

BSA Families and Relationships Study Group

2018.19 Report

Convenors:

Dr Alison Lamont, University of Roehampton, alison.lamont@roehampton.ac.uk

Dr Katherine Twamley, University College London Katherine.twamley@ucl.ac.uk (On maternity leave February 2019 – October 2019)

Dr Charlotte Faircloth, University College London, c.faircloth@ucl.ac.uk (Upcoming maternity leave August 2019 – April 2020)

Membership:

On the JISCMail list we currently have 370 members (as of April 2019).

It is not clear how many of these are BSA members.

Activities:

- 2018 saw two new convenors join the group (Katherine Twamley and Charlotte Faircloth) as Esmee Hanna and Jo Woodiwiss stepped back from the role.
- Committee membership: Esmee has decided not to return to convenorship after her year break, and since Katherine is currently on leave, and Charlotte is soon to be on leave, we are keen to commission more members to be part of the convenorship. At the stream lunch at the annual conference we were approached by Dr Julie Walsh at the University of Sheffield who has kindly agreed to help.
- In discussion with other stream convenors (e.g. Sociology of Religion) we are keen to assign specific roles to specific members of the convenorship team – e.g. memberships, events etc., so as to streamline the running of the group. We have recently advertised for interested candidates to come forward.
- Because of the handover in coordinators, there have not been any additional events organised this year, but this is a priority for the coming year.
- As usual, we have been stream co-ordinators for the BSA Families and Relationships stream at the BSA Annual Conference, sorting approx. 75 abstracts and allocating them into panels. The conference was a big success for us with. Chairing was seen to by a funded ECR place for Alison Lamont in addition to a Chair's place (for Charlotte Faircloth) and solving issues experienced in previous years. In particular, there was very good feedback from audiences about the quality of papers presented and the plenary speaker (Professor Ann Phoenix, UCL) who spoke to a room of c. 100 delegates for her address.
- Katherine Twamley attended the Study Group Convenors Meeting in November 2018 and Alison Lamont attended the Study Group convenor's lunch at the annual conference

- The FaR Twitter account, @BSA_FARGroup, which advertises group activities and member interests continues to grow where we now have 323 followers. We found this a really effective tool for raising awareness of the Families and Relationships stream during the BSA conference, and hope to grow our audience on this forum in the coming year.
- In the coming year, we are very keen to improve our online presence not only through social media, but also through the BSA web pages, which are very out of date. We will be liaising with the BSA office to see if we can showcase archived reports and events, as well as for technical support with this.

Financial Situation:

We believe that FaR currently has approx. £400 in our budget. (TBC by BSA office)