

Footnotes

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2001 Annual Meeting Our Boys: Gang Life in Orange County, California

by Rick Grannis, Cornell University

Southern California has long been associated with gangs and Orange County is certainly no exception. I spent two years doing ethnographic research among Orange County gangs, primarily with one of the largest gangs, FxTroop (pronounced F-Troop), which has between several hundred and a few thousand members depending upon whom you ask. FxTroop, as you might have guessed, takes its name from the old western comedy, although many of the older members of the community claim that the organization has its origins before World War I and that it merely changed its name in the sixties.

The youths (primarily young men) who the police identify as FxTroop see themselves as an integral part of their neighborhood. Similarly, numerous local residents of all ages (most of whom do not appear to be gang members) identify their neighborhood as FxTroop. While FxTroop is primarily composed of Mexican-Americans, it is not exclusively so and its racial homogeneity reflects the neighborhood from which it originates. Most of Orange County's gang members are Mexican-Americans, especially if you use the records of the essentially Anglo law enforcement establishment. The Mexican-American community in Orange County predates the Anglo-American community and most Anglos are only first- or second-generation Orange County residents. According to



the police, to grow up in some Orange County neighborhoods and to be male is essentially the same thing as to be a gang member and, at some local high schools, they have identified nearly all of the males as gang members.

FxTroopers generate enormous amounts of income through theft: car theft, burglary, mugging, and so forth. They are usually quite careful, however, to victimize only those from outside their neighborhood. FxTroop has a rich oral tradition and quite a few stories circulate to this effect. One classic example involved a high-school aged Anglo who had just cashed his paycheck at a local liquor store and was walking home with several hundred dollars in cash in his pocket. Some FxTroopers, who did not recognize him, stopped him and de-

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IOM Hears Concerns About Human Subjects' Protection

by Angela L. Sharpe
Associate Director for Government Affairs
Consortium of Social Science Associations

Federal and non-federal organizations continue to examine the issue of human research participants protection. On January 22, the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Assessing the System for Protecting Human Research Subjects held a public forum to gather information for its assessment of the system for protecting human research participants. The Committee heard the various perspectives (institutional, participant, and investigator) of those conducting research involving humans.

Representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services (Office of Human Research Protections, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration), the National Science Foundation, and the Veterans' Administration also provided testimony. Opening the meeting, Chair Daniel Federman (Dean for Alumni Relations and Clinical Teachings, Harvard) emphasized that the committee will "deliberate thoroughly" before writing its draft report and that no conclusions or recommendations by the Committee would be made at the meeting.

Several individuals offered perspectives regarding the difficult and challenging problem of how to accommodate the social and behavioral sciences in a system based on a model created to deal with biomedical and clinical research.

Felice Levine, Executive Committee member of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) and Executive Officer of the American Sociological Association (ASA), addressed

the Committee on behalf of COSSA and from the perspective of researchers. Levine informed the Committee that most of the professional associations within COSSA have developed ethical guidelines for researchers to follow in conducting their research, particularly where human participants are part of the research design. She emphasized, however, that there was considerable concern about the "growing fault lines in the system that protects human participants and the gap that has developed between law and policy 'on the books' and 'in action.'" For example, said Levine, researchers utilizing secondary data are being asked to seek approval by Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) to use these data even though the information is anonymous and the subjects are already protected under earlier protocols.

Commenting on proposed standards for accreditation of institutions' human research protection plans, she noted that they provide further evidence of the inherent problem with the current system. If these standards are intended to be universal and to fit all research involving human participants, she said, they need to be framed in a way that meaningfully includes all research fields.

In addressing the Committee, Levine framed the concerns of the social and behavioral science community into ten recommendations. Written testimony from COSSA and ASA will provide specific illustrations of where the social and behavioral science community thinks that accreditation standards are problematic for achieving the proposed goals and where they are specifically problematic

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You Just Completed a Day of Sessions . . . What Will You Do?

by Johanna Ebner
ASA Communications Assistant

If your answer isn't "I'm going to Disneyland" then maybe you should reconsider. Disneyland, the American icon, is Anaheim's major attraction, enlarging with the recent opening of Disney's California Adventure and Downtown Disney. The Convention Center has also been renovated.

The cost of the projects is \$1.4 billion and is expected to add a minimum of \$6 million in new net annual revenue to the City's General Fund. The City of Anaheim, Anaheim/Orange County Visitor & Convention Bureau, and The Walt Disney Company launched this economic development after a study reported that, without major changes, Anaheim would face a decaying infrastructure and loss of market share, leading to a decline in the tourism market.

The visitor industry plays a major role in shaping Orange County's economy. Annually, the county attracts 38 million domestic and international visitors. In FY 1999 alone, visitors spent \$5.9 billion throughout the county on transportation, accommodations, dining, recreation, and shopping. Also, the income from visitor

spending supports 152,000 jobs, directly or indirectly, in Orange County. A large reason for attracting a great number of tourists is due to the Walt Disney Company industry within Anaheim.

Disney's California Adventure, 55 acres, is adjacent to the original Disneyland Park. The newest park's theme is celebrating the fun, diversity, and pioneering spirit of the Golden State. The theme lands are *Paradise Pier*, featuring the California Boardwalk Amusement Zone and celebrating California's beach culture with wild rides; *Hollywood Pictures Backlot*, bringing the movie and television business to life with "Disney Animation" to "Muppet Vision 3D"; and lastly, *The Golden State*, inspired by the innovative spirit of California's people, looks at the commerce, industry, and agriculture that developed in California over the years. Some of the highlights of the theme park include a free-flight soaring adventure, an action-packed rafting ride, and a parachute drop. In addition, Disney partnered with Mondavi Wineries to create a tasting room, educational presentations, and a gourmet restaurant within the theme park as well as Wolfgang Puck's restaurant. The cost for a ticket into the theme park is

\$43 for adults and \$33 for children.

Downtown Disney (300,000 sq. ft.), in the heart of the Disney Resort, is a pedestrian esplanade stretching from the gates of the theme parks to hotels within the Disneyland resort. The non-gated area features a lush, garden-like complex by day that transforms to a glittery zone by night. Opened in January, it features a 12-screen AMC movie theater, restaurants, night-clubs, and shopping. Restaurants include the Rainforest Café, Patina Group, La Brea Bakery, and Café Catal and Wine Bar. Other restaurants include a New York style restaurant, Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria, Latin dining, Y Arriba! Y Arriba!, and New Orleans style, Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen. The House of Blues Restaurant and the ESPN Zone feature dining and entertainment, and shopping for Disney and other items abounds. There is no admission fee to enter Downtown Disney.

Of course, if you are a traditionalist, there is always the original Disneyland theme park where you can meet famous Californians, Mickey and Minnie, and ride the Matterhorn and Space Mountain. Nicknamed the "happiest place on Earth," Disneyland was the created in 1955 and is

the original Disney theme park. Within Disneyland is *Tomorrowland*, *Fantasyland*, *Frontierland*, *Adventureland*, *New Orleans Square*, and *Main Street USA*. The newer sections include *Critter Country* and *Mickey's Toontown*. In order to see all that Disneyland has to offer, a visitor to the park can take the Monorail around the park and see it from an aerial view. The culture of the "Enchanted Tiki Room" and the "Pirates of the Caribbean" may not be traditional fare for sociologists, but the fantasy and nostalgia of the "Haunted Mansion" and "Sleeping Beauty's Castle" is enough to make even the most skeptical academic feel like a kid again. The cost is the same as the Disney's California Adventure.

While Disney is, by no means, the only attraction Anaheim has to offer, it does provide the most well-known and largest tourist attraction in Orange County. It also has provided financial support as Anaheim expands. Besides its economic contribution, Disney offers entertainment, shopping, and restaurants in a fun, family-oriented context. Go ahead and discover social interaction at a Mouse's level—whether you choose to observe it as a sociologist, or to just have fun! □

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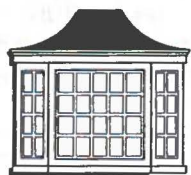
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Time to Renew . . . if you haven't already done so!

In order to vote in the upcoming ASA election, your membership renewal must be received by March 31, 2001. In addition, members renewing after March 31 will not be included in the new 2001-2002 *Directory of Members*. The ASA "Member Only" area on the homepage continues to feature more and more useful resources for your use. Only *current* members, using their member ID number, have access to these directories and information, so please send in your renewal today.

The Executive Officer's Column

Carrying the Sociological "Flag" on Health Disparities



The National Institutes of Health (NIH) have been engaged in a year-long effort to develop strategic plans for investing in research, training, and communication on health disparities. All of the Institutes and Offices at NIH engaged in separate planning processes. Also a trans-NIH plan was developed and posted for public comment by January 31, 2001.

We took advantage of the comment period to commend the importance being placed by NIH on racial and ethnic disparities and the evident inclusion of social and behavioral science perspectives in this plan. We thought, however, that it was well worth urging that the final draft further emphasize social levels of analysis. That letter and how we showed the "sociological flag" is

reprinted below. When coupled with elevating the NIH Office of Research on Minority Health to a National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities and with NIH having received a 2001 appropriation of \$100 million in additional dollars for minority health research, the trans-NIH plan should have a major impact.—*Felice J. Levine*

□ □ □

January 31, 2001
Dr. John Ruffin, Associate Director
Office of Research on Minority Health

Dear Dr. Ruffin:

The American Sociological Association (ASA) is pleased to have the opportunity to provide comments on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Strategic Plan to Reduce and Ultimately Eliminate Health Disparities. The ASA is the primary scientific association of sociologists with over 13,000 members dedicated to producing scientific knowledge on the structure, relations, processes, and transformations of social life in arenas such as health, education, family, the labor market, and communities. Theoretical and empirical work on racial and socioeconomic disparities in these arenas and their impact on health and well-being is core to our field. The research produced by sociologists is firmly grounded in scientific methods and in ethical principles intended to serve the public good.

On behalf of ASA, I wish to commend you and your colleagues for the leadership and direction taken by the trans-NIH Plan and the significant resources that this plan will bring to understanding and overcoming race and ethnic inequalities in health and well-being. As social scientists, we are gratified by the apparent consensus among the plan's authors concerning the importance of focusing on social and cultural processes such as inequalities in health treatment that make race and ethnicity appear as such powerful predictors of health disparities. We are also gratified by the plan's insistence on the importance of moving beyond "black and white" differences to a broader view of race and ethnic diversity.

As sociologists, we are especially optimistic that sustained research that focuses on social and cultural systems and processes as well as individuals—and links these units of analysis—will lead to substantive progress in eliminating racial disparities in health and disease. We urge you in the final document and in the implementation of the plan to emphasize even further the centrality of social and behavioral research to any comprehensive effort to understand health disparities. There is a strong need, for example, for sociological research on whether or how disparities in the location and quality of housing or the distribution of health resources from the government and private sectors affects long-term health behaviors and outcomes.

It is crucial to develop research initiatives that link inequalities in macro-structures (such as social, economic, and political stratification and distribution systems) that often work through mid-level institutions and processes (such as communities, schools, churches, and families) with disparate behaviors, treatments, and outcomes at both group and individual levels. It is best framed in the mandate for the Centers for Health Disparity Research. The ASA would like to see similar linkages between systems and processes with individual outcomes in each area of disease risk, prevention, prevalence, and intervention and in all of NIH's research initiatives. We believe that this focus is vital if disparities are ultimately to be eliminated. The specific plans of a number of NIH Institutes and Offices (e.g., the plans from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research) signal this commitment. More explicit language in the trans-NIH plan would strengthen this resolve and could also have an important impact at the program level.

ASA is particularly pleased with the Strategic Plan's emphasis on the recruitment and training of minority researchers, especially those who plan to focus on health disparities. As you may know, this past summer ASA received a 5-year renewal award from the National Institute of Mental Health for its Graduate Fellowship Program for Underrepresented Minorities in Sociology. The primary goal of this Program (now in its 27th year) is to support the recruitment and training of underrepresented minority sociologists in the field of mental health. The Program provides predoctoral students with academic and research training and mentoring, in coordination with university and graduate programs, in order to increase the talent pool of minority sociologists engaged in mental health research. By virtue of this investment, several hundred minority scholars—including some of the top sociologists working in the area of disparities and health—have added importantly to our knowledge.

ASA is deeply appreciative of the resources and long-term leadership of the National Institute of Mental Health and the involvement of other NIH Institutes in training underrepresented minorities. Nonetheless, ASA would like to see an emphasis in the Strategic Plan on programs that train minority researchers to investigate the impact of social systems and processes on health disparities on a broader arena of health issues and to attract other investigations also to focus on disparities. We would like to see funding for such programs increased, spread out throughout the Institutes, and institutionalized in interdisciplinary training programs that bring together students from the life, behavioral, and social sciences. We also believe that more attention should be paid to the full pipeline—through investments at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels.

On behalf of ASA's 13,000 members, I commend NIH for its Strategic Plan to Reduce and Ultimately Eliminate Health Disparities. I know that all of our members as well as the Association's Executive Office are prepared to be of assistance in this significant effort to overcome inequalities in health and well-being. Please feel free to turn to me for additional support (levine@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, ext. 316). Also, Dr. Alfonso Latoni, Director of Minority Affairs (latoni@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, Ext. 321) or Dr. Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of the Research Program and head of ASA's project on race (spalter-roth@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, ext. 317), can be called on if you need additional help in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Felice J. Levine, Ph.D.
Executive Officer



OBSSR Looks to the Future

NIH Agenda on Social and Cultural Dimensions Taking Form

A research agenda designed to stimulate research on the social and cultural dimensions of health is taking shape at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The agenda is an offshoot of a widely noted conference held June 27-29, 2000, "Towards Higher Levels of Analysis: Progress and Promise in Research on Social and Cultural Dimensions of Health." The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) sponsored this conference in order to highlight social science contributions to the study of health. The conference complemented several ongoing initiatives at the NIH, most importantly the initiative to reduce health disparities. The conference was the first trans-NIH conference ever to focus on social and cultural dimensions of health. Nine hundred people attended.

The first two days of the conference featured presentations by eminent social scientists on topics ranging from the measurement of race and ethnicity to the provision of effective mental health treatment. Sessions covered several major areas: basic research on sociocultural constructs, sociocultural processes and health, interpersonal, neighborhood, and community processes involved in the etiology of health, sociocultural processes in prevention and treatment, health services and service seeking, global perspectives on health, and health justice and ethics.

On the final day of the conference, a group of approximately 60 scholars met to develop recommendations for a research

agenda that would advance research on social and cultural aspects of health. Six working groups addressed directions for social and cultural research on (1) the etiology of health and illness; (2) prevention; (3) treatment and services; (4) consequences of illness; (5) methodology; and (6) basic constructs and processes. The groups produced a large volume of recommendations to inform the future development of social science research on health.

