American Sociological Association Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities in Sociology

Five Year Report to Council
2013 - 2017

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Introduction

The ASA *Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities in Sociology* was established in 1981 as an *ad hoc* committee, charged with ascertaining if and how the ASA meetings met the accessibility needs of members with disabilities and recommending changes, if needed, to enhance accessibility. In 1987, the ASA Council made it a standing committee. In 1999, Council set forth the following two charges for the committee: to ensure the full participation of sociologists with disabilities in the life of the Association, and to encourage sociological scholarship on disability issues (Howery 2007).

This was an important moment in the discipline of sociology in the United States. These formal committee charges represent an official recognition on the part of the discipline's national scholarly organization that there exists within U.S. sociology marginalization of both disabled scholars and disability scholarship, and an organizational commitment to do something about it. Despite this commitment, disability as a consequential social characteristic has not drawn sociologists' contemporary attention in the way that race, class, gender and sexuality have. In order to understand why, it is instructive to analyze how disability has been framed since the inception of the American Sociological Society, now known as the American Sociological Association.

Since 2013, co-chairs Sara Green and Thomas Gerschick have met with the ASA staff liaison Margaret Vitullo in monthly conference calls to plan and carry out a group of activities. We have examined the positionality of disability within sociology in two areas: the history of sociological scholarship on disability; and the effectiveness (or lack thereof) of the Status Committee as an agent of social change within the association. During this time period, the committee has also taken on a more active mentoring role in order to support and encourage both graduate students and junior scholars with disabilities and those who take the risk of focusing on this underappreciated area within the discipline. Progress and products related to these goals are described below.

Sociology Looking at Disability: The History of Sociological Scholarship on Disability

Although there have been a number of thoughtful books, edited volumes and review essays exploring the history of the discipline of sociology, none of them have attended to the history of disability within the field. In an effort to address this gap, the Status Committee decided to embark on a collaborative effort with members of the ASA Section on Disability & Society to examine the history of disability scholarship within sociology. Sara Green and Sharon Barnartt co-edited, *Sociology Looking at Disability: What Did We Know and When Did We Know It?, Research in Social Science and Disability, Volume 9* (2017). This volume includes chapters by senior disability scholars, many of whom have served as members of the Status Committee, as well as junior scholars and graduate students interested in the sociology of disability (see Appendix A).

In the first chapter of the volume, Gerschick and Stevens (2017) demonstrate that disability as a category of analysis and as a social process underlying inequality has been poorly represented within mainstream sociology from the earliest days of the Association's history. They report

findings of an intensive, systematic and comprehensive content analysis of the first ten years of the Proceedings from the American Sociology Society's Annual Meetings, 1906-1915. Three key themes emerged from their content analysis of these proceedings. First, people with disabilities were largely invisible in those papers. Second, influenced strongly by a social reform agenda that stressed progress and the powerful eugenics movement of the time, those early presenters who did address people with disabilities in their papers vilified them. Third, this denigration was met largely with silence in the printed commentary which followed in the proceedings. Gerschick and Stevens also report that a literature search in our discipline's flagship journals, *The American Sociological Review* and *American Journal of Sociology*, using the broadest search term, <u>disability,</u> as a keyword located nine total publications: two in the 1960s, two in the 1970s, two in the 1980s and two more in the 1990s, none in the 00's and one in 2010. Although disability as a unit of analysis is more fully represented in the Journal of Health and Social Behavior (with 154 articles since 2004), the nearly complete concentration of consideration of disability in this one journal reinforces disability as a medical condition rather than an axis of inequality that is socially situated. While this situation has gotten slightly better in more recent years (5 articles were found in AJS and 1 in ASR in the issues published between 2011 and 2017), disability remains a seriously underrepresented area of scholarship on inequality.

In addition to calling attention to this lamentable dearth of mainstream sociological work in which disability is interrogated as more than an individual medical issue, RSSD Volume 9 also highlights the early scholarship that bucked this trend. Authors of the chapters in this collaborative effort critically examine both the value and the gaps, lapses, and assumptions in early work on disability in sociology and related disciplines. They also point to gaps and lapses in current knowledge and suggest avenues for future research that are suggested by their reviews. The Status Committee hopes that this volume will prove to be a useful reference tool as our discipline makes its way toward a future in which disability is valued as a socially constructed category that is as worthy of sustained theoretical interest and meaningful political action as race, gender, class and sexuality.

ASA Looking at Disability and Accessibility: The Effectiveness of the Status Committee as an Agent of Organizational Change

Digital Archive of ASA Programs

In preparation for the RSSD chapter, Tom Gerschick, with support from ASA staff, produced a digital archive in which all extant ASA Annual Meeting programs are now scanned and stored in a digital archive. This is a permanent and valuable asset for the organization and is available for use by all members. The availability of the archive was announced to section chairs at the 2016 annual meetings, and can be accessed at: http://www.asanet.org/news-events/meetings/previous-annual-meetings

Historical Collection of Status Committee Recommendations and ASA Response

The Status Committee, with assistance from ASA staff, gathered all of the historical documents pertaining to the committee since its inception, including committee-specific correspondence

between committee members, official committee reports, periodic committee status/progress reports to ASA council, and other memoranda to ASA council. Under the direction of Sara Green, graduate students Douglas Engelman and Chase McCain conducted a systematic text analysis of these documents, resulting in the identification of 165 specific recommendations to ASA for how to better serve the needs of persons with disabilities in sociology. These detailed recommendations were then organized into eleven broad categories of recommendations:

1. Promote respect for scholars with disabilities and disability scholars
2. Assure accessibility of meeting sites (hotel rooms, meeting rooms, registration area, exhibit hall, meeting programs and other materials, presentations, etc.)
3. Provide clear accessibility information and signage and assure that it is abundant and located in easily accessible areas
4. Increase presence of disability scholarship at meetings
5. Increase presence of disability scholarship in pedagogy and publications (journals, textbooks, academic presses, etc.) and push for inclusion of disability (along with race, class, gender and sexuality) as an axis of inequality, minority status, and valuable source of diversity
6. Provide mentorship for scholars with disabilities
7. Provide mentorship for disability scholars
8. Increase effectiveness and visibility of the Status Committee, its members, and its activities
9. Provide accessibility information about off-site restaurants, bars, area attractions, transportation, etc.
10. Connect with other professional organizations to develop best practices for encouraging participation and inclusion of faculty and students with disabilities
11. Provide professional development on teaching students with disabilities

These categories and each of the specific recommendations pertaining to them are listed in full in Appendix B of this report. Specific recommendations may be listed under more than one category.

In order to assess the degree of progress that has been made in fulfilling the recommendations ASA executive office staff, led by Margaret Vitullo, reviewed the 165 specific recommendations and coded each as (A) standard ASA policy or practice or complete; (B) no longer accommodation preferred by people with disabilities; (C) implementation not complete; or (D) not clear enough to interpret, investigation needed. In some cases, when a recommendation included several distinct elements, multiple codes were used, resulting in a larger total number of codes than recommendations.

