

Footnotes

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Sociology Is Well Represented Among NSF's Human and Social Dynamics Grantees

by Roberta Spalter-Roth and
Nicole Van Vooren, ASA Research
and Development Department

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) innovative three-year-old interdisciplinary Human and Social Dynamics (HSD) initiative brought together a number of sociologists this fall at a two-day seminar of Principal Investigators (PI) in Washington, DC. The nearly 200 participants, including 25 sociologists, presented their findings, learned about other PIs' findings, participated in discussion sessions, and asked questions at this NSF-sponsored event. The attendees also heard presentations by NSF staff and from John Marburger, III, the President's Science Adviser and Director of the White House Office of Science, Technology, and Policy.

The HSD program funds potential breakthrough research that fosters the understanding of human, organizational, cultural, and social dynamics. The four-fold aim of funding these projects is to: (1) understand the complexities of change; (2) understand the dynamics of human and social behavior at all levels; (3) understand the cognitive and social structures that create and result from change; and (4) manage profound or rapid change. These goals also necessitate a comprehensive, interdisciplinary effort that includes the development of associated research infrastructure. Sociologist Richard O. Lempert was instrumental in developing the HSD program at the NSF in 2003. (See July/August 2003 *Footnotes*, p. 3, and February 2004 *Footnotes*, p. 5, for historical background on the HSD initiative.)

Collaboration, Tools, and U.S. Competitiveness

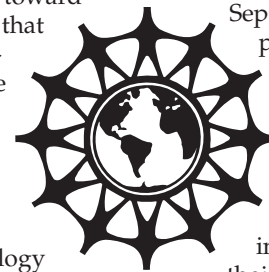
In their plenary presentations, NSF staff members emphasized that the HSD projects funded in the 2006 round of HSD grants reflected a movement away from curiosity-driven research toward more purpose-driven research that engaged with real-world problems. According to NSF's Anne Carlson, Senior Staff Associate for Policy and Planning, NSF wanted these projects to bring about new scientific collaborations across fields, greater knowledge and technology transfer, stronger focus on real-world problems, and increased American competitiveness in creating a globally engaged science workforce. Mark Weiss, Senior Advisor of the Division of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, assured the audience of NSF's commitment to social, behavioral, and economic research in order to understand major social issues such as "natural" disasters, homeland security, technology growth, and health. Marburger pointed out the need for greater use of the social sciences but also the need for sociology and the other social sciences to "grab new tools and to gain prestige by answering

important questions." In so doing, he stated, American competitiveness (in the sense of the gross domestic product) would increase.

According to sociologist Edward Hackett, NSF's new Division Director of Social and Economic Sciences (see September/October 2005 *Footnotes*, p. 3), research policy can be an agent for change. To this end, hybridization is important as is engagement with real-world ideas in order to stimulate creativity. He encouraged researchers to study scientific/intellectual social movements, their motives, opportunities, group processes, and framing of issues in order to develop usable knowledge for innovative policy. The goal of this policy is increased social well-being, not just increased gross domestic product.

Among the issues raised in discussion groups were the advantages and disadvantages of interdisciplinary work. Participants debated whether there is a need for a common language or perspective, what investigators get out of these projects, the reward structures that encourage interdisciplinary work, the roles that organizations play, the funding

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ASA, Professors Submit Brief to U.S. Appeals Court on "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Policy

by David Segal, University of Maryland-
College Park

The American Sociological Association recently joined a group of social science professors, including me, in submitting an *amicus curiae* brief (*Cook v. Rumsfeld*) supporting former military personnel who have brought suit against the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security after having been discharged from military service because of their sexual orientation. Using social science research, the brief challenges the assertion, made by supporters of the ban on gays in the military, that allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly would undermine unit cohesion and adversely impact military performance. The ASA Council had unanimously endorsed ASA's signing on to the brief.*

In 1993, when former President Bill Clinton attempted to fulfill his campaign promise to lift the ban on gays in the military, both houses of Congress held extensive hearings on the issue. The cohesion argument was advanced by numerous proponents of the ban, who rooted their position in three pieces of social science research conducted during World War II to determine why soldiers fight: (1) combat historian S.L.A. Marshall's after-action combat interviews with soldiers; (2) surveys

conducted by Samuel A. Stouffer as part of the American Soldier project; and, most important, (3) Edward A. Shils and Morris Janowitz's study of cohesion and disintegration in the *Wehrmacht*. The cohesion argument had previously been advanced in the late 1940s to delay the racial integration of the military and again in the 1970s and 1980s to delay gender integration.

Research Foundation

The brief argues that the cohesion argument as stated lacks any scientifically validated empirical support, and that research on cohesion conducted in the United States, as well as research on military forces that do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, in fact belie the assertion. Questions have been raised

about whether Marshall actually conducted the interviews on which his conclusions are based. Stouffer and his colleagues did ask American soldiers if they wanted to serve in racially integrated units and found that they did not. They also asked soldiers what kept them going in battle, and one of the most frequently named motivations was "their buddies," but this operationalization of cohesion was not expressed by a majority of soldiers, nor was it linked to the socio-demographic homogeneity of their units. The Shils and Janowitz data were not based on sociological surveys but on intelligence interrogations of German Prisoners of War (POW), who if they said they were motivated to go on fighting because of loyalty to their fellow soldiers

See *Don't Ask*, page 3



ASA Past-President Seymour
Martin Lipset died on December
31, 2006, following a long illness.

What the Iraqi Study Group Missed: The Iraqi People

There is growing support for nationalism among Iraqis in the midst of insecurity and violence

by Mansoor Moaddel,
Eastern Michigan University

The escalating violence in Iraq gives a bleak impression of that country's future. Sectarian conflict seems to increase daily with militias massacring hundreds of Sunnis and Shi'is solely on the basis of their religious identities. It would be a mistake to think that this bloodlust represents widespread sentiment among Iraqis as a whole. While neither American nor Iraqi security officials have found a way to tame the militias, the Iraqi public is increasingly drawn toward a vision of a democratic, non-sectarian government for the country.

In December 2004 and April 2006, I was involved in conducting two NSF-funded nationwide public opinion surveys in Iraq. The Effects Assessment Group connected to multinational forces in Iraq granted my request to include about 10 of our questions in their October 2006 survey to assess whether the trend in Iraqi political values revealed by findings from our two surveys could be confirmed. This group generously shared data from their April and October 2006 surveys.

All these surveys have been carried out by the Independent Institute for Administrative and Civil Society Studies, an Iraqi research firm.

Support for Secular Politics

When asked about "the three main reasons for the U.S. invasion of Iraq," 76% of Iraqis cited "to control Iraqi oil" as their first choice; 41% said "to build military bases" as the second choice; and 32% mentioned "to help Israel" as the third choice. Less than 2% of Iraqis cited "to bring democracy to Iraq" as the most likely explanation for the U.S. invasion of their country.

Given Iraqis' misgivings about U.S. intentions, one may expect that they would distance themselves from the occupying forces, which are both foreign and non-Muslim, by solidifying their support behind a religious regime. The trend in their political views, however, appears to be just the opposite—there is growing support for secular politics and nationalism. For example, the percentage of Iraqis who said it was "very good to have an Islamic government where religious leaders have absolute power"—something similar to the Islamic regime in Iran—declined from 26% (Dec. 2004) to 19% (April 2006) and 18% (Oct. 2006). This decline varied by ethnicity. Among the Shi'is, it decreased from 35% to 30% and 28%, among the Sunnis from 17% to 6% and 6%, among the Muslims (those Iraqis not identified as Shi'is or Sunnis) from 17% to 8% and 8%, and among the

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In This Issue . . .



