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Donald Broady, Nya prosopografiska metoder i humaniora och samhällsvetenskap
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Donald Broady

Nya prosopografiska metoder i humaniora och samhällsvetenskap

Stiftelsen

RIKSBANKENS JUBILEUMSFOND

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Forskningsinitiering

Professor Donald Broady Institutionen för lärarutbildning Uppsala universitet Box 2136 S-750 02 UPPSALA	Nya prosopografiska metoder i humaniora och samhällsvetenskap
Anslagsförvaltare Uppsala universitet	

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Sökta medel

Budgetår 2007		Resor 30.000	Övrigt 60.000	Totalt år 2007 90.000
Personal	Disp.år	Anställningstid (månader)	Arbetstid (% av heltid)	Månadslön (heltid)

Total projektkostnad: **90.000**

Sammanfattning

Prosopografi används huvudsakligen inom historisk och viss sociologisk forskning och har sedan länge använts för socialhistoriska studier av framför allt samhällets eliter. Den biografiska och den prosopografiska metoden är relaterade, och i vissa avseenden överlappar de varandra. Den främsta skillnaden är att den prosopografiska analysen syftar till att studera en viss grupp, dess historia och struktur, och inte den enskilde individen utan snarare studier av aggregerade kollektiva biografiska detaljer och uppgifter. Historisk och sociologisk prosopografi är två olika forskningsfält som var för sig använder och utvecklar avancerade metoder och verktyg. Prosopografiska metoder har inom samhällsvetenskaperna introducerats av, och flitigt använts, inom den franska sociologiska traditionen. Hittills har de humanistiska och samhällsvetenskapliga forskningsfälten varit åtskiljda men genom att arrangera den föreslagna workshopen om nya prosopografiska metoder kan historiskt och sociologiskt orienterade forskare mötas och konfronteras. Under workshopen kommer vi att utforska prosopografiskt historiskt digitaliserat material, analysmetoder och verktyg utvecklade inom sociologin samt avancerade prosopografiska databaser. Under workshopen initieras även ett europeiskt tvärvetenskapligt forskarnätverk, European Interdisciplinary Prosopography Research Network, samtidigt som arbetet med en ansökan för nätverket till European Science Foundation påbörjas.

Projektbeskrivning

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

May 10 -11 2007, Uppsala University, Sweden

Introduction

Prosopography in Europe today is used in historical studies of ancient, medieval and modern societies and in sociologically oriented studies of modern and contemporary societies. Prosopography is the collective study of common characteristics of groups of individuals, most often historical actors but in sociological studies also contemporary individuals. By means of comprehensive data collection and thorough investigations on common background characteristics such as social origin, occupation, inherited and acquired positions in society, education, place of residence, religion, economical status etcetera scholars explore and analyse the material (Stone 1972; Broady 2002).

Although outcomes and uses of prosopographical databases vary amongst historically and sociologically oriented prosopographers the methods for collecting and compiling the materials is essentially the same even though the focus of study, purposes and tools differs in different prosopographical traits.

Major challenges, and the originality of prosopography, are its numerous applications and the many uses in completely different research fields.

Main objectives of the workshop

The general aim of the workshop Exploring New Methods for Prosopography in Humanities and Social Sciences is to bring together prosopographers from different scholarly fields in order to contribute to the advancement of interdisciplinary prosopographical research. During the workshop, we will explore tools, methods and

possibilities of collaborative research across disciplines. Another task will be to share experiences and ideas of advancement and creative use of advanced computer technology for scholarly enhancement.

The specific aims of the workshop will be to explore historical materials by means of methods developed within sociological approaches. On the one hand, in historical studies prosopographical approaches have been used for many centuries and constitute today a well developed scholarly field where researchers use specific methods and tools. On the other hand, sociologically oriented prosopographical studies have during the last decades made important contributions to the development of methods and research in social sciences. In the workshop these two approaches, along with the methods and tools respectively, will get an opportunity to meet and to confront.

The goal during this workshop is to outline a proposal for a European Interdisciplinary Prosopography Research Network.

Meeting and exchanges on new methods in prosopography could not be accomplished without collaboration on a European level, due to the dispersedly research activities and locations. The forefronts of prosopographical research in the humanities are accomplished in United Kingdom, Germany, Austria and Italy whereas methods for sociological prosopography have been developed especially in France during the last decades, but also to some extent 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, means for analyses, software and platforms.

Prosopographical research

Originally prosopography mainly was concerned with studies of the social elites. The concept of prosopography has been traced to the 16th century in Europe then closely related to the contemporary endeavour to collect, register and organise all the knowledge (Werner 1997).

Development and contributions in prosopography applies to some different schools, either concerned with in-depth and detailed studies of smaller groups of for example

social elites, or less detailed but larger numerical sets of individuals belonging to the same field (Stone 1972: 109-111).