In 118/165 cases recommendations were coded as part of standard ASA policy or practice or complete. For example, the ASA diversity statement has been changed to include disability, orientations or walkthroughs of annual meeting facilities are listed as a standard accommodation that can be provided upon request, and all-gender restrooms are now a standard feature at annual meeting facilities. The Status Committee Co-Chairs believe this demonstrates terrific commitment on the part of the ASA and its staff.

Eighteen of the 165 recommendations were coded as no longer the preferred accommodation. Examples include providing electronic copies of the annual meeting program upon request. This is not necessary since the annual meeting program is now online and available through a meeting app that is accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities.

In six of the 165 cases, recommendations were coded as being unclear, or requiring additional investigation due to insufficient information.

For 33 of the 165 recommendations implementation was not complete. In some cases, these recommendations are things that require sustained effort and are thus never be fully complete—such as aiming to not "classify individuals [as having disabilities] but rather environments [as being inaccessible]." In other cases, the recommendations that fall into this category are related to long term society-wide goals, such as increasing employment for persons with disabilities. Sustained effort, in and outside of ASA, will be continue to be needed to redress these problems. In an important number of cases, however, the recommendations in this category are things that have simply never been fully implemented—such as providing the Status Committee with documentation of accessibility checklists and follow up visits to annual meeting sites. Such information would help the Status Committee to fulfill its mandate to ensure the full participation of sociologists with disabilities in the life of the Association.

Our analysis reveals that since the Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities was established, the ASA has made substantial progress in responding to the recommendations of the Committee. It has made the Annual Meetings and the Association more accessible and responsive to the needs of scholars with disabilities, and in bringing scholarship on disability to light.

Perhaps the single most influential and important step was the establishment of the Section on Society and Disability in 2011. This was another landmark moment because the existence of this section guarantees a place for disability scholarship in the annual conference program and provides a formal mechanism for mentoring and networking among disability scholars. The Section and Status Committee both continue to advocate for changes that enhance inclusion of scholars with disabilities and disability scholarship throughout the discipline.

The analysis also revealed that changing technologies and practices and norms within the association can create opportunities for greater inclusion as well as new barriers and limitations for sociologists with disabilities. For example, it has become increasingly common for sections to hold off-site receptions. In 2016, at the Annual Meeting in Seattle, an Accessibility Concerns Report was filed by a graduate student with mobility impairments who attempted to attend two different section receptions but found that both were held in inaccessible locations. In order to reduce the chances of a similar situation arising in Montreal an email was sent from the Status Committee Co-Chairs and ASA staff to section leaders reminding them of the importance of considering accessibility when selecting venues for off-site section receptions (see Appendix C; we also make a recommendation to Council regarding this matter below). This example helps make the clear the need to for the Status Committee to remain a voice for inclusion within ASA in the future.

An Intersectional Approach to Disability

Intersectional approaches examine the ways in which membership in various social, biological and cultural categories interact to affect social and economic outcomes for individuals. Grounded in feminist research, this approach most often explores the ways in which gender, class and race/ethnic identity combine to create multiple, simultaneous sources of oppression for people. More recently, disability scholars have begun to call attention to disability as a missing axis of intersectionality. The status committee and section on disability are joining with other sections to address this important omission.

At the 2017 annual meetings, the section will collaborate with three other sections on co-sponsored sessions that directly address disability as an axis of inequality and intersectionality: 1. *Disability as a Dimension of Intersectionality and Inequality* (open session co-sponsored by Disability & Society, Race, Gender & Class, and Body & Embodiment); 2. *Feminist Disability Studies: Advancing Intersectional Analyses* (invited session co-sponsored by Race, Gender & Class, and Disability & Society); and 3. *Disability, War/Social Conflict, and Inequality* (open session co-sponsored by Disability & Society, and Peace, War & Social Conflict).

We are very encouraged by these collaborations and trust that they will advance our discipline from a past in which disability was viewed as an individual tragedy to a future in which disability takes its place as a powerful analytic category. It is clearly worthy of sustained theoretical and empirical interest in its own right and in intersection with other locations of disadvantage and oppression. In 2016, Gerschick and Green published an article in *Footnotes* in which they made a call for broad participation among ASA scholars and sections in this collaborative effort. The co-sponsored sessions received a substantial number of strong submissions

In 2016, the Status Committee and the section also began to work together to negotiate special issues of journals that focus on the intersection of disability and other categories of inequality. Section officers Laura Mauldin and Heather Dillaway were successful in negotiating the first such issue to be published in *Gender & Society*. A call has gone out for submissions. We have also explored interest in disability related special issues with editors of ASA journals, but have been told that the ASA Publications Committee advises journals to be careful about special issues because of the impact they can have on the journal's reputation. This is a matter to be pursued further in the future.

Status Committee as Research Incubator: Mentoring Activities

Moving beyond the traditional model of committees and task forces, the Status Committee has sought to act as a small incubator for peer-reviewed research on persons with disabilities in the discipline. In this way the work of committee members can serve the ASA by providing recommendations and insights on the conditions of persons with disabilities in sociology based on solid peer reviewed research, while also advancing research on persons with disabilities in sociology and the careers of persons with disabilities and their supporters who serve on the committee. Sara Green and Sharon Barnartt specifically solicited submissions for the peer

reviewed RSSD Volume 9 from graduate students and junior faculty and worked extensively with them during the revision process.

Tom Gerschick and section officer Robyn Brown are conducting a workshop at ASA 2017 that is designed to respond to the fact that although it is a status much like sex, gender, race, ethnicity, social class and sexual orientation, scholarship on disability has significantly lagged these contemporary research and social action areas and its implications for intersectional theory and scholarship remain largely unexamined. The goal of the workshop will be to demonstrate the many research gaps in the sociology of disability and to demonstrate ways of addressing them. The session is envisioned as a catalyst where young scholars can get ideas for new projects, network with potential collaborators, and learn of publication opportunities and outlets.

We hope that this incubator process will become a lasting aspect of the work of the Status Committee.

Recommendations for the Future

While much remains to be done to improve the positionality of disabled scholars and disability scholarship in the discipline of sociology globally, encouraging progress has been made. The formation of the ASA Section on Disability & Society in 2011 was one major progressive step. Its existence guarantees a place for disability scholarship in the annual conference program, thereby increasing the visibility of disability in the discipline. It also provides a formal mechanism for mentoring and networking among disability scholars. With the help of this section, the Status Committee continues to advocate for changes that enhance the inclusion of scholars with disabilities and disability scholarship throughout the discipline. Given sociological commitments to understanding social inequality, the time is overdue for serious examination of disability as a social category.

In order to continue efforts toward the full inclusion of sociologists with disabilities in the activities of the association and to further the sociological study of disability, the Status Committee asks Council to accept the following six recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Renew the term of the Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities in Sociology.