Since last June, conference co-chairs Christine Bachrach of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and David Takeuchi of Indiana University have been working with the conference planning committee, staff of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, and participants in the agenda-setting meeting to shape the recommendations into a coherent research agenda for social and cultural research at the NIH. The draft document reflects considerable sociological input—with two sociologists as the co-chairs, with ASA Executive Officer Felice Levine on the planning committee, and with a substantial number of sociologists at the conference and at the agenda-setting meeting. A draft of this document is expected to be posted soon on the OBSSR website, <http://obssr.od.nih.gov/>. OBSSR will be inviting public comment on the draft for possible incorporation into a final agenda-setting report to be released later in the spring. □

NRC Helps Chart New Horizons for Social and Behavioral Sciences at NIH

A new report, *New Horizons in Health: An Integrative Approach*, just released by the National Research Council (NRC), highlights the importance of an integrative approach between the social, behavioral, and biomedical sciences in identifying health needs of the U.S. population. This report was commissioned by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) in 1999 to help advise them and define the most promising research directions and priorities.

With funding from the OBSSR, the NRC Board on Behavioral, Cognitive and Sensory Sciences created the Committee on Future Directions for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research at the National Institutes of Health. This Committee had the goal of reporting back to OBSSR within 11 months on the task of evaluating the potential contributions of behavioral and social science research to the mission of the NIH. The charge to the Committee was to develop research priorities for consideration by OBSSR with particular attention to research that supports and complements the work of the Institutes. It was also to address the range of interactions among social settings, behavioral patterns, and important health concerns, seeking areas of scientific opportunity where significant investment is most likely to improve national and global health concerns. Several sociologists, including, Linda Burton, David Williams, and Robert Sampson, served on the Committee.

Motivating the report was the challenge of addressing how the social and behavioral science perspectives could be more fully integrated into the research

agendas and priorities of the NIH. While the social and behavioral sciences have a long history at the NIH, they have a limited presence at some of the Institutes or are peripheral to primary agendas. At times, the behavioral, social, and psychological priorities are sometimes restricted to a narrow focus, such as risk factors for particular disease outcomes. A central message of this report is that behavioral and psychosocial processes have broader significance and are fundamental to a comprehensive understanding of disease etiology as well as to the promotion of health and well being.

The report focuses on 10 thematic priorities, including predisease pathways, positive health, gene expression, personal ties, healthy communities, inequality, population health, interventions, methodology, and infrastructure. A key theme of the report is on multiple pathways to diverse health outcomes. The pathway approach integrates information across fields and disciplines, links psychosocial and community levels of analysis, and provides a comprehensive approach to health-promoting interventions. The processes underlying racial, ethnic, and social inequalities in health can not be fully understood without consideration of multiple pathways at different levels of analysis. This approach also expands the knowledge base for more individualized forms of health care.

OBSSR is bringing this report to the NIH institutes and advisory committees and initiating discussion on how best to implement recommendations. Information on the report can be found at http://obssr.od.nih.gov/Publications/NRC_horizons.htm □

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

✓ **Advocacy for the Humanities . . .** The National Humanities Alliance is sponsoring Jefferson Day 2001 on March 26-27 to promote support for humanistic scholarship and for the National Endowment for the Humanities. In addition to attending the 30th Annual Jefferson Lecture and special reception at the Kennedy Center, participants will receive an advocacy briefing and make Hill visits to promote humanistic research and related work. What better way to enjoy spring than in D.C., and with working to enhance resources for the social sciences and humanities. For more information, see www.nhalliance.org.

✓ **Ruffin Appointed to Lead Health Disparities Effort at NIH . . .** On January 9, Acting Director Ruth Kirschstein announced the appointment of Dr. John Ruffin to head the newly-established National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health. Trained in systematic and developmental biology, Ruffin has served since 1990 as the first NIH Associate Director for Research on Minority Health. With the new Center and NIH's commitment to addressing health disparities, Ruffin has an important agenda. See "Open Window" (page 2) for ASA's first contact with Ruffin.

✓ **Prewitt Returns to the Academy . . .** Census Bureau Director Kenneth Prewitt departed from the Federal workforce on January 19th heading for the New School University in New York as Dean of the Graduate Faculty by March. Prior to his departure, Prewitt announced on December 28, 2000 the total U.S. population count (281,421,906 as of April 1), state population totals, and the resulting apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. Hats off to Prewitt for his accomplishments and a job well done!

✓ **NRC Takes a Look at Quality in Education Research . . .** The Office of Educational Research Improvement (OERI) of the U.S. Department of Education has turned to the National Research Council for advice on how best to support high-quality, scientific research that can advance knowledge useful to educational policymakers and practitioners. A Study Panel with the title, "Scientific Principles in Educational Research: Exploration of Perspectives and Implications for OERI," held its first meeting on December 20, 2000, and is expected to report in February 2002. For additional information, see <http://www.nationalacademies.org>.

From the Desk of . . .



Fred Pampel
Sociology Program Director
National Science Foundation

NSF Funding Opportunity on the IT Workplace

The National Science Foundation (NSF) offers many opportunities for funding outside the regular Sociology Program. A recent initiative from the Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering Program, for example, will provide five million dollars to fund 15-20 multi-disciplinary research proposals on the information technology (IT) workforce. Among other things, the initiative asks for proposals that investigate the following:

- Why women and minorities are under-represented in various sectors of the IT workforce?
- How does access to computer technology affect interest in IT careers?
- How can the IT workplace foster increased retention of women and minorities?
- How do evaluation, reward structures, and family-friendly policies impact the retention of workers in the IT workforce?
- What can be learned from IT labor markets that might explain the under-representation of women and minorities in IT?

These questions have clear relevance to the work of sociologists in the areas of organizations, occupations, technology, gender, and race-ethnicity. To find out more about NSF funding for such research, check the IT Workforce program announcement web-page (<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2001/nsf0133/nsf0133.htm>), or contact Caroline Wardle in (cwardle@nsf.gov). The next deadline for proposals is March 19, 2001, and another deadline follows on November 5, 2001.

This announcement comes with my greetings and hope that you will contact me regarding your research interests and plans. The opportunities within the Sociology Program and elsewhere at NSF are significant, and I want to connect with sociologists across specialty areas, age and stage of career, or institutional location to help ensure that quality proposals are submitted and receive support. Despite the formality of the written word, a large part of why I came to the NSF is to advance the discipline and strengthen funding in sociology and the social sciences at the NSF. In that ambition, I need your participation in bringing the best of your research ideas to the fore.

I will be participating in funding workshops at the ASA Annual Meeting and hope to meet many more sociologists in person than I can from my desk. Meanwhile, I encourage e-mails and calls to keep the connections flowing from you to NSF and from NSF to you. Please consider this IT Workforce initiative and as importantly NSF. I can be reached at fpampel@nsf.gov or at (703) 292-8762.

Tuesdays With Morrie Reconstructs the Dying Process

by Carla B. Howery
Deputy Executive Officer

"He is the best known sociologist around," laughs Maury Stein, Brandeis University, referring to his late colleague Morrie Schwartz. Schwartz's insights during his terminal illness from ALS were captured by his former student Mitch Albom in the book *Tuesdays with Morrie*. The book has been in the top ten of the *New York Times* bestseller list for 155 weeks. The four million copies sold to date are 16 times the number of copies of such sociological classics as *Street Corner Society*.

Brandeis colleagues Stein and Peter Conrad reflected on what makes the book so popular and what is the connection, if any, with and for sociology. "I believe two things about the book touch people," says Conrad. "The first is the mentorship relationship between Albom and his former professor." Although Albom graduated 14 years earlier and had no contact with Schwartz until seeing him appear on a *Nightline* broadcast, their mutual affection is apparent during the coursework at Brandeis and in their Tuesday conversations during Schwartz' illness. A second attraction of the book, Conrad suggests, is its inspirational message, the way

Schwartz dealt with dying. "He did not push people away or isolate himself. Instead, he said 'come to my bedside, we have a need to talk. I need it, and you need it'."

In *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Albom, a writer for the Detroit Free Press, makes weekly (Tuesday) visits to his former professor and records Morrie's homespun wisdom. Schwartz opens himself up to dying in a public and social way. "One thing for sure," says Conrad, "we all die. Morrie has given us a glimpse into new possibilities of that process. This book is not great literature, but it is incisive folk wisdom, nicely presented."

The younger Albom becomes a foil for the life lessons dispensed by a gracious 78-year old dying man. Schwartz listens to Mitch, as much as the reverse, asking his student about his

tuesdays with
Morrie

an old man, a young man,
and the last great lesson

Mitch Albom

life choices, helping resolve a difficult relationship with his brother, and encouraging him to express his emotions with joy and tears.

When Schwartz was diagnosed with ALS, he consciously refused to retreat and become distant from those he loved. He cultivated habits of self-pity, mourning his losses (such as the ability to dance) and having a good cry in the morning, and then moved through the day with apparent joy. His many aphorisms about life and death touched his many

visitors. His friend and colleague of 35 years, Maury Stein shared some of these thoughts with a writer at the *Boston Globe* who wrote a front-page story about Schwartz. That coverage caught the eye of Ted Koppel's *Nightline* staff. Ultimately Koppel came to Schwartz' home and had three interviews with him, each showing more mutual

affection. "Morrie was very forthright and honest on *Nightline*," says Conrad. "This is how he approached life. He had a deep humanistic strain in him. One of Schwartz' long term projects was a manuscript on the mental patient as human being. Maybe he was trying to suggest how to work with a dying person as a human being."

Although not explicitly credited to the discipline, the Albom book includes some sociological insights on death and dying. For example, Schwartz speaks of the losses that a degenerative disease present for both body functions and personal identity. He laments the legs that can no longer dance and hands that he cannot use to express his ideas, or control of voice and inflection which are part of his "self." Schwartz was a social psychologist and a licensed therapist. His thinking was strongly influenced by Henry Stack Sullivan and Martin Buber. His religious views were eclectic as well, including serious study of Buddhism later in life.

The book has had a low-key presence on the Brandeis campus. It was mentioned several times in the alumni news. The University gave a copy of the book to all seniors one year for the senior class forum. Sociologist Maury Stein uses the book in teaching a course on *Birth and Death*. From their long friendship, Stein remarks on Schwartz' charm, "but no one knew how telegenic he was until *Nightline*." Stein notes that Morrie was very affected by the sudden death of their mutual colleague Irv Zola. The packed funeral and loving tributes led him to remark, from his wheelchair, "I am not going to let that happen to me." He saw the terminal diagnosis from ALS as a "gift" that allowed him to share and receive love while he was alive. The book recounts his "living funeral" where friends came and made tributes while he was alive to hear and enjoy them. "He had renewed energy at the end of his life. He was answering 200-300 letters a week from people who had seen him on television. He taught his final graduate class with ALS gradually incapacitating him," says Stein.

Stein feels that the appeal of the book is "a reconstruction of what is possible in the dying process. Morrie showed it can be a lively, communicative process and that wisdom and growth are possible in the late stages of illness." Many people reading the book no doubt have had someone close to them die with a scenario that diverges from Morrie's loving embrace. Indeed, one of the most poignant passages in the book centers on Morrie's description of the death of his mother, when he was a child, and the death of his father years later. Then and now, death is shut away and not discussed when it happens or even in later years. This social psychologist realized the harm in that approach and used his Tuesday reflections to suggest a different path.

Thus, his actual funeral was as much a tribute as the one he had arranged when he was alive, attended by Koppel and Albom, and hundreds who felt Morrie had drawn them to his bedside. The *Nightline* tapes have been edited into a series called "Lessons on Living with Morrie Schwartz." And *Tuesdays with Morrie* goes into its fourth year as a best seller. □

A "Window" on the Social Landscape of Technology

by Johanna Ebner
Public Information Assistant

Marc Smith, currently the only research sociologist employed full-time at the Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, WA, is an enthusiastic advocate for the study of technological change from a social perspective.

Technology, Smith noted, affects people universally. The recent rapid changes in technology have produced profound effects globally on the quality of life, in social relationships, and in the nature and quality of communication. The technological revolution, in fact, has replaced the industrial revolution in importance.

Smith believes that sociologists, who have long studied social interaction and social networks, need to be at the forefront of this revolution. "Once you scratch the surface, sociology is all about technology," he said. He noted that the study of society, from Durkheim to Weber's study of bureaucracy, has always been affected by technology.

His research on cyberspace communities reflects Smith's interest in applying collective action and social network theory to technological advances and community relations. He specializes in the social organization of online communities. On the Netscan project, he is currently studying how social relationships change when they take place in cyberspace. Using sociological principles and data mining techniques, he has helped to develop software, which measures and maps social spaces in the Internet, such as Usenet or interactive newsgroups.

"There are invisible communities in cyberspace, but yet communities do exist," Smith says, "and with Netscan you can begin to see this. We now have maps [of cyberspace], which you can look at to see the communities." His

research examines social interaction in online communities in ways similar to how sociologists study a local neighborhood and its organizations. It is like a "netography," he says. The Netscan project addresses the challenges newsgroups or discussion groups have in determining social cues about the interactions they host. This may lead to increased content quality and user satisfaction while giving the researchers a context to study. The information and data being developed on the Netscan project is publicly available to both researchers and participants of the online communities at <http://www.research.microsoft.com>.

These tools are usually applicable to any form of message-based community. "We provide a microscope, or more like a macroscope on the World Wide Web as a service for the research community," Smith says. Some critics claim that the Internet lacks intellectual credibility, but Smith hopes to change this through research and measurement. Taking a page from Heisenberg, he says, "if you measure it, you change it. Maybe we can change the behavior of people in the online community by making it so that these metrics that track their behavior and their performance are then pumped back into the interface which they explore." His ambition is "to have a long term and profound impact on the nature of these social cyberspaces."

When Smith first proposed the study of technology and community impact, many academics did not understand the extent to which technology would affect society as the wave of the future. Smith's advice to sociologists is to embrace the area of technology because the field needs people who have "both the tools and the critical approach to really explore and provide guidance." There are fabulous opportunities ahead,

but people also need to realize the warning signs of negative effects that technology can have on society and work to understand them. "The worst part is you can't have one without the other," he says. "And you are going to get it whether you like it or not." His advice to students is that they should not exclude technology from research or they will miss a big part of the picture.

Smith received his PhD in sociology in 1999 from the University of California-Los Angeles. With his former advisor at UCLA, Peter Kollock, Smith co-edited *Communities in Cyberspace: Perspectives on New Forms of Social Organization*, a collection of essays exploring the ways identity, interaction, and social order develop in online groups.

While teaching at the UCLA, Smith worked for three years as a research consultant for Microsoft, which led to his being hired full-time in 1999. Smith observed that Microsoft became interested in hiring a sociologist in 1994 when, "they felt the future of virtual reality would be in communities and that it would be a social issue. They searched out sociologists to study this new community." Believing that technology is vital to the future of society, Smith went to work for Microsoft, which he says makes access to the research tools and data resources for his work easier.

