



1987-88 Issue 1

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The *Asiatic Mode*, the Official Publication of the ASA Section on Asia/Asian America (ASA/AAA NEWSLETTER), is edited by Nan Lin, Section Secretary, Department of Sociology, State University of New York at Albany, Albany, New York, U. S. A. (518) 442-4692.

From the Chair

Susan R. Takata

From a few reports, I was pleased to hear that the Section on Asia and Asian America accomplished much during the annual meetings of the ASA in Chicago. I was sorry to have missed this year's meetings. (Unfortunately, I had to attend the funeral of my aunt in Los Angeles). I must thank Bill Liu for his support in helping to re-juggle my section commitments. (Thanks, Bill!!)

Pressing us in the immediate future is the section's response to the Huber's "Report on the Status of Minorities and Women in the ASA." Copies can be requested from the ASA (if you did not ask for a copy during the ASA meetings). Any comments and reactions should be sent to Bill Liu as he will be gathering together the section's response.

Many excellent ideas were proposed during the Chicago meetings, and I am seeking the help of those interested in implementing some of these suggestions; for example, an aggressive membership drive is one of my priority items during my term as chair. Actually, each one of us should be taking responsibility for the constant recruitment of new members. The increase in membership will result in more sessions during the ASA meetings! We have extra incentive this year in that if we reach our target of 400 members, we can then proceed with Stanford Lyman's proposal for an annual award given by the section. Such an award, I believe, is long overdue! If you have any clever strategies to recruit new members into our section, let me know!

During the 1988 ASA meetings in Atlanta, our section day is the first day of the meetings. Mark your calendar now! Some suggestions for the 1988 meetings were: (1) to continue the graduate student paper session, (2) roundtables should be more thematic, and (3) section members should donate \$5 to cover the expenses of our section reception. Right now, I am open to any ideas and suggestions that you have concerning our 1988 section meetings. I hope to see lots of papers and ideas submitted to me before the December deadline.

I am awfully excited about our section and what we can accomplish in the coming year - - a stimulating program for 1988, drawing new members to the section, etc. etc. etc. There is much work to be done. In short, what I am asking for is your HELP!!!! I look forward to hearing from each of you real soon!!

AAA Membership Up

The Asia/Asian American Section of the American Sociological Association has enjoyed a dramatic increase in its membership from 1986 to 1987. In 1986, the Section barely made it to meet the minimal 200 requirement for the official status as a Section. As of July 15, 1987, its membership has grown to 257.

During the Chicago Meetings, the Section members vowed to continue the membership drive and to reach a goal of 400 members as soon as possible. That is the number required to increase the number of formally scheduled paper sessions from the present two to three.

In view of the fact that the enrollment of Asians, especially from China and Korea, in many graduate programs has substantially increased over the last few years, special

efforts will be made to recruit graduate students into the Section.

Officers of the ASA-AAA, 1987-88

The officials of the Asian/Asian America Section of the American Sociological Association for 1987-88 are as follows:

Chair:

*Susan Takata
Department of Sociology
University of Wisconsin, Parkside
Kenosha, WI 53141*

Past Chair:

*William Liu
Department of Sociology
University of Illinois
Chicago, IL 60680*

Chair-Elect:

*William Parish
Department of Sociology
University of Chicago
Chicago, IL 60637*

Secretary-Treasurer:

*Nan Lin
Department of Sociology
State University of New York at Albany
Albany, NY 12222*

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*Morrison Wong
Department of Sociology
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*Evelyn Nakano Glenn
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*Elena Yu
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*Stephen Fujita
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Editor of Asiatic Mode (newsletter):

*Nan Lin
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Albany, NY 12222*

AAA Meetings in Chicago Successful

The AAA continued to enjoy good papers, attendances and participations in its paper sessions, roundtable discussions and business meeting at the 1987 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in August at the Palmer House in Chicago, despite the fact that all its activities were scheduled during the last day of the meeting.

William Liu, the Section's outgoing Chair, hosted a reception at the Pacific/Asian American Mental Health Institute at the University of Illinois Chicago campus. We missed Susan Takata, incoming Chair of the Section, who had to attend a relative's funeral in Los Angeles and William Parish, the new Chair-elect, who had to leave on a research tour to Asia.

*American Sociologists
Conducting Research in China*

The Business meeting, held at 3:30 p.m. on the last day of the Meeting, was surprisingly well-attended. Bill Liu conducted the meeting and led the discussion on a number of issues. The draft of the ASA report (referred to as the Huber report) on minority participation had been circulated. Opinions were solicited and Liu will make a collective response. Also discussed was possible joint sessions with other sections and it was agreed that they should be tried. The issue of possible Section Awards for Distinguished Scholarship was discussed again and the Section voted to postpone its consideration until the Section membership reaches 400.

The section also decided to organize roundtable discussions around themes in future meetings. Since the Section had decided to use the time slot scheduled for the meeting of the Section Council for additional roundtable discussions, the Council had not met this year. It was suggested that in future meetings, the Section Council can meet during a breakfast.

The Section agreed to formalize the reception at each annual meeting. All attending members will be asked to make contributions toward defraying the costs. Eui-Hang Shin, University of South Carolina and Council member, has agreed to coordinate the reception next year at the Atlanta meeting.

Membership recruitment was a major topic of discussion. The Section was most pleased with the increased membership and participation (a total of 42 submissions were received for presentation at the Chicago meeting). The Section will make a special effort to attract graduate students.