Recommendation 2: Endorse as a framework for future committee work and ASA activity the following principals:

1. The ASA, within its mandate as a scholarly association working to promote sociology as a profession and discipline serving the great good, promotes respect for scholars with disabilities and disability scholars;
2. Continuously and consciously strives to assure accessibility of meeting sites (hotel rooms, meeting rooms, registration area, exhibit hall, meeting programs and other materials, presentations, section receptions, etc.);
3. Works to increase presence of disability scholarship in pedagogy, publications, and meetings and encourages the inclusion of disability (along with race, class, gender

and sexuality) as an axis of inequality, minority status, and valuable source of diversity;

4. Facilitates and acknowledges the critical importance of mentorship and professional development for scholars with disabilities and disability scholars;
5. Collaborates with other professional organizations to develop best practices for encouraging participation and inclusion of faculty and students with disabilities.

Recommendation 3: Adopt a policy stating that sections must provide documentation that off-site reception locations are accessible in order for them to be listed in the annual meeting program. A simple checklist, provided by ASA and signed by section leaders, will constitute documentation of accessibility. Continue the practice of sending a letter to section chairs (See Appendix C) to remind them of this requirement and sensitize them to the issues.

Recommendation 4: Encourage the Status Committee, during its next term, to develop a proposal for a meaningful and systematic mentorship program for graduate students with disabilities, along the lines of, but not in competition with, the ASA Minority Fellows Program. Explore opportunities for the creation of a scholarship element within this program. This suggestion has also been made by the ASA section in previous annual reports.

Recommendation 5: Include the regular paper session, *Disability and Social Life,* in the ASA program every year.

The status committee agrees with the following statement from the Annual Report for the Disability and Society Section for Membership Year 2014-2015 (Kutner, 2015):

Being able to count on one standing session would be very meaningful for a small section like ours. It would then give us more flexibility to use our session (or sessions) earned on the basis of our membership size to agree to co-sponsor with other sections, which then obligates us to "pay back" these arrangements the following year.

In addition, the Status Committee offers the following evidence that the time is right for this session to be included annually rather than biannually:

1. In 2017, the program includes an unprecedented number of disability themed sessions (one cross listed invited session; two cross-listed invited open submission sessions; one section round table session; and the regular session on *Disability and Social Life*). This extraordinary number of sessions (5) is due to the rare event in which the year for the regular *Disability and Social Life* session coincided with the year in which the section day fell on the final day of the program, resulting in an extra section session. **The fact that all five sections were successfully filled offers solid evidence that the regular session could be filled each year.**

2. Even with the regular session and an invited session in the program in 2017, the two open submission section-sponsored paper sessions received far more papers than they were able to accept (22 were submitted, 9 were accepted).

3. The round table session accepted 13 papers, and many of these would have more appropriately been presented in paper sessions, had there been room in these sessions.

4. There are papers related to the social construction of disability or disability inequality being presented in more than a dozen non-disability specific sessions across the 2017 program. (NOTE: this count does not include papers in which disability is considered as a health outcome).

5. During the term of this report, the number of sessions sponsored by the Disability Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems in their annual meeting program has increased dramatically from five in 2013 to nine in 2017. This is further evidence of increased interest in disability scholarship. Since the SSSP conference is held concurrently with the ASA annual meetings, this increase could also be driven in part by the smaller number of disability-related sessions in the ASA program.

Note: The Status Committee is aware that Council will be considering a proposal to eliminate the regular topic sessions and reassign those slots to sections for programming. If that proposal is accepted by Council then the Section on Disability and Society would receive three sessions per year, which it would prefer to making the currently bi-annually scheduled regular session on "Disability and Social Life" an annual topic, which would result in only two guaranteed session slots focused on disability.

Recommendation 6: Encourage the Status Committee to continue to update the compilation of committee recommendations (Appendix B) and work with ASA staff to track organizational progress toward implementation.

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Appendix A:

Forward and Table of Contents for Research in Social Science and Disability, Volume 9

SOCIOLOGY LOOKING
AT DISABILITY:
WHAT DID WE KNOW AND WHEN
DID WE KNOW IT

RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE AND DISABILITY

Series Editors: Barbara M. Altman and
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SOCIOLOGY LOOKING AT DISABILITY: WHAT DID WE KNOW AND WHEN DID WE KNOW IT

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FOREWORD

> ...like all human achievement, getting from "there" to "here" in social science research is fraught with difficulties. (Lofland, 2007, p. 474)

This volume is a self-reflective examination of both the damaging assumptions and the glimmers of hope to be found in early sociological literature on disability. In particular, it is an exploration of early work that helped sociology move along the difficult path from a "there" in which some sociologists tacitly, and sometimes not so tacitly, supported the eugenics movement to a "here" in which disability is increasingly viewed as a theoretically important socially constructed category of human experience. While we have titled this volume, *Sociology Looking at Disability: What Did We Know and When Did We Know It*, given the way the volume evolved from "there" to "here," we might well have called it *American Sociologists Looking at Sociology Looking at Disability*. We intended for it to have international scope, but the US-centered focus of many of the papers in the volume is perhaps neither surprising nor inappropriate given the way in which the volume came about.

The editors of this volume, the authors of its papers, and the editors of the RSSD series are all members of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Most have held leadership roles in the ASA and have worked with its staff to enhance the inclusion of both disabled sociologists and disability scholarship within the ASA. Some authors are senior and emeritus scholars who are veterans of the struggle to claim a space for disability scholarship in sociology and for sociology in disability scholarship. Others are junior scholars or advanced doctoral students in the process of creating their own space within this contested area of the discipline. Some papers are collaborations between veterans and new voices in the sociology of disability. Many of the authors in this volume, though not all, have personal or family experience with disablement and know first-hand the struggles of living in a non-accommodating world. All are committed to building on the strengths of past work while critically interrogating its assumptions and helping to fill its gaps and lapses in order to move the sociological examination of disability from the margins to a more central place in the life of the discipline.

The idea for this volume grew out of the work of the ASA Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities in Sociology. This committee was established in 1981 after many years of advocacy work by individual sociologists including some of the authors and subjects of papers in this volume and was formalized as a standing committee in the association's governance structure in 1987. In 1999, the status committee was charged with the following responsibilities: "To ensure the full participation of sociologists with disabilities in the life of the Association and to encourage sociological scholarship on disability issues" (Howery, 2007). This was an important moment in the discipline of sociology in the United States. These formal committee charges represent an official recognition on the part of the discipline's national scholarly organization that there exists within US sociology the kind of dual marginalization of both disabled scholars and disability scholarship that is noted by UK disabled sociologist and disability scholar Michael Oliver:

> As a sociologist, my own experience of marginalization has been more from the sociological community than from society at large. A sociologist having either a personal or a professional interest in disability will not find disability occupies a central or even a marginal place on the sociological agenda. And even where it does appear, sociology has done little except reproduce the medical approach to this issue. (Oliver, 1990a, 1990b, pp. x—xi)

This dual disablement is, of course, not limited to the United States and the United Kingdom. Canadian sociologist Tanya Titchkosky, says, for example, "Like the normal who are full of pity and avoidance, sociology, too, often avoids disability as a phenomenon in its own right. Such a hegemonic presentation of disability is a sign of the kind of tyranny that surrounds disability as a sociological topic" (2000, p. 211).