At the 2000 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, Marc Smith participated in a press briefing on "Cyberspace and Everyday Life." With Barry Wellman and Keith Hampton, Smith presented research findings on the consequences of living in a highly-wired, broadband society. This briefing generated considerable interest among the media worldwide for several weeks after the Annual Meeting. □

June 15 Deadlines

Nominations Sought for 2002 Major ASA Awards

ASA members and interested persons are encouraged to submit nominations for the 2002 ASA Awards. The deadline for award nominations is June 15, 2001 for 2002 awards (for the 2001 Dissertation Award, see Announcement Box below). Award selection committees, appointed by ASA Council, are constituted to receive nominations and make a final decision for 2002 awards at the 2001 ASA Annual Meeting. These awards will be presented at the 2002 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Jessie Bernard Award

The Jessie Bernard Award is given in recognition of scholarly work that has enlarged the horizons of sociology to encompass fully the role of women in society. The contribution may be in empirical research, theory, or methodology. It may be for an exceptional single work, several pieces of work, or significant cumulative work done throughout a professional career. The award is open to works by women or men and is not restricted to works by sociologists. The works need not be recent publications; however, it must have been published by the date of nomination. Nominations for the Jessie Bernard Award may be submitted only by members of the Association. Nominations for scholarly works should include a one to two page statement explaining the importance of the work. Nominations for career achievement should include a letter of nomination, two copies of the vita of the nominee, and examples of relevant scholarship or other materials. For further information on where to submit nominations, please check the ASA homepage at <http://www.asanet.org>, or contact David Bachman, Governance Coordinator, at (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; e-mail bachman@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

DuBois-Johnson-Frazier Award

Created in 1971, this award honors the intellectual traditions and contributions of W.E.B. DuBois, Charles S. Johnson, and E. Franklin Frazier. The award is given either to a sociologist for a lifetime of research, teaching, and service to the community or to an academic institution for its work in assisting the development of scholarly efforts in this tradition. Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's career or achievement, and the way in which it is consistent with the traditions of these outstanding African-American scholars and educators. Nominations should include a one to two page statement and a vita, if applicable. For further information on where to submit nominations, please check the ASA homepage at <http://www.asanet.org>, or contact David Bachman, Governance Coordinator, at (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; e-mail bachman@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Award for Public Understanding of Sociology

This award is given annually to a person or persons who have made exemplary contributions to advance the public understanding of sociology, sociological research, and scholarship among the general public. The award may recognize a contribution in the preceding year or for a longer career of such contributions. Please submit the nominee's name and vita, and a detailed one to two page nomination statement that describes how the person's work has contributed to increasing the public understanding and knowledge of sociology. For further information on where to submit nominations, please check the ASA homepage at <http://www.asanet.org>, or contact David Bachman, Governance Coordinator, at (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; e-mail bachman@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology

This award honors outstanding contributions to sociological practice. The award may recognize work that has facilitated or served as a model for the work of others, work that has significantly advanced the utility of one or more specialty areas in sociology and, by so doing, has elevated the professional status or public image of the field as a whole, or work that has been honored or widely recognized outside the discipline for its significant impacts, particularly in advancing human welfare. The recipient of this award will have spent at least a decade of full-time work involving research, administrative, or operational responsibilities as a member of or consultant to private or public organizations, agencies, or associations, or as a solo practitioner. Nominations should include a one to two page statement and the vita of the nominee and be submitted to: Gregory Squires, Department of Sociology, George Washington University, 2129 G Street, NW, Room 201 B, Washington, D.C. 20052; (202) 994-6345; fax: (202) 994-3239. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

The ASA Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award honors outstanding contributions to undergraduate and/or graduate teaching of sociology. The award recognizes contributions that have made a significant impact on the manner in which sociology is taught at a regional, state, national, or international level. These contributions may include preparation of teaching- and curriculum-related materials and publications, participation in the scholarship of teaching and learning, development and communication of innovative teaching techniques, leadership in teaching-related workshops and symposia, involvement in innovative program development, and contributions to the enhancement of teaching within state, regional, or national associations. The award typically is given for a series of contributions spanning several years or an entire career, although it may recognize a single project of exceptional impact. The award is not designed to recognize outstanding teaching ability at one's own institution unless that is part of a career with a broader impact. Individuals, departments, schools, or other collective actors are eligible. Nominations should include the name of the nominee and a one to two page statement explaining the basis of the nomination. Nominations should also include a vita, if applicable, and relevant supporting materials. Members of the Association or other interested parties may submit nominations to: Gregory Weiss, Department of Sociology, Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia, 24153; (540) 375-2416; fax (540) 375-2053; e-mail weiss@roanoke.edu. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award

This award is given for a single book or monograph published in the three calendar years preceding the award year. The winner of this award will be offered a lectureship known as the Sorokin Lecture. Regional and state sociological associations/societies may apply to ASA to receive this lecture at ASA's expense after the award recipient is announced. Two members of the Association must submit letters in support of each nomination for the award. Nominations should include

name of author, title of book, date of publication, publisher, and brief statements from two (differently located) sources as to why the book should be considered. Send nominations to: Katharine M. Donato, Rice University, Department of Sociology, MS 28, 6100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005-1892; (713) 348-4368; fax: (713) 348-5296; e-mail kmd@rice.edu. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award

This award honors scholars who have shown outstanding commitment to the profession of sociology and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to the advancement of the discipline. The body of lifetime work may include theoretical and/or methodological contributions. The award selection committee is particularly interested in work that substantially reorients the field in general or in a particular subfield. Nominations should include a copy of the nominee's curriculum vita and letters in support of the nomination. The most compelling cases contain five to eight

letters from a variety of individuals able to speak to the qualifications of the nominees. These may be obtained by the person making the nomination and forwarded to the committee, with the nominee's vita, as a package. Nominations remain under active consideration for five award cycles. Thus, nominations received by June 15, 2001 are considered for the awards given in years 2002 to 2006. Members of the Association and other interested parties may submit nominations to: Annette Sorensen, c/o Governance Coordinator, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; fax: (202) 638-0882; e-mail sorensen@radmail.harvard.edu or governance@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001. Nomination packages submitted in previous years for carryover nominees may be updated; any new materials must be received by June 15, 2001 for consideration for the 2002 Award. Late arriving nominations or package updates will be held over for the following award year.

April 1 Deadline

2001 ASA Dissertation Award

The ASA Dissertation Award honors the best PhD dissertation from among those submitted by advisors and mentors in the discipline. Dissertations defended in the 2000 calendar year will be eligible for consideration for the 2001 ASA Dissertation Awards. Nominations must be received from the student's advisor or the scholar most familiar with the student's research. Nominations should explain the precise nature and merits of the work. Send nominating letters, six copies of the dissertation, and nominee's curriculum vita (with current address) to: Anthony Orum, c/o Governance Coordinator, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; fax: (202) 638-0882; e-mail amor@uic.edu or governance@asanet.org. The deadline for nominations for the 2001 Award is April 1, 2001.

New NYC Demographics Website

by Johanna Ebner
ASA Communications Assistant

Gothamgazette.com, a website focused on New York City current events, policy, and local highlights, has added a section on demographics. Andrew Beveridge, a sociologist from Queens College since 1981, is the author of this newest section. Currently, the website, www.gothamgazette.com/demographics/, features "Census Bureau Finds 830,000 'Extra' New Yorkers," a story about the growing population in New York state reported by the Census and what that means for political representation and the distribution of federal and state funds. The information on the website goes beyond the numbers, and explains the purpose of the Census data and how they will affect the metropolitan area's policy and people.

This story is the first in a continuing monthly series of topics dealing with demographic information and implications. The articles will alternate focus on topics such as immigration, age, economic status, divorce, disease, and so forth and how these relate to Census data. Stories will profile the changing patterns of the population in New York City on topics that the general public, city planners, government officials, and those involved in New York affairs will find relevant and understandable. Beveridge describes the idea behind it as, "The website is to be the first stop for those involved with New York affairs, including government, interest groups such as unions, policy people, and others."

New York City is an important and interesting area to study because of the

changing trends of the population in diversity, age, and economic status—from long-standing residents to new immigrant populations. Also, there is a significant economic gap between the rich and the poor and an increasing black middle class. "Some areas are undergoing racial and ethnic transition; others are gentrifying," says the site's description. "These trends are important for understanding the City and its evolution."

Beveridge's site also includes links and descriptions and/or reviews of other relevant websites, including the U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, U.S. Commerce Department, and the U.S./NYS Department of Labor. These sites give statistics on such issues as unemployment, population, ethnicity, housing, and industry. They also include details on where demographic statistics are available on the internet and how they can be accessed. The authors of the site received a National Science Foundation grant to load data on the website from New York City censuses from 1910 through 1990. The *New York Times* funded the compilation of these data, which are included in a pilot site at <http://histmaps.research.cuny.edu>. Beveridge soon hopes to add curricular material and other years to this site.

Beveridge has done demographic analyses and consulted on issues for the *New York Times*. He has also provided expert testimony in districting and redistricting, housing discrimination, and numerous other civil rights cases in New York City metropolitan area. The *Gotham Gazette* is funded by the Charles H. Revson Foundation. □

Human Subjects, from page 1

for the social and behavioral science community.

1. Seize the Moment for Effective Leadership on Behalf of all Science. The IOM has the opportunity to provide guidance on an accreditation system and a human research participant protection system that effectively reaches all areas of research and effectively serves all Federal funding agencies engaged in the support of such research—not just the biomedical sciences.

2. Slow the Process Down Sufficiently to Ensure Quality Decisions. There is virtue in moving ahead, but there is also virtue to slowing the process down enough to ensure that the standards are meaningful for all science. If the standards for accreditation are to be more effective than the current process for obtaining assurances of compliance under the Common Rule, then the two important IOM studies (concerning the overall structure and function of human participant activities, including IRBs, and criteria for evaluating the performance of human subject protection activities) yet to be undertaken should logically proceed before crafting and finalizing accreditation standards (a message echoed by several participants).

3. Ensure the Fit. The proposed accreditation standards integrate many pieces of the Common Rule but use these regulations in a different context, often coupled with other ideas. The disjuncture between the Common Rule and accreditation standards needs careful scrutiny and analysis.

4. Know the Devil is in the Details. The proposed standards are not couched in the language of any one science or arena of research per se, but when coupled with the commentary, are biomedical and heavily clinical. Accordingly, they pay only lip service to other substantive arenas of work; this is especially problematic for the social and behavioral sciences. If the commentary will be presented, its role needs to be clear and the

examples across areas of research specified.

5. Keep Judgments of Best Ethical Practices Distinct from Judgments about the Quality of the Research. The proposed accreditation standards overreach to what constitutes quality science and do not sufficiently distinguish between these judgments and what constitutes ethical practices in science. The standards shift from the criteria for the accreditation of Institutional Review Boards to the assessment of the research and the researcher.

6. Assure Clarity, Simplicity, and Transparency; These Attributes are Fundamental to Accreditation Standards of Excellence. Many of the standards require judgments that are impossible to make. The standards should not tell an institution how it should achieve its goals, but should set forth what the standards or goals are.

7. Strengthen the Educative Role of the Standards Themselves. The proposed standards, especially the commentary, provide little in the way of education, particularly with regard to the social and behavioral sciences.

8. Safeguard the Human Research Protection System by Ensuring That It Does Not Overreach Its Role and Stays on Task. The human research protection system needs to ensure that research proceeds and knowledge is advanced in accordance with the highest standards of ethical practice with respect to human participant protection. The system needs to ensure that work that comports to ethical standards is facilitated and not impeded by the process.

9. Assure That the Accreditation Standards Clarify What the Scope of the Human Protection System Is and Is Not. Human research participants refer to actual participation in a study underway or being proposed. The analysis, for example, of public-use data where information is maintained in anonymous form and without

personal identifiers is research about people but not on people.

10. Focus on the Ethical Considerations Regarding Human Research Participants in Various Types of Research. The answer to the concerns in the social and behavioral sciences is not necessarily to create a dual human research protection system, but to ensure a system that is more sophisticated about ethical practices across fields of science. Social and behavioral research is increasingly interdisciplinary within these fields and across other arenas, especially biomedical, environmental, and engineering fields. Separation of the review by field could create redundancy and limit researchers mutually benefiting from the ethical expertise of each other.

Levine emphasized that COSSA believes this guidance can help structure the next round of revisions for a final set of "testable" accreditation standards. COSSA, the social and behavioral science societies, as well as many, many top quality researchers behind us, are eager to help in any way that we can, Levine concluded.

Comments from Federal Agencies

Several of the agencies that are part of the "Common Rule" offered insight from their agency. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) considers accreditation the cornerstone of overall improvement of the human participant system, stated Irene Stith-Coleman, Public Health Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Health and the Surgeon General. Her comments were made on behalf of the agency and Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) Director Greg Koski. The Department envisions a system of objective, uniform, nationally-recognized standards that provide the basis of accreditation, she stressed. The two-year IOM study, requested by OHRP, is designed to realize this system.

Gangs, from page 1

manded his money. He refused, claiming he lived in the neighborhood. After several threats were exchanged, he challenged them to follow him home. They did so and, upon finding out that he did in fact live in the neighborhood, apologized and went their way.

A large portion of what FxTroop steals is redistributed throughout the neighborhood via local churches and other community organizations. While this Robin Hood mentality may seem quite charitable, it is also quite pragmatic. They steal much more than they could ever keep (too much apparent wealth would draw police repercussions) and, while they cannot keep their wealth, they can use it to buy prestige in the neighborhood. Many local churches have large rooms full of stolen merchandise that they distribute to local residents. A few years ago, one church was completely full of stolen Nintendos that were being redistributed to local children. While the gangs have been using the churches and community organizations to buy prestige, exploitation is a two-way street. Many of the churches are quite consciously using the gangs to help their members under the rubric of "reaching out to the gangs" and "maintaining influence over them." Many local priests and pastors quoted tenets of Liberation Theology to justify the activities of both the gangs and their churches' involvement with them. One of FxTroop's veteranos (senior gang member—this particular one was in his forties) has been a regular large donor to one of the major local religious festivals.

FxTroop and other Orange County gangs have at times been the most powerful opponents of drug use in the county. While the attitude towards drugs is not consistent, local gangs have at times threatened to "green light" (or put out a death warrant on) anyone who sold drugs in their

neighborhood. This policy, however, has usually not precluded selling drugs in other neighborhoods, especially outside welfare offices (a lot of the local gangs see accepting welfare or charity of any sort as dishonorable, while stealing is not).

Violence often goes hand-in-hand with neighborhood gangs like FxTroop. Incidents that occur at school or parties can erupt into open warfare; however, because of the active involvement of older members of the community, those whom the police would call "former gang members," an uneasy peace is often maintained. About a decade ago, the accidental killing of a toddler in a drive-by shooting (his father who was holding him was the intended victim) was one of the catalysts that led to the founding of the United Gangs Council, a loose coalition of several dozen local gangs (most of which are substantially smaller than FxTroop) primarily intending to control inter-gang violence. This informal truce, while certainly imperfect, has proved quite successful in cutting the number of gang deaths in half. During the Rodney King riots, for example, while LA burned, many Orange County gangs staged a peaceful unity march. In fact, some Orange County gang members cite examples such as this to demonstrate that they are culturally superior to their LA counterparts (in feeling superior to the people of Los Angeles, they prove themselves to be typical Orange County residents).

