



Serving Sociologists | Advancing Sociology | Promoting Sociology to Society

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

- Serving Sociologists in Their Work
- Advancing Sociology as a Science and Profession
- Promoting the Contributions and Use of Sociology to Society

The American Sociological Association (ASA), founded in 1905, is a non-profit membership association dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the public good. With over 13,000 members, ASA encompasses sociologists who are faculty members at colleges and universities, researchers, practitioners, and students. About 20 percent of the members work in government, business, or non-profit organizations.

As the national organization for sociologists, the American Sociological Association, through its Executive Office, is well positioned to provide a unique set of services to its members and to promote the vitality, visibility, and diversity of the discipline. Working at the national and international levels, the Association aims to articulate policy and implement programs likely to have the broadest possible impact for sociology now and in the future.

Much of the vitality of ASA flows from its diverse membership. With this in mind, it is the policy of the ASA to include people of color; women; gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons; persons with disabilities; sociologists from smaller institutions or who work in government, business, or other applied settings; and international scholars in all of its programmatic activities and in the business of the Association.

The objectives of the Association shall be to stimulate and improve research, instruction, and discussion, and to encourage cooperative relations among persons engaged in the scientific study of society.

—ASA Constitution, Article II

2013–2014 ASA COUNCIL

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ANNETTE LAREAU, University of Pennsylvania

Talks given at the 2014 Annual Meeting, "Hard Times: The Impact of Economic Inequality on Families and Individuals," are a continuing resource long after the meeting has wrapped up. The plenary presentations, which can be valuable for classroom use, are free and easily accessible.

2014 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sociological research sheds light on social inequality. Talks given at the 2014 Annual Meeting, "Hard Times: The Impact of Economic Inequality on Families and Individuals," are a continuing resource long after the meeting has wrapped up. The *plenary presentations*, which can be valuable for classroom use, are free and easily accessible. If you missed the lively evening keynote addresses by *Robert Reich* and *Malcolm Gladwell*, I recommend them to you.

The plenary panels, which include classroom-friendly transcripts, highlight exciting work by sociologists. I have used Matt Desmond's compelling exposition about the process of eviction in my classrooms. Desmond's talk, with its gripping black-and-white slides, begins one hour into the plenary. My students were enthralled. Yet, this was just one talk among many. In the same session as Desmond, Marianne Cooper delivers a vivid account of feelings of financial insecurity across social classes; she draws from her book *Cut Adrift*. Jay MacLeod gives a dramatic update on the experience of the men—no longer young—from *Ain't No Making It*. Emmanuel Saez, co-author with Thomas Piketty, highlights the economic inequalities of wealth on a plenary stage he shares with Melvin Oliver and Thomas Shapiro, Leslie McCall, and Thomas DiPrete.

But inequality is not simply about gaps in income and wealth. There are also important differences in cultural knowledge. My presidential address shares the experience of the youth in *Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life* as adults at age 20 and 30 as they navigate institutions. The talk, which begins about one hour into the link, can be seen here (http://videoarchive.asanet.org/presentations/2014_live_4.html?plist=2014).

This new research highlights the importance of cultural knowledge. Little moments can have lasting consequences. Stacey Marshall, an African American middle-class youth who entered college pre-med, received helpful advice from her mother when she got a C in biology; she ultimately regrouped and earned a doctorate in the humanities. By contrast, another youth did not know it was possible to drop a community college class; she received an F on her transcript. "Cultural Knowledge and Social Inequality" is available in the February 2015 issue of the *American Sociological Review*.

One ongoing challenge for our discipline is to increase the contributions of our research to public discourse. As President,

I developed a Task Force on Social Media. Matt Wray (Temple University) is my current co-chair. This task force is developing a variety of tool kits to help our members reach social media; Jessie Daniels (CUNY) and Tina Fetner (McMaster University) are heading up that effort. There is discussion of how social media activities could count for merit, promotion, and tenure; Leslie McCall (Northwestern University) is chairing this subcommittee of the task force. We are also seeking ways to make sociological research more visible. If you have any suggestions about these issues, please do drop me a note.

Of course, it takes a great deal of work to make ASA run. Special thanks are due to the talented ASA staff. I am grateful for their assistance on countless matters.

My year as President has come to an end. It was a pleasure and an honor to serve as the President of the American Sociological Association.

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MARY ROMERO, Arizona State University

Our investments experienced a few bursts of downward movement in the volatile markets throughout 2014, but the markets generally moved in an upward trend.

2014 SECRETARY'S REPORT

I end my first year of service as Secretary of the ASA with this report of the organization and activities of the Association. As Secretary I serve as an advisory and recording officer of the Association and as liaison between the Executive Office, the President, and Council. During my three-year term, I serve *ex officio* as a voting member of the Publications, Program, and Executive Office and Budget (EOB) Committees. I chair the EOB Committee, which meets twice a year to review the operations of the Executive Office and the finances of the association. The EOB Committee works closely on the association's operating budget to ensure that expenses and revenues are appropriate to fulfill ASA's mission. There are six other voting members on the EOB Committee—three elected (President, President-Elect, and Past President) and three at-large members nominated by the Secretary and approved by Council. In 2014, the three Presidents were Annette Lareau (University of Pennsylvania), Paula England (New York University), and Ruth Milkman (CUNY Graduate Center). The at-large members were Jeffrey Chin (LeMoyne College), Judith Howard (University of Washington), and Eleanor Miller (University of Vermont).

ASA's financial situation is strong even though there is a (pre-audit) 2014 projected deficit in the operating budget of \$93,000. This is primarily a result of dues revenues being below budget by \$130,111 and expenses being above budget by \$55,000. We expected the latter because we invested more resources in the Annual Meeting to expand audiovisual support in San Francisco in response to member requests for more Internet services and access to more social media. The EOB Committee views the level of ASA's invested reserve funds to be sufficient to absorb such occasional operating deficits. Our investments experienced a few bursts of downward movement in the volatile markets throughout 2014, but the markets generally moved in an upward trend. We ended 2014 with net gains of \$344,571 in ASA investments, an approximate 4.5 percent total gain that is well above the operating budget deficit.

The original financing of the ASA's headquarters purchase in November 2007 included a Letter of Credit from PNC Bank that expired in November 2014. ASA's real estate attorneys recommended that ASA replace the expiring letter of credit with the 10-year loan refinancing option offered by PNC. In March 2014, Council authorized the Executive Office to move forward with this refinancing plan. Working closely with ASA staff, President England and I signed the refinancing documents in November 2014. I appreciate Janet Astner and Les Briggs attending to all the last minute details and making the process appear effortless!

We have been monitoring membership closely since the dues structure was changed in 2013. The dues structure had not changed for more than 14 years; since 1996, ASA's dues were adjusted only to account for inflation (per the ASA Bylaws). They continue, in fact, to be on the low side in comparison to our sister national disciplinary associations. Membership began to decline during the Great Recession but not because of dues increases. A careful analysis shows that membership declines were in the lowest income/dues categories, which did not experience an increase in dues in the 2013 restructuring, and the upper income/dues categories that did experience an increase gained in membership. The final 2014 membership count was 12,585; this is 438 fewer members than in 2013 (a decline of 3.4 percent).

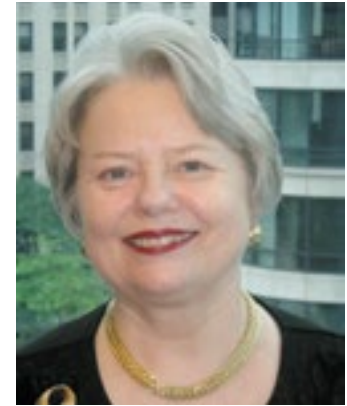
A long-term view of this membership decline is consistent with a steady movement of small declines and small increases throughout the association's history. Nevertheless, the Executive Office has initiated several new programs that we hope will encourage retention of members by providing new services and benefits. The new ASA Opportunities in Retirement Network (ORN), for example, held a meeting in San Francisco, established an advisory board, and will become a formal entity within the association. Through a partnership agreement with Interfolio, ASA began offering all members free access to the Interfolio Dossier system and providing Department Affiliates a discount on the ByCommittee search committee management system. First-year graduate students in Department Affiliates also receive free ASA membership. The membership department continues to explore ways of expanding services and benefits to members. We welcome input from you.

I conclude my report with a special thank you to the ASA Executive Office staff for its patience, assistance, and incredible talent—all of which makes serving as ASA Secretary a rewarding experience.

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ASA extended our highly successful publishing collaboration with SAGE for an additional five years, 2015 through 2019, and added a new journal—*Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*—to the Association's section journal portfolio.



SALLY T. HILLSMAN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

2014 was a year of moving forward on many new Association programs and projects to benefit the members and the discipline, beginning with ASA's journal publishing program—the intellectual heart of the Association. ASA extended our highly successful publishing collaboration with SAGE for an additional five years, 2015 through 2019, and added a new journal—*Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*—to the Association's section journal portfolio. Its first issue, under the editorship of David L. Brunsma (Virginia Tech) and David G. Embrick (Loyola University Chicago), appeared in January 2015. ASA Council also appointed Lisa Keister (Duke University) and James Moody (Duke University) as the inaugural editors of ASA's first general sociology open access journal—*Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*—which will also begin publication in 2015. In recognition of the importance of ASA journals, Council voted to provide free electronic access to all ASA journals to all members, also starting in 2015.

ASA has been a leader for well over a decade in conducting research on the discipline and the profession. We have provided sociology department chairs, program directors, faculty, and students with a steady stream of relevant and timely data and analyses that help assess the state of the discipline. Ongoing analysis of the ASA Job Bank to understand the market for PhD sociologists, trends in and comparisons of faculty salaries, post-graduation early careers of undergraduate majors and master's degree recipients, and data from a panel study of new PhDs are a few highlights of this work. In 2014, the ASA's research leadership passed to John W. Curtis, a PhD sociologist from Johns Hopkins University who was previously with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). Roberta Spalter-Roth, ASA's longstanding Research Director, became Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Social Science Research at George Mason University and remains a Senior Research Fellow at ASA.

2014 also brought the ASA's research and publishing programs into collaboration on behalf of the many ASA members, journal authors, and peer reviewers who sought Council's help in preserving for future research an important collection of ASA journal editorial office records from the 1990s and 2000s. At Council's direction, ASA submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to transform literally tons of archival print material into a researchable digital archive. The project—*Creating a Digital Archive on the Production of Scientific Knowledge*—will begin in 2015.

Also forward looking was Council's decision in 2014 to establish a task force to prepare a new edition of ASA's *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Major*, first published in 1990 and updated in 2004. This classic volume is not just on the shelves of most sociology undergraduate departments in the United States, but it is *used* by them and by the ASA Department Resources Group (DRG) consultants as their primary guide for best practices in formulating and reviewing sociology curricula and programs. To keep up with the changes in pedagogy in our discipline, this guide is ready for revision. Some new areas for attention will be a consideration of the trend toward online courses, the focus on employment outcomes of liberal arts graduates, and the pressures to establish a core for the undergraduate curriculum.

This was also the year for the quadrennial Congress of the International Sociological Association (ISA), of which ASA is the national association for the United States. Through a grant from the NSF, ASA was able to provide small grants to 50 U.S.-based sociologists to support their travel to the 2014 Congress in Yokohama, Japan. Hofstra University sociologist Margaret Abraham was elected the first women president of the ISA (2014–2018) after having served as ISA Vice President for Research (2010–2014) and ASA's ISA National Representative (2010–2014).

Following submission of the ASA *amicus curiae* brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013 in the Defense of Marriage Act and California Proposition 8 cases, which challenged barriers to same-sex marriage, the Association was approached by many litigants in subsequent federal court cases on the same issues asking for the Association to submit the amicus brief on their behalf. The ASA brief documented the social science research consensus on the impact on children of having gay or lesbian parents compared to having parents of different sexes. The brief presented the social science evidence showing that parents' gender has no impact on children's well-being;

it refuted the scientific validity (or the misinterpretation) of several studies cited in other briefs purporting to demonstrate scientific evidence of harm to children raised by same-sex parents. In 2014, ASA submitted amicus briefs to nine federal appellate courts and the Constitutional Court of Colombia. Council also authorized preparation of an updated brief to be submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court after the Court agreed to hear cases on the constitutionality of state marriage bans during its 2014–2015 term. Wendy Diane Manning (Bowling Green State University) was the expert scholar chosen by Council to work on these ASA briefs along with the New York City law firm of Clearly Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton.

The ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE) launched a review of the ASA *Code of Ethics*, last updated in 1999. The revision process begun this year will take several more years to complete, as we will solicit the input of ASA members, and the Council and voting membership will then review and approve the revisions.

I want to thank all ASA members for their support of the Association during this very busy and forward-looking year. Every year ASA members contribute significant professional time and talent to the Association through its 52 vibrant sections, the ASA governance structure, and ASA's many programs and activities. ASA's democratic governance structure relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of a very large number of members who do the work of the ASA Bylaws Committees, appointed committees, task forces, and advisory panels (see the chart on page 12). Without you, the Association would not be able to fulfill its mission of serving sociologists, advancing sociology, and promoting sociology to society. The staff of the ASA Executive Office joins me in thanking you for your work, and for your support of our work, as we face the exciting and sometimes difficult challenges of achieving ASA's goals.