While much remains to be done to improve the positionality of disabled scholars and disability scholarship in the discipline of sociology around the world, some encouraging progress has been made within the ASA over the last few years. As Sharon Barnartt notes in the introductory paper for this volume, the ASA Section on Disability and Society was formally accepted into the association in 2010. This was another landmark moment because the existence of this section guarantees a place for disability scholarship in the annual conference program and provides a formal mechanism for mentoring and networking among disability scholars. The section and status committee both continue to advocate for changes that enhance inclusion of scholars with disabilities and disability scholarship throughout the discipline. In the last few years, the Section on Disability and Society has been

building bridges with the much larger and older sections Aging and the Life Course and Medical Sociology. Many of the authors of papers in this volume are active in more than one of these sections. Over the last few years, the sections have jointly sponsored several conference sessions — including a session honoring the work of the late Irving Kenneth Zola who is the subject of papers in this volume.

When Tom Gerschick and I were asked to become co-chairs of the status committee in 2013 and began to gather ideas about what the committee should accomplish during our term, we quickly discovered that many of the action items suggested by new committee and section members had already been suggested in the past. In fact, we learned from Margaret Vitullo (ASA Director of Academic and Professional Affairs and the staff liaison for the status committee) that in some cases, the suggestions had already been acted upon by ASA. In conversations with past status committee chairs, we concluded that there was a need for the status committee to reflect more systematically on our discipline's history related to disability in at least two areas: the effectiveness (or lack thereof) of the status committee as an agent of social change within the national association and the history of sociological scholarship on disability. Sharon Barnartt and Barbara Altman suggested that we make the latter the focus of Volume 9 in the RSSD series and Emerald agreed. We also decided that both the status committee and the section should take a more active mentoring role to support and encourage both disabled graduate students and junior scholars and those who take the risk of focusing on this underappreciated area within the discipline. This volume represents one step in that mentoring effort.

In putting this volume together, Sharon and I were not only interested in reiterating the well-documented and lamentable dearth of mainstream sociological work in which disability is interrogated as more than an individual medical issue, but also in highlighting the early scholarship that bucked this trend. Titchkosky has said:

> The prevalence of the sociological representation of disability as a mere spectacle in service of normalcy, stripped of any understanding of its social production, is certainly open to debate. What is not open to debate is that this is *one* way that academics produce disability-knowledge. It is also beyond question that since the category "the disabled" entered Western culture, *there have been researchers and theorists that have resisted conformity to the dominant ideologies of their day* ... and, of course, others who have not [emphasis added]. (Titchkosky, 2000, p. 211)

Sociologists and disability scholars in other disciplines have sometimes neglected to recognize "the researchers and theorists that have resisted

conformity" by using a broad brush to characterize that larger group of "others who have not." This is, of course, quite understandable and even necessary in an area of scholarship that has experienced neglect and abuse and had its legitimacy contested within the discipline. Leonard Davis, for example, argues in his introduction to the *Disability Studies Reader*: "As with any new discourse, disability studies must claim space in a contested area, trace its continuities and discontinuities, argue for its existence, and justify its assertions" (Davis, 1997, p. 1). The same can be said of non-medicalized approaches to the sociology of disability. There has been a very real struggle to claim space within a resistant discipline.

Territorial claims making, however, can lead to uninformed disdain for all past work and loss of important insights and glimmers of hope offered by early work that anticipated and contributed to more current perspectives, even if imperfectly. In her contribution to a special memorial edition of *Symbolic Interaction*, Lyn Lofland says of the work of my friend and colleague the late Spencer Cahill (whose disability scholarship Titchkosky places in the resistor category):

> … much work in sociology evinces two characteristics that the rest of us would do well to jettison: sociological illiteracy or intellectual isolationism, on the one hand, and easy dismissal of the literature, on the other …. The second characteristic is one all too familiar to most of us: a disdain for past work …. To say that Spencer's work displays neither of these characteristics but instead demonstrates an *appreciative knowledge* of the literature is by no means to suggest that he avoids critical assessment. What I am arguing, rather, is that his critiques rarely, if ever, take on the character of all-out assaults. They are always based on a close reading of whatever work is in question (i.e., they are "knowledgeable"), but they are also measured, pointing to gaps or lapses or unexamined assumptions but recognizing how hard-won are the filling in of those gaps or the corrections of those lapses or the examining of those assumptions (i.e., they are appreciative) [emphasis in original]. (Lofland, 2007, p. 474)

It has been our goal in producing this volume to provide future researchers with an *appreciative knowledge* of some of the early scholarship in the sociology of disability that resisted the tendency of the discipline to equate disability entirely with individual bodily impairment and necessarily tragic consequences. Authors of the papers in this volume critically examine both the value and the gaps, lapses, and assumptions in early work on disability in sociology and related disciplines. They also point to gaps and lapses in current knowledge and suggest avenues for future research that are suggested by their reviews. We hope that this volume will prove to be a useful reference tool as our discipline makes its way slowly along the path, ever fraught with difficulties, from a "there" in which disability was viewed as

always and only an individual tragedy to a brighter "here" in which disability is valued as a socially constructed category that is worthy in its own right of sustained theoretical interest and meaningful political action, within sociology and beyond.

Sara E. Green
Editor

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Appendix B: **Major Themes Reflected in Recommendations Made to and by ASA Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities in Sociology from 1983-2012**

	Source Codes: PC=Personal Correspondence, OCR=Official Committee Report, CSR=Committee on Status Report, MEM=Memorandum to ASA Council, SAP=Summary Access Planning Session, AAI=ASA Increases Attention to Accessibility Issue	A. ASA policy & practice / part of ADA / complete	B. No longer preferred accommodation	C. Implementation not complete	D. Not clear enough to code; investigation needed	Notes
1	**1. Promote respect for scholars with disabilities and disability scholars**					
2	Refrain from using language referring to PWD as nouns ("handicapped") and use the more favorable phrase – PWD -1983 PC	1				
3	Provide a glossary of terms: 1987 OCR		1			
4	Aim should not be to classify individuals but rather environments. – 1983 PC, 1988 OCR			1		This is an on-going cultural value that must be enacted situationally and evolve constantly.
5	Request the ASA diversity statement be changed to include "persons with disabilities." Statement should read: "Much of the vitality of the 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 person, 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." 2010 MEM	1				
6	Develop a set of biographies of sociologists with disabilities 1998 COS			1		It does not appear that this was ever done. It could be an activity of a future status committee.
7	**2. Assure accessibility of meeting sites (hotel rooms, meeting rooms, registration area, exhibit hall, meeting programs and other materials, presentations, etc.)**					
8	**Suggestions Related to General Accessibility**					

