I. Research Working Groups

(a) Cyclical Rhythms and Secular Trends of the Capitalist World-Economy

The group has spent the year working on the pilot project funded by the National Science Foundation (as reported in Bulletin No. 3). An interim report, as of September 1979, was presented to the 1979 meetings of the American Sociological Association and is available upon request: Immanuel Wallerstein, "Development: Theories, Research Designs, and Empirical Measures." The paper was published in L. Blussé, H.L. Wesseling, and G.D. Winius, eds., History and Underdevelopment: Essays on Underdevelopment and European Expansion in Asia and Africa (Leiden Centre for the History of European Expansion, 1980), 21-28.

The second stage of the project will begin in the fall of 1980. The summary of the proposed work over the period 1980-83 is as follows:

Recurrent crises of accumulation of the world-economy (stagnations or B-phases) result in restructuring the commodity chains which are the ligaments of the axial division of labor and the alliance patterns which regulate the interstate system. These stagnations are in part the structurally repetitive cyclical rhythms of the system, resulting in specific changes in the B-phases which enable the world-economy once more to expand. Each of these changes however also transforms the system as a whole. The pattern of these transformations constitute the secular trends of the system.

The object of the research is to analyze the data so as to distinguish clearly the cyclical rhythms and the secular trends, and to develop and practice a methodology appropriate to the analysis of singular, developing systems. This will enable us to address the key theoretical debate between the developmentalist and world-systems perspective: the degree to which the modern world-system is singular and polarizing. It will also secondarily contribute to developing a diagnostic framework with which to interpret adequately contemporary world political and economic dilemmas.

(b) Households, Labor Force Formation, and the World-Economy

The group spent the year seeking to clarify the intellectual issues they wished to confront. The group sees itself as attempting to bring into one arena a focus on the relationship between household structures and the structure of the labor-force that has developed up to now in three separate intellectual arenas.

The sociology of the family, one of the classic fields of world social science, was for a long time built on the hypothesis of an evolution of family structures from an extended to a nuclear form, the latter presumably
the consequence of "industrialization". In large part as a result of the work of Peter Laslett and his followers, the thesis of simple covariation is now widely held to be dubious. While this rejection has generated a considerable amount of interesting empirical work, there has not yet emerged any general explanation of variation in family and household forms to replace the evolutionary hypothesis.

The reemergence of the women's movement has led to the creation of women's studies as a field of academic endeavor. While on the one hand women's studies as a field has been concerned with the nature of women's participation in the market economy, it has also sought to analyze the economic significance of women's unpaid household labor. This latter concern has generated considerable unresolved debate about the proper economic definition of such unpaid labor.

Studies of the historical development and contemporary functioning of the capitalist world-economy have generated the hypothesis of unequal exchange. This hypothesis states that the mode of exchanging products between core and peripheral zones of the world-economy involves a systematic transfer of surplus from periphery to core. The heart of the explanation offered for unequal exchange is that there exist significant differentials of wage-rates in the two zones, which permits the hidden transfer of surplus. The search to explain in turn how such wage-rate differentials have been created historically and maintained over time has led to an interest in the role of the household as a key mechanism in this system. But thus far, there has been no systematic analysis of how this mechanism works, and even of how this mechanism comes into being.

These three "concerns", generated in these three largely segregated fields of scholarly endeavor, converge towards a common intellectual problem: the need to explain how household structures systematically vary over different zones of the world-economy over different times; and why they do so: that is, the degree to which these variations are accounted for by the processes of the world-economy as such, or rather reflect prior, continuing (and primordial) patterns of social behavior.

It is hoped to begin research during the coming year that will seek (1) to operationalize the concept of household, including the mode of delineating its boundaries; (2) to analyze changes in the forms of household structures and the range of sources of income for two different zones of the world-economy at four different points in time, in order to specify propositions concerning patterns of variation of household structures in relation to the world-economy.

(c) World Labor

A new research working group has been established on world labor under the direction of Melvyn Dubofsky. It includes as members Giovanni Arrighi, John Higginson, Mark Selden, and Immanuel Wallerstein. The group is concerned with labor and socialist movements throughout the world from circa 1870 to the present and is interested in the impact of locus in the world-economy and cyclical changes in the world-economy on the growth and
politics of workers' movements.