3 ASA Teams Up with Research!America
Effective advocacy alliance helps bolster sociological medical/health research.



5 ASR's International Perspective
Jerry Jacobs notes the journal's rapid growth of comparative and international studies.



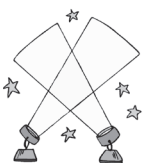
5 Contexts Magazine in the Undergraduate Classroom
Contexts proves useful as a teaching tool for undergraduate instructors.



6 A New ASA Congressional Fellow
After researching faith-based policies, Rebecca Sager comes to Capitol Hill.



7 Ethnographers as Consumer Researchers
Hy Mariampolski helps consumers articulate how a product could address their needs better.



9 A Spotlight on the University of Wisconsin-Madison
With the Concentration in Analysis and Research, UW prepares students for applied social research.



10 The Council on Contemporary Families
Barbara Risman leads a non-profit dedicated to addressing family issues.

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The Executive Officer's Column

An Assessment of National Social Science Advocacy



Sally T. Hillsman

As ASA works to advance the interests of academic, scientific, and practice-oriented sociology in national policy arenas, it needs strong and effective friends in the nation's capital to help us ensure a positive environment for science in general, the social sciences in particular, and an appropriate—or, at least, adequate—federal investment in the sciences of human behavior. Our primary Washington friend is the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), a welcome partner in a town renowned for raw politics. While ASA promotes and defends the discipline of sociology and increases its visibility, COSSA reinforces our efforts and takes the lead when lobbying is needed. COSSA collaborates with us and others to foster research-facilitating policies, communication, and mutual support among all the sciences as well as to educate the elected, appointed, and career federal officials who control and direct the nation's federal research enterprise, including data collection and analysis in the federal mission agencies (e.g., census, criminal justice, labor, and educational statistics).

Social Sciences' Best Friend in Washington

COSSA was founded in May 1981 by social science societies, including ASA and the Social Science Research Council, in response to the then new Reagan Administration's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposal for dramatic cuts in the social and behavioral science program of the National Science Foundation (NSF). While the issues needing social science advocacy are ever-changing, and the political context evolves daily, there has been scarcely a moment's lull since the Reagan years. COSSA's plate has increased in size and complexity because of need and its history of success, its seasoned and experienced leadership, and the widespread perception of its effectiveness.

Ten science associations incorporated COSSA in 1982, registering it with the IRS as a 501(c)(6) organization, allowing it to both lobby and educate. COSSA quickly advanced beyond protecting funding to monitoring all federal agencies that support "social and behavioral research and to advocate for a non-politicized research agenda." COSSA's mission is to serve as a "bridge between the academic research community and the Washington policymaking world." Many ASA members keep abreast of these activities through the biweekly newsletter, the *COSSA Washington UPDATE*. This informative newsletter is electronic, and the ASA Executive Office can ensure you are on the mailing list.

Evaluation of COSSA

Has COSSA done its job? True to form, social scientists hold their organizations accountable. COSSA's board and executive committee (on both of which ASA has a seat) has initiated several self evaluations, the latest beginning in late 2004. The objectives were to conduct a program review to assure COSSA is performing as intended; an external assessment to see how constituent groups and target audiences perceive COSSA's work; and strategic planning to identify emerging challenges and organizational priorities while recognizing COSSA's resource constraints.

I chaired the Sub-Committee on Self-Assessment of the COSSA Executive Committee. Interviewing a broad range of external stakeholders, we obtained views about COSSA's effectiveness and mission. At the 2005 COSSA Annual Meeting, constituents and Board members discussed these issues, and the Executive Committee discussed the input at a full-day retreat. The assessment's defining parameters were: mission clarity, inclusiveness, and relevancy; goal- and resource-consistency of practices and policy focuses; range and effectiveness of alliances; impact intensity, location, and potential; resource leveraging and expansion possibilities; leadership of COSSA's governing body and utilization of its governance structure.

Conclusions

The COSSA Executive Committee and Board concluded, among other things, that the core mission—"To promote the value of social and behavioral science research to policymakers and the public with the goal of enhancing federal support"—should continue and that COSSA has been effective. Stakeholders unanimously agree that COSSA is the major player for the social and behavioral science community on key science policy, and it is the central resource for detailed knowledge about relevant federal science matters.

But to address ever-more serious future challenges, COSSA should enhance some strategies as resources permit, especially those that aggressively, proactively, and visibly make the case that social and behavioral science research is vital to the nation and to informed policymaking. Its main federally focused advocacy should remain a major strategy, but COSSA will be considering advocacy targeted at specific members of Congress, tapping social and behavioral scientists in such educational campaigns. We know sociologists will be responsive when ASA seeks help with this or with a future COSSA Congressional Visits Day. Many sociologists have already participated in COSSA Capitol Hill briefings co-hosted by ASA, and this activity will continue. COSSA is expected to add advocacy for science training programs to its mission, an area relevant to ASA's Minority Fellowship Program. The self-assessment also determined that increasing alliances with natural and biomedical science advocacy groups, as well as those of the physical sciences, engineering, higher education, and industry, contribute significantly and strategically to COSSA's visibility and effectiveness. This was evident in mid-2006 when NSF's social and behavioral science program was challenged by Senator Kay Hutchison, and they came to our support.

Footnotes, of course, has highlighted many of sociology's successful COSSA collaborations, and while there is not room here to detail all the assessments' recommendations and praise for COSSA, I urge you to visit the COSSA website <www.cossa.org> to learn more about sociology's good friend in Washington.

—Sally T. Hillsman



ASA Joins Research!America Alliance

Nonprofit health research advocacy organization promises benefits for social science research

by Jean H. Shin, ASA Minority Affairs Program,
and Lee Herring, ASA Public Affairs Program

ASA has joined Research!America for 2007 to help advance sociological science in the nation's primary basic research agencies devoted to health and illness, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Research!America is "the nation's largest non-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority." Founded in 1989, the alliance is "supported by more than 500 member organizations that represent stakeholders in basic, behavioral, biotech, clinical, health services, prevention and public health, and therapeutic research from both the public and private sectors."


Aiming much of its effort at key national policy and legislative leaders, Research!America calls for strong, increased research investment in the budgets of NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Agency for Healthcare Research (AHR), and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Research!America has been gauging public attitudes toward medical/health research for more than a decade, and it works to raise awareness of the importance of effective collaboration among the government, industry, academic, and philanthropic sectors. Research!America has been well-respected for many years in important national policymaker circles, and it commands attention in the health/medical/disease research policy domain.

Importance to Sociology

"Research!America members are positioned prominently in the ranks of national leaders in the research advocacy community and have ready access to our health research-related polling data, publications, and programs," said sociologist Mary Woolley, president of Research!America. "We welcome the American Sociological Association as a new partner in our alliance, and look forward to engaging sociologists in our work."

The ASA is already heavily invested in the medical/health research community through its current partnership with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) in support of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), now in its 33rd year. Certainly, the level of research funding available at the NIH (and thus NIMH and NIDA), CDC, AHR, and NSF will impact future program support for more than the MFP but for individual grants to sociologists as well. Many sociologists receive funding of various types from these agencies. In addition, ASA sections, especially those focused on medical sociology; mental health; alcohol, drugs, and tobacco; children and youth; science, knowledge, and technology; and social psychology, continue to have a tremendous stake in the direction of medical/health-related research and investment and its impact on the general public.


Research!America members have full access to advocacy communication resources, such as public opinion poll data, media and science forums, media relations support, advocacy training workshops, e-advocacy alerts, tailored messages to policymakers, and a monthly newsletter. Membership provides ASA with additional entry into important "influence venues," especially at the national level. One such example was a significant event in fall 2006 organized by Research!America, titled "Personalized Medicine: From Promise to Practice," and held on the campus of The George Washington University. Two six-member panels of scientists addressed issues from the biological to key social factors that will be central to the future of individualized medicine, however it evolves. Francis Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, followed these panels as the keynote speaker. See <www.researchamerica.org/outreach/personalizedmedicine06/index.html> for video highlights and other details.