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9	*ASA should conduct on-site inspection following receipt of checklist; checklists should be saved and accessible to the committee – 2011 COS (see line 43)*			1		Plan for implimentation moving forward: committee creates simple, clear form that can be shared with hotels and used over time; identifies a local volunteer (from their membership or networks) to accompany ASA meeting services director on a site visit to review the checklist. That person -- in collaboration with ASA staff - documents the results for archiving and sharing with the committe. **This is an important activity for the next status committee's term.**
10	Provide an orientation or walkthrough upon request as standard accessibility feature – 2011 COS	1				
11	Provide a gender-neutral restroom as standard accessibility service – 2011 COS	1				
12	Provide continued support to ensure website compliance by 2012 annual meeting – 2011 COS	1				
13	ASA should request written verification of each criteria regarding requirements for meetings; 1) guest floor plans 2) conference facilities floor plans 3) supplemental signage 4) telephones 5) sanitary facilities 6) drinking fountains – 1993 SAP			1		See line 9
14	Ensure platform stages for accessibility (ramps, curbs) 1993 SAP	1				
15	Avoid segregating wheel chair areas 1993 SAP	1				ASA provides areas with no chairs to create space for wheel chairs - but they are not required or segregated

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16	Ensure main aisles to seating are at least 60" wide and secondary aisle at least 36" preferably 48" 1993 SAP	1				Meeting Services Director will include this in setup specifications; most of this is required because of fire marshall
17	Designate seating areas near front of large assembly rooms 1993 SAP	1				
18	Consider accommodations for those with "multiple chemical sensitivity" and keep from smoke 1993 SAP	1				Program encourages attendees to be aware of multiple chemical sensitivity and avoid using sented personal products.
19	Provide captioning for all plenary sessions as standard practice (not simply upon request) 2011 COS	1				
20	Review ASA accessibility issues 1999 COS	1				
21	Complete wheelchair accessibility in restrooms, hotel rooms, and public buses including ramps. Do not contract with those who cannot provide. Ramps and curbs for resource room at registration site. Need greater centralization of rooms. – 1984 OCR			1		This item is listed as "in progress" because of the public buses issue. Accessibility of cities varies, particularly in cities outside the U.S. Montreal is a particularly inaccessible city; ASA is contracted to return there in 2024. Accessibility should be included among criteria for annual meeting site selection.
22	Require hotel and meetings to require microphones in all rooms, and should remind all presenters to use them. Adopt "throat microphones" for everyone to use. Address issue of elevator doors closing too quickly. ILA system should be used, which can help adjust to hearing aids. – 1984 OCR	1		1		Cost prohibitive for all rooms; can be provided upon request by a presenter or a participant. Elevator doors speeds are regulated by ADA criteria.

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23	Establish more formalized relationships with ASA officers responsible for on site selection for meetings to improve accessibility. Attempt to facilitate arrangements for those with special services – 1984 OCR	1				
25	Provide accommodations for guide dogs 1988 OCR	1				
26	Increase services for spouses and relatives who may also need accommodations when visiting 1988 OCR	1				ASA will provide accomodations for any spouse or relative who receives a guest badge.
27	Provide rooms with accommodations 1993 SAP	1				
28	*Provide continued support to ensure website compliance by 2012 annual meeting 2011 COS (line 12)*					
29	Continue to support the committee on the status of PWD 2011 COS	1				
30	Continuation of the aforementioned data collection efforts on renewal process 2011 COS	1				
31	Fully institute a system for recording disability concerns 2011 COS	1				
32	Include a session about the aging of the professoriate and the implications for disability accommodations 2005 COS	1				
33	Include information on accessible ground transportation in program – 1993 SAP, 1988 OCR	1	1			Information has moved online so people have access ahead of time. Will be on ground transportion page; Accessible Annual meeting page.
34	**Suggestions Related to Policies and Procedures**					

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35	Meetings are not perfectly accessible, so monitoring is recommended 2005 COS	1				
36	Insert accessibility features/concerns onto the program maps – 2011 COS, 2012 Memo to Council	1				
37	Include a link to the 2008 Footnotes Article on universal design and accessible presentation in communications accepting presentations 2011 COS	1				Links are provided; this information (updated as needed) will continue to be shared.
38	Materials related to the site more broadly should offer relevant accessibility information 2011 COS, 2012 Memo to Council	1				There an accessible Annual Meetings page for each year
39	A brief mention of disability services and how to file a concern/complaint should be in the annual program, on the website, and emailed to any member who has requested information on these services 2011 COS, 2012 Memo to Council	1				
40	Provide accessible electronic copies of the annual meeting program upon request as standard accessibility feature – 2012 Memo to Council	1	1			PDFs of the program are posted to the website and can be downloaded for use with text readers; the Annual Meeting app is compatible with VoiceOver.
41	Establish a standard ASA policy and practice that distribution of a letter regarding disability services to members who check box requiring information – 2012 Memo to Council	1				-

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42	Hotels should complete an accessibility checklist, before contract. Completed checklists should be recorded and saved, and made available to the committee – 2012 Memo to Council			1		See line 9
43	ASA should conduct on-site inspection following receipt of checklist – 2012 Memo to Council			1		See line 9
44	*Provide an orientation or walkthrough upon request as standard accessibility feature – 2012 Memo to Council (see line 10)*					
45	*Provide a gender-neutral restroom as standard accessibility service – 2012 Memo to Council (see line 11)*					
46	*Provide captioning for all plenary sessions as standard practice (not simply upon request) – 2012 Memo to Council (see line 19)*					
47	*Include a link to the 2008 Footnotes Article on universal design and accessible presentation in communications accepting presentations – (see line 37)*					
48	**Suggestions related to accommodations for visual impairment**					
49	Bright lighting in elevator/halls – 1988 OCR	1				Bright hallways and elevators are among the criteria considered in site selection.
50	Markings on top/bottom staircases – 1988 OCR		1			
51	Restaurants/entertainment areas guide indicating availability of lighting aids, large print and braille menus – 1988 OCR		1			ASA no longer provides a restaurant guide

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52	Recorded version of ASA program – 1988 OCR		1			
53	Raised Braille markings on floor signs in elevators and by elevator doors – 1988 OCR	1				Standard ADA feature
54	Tactile convention maps – 1988 OCR		1			
55						
56	*Accommodations for guide dogs – 1988 OCR (see line 25)*					
57	Verbal explanation of all visual aids – 1988 OCR				1	
58	Sighted guide, by appointment – 1988 OCR	1				
59	All signage designating meeting rooms and spaces should have mounted signage with raised lettering/braille 1993 SAP	1				ADA feature
60	**Suggestions related to accommodations for hearing impairment**					
61	Microphone amplification in all meeting rooms – 1988 OCR			1		Cost prohibitive for all rooms; can be provided upon request by a presenter or a participant.
62	Restaurant/entertainment guide indicating loudness rating and aids for hearing – 1988 OCR		1			ASA no longer provides a restaurant guide
63	Availability of amplified/volume control phones in guest rooms (advanced request) – 1988 OCR	1				feature of most ADA rooms
64	Individualized listening systems in meeting rooms – 1988 OCR	1				Available upon request
65	Sign language interpretation – 1988 OCR	1				
66	Lip reading interpretation – 1988 OCR	1				