Regardless of the prosopographical school the main interest for a prosopographer is the investigation of a chosen group, the structures and transformations, rather than individuals or institutions. It is a kind of collective biography, particularly applicable for heterogeneous datasets in historical research and also a method of necessity due to the fact that the objects of study are dead and therefore not available for interviews. Prosopographical research is a time-consuming endeavour when investigating a number of primary and sometimes secondary sources for detailed data collection.

There is also an important distinction in handling and analysing data between prosopography in the humanities and the French sociologically oriented prosopographical tradition. In traditional prosopography the sources play an important role in terms of certainty of the facts and their claims about individuals in the material (Bradley & Short 2002). In sociologically oriented prosopographies the main concern is to collect the same kind of data for all persons in order to analyse the material with either multivariate quantitative techniques or with qualitative methods depending on the quality of the data. Thus, the quality of the data is most important independently of prosopographical orientation. Examples of French sociology using prosopography are Pierre Bourdieu's study of the academic field in Paris (Bourdieu 1984), studies on French top managers (Bourdieu & de Saint Martin 1978) and Gisele Sapiro's extensive study on the French literary field (Sapiro 1999). The main methods for analysing the prosopographical data in the sociologically oriented studies is either geometrical data analysis, including methods such as multiple correspondence analysis and Euclidean classification especially correspondence analysis, and/or or more qualitative approaches (Le Roux & Henry Rouanet 2004).

Traditionally the outcome of a prosopography was to publish results in a printed book. Along with the advancement and development of modern computer technology come possibilities for researchers to explore, use and handle extensive prosopographical materials in a variety of novel ways (Bradley & Short 2002). Prominent examples are the Prosopography of the Byzantine Empire and the Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England, both very rich and valuable resources in ancient and medieval history. Included in the Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England are all individuals who lived in or were closely connected with Anglo-Saxon England during the period from 597 to 1042. Prosopography of the Byzantine Empire (PBE) is a British Academy project based in the Centre for Computing in the

Humanities at King's College London (<http://www.pbw.kcl.ac.uk/>). The Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England (PASE) was funded for five years (2000-2004) by The Arts and Humanities Research Council. The project was co-ordinated of University of Cambridge and King's College (<http://www.pase.ac.uk/>).

Benefits and outcomes

The benefit of this workshop applies especially to the interdisciplinary approach; that scholars from different fields of research will be given opportunities to meet and to explore methods and tools used in prosopography. In this case the workshop will provide opportunities to explore older and well established historical materials from the humanities in the light of multivariate analysis, methods and tools used in the social sciences, providing means not primarily used in traditional prosopographical historical studies. Likewise, the sociologically oriented scholars will be able to explore advanced tools and content design in the very rich and detailed historical prosopographies, enriching their knowledge of how to design prosopographical materials.

The outcome of this workshop will result in a proposal for a European Interdisciplinary Prosopography Research Network, which will serve as a junction for the development and leverage for the development of interdisciplinary tools and methods.

The workshop will also result in an online publication with paper presentations and slides along with information about participants', their research fields and contact information.

The workshop programme, presented below, will focus on presentations combined with round table discussions and discussions in smaller groups. The discussions will especially pay attention to both methodological issues and appropriate tools and both on the preparation of the network proposal and future collaborations.

The specific presentations will be distributed amongst the participants to mirror the work done in the humanities and the social sciences. The presenters will be asked to focus the presentation on the design and the results and the either the methods or the tools and sometimes both.

At the end of the workshop the basic outlines of a proposal will be ready to distribute

and distribution of work on the proposal will be decided.

The next network meeting and future collaborative activities will also be planned and outlined.

Special attention will be given to spread the work load among senior and younger scholars and between men and women.

A common web based platform will be used and introduced during the workshop.

Preliminary workshop programme, May 10-11 2007.

Day 1: Introduction and prosopographical studies

10.00-10.30 Welcome and introduction to workshop aims, expected outcomes and the presentation of the programme.

Harold Short, Donald Broady & Monica Langerth Zetterman

Prosopography in the humanities

10.30-12.30 Presentations of specific studies in the humanities with focus on data base design and data collection.

Chair: Monica Langerth Zetterman

12.30-13.30 Lunch

Prosopography in the social sciences

13.30-15.30 Presentations of specific studies in the social sciences with focus on large datasets, geometric data analysis, visualisation and network analyses.

Chair: Donald Broady

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

Applications, tools and methods

16.00-17.30 Discussions and presentations in four different groups focusing on: data-collection, data base design, analysing large data sets, visualisation and network analyses.

17.30-18.30 Workshop discussions focusing on results from group discussions, mutual interests and areas of collaboration.