Research!America is headquartered in Alexandria, VA. Honorable John Edward Porter, former Congressman from Illinois, is chair of the Board of Directors. The dozens of member and supporter organizations include academic- and hospital-based and independent research institutes; business and industry; voluntary agencies, trade associations, coalitions, state-based nonprofits; professional and scientific societies; trade associations; local organizations; foundations and philanthropic and international entities. 

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were likely to be released earlier than if they said that they were committed to the Nazi cause. Research on POWs is no longer allowed by federal regulations protecting human subjects. None of these studies sought to empirically link sexual orientation to either cohesion or performance, although the Shils and Janowitz study did refer to homoerotic ties between German officers and their soldiers.

These studies have been interpreted as supporting the importance of social cohesion (read *homogeneity*) in units. However, in recent research, *social cohesion* has been linked as often to poor performance as to good performance. On the other hand, *task cohesion*—bonding on the basis of contribution to group efforts—has been linked to effective performance, but the causal link goes from performance to cohesion, not the reverse.

No research has actually been conducted on American military forces to determine the impact of sexual orientation on cohesion or performance. However, in comparative research on military forces that do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, including forces that are reputed to be extremely effective, such as those of Great Britain and Israel, no negative effects have been noted. And retired general and Joint Chiefs chair John Shalikashvili, who had supported the U.S. policy, stated in a January 2, 2007, *New York Times* op-ed that a changed social context mandates a reconsideration of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. 

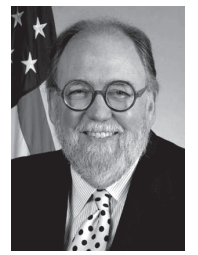
* The brief, submitted on behalf of ASA and social scientists by the Washington, DC, law firm of Covington and Burling, is accessible at <www.asanet.org>; click on "Press" in the upper right-hand corner. The case likely will be argued in early spring in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

✓ **Draft guidance on human subjects research . . .** The U.S. Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) announced in the *Federal Register*, the availability of a draft guidance document *OHRP Guidance on Engagement of Institutions in Human Subjects Research* that would update two existing OHRP documents: (1) *Engagement of Institutions in Research*, and (2) *Engagement of Pharmaceutical Companies in HHS-Supported Research*. To facilitate public review of the draft guidance document, OHRP has developed a table presenting a side-by-side comparison of OHRP's draft guidance document with the current documents. Both the draft guidance document and the comparison table can be accessed at <www.hhs.gov/ohrp/requests/>. A copy of the Federal Register notice can be accessed at <www.hhs.gov/ohrp/documents/20061208.pdf>. Written comments must be submitted by February 6, 2007, to: ENGAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMENTS, OHRP, The Tower Building, 1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 200, Rockville, MD 20852. Comments also may be sent to engagementohrp@hhs.gov or via facsimile at 301-402-2071.

✓ **U.S. Census Bureau chiefs resign as 2010 Census looms . . .**

Charles Louis Kincannon, Director of the Census Bureau and Hermann Habermann, the Bureau's Deputy Director, both announced their resignations this fall, just as the agency is ramping up preparations for the next U.S. Census. Kincannon joined the Bureau in 1963 and was appointed by President Bush to succeed former director Kenneth Prewitt four years ago. In his resignation letter to the President, Kincannon noted that "shifting priorities make it time for me to retire," and he cited "the need to spend more time with . . . family." As is often the case with resignations, there is speculation that both leaders were asked to leave by the administration. Quoted soon after his resignation in the *Washington Post*, Kincannon stated, "My perception is that I don't have the same level of trust that I did a year or so ago," and there were "different views perhaps about priorities" at the agency. Kincannon was referring to views among current Census leadership, politically appointed Commerce officials, and members of Congress having Census oversight responsibilities. For example, the decennial Census contains plans for adjusting for undercounting of minorities and immigrants, and these groups are more likely to vote for Democrats. In most every recent Census, the Commerce Department has resisted adjustments when challenged in legal suits. Republicans in Congress are concerned that the issue of adjustments may emerge again under a Democratic Congress. Kincannon stated he will remain in the post until President Bush has his replacement named and confirmed by the Senate. Habermann, who has worked at the Bureau since 2002, departs this month. Without its top leadership, review and testing of the 2010 American Community Survey will be handicapped. This fall, ASA signed a coalition letter to the President urging immediate action on replacements for Census leadership. Congressional approval of an adequate FY 2007 budget is also threatening to hamper the agency's preparation for 2010.



Charles Louis Kincannon

✓ **Non-tenure-track faculty in America's colleges and universities on the rise . . .**

The American Association of University Professors' *Contingent Faculty Index 2006* shows an increase in the number of non-tenure-track faculty in America's colleges and universities. The *Index* provides data at the institution level on the number of full-time faculty with and without tenure, the number of part-time faculty, and the number of graduate student employees. In 2003, the latest year for which data is available, contingent faculty, both full- and part-time faculty not on a tenure track, encompassed 65 percent of all faculty for the year. The report warns that the emergence of an increasing contingent faculty represents a fundamental change in the nature of higher education. This new report uses figures submitted by institutions to the U.S. Department of Education for fall 2005. Four appendices of the *Index* provide institution-specific data on over 2,600 colleges and universities. Obtain a copy of the report at <www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/research/conind2006.htm>.

✓ **Obesity is number-one health concern for children, according to U.S. adults . . .**

According to a new poll from Research!America and the Endocrine Society, Americans named obesity as the top health concern for children, followed by a lack of healthcare/insurance and nutrition/unhealthy diet. The nation is split on whether this is a public or private issue, with slightly more Americans (52%) believing that obesity is a public health issue in which society should intervene. Americans do believe that a combination of the community and the individual are responsible to address obesity, listing parents, individuals, schools, health-care providers, the food industry, and the government as entities that should be involved. According to the National Center for Health Statistics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 66% of Americans ages 20-74 are overweight or obese, compared to 17% of those ages 2-19. A large majority of Americans believe it is important for the government to invest in both research and public health and prevention programs to fight and reduce obesity. When ranking the most important health issue for all ages, health insurance/health-care cost was cited as the number-one concern, followed by cancer, access to health care, and then obesity/nutrition.

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processes, the building of infrastructure, and social spaces needed for ongoing work.

Sociology Projects and PIs

The HSD PIs presented posters describing their projects. Sociologists' posters reflected not only the scope and depth of the discipline but the usefulness of its concepts, methods, and frameworks for other disciplines. Below is a list of the sociologist PIs (names in bold type) and a brief description of their interdisciplinary HSD projects.

Ronald Angel (University of Texas-Austin), **Laura Lein**, *Katrina Evacuees: The Transformation from Disaster Victims to Welfare Recipients: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. The PIs interviewed Hurricane Katrina refugees and service providers in Austin, TX, to test theories of civil society. They found that the combination of changing federal guidelines and the large number of NGOs led to confusion, and refugees received ineffective service in the year following the disaster.

Carter Butts (University of California-Irvine), *Mapping and Analysis of Emergent Multi-organizational Networks in the Hurricane Katrina Response*.

Christopher Chase-Dunn (University of California-Riverside), Peter Turchin, E. N. Anderson, *Global State Formation: Modeling the Rise, Fall, and Upward Sweeps of Large Polities in World History and the Global Future*. The PIs will develop three models of probable future paths for world integration based on the historical patterns of networks between international governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

Elizabeth Frankenberg (University of California-Los Angeles), Jed Friedman, Thomas Gillespie, Nicholas Ingwersen, Bondan Sikoki, Cecep Sumantri, Wayan Suriastini, Duncan Thomas, *Social and Economic Effects of a National Disaster*. The PIs seek to research the costs of the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia and how people cope with a disaster of this magnitude. Initial results suggest that the majority of survivors still express optimism for the future.

