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From the Director

The Tenth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry will take place at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign from May 21-24, 2014. The theme of the 2014 Congress is "Qualitative Inquiry and the Politics of Research".

The International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (ICQI) will be 10 years old in 2014. The decade caps a century and more of efforts by qualitative researchers to understand and transform our worlds through critical interpretive inquiry.

The 10th Congress will be built around the changes that have occurred in the field of qualitative inquiry (QI) (and ICQI) in the decade since the Congress was launched as an alternative site for collaboration and discourse. It is time to take stock, time to go back to the future. The 2014 Congress will offer delegates an opportunity to assess the major changes that have taken place over the last decade, and the last century. What might ICQI and QI look like at its 20th anniversary? What should the mandate be for the next decade? What have we learned? Where do we go next?

Accordingly delegates are invited to submit proposals for panels and sessions focused on the events surrounding the ten-year anniversary of the Congress.

The 2014 Congress will offer scholars the opportunity to explore a decade of change, while foregrounding qualitative inquiry as a shared, global endeavor. Panels, workshops and sessions will take up the politics of research. Delegates will be able to form coalitions, to engage in debate on how qualitative research can be used to advance the causes of social justice, while addressing racial, ethnic, gender and environmental disparities in education, welfare and healthcare.

As in previous congresses, sessions will take up such topics as: the politics of evidence, right and left pole epistemologies, the meanings and uses of data, new models of science, new analytics of analysis and representation, the ethics of inquiry, public policy discourse, tenure, publishing, advocacy, partisanship, decolonizing inquiry. Contributors are invited to experiment with traditional and new methodologies, with new presentational formats (ethnodrama, performance, poetry, autoethnography, fiction). Such work will offer guidelines and exemplars concerning advocacy, inquiry and social justice concerns.

On May 21 there will be pre-conference special interest group events and on May 22, morning and afternoon professional workshops. The Congress will consist of keynote, plenary, spotlight, featured, regular, and poster sessions. There will be an opening reception and barbeque as well as a closing old fashioned Midwest cookout.

We invite your submission of paper, poster and session proposals. Submissions will be accepted online only from August 15 until December 1 2013. Conference and workshop registration will begin October 1, 2013. To learn more about the 10th International Congress and how to participate, please visit our website Icqi.org

Tenth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry

May 21-24, 2014

QUALITATIVE INQUIRY AND THE POLITICS OF RESEARCH

We shall not cease from exploration/ And the end of all our exploring/ Will be to arrive where we started/ And know the place for the first time (T. S. Elliot, No 4 of Four Quartets, 1942).

Keynotes:

(Post)Qualitative Methodology: The Work of Thought and the Politics of Research

Patti Lather, Ohio State University

This talk will address the ontological turn in qualitative research as a moment in the fieldwork in philosophy that I have been developing. Shifting from objects to assemblages and from proliferating and competing methodologies to metamethod across paradigms, I will unpack a variety of exemplars that attempt such practices. What kind of researcher gets produced? What kind of training is called for? Just “saying no” to the dominant repositivization, what theoretical practices and research imaginaries are possible in what might be termed post-qualitative inquiry?

Qualitative Data Analysis 2.0: Developments, Trends, Challenges

Uwe Flick, Alice Salomon University Berlin, Germany

As the history of the now 10 congresses and the much longer history of qualitative research in general demonstrate, qualitative research has come of age. Qualitative data analysis is at the core of qualitative research. Whatever the data are, their analysis, in a decisive way, forms the outcomes of the research. Qualitative research is in a permanent process of proliferation. The proliferation of qualitative data analysis is discussed along a number of axes: Historic developments and geographic differences are juxtaposed. Research projects can be based on producing new data or on using existing, naturally occurring data. The major approach to analyzing data can either be to reduce the volume and the complexity of the data or to expand the existing material by writing new texts consisting of interpretations about it. Another axis through the field is linked to the tension between formalization and intuition in the analysis. Some new trends and developments in the field will be outlined. Here, new types of data, a trend to visualization and developments on the level of technological support for doing the analysis are discussed. Qualitative research is confronted with new challenges – how to make data available for re- and meta-analysis, what do the calls for relevance and implementation mean in this

context? How to define and demonstrate the quality of qualitative data analysis? And what are the ethical issues around qualitative data analysis? In this talk, a provisional appraisal will be outlined – of where we come from, where we stand, what the challenges are we face as qualitative researchers and where we will go from here.

