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This special issue of the *Journal of Borderlands Studies (JBS)* presents the results of two days of discussions between North American and European scholars on borderlands issues held at the University of Nijmegen, in The Netherlands in September 2002. The conference, entitled ‘Communicating Borders,’ was sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Scholars (ABS) and organized by the Nijmegen Center for Border Research.

This special issue is the second *JBS* issue dedicated to a specific borderlands topic. The first, *JBS* Vol. 15, No.1, Spring 2000, focused on the European perspectives on borderlands.

It is the goal of *JBS* to establish the tradition of using special issues of the journal to widen and deepen the discussion on borderlands issues and topics across the continents. A special issue on the U.S.-Canadian borderlands is forthcoming in Fall 2004. We encourage and invite borderlands scholars from around the world and *JBS* readers to submit their ideas for special issues.

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Communicating Borders

Martin van der Velde and Henk van Houtum*

Introduction

“When we meet.” This was the original title of a conference (changed later to “Communicating Borders”) that was organized in Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in September 2002. This titled tries to capture the two main objectives for organizing the conference: (1) to discuss borders as places where people from different regions meet and interact; (2) to facilitate a dialogue between scientists from all over the world dealing with borders, border-regions and border-related issues. Whether these objectives were met is for you to judge based on the contributions in this special issue, but the preconditions for a dialogue were present, witnessing the continental composition of the participants.1

This special issue summarizes the main outcomes of the conference sessions. It distinguishes itself from the special issues2 and edited volumes on border related themes that have been published in recent years (Ganster (2001); Van Geenhuizen and Ratti (2001); Meinhof (2002); Perkmann and Sum (2002) and Berg and Van Houtum (2003)). These special issues focus on specific topics or themes within the realm of border research. This special issue is not so much topical; here the emphasis lies on the differences in approaching the several themes within border-studies.

The first part of this introduction will address some of the differences we observe between Europe and North America when dealing with border studies. Our observations are partly based on participation in several conferences, seminars and meetings both in Europe and the U.S. Furthermore our co-editorship of the Journal of Borderland Studies (JBS) also provides us with useful insights into the way cross-border issues are dealt with and which topics are the center of interest, of course keeping in mind that we still are embedded in a European context.

Reflections from a European Border Scholar

To start, please look at the four pictures on the following page (Figures 1 and 2). What differences do you see? These four pictures were taken at the outer border of the European Union (EU), in the Spanish enclave of Ceuta on the African continent, and at the inner border of the NAFTA-region at the San Diego-Tijuana border.

It would be interesting to play the game: “Find the ten differences.” At first glance there seems to be a striking resemblance in the pictures. Even the colors of the border patrol cars are similar. From this, one might come to the provisional conclusion that there are lessons to be learned from each regarding the other. However, a major distinc-

*Van der Velde and Van Houtum are co-editors of the Journal of Borderlands Studies, and are at the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research at the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
On Borders and Power: A Theoretical Framework

David Newman*

Introduction

Border studies have come a long way during the past decade. From the study of the hard territorial line separating states within the international system, the contemporary study of borders focuses on the process of bordering, through which territories and peoples are respectively included or excluded within a hierarchical network of groups, affiliations and identities (Welchman 1996; Newman & Paasi 1998; Newman 2000; 2002a; Kolossov & O’Loughlin 1998; Van Houtum 2000). The lines which are borders are as flexible as they were once thought to be rigid, reflecting new territorial and aspatial patterns of human behavior. While modern technologies, particularly cyberspace, have made the barrier role of borders redundant in some areas, they have also served to create new sets of borders and boundaries, enclosing groups with common identities and interests who are dispersed throughout the globe, lacking any form of territorial compactness or contiguity.

This paper raises the question whether it is possible to develop a theory of bordering which will encompass the diverse types of border and boundary experience. I have previously argued that the only way to create a common language between the different disciplinary languages (including geographers, political scientists, anthropologists, sociologists, economists and others) is to create a common set of theoretical constructs and frameworks which can be used as a generalized explanatory model for understanding changing border/boundary phenomenon (Newman 2003). In essence, this paper reiterates a question asked long ago in one of the classic studies of international boundaries, namely how are boundaries (borders) to be redefined in the settings of contemporary time and place (Jones 1959).