As sociologists descend on Orange County, they would do well to remember that not all of Orange County is "the happiest place on Earth." Orange County gangs are one of the most visible aspects of the cultural war raging between the wealthy Anglo community and the poor Hispanic community. Indeed, numerous locals complain that Disneyland hires scores of foreign artists to do their animation but

has a policy against considering local street artists (Disneyland claims that it's policy is not anti-local but rather anti-gang). The work of one local street artist is shown on page 1. Furthermore, Florida is not the only state to experience election irregularities. For as long as many residents can remember, off-duty policemen have been hired to stand outside polling sites in Latino neighborhoods holding signs saying, "Mexicans can't vote." When questioned, they maintain that the signs refer to those holding Mexican citizenship, but the implied message is quite clear. Finally, the smothering application of immigration and anti-gang laws has led many of the gangs to view themselves in revolutionary terms, recalling heroic images like Emiliano Zapata.

Orange County gang members are not saints. While the truce has reduced bloodshed, gangs still do war with each other (although it has become quite rare for noncombatants to be hurt). While many gangs discourage drug sales (at least within their own neighborhoods), many do sell drugs (especially to outsiders), and, car theft in Orange County is a multi-billion dollar business. Nonetheless, if you ask the residents of one of the many communities which Orange County law enforcement agencies claim to be "plagued" or "terrorized" by gangs what they actually think, they have an interesting take on gangs. A typical response for them is to sigh and tell you with a worried look, "Our boys need to think more about their futures" or "Our boys have to be more careful" or "Our boys get into too much trouble these days." To many of the hundreds of thousands of Orange County residents, in whose communities these gangs reside, they are neither heroes nor revolutionaries, but neither are they a criminal element. They are simply "Our Boys." □

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Deputy Associate Director for Science John R. Livengood, there are three areas of concern for the CDC: (1) diversity of IRBs; (2) ownership of the standards; and (3) plans for implementation. While the CDC agrees with the overall process, the agency asks the Committee to be sensitive to the entire range of IRBs. The CDC, said Livengood, believes that it is "important to strengthen the IRBs." Further, CDC encourages the Committee to realize there are other IRBs, "other than those associated with medicine." To narrow the focus on the biomedical models may create unintended consequences, stressed Livengood, noting that the CDC works with many partners. With regard to the ownership of the standards, Livengood emphasized that the copyrighted standards "strike the wrong tone." He noted that for implementation purposes, any final standards must be adaptable to different situations.

Philip Rubin, Director of the Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Division at the National Science Foundation, expressed concern with the proposed standards and their impact on the social and behavioral sciences. Rubin warned the Committee that the draft standards have the potential to cause harm if a different kind of expertise is needed on IRBs, other than biomedical and clinical. He highlighted the fact that interdisciplinary research is a priority throughout the sciences and the federal research agencies. Rubin further stressed that the federal government also collects data (e.g., Panel Study of Income Dynamics, housing, education, and medical care) and that the proposed standards could be detrimental to the federal government's ability to collect that data. Finally, Rubin reminded the Committee that it has an opportunity to be responsive to the needs of the social and behavioral sciences, emphasizing that the current standards are not.

Stephen Erickson, Director of the Office of Research Administration at Boston University, informed the Committee that his University was rapidly becoming more research intensive, overwhelmingly behavioral in nature. Erickson made several observations regarding the proposed standards:

- The standards appear to have been drafted with large academic biomedical and clinical programs in mind.
- The standards are so detailed as to impede flexibility.
- To participate in a voluntary accreditation process places additional administrative costs and burdens on institutions.
- Benefits to participating need to be made clearer. Benefits should outweigh the costs of participating.
- There is a need to incorporate a statement describing the accreditation process.

Two core questions need addressing in the review/redraft of the standards: (1) Will the standards assist different sizes of institutions to better fulfill their mission?; and (2) Do the standards facilitate the work of IRBs, institutions, and researchers?

Next Steps

Written comments (to be considered in deliberations) on the proposed standards (which have not been endorsed by the committee) needed to be received by the IOM by February 2, 2001. IOM is on a fast track in addressing accreditation standards and is expected to report by April 1 on this phase of its work. The draft standards can be found on the IOM website at: www.iom.edu/IOM/IOMHome.nsf/Pages/human+research+protections. Levine's written testimony submitted on behalf of COSSA and ASA is posted on both websites. Interested ASA members can find this statement at www.asanet.org. □

Call for Papers

CONFERENCES

Dynamics of Social and Economical Systems. Second International Workshop will be held in La Plata (Argentina) at the Instituto de Integración Latinoamericana Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas y Sociales-Universidad Nacional de La Plata. The primary aim of this meeting is to develop techniques using time-dependent models able to prospect and to evaluate social and economical situations of the future. Authors may submit a one-page abstract of their contribution. Send the abstracts by e-mail to aprotomara@fi.uba.ar. Deadline for fellowship applications and contributions: June 30, 2001.

Feminist Ethics and Social Theory. The first international meeting of FEAST, October 4-6, 2001, Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Beach, FL. FEAST is a professional organization dedicated to promoting feminist ethical perspectives on philosophical, moral, social, and political life, including law and public policy-making. Send three copies of papers of approximately 20 minutes reading time (accompanied by abstracts, and prepared for anonymous review, no e-mail submissions) to: Wendy Lynne Lee, Program Committee Chair, Department of Philosophy, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA 17815; e-mail lamp@bloomu.edu. Deadline: May 1, 2001.

International Political Science Association (RC #9). The Research Committee on Comparative Judicial Studies will hold its 2001 interim meeting at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel on June 25-28, 2001. Individuals interested in suggesting panels or presenting papers should submit a proposal of no more than a single page as soon as possible to Mary Volcansek, Texas Christian University, e-mail M.Volcansek@tcu.edu.

International Sociological Association. Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, Margarita Island, Venezuela, May 7-12, 2001. Theme: "Equity and Globalization". Deadline to submit abstracts of a maximum 250 words, February 15, 2001 to: Roberto Briceno-Leon, Laboratorio de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Apartado Postal 47.795, Caracas 1041-A, Venezuela; fax (58-2-6619752; fax 58-2-6931765; e-mail rbriceno@reacciun.ve.

Social Stress Research. The Eighth International Conference on Social Stress Research will be held September 15-17, 2001 in Portsmouth, NH. This is the only interdisciplinary conference devoted exclusively to issues of social stress. More information about the conference can be found at our website: <http://www.unh.edu/stressconference>. Papers to be considered for presentation at the conference should be submitted by April 16, 2001 to Catherine Moran, Stress Conference Coordinator, 102 Horton Social Science Center, Department of Sociology, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824.

Society for the Scientific Study of Religion 2001 Annual Meeting, Adams Mark Hotel, Columbus, OH, October 18-21, 2001. Mainstreaming the Scientific Study of Religion. Send proposals to: Mark Chaves, Department of Sociology, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210027, Tucson, AZ 85721-0027; e-mail Mchaves@u.arizona.edu. Deadlines: paper proposals, March 15, 2001; completed papers, September 15, 2001. Include an e-mail address on all correspondence.

South African Sociological Association. Congress on Globalization, Inequality and Identity, Pretoria, South Africa, July 1-4, 2001. This conference hopes to bring the various debates around globalization, inequality and identity into sharper focus. Deadline for proposals: March 31, 2001. If you would like to present a paper or organize a paper session or panel discussion, contact the secretary of SASA, who can also be contacted for all other information on the Congress, including registration and accommodation details: Elsa van Huyssteen, SASA Secretary, Department of Sociology, University of the

Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, Johannesburg, South Africa; 27-11-717 4448; fax 27-11-339 8163; e-mail sasa@lw.rau.ac.za.

Women & Society will hold their 11th conference June 8-10, 2001 at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY. Submit a 250 word abstract, panel description, or workshop proposal plus a brief bio by February 10 (note: this is a new date). For further information or to submit a proposal, e-mail JA.Myers@Marist.edu or snail mail Women & Society Conference, Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY12601.

Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences. International Conference, Theme: "Marxism 2001", June 21-23, 2001, Kunming, Yunnan Province, P.R. China. They invite paper presentations and panel proposals on subjects that intersect with Marxism. Send maximum 300 word abstract plus research interests by April 30, 2001 to Xiao Sa, Marxism Research Institute, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, No. 577 Huangcheng Road, Kunming 650032, Yunnan Province, P.R. China. For more information e-mail bigalsar@bu.edu.

PUBLICATIONS

Advances in Gender Research is a series covering the full range of topics pertaining to the social study of sex, gender, and sexualities from various feminist frameworks. It is an annual series published by Elsevier. Volume 6, scheduled for publication in 2001, will consist of manuscripts focusing on gendered sexualities. The target date for first drafts of manuscripts is February 1, 2001. For consideration, submit two copies of a working title and one to three page abstract to Patricia Gagne, Department of Sociology, Administration, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292; fax (502) 852-0099; e-mail Gagne@louisville.edu or Richard Tewksbury, Department of Justice, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292; fax (502) 852-0065; e-mail tewks@louisville.edu.

Anthology on Postnational Culture. Essays are invited, particularly those that examine emergent frames of solidarity which supplant nationalism, especially in light of globalization and the transnational flow of ideas and movements. The basic aim of this collection is to ascertain the extent to which forces of globalization are causing shifts at the basic level of cultural identity and cultural life. The collection is edited by Mohammed Bamyeh and Randall Halle. Send papers to Randall Halle, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627. Send e-mail inquiries to mohammed.bamyeh@nyu.edu.

Health Promotion Practice. The official journal of the Society for Public Health Education announces a call for original manuscripts for a theme issue on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. The ultimate aim of the theme issue is to uncover social, cultural and environmental factors beyond the biomedical model and address a broad range of issues. Authors should follow the "Instructions to Authors" found in issues of *Health Promotion Practice* or on the web page <http://www.sophe.org>. Deadline for submissions: May 1, 2001. Send manuscripts to: Health Promotion Practice, Society for Public Health Education, 750 First Street, NE, Suite 910, Washington, DC 20002-4242. Attn: Kate Demas; e-mail kdemas@sophe.org.

Hostility in the Classroom: ASA Teaching Resource. Almost everything sociologists teach is potentially controversial subjects that are emotionally charged, politically divisive, and that threaten comforting cultural myths. Send tips, suggestions, cautionary tales, and any other materials that might be helpful to instructors facing tense, hostile or conflictual situations. Submit materials to either co-editor: Betsy Lucal, Department of Sociology, IUSB, P O Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634; (219) 237-4899; fax (219) 237-4538; e-mail blucal@iusb.edu. Rebecca Bach, Department of Sociology, Box 90088, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0088; (919) 660-5606; fax (919) 660-5623; e-mail rbach@soc.duke.edu.

Journal of International Women's Studies, an on-line journal located at www.bridgew.edu/depts/artscnce/jiws/index.htm seeks submissions for a special issue on the current status of women's studies departments and programs internationally. Send submissions by March 1, 2001 to Diana Fox, Editor, Journal of International Women's Studies, Department of Sociology / Anthropology, Hart Hall, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA 02325. Send three hard copies and a disk. Submissions may also be sent as an attachment to d1fox@bridgew.edu.

Michigan Sociological Review (MSR) invites submissions for its Fall 2001 issue. The MSR is an official, peer-refereed publication of the Michigan Sociological Association. The MSR publishes research articles, essays, research reports, and book reviews on a wide range of sociological topics. Submissions will be accepted until May 1, 2001. Send three hard copies, and a brief biographical statement to: Jay Weinstein, Editor, Michigan Sociological Review, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, 48197; e-mail soc_weinstei@online.emich.edu. A \$20.00 processing fee is charged to authors whose papers are accepted for publication.

Missouri Electronic Journal of Sociology (MEJS) invites submissions of manuscripts dealing with sociology in Missouri. Manuscripts can deal with historical, current, or future issues regarding sociology in Missouri. Visit the website <http://www.cmsu.edu/sociology/mejs.htm> to find out criteria for submissions.

NWSA Journal announces a special issue on Feminist Disability Studies to be guest edited by Kim Q. Hall. All papers for the special issue will be peer-reviewed. Deadline for papers: June 1, 2001. Send three double-spaced copies of your 20-30 page manuscript, formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style (14th edition), complete with abstract, parenthetical notes and references to: Kim Hall, Associate Editor, NWSA Journal, Appalachian State University, 109 IG Greer, Boone, NC 28608. For further information, contact Kim Hall at halkki@appstate.edu or (828) 262-6817.

Research on the Black Community. "New Paradigms and New Policies for the New American Reality." This volume will highlight innovative and multi-disciplinary research with an emphasis on policy implications. Submit manuscripts for peer review by June 1, 2001 to: Hayward Derrick Horton, Editor, Research on the Black Community, Department of Sociology, State University of New York-Albany, Albany, NY 12222; (518) 442-4907; fax (518) 442-4936; e-mail hdh@csc.albany.edu.

Society and Leisure thematic issue on Culture and Lifestyles, Volume 24, number one, Spring 2001. Emphasis will be placed on the transformations in cultural behavior, on consumer habits and the relationship with the time and space. Manuscripts should be submitted to the director before April 15, 2001. Send four copies of the manuscript and an abstract, maximum 150 words. Mail to: Gilles Pronovost, The Editor, Loisir et Société / Society and Leisure, Département des sciences du loisir et de la communication sociale, Université du Québec a Trois-Rivieres, P.O. Box 500, Trois-Rivieres, QUE, Canada, G9A 5H7; (819) 376-5132; fax (819) 379-5175; e-mail gilles_pronovost@uqtr.quebec.ca.

Meetings

February 23-24, 2001. National Conference for Stepfamilies, New Orleans Marriott Hotel. Complete conference details at <http://www.edupr.com> or register online. Contact: stepfamilyconf@mail.com.

February 25-28, 2001. The Research Training Center for Children's Mental Health 14th Annual Research Conference, Hyatt Regency Westshort, Tampa, FL. Theme: "A System of Care for Children's Mental Health: Expanding the Research Base". For registration information, call Lyn

Bryan at (813) 974-4649. For additional information, contact Catherine Newman at (813) 974-8429, or visit the website <http://rtckids.fmhi.usf.edu>.

February 26-27, 2001. The SPRY Foundation second biennial conference, Natcher Center, NIH campus, Bethesda, MD. Theme: "Older Adults, Health Information and the World Wide Web". Further information on the conference, including the agenda and registration, is on the SPRY Foundation's website www.spry.org.

May 3-6, 2001. Canadian Anthropology Society/Société Canadienne d'Anthropologie, McGill University, Montreal. Theme: "Perspectives on Violence Against Women in Relationships: Culture, Inequality, and Difference." For more information about the conference, see <http://casca2001.mcgill.ca>.