Within the framework of this subcommission two symposia are to be held, the first in Binghamton on August 21-23, 1980, the second in the U.S.S.R. in the summer of 1981. The Research Working Group on World Labor will prepare the U.S. papers for the 1980 colloquium.

(d) National and World Identities

The Center has affiliated itself with the Project on Socio-Cultural Alternatives in a Changing World of the Human and Social Development Programme, United Nations University (U.N.U.-S.C.A.). This international research program is under the leadership of Anouar Abdel-Malek. The results of the initial phase of the research done by the Center within the framework of the Programme is now available: Peter D. Phillips and Immanuel Wallerstein, "National and World Identities and the Interstate System."

II. Colloquia, Conferences

(a) International colloquium on the world-economy

These have become annual, co-sponsored by the Center with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme and the Max-Planck-Institut, Starnberg. The third colloquium is being held June 25-27, 1980 in Starnberg. The theme is "Nationalism and Capitalism in Crisis." Two participants from the Center are giving papers, which are available on request: Immanuel Wallerstein, "Nationalism and the World Transition to Socialism: Is There a Crisis?"; and Giovanni Arrighi, title to come.

The list of participants as of June 2, 1980 are:

Herb Addo, St. Augustine
Samir Amin, Dakar
Giovanni Arrighi, Arcavacata di Rende/Fernand Braudel Center
Maurice Aymard, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
Amiya Bagchi, Calcutta
Albert Broder, Joinville
Pete Burgess, London
Frederick Clairmonte, Geneva
André Gunder Frank, Norwich
Folker Fröbel, Max-Planck-Institut, Starnberg
Jürgen Heinrichs, Max-Planck-Institut, Starnberg
Clemens Heller, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
(b) Political Economy of the World-System Annual Conferences

These conferences are sponsored by the P.E.W.S. Section of the American Sociological Association.


The Fourth Annual Conference was held at Johns Hopkins University on June 12-13, 1980. The proceedings will appear as P.E.W.S Annual IV in 1981. Terence Hopkins and Immanuel Wallerstein gave a joint paper entitled "Structural Transformation of the World-Economy."

The Fifth Annual Conference will be held in Madison, Wisconsin on May 14-16, 1981, co-sponsored by the World Political Economy Study Group, University of Wisconsin. They have issued a call for papers. Those interested please send an abstract to the Group at North Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, no later than December 15, 1980. The theme of the Fifth Conference will be "Ascent and Decline in the World-System." The theme will be treated under three subheadings:

1. Processes and events which condition possibility: war, capital creation, financial crisis, new technologies, creation of new states, energy, transport, class formation, etc.;

2. Strategies, policies, and interests of ruling groups and states which facilitate movement up or down in the world-system;

(c) Workshop on Mozambique

A Workshop on Mozambique was held at the Center on February 16, 1980. It was addressed by Aquino de Bragança, Director of the Centro de Estudos Africanos of the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo as well as by John Saul (Toronto) and Marcia Wright (Columbia University). A report on the Workshop is available in the Research Bulletin, Southern Africa and the World-Economy, No. 2 (see below).

(d) Conference of Europeanists

The 1980 Conference of Europeanists, sponsored by the Council for European Studies, will be held in Washington, D.C., on October 23-25, 1980. The Center is sponsoring a panel on "Labor Movements and the State in Europe" to be chaired by Giovanni Arrighi. Those interested in participating or wishing further information should contact the Council for European Studies, 1403 International Affairs Bldg., Columbia University, New York, New York 10027.

(e) United Nations University

The U.N.U.-S.C.A. Project (described above) has been holding a series of international seminars on two sub-projects, "The Transformation of the World" (T.W.), and "Endogenous Intellectual Creativity" (E.I.C.). The first T.W. Seminar was held in Belgrade, October 22-26, 1979 on the theme "Science and Technology in the Transformation of the World." Immanuel Wallerstein participated. The second T.W. Seminar will be held in Madrid, September 15-19, 1980. Immanuel Wallerstein will present a paper, "Changing Patterns of the World-Economy." It will be available through the Center. To obtain other documents produced as part of the U.N.U.-S.C.A. Project contact United Nations University, 29th Floor, Toho Seimei Building, 15-1, Shibuya 2-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150, Japan.