Others have argued that any such attempt to create a single analytical framework is doomed to failure. The study of borders is so diverse, both in terms of the geographic and spatial scales (ranging from the global to the local, and from the State to the urban neighborhood) and in terms of the type of borders being discussed (from the hard geographic, to the social and cultural, and from the concrete visible boundaries to the

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This article is partly inspired by discussions at a session held at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in Fall 2002 as part of the “Communicating Borders” workshop, co-sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Studies and the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research. The session was labeled “Loosening or tightening: do borders still exercise a control function?” The session started with brief comments by Ulrich Best, David Newman, Mark Salter, Anke Strüver and Herman van der Wusten. References to participants in the bibliography indicate comments and statements made at this session rather than a published source. Additional participants joined in the subsequent dialogue. The author wants to thank the scholars who participated in these sessions. The author is responsible for the content of this contribution. Whenever references are made to comments and statements by the participation, they concern the interpretation of the author.
Borders, Border Regions and Economic Integration: One World, Ready or Not

Joan Anderson and Egbert Wever*

Introduction

The effects of a border on economic interaction depend on the nature of that border with respect to the degree of openness, the degree of cultural, racial and linguistic differences, political relations between the respective regions and the degree of economic disparity. High walls and slow border crossings are detrimental to economic exchange. Economic and political tensions surrounding a border are directly related to the degree of economic disparity. At the same time, large differentials in relative factor costs (i.e. cheaper capital on one side and cheaper unskilled labor on the other) tend to encourage cross-border production sharing, as well as cross-border shopping and cross-border working. The extent and shape of border relationships vary widely and are strongly influenced by the degree of asymmetry in the neighboring economies, as well as the social and political organization of each. This paper presents a discussion of factors affecting the degree and nature of economic interactions between borders that are moving toward increased economic integration. It addresses the question of why in some cases with all political barriers removed, barriers to trade and cooperation persist, while in other cases large amounts of trade and cooperation exist despite substantial political barriers.

Given the large number of variables affecting border interactions, is it possible to develop a theoretical model to explain border interactions in general? Van Houtum (2000) suggests three categories that classify theoretical approaches to the analysis of border interactions:

- the flow approach
- the cross-border cooperation approach
- the people approach.

*Anderson is Professor of Economics and International Business at the School of Business Administration, University of San Diego, San Diego, California, and Wever is Professor of Economic Geography in the Department of Human Geography, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands and Department of Human Geography, University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

This article is based upon discussions at two sessions held at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in Fall 2002 as part of the “Communicating Borders” workshop, co-sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Studies and the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research. The two sessions were “Reimagining economic (a)symmetry and transnational development: Do we need border-regions?” and “Reimagining economic (a)symmetry and transnational development: (Inter-)actions and transactions.” The first session included brief statements to start discussions by Joan Anderson, Frans Boekema, Robert Knippschild, Ingo Neumann and Hans de Weert. The session during the second day was started off by Manual Chavez, Gerhard Heimpold, Gerry Schmaedick, Gerrit van Vlisteren and Egbert Wever. Additional participants joined in the subsequent dialogue. The authors’ thanks go out to the scholars who contributed on these issues around the table at this event, but conference participants are not responsible for the contents of this article.
Crossing Borders of Political Governance and Democracy

Olivier Kramsch and Virginie Mamadouh*

Introduction

Political governance and democracy are associated so closely with the modern nation-state that it is difficult to imagine them in any other political setting. As a consequence of globalization, the alleged passing or “unbundling” of the nation-state (at the very least its transformation) therefore poses a severe challenge to these two founding concepts, requiring a new language of politics and rule which can at least partially transcend traditional state-centric territorialities (Ruggie 1993; Held 1995; Linklater 1998). The field of human geography, in particular, has been challenged to think beyond the “territorial trap” of perceiving culture, identity and politics as isomorphic with national space (Agnew 1999).

