

Dear colleagues,

This is the first Quarterly Newsletter from the new Coordinating team. We are delighted to share news about the past few months and a few details of what lies ahead in 2022:

1. The 19th Annual LP&R Seminar in New York City, June 2022
2. The 18th Annual LP&R Seminar, Helsinki, Finland, September, 2021
3. 'Passing the torch' to the new Coordinators, September 2021
4. LP&R Guiding Themes (a work-in-progress)
5. Celebrating our Members
6. LP&R Annual Review 2022
7. New Protocols for Network Communication and Website

19TH ANNUAL SEMINAR: JUNE 2022, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The 19th Annual Seminar will be held June 21-22, 2022, in New York City. The seminar, is titled “Why does leave matter and for whom? Consequences and inequalities of leave policies”. Here are some of the details from the organizing team (for more information, please see attached note).

We invite colleagues to join us in New York City to we learn about the effectiveness and consequences of existing policy approaches and research on family and work roles, child and parental well-being, employment, and life choices.

Call for presentations

We invite presentations with a particular focus on the effects and outcomes of leave policies but also welcome proposals addressing other aspects of leave policies including the effects of COVID-19 on leave policies and families.

Please send the title of your presentation, names of presenters, and a short description (max 120 words) by **10 January 2022 to INLPR2022@gmail.com**. Notifications will be sent by February 11, 2022.

We are planning to hold this conference in person in NYC. NYC currently allows for gatherings of the size anticipated. The venue for the 2022 Annual Seminar will be the Graduate School of Social Service, Fordham University in the heart of midtown Manhattan. Fordham requires proof of vaccination or an exemption with negative COVID results for entry. We expect that requirements may be different by June 2022. Ensuring your safety and health is a priority and plans may change accordingly.

Thank you to Team USA (Cassandra Engeman, Shirley Gatenio Gabel, Gayle Kaufman, and Richard Petts) for all your work!

18TH ANNUAL SEMINAR, SEPTEMBER 2021, HELSINKI, FINLAND

The 18th Annual Seminar hosted by the Finland team, led by Johanna Lammi-Taskula, Johanna Närvi, Minna Salmi and Anneli Miettinen, and assisted by Aino Keloharju was held virtually on September 16-17, 2021. The seminar included [presentations](#) on the theme of "The Politics of Parental Leave Policies" in a broad range of countries ([see programme](#)). Many thanks to the excellent work by the Finland team! Although we all missed seeing each other in person, the sessions had high attendance and great discussion.

WELCOMING OUR NEW COORDINATORS

At the Helsinki Seminar, we had a 'passing of the torch' from Coordinators Ann-Zofie Duvander and Margaret O'Brien to the new Coordinating 'Quartet' from varied parts of the globe: Marian Baird (Australia), Andrea Doucet (Canada), Johanna Lammi-Taskula (Finland), and Gerardo Meil (Spain).



At the Helsinki seminar, we, the new Coordinators, expressed gratitude for all the incredible work done by LP&R founders Peter Moss and Fred Deven (Coordinators from 2004-2016) and Ann-Zofie and Margaret (Coordinators, 2016-2021) for their leadership and commitment to the Network. We thanked them for:

- Their *vision* in guiding the Network – noting that the entire Network has been deeply affected and marked by their expansive thinking and writing.
- Their *generosity* towards all Network members, and especially to emergent scholars.
- Cultivating and maintaining a *non-competitive, non-judgmental, and non-hierarchical* approach to collaboration.
- Making the Network into a truly unique place of *meaningful relationships, impactful research, and an intellectual and collegial home* for its members.



We also thanked Alison Koslowski who has played a major role in editing the Annual Review for many years, as well as Sonja Blum, Ivana Dobrotić, and Gayle Kaufman for their work as Annual Review editors. And we thanked Peter, who has been an editor every year – as well as Margaret and Ann-Zofie and Fred who have also played editorial roles. Finally, we expressed gratitude to Daniel Erler, Eva-Maria Schmidt, and Merve Uzunalioglu for being the web site and social media team for several years.

LP&R GUIDING THEMES (a work-in-progress)

In consultation with Peter and Fred, Ann-Zofie and Margaret – and with Network members at the Helsinki Seminar – we have identified several themes to guide, in a broad and flexible manner, the Network over the next few years. This is a work-in-progress that we will regularly revisit with the Network. These themes include:

1. Gender & Intersectional inequalities

- From gender equality in access to leave rights and benefits --> to gendered intersections with social class, race/ethnicity, sexualities, Indigeneity, new immigrants, adoption/birth/foster parents
- 'Parental leave rich and parental leave poor'

2. Social inclusion/exclusion

- 'Mixed benefits' (employment benefits and citizenship based benefits)
- Parental leaves and benefits: 'Towards a universal social right'

3. A shift from parental leave to parenting leaves and other carer's leaves

- Life course approach; links to other kinds of care leaves
- Implications of this shift in terminology
- Emergence of other terminology

4. Global South attention, and diversity within countries (i.e. racialized and Indigenous populations)

- Beyond Euro-Western representations/understandings of care/work and leaves

5. Connections between, and outcomes, of parental leave policies and other care/work policies

- Care economies and leave policies
- Parenting leaves and unpaid care work
- Parenting leave policies, workplace policies, and early learning/childcare services

6. Leave policies and beyond in pandemic and post-pandemic worlds

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS

On behalf of the Network, we send best wishes to Elin Kvande and Minna Salmi on their retirements. Thank you both for your commitment and contributions to the fields of family policies and parental leave research.

Elin retired this Autumn, after four decades at the Department of Sociology and Political Science, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). In November of this year, a one-day seminar was organized by the NTNU to honour Elin's achievements as professor of sociology. The seminar was held in Trondheim, in the beautiful setting of the historic town hall and the municipal library. The seminar was organized around Elin's research on gender and organization and her long-time work with Berit Brandth on parental leave policies, gender equality, and the 'father's quota'. Elin was praised as a cherished educator, colleague and research collaborator for many.



Minna Salmi, who has been an active member of the Network since its beginnings in 2004, recently retired from The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL). Minna has put her heart into producing detailed annual reports from Finland, and she has made profound contributions to the discussions in the Annual Seminars. She was part of the Helsinki team that organized the 2021 virtual Annual Seminar. For several decades, she has been a leading expert in Finland on themes of leave policies, family well-being, and work-family reconciliation.



ANNUAL REVIEW, MARCH 2022

The process for the Annual Review 2022 will begin again in mid-February.

From the Editorial Team: Alison, Gayle, Ivana, Peter and Sonja: We very much look forward to working with you next year. Look out for an email in February from one of us!

NEW PROTOCOLS FOR NETWORK COMMUNICATION AND WEBSITE

On our website, you will now find one contact email for all four Coordinators. **You can email the Coordinators at LPRcoordinators@gmail.com.** This email is monitored by Jessica Falk, a member of the Research and Administration team. Jessica also worked with us to prepare this Newsletter.

As part of the initiative to share publications by Network members, please look for an email from us (sent four times a year), with a form to add your publications and news. We will post these on our website and in our Quarterly Newsletters.

Our Twitter account will be managed by Merve Uzunalioglu, Youngcho Lee, and Jessica Falk. The website will continue to be managed by Eva-Maria. Many thanks to our strong and expanding web and social media team.

If you have news to share with the Network, please send it to us at LPRcoordinators@gmail.com and we will post it on our Network google group on your behalf.

We wish you and yours happy, safe and restful holidays. We look forward to connecting again in the New Year!

- Andrea, Marian, Johanna, and Gerardo