



Sociology of Science
and Technology

29 June 2023

The Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Sociology of Science and Technology

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



**Resurgent Authoritarianism:
*Sociology of New Entanglements of
Religions, Politics, and Economies***

Melbourne, Australia | June 25-July 1, 2023
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
www.isa-sociology.org



World Congress
of Sociology



TASA
The Australian
Sociological Association



International
Sociological
Association



Sociology of Science
and Technology

AGENDA

Welcome address and the History of the First Ceremony of the «Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Sociology of Science and Technology» during XIX World Congress in Toronto, 2018

Session Organizer, President of RC23 ISA:

Nadia ASHEULOVA

RESEARCH COMMITTEES

- **RC23 Sociology of Science and Technology**
 - Statutes
 - **History**
 - Past Boards
 - The Robert Merton Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Sociology of Science and Technology

History

Published in **ISA RC23 newsletter**  **August 2017**

Written by **Nadia Asheulova**

RC23 President 2014-2018

RC23'S SEMICENTENNIAL BIRTHDAY

*The International Sociological Association is fifty years of age.
This is both very young and quite old.
It is surely time to take stock, but we can also say that
there is a future that remains to be constructed.*
Immanuel Wallerstein



RC23 NEWSLETTER
August 2017

In this issue:

P2 Nadia Asheulova, President's Introduction	P19 Science and Technology Studies Journals published in Finland and Nordic Countries
P3 Nadia Asheulova, RC23's Semicentennial Birthday: Celebrating 50 Years of Research on the Sociology of Science and Technology	P20 Special Issue of Science & Technology Studies
P6 Reports from Section Organizers about the 13th ISA Forum held in Vienna in 2016	P22 Conference Announcements
P17 Call for Nominations – The Robert Merton Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Science and Technology	P26 Book Announcements
P18 Jukka Tuomiainen, STS in Finland	P27 Section Officers

The International Sociological Association (ISA) originated in 1948 as an initiative of the Social Science Department (SSD) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This initiative resulted in the ISA and similar worldwide associations in other social science disciplines (economics, law, and political science). Jennifer Platt notes in her book "A Brief History of the ISA: 1948-1997" that this initiative was dictated by the political situation after the Second World War [Platt, 1998, p. 131. These professional associations were not simply expected to encourage intellectual and

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE 23 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION IS
57 YEARS OF AGE**

**It was founded
at the VI World Congress in
Evian (France) in 1966**



* supplement to sociological abstracts isa bulletin 29

ÉTÉ 1982

SUMMER 1982



Le président et les trois vice-présidents sortant de charge (ici à Jablonna en Pologne lors de la réunion du Conseil de recherche en août 1980). De g. à dr.: Fernando-E. Cardoso, Ulf Himmeistrand, Ralph Turner et Magdalena Sokolowska.

CONTENTS — CONTENU

- | | | | |
|--------|---|-------|---|
| p. 2 | Du Secrétariat — From the Secretariat | p. 6 | RC 09 Social Practice and Social Transformation |
| p. 2 | From the Research Committees | p. 8 | RC 23 Sociology of Science |
| p. 2 | ISSC Stein Rokkan Prize | p. 10 | RC 24 Social Ecology |
| p. 3-4 | En route pour Mexico? — Going to Mexico City? | p. 11 | RC 31 Sociology of Migration |
| p. 5 | Histories of the Research Committees — Cont'd | p. 13 | RC 36 Alienation Theory and Research |
| p. 5 | RC 07 Futures Research | p. 15 | RC 18 Political Sociology — Addenda |
| | | p. 15 | Coming Event — Journals |
| | | p. 16 | Pre-Registration Form |

RC 23 SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE

ORIGINS

The group which was to become the Research Committee on the Sociology of Science started its work at the Sixth World Congress of Sociology in Evian (1966). No formal papers were presented since plans for the establishment of the Committee were approved only after papers could have been solicited. Nevertheless, there was a very lively and successful discussion among sociologist-participants. Among them were: R. Aron (France), B. Barber (USA), J. Ben-David (Israel), I. Dubska (Czechoslovakia), S. Dedijer (Sweden), D. Goldschmidt (FRG), R.K. Merton (USA), A. Podgorecki (Poland), J.J. Salomon (France), A. Szalai (Hungary), E. Walter (Switzerland), A. Zvorikine (USSR), and others. A business meeting was held in which Robert K. Merton was elected President and J. Ben-David was elected Secretary.

There was a very lovely successful discussion among R. Aron (France), B. Barber (USA), J. Ben-David (Israel), I. Dubska (Czechoslovakia), S. Dedijer (Sweden), D. Goldschmidt (FRG), R. K. Merton (USA), A. Podgorecki (Poland), J. J. Salomon (France), A. Szalai (Hungary), E. Walter (Switzerland), Anatoly Alekseevich Zvorykin (USSR) and others [ISA Bulletin 29, p. 8].