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The Association's most important resource is its members—the thousands of scholars, researchers, and students from the United States and around the globe.

The 2014 membership year ended with a final count of 12,585, a decrease of 438 compared to the 2013 end-of-year total of 13,023. This represents an overall decrease of 3.36 percent, with decreases in most regular and student categories. The exceptions were two of the three highest income categories, with the highest category—\$150,000 and over—showing a 4.97 percent increase from 2013. There was also a significant increase (5.88 percent) in the number of emeritus/retired members, likely due to the elimination of the 10-year membership requirement, the increased benefits for that particular category, and promotion of the new Opportunities in Retirement Network.

ASA Membership by Category, 2005–2014

Category	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Regular Member	7,259	7,493	7,923	7,661	7,804	7,337	7,388	7,027	6,805	6,525
Associate Member	1,299	1,300	1,343	1,284	1,284	1,157	1,226	1,065	1,153	1,139
International Associate				98	80	73	120	119	157	147
Student Member	4,464	4,629	4,683	4,612	4,843	4,511	4,679	4,283	4,221	4,047
Emeritus Member	813	790	797	757	682	612	632	623	680	720
Life Member	10	10	11	9	6	8	8	8	7	7
Total	13,845	14,222	14,757	14,421	14,699	13,698	14,053	13,125	13,023	12,585

NEW MEMBER BENEFITS

During 2014, ASA Council approved a recommendation from the Executive Office to provide online access to all ASA journals as an automatic benefit of membership for 2015, as well as a new partnership with Interfolio to provide ASA members with free subscriptions to *Dossier*, an online repository to collect, store, and distribute materials for job searches. The Interfolio partnership also provides ASA Department Affiliates with free access to the *ByCommittee* search management system.

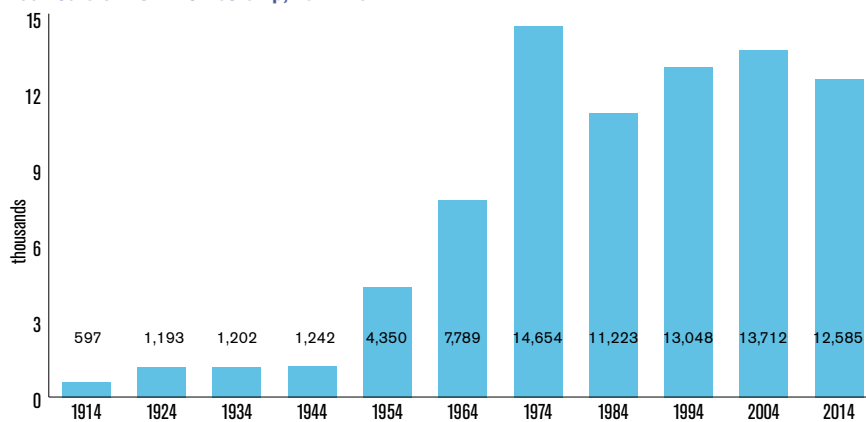
EXPANDED GENDER CATEGORIES

In 2014, ASA Council approved a recommendation from the ASA Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Persons in Sociology to further expand the gender categories offered for selection as part of the membership application/renewal and for use in internal research. The new categories will go into effect for the 2016 membership year.

ASA OPPORTUNITIES IN RETIREMENT NETWORK

A member-generated proposal led to establishment of the *ASA Opportunities in Retirement Network (ORN)*, a program focused on the needs and interests of sociologists at or near the retirement stage of their careers. The new ASA ORN established a discussion listserv (the initial list of individuals interested in the initiative and all ASA emeritus/retired members have access) and published the first issue of *ORN Notes*, a semi-annual newsletter that will be e-mailed to all emeritus/retired members; it will eventually be posted online for access by other interested individuals. The now official group held its first meeting in San Francisco during the 2014 Annual Meeting to formally establish an advisory board and more fully discuss and advance other activities for retired sociologists.

100 Years of ASA Membership, 1914–2014



The Association's most important resource is its members—the thousands of scholars, researchers, and students from the United States and around the globe. The 2014 membership year ended with a final count of 12,585, a decrease of 438 compared to the 2013 end-of-year total of 13,023.

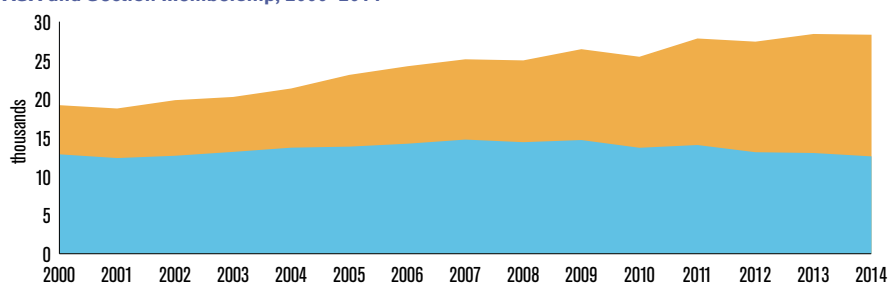
SECTIONS

The *ASA sections* reflect specialty fields within the discipline and foster scholarly and professional connections among researchers, teachers, and students. They provide ASA members who share a common interest in a particular subfield of the discipline with the ability to organize meetings and coordinate communications with the assistance of the Association.

The 2014 membership year ended on a mixed note for half of the 52 sections; only 24 sections ended the year with more members. There were a total of 28,312 section memberships in 2014, a slight drop from the previous year.

The year also saw a continuation of the trend toward a greater number of section memberships per member, with the average rising from 2.94 in 2013 to 3.06 in 2014. While there were fewer total people engaged in sections, those who remain tend to be more active.

ASA and Section Membership, 2000–2014



There is still some concern over the viability of ASA's six smallest sections: Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco; Animals and Society; Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis; Evolution, Biology and Society; History of Sociology; and Rationality and Society. Despite some recovery in 2013, these sections did not maintain their gains; all six ended the year with fewer than 200 members. Only one section, History of Sociology, added members. As was the case last year, these sections also have low levels of student engagement.

The newly instituted policy of linking section annual reports to receipt of budget allocations for the upcoming year proved to be successful. All sections filed Annual Reports for the 2014 membership year. The reports and the Committee on Section's observations are viewable [online](#).

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2014 Section Membership Counts

Name	Low income	Student	Member	Total
Aging and the Life Course	22	148	410	580
Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco	8	38	127	173
Altruism, Morality and Social Solidarity	15	130	173	318
Animals and Society	9	39	106	154
Asia and Asian America	25	102	209	336
Body and Embodiment	16	131	165	312
Children & Youth	25	156	240	421
Collective Behavior & Social Movements	43	301	491	835
Communication and Information Technology	16	172	183	371
Community & Urban Sociology	34	189	407	630
Comparative & Historical Sociology	49	273	486	808
Consumers and Consumption	16	142	156	314
Crime, Law, & Deviance	28	219	327	574
Culture, Sociology	72	450	697	1,219
Development, Sociology of	22	191	283	496
Disability and Society	14	94	196	304
Economic Sociology	34	292	482	808
Education, Sociology of	34	294	501	829
Emotions, Sociology of	13	84	166	263
Environment & Technology	25	172	310	507
Ethnomethodology & Conversation Analysis	6	42	96	144
Evolution, Biology & Society	8	25	117	150
Family	39	248	499	786
Global/Transnational Sociology	37	232	458	727
History of Sociology	10	42	146	198
Human Rights	13	107	177	297
Inequality, Poverty & Mobility	35	292	475	802
International Migration	38	218	418	674
Labor and Labor Movements	21	114	274	409
Latino/a Sociology	19	144	243	406
Law, Sociology of	18	157	240	415
Marxist Sociology	21	105	217	343
Mathematical Sociology	8	61	147	216
Medical Sociology	67	329	674	1,070
Mental Health, Sociology of	16	101	221	338
Methodology	21	114	283	418
Organizations, Occupations, and Work	43	314	647	1,004
Peace, War, & Social Conflict	13	118	168	299
Political Economy of the World-System	24	140	253	417
Political Sociology	45	331	493	869
Race, Gender, and Class	58	444	504	1,006
Racial & Ethnic Minorities	47	322	555	924
Rationality and Society	4	23	108	135
Religion, Sociology of	53	203	349	605
Science, Knowledge & Technology	32	215	335	582
Sex and Gender	46	389	700	1,135
Sexualities, Sociology of	28	216	294	538
Social Psychology	40	265	379	684
Sociological Practice & Public Sociology	27	97	217	341
Sociology of Population	10	128	397	535
Teaching and Learning	51	200	486	737
Theory	49	274	533	856
Totals	1,467	9,627	17,218	28,312
Average Section Size				544.5

ASA depends on the volunteer participation of its members to govern the Association, to conduct the business of its committees and task forces, and to guide its programs through advisory bodies. Participation in governance of ASA occurs through the annual election of the Association's leadership by the voting membership.

In 2014, 1,114 members serving in 1,481 roles contributed their time and expertise to the health and strength of the Association and through it to the discipline. This volunteer participation is the backbone of every ASA component—Council, committees (elected and appointed), task forces, advisory panels, resource groups, section leadership, and journal editorial boards.

THE ASA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Association provide a democratic framework in which the voting members directly elect people to serve in all major leadership roles and represent the membership in appointment of members to serve in key appointive positions. Only the membership as a voting body may change the rules governing the Association as laid out in the *ASA Constitution and Bylaws*, including that the voting membership may take any action otherwise within the power of the Council.

ELECTION PARTICIPATION BY ASA MEMBERS

In accordance with ASA Bylaws, an annual election is conducted every May. In the 2014 ASA election, 559 candidates competed for more than 200 leadership positions in the association. On the national level, ASA elected a new president-elect, a vice president-elect, and members-at-large for the ASA Council and three bylaws committees. Members also voted to amend ASA's bylaws. In addition, elections were conducted for ASA's 52 sections; of these, 11 sections voted to amend their bylaws, one increased its dues, and one gauged membership support for a change in its award policies.

Of the 9,146 members who were eligible to vote in the 2014 ASA-wide election, 4,147 members cast votes, resulting in a 45.34 percent participation rate. Electronic voting continues to contribute to ASA's high turnout rate, with participation rates ranging 10 to 18 percent higher than in the era of mail-in ballots.

Section voting participation continues to soar, achieving a 53.66 percent turnout rate for the 2014 election. All but 10 sections had turnout rates higher than 50 percent, and one section (Latina/o Sociology) hit 62.39 percent.

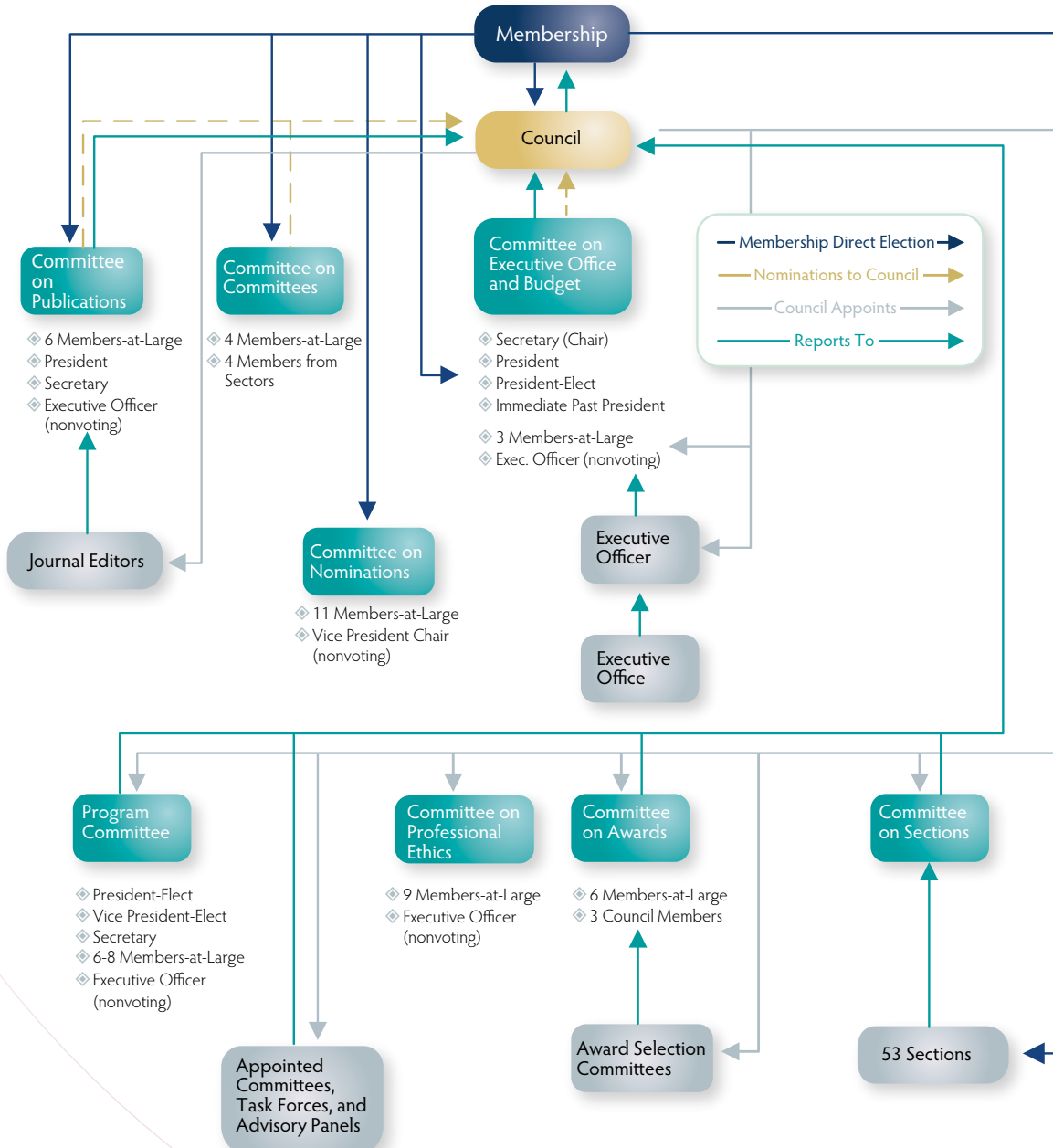
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ASA BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