2013 Illinois Distinguished Qualitative Dissertation award

Category A: Traditional: Ellen Block. University of Michigan. “Infected Kin: AIDS, orphan care and the family in Lesotho.”

Honorable Mention: M. K. Donnelly, McMaster University. “The Production of Women Onlyness: Women’s Flat Track Roller Derby and Women-Only Home Improvement Workshops.”

Category B: Experimental: Mercado Thorton, Ohio University, “Constituting Women’s Experience in Appalachian Ohio: A Life History Project.”

Honorable Mention: Jen Self, University of Washington. “Queering Queer Space.”

Gina Paese, St. John’s University. “The experience of Performance: Life around literature in an urban afterschool program for middle school students.”

2013 ICQI book award

The winner of the 2013 ICQI book award: West, Donna (2012) *Signs of Hope: Deafhearing Family Life*. Newcastle, Cambridge Scholars.

Donna West tells her readers that she wants her stories to jump off the page, to shock and evoke, and to convey a sense of Deafhearing family life. In awarding her the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry Book of the Year Award for 2013 the panel are affirming that she achieved her aim. *Signs of hope* tells a story of a collaborative narrative inquiry of three deafhearing families’ lives. The project was conceived of as a political counter-narrative to mainstream assumptions about, and hegemonic discourses, of deafness. In taking an approach paralleling postmodern feminist, post-colonial, and indigenous scholarship, West raises complex questions about, inter alia [among other things] Deafhood and strategic essentialism. She does not shy away from inherent tensions but rather seeks to ground the narratives in understandings of deafness, of Deaf culture, of signing, and of participatory, critical, ethical and creative methodologies and forms of representation, integrating autoethnography

and poetic and performative modes in an involved and personal manner. This is, therefore, an engaging study that can be seen to operate in a space among personal, cultural, and social justice orientations to qualitative inquiry. We recommend it to you.

Accepting on behalf of Donna West were Jonathan Wyatt and Ken Gale.

We have two honourable mentions for 2013, texts that the committee found to be exceptional contributions to qualitative research practice and thinking.

In *Playing with Purpose: Adventures in Performative Social Science* (Left Coast Press, 2012), Mary and Ken Gergen, two of social psychology's most illustrious and adventurous innovators attempt to erase the divisions between the social sciences and the arts that have blocked the development of a truly unified arts-based human science. Introducing a dizzying array of diverse aesthetic forms that widen the space available for research aimed at social justice and the good life, the Gergens don't just talk about what the human sciences can become, they show it. Charming, playful, and fresh, *Playing with Purpose* reveals the promise of an embodied, emotional, and ethical social science that situates the performance arts at the center of inquiry aimed at understanding the fullness of what it means to be human. Mary sees social inquiry as "serious fun," while Ken emphasizes the "mystery and adventure" of it all. Through performance, they teach us how aesthetic and artistic approaches to qualitative inquiry enrich and can expand our understanding of the social sciences and improve the human condition.