Robert K. Merton was elected President of RC23 and Joseph Ben-David became the first Secretary. There is an interesting document at the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences – a transcript of the meeting's report of the VI International Congress of Sociology in Evian made by Anatoly Alekseevich Zvorykin. A. A. Zvorykin said:

...I think that the foundation of the Research Committee on Sociology of Science was a very important initiative. The Committee filled the essential gap, which was still in the International Sociological Association. Committee was created by the leadership of R. K. Merton... [Transcript, Archive of the RAS].





**In honour and memory of Robert Merton – First President of RC 23,
the RC23 Committee has established**

**“The Robert Merton Award for Distinguished Contribution to the
Sociology of Science and Technology”.**

ISA Executive Committee approved it in May, 2016.

Award Committee

THE ROBERT MERTON AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Jaime Jiménez Gúzman

Alice Abreu

Gary Bowden

Ralph Mathews

Antonio Brandão Moniz

The first award was granted to **Dr. Francisco Sagasti** during the Session “In Memory of First RC23 President Robert K. Merton” at the XIX World Congress in Toronto (18 July 2018).



Dr. Harriet Zuckerman, Professor Emerita of Columbia University, the wife of Robert Merton, former board member of RC23, and a noted sociologist of science in her own right, came to this special event.



RC23 NEWSLETTER

May 2019

*Special Issue in Honor and Memory of Robert K. Merton
& First Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished
Contributions to the Sociology of Science and Technology*

In this issue:

- P2 Nadia Asheulova. President's Introduction
- P5 Interim RC23 Workshop "Using Science Policy to Facilitate Innovation, Excellence and Global Cooperation" (St. Petersburg, September 18-19, 2017)
- P6 The First Robert K. Merton Award Ceremony during the Session "In Memory of First RC23 President Robert K. Merton" at the XIX World Congress in Toronto (July 18, 2018)
- P13 Reports from RC23 Session Organizers at the XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Toronto to the Sociology of Science and Technology
- P25 Call for Nominations for the 2022 Award – The Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Science and Technology
- P27 Section Officers



Forthcoming December 2019 Newsletter

Please send articles, book announcements and other material by September 1, 2019 to:

Leandro Raizer, RC23 Secretary
leandro.raizer@gmail.com

THE FIRST ROBERT K. MERTON AWARD CEREMONY during the session "In Memory of First RC23 President Robert K. Merton"

at the XIX World Congress in Toronto (July 18, 2018)

Please find below speeches from the ceremony

Nadia Asheulova: Dear colleagues and distinguished guests! It is a great honor for us to open a special Session in Memory of the First RC23 President Robert King Merton. Robert Merton was one of the leading sociologists of the 20th century. The interest in his activity has not diminished. R. Merton's name is connected with many directions in sociological research, but first and foremost it turned into the eponym for sociology of science, the phrase the "Mertonian sociology of science" was widely accepted by the scientific community. In 1966, R. Merton became one of the founders, organizer and the first President of the Research Committee on the Sociology of Science (RC23) of the International Sociological Association. Merton's activity in this position was in many ways decisive for theoretical and institutional development of the sociology of science worldwide. In honor and memory of Robert King Merton, the RC23 Committee has established **The Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Sociology of Science and Technology**.

The Executive Committee of ISA approved the award in May, 2016 and it is intended to recognize and showcase the outstanding, long-term achievement of an individual researcher to the field rather than the excellence of an individual book or single idea. RC23 kindly invites Merton's students, senior researchers and younger scholars with an interest in Robert K. Merton's work to contribute. The session will reconsider Merton's legacy and attempt to link it with contemporary issues. RC23 produced the Silver Medal with a special design.



According to certificate, a single copy of the medal was produced on the 4th of July, 2018, which is also a special date, as it is the birthday of Robert Merton.

The first Lifetime Achievement Award will be granted during this Special Session. I kindly invite the Vice President of RC23 and Board member of the Award Committee Professor Emerita Alice Abreu to announce the decision.

6

<https://www.isa-sociology.org/frontend/web/uploads/files/rc23-newsletter-May-2019.pdf>

RC23 NEWSLETTER

In this issue:

- P2 RC23 President's Introduction
- P3 Science and Technology in Brazil –
A Short Statement by Alice Abreu
- P7 Opening of The Robert Merton Center for
Science Studies of Humboldt-Universität zu
Berlin by Prof. Dr. Martin Reinhart
- P8 RC23 and Global Connections
- P10 RC23 in Numbers
- P11 Call for Nominations for the 2022 Robert
Merton Award
- P13 RC23 Members Activities and Publications
- P23 Officers



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2022 AWARD

Research Committee 23 (Sociology of Science and Technology) of the International Sociological Association is seeking nominations for **The Robert K. Merton Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Science and Technology** to be awarded at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne, Australia, July 24-31, 2022.