(based on groups results from previous discussions) Chair: Harold Short

Exploring new methods

9.00-10.00 Hands-on, discussion and presentation of [new and advanced] tools in prosopographical research, applications in the social sciences. Chair: Mikael Börjesson

10.00-11.00 Hands-on, discussion and presentation of [new and advanced] tools in prosopographical research, applications in the humanities. Chair: Harold Short

Looking ahead

11.00-12.30 Discussions in small groups, preparation of draft for a network proposal.

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 Summary of group discussions outcomes and joint discussion on network proposal and future collaborations. Distribution of work with network proposal. Chair: Donald Broady

15.00-15.30 Coffee break

Two approaches - one network

15.30-16.30 Presentations and examples of how to combine approaches in the humanities and social sciences.

16.30-17.30 Closing speech and summary of work with network proposal preparations and collaborative activities. Harold Short & Donald Broady

Budget

The proposed total budget for the workshop of 210 000 SEK will cover all costs for 30 participants in travel (flights and train), accommodation for 3 nights and subsistence for all participants for two days and for abroad participants an additional

half day.

The proposed budget will also have to cover all administrative costs such as the venue, printing costs, secretary and publishing costs.

Travel ESF: 48000 RJ: 30000 Total: 78000 SEK

Accommodation ESF: 40000 RJ:40000 Total: 80000 SEK

Subsistence ESF: 25000 RJ:15000 Total: 40000 SEK

Administrative costs ESF: 7000 RJ:5000 Total: 12000 SEK

Total ESF: 120000 RJ:90000 Total: 210000 SEK

List of proposed participants

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Medieval History

Referenser

John Bradley & Harold Short, "Using Formal Structures to Create Complex Relationships: The Prosopography of the Byzantine. A case Study", in K.S.B Keats-Rohan (Ed.), *Resourcing Sources, Prosopographica et Genealogica*, vol. 7, Oxford 2002, pp. 3-21.

Donald Broady, "French prosopography: definition and suggested readings", in *Poetics*, (30) 2002, pp. 381-385 (definition, pp. 381-382).

Pierre Bourdieu *Homo academicus*. Minuit, Paris 1984. English translation: *Homo Academicus*. Polity Press, Cambridge 1988.

Pierre Bourdieu & Monique de Saint Martin, « Le patronat » in *Actes de la recherche en sciences sociales*, 1978, 4.20-21, 3-82 [Revised reprint in Bourdieu, *La noblesse d'État. Grandes écoles et esprit de corps*, 371 ff. Minuit, Paris 1989. (English translation: *The State Nobility: Elite Schools in the Field of Power*. Stanford UP, Stanford 1996)].

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Lawrence Stone, "Prosopography", in Felix Gilbert & Stephen R. Graubard (Eds.), *Historical Studies Today*, Norton, New York 1972, pp. 107-140.

Karl Ferdinand Werner, « L'apport de la prosopographie à l'histoire sociale des élites' », in Keats-Rohan (Ed.) *Family Trees*, Woodbridge, 1997, pp. 1-21.

Projektdeltagarnas publikationer

Selected publications (Donald Broady)

Donald Broady: "French prosopography: definition and suggested readings", *Poetics* [Elsevier Science Publishers, Holland], Volume 30, Issues 5-6, October-December 2002, p. 381-385.

Mikael Börjesson, Donald Broady, Monica Langerth Zetterman, Ida Lidegran, Sverker Lundin, Ingrid Nordqvist och Mikael Palme: Using correspondence analysis for exploring regional differences in the education system. Decentralization, marketization and the social structure of the field of secondary education in four Swedish regions, konferensen CARME 2003 (Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods), Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, 29 juni - 2 juli 2003.

Mikael Börjesson, Donald Broady och Mikael Palme: Social Classification and the Analysis of the Field of Higher Education, konferensen CARME 2003 (Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods), Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, 29 juni - 2 juli 2003.

Donald Broady & Monica Langerth Zetterman: TEI Markup as Research Tool in the Prosopographic Study Formation for the Public Sphere. Paper read at the conference DRH2003 (Digital Resources in the Humanities), University of Gloucestershire, England, Aug. 2003.

Mikael Börjesson & Donald Broady: "New Strategies on the Transnational Higher Education Market. The Case of Swedish Students in Paris and New York", paper to the session "Crossing Frontiers in Higher Education", The 37th World Congress of the International Institute of Sociology, Stockholm, July 5-9, 2005.

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D Buzzetti, G Pancaldi, H Short (Eds): *Humanities Computing: Philosophy and Digital Resources*, Office for Humanities Communication, 2003.

H Short: *The Role of Humanities Computing: Experiences and challenges*, *Literary and Linguistic Computing*, Vol 17 No 2, 2002.

J Bradley, H Short: Using Formal Structures to Create Complex Relationships: The Prosopography of the Byzantine Empire – A Case Study , in K S B Keats-Rohan (Ed): *Resourcing Sources*, Oxbow 2002.

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