Scholars working in the field of border studies are perforce joined to this debate. Indeed, during the early 1990s, a stream of scientific research has begun to address emergent forms of subnational decision-making operating at the transboundary, regional scale, notably in Europe (Church and Reid 1995; Håkli 1998; Kicker et al. 1998; Scott 1999; Perkmann 1999; Kramsch 2001; Telò 2001; O’Dowd 2002; Anderson, O’Dowd and Wilson 2002). In devising new institutional mechanisms of cross-border governance, European member states are said to engage in a “negotiated suspension of sovereignty” (Scott 1999: 607) in exchange for the creation of a more flexible, networked and “multi-level” European polity capable of engaging successfully the demands of market-driven globalization (Kohler-Koch and Eising 1999; Hooghe and Marks 2001). Scholars drawing on materialist-inspired accounts of state restructuring have tended to grasp the underlying logic of the transformation of borders and border regions in terms of capital-centered “spatial fixes” furthering new rounds of accumulation within a largely unregulated neoliberal regime (Sparke 2000; Jessop 2002; Perkmann and Sum 2002). In these narratives, the particular scale represented by borders and

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This article is based on discussions at two sessions held at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in Fall 2002 as part of the “Communicating Borders” workshop, co-sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Studies and the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research. The two sessions were organized under the title “Crossing borders of and bordering political governance and democracy” and were labeled “Do we need scale?” and “People and Power.” The first session started with brief statements by Luis Alberto di Martino, Tom Edwards, Ann Kennard and Olivier Kramsch. Olivier Clochard, Virginie Mamadouh, Gabriël Popenco and Dennis Soden, together with Christine Brenner and Janet Conary, started off the second session. References to participants in the bibliography indicate comments and statements made at one of these two sessions rather than a published source. Additional participants joined in the subsequent dialogue. The authors want to thank the scholars who participated in these sessions. The authors are responsible for the content of this contribution. Whenever references are made to comments and statements by the participants, they concern the interpretation of the authors.
Transboundary Environmental Cooperation: A Conversation on Issues in Research and Methodologies

Jaidev Singh and Paul Ganster*

Introduction

How do we understand nature, let alone manage it, especially if we attempt to confine nature into nation-state containers. In a recent meeting of academics and practitioners, a conversation ensued to discern how something so fluid like nature could be bounded by administrative boundaries. This conversation also attempted to discuss the power relations and politics that determine the conservation and environmental governance of natural resources and transboundary environmental issues such as air and water pollution as well as how we judge, measure, and ameliorate environmental conflicts? This conversation is an important one as it touches upon a larger philosophical discussion on the role of scientific management of the environment. Scientific management of nature gets even more complicated across states that share borders but little else. Some of these complicating transborder factors include asymmetrical economies along with vastly different cultures of knowledge creation and dissemination.

Talbott (2003: 35) explains, “The problem with scientific management, founded as it is on the hope of successful prediction and control, is that complex natural systems have proven notoriously unpredictable and uncontrollable.” Are the limits of our knowledge really a defining limitation of our practices? If so, then Talbott (2003: 35), playing Devil’s advocate by quoting Jack Turner, reasons that we should “refuse to mess with wilderness for the same reason we should refuse, beyond certain limits, to mess with the atom or the structure of DNA. We are not that wise, nor can we be.”

The “preservation as management” tradition that began with [Aldo] Leopold is finished because there is little reason to trust the experts to make intelligent long-range decisions about nature…If an ecosystem can’t be known or controlled with scientific data, then why don’t we simply can all the talk of ecosystem health and integrity and admit, honestly, that its just public policy, not science? (Turner quoted in Talbott 2003: 35)

*Singh is Affiliate Assistant Professor at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington and Ganster is Director of the Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias, San Diego State University.