Patrick Heller and **Daniel Schensul** (Brown University), *Remaking the Apartheid City: Housing and Residential Change in Durban after the Transition*. The PIs of this study map the main residential racial clusters from census data. They find that the city of Durban shows little change in the post-apartheid era even though important adjustments have taken place.

J. Craig Jenkins and **Katherine Meyer** (Ohio State University), Mary Ann Tetreault, Philip Schrodt, Jillian Schwendler, Christian Davenport, *Dissent and Repression in the Middle East*. The PIs examine the types of relationships between political dissent and repression to overcome the inconsistent results provided by previous studies that neglect context, time, and space, conflicting perspectives, and the status of women.

Yoshinori Kamo (Louisiana State University), Tammy L. Henderson, Karen A. Roberto, *Aging Families in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina*. The PIs interview aging families living in Baton Rouge who are recovering from Hurricane Katrina to advance the literature concerning the functioning of aging families in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

Verna Keith (Florida State University), C. Airriess, A.C. Chen, W. Li, K. Leong, S. Russaini, *The Aftermath of Katrina: Differential Responses to Trauma among African and Vietnamese Americans in One New Orleans Community*. The PIs studied

the spatial, socioeconomic, and psychological effects on two resource-poor groups of evacuees. They found that lack of resources, emotional and financial support, and linguistic isolation increase the incidence of post-traumatic stress disorder.

James Kitts and **Martina Morris** (University of Washington), **Michael W. Macy** (Cornell University), *Disseminating Computational Modeling in Social Sciences*. The PIs make a case that computational modeling captures the intricate relationships between macro-institutions and micro-interactions. A main goal of this project is to improve training in computational modeling within the social sciences.

John Logan (Brown University), *Disaster, Resilience, and the Built Environment on the Gulf Coast*. The PI focuses on the resilience of coastal communities frequently affected by hurricanes, especially in terms of which communities are rebuilt and which are temporarily or permanently displaced. Data on storms are combined with 1950-2000 U.S. Census data.

Stephen Perz (University of Florida), Grenville Barnes, Graeme Cumming, Jane Southworth, *Infrastructure Change, Human Agency, and Resilience in Social Ecological Systems*. The PIs studied the impact of new infrastructure on the social-ecological resilience of complex systems and on human resource and livelihood decisions in Brazil, Bolivia, and Peru in order to develop more complete frameworks of human agency and environmental change.

Jennifer Reich (University of Denver), Susan Sterett, Martha Wadsworth, *Government and Voluntary Association Coordination and Evacuees' Experiences of Assistance in Colorado*. The PIs examined the response of Denver, CO, government officials and service providers to evacuees from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Preliminary findings suggest that the service providers were constrained by federal government policies and that there was a high-rate of suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Hal Salzman (Urban Institute), Beatriz Clewell, Leonard Lynn, Carlos Acosta, Robert Lerman, B. Lindsay Lowell, Pamela Meil, *Globalization of Innovation, Migration, and Systems of Human Capital Development*. The PIs examined the new "third generation" stage of globalization in which multinational corporations move high-level knowledge employment to emerging economies. They focus on the effects of this change on specific countries, especially for migration flows, changes in education capacity, and shifts in science and engineering work.

Lynn Smith-Lovin (Duke University), **Miller McPherson** (University of Arizona), Alex Rosenberg, Stephen Teitworth, *Social Isolation in America: Results from the First Phase of the Networks and Niches Project*. The PIs answer key questions of association theory by comparing responses to questions regarding social networks, voluntary groups, and social isolation in America, using data from the 1985 and 2004 General Social Survey. They found that reports of close confidants in voluntary groups decreased, while reports of close confidant networks among spouses and parents increased.

Roberta Spalter-Roth (American Sociological Association), Norman Fortenberry, *Social Dynamics of Engineering Instructional and Curricular*

Change: Creating an Interdisciplinary Research Agenda. In order to understand the dynamics facilitating acceptance and diffusion of new curricula and pedagogy, the PIs organized a workshop for sociologists to work with engineers. The workshop's purpose was to develop hypotheses and study designs based on sociological concepts and theories to better understand the relations among rates of acceptance, prestige of educational institutions, distribution of rewards, and types of networks.

Edward Tiryakian and **Kenneth Land** (Duke University), A. Bejan, G. Merx, *Constructal Theory of Social Dynamics*. The PIs focused on expanding the field around the constructal theory of physics by bringing together physicists along with social scientists and engineers. Some issues discussed in a workshop were globalization, global migration, and development.

Tricia Wachtendorf (University of Delaware), José Holguín-Veras, Noel Pérez, Satish Ukkusuri, Bethany Brown, *Characterization of the Supply Chains in the Aftermath of Katrina: Logistical Issues and Lessons from an Integrated Social Sciences-Engineering Perspective*. The PIs identified three broad issues that led to the logistical challenges resulting from Hurricane Katrina: Initial impact on

the system, institutional impact, and logistical impact. The PIs are developing models to make recommendations concerning national response to future extreme events.

Mary Waters (Harvard University), Jean Rhodes, Christina Paxson, *Adversity and Resilience: Effects of Hurricane Katrina on Vulnerable Populations*. The PIs investigate how varying levels of resources and capacities of low-income, minority parents before Hurricane Katrina affected their ability to adjust to the trauma caused by the hurricane. Both quantitative and qualitative research was used.

FY 2007 Solicitation

Final remarks at the seminar were given by Keith Crank, the outgoing Director of the HSD program. He reminded the audience that the FY 2007 competition includes three areas of emphasis: agents of change; dynamics of human behavior; and decision making, risk, and uncertainty. The deadlines for HSD funding range from January 23, 2007, through February 21, 2007. More information can be obtained on the NSF website at www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11678&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund. >

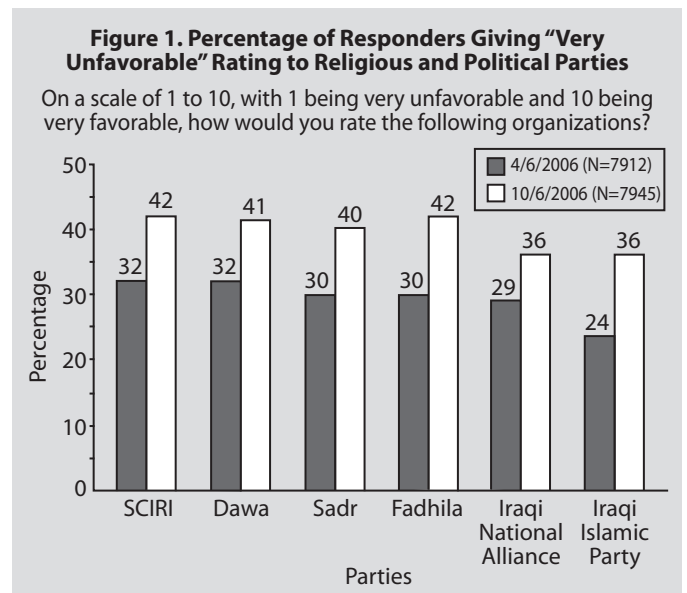
Iraq, from page 1

Kurds from 10% to 5% and then to 3%, respectively. Similarly, the percentage of Iraqis who thought it was "very important for a good government to implement only religious laws," declined from 31% (Dec. 2004) to 25% (April 2006), and then to 18% (Oct. 2006).