June 27-29, 2001. Gender, Work and Organization Conference, Keele University, Staffordshire, England. Theme: "Rethinking Gender, Work and Organization." For further details, see: www.keele.ac.uk/depts/mn/manhome.htm.

August 28-September 1, 2001. Fifth European Conference of Sociology of the European Sociological Association, Helsinki, Finland. Theme: "Visions and Divisions: Challenges to European Sociology." See www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa.

Funding

Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations (CRER), University of Warwick, UK, invites applications from students currently registered for a social science doctoral degree at educational establishments in the European Union (except in the UK) to be Fellows for the Marie Curie training site on immigration, refugees and ethnic relations. Send curriculum vitae including the names of two references, one reference must be included with the application. The deadline for applications is February 2001 but applicants should contact the Director, Daniele Joly as soon as possible with a project; 44-24-765 33523; fax: 44-24-765 24324; e-mail D.S.Joly@warwick.ac.uk. For details on criteria, see <http://www.cordis.lu/improving>.

Institute for Experiential Learning (IEL) launches a new educational endeavor, the Faculty Fellows Internship Program, in cooperation with the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). The program provides opportunities for faculty to broaden their professional experiences in a government agency organization or business. The ideal applicant is a faculty member on sabbatical with appropriate salary and travel support from their institution. Fellows will receive \$5,000 for housing costs. Application forms and additional information are available from IEL. For information contact Mary Ryan; (202) 833-8580; e-mail mary@ielnet.org.

The Johns Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health. The Department of Mental Hygiene invites applications for masters level, doctoral, and postdoctoral studies for the 2001/2002 academic year. The Department has government supported training programs in Psychiatric Epidemiology, Prevention Research, Child Mental Health Services and Service Systems Research, and Epidemiology of Drug Dependence. Support for doctoral and postdoctoral studies, including tuition, fees, travel funds, and stipends for living expenses is available from these and other sources. For more information contact: MaryLou Blalock, Academic Program Coordinator, Department of Mental Hygiene, The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, 624 North Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21205-1999; (410) 955-1906; fax (410) 955-9088; e-mail mblalock@sph.jhu.edu; <http://mh.jhsph.edu/>.

National Institute of Health. Request for Applications to study gender and HIV risk. The RFA is at this website <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-01-002.html>.

National Science Foundation/Sciences Resources Studies plans to fund literature reviews about the implications of information technology for science. For a description and information on how to apply, see www.nsf.gov/bfa/cpo/contract/sol.htm. Scroll down to Requests for Quotes (RFQ), RFQ CPO 000015, Implications of Information and Communi-

Continued on next page



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Funding, continued

cation Technologies (ICT) for Science Solicitation. Deadline for delivery of proposals in hard copy to the NSF contracts office is 4 PM on March 30, 2001.

Texas Institute for Society and Health is a five-institution collaboration for research, public policy, community action and training focused on the influence of social/societal factors on population health. They seek applicants for a two-year post-doctoral fellowship program. Academic appointments will be provided at the institutions where the training takes place. Applicants must have experience or a goal of developing research expertise in one of four areas: (1) labor markets and health, (2) social class inequalities and the sociobiologic/translation, (3) health disparities and public policy, (4) ethnicity, social capital, and health. Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and a curriculum vitae to: Benjamin C. Amick, III, Associate Director for Training, Texas Institute for Society and Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston School of Public Health, 1200 Herman Pressler, RAS E-909, Houston, TX 77225; (713) 500-9496; fax (713) 500-9493; e-mail bamick@sph.uth.tmc.edu.

Competitions

Sociology of Culture. 2001 Section Award Nominations. For all three awards the deadline is March 1, 2001. Best Book Award, send four copies to Albert Bergesen, Department of sociology, University of Arizona, Social Sciences Building, Room 400 Tucson, AZ 85721; e-mail albert@email.arizona.edu. Best Article or Chapter Award send three copies to Sarah Corse, Department of Sociology, 539 Cabell Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4766; e-mail smc6r@cms.mail.virginia.edu. Best Student Paper Award send three copies to John Mohr, Department of Sociology, Ellison Hall, Room 2834, University of California-Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9430; e-mail mohr@graddiv.ucsb.edu.

In the News

Ernest Burgess', and other sociologists from the University of Chicago, research on gay and lesbian-related topics, included in an exhibit at the University of Chicago Library, was featured in an edition of a newsmagazine program on WBEZ, Chicago, December 13, 2000.

Adele Clarke, University of California-San Francisco, was featured in a June 1, 2000, *The San Francisco Examiner* article, "The Pill's 40th Birthday Hailed with Salute to Sexual Revolution."

Peter Dreier, Occidental College, was quoted in a *Philadelphia Inquirer* article, January 1, 2001 about a new law requiring public housing residents to participate in community service each week.

Barbara E. Johnson, University of South Carolina-Aiken, was cited in the August 2, 2000 edition of *The Wall Street Journal* for her research on southern families.

Robert D. Manning, University of Houston Law Center, was featured in *Eye on America* about College Credit Card Marketing, Evening News with Dan Rather.

Mark Oromaner, Hudson County Community College, had a letter in *The New York Times*, December 11, 2000 regarding the impeachment hearings and the close current presidential election.

H. Wesley Perkins, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, appeared on CNN television, in a front page article in the *New York Times*, in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and many other newspapers throughout the country for his research on peer misperceptions of drinking norms in college populations.

Georgios Piperopoulos, University of Macedonia, is presenting a 10-minute ra-

dio monologue, Monday-Friday 9:50-10:00 over Greek radio station FM103.

Dudley Poston, Texas A&M University, had his research on the sex ratio at birth in China reported in the *Wall Street Journal*, October, 2000.

James Vander Putten, University of Arkansas-Little Rock, was quoted in *The Contra Costa Times*, December 10, 2000, in an article on college and university faculty from working-class backgrounds.

Pepper Schwartz, University of Washington, was listed #8 in a current issue of *Yahoo Internet Life* for the best attended get togethers at Yahoo Chat (chat.yahoo.com) ahead of actor Mel Gibson (#10).

Chelsea Starr, University of California-Irvine, was quoted in an *Associated Press* story on working-class academics, Sunday, December 10, 2000.

Ronald Weitzer, George Washington University, had his research on race and policing featured in a column in the *Washington Post*, September 17, 2000.

Awards

Paul R. Amato, Pennsylvania State University, won the Reuben Hill Award from the National Council on Family Relations.

Adele E. Clarke, University of California-San Francisco, won the Ludwik Fleck Prize of the Society for Social Studies of Science and the Eileen Basker Book Prize of the Society for Medical Anthropology.

Anthony Comstock, *Imperiled Innocents: and Family Reproduction in Victorian America* (Princeton University Press, 1997) and **Linda M. Blum**, *At the Breast: Ideologies of Breastfeeding and Motherhood in the Contemporary United States* (Beacon Press, 1999) jointly received the book award from the Section on the Sociology of Sex and Gender.

Aaron Kupchik, New York University, received a National Institute of Justice, Graduate Research Fellowship.

H. Wesley Perkins, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, received the Outstanding Service Award from the Network of Colleges and Universities Committed to the Elimination Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse.

James F. Short, Jr., Washington State University (emeritus), received the Wolfgang Award for Distinguished Achievement in Criminology from the American Society of Criminology.

Mia Tuan and **Jiannbin Lee Shiao**, University of Oregon, received a two-year grant from the Russell Sage Foundation.

People

Pauline Bart will be teaching an advanced women's studies class, "The Politics of Women's Studies", at Pomona College for the Claremont Colleges. She was also awarded a visiting fellowship to Keele University for the Sex, Gender, and the Law program.

Robert Fernquist, Central Missouri State University, is President of the Missouri Sociological Association.

Toby Huff, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, was guest professor last summer at the Max Weber College for Cultural and Social Studies in Erfurt, Germany.

Robert D. Manning, University of Houston Law Center, is a 2000-2001 Senior Fellow, Institute for Higher Education, Governance and Law, University of Houston Law Center.

Theodore McCarrick, who holds a PhD in sociology from Catholic University is the new archbishop of the Catholic diocese of Washington, DC.

Juliet Saltman, Kent State University (Emerita), received the Founders' Award and gave the keynote speech at the 35th Anniversary celebration of the Fair Housing Service of Akron, OH.

Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of the ASA Research Program on the Discipline

and Profession, was elected to the Board of the Council on Science Policy.

Members' New Books

Mohammed A. Bamyeh, New York University, *The Ends of Globalization* (Minnesota University Press, 2000).

Ronald L. Braithwaite, Emory University, **Sandra E. Taylor**, Clark Atlanta University, and **John N. Austin**, Delaware State University, *Building Health Coalitions in the Black Community* (Sage, 2000).

Robert D. Bullard, Glenn S. Johnson, and **Angel O. Torres**, Clark Atlanta University, (eds.), *Sprawl City: Race, Politics and Planning in Atlanta* (Island Press, 2000).

Joe Feagin, University of Florida, (1) *Racist America: Roots, Current Realities, and Future Reparations* (Routledge, 2000); (2) *The First R: How Children Learn Race and Racism* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2001); with **Debra Van Ausdale**, Syracuse University; and (3) *White Racism: The Basics, 2nd ed.* (Routledge, 2001); with **Hernan Vera**, University of Florida, and **Pinar Batur**, Vassar College.

Bryan T. Froehle and **Mary L. Gautier**, Georgetown University, *Catholicism USA* (Orbis Books, 2000).

Jaber F. Gubrium, University of Florida, and **James A. Holstein**, Marquette University, (eds.), *Institutional Selves: Troubled Identities in a Postmodern World* (Oxford University Press, 2001).

James M. Jasper, *Restless Nation: Starting Over in America* (University of Chicago Press, 2000).

Peter Kivisto, Augustana College, *Exploring the Social: Readings in Contemporary Sociology* (McGraw-Hill, 2001).

Steve Kroll-Smith, University of New Orleans, **Phil Brown**, Brown University and **Valerie Gunter**, University of New Orleans (editors), *Illness and the Environment, A Reader in Contested Medicine* (New York University Press, 2000).

Robert D. Manning, University of Houston Law Center, *Credit Card Nation: The Consequences of America's Addiction to Credit* (Basic Books, 2000).

Madonna Harrington Meyer, Syracuse University, *Care Work: Gender, Labor, and the Welfare State* (Routledge Press, 2000).

Victor Roudometof, Washington and Lee University, (ed.) *The Macedonian Question: Culture, Historiography, Politics* (East European Monographs, Boulder, CO, distributed by Columbia University Press, 2000).

Stephen Sweet, Cornell University, *College and Society: An Introduction to the Sociological Imagination* (Allyn and Bacon, 2001).

Tony Waters, California State University-Chico, *Bureaucratizing the Good Samaritan: The Limitations of Humanitarian Relief Operations* (Westview, 2001).

Carolyn L. Wiener, University of California-San Francisco, *The Elusive Quest: Accountability in Hospitals* (Aldine deGruyter, 2000).

Melvin D. Williams, University of Michigan, *The Black Experience in Middle-Class America* (The Edward Mellen Press, 2001).

Contact

Gender and Sexuality in International Contexts. This caucus was founded at the 2000 ASA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The Caucus is an independent body, but works with the ASA Sex and Gender Section. The group was created to address some of the difficulties of doing research, theorizing, and publishing on gender and sexuality issues in non-U.S. and comparative contexts in U.S. sociology. Under the auspices of the Sex and Gender Section, the caucus is sponsoring a 2001 ASA panel titled: "Interrogating Sociology: Gender and Sexuality in Glo-

bal Contexts." The group will also be holding a regular business meeting at the 2001 meetings in Anaheim. Finally, we have created a listserv (currently including 40 members) for interested sociologists whose research focuses on gender and sexuality in international contexts. If interested in subscribing, please send an e-mail to subscribe-socglobe@topica.com. For further information, please contact Paola Bacchetta at the University of Kentucky (p.bacchetta@worldnet.att.net) or Frances Hasso at Oberlin College (frances.hasso@oberlin.edu).

Other Organizations

Eastern Sociological Society is seeking a successor to continue *Sociological Forum's* remarkable growth as Richard Hall completes his distinguished editorship in December 2001. Proposals should include: a two-four-page statement of planned editorial policies and innovations; curriculum vitae; statement of editorial experience; and names and contact information for three references. A letter addressing possible support for service as editor from one's academic institution is requested. Candidates may send proposals to Victor Lidz, Chair, Publications Committee, ESS, 1308 Valley Road, Villanova, PA 19085. Early submission is requested, but proposals received by February 28, 2000 will have full consideration.

International Sociological Association announces its website of its forthcoming 15th World Congress of Sociology. Theme: "The Social World in the Twenty-First Century: Ambivalent Legacies and Rising Challenges". Visit <http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2002/> for information on: Academic Program, Sessions Information, and General Information. For additional information, contact ISA Secretariat at isa@sis.ucm.es.

New Publications

National Violence Index, a project by members of various departments (including Sociology and Social Work) and students at Manchester College, was constructed to measure the level of violence in the United States in any given year since 1995 compared to the level of violence in the United States in 1995. Two different indices are included, personal violence and societal violence. For more information, contact Neil Wollman; (219) 982-5346; e-mail njwollman@manchester.edu. The National Violence Index web page is <http://www.manchester.edu/Academic/Programs/Departments/Peace_Studies/VI/index.htm>.

Caught in the Web

About.com, The Human Internet, has introduced a sociology site hosted by Kathy Stolley. The site offers an index of links, original content, and opportunities for online interaction. See <http://sociology.about.com>.

Nupedia, at <http://www.nupedia.com>, an on-line, peer-reviewed encyclopedia, is in the development stage and seeks editors and peer-reviewers.

<http://redrival.net/evaluation/socialchange> lists links to information about how large-scale, long-term political, economic, and social systems change at the national and international level. It links to sites with data, theory, research, course syllabi, and other useful information. Gene Shackman hosts the site.

<http://redrival.net/evaluation> lists links to free resources for methods in evaluation and social research. It lists links to manuals, articles, and papers, on how to do surveys, interviews, and observations. The site has links to statistics and software, and shows how to display statistics. Gene Shackman hosts the site.

New Programs

Indiana University-Purdue University announces a new Master of Arts in Sociology. The program has two areas of concentration: family studies and medical sociology. Additional information on the Master of Arts degree in Sociology can be obtained at the IUPUI, Department of Sociology website: <http://www.iupui.edu/~slasoc/MA.htm>, or by calling the office coordinator at (317) 274-8981.

Summer Programs

National Center for Curriculum Transformation Resources on Women is conducting a Barbados Summer Institute on Internationalizing the Study of Women and Gender, June 17-26, 2001. Application and deposit are due February 15, 2001. Further information and applications can be found at <http://www.towson.edu/nccrtw>; (410) 830-3943; e-mail nccrtw@towson.edu.

National Endowment for the Humanities, 2001 Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Teachers. The application deadline is March 1, 2001. Questions about NEH seminars and institutes may be directed to National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 606-8463; e-mail seminst@neh.gov.