Our second honourable mention is Martin Packer's 2011. *The Science of Qualitative Research* from Cambridge University Press. Here is what Professor Packer's nominator Elizabeth Gilbert said about this insightful synthesis and what also engaged the book award committee:

"I am currently enrolled in a PhD program in Literacy. I ordered this book after looking at Dr. Packer's qualitative research website for a paper I was writing. I have read many textbooks at this point in my education but, unlike any other textbook I've read, I found myself totally engrossed in this book. Quite amazing to me, I actually started going to bed early to have more time to read it! I kept asking myself what was so compelling about this book. After much thought, I came up with what I felt were the three major strengths of this book. First, it was written like a mystery. The scene was set in the first 200 pages as Dr. Packer presented the viewpoints of the major characters. Then, just when I found myself agreeing with one line of thinking, he would throw in a 'but.' I would sigh and then respond, often impatiently, "Okay, that makes sense, but what is the answer?" My curiosity invoked, I was naturally compelled to want to read

more. Next, I responded positively to Dr. Packer's having written the book in first person. Unlike most authors of textbooks who try to remove themselves from their writing (presuming it makes their writing more objective), the author is very much present in this book. He began one chapter with "In this chapter I want to change your ontology!" to which I found myself saying, "Okay, try it." I was totally engaged. As I read, it was as if I was in a relationship with the author and, therefore, what I thought mattered. Finally, while I have had several courses in qualitative research and was familiar with most of the people and approaches included in this book, I hadn't felt secure in how they all fit together. By presenting the ideas of one thinker and then the response to it by another, I found the path to the science of qualitative research finally began to make sense to me as a whole.

"I believe that *The Science of Qualitative Research* represents an important contribution to qualitative inquiry because Dr. Packer clarifies and ties together difficult and complex ideas which will provide future researchers with the background and the depth of understanding they will need to conduct meaningful research in this evolving field."

2013 ICQI Book Award Committee: Jude Preissle, Chair, Pat Si

“It’s nice to have a home”

Jane Gilgun

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, USA

“It’s nice to have a home,” Laurel Richardson said just a few moments ago when she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Congress. Yes, it is. I can’t tell you how many times these past few days people have told me the Congress is home to them. The Congress is one place where everyone knows your name when they really don’t. They do know what matters to us, and that’s what counts. Now it’s time to say good-bye. We will return to our home settings with a sense of affirmation and a renewed purpose. We come from 67 countries and speak many different languages. We are members of many disciplines. We bring multiple perspectives to the Congress and learn from each other.

We also share a commitment to a moral vision, as Norman Denzin said in his opening address to the Congress a few days ago. We share a desire to understand persons in their own terms from their own perspectives within their own contexts.

We seek to immerse ourselves in various field settings. We put ourselves at risk emotionally and psychologically. Our work transforms us and may transform the persons with whom we connect in our various inquiries. We cannot calculate the ripple effects of our work, but we hope we make a difference. I believe that members of this Congress have a global influence. Enjoy the barbeque or whatever else you may do tonight. Safe travels.

Why do I keep coming back?

Brief remarks from Svend Brinkmann, Vice-President of the IAQI 2013-2015

Dear colleagues and friends!

I am sorry that I cannot be here to give you my few remarks, but I am grateful that Jane Gilgun has agreed to read my words aloud. Thank you Jane! Because of flight connections to Denmark, I had to leave the Congress earlier today to go to the airport.

This year’s Congress was my seventh. I first came as a young assistant professor with my mentor, Steinar Kvale, and his research group, and this year I traveled to the Congress with a large group of colleagues from my University at Aalborg, Denmark. I have asked myself the question: “Why do I keep coming back”?

When I tell my friends and family in Denmark that I am once again travelling to the United States, they ask about New York City, San Francisco and Chicago, and they tend to smile when I tell them that my US destination, as always, is Urbana-Champaign (or is it Champaign-Urbana?). Without wanting to offend this nice place, I can say that it is not because of the location as such that I keep coming back year after year. Once I traveled with a colleague, who was visiting the US for the first time, and when he broke this piece of news to the local Urbana taxi driver, the driver responded with pride and without a gist of irony: “You’ve come to the right spot!”