This article is partly inspired on discussions in one of the workshops held at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in Fall 2002 as part of the “Communicating Borders” workshop, co-sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Studies and the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research. The session dealt with an increasingly important theme: Borders, nature conservation, and transborder environmental concerns. The session started with brief comments by Paul Ganster, Heather Nicol, Tjeerd Schaafsma, Jay Singh and Al Sweedler. References to participants in the bibliography indicate comments and statements made at this session rather than a published source. Additional participants joined in the subsequent dialogue.
Migration, Identity, and Belonging

Kenneth D. Madsen and Ton van Naerssen*

Introduction

In this contribution we focus on cross-border migration and how it is related to processes of identity formation. We conceive cross-border migration as a movement across the borders of (nation-)states, regardless whether it occurs long-distance or nearby. It differs from commuting in the sense that the people concerned settle in a place, an environment that differs from the region where they originated. In a stable border context where cross-border flows of people are effectively regulated the impact is quite different from where cross-border flows are transient and being actively discouraged. In the former case (at least in contemporary times) the population that gets through is generally quite well-educated and skilled, a carefully orchestrated brain gain composed of individuals that in all probability are somewhat culturally familiar with their destination. In the latter case, migration remains partly or completely hidden from certain sectors of society and consists of lower-wage earners. Such individuals are often less prone to integrate and intend to stay only a short time. But in either context, people are trying to make a living and a home, even if temporary, and in due course their identities change as they will undoubtedly adjust their lives to some degree to accommodate their new residence and/or reinforce aspects of their heritage in counter-reaction to what is going on around them.

Geographical border studies, among others, concern the place and space dimensions of people crossing borders. Besides cross-border migration in border areas themselves, in our globalizing world long-distance migration and the related phenomenon of transnationalism increasingly call for our attention. This contribution does not pretend to give a comprehensive view on all of these subjects, but rather we will present some ideas that we feel in the future will have to be worked out within the discipline of border studies. Since this article is the result of a conference organized in The Netherlands, this country and its sub-regions will often serve as representative cases for countries of the European Union (E.U.).

Throughout this paper, our focus is on consideration of the disjuncture between political and cultural borders (as reflected and caused by inter-state migration and the sustaining of a national identity) and what this means for where and how one “be-

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This article is inspired by discussions at two sessions held at the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands) in Fall 2002 as part of the “Communicating Borders” workshop, co-sponsored by the Association of Borderlands Studies and the Nijmegen Centre for Border Research. The two sessions were “Identity, belonging, and migration: Making home/making difference” and “Identity, belonging, and migration: Belonging and longing to be.” The first session included brief statements to jump-start our conversation by Nicole Ehlers, Enza Lissandrello, Thomas Lundén, Moreno Zago, and Willem van Schendel. The session the next day was started off by Marisha Maas, Ton van Naerssen, Nienke van Oost, Bruno Maltoni, and Kenneth Madsen. Additional participants joined in the subsequent dialogue. The authors’ thanks go out to the scholars who contributed on these issues around the table at this event, but conference participants are not responsible for the contents of this article.
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All references to monographs, articles, and statistical sources are to be identified at an appropriate point in the text by last name of author, year of publication, and pagination when appropriate—all within parentheses. Be sure that the year and the spelling of the author’s name within the parentheses exactly match those in the reference list. Frequently, manuscripts have to be returned a second time to authors because the reference list and the references in the text (including endnotes) do not agree. Frequent problems include the item referenced in the text not appearing in the list of references at the end of the chapter, the year of the citation within the text not agreeing with the year listed in the reference section, inconsistent spelling for authors’ names, and failure to include accents and other diacriticals for foreign-language references.

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At the end of the text, after the endnotes (if any), the full listing of all items included as references within parentheses in the text should appear in a section titled References. While the references in the text used only the first author and “et al.,” for works with more than three authors, the reference section should list all authors.

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Following are some examples of reference formats:

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If no issue number, month, or season is used for the journal, use the number of the volume, if available.

Journal Article—two authors

Book


Article in Edited Book


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Paper Presented at Meetings, Seminars, or Conferences


Unpublished Paper or Manuscript


Organization as Author


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Thesis or Dissertation

Author. Year. “Title of Work.” Ph.D. diss., Name of Department, Name of University, City, State, Country.

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Table 1. Per Capita Income in Border Counties

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For example:

Figure 1. The Russian-Finnish Border Region

The legend or title should be located at the top of the illustration and centered. The legend typeface should be Helvetica, 8 point, and bold.

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For More Information Regarding Illustrations

For more information with regard to illustration requirements and format, contact JBS Production Editor Baldomero Garcia (baldogarcia@tamiu.edu). Please review illustrations in recent issues of the Journal of Borderlands Studies for examples.

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