

Social Network Analysis Study Group (BSA – SNAG) Annual Report (2022)

Name: Social Network Analysis Study Group (BSA - SNAG)

Established: 2006, renewed 2013

Members: 164 (registered on the group mailing list)

Income: £282.00 (as of June 2023)

Aims:

The BSA-SNAG group aims to support sociologists interested in social network analysis within BSA, to offer an opportunity for discussion and interaction with like-minded colleagues, to diffuse information on relevant publications and events, and to coordinate activities of common interest. Focus is on use of mixed methods in social network studies of sociological relevance.

Review of the year:

One of the group convenors contributed to the organization of the Methodological Innovations Stream at the BSA Conference 2022. The group convenors were also involved in multiple sessions during the 'Sunbelt' conference of INSNA - International Network for Social Network Analysis (12th-16th July 2022). We successfully submitted a proposal for a special event entitled 'Tools for Sociology Interventions: Examples from Social Network Visualization and Research' for the BSA conference 2023.

Concluding remarks:

This is a small group, with a very low number of members who engage intensely in it rather than just subscribing to the mailing list. Considering this limitation, we are proud of having maintained an active agenda over time, and obtained tangible results almost every year.

For long, we chose to keep the group alive despite the small number of highly active members, in order not to deprive the BSA of the methodological diversity that this group represents – and that is rarely represented elsewhere. However, we have been in this role for ten years now – far longer than the maximum recommended tenure of group convenors – and have not been able to devote more time to the effort of devising strategies to widen and strengthen the group. This is partly due to competing commitments of the convenors, partly to an apparently imperfect match with the research interests of BSA members – our initiatives have often been more successful outside than inside the association. This uncertainty should not continue indefinitely and one of the convenors, Paola Tubaro, has now decided to leave her role in the group. Should the BSA decide to look for another colleague to take her place rather than just closing the group, she will be happy to assist in the transition process.

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