Finally, there was also an increase in support for the separation of religion and politics, as those who "strongly agreed" that "Iraq would be a better place if religion and politics are separated" increased from 24% (Dec. 2004), to 36% (April 2006), and then to 43% (Oct. 2006). Among the Shi'is, these values were 22%, 19%, and 33%; among the Sunnis, 22%, 55%, and 56%; among the Muslims, 34%, 47%, and 64%; and among the Kurds, 32%, 54%, and 48%, respectively.

Iraqi Identity and Nationalism

Another interesting development in Iraqi attitudes is the shift in favor of such indicators of nationalism as Iraqi identity ("Iraqis, above all" versus "Muslims, above all") and national pride. In December 2004, 23% of the respondents defined themselves as "Iraqis, above all," while in April 2006 this increased to 28%. Among educated Iraqis in the urban area, this rise was higher from 22% to 36%. The feeling of national pride has increased as the percentage of Iraqis who expressed "very proud to be Iraqis" went up from 77% (Dec. 2004) to the low eighties (April-Oct 2006). A most astonishing development has been among the Kurds as the percentage who said that they were proud to be Iraqis rose from 34% (Dec. 2004), to 49% (April 2006), and



then jumped to 76% (Oct. 2006).

Reflecting these attitudinal changes toward secular politics and nationalism is a significant decline in support for all religious political parties in Iraq. Figure 1 shows data from Iraqi citizens regarding their attitudes toward the following parties: SCIRI (Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution), Dawa (supporters of a technocratic-driven Islamist government who also support federalism and a united Iraq with a strong central government), Sadr (Islamist supporters of federalism and a united Iraq, but not under SCIRI), Fadhila (support federalism and an Islamist government, but not under SCIRI), Iraqi National Alliance, and Iraqi Islamic Party.

The figure shows that between April and October 2006, there has been a significant increase among Iraqis who gave "very unfavorable" rating to these parties. Except for Iraqi National Alliance, which is a secular party, all other parties' unfavorable ratings increased between 9% and 12%.

The "very favorable" rating of all the religious parties, on the other hand, See *Iraq*, page 10

ASR Publishes the Latest International and Comparative Sociological Studies

by Jerry A. Jacobs, Former Editor,
American Sociological Review

In a recent *Footnotes* essay (December 2005), I noted the growth in multi-method research articles published in the *American Sociological Review* (ASR), ASA's flagship scholarly journal. Many authors have creatively combined the richness of in-depth interviews with the generalizability of survey data to provide a compelling analysis of their topic. In this present article, I describe a complementary trend, namely, the rapid growth of international and comparative studies. While the multi-method approach flourishes on intimate knowledge put in a broader social context, the international style highlights the broad variety of social arrangements across countries. More than one-third of the papers published in ASR over the last three years have had an international dimension. This trend coincides with ASA's internationalization efforts to expand globally through a variety of outlets.

Beyond the United States

Several ASR studies focus on countries other than the United States. While this research sometimes involves an implicit comparison with the United States, as is the case with James Raymo and Miho Iwasawa's (2005) study of women's education and marriage patterns in Japan, more often such studies

simply seek to understand social patterns in a faraway setting. For example, Hayagreeva Rao and his colleagues (2005) studied the rise of eclectic cuisine in France, while Kim Korinek and her co-authors (2005) studied the role of social networks in urban settlement patterns in Thailand.

A second approach uses international data to place the United States in a comparative perspective. Thus, Robert Andersen and his colleagues (2006) show that recent trends in U.S. civic participation diverge from those in several other advanced industrial countries. Similarly, Lars Osberg and Timothy Smeeding (2006) revisit the question of American exceptionalism in their analysis of beliefs about inequality in the United States and 26 other countries. These studies remind us that patterns and explanations developed to explain the American experience do not always hold in other settings.

Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal

A third approach tries to explain variation across a set of countries. International comparative research designs can be divided into cross-sectional studies and longitudinal ones. Cross-sectional research often draws on recently developed international databases, such as the World Values Survey, the Eurobarometer Survey, and the Luxembourg Income Study. Country-level measures—the level of democracy,

educational levels of the populace, or the level of economic development—often are employed in conjunction with individual-level variables in a multi-level analysis. Hadas Mandel and Moshe Semyonov (2005) conducted this style of research when they examined public policies and the gender gap in wages in 20 countries.

Longitudinal studies are even more ambitious. These

studies not only compare countries but also seek to explain changes over time.

For example, Pamela Paxton and her research team explain variation in women's political representation in 150 countries

over the period 1893-2003. In an especially ambitious case of developing an original data set, Andreas Wimmer and Brian Min (2006) created a data set to examine the causes of war over the last 200 years.

Studies of international dynamics represent a final approach. Whereas comparative studies juxtapose two or more countries to find commonalities and differences, a focus on global interaction seeks to identify the dynamic processes that produce commonalities and divergences across countries. For example, David Brady and his co-authors (2005)

While the multi-method approach flourishes on intimate knowledge put in a broader social context, the international style highlights the broad variety of social arrangements across countries.

examined whether the economic pressures of globalization were undermining the generosity of European welfare states. In another case, Evan Schofer and John Meyer (2005) sought to explain the worldwide diffusion of higher education over the course of the 20th century. As countries continue to grow ever more tightly interconnected, globalizing processes will be increasingly central for understanding economics, culture, institutions and politics.

Challenges of International Research

International research has its own set of challenges. It is difficult to develop truly comparable measures. The more countries covered and the longer the time period, the greater the challenge of performing comparative research. The sample of countries is often restricted by data

availability in ways that limit theoretical inferences. Political boundaries have changed in certain regions and periods of time. International studies are often weak in the very ways that multi-method studies are strong, namely they tend to be conducted at a considerable distance from individual experience and attempt to answer theoretical questions of an abstract nature. Successful research in this area, as in all others, requires skill and insight, not just a large database.

I end my term as editor of the *American Sociological Review* deeply

See ASR, page 11

Contexts Magazine as a Teaching Tool

by James M. Jasper, Editor,
Contexts magazine

The mission of ASA's *Contexts* magazine is to bring sociology and social science to non-specialist audiences. When Jeff Goodwin and I agreed to become the magazine's editors in early 2004, we thought this would especially include journalists, policymakers, and the public purchasing the magazine at newsstands. Instead, by far the largest non-sociologist audience has been undergraduates who read *Contexts* articles assigned in their courses.

The popularity of *Contexts* in the undergraduate classroom should be no surprise. Claude Fischer, *Contexts'* founding editor, took great pains to make sure every feature could be understood by someone with no special training. We have diligently tried to continue this tradition, thoroughly editing several drafts of most articles and reviews (often to the surprise of authors who have rarely been edited so meticulously before).

The extent of the magazine's course use has impressed the *Contexts* editorial staff. At this point, the magazine's biggest contribution to the profession, beyond publishing research, apparently lies in providing readings for instructors. Recognizing this trend, we want to embrace, encourage, and extend the use of *Contexts* in the classroom.

Suggestions for Instructors

Feature articles are not the only appropriate venue for undergrads to learn from. Every issue includes a one-page "trends" piece, currently written by Deborah Carr, on various attitudes

or outcomes over time. Many issues also include a one- or two-page "just the numbers" on topics of interest—sometimes new findings, sometimes summaries of what we know. Instructors might make useful exercises out of asking students to update some of these pieces (which are our equivalent of the "research note"). A number of our "conversations"—interviews and forums—are also appropriate for classroom use, and a photo essay could live up any course material. Finally, our "key-words" essays on central concepts in social science are designed especially for undergraduates.