The last major revision to the *ASA Bylaws* occurred in 2003. In the intervening years, a number of mostly minor inconsistencies and omissions were identified. On the recommendation of the ASA Council, five amendments were submitted to the ASA membership for vote. The membership approved the proposed amendments to the bylaws by wide margins. The approved amendments:

- changed the year that ASA Presidents serve on the Committee on Publications, from the middle year of their term to the final year of their term;
- made the membership terms of the Committee on Committees consistent with the rest of ASA's constitutional committees;
- clarified that the nominees to the Committee on Professional Ethics are appointed by the Committee on Committees;
- corrected an error in the bylaws that referred to the wrong chapter of the ASA Code of Ethics; and
- updated language relating to sections to reflect the role of electronic communications.

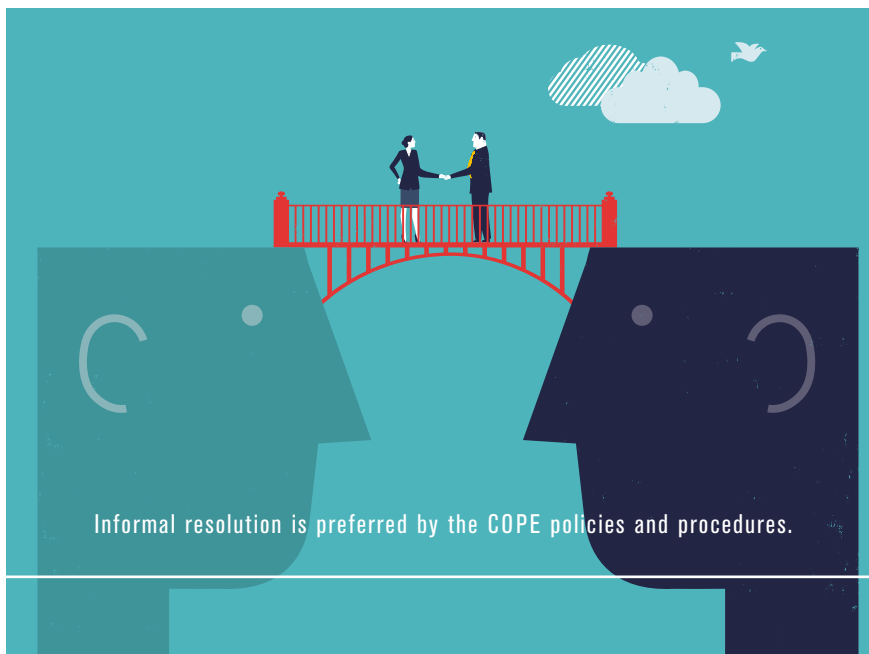
Governance under the ASA Constitution and Bylaws



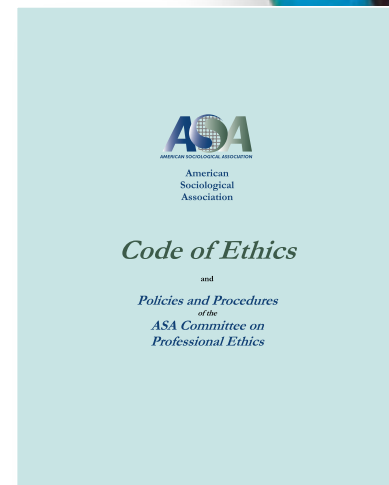
Since 1971, the *ASA Code of Ethics*, approved by the membership, has provided guidance on professional ethics to ASA members and the discipline. The code sets forth the principles and ethical standards that underlie sociologists' professional responsibilities and conduct. These principles and standards are designed to be used as guidelines when examining everyday professional activities. They constitute normative statements for sociologists and provide guidance on issues that sociologists may encounter in their professional work.

Membership in the ASA commits members to adhere to the *ASA Code of Ethics* and to the *Policies and Procedures of the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)*. Members are advised of this obligation upon joining the Association, and violations of the *Code* may lead to the imposition of sanctions, including termination of membership.

A review of the *ASA Code of Ethics*, last updated in 1999, was launched by COPE in 2014. The revision process, which will take several years to complete, will solicit input of ASA members before proposed revisions are crafted and submitted for review and approval by the Council and the voting membership.



In 2014, the ASA received several ethics inquiries each month. Some involved interpretations of the code or allegations about persons who were not currently members of the Association. Of the remainder, most were about alleged infractions that the Executive Officer, as liaison to COPE, or the COPE chair could help resolve informally or provide an outside mediator to seek a resolution. Informal resolution is preferred by the COPE policies and procedures.



The code sets forth the principles and ethical standards that underlie sociologists' professional responsibilities and conduct. These principles and standards are designed to be used as guidelines when examining everyday professional activities.

Every August, ASA proudly presents awards to individuals and groups deserving of recognition. Nominations from ASA members are considered by the nine award selection committees appointed by the ASA Council based on recommendations of the elected ASA Committee on Committees.

2014 ASA MAJOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award

WILLIAM JULIUS WILSON, Harvard University

Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award

MONICA PRASAD, Northwestern University, for *The Land of Too Much: American Abundance and the Paradox of Poverty*, and

ROBERT J. SAMPSON, Harvard University, for *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*

Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

KATHLEEN S. LOWNEY, Valdosta State University

Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology

HARRY PERLSTADT, Michigan State University

Award for the Public Understanding of Sociology

JULIET B. SCHOR, Boston College

Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues Award

LEE RAINIE, Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project

Jessie Bernard Award

CHRISTINE L. WILLIAMS, University of Texas-Austin, and

ESTHER NGAN-LING CHOW, American University

Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award

RICHARD O. HOPE, Woodrow Wilson Foundation

Dissertation Award

YA-WEN LEI, University of Michigan, for "Uncovering the Roots of the Nationwide Counterpublic Sphere in China"

YAN LONG, University of Michigan, for "Constructing Political Actorhood: The Emergence and Transformation of AIDS Advocacy in China, 1989-2012"

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS



William Julius Wilson



Monica Prasad



Robert J. Sampson



Kathleen S. Lowney



Harry Perlstadt



Juliet B. Schor



Lee Rainie



Christine L. Williams



Esther Ngan-Ling Chow



Richard O. Hope



Ya-Wen Lei



Yan Long



THE ASA ANNUAL MEETING

Every summer advanced scholars, new scholars, and future scholars from around the world travel to the Association's flagship event—the *ASA Annual Meeting*—to share their work and expand their networks. Held each August, the Annual Meeting is the major opportunity for sociologists and their colleagues in related disciplines to learn, teach, deliberate, and network with peers, mentors, students, practitioners, publishers, and others interested in the scientific study of society. In 2014, the ASA Annual Meeting returned to San Francisco and attracted 5,952 registrants, the third highest meeting registration to date.

Held each August, the Annual Meeting is the major opportunity for sociologists and their colleagues in related disciplines to learn, teach, deliberate, and network with peers, mentors, students, practitioners, publishers, and others interested in the scientific study of society.

Sharing new scholarship

Featuring five major plenary sessions and 49 thematic sessions, the 2014 Annual Meeting presented a lively blend of sociological research focused on the theme "Hard Times: The Impact of Economic Inequality on Families and Individuals." Nationally recognized guest

speakers included **Robert Reich** (U.S. Secretary of Labor under President Clinton), **Sheryl Sandberg** (Chief Operating Officer of Facebook and author of *Lean In*), and **Malcolm Gladwell** (staff writer for *The New Yorker* and author of *Outliers*, *Tipping Point*, and *David and Goliath*). ASA President



Attentive audience at an evening plenary session

Annette Lareau (University of Pennsylvania) gave a Presidential Address titled "The Transmission of Advantage."

Note: Plenary Session videos are archived in a fully searchable site accessible through the Annual Meeting Archives page (<http://www.asanet.org/Archive.cfm>).

In addition to the 202 regular paper and roundtable sessions sponsored by the Program Committee to allow presentation opportunities for all fields of the discipline, 52 ASA sections bolstered the roster with 292 program sessions and meetings. The record-breaking 4,664 submissions received in response to the 2014 Call for Papers resulted in 5,276 participants listed on 600 sessions in the *Final Program*.



Plenary Speaker Robert Reich

Keeping current

A major strength of the educational component of the Annual Meeting is the breadth and variety of courses and workshops. A robust roster of 39 workshops focused on topics ranging from careers and professional growth, issues in academic departments, teaching challenges, and datasets and resources to funding opportunities and grant proposal preparation. Two pre-convention courses led by expert faculty provided opportunities for attendees to get in-depth training in special subject areas and keep abreast of recent scholarly trends and developments.

A key initiative of President Annette Lareau’s presidential year was to consider specific ways to improve ASA’s use of social media and to develop best practices

for the Association to assist sociologists with expanding their ability to promote their own sociological research. One outcome was that ASA partnered with *JustPublics@365*—a project designed to empower academics with the social media skills to increase their impact on social justice issues—to offer a “JustPublics@ASA Social Media Camp” as part of the pre-convention events held in conjunction with the 2014 Annual Meeting. A series of six skills-building workshops, offered free of charge to meeting attendees, focused on increasing knowledge of social media and strategies for using these tools in sociological work.

Supporting future research

The annual ASA Research Support Forum features discussion of science policy issues, research funding information and guidance, and updates on data resources. The cornerstone of the 2014 forum was a special session focusing on challenges and opportunities ahead for the NSF Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE). Also of note was an open forum session where meeting attendees could provide feedback about the proposed revisions to the Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects in the Behavioral and Social Sciences.

The backbone of the research support forum is the informal poster sessions



Workshop leader Heidi Knoblauch with Shawn(ta) Smith and the JustPublics@ASA MediaCamp poster



President Annette Lareau with Malcolm Gladwell

Annual Meeting Registration & Participation, 2005–2014s

YEAR	SITE	Total ASA Membership	Meeting Registration		Program Participation			Number of Program Sessions
			Paid Registration	Percentage of Membership	Number of Participants	Percentage of Membership	Percentage of Registration	
2005	Philadelphia	13,845	5,026	36.3	4,365	31.5	86.8	609
2006	Montreal	14,222	4,974	34.9	4,530	31.9	91.1	608
2007	New York City	14,759	6,025	40.8	4,809	32.6	79.8	575
2008	Boston	14,421	5,451	37.8	4,628	32.1	84.9	548
2009	San Francisco	14,699	5,494	37.4	4,747	32.4	86.4	561
2010	Atlanta	13,698	4,624	34.1	4,277	31.2	92.5	545
2011	Las Vegas	14,053	5,223	37.2	4,642	33	88.9	562
2012	Denver	13,125	5,330	40.6	4,791	36.5	89.9	569
2013	New York City	13,023	6,184	47.5	5,661	43.5	91.5	578
2014	San Francisco	12,584	5,952	47.3	5,276	41.9	88.6	600

"I was excited about the media attention that my study on the gender division of elder care by adult children received," Grigoryeva said. "To me, it means that my academic research could be of interest to a broad audience."



Registrants surge into the ASA Exhibit Hall



A demo at the Bureau of Labor Statistics booth in the ASA Exhibit Hall

on data resources and research funding opportunities organized by ASA's Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession. Among the 2014 poster exhibitors were the National Science Foundation Sociology Program, the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Mental Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the American Time Use Survey, the Association of Religion Data Archives, the General Social Survey, the Mexican Migration Project and Latin American Migration Project, the Minnesota Population Center, the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, and Social Explorer, Inc. Representatives talked with attendees about how to access these datasets and how to apply for funding.

Promoting sociology and sociological research

Research presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting in San Francisco received extensive media coverage, thanks to the very successful media relations campaign coordinated by ASA's Public Affairs and Public Information staff that included the production and distribution of 30 press releases.