National Institutes of Health, The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, Summer Institute on Design and Conduct of Randomized Clinical Trials Involving Behavioral and Social Interventions, July 29-August 10, 2001, Airlie Conference Center, Virginia. The goal is to provide a thorough grounding in the conduct of randomized clinical trials to researchers and health professionals interested in developing competence in the planning, design, and execution of clinical trials involving behavioral or social interventions. Applications are due March 9, 2001. The latest information about the course content, faculty, and application procedures is available at <http://obsr.od.nih.gov/Conf_Wkshp/RCT/RCT_Info.htm>.

Policy and Practice

Robert D. Manning, Credit Cards on Campus: Social and Economic Consequences, U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, DC, September 2000.

Deaths

Charles Barresi, University of Akron, died recently.

Phyllis Endreny died recently.

Rabbi Irving Koslowe, Jewish chaplain at Sing Sing prison, died December 6 in NY. In addition to his religion training, he held a PhD in sociology from Yeshiva University.

Richard LeBlond, Jr., former chief of the San Francisco Ballet, died on November 28. He held a PhD in sociology from University of Michigan and taught at Temple University and Rider College.

Edna M. O'Hearn, Fullerton, CA, died last September.

Philip F. Puleio, Lattingtown, NY, died in July.

Jean Thoresen, Eastern Connecticut University, died on November 23.

Obituaries

Alan P. Bates (1915-2000)

Alan P. Bates, professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, died suddenly on October 21, 2000,

Continued on next page

Obituaries, continued

in Bremerton, WA.

Alan joined the University of Nebraska faculty in 1949. As chair of the Department of Sociology from 1956 to 1969 and again in 1971-72, he laid the groundwork for the department's strong tradition of democratic governance and participatory democracy. His many friends, colleagues, and students remember him not only as a scholar, teacher, and mentor, but also for his grace, charm, and eloquence, for his genuine kindness, and for his hospitality and his mastery of the piano at departmental gatherings at his home on Pine Lake in Lincoln.

Alan was born June 5, 1915, in Chicago. The son of YMCA workers in China, he spent much of his childhood in Beijing. His family returned to the United States in 1923, settling briefly in Connecticut before relocating to Seattle in 1927. He always called the Puget Sound area home. With the exception of one year in graduate school at the University of Minnesota before his education was interrupted in 1942 by service as a Senior Labor Market Analyst for the War Manpower Commission, he did his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Washington-Seattle, obtaining his BA degree in 1938, his MA in 1940, and his PhD in 1950.

Alan served the University of Nebraska for 29 years. He was president of the Midwest Sociological Society in 1963-1964 and chaired the Society's publications committee from 1965 to 1969. Always active in the sociology honorary society Alpha Kappa Delta, he was national first vice-president in 1970-1971 and a member of the national executive committee from 1967 until his retirement in 1978. He was associate editor for the *Sociological Quarterly* from 1960 to 1963 and a member of the editorial board of *Sociometry* from 1961 to 1964.

Alan's early research centered on role theory. His first book, *Parental Authority: The Community and the Law*, co-authored with Julius Cohen and Reginald A. H. Robson, appeared in 1958. He authored several papers on such topics as parental roles in courtship, social ranking in small face-to-face groups, and conformity to role expectations in small groups. In the 1950's and early 1960's he teamed with his University of Nebraska colleagues Nicholas Babchuk and Jerry Cloyd in groundbreaking conceptual work on primary groups, group norms, and member roles. Later, his research interests turned to the teaching and research roles of academic sociologists and to issues in the teaching of undergraduate sociology. This research program led to the publication of several articles and, in 1967, *The Sociological Enterprise*, his highly readable commentary on the discipline, which had wide appeal for both practicing academic sociologists and students in introductory sociology classes. In 1975, he published the successful introductory sociology text *Understanding Social Behavior*, co-authored with Joseph Julian. A master teacher as well as a solid researcher, he received the Annis Chainkin Sorensen Award for distinguished teaching in 1978.

Upon retirement, Alan returned with his wife Elsie to Poulsbo, and later Kingston, Washington. In retirement, he devoted more time to the piano, delighting his friends and family with his exceptionally skilled impromptu performances. He had long been a serious gardener, and now proceeded to build a greenhouse to enjoy and experiment with flower growing. His interest in the environment led him to join his wife in community activities to preserve the parks, forests, and marine life of Washington.

Alan is survived by his wife Elsie A. Bates, of Kingston, two sons, Eugene P. Bates, of Poulsbo, and Thomas P. Bates, of Evans, WA, two grandchildren, Sam and Fiona Bates, and his brother Douglas Bates and sister Marian Bates, both of Seattle.

After an absence of more than two decades, Alan returned last year with Elsie to help the department, whose traditions he did much to shape, celebrate its centennial, and to dedicate a memorial to his close friend and colleague Nicholas Babchuk. His many friends, colleagues, and former students enjoyed renewing their ties with him and celebrating their fruitful pasts. This poignant time stands

out as particularly significant given his unexpected death.

Generations of students recall with appreciation Alan's teaching and its impact on their intellectual development. Thus, it is fitting that an anonymous gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation has established an undergraduate scholarship in Alan's name. It is also fitting that Alan's extraordinary leadership of the department will be recognized by a plaque that will grace the room in Oldfather Hall where the Department of Sociology conducts its faculty meetings.

Hugh P. Whitt and Mary Jo Deegan, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

George C. Myers (1931-2000)

George C. Myers, an international leader in the demography of aging, died August 10, 2000 at his home in Burnsville, NC after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 69 years old.

Myers was Professor Emeritus of sociology at Duke University, and he was the founding Director of Duke University's Center for Demographic Studies. During his twenty-five years as Director, the Center for Demographic Studies became internationally respected for its contributions, especially to the demography of aging. Myers and the Center have been catalysts in increasing awareness of the world-wide growth of the older population and concern over the implications of that growth for the health and welfare of people throughout the world.

As author of more than 100 professional publications, he provided leadership in the analysis of demographic trends from large-scale studies of older populations. Between his arrival at Duke University in 1968 and his retirement in 1998, he was principal investigator of fourteen major research and training grants from the National Institutes of Health. His research was especially effective in generating interest in the utility of longitudinal studies of older people.

As a member of the faculty of the Duke University Department of Sociology, he influenced the professional careers of many doctoral and post-doctoral students. Those whose careers he facilitated are currently established in responsible positions throughout this country and overseas.

Many of Myers' contributions served the national research community. He was a member of the U.S. Census Bureau Advisory Committee, the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, and the National Academy of Science Committee on an Aging Society. He also served on many committees of the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Aging, including its National Advisory Council. Myers helped design, implement, and evaluate NIH's longitudinal, interdisciplinary Health and Retirement Study, which has made a major contribution to research and research training in gerontology.

He stimulated interest in the demography of aging far beyond the United States. Some of this wider influence was through visiting appointments at universities in other countries. He was a visiting professor or scholar at the University of London, the University of Manitoba, the Australian National University, the University of South Australia, the China National Demographic Training Center, and the University of Geneva. He frequently served as an advisor to international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations, and he was an advisor to the Australian government's Social Welfare Policy Secretariat.

Myers was born in Brooklyn, NY and grew up on Long Island and Staten Island. He graduated from Yale University in 1953. He took advanced courses at the University of Stockholm, Sweden, and he received his PhD degree from the University of Washington in 1963. Before becoming a member of the Duke University faculty in 1968, he taught at UCLA and Cornell University.

Myers is survived by his wife of 46 years, Pauline Myers, and by two sons, two daughters, and seven grandchildren.

Alan C. Kerckhoff and George L. Maddox, Duke University

Official Reports and Proceedings

2000-2001 Council Minutes

Present: Richard Alba, Elijah Anderson, Catherine White Berheide, William T. Bielby, Florence B. Bonner, Diane Brown, Craig Calhoun (August 16 only), Nancy Denton, Paul DiMaggio, Joe R. Feagin, Richard Flacks, Arne Kalleberg, Nan Lin, Carole C. Marks (August 16 only), Douglas S. Massey, Ross Matusueda, Barbara Reskin, Barbara J. Risman (August 16 only), and Lynn Smith-Lovin

Absent: Michael J. Burawoy
Staff: Felice J. Levine, Carla B. Howery, Phoebe H. Stevenson, Roberta Spalter-Roth, Edward Murguia (August 16 only), Alfonso Latoni

Wednesday, August 16, 2000

President Doug Massey convened the Council at 1:10 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with one change: Consideration of committee and representational appointments will take place as the first item of business on the agenda for August 17.

2. Report of the President

President Massey reported on the progress of the 2001 Annual Meeting. The Program Committee has been meeting and working for a year, and the planning process is moving along smoothly. The hotels provide a very good site with all of the necessary accommodations, but there is some concern about available activities beyond the meeting, other than Disneyland. Massey reported that the Program Committee discussed the possibility of condensing the five-day meeting into four days and that this issue would be taken up by Council. He noted that the reasons included containment of costs, especially for attendees, and maximizing the presence of more participants on the same days. He indicated that most learned societies of ASA's size meet for four days. He emphasized that, if Council approves this change, there would be more concurrent sessions, not fewer sessions.

Council members asked how ASA decided on Anaheim as a meeting site. Massey indicated that a prior Council selected the site seeking a southern California location and a choice other than San Francisco for a West Coast rotation. Furthermore, since ASA met in downtown Los Angeles in 1994, a different location was deemed appealing.

3. Report of the Secretary

Secretary Florence Bonner provided a brief report on membership, sections, and subscriptions. Reminding Council that the Association year does not end until September 30, she noted that there is a drop in the 2000 membership count compared to the same time period in 1999. In general, the retention rate across all membership categories is slightly lower when compared to 1999, though the retention rates overall (and especially in higher dues categories) remain healthy. Also, the reintroduction of the Emeritus category in 2000 has resulted in migration of members from other membership categories. Bonner emphasized that the renewal pattern and the recruitment of new members will continue to be important for the Association in the coming years.

Bonner then turned her attention to the section report. She indicated that the total number of section memberships varies with the total number of ASA members because the average number of section memberships has remained relatively stable. As a result, the lower year-to-date membership in 2000 has yielded slightly fewer total section members when compared with the 1999 count. Levine reported that Craig Jenkins, Chair of the Committee on Sections, has been in contact with chairs of sections with low membership counts to encourage those sections to be more proactive in their membership drives.

Bonner added that directly before the Annual Meeting she had attended the Unity Meeting of Practice and Applied Associations and that she believed this kind of consensus building effort should be continued. She noted that the continued collaboration of the Sociological Practice Section, one of the sections which has experienced a significant level of member decline, with the aligned groups might strengthen the base of the section. Council member Bielby, who

is also a member of the Committee on Sections (COS), reported that COS had extensive discussion about the size of sections. One sentiment among Committee members was that as long as a section remains vital, it should be allowed to continue to operate. He further indicated that the restructuring of the Committee on Sections in 2000 to include representation from among outgoing section chairs was well received by section officers.

Council discussed the fact that over time there were few members in the lowest income categories. Council members reflected on whether the categories were the right divisions or whether a more progressive dues structure should be developed. For example, perhaps there should be further gradation above the \$70,000 level. A new dues structure might be one in which members from higher income categories (above \$70,000) pay higher dues so that members from lower income categories can be further subsidized. Some Council members felt that this might help in the recruiting of new members. They expressed concerns about any drop, however slight, especially given the good economy.

Regarding membership generally, Vice President Alba observed that there seems to be a notable number of members moving from the journal-included dues categories to the non-journal dues categories. Council discussed various reasons for the shift in subscription patterns among members. Regarding section memberships, Massey pointed out that the number of ASA sections has increased significantly since the early 1990s, while the level of section participation among members has remained fairly constant. These figures imply that there seems to be a limit to the number of sections that a member chooses to join, for reasons of dues and other resources or member's desired level of substantive investment in subfield specialties.

4. Proposal on Animals and Society as a Section-in-formation

As part of the section report, Deputy Executive Officer Stevenson provided an update on the status of Animals and Society as a section-in-formation. She noted that the group of members supporting this proposed section-in-formation has gathered the required number of signatures—more than 100—to become a section-in-formation. Council had provisionally approved the proposal in 1999 with the understanding that at least 100 signatures of 2000 members would be collected. Therefore, Animals and Society will formally become a section-

in-formation starting with the 2001 membership year.

5. Subscriptions

Bonner returned to presenting the subscription report. She indicated to Council that institutional subscriptions seemed again to be experiencing a modest drop, which is a pattern being experienced to even a larger extent in other learned societies. Council discussed the potential impact of JSTOR, which provides electronic access to back issues of selected ASA journals, on member and institutional subscriptions. Secretary Bonner indicated that the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB) and the Executive Office will continue to examine more data on institutional subscribers so we can understand the trends. Massey assured Council that EOB has made this topic a top priority. Council member Marks, who is also vice chair of the Task Force on Journal Diversity, suggested that the Task Force should also examine subscription patterns in light of Council's concern about intellectual diversity among ASA journals. Levine indicated that the Executive Office has been scrutinizing the data and will report back to EOB and Council in the winter.

6. Report of the Executive Officer

Executive Officer Levine made some general introductory remarks, indicating how much she was looking forward to working with the new Council. She noted that many of the key items on the agenda reflected the work of the Association and its staff. She thanked Secretary Bonner for her support and availability and welcomed Arne Kalleberg as Secretary-elect. She noted that having Bonner and Kalleberg working together in their overlapping year will be an asset to the Association. Levine also introduced Alfonso Latoni, who succeeds Ed Murguia as the new Director for the Minority Affairs Program. Murguia returns to Texas A&M after a two-year leave. She also reported that Deputy Executive Officer Stevenson will be taking a leave this coming year.

Levine addressed the general issue of member contributions and annual giving. She reported that there has been a slight increase in both the number and amount of donations. She indicated that over half of the contributions that came as part of dues was earmarked for the Minority Fellowship Program. She indicated that, while the annual

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Minutes, continued

giving drive yielded only modest funds, the Minority Fellowship Program received the most donations. She noted the importance of returning to the topic of a development campaign for the Association in 2001.

Levine also provided an overview of innovations on the ASA website and in other areas of technology. She indicated that the Member Forum, a threaded discussion space on the ASA homepage, is about ready to be launched. She noted that past President Feagin had identified three discussion topics and that a fourth topic would also be added related to the 2001 Annual Meeting. Levine asked Deputy Executive Officer Stevenson to address some of the other areas of emphasis related to technology.

Stevenson highlighted important features such as online membership and meeting registration on the ASA homepage. She emphasized that ASA was in the final stages of determining how best to update its membership database and management system. She reported that, with the concurrence of EOB at its July meeting, the decision was provisionally made to update to the new version of NOAH, which has been ASA's existing system. The conversion is anticipated to take place in spring 2001, with contract negotiations to be finalized this fall. She noted that the approved 2000 budget includes funds for the new system and that EOB will be briefed before any final commitment is made.