There are several ways to use *Contexts* in the classroom. The most popular technique so far is to select a few articles to include on the syllabus. This can be done legally or illegally and there are plenty of examples of both. Naturally, we prefer the legal methods, because some revenue goes to the magazine. (*Contexts* still operates in the red at this point, so every additional bit of revenue helps ensure its survival, just as every subscription does.) The most reprinted articles so far are "After the Sexual Revolution: Gender Politics in Teen Dating," by Barbara Risman and Pepper Schwartz (Spring 2002); "Caring for Our Young: Child Care in Europe and the United States," by Dan Clawson and Naomi Gerstel (Winter 2002); and "Life Without Father:

What Happens to the Children?" by Sara S. McLanahan and Dona Schwartz (Spring 2002).

Not Just for College

We hope that *Contexts* will introduce not only college students but also high school students to sociology. Sociologists Barbara Schneider and Caroline Persell have held a number of workshops with

high school teachers of sociology, who were impressed with the magazine and thought it would be useful for them. High school teachers who are affiliate members of the ASA automatically receive *Contexts* as part of their membership.

Another way to use *Contexts* in your teaching is to order a single issue through your bookstore for use alongside other assigned books. Our special issues on race (Fall 2005) and on families (Fall 2006), for example, are handy ways to provide a great deal of information and analysis on these important topics. (Our Summer 2007 special issue will focus on social change, in conjunction with the ASA Annual Meeting theme.)

We are in the process of working out other venues to give students access to *Contexts*. Sociologist Kathryn Edin worked with several instructors last spring to explore ways to use subscrip-

tions in introductory courses. She reports that students particularly liked the articles for being brief, well written, and topical. "They felt that *Contexts* struck a middle ground between a textbook, which regurgitates interesting subject matter in often boring ways (pabulum!), and original texts (too long and daunting many times)."

Students Weigh In

As one of Barbara Schneider's undergrads at Michigan State University said, "These are issues you care about, can relate to.... You connect more to them than to readings that are 50 pages long and 800 years old." And although it made us cringe, another pointed out that *Contexts* articles have an advantage even for students who *don't* like them: "*Contexts* articles are short. If you're not interested, you're done. If you are interested, you can keep reading, get more information. These articles give synopses and references. That's good."

Finally, in the fall of 2007, using *Contexts* in your classroom will become even easier when W. W. Norton publishes a volume of our most popular readings over the years, specially designed for introductory sociology courses. The *Contexts Reader* will contain more than 60 selected articles and keyword essays from the magazine, along with study questions and related projects for classroom discussion. All the main fields of sociology are represented. To request an exam copy of the *Contexts Reader* when it is ready, contact your local Norton representative at (800) 233-4830 or visit their website at <www.wwnorton.com/college/contact.htm>.

To make it easier to use *Contexts* in the classroom, we have added a special page on our website: <www.contextsmagazine.org/classroom.php>. Visit any time! ☺



A Woman of the World

A spotlight on Dean Johnson's globetrotting sociological career

by Daniel Spar, ASA Governance Office

One cannot easily summarize sociologist Dean Johnson's career. A U.S. Naval Veteran, journalist, substitute teacher, scholar, philanthropist, and representative to various foreign universities across Europe, she has helped to bridge the gap between men and women, teachers and students, and people from all races and continents. With a résumé that includes numerous awards and professional achievements (i.e., the Pencles Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems) and as one of the first women invited to join the American Legion, Deanie—as she is called by those close to her—is a force to be admired and revered.



Dean Johnson

First Steps as a Sociologist

Few people today can claim they met Jane Addams, the social reformer who founded Hull House, but at a very young age, Johnson's mother took the budding scholar with her to work at Hull House. Unbeknownst to her, it would be Johnson's first steps into a lifetime of sociological work.

Before getting her MA in sociology at Akron University in 1968, followed later by a PhD at Louisiana State University in 1976, Johnson traveled as one of the first women lieutenants in the U.S. Naval Reserves and then worked as the Ohio Broadcasting Company Women's Editor under the surname Carol Adams. "Canton was unusual in that time since it didn't have television during the 1950s. It was all old time, big time radio," said Johnson. "I was the Oprah Winfrey of northeast Ohio!"

It was while studying sociology that Johnson truly felt her calling. "I was

always interested in race relations and women's issues and I felt that sociology was a logical area for me," she said. "It had the kind of issues, expertise, and commitment that I would excel at." Her calling toward sociology would take her all over the world.

World Traveler

After 15 years of teaching at Northwestern State University in Louisiana, Johnson left the United States to instruct throughout Europe. With stints traveling from Scotland to the farthest reaches of the Eastern Bloc, Johnson followed a path of academia most would love to partake in. After teaching for three months in the Czech Republic, she left to teach at a new branch of the Anglo-American College in the Ukraine.

"I'm a do-gooder," she admitted, and "[I wanted] the chance to see a former communist country that was beginning its way toward freedom."

Afterwards, Johnson, through the University of Maryland European Division, taught sociology as a lecturer in Germany, Italy, Spain, Scotland, and Turkey.

Without a doubt, Deanie has shown her colleagues and friends the meaning of the words "perseverance" and "commitment." To this day, she is still waiting to take delivery of her cherished Mercedes that took her throughout her travels in Europe for more than 10 years, a testament to Johnson's will and of where a career teaching sociology took this remarkable scholar.

"I love the discipline," she said. "I practice it even though I'm no longer teaching. I've been a professor for 32 years and they've been wonderful years." ☺



Mark Your Calendar!

Submit Session Suggestions for 2008

February 1, 2007, is the deadline for submitting proposals for invited sessions or volunteering to organize a Regular Session topic for the 2008 Annual Meeting Program. Click on "Meetings" and then "Future Meetings" at <www.asanet.org>.

2007 ASA Congressional Fellow Faces a New Congress

by Jamie Panzarella,
ASA Publications Department

The ASA is pleased to welcome Rebecca Sager as the next ASA Congressional Fellow. Before beginning her fellowship, Sager will receive her PhD this month at the University of Arizona. Her research interests include state and social policy, non-profit sector, religion, social movements, economic sociology, and organizations.

On accepting her fellowship, Sager said that she was "looking forward to bringing the science of sociology to Congress in the spring. Policy debates, especially those I have previously studied regarding religion and politics, too often reflect the views of a few but affect the lives of many. I hope that as the ASA Congressional Fellow I have the opportunity to contribute to policy, as well as gain an understanding of how the system works and how good research might interface in the policy creation process."

Social policy work has been an underlying common characteristic for the majority of Sager's graduate work, dealing mostly with faith-based policy initiatives. In her masters thesis, she examined the role of religion in church-based feeding programs. Her work was published in the September 2005 issue of *Non-Profit Voluntary Sector Quarterly*. Along with other graduate students at the University of Arizona, Sager researched a different aspect of the potential impact of the faith-based initiative, focusing on the implications of heightened attention to religion on clergy referrals. This research is forthcoming in the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

Focusing on Faith-based Policies

In her PhD dissertation, "The Purpose-Driven Policy: How Faith-Based Initiatives Came to Your State," Sager used a dual research strategy to examine the state implementation of faith-based initiatives from 1996–2004. Among her conclusions, Sager found that an important aspect of these initiatives may be the de-secularization of state government through the creation of faith-based liaisons.

"Working on these various projects has given me the opportunity to use sociological knowledge to understand various aspects of one social policy, and the chance to use my research methods training to understand both the micro and the macro aspects of social policy," Sager said.

"Through my research I've found that the most common type of faith-based state policy implementation has been to appoint the administrative position of state faith-based liaison," said Sager. "These liaisons then act as conduits between state government and religious organizations, representing an important change in the direction of church/state relations within the United States, one that moves away from separation and toward cooperation and collaboration. [My findings] suggest that the goal of the initiative is not to help the poor, but rather to create a permanent place for religion in government."