The Association and research presented at its Annual Meeting were mentioned in hundreds of articles across the country and around the world, as well as on radio and television, including NBC's "Today" show. According to Meltwater, a media coverage tracking service, the U.S. press mentioned the ASA in 1,233 articles during the month of August. On August 19, the final day of the 2014 Annual Meeting, ASA was mentioned in 452 articles.

An Annual Meeting presentation by **Angelina Grigoryeva** (Princeton University), titled "When Gender Trumps Everything: The Division of Parent Care among Siblings," was particularly popular with the media, and scores of articles were written about it.

"I was excited about the media attention that my study on the gender division of elder care by adult children received," Grigoryeva said. "To me, it means that my academic research could be of interest to a broad audience."

Staying in touch

ASA again provided complimentary basic bandwidth wireless Internet access to meeting attendees in the session rooms during the Annual Meeting and broadcast each plenary session live over the web. The Hub, ASA's social media space in the exhibit hall, supplied access to a small Internet café with recharging stations, along with informal short training opportunities on an array of popular topics, such as using social networking tools. While overseeing The Hub, the ASA webmaster assisted the Task Force on Engaging Sociology in conducting several surveys and short focus groups of meeting attendees regarding the ASA website and the meeting app.



Trying out the new Meeting App

ASA JOURNALS

ASA's journals (through publishing partners SAGE and Wiley-Blackwell) received more than 3.1 million online page views in 2014, from more than 1.3 million unique visitors in 223 countries. More than 2.6 million abstracts were viewed, resulting in more than 940,000 full-text article downloads.

The most downloaded article published in 2014 from each ASA journal was:

American Sociological Review: "Why Status Matters for Inequality" by **Cecilia L. Ridgeway** (February 2014)

Contemporary Sociology: "The Emergence of Socio-Genomics" by **Dalton Conley, Jason Fletcher, and Christopher Dawes** (July 2014)

Contexts: "The Joy of Cooking?" by **Sarah Bowen, Sinikka Elliot, and Joslyn Brenton** (Summer 2014)

Journal of Health and Social Behavior: "Obesity (Sometimes) Matters: The Importance of Context in the Relationship between Obesity and Life Satisfaction" by **Tom Wadsworth and Philip M. Pendergast** (June 2014)

Social Psychology Quarterly: "'Good Girls': Gender, Social Class and Slut Discourse on Campus" by **Elizabeth A. Armstrong, Laura T. Hamilton, Elizabeth M. Armstrong, and J. Lotus Seeley** (June 2014)

Sociological Methodology: "Qualitative Comparative Analysis in Critical Perspective" by **Samuel R. Lucas and Elisa Szatrowski** (2014)

Sociological Theory: "Formation Stories and Causality in Sociology" by **Daniel Hirschman and Isaac Ariail Reed** (December 2014)

Sociology of Education: "Disparities in Debt: Parents' Socioeconomic Resources and Young Adult Student Loan Debt" by **Jason N. Houle** (January 2014)

Teaching Sociology: "Using Facebook to Engage Learners in a Large Introductory Course" by **Kevin D. Dougherty and Brita Andercheck** (April 2014)

The most downloaded article published in 2014 from each ASA section journal was:

City & Community: "Do-It-Yourself Urban Design: The Social Practice of Informal 'Improvement' Through Unauthorized Alteration" by **Gordon C. C. Douglas** (March 2014)

Society and Mental Health: "Spouse's Work-to-Family Conflict, Family Stressors, and Mental Health among Dual-Earner Mothers and Fathers" by **Marisa Young, Scott Schieman, and Melissa A. Milkie** (March 2014)

(Download statistics for the open access *Journal of World-Systems Research* are not available.)

Journal Subscriptions 2014

Journal	ASA Members	Non-members	Institutions	Total
<i>American Sociological Review</i>	5,456		4,516	9,972
<i>Contemporary Sociology</i>	1,640		3,358	4,998
<i>Contexts</i>	2,125	83	2,671	4,879
<i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i>	1,223		3,328	4,551
<i>Social Psychology Quarterly</i>	621		3,414	4,035
<i>Sociological Methodology</i>	483		2,705	3,188
<i>Sociological Theory</i>	944		2,874	3,818
<i>Sociology of Education</i>	790		3,482	4,272
<i>Teaching Sociology</i>	1,250		2,995	4,245
Totals	14,532	82	29,343	43,958

EXPANSION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW

ASA Council approved a 200-page increase in the permanent page allocation for the Association's flagship journal, the *American Sociological Review*, to increase the number of articles the journal can publish as the number of manuscripts received has increased significantly, reducing the acceptance rate. The additional pages will also allow the editors to consider longer manuscripts.

Scholarly Communication

NEW OPEN ACCESS GENERAL SOCIOLOGY JOURNAL

During 2014, ASA Council approved the mission statement and financial model for a new open access journal that will publish articles from all areas of sociology. *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* will be edited by **Lisa Keister** (Duke University) and **James Moody**

(Duke University) and will begin accepting manuscripts in 2015.

Socius will be available, free of charge, to anyone who wishes to read it. The submission and publication process will be quite distinct from other ASA journals, with rapid reviews, "up or out" decisions, and an emphasis on "fresh ideas, early discoveries, and open theoretical problems that can pose new challenges for social science."

PRESERVATION OF 1990–2010 EDITORIAL OFFICE RECORDS

At its March 2014 meeting, ASA Council approved the Executive Office preparing a grant application to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to transform the stored paper records of ASA editorial offices

from 1990 to 2010 into a researchable electronic data archive that would be made available to scholars for research. The proposal, submitted to NSF in mid-July, outlined archiving work to be divided between ASA and the George Mason University (GMU) Center for Social Science Research (CSSR). At the end of December 2014, ASA was still awaiting a decision from NSF about the grant application.

To help ensure the editorial office records would not be destroyed if the grant proposal was not approved, ASA Council invited ASA members who desired to preserve the 588 boxes of manuscripts and editorial materials to send contributions toward digitization to the Executive Office. By the end of the year, 71 contributions totaling \$26,051 were received for the Digitizing of Editorial Office Records project.

Summary of Editorial Activity, January 1–December 31, 2014

Journal	American Sociological Review	Contexts	Contemporary Sociology ¹	Journal of Health and Social Behavior	Rose ²	Social Psychology Quarterly	Sociological Methodology	Sociological Theory	Sociology of Education	Teaching Sociology
A. Manuscripts Considered (Total)	735	104	1,081	495	9	200	65	209	258	136
Submitted in 2014	603	95	1,081	461	9	167	47	184	245	132
Carried over	132	9	0	34	0	33	18	25	13	4
B. Review Process										
1. Screened by editor/accepted for review	664	64	379	336	9	172	60	159	213	107
a. Rejected outright	382	11	0	132	8	100	15	82	149	38
b. Rejected—revise/resubmit	85	15	0	79	0	29	24	17	42	31
c. Conditional acceptance	47	7	0	47	1	16	9	11	4	18
d. Outright acceptance	46	8	350	36	0	18	8	17	18	20
e. Withdrawn	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
f. Pending	101	21	29	42	0	8	4	29	0	4
2. Screened by editor/rejected	71	40	702	159	0	28	5	50	45	28
C. Revise and Resubmits Outstanding	72	23	0	44	0	14	3	8	8	5
D. Editorial Lag (weeks)	11	4	14	5.96	6	6.8	9.08	13.7	5	8.4
E. Production Lag (months)	7.2	4	4	3.23	*	5.35	1.3	11.6	2	0.58
F. Items Published (Total)	52	95	417	34	1	20	15	18	16	53
Articles	48	21	7	29	0	17	6	17	16	22
Book reviews	0	8	298	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Symposium reviews	0	26	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Review essays	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comments	3	2	0	1	0	0	8	0	0	5
Other	1	38	72	4	1	3	0	1	0	13
G. Acceptance Rates (percent)										
Traditional	7.29%	9.88%	*	7.95%	*	9.42%	13.11%	9.60%	6.98%	14.81%
Revised (Final Decisions Only)	9.16%	13.11%	*	11.01%	*	12.24%	28.57%	11.18%	8.49%	23.26%
Revised minus prejects	10.67%	38.10%	*	21.43%	*	15.13%	34.78%	16.67%	10.78%	34.48%
H. Reviewers										
Men	573	49	*	182	*	133	45	182	*	61
Women	431	54	*	263	*	134	35	74	*	140
Minorities	*	26	*	91	*	*	*	*	*	*
I. Editorial Board Members (2014)										
Men	38	21	21	17	9	18	9	21	24	9
Women	38	26	14	27	14	16	9	9	24	27
Minorities	21	18	14	12	6	6	0	6	16	7

¹ Figures for Contemporary Sociology refer to books received and book reviews. ² "Other" items published are books in the Rose Series.

*Information not applicable, not known, or not supplied by the editor.

The ASA Public Affairs and Public Information (PAPI) staff work to facilitate communication for the Association and its members to advance sociology and promote its value to policymakers, the media, and the public. Use of social media plays an increasingly important role in getting news out to interested parties.

ENGAGING THE PUBLIC

In 2014, the Association continued to expand and better leverage social media tools to reach a wider audience. The goals of ASA's social media activity are to promote sociology, sociologists, and the Association; keep followers aware of the latest *Footnotes* articles and research from ASA journals; and advocate for the social sciences. Social media posts also help direct people to new material on the ASA website. The reach of the ASA Facebook page and Twitter feed (@ASAnews) is steadily increasing and compares favorably with other associations that are members of the Consortium of Social Science Associations.

The most "talked about" (liked, commented on, or shared) posts on Facebook were about the sociology job market, a research article on *marriage quality and cardiovascular risk* published in the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, what to do with a BA, tips for graduate students in their first year, and research on the trajectory of social classes in Baltimore.

On Twitter, the ASA profile had an end-of-year total of 14,600 followers and very active discussion on a large variety of topics throughout the year, especially during the 2014 ASA Annual Meeting with the hashtag #asa14. Items that received the most engagement on Twitter included ASA awards, elections, and calls for papers; the new open-access journal; posts about issues of inequality; and posts about research published in ASA journals and news coverage of articles in ASA journals.

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14,600

FOLLOWERS

#ASA14

“The ASA’s media relations team shepherded me through what would have otherwise been a completely bewildering experience dealing with press inquiries,” Faris said. “Our staff are professional and respected at the highest levels of the media; reporters at both *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* mentioned how much they trust the ASA staff.”

MEDIA COVERAGE

During 2014, the PAPI department oversaw the production and distribution of 61 press releases/media advisories and responded to nearly 500 media inquiries. As a result of these and other efforts, ASA, its journals, and its members received coverage in hundreds of media outlets.

A study published in the April 2014 issue of the *American Sociological Review*, “Casualties of Social Combat: School Networks of Peer Victimization and Their Consequences,” by **Robert Faris** (University of California-Davis) and **Diane Felmlee** (Pennsylvania State University) was featured in more than 135 articles.

“The ASA’s media relations team shepherded me through what would have otherwise been a completely bewildering experience dealing with press inquiries,” Faris said. “Our staff are professional and respected at the highest levels of the media; reporters at both *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* mentioned how much they trust the ASA staff.”

PAPI continued to expand and refine its database of ASA members who are subject matter experts and who are willing to talk with the media. This database serves as an easily accessible resource that PAPI consults when journalists request interviews with experts for their stories. Nearly 800 experts are now in the database, making it easier for PAPI staff to suggest sociologists who can speak about timely topics.

A complete listing of ASA press releases can be found at <http://www.asanet.org/press/press.cfm>.

ASA Public Affairs and Public Information (PAPI) Program

ACTIVITY	2012	2013	2014
Press			
Press Releases/Media Advisories	53	58	61
Media Inquiries	415	523	482
Expert Database	450	715	795
Social Media			
Facebook Followers	6,500	9,700	12,523
Facebook Posts	n/a	189	265
Twitter Followers	6,100	10,140	14,600
Twitter Posts	375	619	1,028
Twitter Retweets	1,000	1,826	3,579
Public Affairs			
Congressional Briefings (Sponsored/Co-sponsored)	3	5	2
ASA Members reporting Congressional Meetings	0	5	0

TASK FORCE ON ENGAGING SOCIOLOGY

Initially constituted as the Task Force on Using Social Media to Increase the Visibility of Sociological Research, this task force was renamed in 2014 to acknowledge its broader focus of activities. Via an array of subcommittees and advisory groups, task force members began work to support an upgrade of the ASA website, compile a directory of sociological blogs, recommend improvements in the meeting app, develop resources on best practices for using social media, and draft a white paper on evaluation of public communications for promotion and tenure.

JOB BANK

The year-round online ASA Job Bank offers a convenient, targeted, and practical resource for employers to advertise directly to job candidates with strong backgrounds in sociology for positions in all sectors of the workforce. Universities, colleges, research organizations, corporations, and government agencies all use the ASA Job Bank to solicit candidates to fill positions within their organizations.

The ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession conducts an annual analysis of jobs advertised through the ASA Job Bank. The analysis of position postings in the Job Bank during 2013 indicates that faculty position opportunities in sociology appeared to hold steady. The number of assistant and open/multiple-rank positions posted in the Job Bank rose slightly, from 507 in 2012 to 527 in 2013.

The number of assistant and open/multiple-rank positions posted in the Job Bank rose slightly, from 507 in 2012 to 527 in 2013.