7. Report of the President-Elect

President-elect Barbara Reskin reported that "Persistence of Ascription" will be the general theme for the 2002 Annual Meeting though the exact title has not been finalized. She presented a slate of Program Committee members and briefed Council on each individual's areas of expertise. She reported that the Program Committee has met and brainstormed about the use of sequence events (or sequential sessions). Starting with a plenary where the invited speakers would raise key issues, the meeting will have two to three sessions expanding on those issues, with perhaps one of them as a brownbag event (where members can share meals together). She welcomes Council members to provide input on ways to enhance scholarly communication using different session types and formats for the Annual Meeting.

Motion: To approve the proposed 2002 Program Committee. Carried unanimously.

8. Report on ASA Investment and Reserves

Secretary Bonner reported that the recent market situation has had a negative effect on the ASA's investment portfolio, although the general longer-term performance remains positive. She highlighted the performance of the Building Fund and indicated that EOB has worked hard with ASA's investment manager at Fiduciary International to develop strategies to generate the needed income to contribute to the annual lease for the Executive Office. She reported that the anticipated income should meet the annual objective and that EOB is pleased with the overall performance. While the overall strategy is risk-adverse, we have been able to achieve healthy growth.

Bonner explained how EOB works closely with ASA's investment manager by having regular face-to-face meetings. EOB has recently interviewed other investment managers to gauge our performance and overall strategies. In addition, Executive Officer Levine and Deputy Executive Officer Stevenson also have frequent phone conversations with the investment manager to discuss the market trends and portfolio performance.

Council discussed the overall performance and the investment fees involved. Vice President Alba noted the availability of TIAA as a possible investment option. Massey explained that EOB reviewed various options when the Building Fund became available for investment and determined that ASA benefits from the economy of scale by having the same investment manager handle all of the ASA long-term investment portfolios. Levine indicated that the Rose and Spivack Funds also have annual income requirements and that it is important for ASA's investment manager to manage the asset allocation and investment to ensure that the needed income can be generated.

9. Committee on Publications

Secretary Bonner and Executive Officer Levine gave a brief overview on the meet-

ing of the Committee on Publications (COP). Bonner indicated that Jonathan Turner, Editor of *Sociological Theory*, had requested an increase of 66 pages for the journal's 2001 volume year in order to clear the backlog of accepted manuscripts. The request was received in mid-year but the Committee on Publications asked for a 6-month checkpoint. In August, COP reviewed the situation and recommended the request for Council's approval.

Motion: To approve a 66-page increase for *Sociological Theory* for the 2001 volume year. Carried unanimously.

10. Committee on Sections

Deputy Executive Officer Stevenson indicated that her report would be brief because some general issues considered by the Committee on Sections were addressed earlier in discussing section membership. In particular, she reminded Council that the reduced budget allocation for sections below 300 members would go into effect in 2001 and that sections were aware that this would happen. She also reported that Economic Sociology, which was granted section-in-formation status by Council in February 1999, officially began enlisting members during the 2000 membership year. As of August 4, this section-in-formation has 376 members, thus surpassing the required membership count of 300 to achieve full section status. In addition, the section-in-formation has submitted its proposed By-laws to the Committee on Sections, which has recommended them for Council's approval.

Motion: To approve the By-laws submitted by Economic Sociology; thus, granting Economic Sociology full section status. Carried unanimously.

11. Update on Task Forces

Executive Officer Levine introduced the topic by noting that Council had created five Task Forces in 1999 to address specific topics of importance to the discipline and profession. Each Task Force has a Council and an Executive Office staff liaison. While Task Forces will issue reports for Council's review, the liaisons working with the Task Forces should provide interim updates on progress. Since the Task Forces had met in August, this agenda item was planned for those updates.

Task Force on Articulation of Sociology in Two-Year and Four-Year Sociology Programs. Council member Berheide and Deputy Executive Officer Howery reported that the Task Force has gathered articulation documents from a number of states and has consulted with sociology departments to ascertain what features of these agreements are helpful or problematic. Several states have mandatory articulation agreements where courses from two-year institutions can transfer into public four-year institutions within the state. Arizona and Illinois are the two states that have strong statements and active involvement by sociologists, including the Illinois Sociological Association. The Task Force plans a preliminary report to Council in January and a final report in January 2002.

Council discussed the importance of this Task Force, especially with the expansion of community colleges in higher education. Council noted the importance of a report that focused on the substantive alignment between two- and four-year programs and any guidelines or models that might serve to strengthen that fit.

Task Force on International Focus of American Sociology. Council member Flacks reported that the group met at the Annual Meeting. The Task Force has conducted content analysis of the Annual Meeting program and a research assistant has been hired to move the work forward. Three preliminary reports have been prepared: international focus of the Annual Meeting, international focus of teaching materials, and funding for international scholars. The Task Force is motivated to continue but requested better communication regarding resources and staffing. The group asked about the rationale behind the four charges as well as the reason for the discontinuation of the Committee on International Sociology.

President Massey indicated that, based on their reports, the Task Force should come up with recommendations for ASA and Council. Executive Officer Levine indicated that communication between the Task Forces and the staff and Council liaisons needed to be better aligned. Alfonso Latoni, who joined the staff in July, was succeeding Ed Murguia as staff liaison to the Task Force. She noted that Task Force chairs were informed in initial communications that

funding requests for special activities could be brought forth and would be considered as part of budget planning. Levine stated, however, that no Task Force members should go out-of-pocket for undertaking valuable work and that these expenses could be covered in whole or in part under the 2000 committee support budget. She said that she would so inform the Task Force. Levine indicated that, if sufficient funds were not available to cover the total amount estimated at \$3,000, she would cover the costs through using the Executive Officer's discretionary fund.

New Council member Risman asked about the context in which specific Task Forces were appointed and how charges were developed. Levine provided a summary of the process that led Council to approve a "Task Force" model within the ASA governance structure. She indicated that Council introduced this model to address issues in a more flexible, timely, and focused manner; to broaden the ways that ideas for Association work could be brought to Council; to broaden the base of volunteer participation in ASA; and to strengthen Council's interest in work that it wished to have done. In the first round of the task force "model," Council identified five Task Forces to work on key topics suggested primarily by now former committees. In general, possible charges for Task Forces can come to Council from members, sections, task forces, committees, or Council itself. To ensure effective outreach, Council also puts out an annual call for Task Force ideas, although ideas may be submitted at any time. Task Forces address issues important to the discipline or Association such as the recent Task Force on ASA Journal Diversity. Council member Berheide gave the example of committees, such as the former committees on Teaching Sociology and International Sociology, proposing related task forces to address issues that they thought needed to be done.

President-elect Reskin inquired about the use of the reports to be developed by these Task Forces. She stressed the importance of timely action by Council on recommendations proposed by Task Forces. Levine indicated that these reports might lead to a variety of outcomes such as improved teaching materials and the sharing of findings with other learned societies. Massey encouraged Council to stand ready to review recommendations from these Task Forces and take appropriate actions. He reaffirmed that the task force model, which replaced a large number of former committees appointed by Council, aims to produce timely and targeted recommendations and action on them.

Council members expressed concern that, as with the prior committees, there was the possibility of initial enthusiasm dwindling due to the lag time between when Task Forces were formed and when their reports issued. Council discussed the provision of better orientation for Task Force members, including clearly stating the expectations and support provided, similar to the orientation prepared for section officers. The importance of good communication with Task Forces was emphasized so that a more "entrepreneurial" model for task forces can be achieved, and so that its volunteer format can bring members closer to the Association. There was consensus that more effective and proactive communication with Task Forces is important.

Task Force on Hate/Bias Acts on College and University Campuses. Levine reported that, while neither she nor Council liaison Marks could attend the meeting, the group did meet. Leonard Gordon is serving as chair of the Task Force. The Task Force has collected and reviewed literature on the topic as well as reports received from institutions that have had such acts on their campuses. The group has asked for an additional year to complete its work.

Task Force on Implication of Assessing Faculty Productivity and Teaching Effectiveness. Council liaison Bielby reported that the group met and reviewed how best to assess faculty productivity and teaching effectiveness in a period where academic institutions are emphasizing outcome assessment. State-mandated outcome assessment was a rationale for the formation of this Task Force, although there was the hope that a Task Force could address how to usefully and effectively make these evaluations. The group is in the process of gathering information about how sociology departments are approaching the challenge of assessment and how they are documenting workloads and faculty effectiveness. The Task Force will develop and administer a questionnaire

and write up case studies to accompany their report in spring 2001. The group requested a budget allocation, and Secretary Bonner has approved an allocation of \$2,500.

Task Force on ASA/AAAS Relations. The group's charge was to evaluate the relationship between ASA and AAAS. A preliminary report has been submitted and a final report will be available in 2001 for Council's review. Because the next Annual Meeting of AAAS is after Council meets in February, a final report may not be available until a year hence.

Massey summarized that this is the first round of reform and thought that the overall outcome is satisfactory. He recommended that each Council liaison communicate frequently with these Task Forces to find out their progress and determine if they need additional support. Howery indicated that some of the Task Forces will present their reports and solicit feedback at the 2001 Chair Conference.

Council asked how some of these important initiatives can be sustained after a Task Force finishes its work. Levine clarified that after a task force completes its charge, the actual activity that followed would vary based on the specifics of the recommendations or information provided. New Task Forces might even be recommended for further work on certain issues. Furthermore, recommendations that are approved by Council will be incorporated into the operating plans of the Executive Office.

12. Annual Meeting Issues

Preliminary Program. Secretary Bonner summarized the new delivery strategy for the Preliminary Program that was implemented in 2000. She indicated that EOB and the Executive Office have been working on the topic for some time and that the savings from eliminating the print publication were significant. In general, the feedback from the membership and Council has been positive, though there was some concern about persons who may not have access to the internet. Bonner indicated that members were informed through Footnotes that they could request a hardcopy version if they did not have internet access. Such requests were relatively few in number and were filled by the Executive Office.

Council suggested the creation of an ASA member-wide listserv for announcing important topics, such as the availability of the Preliminary Program. Council discussed a full-range of topics more generally regarding communications with members. Suggestions included: the availability of full text search for the full program; enhanced search capacity so that a search by a person's name can yield session information, date, and time; an e-mail broadcast reminding members that membership renewal does not include meeting registration or vice versa so that members will not be confused. Council agreed to solicit members' comments regarding the new delivery strategy. Levine indicated that these suggestions were all helpful and would be considered as part of 2001 planning.

Discussion turned to other general Annual Meeting issues. Council felt it was important to communicate with members about why Anaheim was chosen in lieu of other West Coast cities and to explain the costs of a meeting better, including room rates. Council discussed how the general membership does not understand many issues related to how Annual Meetings are structured and that communication is very important. Massey suggested that a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) be posted on the website and in Footnotes as soon as possible.

Meeting Registration Fees and Services at the Annual Meeting. Secretary Bonner summarized the costs related to the shuttle service and the electronic messaging center incurred in 1999 and 2000. She indicated that a rebate arrangement for hotel sleeping rooms has helped pay for these services. EOB reviewed the current practice when it last met and Council was satisfied with the arrangement.

13. Membership Dues

Dues. At its July meeting, EOB unanimously recommended that ASA's membership dues be held unchanged for 2001, making the dues rates constant for a second year. Council discussed whether the dues categories need to be realigned. Levine indicated that the income ranges used in the dues structure were last adjusted in 1996. She reminded Council that ASA's By-laws allow for an annual increase by COLA. While the Association is examining a wide range of

issues relating to dues, including the cafeteria plan, it makes sense to hold dues constant for another year.

Motion: To hold 2001 dues at the 1999 and 2000 dues level rather than having a COLA increase. Carried unanimously.

Strategy for Revisiting the Cafeteria Plan. Levine explained the rationale behind re-evaluating the cafeteria plan and the complexities and costs of maintaining a dues structure where journal subscriptions are embedded in dues. The topic was first considered in the early 1990s when a joint subcommittee of EOB and the Committee on Publications subcommittee reviewed the cafeteria plan and the current structure. The key concerns are the effects on dues of having a cafeteria plan (with options ranging from no journals to two selections for dues at most income levels), and on the development of a dynamic publications program for ASA to have journal subscriptions fully embedded in dues. In developing the ASA Guidelines on Publications, the Committee on Publications, EOB, and Council committed itself to have financial information on journals and having journals operate on a firm financial footing with fuller information on costs and revenues. She indicated that ASA has since learned from the experiences of other learned societies that have decoupled dues and journal subscriptions, such as the American Psychological Association and the American Statistical Association.

The document "Discussion Points: Decoupling Journals from Dues" presented to Council highlights key discussion topics for Council and EOB to undertake. Levine stressed the importance of taking the time to let the discussion process unfold and to gather input from membership. The issue is extremely important and may bring new opportunities in addition to containing dues. Massey indicated that this issue is becoming more important as we think ahead about electronic publication of journals and the need to know the real costs of journal publication (which is not transparent under the current structure). Unless such cost information is available, it is difficult to determine what the base dues should be if journals are decoupled from membership dues.

The discussion turned to whether *Contexts*, the new ASA journal, will be distributed to all members at no cost for one year. Levine indicated that the plan was to provide one or at most two issues to members at no charge. Mailing expenses are very costly. Thus, one possibility is to distribute the first issue at specialty and regional meetings to generate visibility and to send the second issue to all members.

Council members discussed how best to support journal publishing and ensure that journals are self-sustaining. Some members of Council expressed concern about the Association running too much like a business where operations are evaluated in terms of revenue and expenses. Levine indicated that a commitment to a high quality, dynamic publications program was leading the Committee on Publications, EOB, and prior Councils to this reconsideration. The Committee on the Executive Office and Budget and the Executive Office were also examining ways to contain or streamline costs, such as reducing redundant costs. Vice President Alba suggested that this discussion be broadened to include JSTOR. He suggested reducing the JSTOR subscription fee so that the service can be more widely available and affordable.

Council member DiMaggio expressed three concerns. First, in the sociology of accounting, there is no innocent calculation of overhead. People will disagree about how to assess indirect and transaction costs. Second, ASA should be careful about centralizing services across several entities. Potential political conflicts over access to services may lead to new costs and problems. Third, it is important for Council to work in partnership with the Committee on Publications (COP). Levine indicated that in many respects it was these very kinds of concerns that were motivating this reexamination. She noted as well that Michael Schwartz, the most recent past chair of the Committee on Publications, had been very involved in the cafeteria plan discussion and had wanted to recommend decoupling dues from subscriptions as part of the Publications Guidelines. That draft section of the Guidelines was not brought forward because we concluded that any change of this nature required more study. Levine also indicated that Bernice Pescosolido, the new

Continued on next page

Minutes, continued

Chair of the Publications Committee, has been fully briefed on the topic and that it will be on the COP's agenda for December.

Bonner emphasized the fact that there will be a broad comment period. Council discussed both the benefits to ASA publications and the importance of finding out what appeals to members beyond the benefit of journal subscriptions. The concern is whether decoupling or any other restructuring changes might affect membership in general, given that membership has been fairly stable in recent years. Council also realized that a reluctance to change the system could have consequences for ASA, as members have access to and opt to receive journals through different ways.

