase of 41 subscribers. It may be the case that some RESG members did not renew their BSA memberships, do not subscribe to JISC Mail or have unsubscribed for short or long periods. This will be looked into in order to ensure accurate numbers.

### **Communication/Forums**

Aaron Winter and Kehinde Andrews manage the JISC Mail email list. In January 2015, we had the email list change name from BSA-RACE-ETHNICITY-FORUM to BSA-RACE-ETHNICITY, in order to avoid confusion with the newly re-activated Race Advisor Forum, as previously the Forum name was used interchangeably with Study Group. As stated above, in 2014-2015 we had an overall increase of 44 in subscribers from 511 to 555.

Winter and Andrews manage the RESG Facebook page with Dr Syd Jeffers (UEL) and Dr Karim Murji (OU) as managers of the RESG Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BsaRaceAndEthnicityStudyGroup?fref=ts>). Followers of the Facebook page stood at 101 at the time of the April 2013 meeting. With increased promotion and postings, the followers have increased from 101 to 288 as of 20 February 2014 and to 411 as of 19 March 2015. We have also seen an increase in its use for sharing news items of interest to group members, discussions, promotion of conferences and events and CFPs.

As stated, Professor Solomos suggested starting a Twitter account at the 2014 meeting. In April 2014, we set up @bsarace and as of 19 March 2015, we have 394 followers. <https://twitter.com/bsarace>

### **Budget**

Our current budget sits at: £1496.88

It was increased last year because of money made by the RESG conference ‘Mapping the Field: Contemporary Theories of Race, Racism and Ethnicity’ at Newman University on 31/01/2014. There were no income

generating activities in 02/2015-01/2015, and we supported two events with £200.00 funding each, which will be deducted from the current amount once we are invoiced:

- Julie Walsh (Warwick) from the BSA Psychoanalysis Study Group proposed working with RESG to run the event *Frantz Fanon: Concerning the Psychoanalysis and Cosmopolitanism of Violence* to be held 18 March 2015 at Warwick. **Support: Promotion.**
- Remi Salisbury (Leeds) and others have started a critical race network and requested support for an inaugural event: *The White Rose Critical Race and Ethnicities Network (CREN) Annual Conference* to be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015. **Support: £200**

#### **2014/2015 RESG Developments, Activities and Events**

- BSA Annual Conference Race and Ethnicity Sub-Stream, University of Leeds, 23-25 April 2014
- Publication of Report on RESG's 2014 Conference in Ethnic and Racial Studies: K. Andrews, L. Bassel & A. Winter, 'The British Sociological Association Race and Ethnicity Study Group Conference 'Mapping the Field: Contemporary Theories of Race, Racism and Ethnicity'', *Ethnic and Racial Studies Review*, V.1, #2 (6 August 2014), pp. 1862-1868.
- Submitted proposal for *Mapping the Field* edited book (eds. K. Andrews, L. Bassel and A. Winter) to BSA Book Series editors, Routledge in Dec. 2014.
- Following a proposal from Aaron Winter and Ipek Demir (Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism Study Group) for a dedicated Race, Ethnicity and Migration Stream at the Annual Conference. It has been established and will run for the first time in 2015. In its first year, it will be the largest stream, at 14% of the conference thanks to an excellent response and high quality abstracts.
- Proposal for Race, Ethnicity and Migration Stream and RESG sub-plenary: Professor Satnam Virdee and Dr Gina Netto on Race, Racism and Ethnicity in Scotland accepted for the Annual Conference.
- After discussions with the BSA related to diversity issues, they reactivated the Race Forum – renamed Race Advisory Forum and a place on BSA Council. Winter, Andrews and Puwar serve as co-convenors and Winter serves as representative for the first term. In that capacity, he attended the BSA Council's 5-year strategy meeting in 2014.
- The RESG and Race Advisory Forum were also given a role in nominating the 2015 BSA-British Library Equality Lecture speaker.

#### **Forthcoming Events (planned and developed in 2014-2015 Report year):**

- Inaugural BSA Annual Conference Race, Ethnicity and Migration Stream, Glasgow Caledonian University, 15-17 April, 2015. Co-organised by RESG and the Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism Study Group.
- RESG Annual Meeting, BSA Annual Conference, April 2015 in Glasgow.
- RESG Sponsored Events:
  - *Frantz Fanon: Concerning the Psychoanalysis and Cosmopolitanism of Violence*, 18th March 2015, University of Warwick (A0.28, Millburn House):  
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research/centres/socialtheorycentre/fanonevent/>
  - *The White Rose Critical Race and Ethnicities Network (CREN) Annual Conference* to be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- 'Evolving understandings of racism and resistance – local and global conceptions and struggles', University of East London, 1 May 2015. One-day conference at the Centre for Migration, Refugees and Belonging, University of East London in conjunction with the BSA Race and Ethnicity Study Group Launching the ESRC-funded project-seminar series, 'Racism and Political Mobilisation: learning from history and thinking internationally', organised by Gargi Bhattacharyya (UEL), Satnam Virdee (Glasgow) and Aaron Winter (UEL).

#### **Last Year's Future Plans**

- Based on the increasing growth and success of the Race and Ethnicity Sub-Stream and increasing size of the SD/SI Stream at the Annual Conference, Aaron Winter (as convener of RESG and coordinator of the SD/SI Stream ) submitted a proposal for a Race, Ethnicity and Migration Stream in 01/2014. This

was done with Dr. Ipek Demir in her capacity as convener of the new Diaspora, Migration and Transnationalism Study Group and represents a collaboration between the two study groups.

**RESULTS: SUCCESSFUL**

- Leah Bassel, Kehinde Andrews and Aaron Winter are in discussion about publishing an edited collection based on the 'Mapping the Field' conference and are writing a piece about it for a journal. **RESULTS: SUCCESSFUL. PUBLISHED REPORT AND SUBMITTED BOOK PROPOSAL.**
- RESG conveners are currently in discussion with members to sponsor and support events they are proposing and organising. **RESULTS: SUCCESSFUL. BADGED ESRC CONFERENCE, RECEIVED TWO PROPOSALS AND FUNDED BOTH.**
- RESG conveners have also issued a call to members to submit suggestions and proposals for future activities and events. **RESULTS: ONGOING**
- RESG conveners are also committed to organising a study group conference with support from group members in 2014/15. **RESULTS: DECIDED TO DO IT EVERY TWO YEARS AND NOT ANNUALLY.**

**Future Plans:**

- Bassel, Andrews and Winter are continuing to work on the Mapping the Field Book Proposal/Process
- RESG conveners will continue discussion with members to sponsor and support events they are proposing and organising, and reissue call to members to submit suggestions and proposals for future activities and events
- RESG conveners will work on plans for small events during the year, including income generating options.
- RESG conveners are working on plans to have a meeting during the year so that there is not a year between meetings and those who do not attend the annual conference can have an opportunity to meet.
- RESG conveners will look into how membership numbers are measured.