Positions Advertised in the ASA Job Bank by U.S. Institutions, 2013

Academic Positions	Number Advertised
Assistant Professor	396
Associate Professor	5
Full Professor	4
Open/Multiple Rank	131
Subtotal	536
Postdoctoral	116
Instructor/Lecturer	67
Visiting or Part-time Assistant Professor	63
Other Academic*	62
Subtotal	308
Total Academic Positions	844
Non-Academic Positions	Number Advertised
Sociological Practice	38
Multiple Non-faculty Position Type	4
Total Non-Academic Positions	42
Total Positions Advertised	886

Note: Excludes non-U.S. institutions and positions.

Other Academic includes academic administration positions, such as deans, chancellors, provosts, department chairs, and program/institute/center directors. Source: American Sociological Association Job Bank, 2013.

FACULTY SALARIES

Every year, the ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession produces a research brief on changes in annual average faculty salaries in sociology compared with other social science disciplines. Although a number of disciplines conduct salary surveys by gathering this information from departments, ASA uses data from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) Faculty in Higher Education Salary Survey.

The news for sociology faculty salaries was generally good. Overall, average

salaries increased 2.7 percent over the previous academic year, well above the 1.5 percent increase in the cost of living. Salaries for full professors and new assistant professors saw the greatest increases, but salary differences among ranks of sociology faculty were smaller than in the previous year.

For more information, including yearly comparisons of changes in salary by rank, see the ASA research brief titled "Sociology Faculty Salaries Appear to Be Better Off: 2013–2014 Faculty Salary Brief for Sociology and Other Social Science Disciplines" (http://www.asanet.org/research/briefs_and_articles.cfm).

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The summer Annual Meeting Employment Service assists sociologists and prospective employers by arranging for interviewers and job seekers to meet in a neutral, monitored environment for initial short interviews during the Annual Meeting.

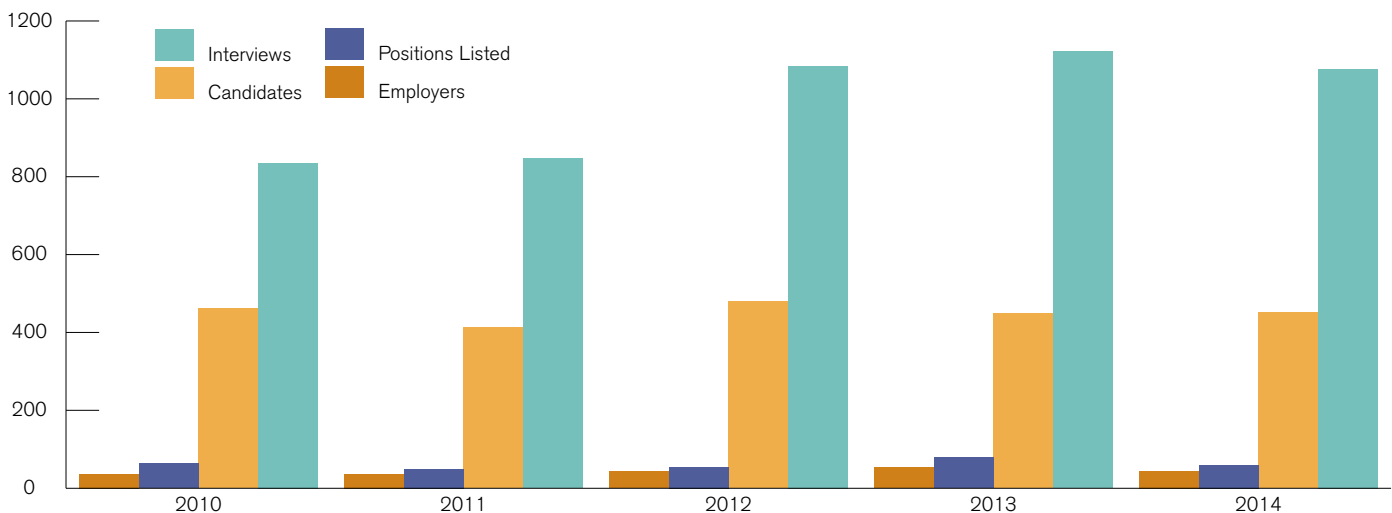
During the 2014 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, 44 employers listed 60 positions, including 3 openings outside academia, and 452 candidates registered with the service. Nearly 1,100 screening interviews were scheduled. Overall, Employment Service usage in 2014 was fairly similar to the previous year.

Average Annual Salaries of New Sociology Assistant Professors in Current and in 2013 Constant Dollars: AY 2005–2006 to AY 2013–2014

Academic Year	Current \$	Percent Change	2013 Constant \$	Percent Change	Percent Inflation
2005–2006	\$47,294	--	\$56,413	--	3.4
2006–2007	\$49,735	5.2	\$57,471	1.9	3.2
2007–2008	\$52,446	5.5	\$58,925	2.5	2.9
2008–2009	\$53,081	1.2	\$57,433	-2.5	3.8
2009–2010	\$54,574	2.8	\$59,260	3.2	-0.4
2010–2011	\$55,614	1.9	\$59,414	0.3	1.6
2011–2012	\$55,637	0.0	\$57,620	-3.0	3.2
2012–2013	\$57,221	2.8	\$58,059	0.8	2.1
2013–2014	\$59,550	4.1	\$59,550	2.6	1.5
Overall Change		25.9%		5.6%	

Source: ASA calculations adapted from data supplied by the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources.

Employment Service Usage, 2010–2014

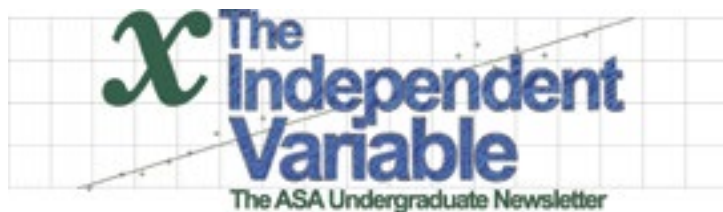


DEPARTMENT AFFILIATES

The *Department Affiliates* (DA) program is a central part of ASA's collaboration with departments of sociology. The Association sees this program as a means to strengthen ties among departments and with ASA and to support departments and chairs in their teaching, research, and service roles.

The ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP), in collaboration with the ASA Membership Department, created an expanded set of DA benefits for the 2014–2015 Affiliate Year. Two of the new benefits represent a change in the structure of the program, bringing the Association into direct partnership with departments in supporting undergraduate and graduate students' professional development as sociologists.

1. Free one-year ASA membership for first-year graduate students. As of January 2, 2015, DA departments had submitted the names and e-mail addresses of 256 graduate students to receive this new benefit.
2. *The Independent Variable: The ASA Undergraduate Student Newsletter*. Undergraduate students in Department Affiliates are eligible to receive this new quarterly newsletter. Released with new issues of *Contexts* magazine, the newsletter provides links to free online *Contexts* content. A continuing key theme is making plans for a career based on a major in sociology. The first issue of *The Independent Variable* (TIV) was e-mailed directly to 1,547 undergraduate sociology students in November 2014.



Faculty and students in Department Affiliates continue to have access to exclusive webinars covering topics related to department leadership and management, professional development, and teaching and learning in sociology.

Of special note in 2014 was a webinar held in October, titled "Building Your Career with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology: A Webinar for Majors, Possible Majors, and Their Advisors." In addition to individual registrations, eight sociology departments planned special events that brought students together to participate in this evening webinar. After the webinar, the chair at University of Tulsa wrote, "We (my colleagues and students) enjoyed the webinar very much. Our students gained a sense of the variety of jobs and career paths that they can pursue with a BA in sociology. I'm delighted the ASA offers this—it seems that other professional organizations do not. At least the chairs of other departments in my college don't know about any such programs in their disciplines."

Usage data for some of the new benefits indicate they are being used and appreciated and—even more importantly—are bringing ASA into direct contact with new groups of students at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Data from the end of 2014 (the halfway point for the 2014–2015 DA year) suggest that the efforts to re-imagine and expand benefits for the program are beginning to bear fruit. The sharp declines in the number of DAs experienced in the prior two years have been halted. In addition, usage data for some of the new benefits indicate they are being used and appreciated and—even more importantly—are bringing ASA into direct contact with new groups of students at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS CONFERENCE

The annual Department Chairs Conference provides support for new and current chairs in all types of academic institutions. Planned by APAP and held the day prior to the start of the Annual Meeting, the conference's topics change annually and include everything from budget management to conflict resolution to the PhD job market. Drawing on the 2014 Annual Meeting theme, the Chairs Conference topic was "Linking a Liberal Learning Centered Sociology Major to Successful Employment Outcomes: Vision, Mission, and Implementation." The 2014 conference drew registrants from 64 sociology departments.

DIRECTORS OF GRADUATE STUDIES CONFERENCE

Directors of Graduate Studies (DGS) are important leaders in shaping department policies and opportunities for effective graduate programs. To assist sociologists in the DGS role, APAP plans a half-day conference prior to the start of the Annual Meeting each year. The 2014 DGS conference drew 37 attendees with the program theme, "Preparing Graduate Students for Multiple Career Outcomes: Vision, Mission, and Implementation."

DEPARTMENT RESOURCES GROUP

Under the auspices of APAP, the *Department Resources Group* (DRG) is designed to empower department chairs and faculty during periods of self-reflection, external review, or general department revitalization. The DRG consists of more than 40 sociologists who serve as consultants to assist departments upon request with a wide variety of needs, including external reviews, curriculum development, assessment, department retreats, and teaching workshops.

In addition to DRG Site Visits and Off-site Consultation Services, the DRG Mentors Program assists individual sociologists upon request who have taken on leadership roles in their departments. The mentors program provides at no cost one-on-one support, feedback, advice, and coaching to sociologists who are serving as department chair, division coordinator, or graduate studies director.

DEPARTMENT SURVEY

The ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession conducts a census of sociology departments every five years, collaborating with department chairs, standing committees, and task forces to develop the questions. The survey covers an array of topics, including department size and structure, characteristics of the sociology major, enrollments, graduate programs, courses taught, teaching loads, faculty characteristics and salaries, hiring and retirement, department resources, and types of assessments used.

The next department survey will get underway in 2016. Results from the recent 2011–2012 Department Survey are available in three free research briefs that can be downloaded from http://www.asanet.org/research/briefs_and_articles.cfm.

ASA STUDENT FORUM

ASA had 4,047 student members in 2014, representing about one-third of the ASA membership. Individuals who join ASA as student members automatically become members of the *Student Forum* at no additional cost, receive all mailings and electronic communications, and have access to special Student Forum programming at the Annual Meeting and throughout the academic year. The Student Forum's bimonthly newsletter, *The Student Sociologist*, is disseminated via the student e-mail listserv. Past issues can be found on the ASA website under "Teaching and Learning" (<http://www.asanet.org/students/forum.cfm>).

Student Forum activities are coordinated through its Advisory Board, which consists of seven elected students. The purpose of the Student Forum Advisory Board (SFAB) is to help students connect to ASA opportunities. It communicates through an e-mail listserv, organizes program sessions for the Annual Meeting, and allocates travel funding for students. On the Student Forum website, members have access to discussion groups as well as links to research, funding, and employment opportunities.

The SFAB organized four sessions for the 2014 Annual Meeting and administered the ASA-funded small travel awards to attend the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. There were 97 applications for travel funding; awards of \$225 were given to 31 students, including the recipients of the 2014 SFAB Best Paper Award, **James Gacek** and **Matthew Sanscartier** (University of Manitoba).

The Professional Development Certificate Program inaugurated by the Student Forum in 2011 was sponsored again during the 2014 Annual Meeting. Ten students successfully completed the 2014 certificate program.

SFAB continues to promote the Student Forum across the discipline, provide announcements for the Student Forum's Facebook page, and reach out to students attending the Annual Meeting for the first time to orient them to ASA norms and structure (e.g., differences among types of roundtables, business meetings, paper sessions, what to wear, and what to expect when attending your first meeting). During 2014, the Student Forum Facebook page connected with 1,400 students, an increase of 40 percent from the previous year.

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ASA HONORS PROGRAM

The ASA-sponsored *Honors Program* (HP) introduces exceptional undergraduate sociology students from across the United States and other countries to the rich professional and intellectual life of the discipline through participation in special HP events at each ASA Annual Meeting. Guided by the HP Director, **Dennis M. Rome** (University of Wisconsin-Parkside), they experience all facets of the ASA Annual Meeting and often develop long-lasting networks with other aspiring sociologists. At the same time, their sponsoring sociology departments have an opportunity to showcase their programs and their most outstanding students. Participation requires nomination by a sociology faculty member at the student's home institution.

During the 2014 meeting in San Francisco, the HP had 29 participants from 26 different institutions, including three recipients of the Alpha Kappa Delta Undergraduate Paper Award.