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67	Hotel (Westin) should increase their amplified telephones and handsets for TTYs/TDDs 1993 SAP		1			
68	Portable telephone devices should be available to hotel lobbies and ASA information desk 1993 SAP		1			
69	Determine number of rooms which can accommodate assistive living systems (ALS) equipment 1993 SAP	1				If this accomodation was requested these logistics would be determined on a case-by-case basis.
70	Logistics for distributing and returning ALS receivers should be ascertained early on and what charges may apply 1993 SAP	1				If this accomodation was requested these logistics would be determined on a case-by-case basis. Additional information on ALDs can be found on the National Association for the Deaf website
71	*Provide captioning for all plenary sessions as standard practice (not simply upon request) 2011 COS (see line 19)*					
72	Appropriate devices should include: visual/tactile telephone, door knock, alarm clock, text telephone, amplified headset. Fire alarms with strobes should be reviewed – 1993 SAP	1	1			Some are standard features of ADA rooms; some are no longer preferred accomodation (TTY); some would have to be requested (visual door knock)
73	**Suggestions related to mobility accommodations**					
74	Elevator access to all meeting functions – 1988 OCR	1				
75	Slow closing elevator doors – 1988 OCR	1				
76	Restaurant/Entertainment guide indicates wheelchair accessibility – 1988 OCR	1	1			ASA no longer provides a restaurant guide but some restaurants that are accessible to those with mobility impairments are listed on the Annual Meeting "Access for All" page
77	Wheelchair access to all hotel facilities – 1988 OCR	1				

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78	Reasonably priced wheelchair transport to meeting site– 1988 OCR	1				We have info on this in program or website
79	Roster of personal care attendants – 1988 OCR		1			Internet better option; referral agencies
80	Wheel chairs available for use – 1988 OCR	1				
81	Wheelchair repair facilities available – 1988 OCR	1	1			Internet better option; assistance in locating services provided upon request
82	Ramps, curbs and easy route of travel should be maintained – 1993 SAP	1				These items are part of ASA's review of sites; depending on the city these may vary; cities outside the U.S. are not required to respond to ADA making these issues more difficult.
83	Ensure wheelchair accessibility as they were configured the day we visited site – 1993 SAP	1				ASA staff training includes looking for and removing temporary obstructions
84	Modifications should be made in bathrooms – 1993 SAP			1		Varies by sites; part of ASA accessibility check list
85	**Suggestions related to accommodations for "rare" or invisible impairments or health conditions**					
86	Rare accommodations need to be identified and met. – 1983 PC, 1988 OCR	1				Accomodation requests are honored as fully as is feasible
87	Eliminate barriers to participation in annual meeting, which are based on health related or physical (including sensory) impairments. – 1983 PC, 1988 OCR			1		Minimizing barriers is a process that requires constant, individualized response.
88	"No smoking" areas in restaurants/entertainment areas along with a guide to show where these areas are located 1988 OCR		1			ASA no longer provides a restaurant guide

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89	**3. Provide clear accessibility information and signage and assure that it is abundant and located in easily accessible areas**					
90	Clear identification of "special Needs" section in preliminary and final [program]. 1987 OCR	1				On the Annual Meeting "Access for All" webpage and in front material for program
91	More detailed map of hotel showing distances and obstacles 1987 OCR	1				ASA includes detailed maps in programs.
92	On-site requests for special needs should be integrated with registration 1987 OCR	1				
93	Guides to restaurants/ entertainment should include information on accessibility 1987 OCR	1				ASA no longer provides a restaurant guide but some fully accessible restaurants are listed on the Annual Meeting "Access for All" page
94	Provide frequent and clear signs for the restrooms and elevators. 1988 OCR	1				
95	Increase the use of symbols to indicate accommodations and integrate into programs 1993 SAP	1				
96	Include information about accommodations with registration packet and section in table of contents of program 1993 SAP	1				On the Annual Meeting "Access for All" webpage and in front material for program
97	Policies and procedures regarding emergency situations and accommodating guests with disabilities should be in place at the lodging facilities, including; 1) assisting with PWD on above grade floors in the event elevators are out of service 2) appropriate hardware on doors for accessibility 1993 SAP	1				Issues primarily related to training for hotel staff and emergency response personnel.
98		1				

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99	**4. Increase presence of disability scholarship at meetings**					
100	Attempt to better integrate disability concerns into mainstream sociology 1991 PC	1		1		ASA, through the section on disability in society and the status committee, continues to work on this important area
101	Develop roundtable session and to invite each of the sections to solicit disability related papers 1991 PC				1	No record of whether this happened or not was located.
102	1990: Suggestions for sessions on disability:					
103	Offer referred paper session on the sociology of disability	1				
104	Roundtable session on areas of disability	1				
105	Open forum session to extend discussion	1				
106	Teaching workshop on disability studies	1				
107	Formal thematic session or inclusion within a pre-existing thematic race and ethnic relations session on disability as a minority status	1				
108	Develop teaching material on disability	1		1		TRAILS includes resources related to disability and disability studies, however many of these date from a now quite old syllabi set on the topic. **The status committee could choose to address this in its next term.**
109	Begin looking into study about how disability is (or is not) covered in introduction sociology textbooks	1				Sharon Barnartt did this, reported in 2005 Status Committee report.

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110	**5. Increase presence of disability scholarship in pedagogy and publications (journals, textbooks, academic presses, etc.) and push for inclusion of disability (along with race, class, gender and sexuality) as an axis of inequality, minority status, and valuable source of diversity**					
111	Help identify the tasks of disability scholarship in the discipline 1999 COS	1				This ongoing work is largely centered in the Section on Society and Disability
112	Report on the Status of Disabilities Scholarship in the discipline 1999 COS	1				
113	Set up Minority Fellowship Program for students with disabilities 2005 COS			1		It may be most productive to think in terms of the essential purpose of MPF and what parts of that purpose can be accomplished in the short term. A formal mentorship program might be established with cohorts and on-going networking across time without significant funding. Over time, it might be possible to provide some financial assistance/scholarships. **This is something the next status committee could consider as a focus area.**
114	Editors of ASA sponsored journals should be encouraged to consider the proportions of articles received that are related to disability and the acceptance rate for such articles 2005 COS			1		**In its next term the committee may want to engage editors in a collaborative dialogue about why we don't see more scholarship about disability in their respective journals and what they might see as ways to address this gap in the literature.**
115	[journal editorial boards] Have representation from sociologists engaged in disability scholarship 2005 COS				1	**Item that might be included in a conversation with editors.**

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116	Include reviewers who are sociologists engaged in disability 2005 COS				1	
117	Develop a way to monitor the inclusion of sociological scholarship on disability in ASA journals 2005 COS			1		**This could be a project for the next committee's term.**
118	Advertise in places that attract the attention of sociologically-minded scholars of disability including Disability Studies Quarterly, Research in Social Science and Disability, Journal of Disability Policy Studies, and SDS meetings 2005 COS			1		ASA has not historically advertsised specific portions of its meeting program. **The committtee could request that the call for submissions be shared by these organizations and journals.**
119	Obtain admittance to co-sponsored sections so that the ASA can begin to highlight disability scholarship and attempt to have it applied in some of the traditional sub-fields 2005 COS			1		The section is currently engaged in this work, however it is constrained by session allocation.
120	Attempt to highlight disability scholarship, explore adding the category to [sociological] abstracts			1		This is a ProQuest product; ASA does not own it. **This could be a project for the status committee to consider in its next term.**
121	Increase visibility of the committee 2005 COS			1		**A potential project for the committee in its next term.**
122	Use info from preliminary program to contact presenters and interest them in other disability activities, including the possible formation of a disability section 2005 COS	1				Section has been formed
123						
124	**6. Provide mentorship for scholars with disabilities**					

