

**Report for the ASA on the ASA Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) People in Sociology  
March 2019**

**Submitted by Bernadette Barton and Tina Fetner (chairs)**

**Members of the ASA Status Committee include:**

Bernadette Barton and Tina Fetner (chairs), Tristan Bridges, Shantel Buggs, Jonathan Coley, Jason Crockett, Dana Nakano, and Jason Orne

**Other involved individuals include:**

Sara Crawley (Sex and Gender section representative), Anne Marie Champagne (Trans Justice representative), Jean Shin (ASA rep), Teresa Ciabattari (ASA), Monica McDermott (Council Liaison)

The LGBTQ Status Committee has met three times: in person at the annual conference on Aug 12, 2018, and by conference call on September 17, 2018 and February 13, 2019.

**Highlights:**

-Members appreciate that ASA restructured the status committees so that the terms last longer than a year as this enables us to accomplish more.

-We have separated into sub-groups and are working on the following initiatives:

1. Getting the word out to ASA members about our committee to better serve our organization.  
STATUS: We have drafted a plan to write a paragraph for inclusion in section newsletters/announcements.

2. Improve queer minority representation on the committee.  
STATUS: We are brainstorming on this, and are committed to exploring any opportunities to do this as they arise.

3. Revise name tags to include pronouns.  
STATUS: A subcommittee has been working with ASA staff to make the inclusion of pronouns more seamless. There is now an option to select pronouns in the membership database. An article in a forthcoming issue *Footnotes* by committee members Shantel Buggs and Tristan Bridges explains the process to ASA members and increases awareness of this initiative. We continue to work with ASA to ensure that adding pronouns at the conference site when name badges are picked up is as easy as possible.

4. Creating a set of procedures to facilitate all gender bathrooms at future ASA sites.  
STATUS: Committee member Jason Orne is taking the lead in working with ASA staff to solidify procedures and communications around all-gender bathrooms.

5. Provide support for LGBTQ sociologists in conservative, rural, areas and those at religious institutions.

STATUS: Jonathan Coley and Jean Shin have suggested a change in how the ASA gathers employment information. In January of 2020, ASA will ask employers to provide a link to their non-discrimination policy with their job ads. The purpose of this is to help make job seekers aware of schools who allow discrimination against certain groups of people.

-Jonathan Coley and Bernadette Barton, with the help of a sub-committee, are developing a knowledge bank for those at rural/conservative/religious institutions following SWS's model of "Ask Jane."

6. Work with the executive office and other status committees to draft a statement on student evaluation bias.

STATUS: Tristan Bridges is working with Teresa Ciabattari and the Council on this.

7. Offer support to ASA staff in its initiative to revisit the sex and gender categories in the ASA membership database.

STATUS: Teresa Ciabattari joined our meeting to discuss this plan. We offered the names of several experts that the ASA can rely on to revisit these categories, and expressed a willingness to work further with the ASA to review any proposal for changes. Tina Fetner is the committee liaison to ASA staff.

**Future possible initiatives include:**

-A climate survey in concert with the other status committees after we review the results of the membership survey.