The ASA HP is allotted funds through the ASA Council for travel awards to supplement funding students may receive through their home institutions. In 2014, 17 students applied for funding, and all 17 received \$250 for travel expenses.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCIOLOGY

The *High School Sociology Planning Program* (HSSPP) continues to rely on Director **Hayley Lotspeich** and Assistant Director **Chris Salituro**, two dynamic and organizationally astute high school sociology teachers based in the greater Chicago area, and the HSSPP Advisory Panel, composed of high school sociology teachers and faculty in two- and four-year institutions who have a strong interest in high school sociology.

Efforts in 2014 focused on further disseminating ASA's C3 Framework

Appendix, leading a very successful second symposium at the National Council of Social Studies (NCSS) Annual Conference, and increasing the networking of high school sociology teachers.

On November 21, 2014, in conjunction with the NCSS Annual Conference in Boston, ASA sponsored an all-day symposium on "Sociology and the Civic Mission of Schools" for high school sociology teachers. Similar to the 2013 event, the day was divided into four linked sessions that took place in the same room at the Hynes Convention Center. The sessions drew more than 80 attendees, received extremely positive reviews in a post-meeting survey of attendees, and added to the growing national network of teachers.

Since April 2014, the other major activity for the HSSPP and the Advisory Panel has been to conceptualize, and begin to draft, a set of standards for high school sociology courses. A base of content on which to organize and frame standards is now available from work done last year when ASA partnered substantively with staff members and researchers from the

American Psychological Association (APA) and the American Anthropological Association (AAA) in developing the C3 Framework's appendix for the social sciences.



2014 Honors Program participants with ASA Executive Officer Sally T. Hillsman, ASA Deputy Executive Officer Janet L. Astner, and Honors Program Director Dennis M. Rome

TRAILS

TRAILS, the Teaching Resources and Innovation Library for Sociology, completed its fourth full calendar year of operations in 2014. At the end of the year, TRAILS had 1,152 subscribers, a 5 percent decrease from the previous year, similar to the drop in ASA membership for 2014.

The number of visits, unique visits, page views, and number of pages per visit also declined in 2014. This was probably due to the proliferation of new online sources of teaching ideas for sociology that began emerging about this time, including Sociological Images, Sociological Cinema, and Teaching with a Sociological Lens.

The good news for 2014 was that the number of submissions to TRAILS increased by 64 percent, from 58 submissions in 2013 to 95 submissions in 2014. This reflects the continuing contribution of the unique opportunity that TRAILS offers sociologists to submit their teaching materials for peer review and publication.



TRAILS Subscriptions and Submissions, 2010–2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Subscriptions as of December 31	607	781	1043	1217	1152
Percentage Change over prior year	n/a	22.3	33.5	16.7	-5.3
Submissions as of December 31	n/a	54	80	58	95
Percentage Increase over prior year	n/a	n/a	48.1	-27.5	63.8

The good news for 2014 was that the number of submissions to TRAILS increased by 64 percent, from 58 submissions in 2013 to 95 submissions in 2014. This reflects the continuing contribution of the unique opportunity that TRAILS offers sociologists to submit their teaching materials for peer review and publication.

During the 2014 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, the task force conducted two focus groups with community college faculty to gather additional qualitative data to better understand the experiences of community college faculty in sociology and to help interpret results from the survey.

TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY IN SOCIOLOGY

Established in 2012, the *Task Force on Community College Faculty in Sociology* was charged with gathering empirical data on faculty teaching sociology at community colleges. After doing considerable work to build a list of 1,799 community college faculty who were teaching sociology during the spring semester of 2014, the task force e-mailed invitations to these faculty to participate in a survey. The survey was open from April 7 to June 6, 2014, and achieved a 41 percent response rate.

During the 2014 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, the task force conducted two focus groups with community college faculty to gather additional qualitative data to better understand the experiences of community college faculty in sociology and to help interpret results from the survey. Analysis of the survey and focus group data is in progress, with the goal to submit a final report to ASA Council by August 2015.

TEACHING ETHICS

For resources to help teach students about professional ethics, visit *Teaching Ethics throughout the Curriculum* (<http://www.asanet.org/ethics/index.cfm>), a special section of the ASA website developed by the ASA Task Force on Teaching Ethics throughout the Sociology Curriculum. Sponsored by the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), the website contains resources designed to help sociology faculty teach students about professional ethics from early in the undergraduate career through graduate school. Cases, discussion questions, an annotated bibliography, and web links can be quickly downloaded or printed for use in sociology classes or by department chairs.

Sponsored by the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), the website contains resources designed to help sociology faculty teach students about professional ethics from early in the undergraduate career through graduate school.

Google Analytics for TRAILS, 2011–2014

	2011	2012	2013	2014	Percentage Change 2013–2014
Visits Number of times anyone opened the site in a browser	11,132	16,111	17,212	15,146	-12.0
Unique Visitors Number of visits starting from a new browser session	6,285	9,653	9,840	9,062	-8.0
Page views	80,992	114,261	116,916	100,043	-14.0
Pages per visit	7.28	7.09	6.79	6.61	-3.0
Average time on site (minutes)	6:04	6:06	6:04	6:08	negligible
Bounce rate Proportion of visitors who left after one page view	32	31	32	32	0

The ASA program of research on the discipline and profession is designed to provide information to support and inform the Association's leadership, membership, task forces, and committees as well as sociology departments and the broader scientific community about trends in sociology and the context in which the discipline operates. This includes research-based information on enrollments, degrees, departments, career trajectories, networks, and salaries, as well as the role of sociology in the greater science project.

The ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession produces research briefs, PowerPoint slides, tables, and reports that are useful in recruiting students, enhancing curriculum, assessing programs, providing information about the job market, reviewing faculty salaries and work conditions, and planning for department futures. Most of these materials can be downloaded at no cost from the Research on Sociology home page (<http://www.asanet.org/research/research.cfm>).

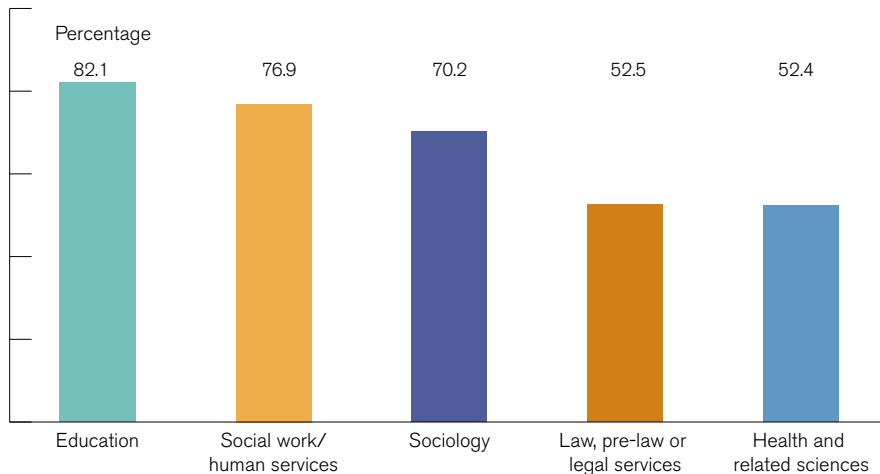
BEYOND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

ASA began its first longitudinal study of senior sociology majors in 2005. This study was repeated in 2012, after the recession in 2008 led to a period of increased student debt and higher parental unemployment. Funded by the National Science Foundation, each study had three waves—the first wave surveyed senior sociology majors regarding their learning activities, their satisfaction with the major, and their future plans. The next two waves surveyed them after they completed their undergraduate degrees and were in the paid labor force, graduate school, or both.

In 2014, two more research briefs were added to ASA's Bachelor's and Beyond Series. A brief titled *Sociology, Criminology Concentrations, and Criminal Justice: Differences in Reasons for Majoring, Skills, Activities, and Early Outcomes* used responses from 2012 graduates who answered both the first and second wave surveys to look at concerns about the role of the criminal justice major, as part of a joint department of sociology and as a separate

The ASA program of research on the discipline and profession is designed to provide information to support and inform the Association's leadership, membership, task forces, and committees as well as sociology departments and the broader scientific community about trends in sociology and the context in which the discipline operates.

Would Definitely Major Again by Type of Graduate Program



Source: American Sociological Association, Social Capital, Organizational Capital, and the Job Market for New Sociology Graduates, 2012, Waves I and II.

department within a college or university. The research brief compares how students' perceptions and experiences differ among three types of majors: a general (or "no-concentration" or "straight") sociology major, a joint sociology and criminal justice major, and a sociology major with an emphasis or concentration in criminal justice.

Recent Sociology Alumni: Would They Major Again? used data from the third wave of the 2012 Bachelor's and Beyond project

to look at whether recent graduates would choose the same major again, and if so, what factors led to this decision. Undergraduates' choice of major field is thought to help determine their life course, including future income, job satisfaction, civic participation, and world views.

Look for these research briefs and others in the Bachelors and Beyond Series on the ASA website (http://www.asanet.org/research/bacc_survey/jobs_for_sociology_majors.cfm).

employment. When available, these data are presented by race, ethnicity, and gender. Spreadsheets with these data are available to download from the ASA website (http://www.asanet.org/research/statistical_information.cfm). Most data ASA uses come from surveys conducted by the National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics.

TRENDS IN THE DISCIPLINE AND PROFESSION

The ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession provides continuously updated tables and graphs on critical aspects of the sociology discipline and profession, including data on degrees, graduate enrollment, departments, and

Undergraduates' choice of major field is thought to help determine their life course, including future income, job satisfaction, civic participation, and world views.

Post-Graduate Jobs and School among Sociology Majors by Program Type
Percentage participating in each activity.



Source: American Sociological Association, Social Capital, Organizational Capital, and the Job Market for New Sociology Graduates, 2012, Waves I and II.

FAD GRANTS

The ASA *Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline* (FAD) program is supported jointly by the Sociology Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the ASA. Many individual ASA members make annual financial contributions to support this program, and ASA Council provides organizational funds through the American Sociological Fund.

Since FAD's inception, more than 1,100 scholars (members and nonmembers of the ASA) have applied to the program, and more than 300 have received funding. The maximum 2014 award amount was \$7,000.

June 2014 Awardees

SHIRI NOY, University of Wyoming, for "World Bank Discourse on Health Sector Reform, 1980–2010"

HOLLIE NYSETH BREHM, The Ohio State University, and **CHRISTOPHER UGGEN**, University of Minnesota, for "Justice, Genocide, and Rwanda's Gacaca Courts"

VICTOR RAY, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, and **MATTHEW HUGHEY**, University of Connecticut, for "No Vacancy: Discrimination in an Online Rental Market"

KRISTEN SHORETTE, Stony Brook University, for "Freedom from Discrimination as Human Right? The Global Human Rights Regime and the Diffusion of Affirmative Action since 1965"

NICHOLAS WILSON, Yale University, and **DAMON MAYRL**, Universidad Carlos III, Madrid, for "What Do Historical Sociologists Do All Day? Historical Methods in Theory and Practice" December 2014 Awardees



December 2014 Awardees

LAURA E. ENRIQUEZ, University of California-Irvine, **KATHARINE DONATO**, Vanderbilt University, and **CHERYL LLEWELLYN**, State University of New York-Stony Brook, for "Gender and Migration: Building a Sociological Field through Interdisciplinary Conversation"

ANNE ESACOVE, Muhlenberg College, for "The Natural Death Movement: Re-Enchanting Death, Revitalizing Life, and Preserving the Planet"

CARLA GOAR, Kent State University, and **JENNY DAVIS**, James Madison University, for "Moral Stigma: Race, Disability, and Body Size"

ELIZABETH HORDGE-FREEMAN, University of South Florida, for "Second-Class Daughters: Informal Adoption as Neo-Slavery in Brazil"

JANICE M. IRVINE, University of Massachusetts, for "Nuts, Sluts, and Perverts: Sociology's Rocky Romance with Deviance"

ERAN SHOR, McGill University, and **ARNOUT VAN DE RIJT**, State University of New York-Stony Brook, for "The Determinants of Sex-Ratio Imbalance in Media Coverage"

CARI GRANTS

The ASA Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy annually awards competitive grants as part of its *Community Action Research Initiative* (CARI) program to encourage and support sociologists in bringing social science knowledge, methods, and expertise to community-identified issues and concerns. Applicants propose a project of pro bono work with a community organization or local public interest group, provide the group's request for collaboration, and identify the intended outcomes. CARI provides up to \$3,000 for each project to cover direct costs associated with the community action research. Eight awards were made in 2014.