Eligibility

The award will be granted to a living scholar who is internationally recognized for significant contributions to the Sociology of Science and Technology that have been made over a period of at least two decades. Thus, the award is intended to recognize and showcase the outstanding, long-term achievements of an individual scholar to the field rather than the excellence of specific papers or books.

Currently serving members of the RC23 Board or the Award Committee are not eligible to receive the award.

Nominations

Nominations can be made by any member of ISA (excluding members of the Award Committee) and must be supported by at least two other members of RC23 and/or ISA in good standing.

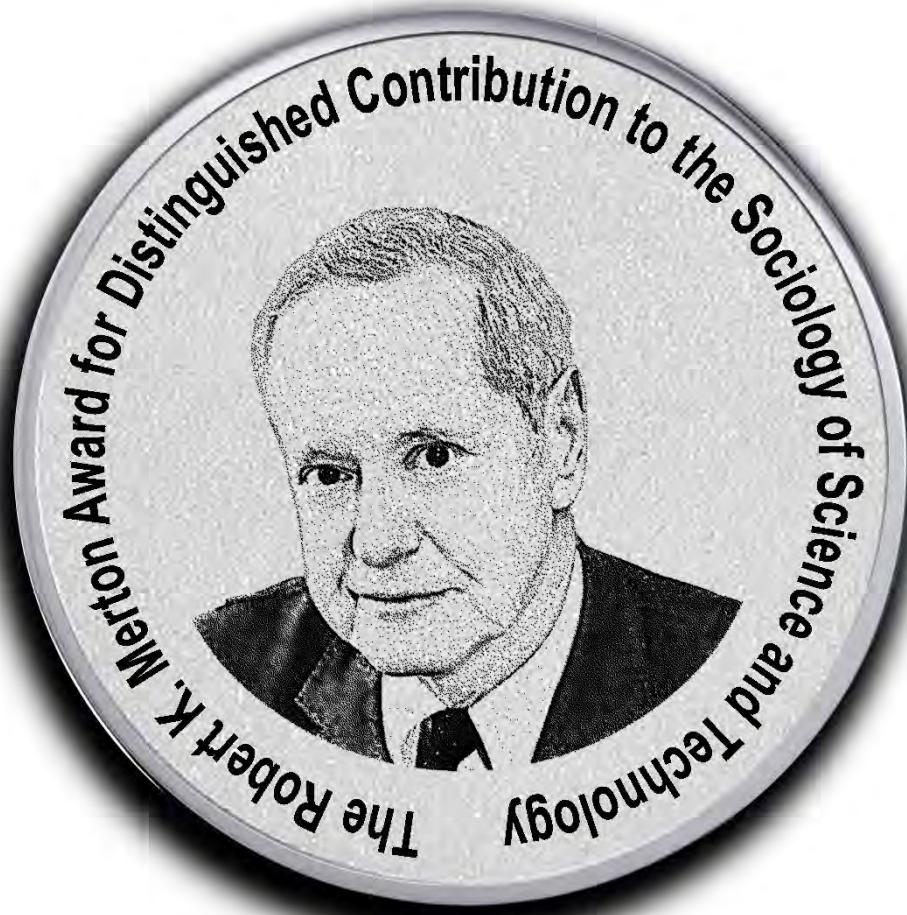
Nominations must include the name of the nominee, a CV, the list of publications on which the nomination is based, and a cover letter that provides a rationale for the nomination.

Nominations should be sent by **July 31st, 2020** to the Chair of the Awards Committee, Jaime Jiménez Guzmán, at jjimen@unam.mx.

Award Committee

Jaime Jiménez Guzmán – Chair
Alice Abreu
Gary Bowden
Ralph Matthews
António Brandão Moniz

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Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Sociology of Science and Technology
The Robert K. Merton



Sociology of Science
and Technology

**Award Committee announces the Winner of
«The Robert K Merton Award for Distinguished
Contribution to the Sociology of Science and
Technology» 2023**

Award Committee, Vice-President of RC23 ISA:

Alice ABREU



Sociology of Science
and Technology

XX ISA World Congress of Sociology



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**THE ROBERT K. MERTON AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION
TO THE SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Charles Crothers

Nadia Asheulova (RC23 President)
Alice Abreu (RC23 Vice-President)
Leandro Raizer (RC23 Secretary)