Rebecca Sager

Working with a New Congress

During her six-month tenure on Capitol Hill, she plans to dedicate her time working on policy issues related to

the separation of church and state. With her strong background in and research on faith-based initiatives, Sager intends to focus her work on religious freedom in education. Other areas of policy that interest her include welfare reform and religious policy implementation. Sager will begin her fellowship in Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott's (D-VA) congressional office when the 110th Congress starts its term.

In addition to serving on a congressional staff, the ASA Fellow often spends some time preparing briefing materials, participating in an ASA congressional or media briefing on a timely topic, and contributing stories to *Footnotes*. The ASA's Spivack Program on Applied Social Research and Social Policy administers and funds the fellowship. The next application deadline is February 1, 2007, for sociologists interested in being an ASA Congressional Fellow. See <www.asanet.org> and click on "Funding" for application information. ☺

Changes in the Graduate Record Exam

On September 20, 2006, the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), in conjunction with the Educational Testing Service (ETS), announced to representatives of various professional associations some significant changes that are being made to the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) General Test. There are two primary changes: style of tests and scoring.

The new GRE test will measure the same basic skills as the old test; however, there will be more emphasis on certain skills deemed more important for predicting success in graduate school. The four sections of the test will be verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking, and analytical writing. On the verbal reasoning part, there will be more focus on cognitive skills and less on vocabulary; on the quantitative reasoning part, there will be more questions on real-life scenarios and data interpretation as opposed to questions in which calculators will be needed to find the answers.

The other major changes affect scoring. There will be three different scores: (1) verbal, (2) quantitative, and (3) critical thinking and analytical writing scored together. To help people understand how the old scores compare with the new scores, GRE/ETS office will provide the following services:

- **Percentiles** for verbal and quantitative scores will be reported on score reports and will be available on the GRE website beginning in early November 2007.

- In mid-November 2007, a **concordance table** will be available on the GRE website to assist users in understanding the relationship between old and new scores. The concordance table will present information on verbal and quantitative scores on the old 200 to 800 score scale and the corresponding approximate equivalents on the new 130 to 170 score scale.
- Shortly after the concordance table is available, **approximate score equivalents** on the new scale will be included on GRE score reports for verbal and quantitative scores earned before September 2007.
- In early January 2008, **broad major field score distributions** will be available on the GRE website.

Why change the general GRE test? David Payne, Senior Executive Officer of the GRE Program, said that revisions are being made "in order to improve security for the test, improve the validity of the test and...increase access to the test for candidates worldwide."

To avoid major problems once the changes to the test are made, CGS and ETS gathered representatives of various societies, including the ASA, to get feedback on potential reactions from their respective members. Debra W. Stewart, President of the Council of Graduate Schools, stated that "the purpose of the meeting of the societies...was to provide a venue to disseminate information about the changes in the GRE. We hoped that this would result in faculty members learning about those changes and being better prepared to advise prospective students in their disciplines." For more information on the changes, visit the ETS/GRE website at <www.ets.org/GRE>.

Sociologists in Research and Applied Settings

This occasional column focuses on the interesting career paths and achievements of sociologists whose primary work in sociology is not in the academy or whose “extracurricular” work outside academic settings is noteworthy for its societal or policy impact. These sociologists are engaged directly with the public, applying methods of science and their sociological expertise.

Shameless Lackey or Consumer Advocate?

Hy Mariampolski uses ethnographic research to improve consumer satisfaction and product utility

by LaVon Rice*

When Hy Mariampolski strolls through a Home Depot, a Safeway, or a Walgreens he can see any number of products that his company, QualiData Research Inc., has helped develop. “It’s a very tangible return,” he admits.

Armed with a PhD in sociology from Purdue University, Mariampolski left an academic career in sociology—but not the discipline itself—to spend the last three decades marshaling his sociological imagination into helping companies refine or create products that make their customers’ lives more satisfying. He co-leads QualiData with his wife, Sharon Wolf, who has an academic and corporate marketing background, with an interdisciplinary team of social scientists who apply their skills in business settings.

“We think of ourselves as serious social scientists who have a wealth of knowledge about human behavior and various methodologies,” said Mariampolski, “This knowledge can significantly affect consumers’ everyday lives.”

More than an Odd Job

QualiData uses primarily qualitative research methods, such as focus groups and intensive interviewing. However, what makes the company unique is the pioneering application of ethnography to the marketing field. Mariampolski and his team leave the laboratories to observe their subjects in natural habitats—people’s homes, workplaces, stores, and playgrounds. Tapped by corporations, QualiData recruits individuals who match the client corporation’s targeted consumer segments and gains their confidence to allow market researchers into their homes and workplaces. Observing the ways consumers actually use certain products yields clues that can inform product innovations or improvements—clues not readily available in a focus-group setting. Mariampolski has found, for example, that consumers are usually unable to articulate exactly how a particular item could address their needs better.

When QualiData researchers are on site all over the United States and throughout the world, watching subjects showering or scrubbing the kitchen sink, product shortcomings become apparent. These ethnographers watch people make mistakes, get frustrated, or use products in ways the manufacturers did not intend. They then help those manufacturers take advantage of these discoveries. It is QualiData’s job to help companies use the data as a launching pad for improved or expanded offerings.

The details revealed during in-home observation provide insights into consumer expectations, mental images, and culturally grounded expectations. “You learn a lot about people by how they sort their laundry,” Mariampolski claims. “You can even ascertain quite a bit about culture, too.” In a global study of laundry practices, for example, the QualiData team observed women washing clothes in Turkey. The women, the researchers discovered, washed men’s and women’s clothing separately in accordance with the Islamic tradition of gender segregation. This cultural observation led to recommendations for distinct, gender-specific formulations of detergents that meet men’s and women’s different laundry needs.

The “so-what” factor is addressed in QualiData’s report back to the client. “We always deliver our conclusions and the implications of our conclusions,” Mariampolski says. His approaches and insights have been summarized in his two books, *Ethnography for Marketers: A Guide to Consumer Immersion* (Sage, 2006) and *Qualitative Market Research: A Comprehensive Guide* (Sage, 2001). He also leads ethnographic methods training workshops domestically and internationally.

“The Devil Incarnate”

Some of Mariampolski’s fellow social scientists who oppose his enthusiastic endorsement of free-market capitalism hold a dim view of his research for big business. “I have been called the ugliest names,” he concedes. “A whore, the devil incarnate.”

QualiData’s client list includes major names in consumer products, pharmaceuticals, automotive, and financial services companies, such as GlaxoSmithKline, Nissan, Michelin, Citibank, Chase, Barilla, and Clorox. QualiData also works extensively with not-for-profit organizations, such as Business for Social

Responsibility, the San Francisco School District, Liberty Science Center, and the New Victory Theater.

Unlike traditional academic inquiry, in which the individual scholar explores his or her research agenda within a relatively flexible timeframe, the QualiData team has to align its priorities with the bottom-line-oriented, fast-paced culture of business. “The client stimulates the question. We have to be very client-responsive and clients come to us with time-sensitive questions to guide their new product development and marketing campaigns,” Mariampolski says.

“Voice of the Consumer”

But that doesn’t mean that Mariampolski sees himself as a shameless lackey for corporate interests. When he helps an airline tinker with its reservations system or flags low-income urban residents’ unmet banking needs, he says he does so as a consumer advocate. “We become the voice of the consumer, the voice of the labor force,” he maintains.

The QualiData researchers might help scientists understand that a working-class man experiencing pain cannot afford to take pain medications that make him drowsy and unable to perform at work. Thanks to drug developers’ one-dimensional thinking, “most pain remediation is dedicated to desensitizing, blocking perceptions and sensations,” contends Mariampolski. “Pain wrecks social networks,” he continues, and the best analgesics address individuals’ pain without forcing them to drop work and leisure activities.