Council member Berheide asked the question of what "breaking-even" means. Levine indicated that the intent of the Publications Committee, EOB, and Council is that over time each journal would operate at no net loss—considering all revenue and costs. The "member price" would continue to be a deeply discounted price if uncoupling were to occur. Council member Risman used the example of *Gender and Society* to show that a contract can be negotiated with a publisher so that publishing the journal would be profitable for the organization. Levine indicated that ASA journals do produce a positive revenue. The topic is being addressed in order to ensure a continued positive financial footing, not due to any specific concerns. She also pointed out that, from a revenue point of view, it is generally advantageous for the Association to publish journals on their own behalf rather than contract out this activity where revenue needs to be shared.

Council discussed whether some members' ill feelings towards *ASR* stemmed from the belief that membership dues were subsidizing a journal that they personally may not find to be useful/meaningful. Council discussed ways to provide more information to the membership and how to receive feedback. Levine indicated that the analyses to be undertaken and any recommendation to depart from the cafeteria plan could go a long way to reducing any such member concerns.

14. ASA Program Reports

Minority Affairs Program (MAP). Ed Murguia reported that the Program is in good shape. He welcomed Alfonso Latoni, the incoming MAP Director, with whom he has overlapped for the last three weeks. The five-year renewal application for the Minority Fellowship Program was successfully funded by NIMH, with a total of \$2.7 million for the next five years. There are a number of new initiatives planned for the new grant period: incoming fellows will attend a special workshop and be invited to attend the Annual Meeting; mentoring conferences will be held to strengthen Fellows' mentoring and the connections of the MFP Program to the Fellows' university training programs; a "working group" will be convened of departments wishing to share good practices in sociology of mental health training; and interdisciplinary training workshops will be held for ASA Fellows with Fellows from the American Psychological Association's MFP Program.

Murguia reported that Minority Opportunities through School Transformation (MOST) continues to be a collaborative effort involving Carla Howerly, Havidan Rodriguez, and Felice Levine. He noted that funds from The Ford Foundation have permitted working intensively with 11 departments. The goal is to use various activities to institutionalize research-based training and mentoring. MOST departments have been learning from each other, developing measures (quantitatively and qualitatively) to assess their performance, and compiling and disseminating best practices.

Latoni also reported on the high quality of the MOST roundtables at the Annual Meeting this year. Council members asked when current funding for MOST will end. Levine indicated that we anticipate the program continuing under ASA's leadership over the next two years, but with the 2001-2002 year being a period of disseminating and transporting results. She indicated that there will be some transition through a capstone conference, probably to be held in March 2002. Institutions should be developing their own resources to continue. Funding from The Ford Foundation was meant to be a stimulus and not to provide ongoing support. The plan is that the changes introduced in departments and the way departments are now working will be

sustainable after the formal ASA MOST Program has completed its work.

Additional program reports will be presented tomorrow. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Thursday, August 17, 2000

President Massey convened the Council at 9:15 a.m.

15. Committee Appointments

Council Committee Memberships and Liaisons. President Massey confirmed the liaison roles for existing committees and task forces.

Recommendations from the Committee on Awards for Various ASA Award Selection Committees. Council reviewed the recommendations from the ASA Committee on Awards for new members for the Award Selection Committees.

Motion: To accept the recommendations as amended. Carried unanimously.

Recommendations from the President - At-Large Committee Members and Representative Appointments. President Massey distributed his recommendations for these appointments.

Recommendations from the Secretary - Committee on the Executive Office and Budget. Secretary Bonner presented recommendations for the open position on the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget.

Motion: To accept the recommendations as amended. Carried. (1 absence).

Recommendations from the Executive Officer - Advisory Panels for MFP and Spivack Program. Executive Officer Levine presented a slate of names for the advisory panels for the Minority Fellowship Program and the Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy within the Executive Office.

Motion: To accept the recommendations. Carried unanimously.

Past Vice President Lin suggested that recommendations presented be ranked in future years.

16. Task Force Recommendations from ASA Council Subcommittee

The Council Subcommittee, mindful of ASA's commitment to diversity, presented the lists of recommendations for the Task Force on the Advanced Placement Course in Sociology for High Schools and the Task Force on an ASA Statement on Race.

Task Force on the Advanced Placement Course in Sociology for High Schools. Council discussed the work of this Task Force and the place sociology currently has in high schools and might have if an AP course were developed.

Motion: To approve the amended list of Task Force members and chair. Carried unanimously.

Task Force on an ASA Statement on Race. The Council Subcommittee decided that members of this Task Force should be scholars of race and that they need to have race as a primary area of concern and study. The Subcommittee also suggested members with strong scholarly reputations representing a diversity of constituencies. They presented their recommendations using the criteria stated above. Council discussed the recommendations and added three additional names.

Motion: To approve the amended list of Task Force members and chair. Carried unanimously.

17. Report from Council Subcommittee on ASA Policymaking and Member Resolutions

Alba reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. Members of the Subcommittee include Alba, Chair; Bielby; Smith-Lovin; and Levine. Alba indicated that the final subcommittee report will be presented to Council at its mid-winter meeting. Based on its meeting at the Annual Meeting, the Subcommittee decided that there should be modifications to the resolution proposed by the prior Council Subcommittee. The discussion at the ASA Business Meeting this year suggests that some members are concerned that this resolution would infringe on ASA's openness, if adopted. Therefore, the Subcommittee would like to continue to seek member input about how best to handle resolutions. Alba reminded Council that member resolutions are not that common. He reiterated that groups presenting resolutions must include social science background information to support the resolution. However, according to former Council members, Council is often unable

to evaluate this information readily or it needs additional information.

The Subcommittee is inclined toward recommending some kind of National Research Council (NRC) model for the consideration of policy resolutions that rely on social science knowledge. Alba indicated that the Subcommittee leaned toward recommending the continuation of the framework for handling member resolutions provisionally adopted in 1993 and officially adopted in 1996. He indicated, however, that a process needed to be put in place for Council to evaluate the social science evidence (whether it supports the resolution, whether the resolution is appropriate for the ASA) and /or recommend further activities.

Alba indicated that the NRC model allowed for the presentation of multiple points of view in assessing the strength of the knowledge on a particular topic. Levine circulated a handout on the 1996 guidelines for Business Meeting Resolutions. Past President Feagin reminded Council that the latest round of efforts to review the Business Meeting resolution is prompted by the "Don't ask don't tell" resolution proposed by the Gay and Lesbian Caucus. Based on materials presented then, Council did not feel that it was in a position to make a determination. The "Don't ask don't tell" resolution is still being tabled and will be the test case when and if Council approves the report/recommendation. Massey encouraged Council members to provide input to Alba.

18. Proposal to Change the Annual Meeting from Five to Four Days

Levine summarized the proposal to hold a shorter Annual Meeting being brought forth by President Massey and Secretary Bonner after discussion this past February and August with the 2001 Program Committee. The idea was to consider the 2001 Annual Meeting to be an experiment with a shorter meeting, and, if successful, it can be considered as a permanent arrangement. The goal is to condense the Annual Meeting and to increase the critical mass of participants attending the meeting at the same time. While this change will increase the number of simultaneous sessions, it should help with community building since increasingly participants attend for only parts of the meeting. In addition to the potential fit with member preferences and behavior, a shorter meeting will also facilitate future negotiation with hotels and contain costs for both members and the Association. National societies of the Association's size usually do not have 5-day annual meetings.

Bonner noted that this possibility has been discussed informally before. The 2001 meeting in Anaheim seemed like a good year to experiment with the change because the location may be even less conducive to attendees coming for the full time. She indicated that the decision needs to be made now so that the Executive Office can make all the necessary arrangements and that all of the announcements of the meeting—including the Call for Papers—would reflect this change. Past Vice President Lin suggested that a survey be conducted among attendees to identify the highly overlapping sections and sessions for use in future scheduling.

Council members expressed concerns about the possible impact on sections as they have been operating under the ongoing "Section Day" rotation. Massey indicated that sections will be informed immediately if the proposal is approved and they will have an opportunity for input about the transition to a 4-day model. Council emphasized the importance of soliciting member feedback, especially about the impact of this proposed change on sections. Council discussed ways in which session organizers could be innovative about the session format and use more interactive refereed roundtables and other venues in addition to paper presentations. Council expressed concerns about exhibitors who do not stay for the full duration of the meeting. Levine indicated that having a shorter meeting period would respond to the concerns of attendees and exhibitors about the exhibits only being available for part of the meeting. Council member Denton noted that, since members belonging to sections belong to 2.3 sections on average, then condensing the meeting duration should help reduce the need for attendees to stay from day 1 through 5.

Motion: To shorten the 2001 Annual Meeting from five to four days. Carried (yes, 11; abstain, 2).

19. 2000 Financial Statement and Analysis

Secretary Bonner stated that the 2000 financial analysis is only a preliminary report based on half-year information. She reported that dues revenues to date are below budget due to the slightly lower membership count thus far. Subscription revenues as well as other publications sales revenues are being projected to be slightly below budget. She noted that these revenue projections are conservative because they are based on mid-year numbers. She also reported on projected revenues from the Annual Meeting, noting that a complete picture will not be available until after the Annual Meeting.

On the expense side, Bonner reported that the personnel-related expenses are projected to be below budget due to the phasing in of staff which was budgeted on a 12-month basis. Bonner also reported on publications-related expenses, noting that the above-budget expenditure can be attributed primarily to the additional page allocation given to *ASR* to clear a significant backlog. All other expenditures are generally on budget. She indicated that, while Council approved a deficit budget for 2000 and we still project a slight deficit, we are optimistic about the end-of-year balance.

In discussing the revenue generated from JSTOR, Vice President Alba inquired about the subscription rates for JSTOR. He is concerned about the initial objective to make JSTOR available to members who otherwise would not have access through their institutions. He suggested that we consider lowering the subscription fees so that JSTOR is more accessible and affordable for individuals. There was consensus among Council members that EOB reconsider the pricing structure to make sure that JSTOR is widely accessible.

20. Business Meeting Resolutions

Council first reviewed a resolution which urged welfare regulations, especially under the new reform legislation, to recognize post-secondary education as a form of qualified activities. Massey and Levine indicated that, based on ASA's 1993 policy on member resolutions, the resolution needs to be accompanied by more background information. Council suggested that the resolution be returned to the submitting group and that the group should be encouraged to prepare further supporting materials.

Motion: To request the submitting group to prepare further supporting materials and Council will consider the resolution at its January meeting. Approved unanimously.

21. ASA Program Reports Continued

Academic and Professional Affairs Program. Howerly indicated that her written report focused on key activities in MOST and on peer review of teaching. She focused her presentation on a new initiative that involved disciplinary associations collaborating with higher education associations on the topic of Preparing Future Faculty. Four graduate departments (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Indiana University, Texas A&M University, and North Carolina State University) were competitively selected to prepare future faculty for 2- and 4-year colleges. She also reported on recent collaborations with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Carnegie funded two cohorts of sociology scholars (a total of nine individuals) on teaching and learning to spend summers at the Carnegie Foundation working on a project. Also, she noted that Carnegie provided support for a summer workshop on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Sociology, held July 20-23 at James Madison University. The Academic and Professional Affairs Program collaborated with the Section on Undergraduate Education in convening this workshop. Forty-five sociologists at various career stages were competitively selected to participate in this workshop, from which a number of publications are expected.

Levine reported on CUR (Council of Undergraduate Research) which is an association created to enhance undergraduate research in science. By virtue of ASA's encouragement, CUR has now expanded to include memberships for sociology and other social sciences in addition to other scientific fields. (Psychology has been a part of CUR.) ASA encouraged CUR to broaden its involvement since the intent of CUR is to reach to all NSF-funded disciplines.

Spivack Program. Levine and Howerly reported briefly on the Program and key activities underway. The Program continues to hold valuable Congressional seminars

and produce the Issue Series in Applied Social Research and Social Policy. The most recent product in that Series is on *Hate Crime in America: What Do We Know?* The next Congressional seminar will be held in the fall and will focus on social science research on neighborhoods. This year, the Spivack Program also sponsored two pre-Annual Meeting professional workshops on how to conduct policy research and how to work effectively on Capitol Hill. The new ASA Congressional Fellow is Larry Burmeister, University of Kentucky, who specializes in rural sociology and will seek a Hill placement beginning in January 2001 on issues relating to the environment and resources.

Research Program. Spalter-Roth brought Council's attention to the recent publication of freestanding research briefs. While data reports and briefs have been disseminated through *Footnotes* in recent years, the intent has been for the Program also to produce some separate data reports on issues important to the discipline and profession. The first two such briefs are based on the PhD Tracking Survey. ASA is currently working on the dissemination strategy and how to deliver these briefs as economically as possible. Along with the other Associations which collaborated on the Tracking Survey, funds are being sought for a small planning grant to continue that work.

The Research Program is also planning on conducting another survey of sociology departments. A number of chairs who attended the Chairs Conference at the Annual Meeting volunteered to participate in a pre-test. Council member Smith-Lovin suggested that perhaps the research briefs could be made available online on the website rather than incurring printing costs. Levine indicated that ASA is thinking about ways in which knowledge from ASA Programs can be disseminated, especially given the advances in technology in recent years. This could include the dissemination of research briefs, teaching materials, career publications, and other products. President-elect Reskin suggested that perhaps the Association should consider inclusion of a donation checkbox on the renewal form for members to make donations to support research on the discipline.

Public Information and Public Affairs Program. In reporting on ASA work with the media and in public information, Levine emphasized the presence of media and their engagement in the 2000 Annual Meeting. She indicated that ASA held two press conferences that resulted in coverage from more than 20 press persons. She noted that two staff members worked intensively on press releases and staffing the press office. Levine also distributed a written report that highlighted ASA's activities in public affairs in 2000. She focused her remarks on ASA's work on the 2000 Census, on the planning and implementation of an NIH conference on the social and cultural aspects of health, on the operations of institutional review boards as they affect the social and behavioral sciences, and on current efforts to assess the operations of the human subjects review system.

22. New Business

There were no other items of new business raised by Council.

The Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Classified Ads

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) has begun its search for the next editor of *Social Problems*. The Editor's three-year term will begin at mid-year 2002 and will assume responsibility for editing Volumes 50-52 (years 2003-2005, inclusive). The Society is looking for an individual with previous editorial experience who is open to all theoretical and methodological approaches for the sociological analysis of social problems. A full description of desired qualifications and the application process is posted at our website (<http://itc.utk.edu/sssp/journal/default.html>). Applications should be postmarked no later than March 1, 2001. Nominations, requests for further information, names of potential nominees, or completed applications should be sent to: Anna M. Santiago, Chair, SSSP Editorial and Publications Committee, Wayne State University, School of Social Work, 219 Thompson Home, Detroit MI 48202; (313) 577-8806 (Office); (313) 577-8770 (fax); e-mail ad4345@wayne.edu.

Publications on Hate Crime Available from ASA ...

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