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125 Monitor the status of PWD in sociology with respect to: 1) accessibility of the discipline to individuals wishing to pursue a degree in sociology (at all levels) 2) Resources available to sociologists with disabilities in academic departments and other work environments 1998			1		
126 *Request the ASA diversity statement be changed to include "persons with disabilities." (see line 5)*					
127					
128					
129 **7. Provide mentorship for disability scholars**					
130 *Help identify the tasks of disability scholarship in the discipline 1999 COS (see line 111)*					
131 Review ASA accessibility issues 1999 COS	1				
132 Report on the Status of Disabilities Scholarship in the discipline 1999 COS	1				
133 Provide support for PWD at all levels within the discipline: 1) mentoring for students 2) establishing internship opportunities 3) identifying and expanding sources for funding for PWD 1998 COS			1		**This might be a project for the next committee term.**
134 Promote a stronger connection to and more communication with others doing work on disabilities by establishing mechanisms for both conveying to others what we, as sociologists, are doing, and learning about what those in other fields are doing. 1998	1				Activity of the section

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135	Link up with other organizations to share information 1998 COS	1				ASA periodically meets with other professional associations to share best practices; Meeting Services staff regularly attent PCMA trainings
136	Continue investigating disability within the discipline of sociology –	1				**This is the ongoing work of the Status Committee**
137	a) teaching patterns	1				**This is the ongoing work of the Status Committee**
138	b) publication patterns	1				**This is the ongoing work of the Status Committee**
139	c) problems encountered by PWD as faculty members, staff members, and graduate students. 2005 COS	1				**This is the ongoing work of the Status Committee**
140						
141						
142	**8. Increase effectiveness and visibility of the status committee, its members, and its activities**					
143	Start mailing surveys to gather info for newer meetings. 1983 PC	1				Survey was conducted in 1984
144	Create survey to document and gather information on ASA PWD 1984 PC	1				Survey was conducted in 1984
145	Survey should function as to heighten awareness 1988 OCR	1				Second survey was conducted in 1987; another in 1994
146	Begin to increase education of disability to ASA members, providing opportunities for research, teaching material, and creating links with other organizations 1994 AAI	1				Section on Society and Disability fulfills these roles

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147	Roundtable session on areas of disability 1990 OCR	1				Section on Society and Disability fulfills these roles
148	Open forum session to extend discussion 1990 OCR	1				Section on Society and Disability fulfills these roles
149	Begin looking into study about how disability is (or is not) covered in introduction sociology textbooks 1990 OCR	1				2005 Report of the Status Committee addressed findings on this topic.
150	Coordinate with ASA executive office to arrange special services for "handicapped" individuals wishing to attend meeting. 1983 PC	1				Accessibility services are provided on a standard basis
151	Determine the # of ASA members with various "handicaps" to suggest ways for "better integration." 1983 PC			1		ASA, on advice from the status committee, has never asked if members have disabilities. The current question on the renewal form asks if the person would like to receive information about accessibility services. We do not know if the people who check this box are simply interested in disability and accessibility issues, have a family member with a disability, or are in need of accomodations themselves.
152	Increase access to sessions 1990 OCR	1				
153	Increase information and employment for PWD 1990 OCR	1		1		There is certainly increased information pertentent to accessibility and disability available to persons with disabilities in the ASA; increasing employment opportunities in society for persons with disabilities is a larger social movement and legal issue where there is still much work to be done.

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154	Make survey information and requests for accommodations efficient so they are not overlooked 1990 OCR	1				
155	Meet with Virginia Stern of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to offer suggestions on how that organization has developed strategies for awareness 1990 OCR				1	The historical documentation does not indicate whether this meeting happened or not.
156	Members should wear their committee ribbons to help increase visibility. Set up committee table for added visibility. 1990 OCR				1	It is not clear whether ribbons remain a desired form of identification or if tables are considered a desirable way to add visibility. There has not been a table at least since 2007.
157	Increase support for graduate students in disability studies and possibly open up a committee slot. 1990 OCR			1		**See line 113.**
158	Include a pedagogy section in 2006 that focuses on Intro courses 2005 COS	1				Sharon Barnartt led this session
159	What should ASA have on its homepage regarding disability scholarship, service for people, links, etc.? 2001 COS	1				The Section on Society and Disability is featured on the ASA website; accessibility pages exist for each annual meeting.
160	Should there be an ASA section on Disability? 2001 COS	1				Established in 2009
161	ASA should have a formal "rep" to the Society for Disability Studies 2001 COS			1		SDS does not currently have any in-person Annual Meetings planned.
162	Ordered videotape on faculty working with PWD 2001 COS	1				
163	Develop more opportunities for PWD to gain employment at all degree levels 2001 COS			1		Increasing employment opportunities in society for persons with disabilities is a larger social movement and legal issue where there is still

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						much work to be done.
164	Report on the accessibility of the association's activities to PWD 2001 COS	1				This takes place through the Status Committee's report each 5 years
165	Report on the status of disabilities scholarship in the discipline 2001 COS			1		This often is included in the Status Committee's report and will be included in the 2017 report.
166	How is this work being funded, presented, and accepted? 2003 COS			1		This often is included in the Status Committee's report and will be included in the 2017 report.
167	Report on the status of disabilities scholarship in the discipline 2003 COS			1		This often is included in the Status Committee's report and will be included in the 2017 report.
168	2005 COS: ASA should support several types of data collection, including:					
169	Data with track requests made for accommodations for the annual meeting, including those which cost money and those that don't, as well as data on the costs of those accommodations	1				
170						
171	Data of faculty needing accommodations in their departments or universities.	1				This has been included in prior department surveys; **could be done again depending on the need/ability to respond; other forms of data collection could be considered by a future status committee**
172	Data on students needing accommodations	1				This has been included in prior department surveys; **could be done again depending on the need/ability to respond; other forms of data collection could be considered by a future**

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						status committee
173	Data on difficulties experienced by graduate students and younger faculty members needing accommodations	1				This has been included in prior department surveys; **could be done again depending on the need/ability to respond; other forms of data collection could be considered by a future status committee**
174						
175	Continue to support the committee on the status of PWD 2011 COS	1				
176	Continuation of the aforementioned data collection efforts 2011 COS	1				
177	Fully institute ASA data collection efforts regarding reports and resolution of accessibility concerns 2011	1				
178						
179	Formation of disability and society section	1				
180	Expansion of disability related scholarship at ASA meeting	1				
181	Inclusion of PWD within ASA diversity statement	1				
182	Continued improvements in meeting accessibility	1				
183	Provide accessible electronic copies of the program available upon request as a standard accessibility feature 2011 COS	1				

