

# POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE WORLD-SYSTEM INTERUNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM (PEWS-IC)

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PEWS-IC is a scholarly consortium dedicated to research and education that applies and develops the world-system perspective on political economy, global inequality, emerging global culture and transnational and interpolity relations. The main goals of the PEWS-IC are to facilitate cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary and international collaboration on curricular, training, and research projects informed by world-system analyses and to make it easier for scholars who do not have like-minded local colleagues to work with others on research projects. PEWS-IC seeks to include relevant graduate programs, research institutions and individual scholars from around the world.<sup>11</sup> The passing of Immanuel Wallerstein in 2019 and the closing of the Fernand Braudel Center at Binghamton University were events that have propelled those of us who see the scientific and political importance of the world-system perspective to undertake the formation of the PEWS-IC.

Activities and projects of the PEWS-IC include:

1. a *web site to facilitate communication and collaboration* among world-system scholars; the web site would allow for both the posting of announcements and the development of forums for discussion on themes of interest to those active in PEWSIC;
2. organizing and updating a world-system archive (through possible use and revision of the World-System Archive (<http://wsarch.ucr.edu>) and/or the World Historical Dataverse (<http://www.dataverse.pitt.edu/>) to contain working

papers, data sets, links to relevant other archives and publications and links to other relevant archives;

3. *curriculum development* including (a) “boot camps” for graduate students and junior faculty (intensive seminars to deepen knowledge of world-system research and perspectives); (b) real-time and/or online PEWSIC courses; (c) courses certified by PEWS-IC that students may list on vitae as evidence of attained skills in world-system scholarship and research. These could be stand-alone courses or online sections of existing courses at participating institutions;
4. raising funds to support the activities of the consortium, the section, the open access *Journal of World-Systems Research (JWSR)* and selected other worthwhile projects.

PEWS-IC will operate as a subcommittee under the umbrella of the American Sociological Association’s Political Economy of the World-System Section. PEWS-IC will enhance the PEWS section’s international visibility and outreach capacity and help the PEWS Section broaden its interaction networks to include participants from different academic disciplines and from outside of the United States.

PEWS-IC will generate special issues and other content related to cutting-edge themes in the field for publication in the *Journal of World-Systems Research (JWSR)*, and will otherwise encourage its network of participants to submit their work to the journal. This relationship will help disseminate PEWS-IC research to the *JWSR*’s growing global audience of readers and help ensure greater sustainability and resources for the journal’s operation.

Participation in the activities of PEWS-IC will not require membership in the American Sociological Association. PEWS-IC will benefit from the long-term institutional stability of the PEWS section including an already established website that will serve as the initial platform for the PEWS-IC website. This structure will enable scholars from a wide array of countries and disciplines to participate in collaborative projects and dialogues.

The PEWS-IC coordinating committee: Chris Chase-Dunn, University of California-Riverside <chriscd@ucr.edu>; Valentine M. Moghadam, Northeastern University <vmmogha@yahoo.com>; Beverly Silver, Johns Hopkins University [silver@jhu.edu](mailto:silver@jhu.edu); Leslie Gates, Binghamton University <[lgates@binghamton.edu](mailto:lgates@binghamton.edu)>, Sahan Savas Karatasli, University of North Carolina at Greensboro <[skaratasli@gmail.com](mailto:skaratasli@gmail.com)> Katharine Wallerstein, University of California-Davis <[kwallerstein@ucdavis.edu](mailto:kwallerstein@ucdavis.edu)> and Andrej Grubacic, Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco <[grubacic@ciis.edu](mailto:grubacic@ciis.edu)>

## Potential participants:

### Research Hubs:

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<<https://www.worldhistory.pitt.edu/>> and the World Historical Dataverse

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< <https://whgazetteer.org/tutorials/guide/>>

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PEWS-IC will also establish collaborative alliances with other academic and professional organizations with overlapping interests such as the Global Studies Consortium (<https://globalstudiesconsortium.org/about/>); the World Society Foundation (<https://www.worldsociety.ch>) and relevant sections of the International Studies Association, the International Sociological Association and other sections of the American Sociological Association.

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<sup>[1]</sup> The world-system perspective is delineated in the mission statement of the Political Economy of the World-System section of the American Sociological Association: The Section on Political Economy of the World-System (PEWS) brings together scholars committed to the critical study of the capitalist world-economy and other historical social systems. The PEWS Section seeks to foster an intellectual tradition that finds its roots in the anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist analyses forged during struggles for decolonization by scholars in the Global South. With a focus on world-systemic dynamics, PEWS members are united by the use of political economy as an analytical frame, while exploring the intersection of political economic change with race, gender, class, imperialism, neo-colonialism, and the environment. This Section maintains the PEWS legacy as a radical critique of disciplinary boundaries and thus embraces diverse disciplinary, epistemological, theoretical, and methodological approaches. We seek to provide a forum for intellectual exchange and debate among kindred sociologists, scholars in the humanities, activist-practitioners, and teachers in both the Global North and the Global South. We welcome members with wide-ranging substantive interests in world historical perspectives and are strongly committed to promoting a diverse membership.