III. Publications

(a) Review. The table of contents of recent issues are:

Volume III, Number 2, Fall 1979

The Incorporation of Southern Africa into the World-Economy, 1800-1940

***

The Process of Peripheralization

GIOVANNI ARRIGHI

Peripheralization of Southern Africa, I: Changes in Production Processes

IMMANUEL WALLERSTEIN and WILLIAM G. MARTIN

Peripheralization of Southern Africa, II: Changes in Household Structure and Labor-Force Formation
Three Case Studies

I. The Reluctant Integration of Zimbabwe, 1852-1908
MARCIA WRIGHT

Comments
IAN PHIMISTER

Comments
KAPEPWA ANSE TAMBILA

Discussion

II. The Struggle for Mozambique: Capitalist Rivalries, 1900-40
LEROY VAIL and LANDEG WHITE

JEANNE PENVENNE

Comments
Discussion

III. The World the Mineowners Made: Social Themes in the Economic Transformation of the Witwatersrand, 1886-1914
CHARLES VAN ONSELEN

FREDERICK JOHNSTONE

IV. MATSEPE-CASABURRI

Comments
Discussion

* * *

Theoretical Implications

GIOVANNI ARRIGHI,
JOHN HIGGINSON,
BERNARD MAGUBANE, JOHN SAUL and
IMMANUEL WALLERSTEIN
A Roundtable Discussion
Discussion

Volume III, Number 3, Winter, 1980

RAMKRISHNA MUKHERJEE
On the Appraisal of Social Reality and Thus on the "Quality of Life"

PETER MCPHEE
A Case-Study of Internal Colonization: The Francisation of Northern Catalonia

ASHOK V. DESAI
Population and Standards of Living in Akbar's Time--A Second Look
ERNEST FEDER

The Odious Competition Between Man and Animal over Agricultural Resources in the Underdeveloped Countries

GEORG ELMERT and DIANA WONG

Subsistence Production and Commodity Production in the Third World

Volume III, Number 4, Spring 1980

PIERRE VILAR

Spain and Catalonia

CAGLAR KEYDER

Credit and Peripheral Structuration: Turkey in the 1920's

The Scottish Example

T.C. SMOUT

Scotland and England: Is Dependency a Symptom or a Cause of Underdevelopment?

IMMANUEL WALLERSTEIN

One Man's Meat: The Scottish Great Leap Forward

***

Volume IV, Number 1, Summer 1980

JÁNOS M. BAK

Serfs and Serfdom: Words and Things

HENRI LEFEBVRE

Marxism Exploded

CLAUDIA VON WERLHOF

Notes on the Relation Between Sexuality and Economy

Scotland and Africa

CEDRIC ROBINSON

Notes Towards a "Native" Theory of History

GEORGE SHEPPERSON

Ourselves as Others: Some Comments on Cedric Robinson on George Shepperson

Civilizations and Their Declines

JOHAN GLATUNG, TORE HEIESTAD, & ERIK RUDENG

On the Decline and Fall of Empires: The Roman Empire and Western Imperialism Compared

SAMIR AMIN

Révolution ou décadence? La crise du système impérialiste contemporain et celle de l'Empire romain
(b) Studies in Modern Capitalism

This series, a joint enterprise with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, and published by Cambridge University Press, has produced three more titles in 1980:

Folker Fröbel, Jürgen Heinrichs, Otto Kreye, The New International Division of Labor

Henri H. Stahl, Traditional Romanian Village Communities (July)

Ernest Mandel, The Long Waves of Capitalist Development (September)

More titles are in press.

(c) Research Bulletin, Southern Africa and the World-Economy

No. 1 of this newsletter was produced in August, 1979; No. 2 in June, 1980. It includes brief research notes, news of activities, reading lists, etc. It is mimeographed. Those wishing to receive it regularly should so indicate to the Center.