TONY CHENG, Yale University, for "Keeping the Street Safe: Focused Reduction of Youth Violence in Bridgeport, CT"

GLORIA GONZÁLEZ, University of Maryland-College Park, for "Impact Evaluation: Impact of Latina Leadership Projects on Communities"

MARYANN MASON, Northwestern University, for "Beyond the Ball: Outcomes of a Successful Community Violence Prevention Effort"

JENNIFER RANGLES, California State University-Fresno, for "Supporting Paternal Involvement among Low-Income Fathers in Fresno"

MELISSA M. SLOAN and **JANE ROBERTS**, University of South Florida-Sarasota-Manatee, for "A Gap Analysis of the System of Care for Families and Children in Sarasota, Manatee, and DeSoto Counties: USFSM Collaboration with the Family Safety Alliance"

REBECCA L. SOM CASTELLANO, Boise State University, for "Tribal Community Food Assessment in Idaho"

ELIZABETH L. SWEET and **DONNA MARIE PETERS**, Temple University, for "Migrant Women's Experience of Gender Violence in the New Latino Diaspora"

LESLIE K. WANG, University of Massachusetts-Boston, for "Assessing Family Mental Health Needs in Boston Chinatown"

CARLA B. HOWERY TEACHING ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

The *Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Fund* (TEF) is a small grants program of the American Sociological Association. It supports projects that advance the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) within the discipline of sociology. The Carnegie Foundation defines SoTL as "problem posing about an issue of teaching or learning, study of the problem through methods appropriate to the disciplinary epistemologies, applications of results to practice, communication of results, self-reflection, and peer review."¹

The 2014 selection committee awarded \$2,000 grants to three projects. With the help of this funding, the recipients engaged in work that will help advance sociological pedagogy.

JESSE HOLZMAN, **CAROLINA CAVILLO**, **MICHAEL DE ANDA MUÑIZ**, **WILLIAM SCARBOROUGH**, and **BARBARA RISMAN**, University of Illinois-Chicago, for "Empowering High School Students through Teaching and Research"

DANIELLE KANE, DePauw University, for "How Sociology Instructors Use Writing Assignments to Teach Critical Thinking Skills"

JAMES KITTS, University of Massachusetts, for "Interactive tools for Teaching, Learning, and Investigating Dynamic Models of Social Processes"

¹ Cambridge, B. 2001. "Fostering the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning: Communities of Practice." Pp. 3–16 in *To Improve the Academy*, edited by D. Lieberman and C. Wehlburg. Bolton, MA: Anker.



Presentation by 2013 Howery TEF grant recipient Stephanie Medley-Rath at Just Desserts, the fundraising reception for TEF at the 2014 Annual Meeting.

MINORITY AFFAIRS PROGRAM

Active for four decades, ASA's Minority Affairs Program (MAP) promotes initiatives centered on race and ethnicity issues in the profession; advocates for the continued development of the pipeline of minority students and faculty in the discipline; and serves as liaison to efforts within and outside of ASA concerning higher education opportunities, science policy issues, and federal funding.

In 2014, MAP staff participated in events and meetings at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and in seminars sponsored by other organizations related to health, race and ethnicity, the higher education pipeline, and science policy issues. These included events sponsored by Research!America (a global health alliance of which ASA is an institutional member) and the National Postdoctoral Association.

ASA's MAP Director serves on the planning committee of the Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS), led by the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA). In 2014, CEDS took part in the Understanding Interventions conference in Baltimore, and the group continues to meet regularly to craft an ongoing annotated bibliography in preparation for its next proposal on mentoring, diversity, and the science workforce. CEDS members are part of a new partnership with the National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN), an NIH-funded collaborative headed by David Burgess (PI) at Boston College, that combines best practices, face-to-face networking ideas, technological advances, and other resources to connect universities, professional associations and scientific societies, government agencies, and foundations to address the biggest challenges in mentoring future scientists.

MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1974, the *ASA Minority Fellowship Program* (MFP) has funded nearly 500 graduate students of color. Supported through 2010 by the T32 grant mechanism at the National Institute of Mental Health (and the National Institute on Drug Abuse), MFP is now supported in full through generous contributions by regional and aligned organizations in sociology, individual ASA members, and ASA Council. Significant funding comes annually from



L-R: Jessica Dunning-Lozano, University of Texas-Austin; Stacy Torres, New York University; Regina Baker, Duke University; Matt Town, Portland State University; Elena Shih, University of California-Los Angeles; Edwin Ackerman, University of California-Berkeley; Joseph "Piko" Ewoodzie, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), and the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), with additional support from the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), Southwestern Sociological Association, Eastern Sociological Society, Pacific Sociological Association, and the Southern Sociological Society.

At its meeting in August 2014, ASA Council recognized MFP's achievements and the contributions to the discipline made by those the program has supported by issuing a resolution marking the 40th anniversary year of the Minority Fellowship Program.

Diversity in the Profession

We, the Council of the American Sociological Association, congratulate the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), its current and past MFP awardees, mentors and staff, and other members of the MFP national community on the MFP's 40th anniversary. MFP has been a constant and integral part of both the ASA as a scholarly and professional society and of many institutions of higher education in diversifying the discipline of sociology over the past four decades. MFP alumni have distinguished themselves in research, scholarship, teaching, leadership, and advocacy across sociological communities in many sectors. Collectively and individually MFP alumni have contributed to the depth of the knowledge built by our discipline and its benefits to the communities we serve. We look forward to supporting MFP in the years ahead and remain grateful for the partnership of sister sociology organizations as well as the generous contributions of many individual ASA members.

The 40th cohort of MFP Fellows began their participation on August 1, 2013, which was also the beginning of MFP's 40th anniversary year; they completed their fellowship year on July 31, 2014.

Seven new MFP Fellowships were awarded for 2014–2015, each for one year in duration. Two were designated as SWS awardees and one each as AKD and MSS/ABS awardees to recognize the organizational partnerships. In addition, three MFP recipients were listed as ASA Council/Leadership Campaign Fellows to recognize Council's commitment of Spivack Program support. The new Fellows comprising MFP Cohort 41 began their participation on August 1, 2014.

SHANI ADAI EVANS, University of Pennsylvania, Council/Leadership Campaign MFP

RYAN GABRIEL, University of Washington, MSS/ABS MFP

JACKELYN HWANG, Harvard University, AKD MFP

YVONNE Y. KWAN, University of California-Los Angeles and University of California-Santa Cruz, Council/Leadership Campaign MFP

VICTORIA REYES, Princeton University, Council/Leadership Campaign MFP

SASHA MARIA RODRIGUEZ, Stony Brook University, SWS MFP

FIRUZEH SHOKOOH VALLE, Northeastern University, SWS MFP

DIVERSITY RESEARCH

The ASA MFP Director, the ASA Research Director, and other ASA staff members constitute a research team to expand

the Association's knowledge about the impact of the MFP. An NSF-funded project focused on the career trajectories of recent MFP Fellows and two comparison groups was completed in the summer of 2014. Building on that experience, ASA submitted a proposal to NSF on comparing PhD career trajectories of minority sociologists and economists. This new proposal was funded for three years (through July 2017).

In early 2014, ASA MFP Director **Jean Shin** served as a poster/oral presentation judge at the 2014 NSF/AAAS-sponsored Emerging Researchers in STEM Conference in Washington, DC.

STATUS COMMITTEES

ASA Council supports standing committees to advise and guide the Association on the status in the discipline and profession of groups that have experienced a pattern of underrepresentation in the discipline.

- Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Persons in Sociology
- Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology
- Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology (CSREMS)
- Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology (CSWS)

Three of the status committees were active during 2014. The Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and

Transgendered Persons in Sociology made a formal recommendation to change the gender categories reported by ASA members. That recommendation was approved by the ASA Council at its August 2014 meeting and will be implemented for the 2016 membership year.

The Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology began planning two research projects during 2014. The first project involves creating a history of the social construction of disability within the ASA by conducting oral histories with sociologists who have been integrally involved in this work. These interviews would be supplemented by an analysis of the ASA archived reports from the Committee on Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology. The second project will use surveys to gather data on sociologists with disabilities. The committee plans to have results from both research projects ready to report to ASA Council in August of 2016.

The Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology (CSWS) supported a grant proposal submitted by the ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession to the NSF ADVANCE faculty gender equity program in the fall of 2014. CSWS also recommended that ASA respond positively to an offer from the American Political Science Association of a joint project with the American Economic Association (and possibly others) to collect information on institutional practices regarding the hiring and retention of women in academia.

ASA federal science advocacy and educational efforts subscribe to the philosophy that public policy should be informed by available scientific knowledge and that sociological research can contribute to the formulation of sound public policy to address specific social problems.

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

As a founding member, ASA works closely with the 30-year-old Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA). The COSSA membership includes more than 100 professional associations, scientific societies, universities, research centers, and institutes. COSSA serves as the advocacy organization in Washington, DC, that promotes attention to and federal funding of the social and behavioral sciences. It is viewed as the “go-to” organization by Washington leaders when seeking information about or from the social science community.

In December 2014, Congress approved the final FY 2014 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, containing 11 of the 12 outstanding fiscal year (FY) 2015 appropriations bills. The bill maintained the budget caps set by the *Budget Control Act of 2013*, also known as the bipartisan budget agreement, which set discretionary defense and non-defense spending limits for FY 2014 and 2015.

In general, federal science agencies and programs fared reasonably well in the final bill. Some agencies and subaccounts received small increases (e.g., the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health), while others remained roughly flat (e.g., the Institute of Education Sciences and the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

The Social and Behavioral Science (SBS) community expects Congress will continue to attack SBS grants, however. Planning is ongoing about the best way to respond to and possibly prevent these attacks.

Full details of the FY 2015 omnibus bill and its implications for social and behavioral science are available on the COSSA website (<http://www.cossa.org>). In addition, any sociologist who would like a free digital subscription to the COSSA newsletter, *COSSA Washington Update*, may sign up by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/nk8a6lk>.

AMICUS BRIEF

As mentioned in the 2013 Annual Report, the ASA Council authorized an *ASA 2013 amicus brief* to the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) in the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and California Proposition 8 cases, which challenged barriers to same-sex marriage. The ASA brief focused on the social science research consensus on the impact on children of having gay or lesbian parents compared to children who have parents of different sexes. The brief presented the social science evidence and refuted the scientific validity (or the misinterpretation) of several studies cited in other briefs purporting to demonstrate scientific evidence of harm to children raised by same-sex parents.

The expert scholar chosen by Council to work on the ASA brief with the Executive Officer and the New York City law firm of Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton (CGSH) was **Wendy Diane Manning**, Bowling Green State University.

The brief was well received by the parties to these Supreme Court cases, and other amici and many plaintiffs asked ASA to continue to file this brief in upcoming cases. After SCOTUS issued rulings favorable to same-sex marriage in DOMA and Proposition 8, similar cases proliferated in federal District Courts and Courts of Appeal and in state courts. ASA Council authorized the Executive Office to continue filing the ASA amicus brief in strategically selected cases as long as the core scientific arguments that Council had

reviewed and approved were not altered. During 2013–2014, the ASA, Manning, and CGSH lawyers filed briefs in the federal Appellate Courts in the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, and 11th Circuits and in the Constitutional Court of Colombia in South America.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR CORA B. MARRETT

In the summer of 2014, the National Science Foundation (NSF) announced that **Cora B. Marrett**, NSF Deputy Director, was leaving NSF. Marrett was confirmed as Deputy Director in May 2011 and had served previously as NSF's acting director, acting deputy director, and senior advisor.

Of note for the social science community, Marrett served as the first assistant director for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBES) Directorate, and she was

a former assistant director of the Education and Human Resources Directorate. She has been a major voice for social and behavioral science, within NSF and publicly, and a familiar face at COSSA events over the years. Marrett came to NSF from the University of Wisconsin, where she was the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and served concurrently as a Professor of Sociology.

On August 19, 2014, in San Francisco, ASA Council approved a Resolution of Appreciation for eminent sociologist Cora B. Marrett. A plaque with the wording of the Resolution was presented to her in November at a COSSA Board reception in Washington, DC.

The brief presented the social science evidence and refuted the scientific validity (or the misinterpretation) of several studies cited in other briefs purporting to demonstrate scientific evidence of harm to children raised by same-sex parents.

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS

Through its Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy, ASA works with social science coalition partners to sponsor and co-sponsor congressional briefings. In 2014, two briefings were supported in conjunction with COSSA, the Population Association of America (PAA), and other coalition partners. Featured topics were "Investing in Our Future: Addressing Substance Abuse by Researching Adolescent Brain Development" (a Friends of NIAAA/ Friends of NIDA educational briefing) and "The War on Poverty: 50 Years Later and the Battle Continues."

CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Spivack Program also supports the *ASA/AAAS Congressional Fellowship* that brings a PhD-level sociologist to Washington, DC, to work as a staff member on a congressional committee, in a congressional office, or as a member of a federal agency (e.g., the General Accountability Office). This intensive experience exposes sociologists to the intricacies of the policymaking process in action and demonstrates the usefulness of sociological data and concepts in developing policies and laws.



Jean Shin, ASA Minority Affairs Director, with Cora B. Marrett on November 13, 2014



Lindsay A. Owens, 2014–15
ASA Congressional Fellow

The Spivack Committee named **Lindsay A. Owens** (Stanford University PhD, 2014) as the 2014–2015 ASA Congressional Fellow. During graduate school, Owens collaborated with several local and national organizations on policy issues related to her research on income inequality and social mobility, including as an informal consultant to Third Way, a DC think tank, on an initiative that educates policymakers on how capital markets enhance economic growth. She also worked with Carolina Reid during her tenures at the San Francisco Federal Reserve and the Center for Responsible Lending to evaluate the effectiveness of the Home Affordable Modification Program.

During her tenure in Washington, DC, Dr. Owens will apply her past experiences and research to her Fellowship in the office of Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), where she will work on Senate banking and pensions projects.