True. This is the right spot. But not because of spectacular mountains or urban skylines, but because of an unparalleled atmosphere at the Congress that is at once playful and scholarly. The well-known tight structure of the event – with inspirational keynotes, the opening Midwest BBQ and the old-fashioned Midwest cookout, and (on a more personal note) snacks and wine at the Bread Company with people I meet too rarely – is exactly the format that is needed in order for qualitative creativity to flourish. For every Congress I’ve attended, I’ve returned to Denmark with new words, new concepts, new books, and new ideas. Notably, I’ve learned the significance of experimenting with ways of communicating qualitative research – how aesthetics and knowledge may support each other in well-crafted qualitative research. This has been deeply inspirational for someone like me who comes from the deeply conservative discipline of psychology, which, by the way (and thanks to the generosity of Norman Denzin), now has its own successful pre-Congress day!

Along with his team, Norman Denzin is the ever-generous facilitator of the multiple processes that make up the Congress. The Congress has grown and is now a major event that connects every corner of qualitative inquiry: North, South, East and West all meet in Urbana-Champaign. The lone qualitative researcher finds good company here (unfortunately, qualitative people tend to be isolated in their departments), but also entire research groups come here together. Young researchers meet the people who write the books they’ve read, and the seasoned researchers are challenged by new ideas. There is something for everyone at this Congress that never closes in on itself, but always reaches out and makes itself relevant in relation to ethical and political issues on a global scale.

I am certain that this will continue for years to come and I look forward to coming back year after year!

Thank you!

2013 Lifetime Achievement Award in Qualitative Inquiry

Laurel, it is my honor to present you with the 2013 ICQI Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Lifetime Achievement Award Committee for the International Congress for Qualitative Inquiry is pleased to announce the selection of LAUREL RICHARDSON as recipient of the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award in Qualitative Inquiry for her lifetime contributions to the methods, theory, practice, and dissemination of qualitative inquiry.

Dr. Richardson is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at The Ohio State University. She has been honored as a distinguished fellow and lecturer at institutions around the world including the University of Melbourne, University of Iceland, and the University of Copenhagen. Dr. Richardson has also shared her pioneering work in qualitative methods at numerous conferences and workshops, including delivering the keynote address at this year's Congress and at the National Communication Association and the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction annual conventions. Dr. Richardson has authored or co-authored 9 books, including *After a Fall: A Sociomedial Sojourn* to be published by Left Coast Press in 2013. She has also published more than 100 research reports, articles, and book chapters. Dr. Richardson has won numerous grants and awards for her work, including the Society of Symbolic Interaction's 1998 Cooley Award for her book *Fields of Play: Constructing an Academic Life*.

Dr. Richardson's nominators and colleagues praise her work as an educator, mentor, and champion of feminist approaches to qualitative inquiry. They note that her work has given qualitative scholars "permission" to experiment with their material, revolutionizing how qualitative researchers think about writing as a place of discovery, learning, and engagement. Dr. Richardson has gone out of her way to mentor scholars in their early stages of career development as qualitative researchers, showing them not only how to produce good work but also to critique its production. She's always willing to share ideas about writing and a social science with a heart. As Norman notes, "with an assertion and 5 little words—Writing: A Method of Inquiry" Laurel changed the way we all do our work; we can no longer act as if we observe, record, analyze and then write up; the act of writing is an inquiry. Or, as Art Bochner puts it, "She is one classy lady of letters."

The International Association of Qualitative Inquiry (IAQI) was launched in 2005 at the First Congress. Six years later this new umbrella association has a Newsletter, and over 4500 members. IAQI and IIQI is currently active in establishing mutually beneficial relationships with existing national qualitative research associations in, among other countries, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, South Korea, and Spain.

The IAQI Newsletter is a place to extend conversations about the association. We invite your contribution. The Newsletter offers a venue for taking up controversial topics. It is a site where new publications and up-coming conferences can be announced. Please send us your announcements

Norman K. Denzin and James Salvo

IAQI NEWSLETTER

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