IV. Research Associates and Visitors

In addition to Elizabeth McLean Petras, we have had visiting us for a period: Aquino de Bragança (Univ. Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo); Walter Essey (Hong Kong Research Group, London); John Othick (Queen's University, Belfast). The Center arranged visits for a delegation from the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences headed by Ovanes Melikian and for Elena Sandoval, Dean of the School of Economics, Universidad Autonoma de México (U.N.A.M.).

V. Monthly Seminar

The theme for 1979-80 was "Culture, Consciousness, and the Modern World." The Collection of Papers is available for $4.00. The topics were:

October 3, 1979 Carrol Coates, "Cultural Nationalism in Quebec"

November 7, 1979 Randall Collins (University of Virginia), "Cultural Production Cycles: Toward a Three-Fold Theory"

December 5, 1979 Sarah Elbert, "The Persistence of Memory and the Education of Desire: The Women's Room and Others"


March 5, 1980 Anna Davin, "The Construction of the Working-class Family in Late Nineteenth-Century Britain"
April 16, 1980
Khalil I.H. Semaan, "Orientalism: The Years of the Locust"

VI. Southern African Seminar

In conjunction with the Africana Research and Studies Center of Cornell University, the Center organized a Seminar which met alternately in Binghamton and Ithaca. It held four sessions:

October 4, 1979
Martin Murray, "Capitalist Agriculture in South Africa, about the turn of the twentieth century"

November 6, 1979
John Higginson, "Wards of Superexploitation: The Role of African Casual Labor in the Industrialization of Katanga, 1911-1921"

January 31, 1980
Congress Mbata, "Land, Labor, and Cattle in Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century South Africa: Factors in the Development of an Internal Periphery-Core Economic Subsystem and African Responses Thereto"

February 26, 1980
William G. Martin, "Incorporation of Southern Africa into the World-Economy"

VII. Public Lectures

September 19, 1979
Jitendra Mohan (University of Sheffield), "Nationalism and Internationalism in the Socialist Camp"

September 27, 1979
Huri İslamoğlu (Middle East Technical University, Ankara), "Some Transformations in the Ottoman Social Formation Prior to Incorporation in the World-Economy"

November 28, 1979
Carlo Poni (University of Bologna), "L'abito che nasconde il cucito: The Tricks of Bolognese Peasants in Modern Times (16-19th Centuries)"

February 13, 1980
Walter Easey (Hong Kong Research Group), "Hong Kong: Buy-Buy or Bye-Bye"

February 20, 1980
Jacques Leenhardt (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales), "Toward a Sociology of Reading"

April 8, 1980
A.R. Desai, (President, Indian Sociological Society), "Peasant Movements in India"

April 29, 1980
Marian Malowist, (Dept. of History, University of Warsaw), "Merchant Credit and the Putting-Out System in Agriculture in the Middle Ages"
VIII. Exhibits

The Center arranged, with the kind assistance of the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme an Exhibit of Life and Works of Lucien Febvre (1878-1956) from March 5-31, 1980 at the Library of the State University of New York at Binghamton. An annotated catalogue is available for $1. The Opening Ceremonies on March 3 were the occasion of an address by George Huppert on "The Legacy of Lucien Febvre." Also present were university authorities and the Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of France, M. Gérard Roubichou.

From August 15-September 15, an exhibit on the Life and Works of Marc Bloch will be arranged, with the kind assistance of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.

IX. Executive Board

Mary Ryan has resigned from the University. Her unfinished term on the Executive Board is being filled by Deborah Hertz.

Immanuel Wallerstein, Director of the Center, will spend the period September 1980-June 1981 at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. In his absence, Melvyn Dubofsky, member of the Executive Board, will be Acting Director.

* * * * *

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 27th annual meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies will be held at Indiana University Bloomington, Indiana, March 13-14, 1981. Papers and panels invited, October 15, 1980 deadline. Write to Professor William B. Cohen, President, Society for French Historical Studies, History Department, Ballantine Hall 742, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 74705.