It was noted that the changing composition of graduate students at many programs showed increasing enrollment of Asians, especially from China and Korea. The Section will also encourage corresponding curriculum changes in graduate programs to meeting the changing world perspective represented by the Asian presence. Suggestions should be sent to Kathleen S. Crittenden, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Liu will prepare an annual report to be published in ASA Footnotes.

After a prolonged lull since the end of the Cultural Revolution and the re-establishment of the discipline of sociology in the People's Republic of China, American sociologists along with other foreign sociologists are finally beginning to be able to conduct large-scale surveys in collaboration with Chinese sociologists in China.

In the past eight years, many American and other foreign sociologists have visited and/or taught in China. However, few American sociologists had conducted community surveys in China before. There were exceptions. For example, Victor Nee (Cornell) conducted surveys of rural communities in Fujian in 1982-3. William Liu (Illinois at Chicago) surveyed three-thousand individuals in Shanghai on mental illnesses. However, only in the last two years, have there been extensive and systematic collaborations between Chinese and American sociologists in the research front of community surveys.

Among those who have recently conducted or planned surveys in China are: Peter Blau and Andrew Walder of Columbia; Nan Lin of SUNY-Albany; Marty Whyte of Michigan; Erza Vogel of Harvard; William Parish of Chicago; Anthony Oberschell and Glen Elder of North Carolina; Che-fu Lee of Catholic University; Jersey Liang of Michigan, and William Liu of Illinois at Chicago.

Blau and Walder, in collaboration with the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, conducted a city-wide survey with a representative sample of residents on their work lives. Lin has worked with the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, Tianjin Bureau of Public Health, Harbin College of Public Health, and Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences in surveys of quality of life and use of social support and social resources in urban China (Tianjin, Harbin and Shanghai).

Whyte and his colleagues at the Si-chuan Academy of Social Sciences have surveyed a representative set of urban and rural communities in the Province on family lives and marital relationships. Vogel, at the invitation of the Guangtung Government, is examining the socioeconomic development of Guangtung Province. Liu and the Shanghai Institute of Mental Health just completed a study of Alzheimer's disease among the elderly in Shanghai. Lee and Yang Xing-heng of Nankai University

have collected data from several rural villages on fertility and family planning.

Parish is planning along with the Department of Sociology at Zhong-shan University a study on women's status and fertility in urban and rural Guangtung. Oberschell and Elder in collaboration with the Research Institute of Sociology at Shanghai University are conducting a city survey on life course among the residents. Liang working with Wuhan University is planning a survey of the aged population in Wuhan.

There is every indication that the collaborative trend will continue and extend into the future.

Book on Chinese Immigrant Children

Betty Lee Sung has authored a new book, entitled Chinese Immigrant Children in New York: The Experience of Adjustment, published by Center for Migration Studies, 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, NY 10304. The book reports a study on the youth and children (under 19) of Chinese immigrants and refugees as they are placed against the backdrop of the total Chinese immigrant experience. It is dated 1987 and available in cloth (\$14.95) and paperback (\$12.95).

More Sociology Books in China

It seems most Chinese sociologists are involved in book projects - either writing textbooks or translating sociological books from abroad! Recent titles include: Essence of Sociology edited by Shu-wei Sung and Yin-wei Wang (Shangtung People's Press, 1986); Treatment and Research on Juvenile Criminals by Lu Zhou, Ro-he Yang and Ru-chuan Hu (Chiun-zhung Press, Beijing, 1986), The Aging Problem edited by Ji-hui Yuan (Fudan University Press, 1986), and Sociology and the Population Question, edited by the Population and Labor Research Section of Beijing Sociological Association (Tianjin People's Press, 1985).

Another interesting publication is Chronics of Sociology: 1979-1985 edited by the Editors of Sociological Research and published by China Outlook Press (1986, Beijing). It contains all the major articles published in Sociological Research, published by the Institute of Sociology at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences during 1979-1985 when the journal was for "internal circulation only".

New Journal

Politics, Culture and Society: An International Journal has published its first issue (Volume 1. No. 1) in September, 1987. A combined volume of Issues 2 and 3 are in press. Edited by Arthur J. Vidich (New School), Stanford M. Lyman (Florida Atlantic) and Michael W. Hughey (Morgan State), the journal succeeded State, Culture and Society and is published by Human Sciences Press. For subscription information, write to: Human Sciences Press, 72 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

Manuscripts submitted for publication should be sent in triplicate, double spaced, to Arthur J. Vidich, Department of Sociology, Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, 65 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003.

Curricular Materials Available

The Women, Health and Healing Program, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at the University of California, San Francisco (94143) recently compiled a set of three volumes of curricular materials on women's health. Of particular interest is the volume on Minority Women, Health and Healing in the U. S.: Selected Bibliography and Resources. It sells for \$10.00.

Asiatic Mode Needs You

The Asiatic Mode welcomes contributions for news and activities on research, publications, teaching materials and other information of relevance to Asia and Asian America researchers, teachers, and professionals. Send your items to Nan Lin, Department of Sociology, SUNY-Albany, Albany, NY 12222.

Themes for AAA Roundtables

In conjunction with the 1988 meeting of the American Sociological Association in Atlanta, Georgia, the AAA is soliciting suggestions and proposals for special themes for roundtable discussions. Please send proposals regarding themes, organizers and presentators to Susan Takata, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Box No. 2000, Kenosha, WI 53141.

All submissions of regular presentations at the AAA section sessions should also be sent to Takata.