



ISCAR 2017

Taking a 360° view of the landscape of cultural-historical and activity research: The state of our scholarship in practice

Québec City
Convention Center
August 28th - September 1st

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



ISCAR International Society
for Cultural-historical
and Activity Research



Taking a 360° view of the landscape of cultural-historical and activity research: The state of our scholarship in practice

The congress theme invokes the past, the present, and the future of cultural-historical and activity research. Let's engage in deep conversations about challenging issues that will lead to new ideas and expand upon our current practices.

Welcome

The Quebec Planning Committee is proud to announce the Fifth ISCAR Congress taking place at the Convention Center, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. All those interested in cultural-historical and activity research are invited to attend. The congress is hosted by CRI_SAS /CRIRES and Laval University, the oldest French-speaking university in North America. CRIRES is a research and intervention center dedicated to student and school success at all levels. Researchers and graduate students are also based in six other universities: McGill University, University of Sherbrooke and University of Quebec at Chicoutimi (UQAC), Outaouais (UQO), Rimouski (UQAR), and Trois-Rivières (UQTR). We look forward to your participation.

Vygotsky's, Leontiev's, and Luria's heritage has taken many forms and shapes in the work of theorists, researchers and practitioners. Research communities, devoted to the study of human development in context, to the social dimension of learning and to activity, can be found on all continents. Every three years the international congress creates a space for dialogue among participants whose work is rooted in the traditions of cultural-historical and activity research. The Society has been meeting in a previous form (ISCRAT) since the 1980s. ISCAR Congress has been held in Seville (2005), San Diego (2008), Rome (2011), and Sydney (2014). ISCAR Quebec 2017 is our next *rendez-vous*.

ISCAR 2017 wants to reflect on the past, consider the present, and gain insight on the foreseeable future of our research traditions. We will take a 360° view of our landscape and its communities. We will explore together our questions, problems, methodologies and practices. Your contributions in the form of questions, issues and interpretations are important in understanding our scholarship's domain. More details are provided below.

Areas of dialogue

ISCAR has a reputation of providing spaces for scholarly dialogues, and giving much satisfaction to participants. Building on the works of previous ISCAR organizing committees, we are delineating the following three areas of dialogue:

1. The first area of dialogue highlights the roots and traditions of cultural-historical activity research. We seek to continue our discussion of foundational works that contribute to our understanding of human practices, their development, agency and potential across the lifespan. ISCAR 2017 is committed actually and historically to understanding human development and attending to learning through design and innovation.
2. The second area of dialogue focuses on current cultural-historical and activity research and related approaches: we emphasize the notion that human functioning is grounded and defined by material ecologies that both enable and constrain human activity. Furthermore, we wish to extend our vision to consider the geographic and regional diversity of cultural activities and how these are affected by tradition and innovation. Understanding the richness of contexts, complexities, challenges and collaborations that take place within these ecologies and within investigation itself is integral to the study of cultural activity.
3. The third area of dialogue seeks to move beyond current practices by gaining insights on ways of elaborating, reformulating, and illuminating the relationship of theory to method in a given context. Of central concern is the elaboration of theory in the service of identity, diversity, digital tools and resources, knowledge building, working and living in 21st Century societies. We have great concern for humanity's contemporary cultural and historical circumstances and in particular the linkages between our scientific practices and our respective political and economic positions.

Themes and subthemes

Foundations: Theoretical and research approaches

- Social, cultural, linguistic and educational mediation
- Children's development and childhood
- Learning, knowledge and agency
- Interventionist research approaches and their roots
- Other topics related to this theme

Practices in context

- Learning and development in onsite communities and online spaces
- Identity and professional learning in new and diverse ecologies
- The social construction of [dis]ability and difference/homogeneity
- Cross-national explorations of sociocultural research on learning
- Intercultural-cultural communication and new forms of being
- Dialogue and the co-construction of knowledge
- Social movements and community-based alternatives to capitalism
- Other topics related to this theme

INsights: Qualitative research and new trends in cultural-historical and activity research

- Farther reaches of theoretical and methodological explorations
- Multi-method approaches: Issues, challenges and promising directions
- Interventionist methodologies: bridging theory and practice
- Transformative agency
- Unit of analysis: historicity, context, and levels of analytic scale
- Tensions, extensions, and new formulations in cultural-historical and activity research
- Changing forms of work
- New technologies and new ways of organizing work
- Other topics related to this theme

Call for Proposals

A proposal is to be twofold:

- 1) an abstract taking the form of
 - a paper associated with one of the congress themes and sub-themes
 - a poster associated with one of the congress themes and sub-themes
 - a symposium associated with one of the congress themes and sub-themes
 - a structured poster session associated with one of the congress themes and sub-themes
 - a working group roundtable associated with one of the congress themes and sub-themes
- 2) a problem or a question that you want to raise, one associated with one of the three areas of dialogue presented above. All questions/problems submitted will be considered by the program committee for identification of prospective shared problems to be addressed in a proper format.

Proposals must be submitted electronically on the congress webpage: www.iscar17.ulaval.ca

	Early Birds Registration Deadline: April 30th 2017	Registration between May 1st - August 25th 2017
ISCAR Members	\$650 Canadian dollars	\$795 Canadian dollars
	450 euros	TBA
	\$515 US dollars	TBA
Non-members	\$750 Canadian dollars	\$895 Canadian dollars
	520 euros	TBA
	\$595 US dollars	TBA

Registration fees

Congress registration includes: Participation in all activities; conference materials; hot meals at lunch time, and morning and afternoon refreshment breaks.

All registered participant will automatically get a one-year membership to ISCAR (2017 or 2018). ISCAR membership offers a number of additional benefits, including the newsletter, subscriptions to ISCAR journals, opportunities to join ISCAR interest groups, and access to discounts on resources by a number of publishers.

For more information about registration and lodging, see website: www.iscar17.ulaval.ca

Note – We are considering the possibility of a registration fee per day if the congress does not get the international status that has been requested.

Dates to Remember

- Submissions for abstracts: September 30th, 2016
- Notification of acceptance/rejection: December 15th, 2016
- Final digital version of summaries: April 30th, 2017
- Deadline for early registration: April 30th, 2017
- Final day for cancellation w/refund (minus handling charges for both registration & hotel reservations: June 30th, 2017
- Welcoming Reception: August 28th, 2017. 4:00 to 7:00PM
- Congress: August 29th – September 1st, 2017

ISCAR Pre-conferences: Limited capacity

Monday, August 28th, 2017

a. PhD Day

Convened by Nikolai Veresov and André Rodriguez, (confirmed)

b. CHACDOC (Cultural-historical approaches to children's development and Childhood) "Conceptions and research from cultural-historical approaches"

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m

Convened by Mariane Hedegaard (confirmed)

c. Potential workshops:

"TBA"