Award Committee

Jaime Jiménez Gúzman
Alice Abreu
Gary Bowden
Ralph Mathews
Antonio Brandão Moniz

**Congratulation to the Awardee from
Professor Emerita, Columbia University:
Harriet ZUCKERMAN**



Engagement of the Awardee with Sociology of Science (and Robert K. Merton)

Nominator of the Awardee, Department of Social and
Psychological Studies University of Karlstad, Sweden,
Honorary Professor, University of Sydney:

Fran COLLYER



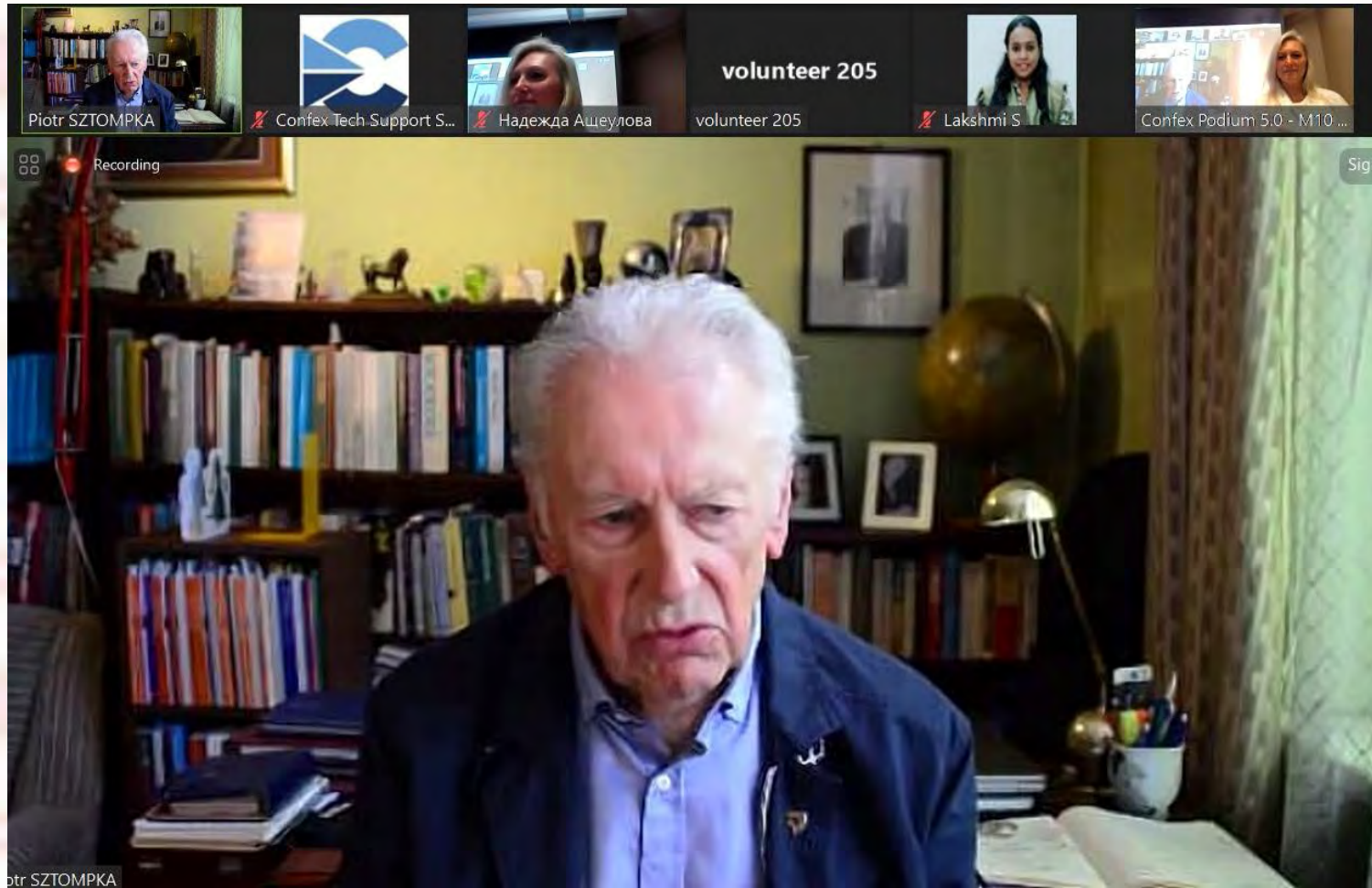
Lecture of the Awardee



Charles Crothers

Emeritus Professor of Sociology,
Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

**Congratulation to the Awardee from
Professor Dr. hab. Emeritus Jagiellonian University, Poland
Piotr Sztompka**





Sociology of Science and Technology



Thank you very much!