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ESF Exploratory Workshop on

Exploring New Methods for Prosopography in the Humanities and the Social Sciences

Uppsala, Sweden, 9 - 12 May 2007

Convened by:
Donald Broady^① and Harold Short^②

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Co-sponsored by:





The European Science Foundation (ESF) is an association of 76 Member Organisations devoted to scientific research in 30 European countries. The Mission of ESF is to provide a common platform for its Member Organisations in order to advance European research and to explore new directions for research at the European level. Through its activities, the ESF serves the needs of the European research community in a global context.

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The Exploratory Workshops scheme is one of the key instruments of the Science Strategy “pillar”. Each year, ESF supports approximately 50 Exploratory Workshops across all scientific domains. The focus of the scheme is on workshops aiming to explore an emerging and/or innovative field of research or research infrastructure, also of interdisciplinary character. Workshops are expected to open up new directions in research or new domains. It is expected that a workshop will conclude with plans for specific follow-up research activities and/or collaborative actions or other specific outputs either within the frame of ESF (e.g. prepare the ground to develop a [Forward Look](#), a [Research Networking Programme](#) or a [EUROCORES](#) proposal; publication of a Policy Briefing...) or for submission to the EU 7th Framework Programme or to other European or international funding organisations.

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Main Objectives of the Workshop:

The workshop will bring together scholars from different disciplines with a shared interest in prosopographical research. A particular aim is to create an encounter between on the one hand prosopographical methods used in certain kinds of historical research, on the other hand so called geometric data analysis methods most often used in more sociologically oriented research, mainly of French provenience.

Another aim will be to share experiences and ideas of the uses of advanced computer technology. During the workshop there will be presentations, discussions and exchanges of ideas, demonstrations of technical tools, and not the least explorations of the possibilities of future collaborative research across disciplines. If all works out well, the workshop might lead to a proposal for a European Interdisciplinary Prosopography Research Network.

Meeting and exchanges on new methods in prosopography could not be accomplished without transnational collaboration. The forefronts of prosopographical research in the humanities in Europe are primarily to be found in the United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, and Italy, whereas methods for sociological prosopography have been developed especially in France during the last decades but also elsewhere, for example in ongoing research in Sweden, Belgium and Denmark. The broad terms methods and tools mentioned above, include issues such as database design, means for categorisation and classification, data collection, data storage and data modelling, as well as available software tools and platforms.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Wednesday 9 May 2007

Evening *Arrival*
 Dinner

Thursday 10 May 2007

10.00 - 10.30 **Harold Short** and **Donald Broady**, Welcome and presentation of participants

Luca Codignola (Standing Committee for the Humanities)

Presentation of the European Science Foundation (ESF)

10.30 - 12.00 **Prosopography in the humanities and the social sciences**

Chair: **Donald Broady**

Key note speakers: Harold Short and **John Bradley, Frédéric Lebaron**

12.00 - 13.00 *Lunch*

13.00 - 14.30 **Prosopography in the humanities**

Chair: **Harold Short**

Thomas Pratsch

Stephen Baxter and **Francesca Tinti**

Jean-Michel Carrie

14.30 - 15.00 *Coffee break*

15.00 - 16.30 **Prosopography in the social sciences**

Chair: **Mikael Börjesson**

Antonin Cohen

Johs Hjelbrekke

Bo G. Ekelund and **Daan Vandenhoute**

16.30 - 16.45 *Break & refreshments*

16.45 - 17.45 **Prosopography in the humanities**

Chair: **Monica Langerth Zetterman**

Matthew Driscoll

Katharine Keats-Rohan

18.30 - 19.45 *Guided Tour Museum Gustavianum*

20.00 *Conference Dinner*

Friday 11 May 2007

09.00 - 10.30 **Prosopography in the humanities**

Chair: **TBA**

Werner Eck

Claudia Ludwig

Michael Jeffreys

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 13.00	Prosopography in the social sciences Chair: TBA Donald Broady Mikael Madsen and Ole Hammerslev Mikael Börjesson , Ida Lidegran and Martin Gustavsson Esbjörn Larsson and Monica Langerth Zetterman
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 - 15.30	Demos "and Hands-on" (applications and tools) Parallel session 1 Parallel session 2 Parallel session 3
15.30 - 16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.00 - 17.00	Looking ahead Network proposal and closing of workshop, Harold Short and Donald Broady
Evening	<i>Dinner</i>
Saturday 12 May 2007	
Morning	<i>Departure</i>

European Science Foundation

Objectives of the ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH)

The main tasks of the ESF Standing Committee for the Humanities (SCH) are:

- to encourage interdisciplinary work through the independent evaluation of collaborative research proposals emanating from the scholarly community;
- to identify priority research areas and to play an integrative and co-ordinating role by creating links between research communities which in the Humanities are often small and fragmented.
- to contribute to the development of the ESF science policy agenda and to provide expert advice on science policy actions at the European level in the field of its responsibilities.

The Committee is well aware that the ESF is the only European Agency where the Humanities have a place next to the other sciences and where European projects are reviewed, developed and subsequently operated.

The Committee considers it all the more important to be heard as the voice of the Human Sciences in Europe and to continue pleading for a more prominent place for the Humanities in the European landscape.

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