	Source Codes: PC=Personal Correspondence, OCR=Official Committee Report, CSR=Committee on Status Report, MEM=Memorandum to ASA Council, SAP=Summary Access Planning Session, AAI=ASA Increases Attention to Accessibility Issue	A. ASA policy & practice / part of ADA / complete	B. No longer preferred accommodation	C. Implementation not complete	D. Not clear enough to code; investigation needed	Notes
184						
185	Establish a standard ASA policy and practice that distribution of a letter regarding disability services to members who check box requiring information 2012 MEM	1				
186						
187	Academic workshop: Creating an Inclusive Climate for PWD 2004 PC	1				
188	Improve ability to use assistive technology for PWD and employment issues for that population 2004 PC			1		This is a larger social movement and legal issue where there is still much work to be done.
189						
190	**9. Provide accessibility information about off-site restaurants, bars, area attractions, transportation, etc.**					
191	More detailed map of hotel showing distances and obstacles 1987 OCR	1				Maps will be in the book and the app; generally don't show distances in feet but objects are in relation to each other in scale.
192	On-site requests for special needs should be integrated with registration 1987 OCR	1				
193	*Guides to restaurants/ entertainment should include information on accessibility (see line 93)*					
194	1987 OCR					
195	Provide frequent and clear signs for the restrooms and elevators. 1988 OCR	1				yes
196	Increase the use of symbols to indicate accommodations and integrate into programs 1993 SAP	1				yes

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197	*Include information about accommodations with registration packet and section in table of contents of program 1993 SAP (see line 96)*					
198	*Policies and procedures regarding emergency situations and accommodating guests with disabilities should be in place at the lodging facilities, including; 1) assisting with PWD on above grade floors in the event elevators are out of service 2) appropriate hardware on doors for accessibility 1993 SAP (see line 97)*					
199	Increase directional signage and should be coordinated between hotels 1993 SAP	1	1			Smart phones for the most part have replaced; there will be an area map in the app and in the program book.
200	Hotel should increase their amplified telephones and handsets for TTYs/TDDs 1993		1			
201	Portable telephone devices should be available to hotel lobbies and ASA information desk 1993 SAP		1			
202	*Determine number of rooms which can accommodate assistive living systems (ALS) equipment 1993 SAP (see line 69)*					
203	*Logistics for distributing and returning ALS receivers should be ascertained early on and what charges may apply 1993 SAP (see line 70)*					
204	Provide captioning for all plenary session*s as standard practice (not simply upon request) 2011 COS (see line 19)*					
205	Insert accessibility features/concerns onto the program maps 2011 COS	1				

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206	Materials related to the site more broadly should offer relevant accessibility information 2011 COS	1				
207	A brief mention of disability services and how to file a concern/complaint should be in the annual program, on the website, and emailed to any member who ahs requested information on these services 2011 COS	1				On the Access for All webpage
208	*Include a link to the 2008 Footnotes Article on universal design and accessible presentation in communications accepting presentations 2011 COS (see line 37)*					
209	Address questions about "overflow hotels" and their accessibility to provide sleeping rooms for PWD and other special devices, such as amplifiers 1994 AAI	1				For additional hotels that are required late in reg process, these questions will be asked, however options may be limited.
210						
211	**10. Connect with other professional organizations to develop best practices for encouraging participation and inclusion of faculty and students with disabilities**					
212	**1998 Proposal from Committee on Status:**					
213	Promote a stronger connection to and more communication with others doing work on disabilities by establishing mechanisms for both conveying to others what we, as sociologists, are doing, and learning about what those in other fields are doing.			1		**This is a potential topic for the next committee term.**
214	Link up with other organizations to share information			1		**This is a potential topic for the next committee term.**
215	Promote and support disability studies in the discipline	1				Section on Society and Disability

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216	*Monitor the status of PWD in sociology with respect to: 1) accessibility of the discipline to individuals wishing to pursue a degree in sociology (at all levels) 2) Resources available to sociologists with disabilities in academic departments and other work environments (see line 125)*					
217	*Provide support for PWD at all levels within the discipline: 1) mentoring for students 2) establishing internship opportunities 3) identifying and expanding sources for funding for PWD (see line 133)*					
218						
219	**11. Provide professional development on teaching students with disabilities**					
220	*Develop teaching material on disability 1990 OCR (see line 108)*					
221	*Begin looking into study about how disability is (or is not) covered in introduction sociology textbooks 1990 OCR (see line 149)*					
	TOTALS	**118**	**18**	**33**	**6**	

Appendix C:

Email to Section Chairs Regarding Reception Accessibility

On January 9, 2017 the following email was sent from the account of the ASA Meeting Services Director, Michelle Randall to "Section_Leaders@listserv.asanet.org."

Dear Section Chairs –

If you are planning an off-site section reception in Montreal, please make sure that the location is accessible to all ASA members, including those with disabilities.

Sociologists are deeply aware of the reality that status and privilege are often invisible to those who have it, and can create insurmountable barriers for those who don't. Sometimes inadvertently, discrimination continues to occur, such as when ASA Sections hold their receptions at sites which are inaccessible to people with disabilities. For instance, locations with steps may be inaccessible to people with mobility considerations. Dark or very noisy venues may make it hard for those with visual and hearing impairments or for those who use ASL. Transportation to sites far away from the Meeting hotels can also be exceptionally difficult to arrange for persons who use electric wheelchairs thereby making attendance impossible.

The ASA Meeting Services Department and Committee on Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology understand the good intentions of section leaders and recognize the amount of work that goes into planning a section reception in an unfamiliar city. We also understand that small sections may not be able to afford to host onsite receptions due to the high cost of hotel catering. We know that section leadership aspires to be inclusive despite the difficulties. Towards that end, when planning your off-site section reception, please ensure that your chosen venue is close to the hotel cluster and accessible to all.

Sara E. Green, PhD
Co-chair, ASA Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology and
Associate Professor, University of South Florida

Tom Gerschick, Ph.D.
Co-chair, ASA Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology and
Associate Professor, Illinois State University

Michelle Randall
ASA Director of Meeting Services

Margaret Weigers Vitullo, Ph.D.
Staff Liaison, ASA Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology and
ASA Director of Academic and Professional Affairs

Appendix D:

**List of Status Committee Members and Council Liaisons for the Reporting Period
2013 – 2017**

Barbara M. Altman, Member (2012-17)

David Brunsma, Council Liaison (2012-2014)

Sharon Barnartt (2013-15)

Thomas Gerschick, Co-Chair (2013-17)

Tanya Maria Golash-Boza, Council Liaison (2015-17)

Sara Green, Co-Chair (2013-17)

Albert Herzog, Chair (2012-13), Member (2014)

Terrence Hill, Member (2015-17)

Nan Johnson, Member (2011-13)

Douglas Klayman (2015-2017)

Laura Mauldin, Member (2016-18)

Margaret Vitullo, ASA Staff Liaison (2008-2020)