COLLABORATIONS WITHIN AND ACROSS DISCIPLINES

ASA intersects with a wide variety of scholarly associations as part of its mission to advance sociology and promote the contributions and uses of sociology.

Close ties are maintained with nine regional sociological associations, and ASA Executive Office staff sociologists attend each regional annual meeting every year. Officers of sociological and aligned associations are invited to a meeting held each year during the ASA Annual Meeting to enable them to meet face-to-face, discuss common concerns, and interact with the ASA.

The ASA President appoints ASA members as official representatives to five aligned organizations of which ASA is an institutional member: American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Council of Learned Societies, Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, Consortium of Social Science Associations, and International Sociological Association.

Contact information for aligned associations may be found on the ASA website at http://www.asanet.org/about/Aligned_Associations.cfm.

XVIII ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

The International Sociological Association (ISA) held its XVIII World Congress in Yokohama, Japan, from July 13 to 19, 2014, with the theme “Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology.” The ISA is the major international organization of sociologists, and the World Congress is the single most important opportunity for U.S. sociologists to share their latest research, exchange ideas and scholarship, and develop sustained collaborations on an international scale. Held every four years, the ISA World Congress attracts approximately 5,000 participants from around the world.

In January 2014, the ASA received an award of \$63,250 to support travel by U.S. sociologists to the World Congress. Of this amount, \$61,500 was expended for support of travel to the Congress, and \$1,750 was allocated for administrative costs permitted under the program. ASA was responsible for administration of the award, including placing announcements for the competition, accepting applications, evaluating individual requests for travel awards, selecting recipients, and distributing funds.

Competitive criteria for the award included an invitation or acceptance of a paper, the scientific merit of the paper or significance of the role to be played in the Congress, and the applicant’s qualifications. The selection process included a peer-reviewed assessment of applications, and it also aimed to ensure a presence at the World Congress of junior scholars and sociologists underrepresented in international scholarly meetings. The competition for the funds resulted in awards made to 47 sociologists.



Institutions of higher education and scholars seeking government research grants have continued to experience consequences of the recent economic downturn, even as the economy undergoes a slow recovery. This has financial consequences for scholarly associations and the educational sector in general. The ASA has maintained a stable financial picture due to the support of our members and the high-quality scholarship that is submitted to and published in our journals and shared at our Annual Meetings. Prudent management of the Association's operating budget under the overall direction of the ASA Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB) and the ASA Council has kept the Association's services and programs running smoothly to meet the needs of the membership and the discipline.

OPERATING BUDGET

Revenues grew in 2013, exceeding 2012 by \$424,808 (a 6.9 percent increase), resulting in a small end-of-year operating surplus of \$138,854. Membership revenue grew by \$223,450, an expected result of implementing the new dues structure approved by the voting membership. The new structure increased the dues of members in higher self-reported income brackets but had no (or very small) dues increases in other membership categories. Journal revenue increased modestly by \$88,448 in 2013; Annual Meeting revenue increased by \$182,170 compared to the prior year. Personnel expenses (including health and related benefits) rose modestly (\$154,241) from 2012 to 2013, and facilities costs remained relatively

ASA Operating Revenues and Expenses (2013 Audited)



stable (-\$18,781) as did Annual Meeting expenses (\$12,102). Journal expenses increased by \$47,938, and the cost of information technology declined by a similar amount (-\$46,745).

The Association's most recent audited financial statement, for the year ending December 31, 2013, can be found at <http://www.asanet.org/about/audit.cfm>. The 2014 audit will be available after ASA Council review in August 2015.

OPERATING REVENUES

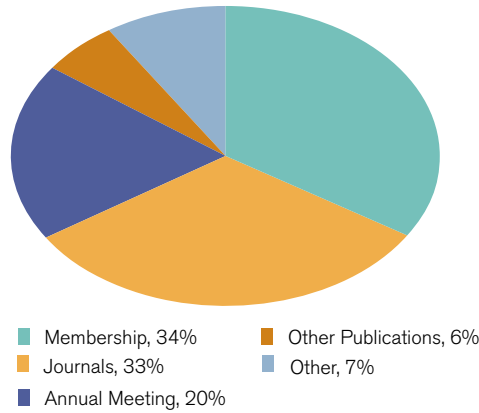
Two thirds of ASA revenues in 2013 were from member-related revenues (including dues) and subscriptions to ASA journals (34 and 33 percent, respectively). An additional 20 percent came from the Annual Meeting, 6 percent from the sale of other ASA publications, and 7 percent from "other revenues," which includes rental of some ASA office space. Total operating revenue in 2013 (ASA's last audited year) was \$6,545,558.

OPERATING EXPENSES

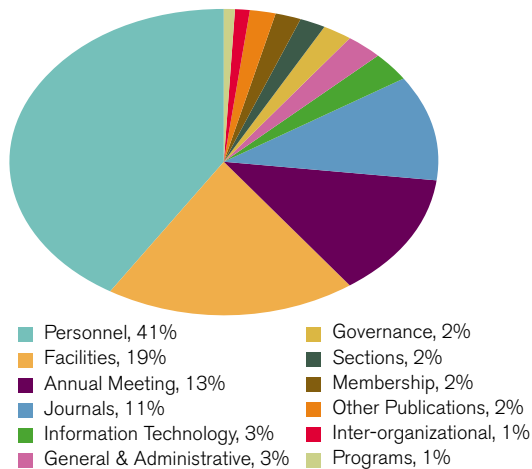
Operating expenses in ASA's last audited year (2013) were \$6,406,704. The accompanying chart shows more detail about how revenues were used to support various areas of Association activity.

The largest expense is staffing the Association, including salaries, group medical, retirement, professional development, unemployment taxes, and temporary help (41 percent), followed by facilities (19 percent, including annual depreciation on property and equipment, bond cost amortization, interest, real estate taxes, and utilities), the Annual Meeting (13 percent), and journal and other publication expenses (11 and 2 percent, respectively).

ASA Total Revenues, 2013 Audited



ASA Total Expenditures, 2013 Audited



Investments and Reserves

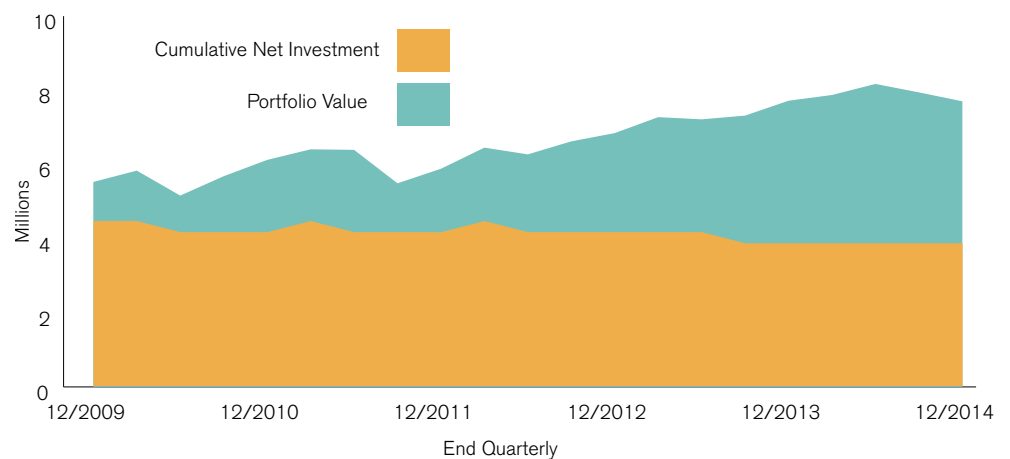
The ASA ended 2014 with a little over \$7.7 million invested conservatively in a low-cost portfolio of bonds and equities that reflect the broad marketplace and are passively managed to limit risk. The value of these investments declined during the Great Recession, but ASA portfolio losses have now been regained and the investments are modestly growing, despite a volatile market.

About 24 percent of this portfolio was donated to the Association for specific purposes (e.g., the Sydney S. Spivack Fund, which supports applied research and public policy activities of the Association, such as the CARI grants and the Congressional Fellowship; and the Arnold and Caroline Rose Fund, which supports the Rose Series in Sociology books published by ASA in collaboration with the Russell Sage Foundation).

The remaining 76 percent of the portfolio is the ASA reserve fund. Fiscal accountability standards suggest a nonprofit organization should have at minimum 50 percent, and preferably more, of its annual expense budget in reserve. The ASA Committee on the Executive Office and Budget, the entity charged by the ASA Bylaws to manage ASA investments, follows this policy.

ASA also owns its headquarters space. The 2006 drop in the value of ASA's investments is due to ASA's liquidation of the assets it invested from the sale of its former DC headquarters building in the mid-1990s, which it used as the cash down payment to purchase the current DC headquarters in 2007. The remainder of the purchase was financed by the sale of low-cost tax-free DC revenue bonds. The Association's real estate property has retained its value despite the national real estate "bubble bust"; DC has long had a strong commercial real estate market and ASA invested in a prime area to preserve the value of its investment. Property values continued to rise during 2013–2014.

Investment Portfolio



MEMBER FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF ASA PROGRAMS

ASA acknowledges the generous support of individual members whose financial contributions to the Association during 2014 greatly aided the success of ASA programs and initiatives. Annual member donations to seven ASA funds have a significant impact on the work of the Association:

- **American Sociological Fund (ASF)** supports ASA efforts to respond to unusual opportunities to advance the discipline and improve and promote scholarship, teaching, and public service on a long-term basis.
- **Congressional Fellowship Fund (CFF)** provides support for ASA Congressional Fellows to work with a member of Congress to learn about the legislative process and the relevance of their sociological expertise.
- **Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD)** supports innovative research and research-related activities.
- **Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)** provides pre-doctoral training support for minority students who are in graduate programs in sociology.
- **Soft Currency Fund (SCF)** is used to aid individuals who cannot fund ASA membership and subscriptions without access to U.S. dollars.
- **Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Fund (TEF)** supports projects that enhance the teaching of sociology.
- **Community Action Research Initiative (CARI)** encourages community action projects that bring social science knowledge, methods, and expertise to bear in addressing community-identified issues and concerns.
- **Small Grants Program (SGP)** helps fill gaps in the landscape of funding opportunities and provides general contributions that are allocated to TEF, FAD, and CARI.

In 2014, 4.8 percent of the total membership made charitable contributions to these funds. Support came from all categories of members, including emeritus, student, and low-income members.

Individual Member Contributions

Fund	2010 Year End		2011 Year End		2012 Year End		2013 Year End		2014 Year End	
	Number of Contributions	\$ Amount	Number of Contributions	\$ Amount	Number of Contributions	\$ Amount	Number of Contributions	\$ Amount	Number of Contributions	\$ Amount
ASF	115	3,055	165	4,500	136	3,998	151	4,561	101	3,450
CFF	30	449	41	399	40	502	38	820	26	471
FAD	68	2,123	79	2,725	78	2,089	52	1,336	49	1,590
MFP	300	10,031	364	12,984	324	11,177	372	15,283	296	12,487
SCF	52	716	61	932	57	874	53	991	36	590
TEF	54	1,099	62	1,329	69	1,170	71	1,652	63	1,750
CARI	--	--	--	--	--	--	47	878	22	454
SGP	--	--	--	--	--	--	29	599	17	222
Totals	619	\$17,473	772	\$22,869	704	\$19,810	813	\$26,120	610	\$21,014

In addition to the standard funds listed on previous page, the Association receives contributions designated toward special ASA projects and awards established by various sections. During the 2014 membership year, the following contributions were also received:

- 71 contributions totaling \$26,051 for the Digitizing of Editorial Office Records
- 19 contributions totaling \$4,318 for the Graduate Student Investigator Award managed by the Section on Social Psychology
- 9 contributions totaling \$1,310 to the Section on Evolution, Biology, and Sociology
- 2 contributions to the Section on Social Psychology totaling \$300
- 4 contributions totaling \$285 to the Section on Sociology of Law
- 1 contribution of \$100 for the M.P. Levine fund of the Section on Sex and Gender

MFP LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN

In honor of the 40th anniversary year of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), ASA recognized donors who finished their five-year pledges to the 2009–2010 MFP Leadership Campaign, led by former ASA Vice President **Margaret L. Andersen** and ASA Executive Officer **Sally T. Hillsman**. The MFP Leadership Campaign was supported by 87 contributing leaders, including Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) and the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS).

Those who pledged made a significant five-year commitment, or in a few cases a large one-time contribution, to help secure the future of MFP. This leadership came at a crucial time—following the end of NIMH T32 funding for MFP. The total amount of the 2009 and 2010 pledges came to nearly \$470,000 over five years, bringing the campaign close to its original \$500,000 goal.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING SUPPORT

Since 1984, social science departments and regional societies have joined the American Sociological Association in co-sponsoring the annual Honorary Reception at the Annual Meeting. The Association is pleased to acknowledge the following co-hosts of the 2014 Honorary Reception.

Boston College

Harvard University, Department of African & African American Studies

Harvard University, Department of Sociology

Northwestern University

University of Chicago Press

University of Michigan

University of Pennsylvania

ASA also wishes to thank the sponsors who provided special financial support to the 2014 Annual Meeting.

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