Helping People Save Lives

In congruence with his belief that his research is for the common good, Mariampolski has been involved in several sexual health projects. Early in the AIDS epidemic, he advised a condom manufacturer regarding integrating condom use into consumers’ “natural eroticism.” Condoms began to be marketed in a more “life-affirming way,” he remembers, as the specter of HIV transmission was not adequate motivation for people to use them. “People are not necessarily motivated by threatening them with death,” Mariampolski said.

Mariampolski, a member of the University of Georgia’s Masters of Marketing Research program’s Board of Advisors and the Dean’s Advisory Council at Purdue University’s College of Liberal Arts, has also had a hand in an advertising campaign encouraging gay men to get vaccinated for Hepatitis B. “We’re helping people save lives by promoting vaccinations,” he said. “I don’t think there are many other demonstrable opportunities for sociologists to save lives.”

The scholars at QualiData do avoid political research, according to Mariampolski, and work to advance more progressive, inclusive thinking from the inside. He reports a disagreement with a cosmetics company that did not want his research to include African-Americans. For the most part, he believes that corporations do not set out to pollute the environment or discriminate against a certain segment of society and that current trends generally favor socially responsible business practices. “We help corporations implement their good intentions,” he said. “We’re not outside throwing bricks.”

Mariampolski is eager to communicate with fellow sociologists interested in the growing field of corporate ethnography. He can be reached at hy@qualidata-research.com.

* LaVon Rice is a freelance writer and former ASA staff member based in New Mexico.



Sociologists Hy Mariampolski [left] and Sharon Wolf had their ethnographic research careers recently featured in a book of photographs by Nancy Rica Schiiff, *Odder Jobs: More Portraits of Unusual Occupations* (Ten Speed Press, 2006). Hy has also discussed his craft during recent appearances on FOX-News and ABC-TV.

Applied and Clinical Sociology Careers by the Numbers

by Mary Gee, Graduate Student at the University of California-San Francisco

The Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS), an association derived from the joining of two leading sociological organizations—the Society for Applied Sociology and the Sociological Practice Association—held its first annual conference in October. Offering a plethora of programming, topics included the role of the SPSS statistical package in sociological practice, how social scientists can contribute to building a sustainable world, and program evaluation findings and community-based studies. The Presidential Address by Ross Koppel reflected the conference theme of “Sociology for What? Building our World.” Among the conference highlights was the opening plenary session given by Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of ASA’s Research and Development Department.

Spalter-Roth presented initial findings from a Ford-sponsored study of PhD-level sociologists in applied, policy, and research settings. This survey is part of a larger ASA initiative to “bring non-faculty sociologists ‘in from the cold,’” according to Spalter-Roth, to provide more opportunities and services to non-academic sociologists, and to assist graduate sociology departments with curriculum development for PhD students not entering teaching careers. The study focused on the use of sociological skills and concepts, characteristics of the occupations, the identification with sociology, and the level of job satisfaction.

Many of the statistics that will be available in a soon-to-be-released report, *Beyond the Ivory Tower*, are of special interest to graduate and post-doctoral students in the throes of considering

job talks and career opportunities, as well as graduate sociology departments looking to refine their curriculums. As a current doctoral student, I found myself contemplating my future post-dissertation career path and whether to seek a career within or outside of academia, as a result of the presentation. For example, among the surveyed PhD-level sociologists not employed in the professoriat, 42 percent work in the non-profit sector (including higher education institutions), with health/health care, public policy, and social sciences identified as the top three substantive areas. Program/research director, senior research analyst, and research scientist were the top three identified occupations.

Employment outside of academia can be highly rewarding, with at least 60 percent of survey respondents reporting being very satisfied with their level of responsibility and independence, though they were least satisfied with available resources and advancement opportunities. There also were highly significant findings between overall satisfaction and working with other sociologists, with policy analysis identified as a very important part of sociology’s social mission.

An indication of the work that still lies ahead in addressing gender and ethnic disparities in our field is the almost \$18,000 estimated median income gap between males and females and the fact that only 14 percent of PhD sociologists working outside the academy are non-white. Over the years, ASA has worked to increase outreach efforts to improve diversity within the sociology field,

such as through a strong commitment to ASA’s Minority Fellowship Program.

Spalter-Roth also discussed the disconnect between graduate training and matched job skills. While respondents indicated that there was a strong match between their jobs and the research design and statistical analysis training they received in graduate school, they felt under-trained in terms of grant writing, program evaluation, and policy analysis. Therefore, as graduate sociology departments look to refine their curriculums, incorporating additional applied methods and research administration skills training seems to be a key element for

supporting students interested in careers in applied and/or research settings. In addition to wanting more applied/evaluation research training (16%) and mentoring/networking opportunities (15%), the top respondent recommendations for improving graduate school curriculum were requests for more information about non-academic careers and less snobbery toward non-academics (18%). Subsequently, in the next phase of this study, ASA and AACS will work together to identify critical strategies for addressing these recommendations.

Spalter-Roth welcomed the audience’s views and comments on any aspects of this study and noted that people should feel free to write to her at research@asanet.org, complete a follow-up survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=457712772228, or see some preliminary survey findings at www.asanet.org/galleries/default-file/BeyondIvoryTowerFirstResults.pdf. ●

Employment outside of academia can be highly rewarding, with at least 60 percent of survey respondents reporting being very satisfied with their level of responsibility and independence.

ASA Deputy Carla Howery Celebrates 25th Year at ASA

Transient relations, fleeting loyalties, and short-lived technological upheavals define our modern society, so it is almost unnerving to encounter anything in life suggesting rock-solid permanence. But Carla B. Howery, ASA’s Deputy Executive Officer, celebrated her 25th year as a member of ASA’s staff this summer. While Carla has witnessed a few passing fads since joining ASA in 1981, her solidly productive 25-year record speaks for itself as anything but a transitory contribution to the association and the discipline and communities of sociology.

“Carla’s loyal, long-term contributions to the efficient functioning of ASA and the generation of useful teaching-related products and programs are eminently reassuring to the sociological community and a testament to the permanent relevance of the discipline,” said Sally Hillsman, ASA Executive Officer. “Her institutional knowledge and myriad of contacts have been essential to the functioning of the ASA.”

Carla’s long ASA tenure is also a key source of the association’s organizational pride, as she is one of three long-term ASA staff (as well as Janet Astner and

Karen Edwards) among the modest number (27) of ASA employees.

Looking Forward

Not dwelling on past accomplishments, Miami University sociologist Ted Wagenaar, who has worked extensively with Carla over the years, characterized her contributions to ASA, saying, “Carla continues to play the single most important role in the history of the ASA’s concrete support for teaching. She began work at the ASA at a crucial time. The teaching projects were underway, funded, and led by Charles Goldsmd and Hans Mauksch. But institutional support via the ASA was still thin. Carla piloted that support and helped create structural legs for the teaching project.”

Wagenaar explained that ASA’s Teaching Resources Program started then and continues to sell many copies of teaching support materials. “Carla promoted sociologists as consultants on teaching and curriculum. She has been a strong spokesperson for teaching and curriculum issues at professional meetings and at meetings connected with the

ASA. And she knows just about everyone engaged in promoting the teaching and learning of sociology.”

In addition to being ASA’s deputy, Carla serves as Director of the Academic and Professional Affairs Program, which supports sociology departments across all academic levels through the development of curricula materials and special programs for chairs, high school affiliates, and community college teachers. Carla also manages ASA’s Department Resources Group, which provides expert consultation to departments and formally represents the discipline and ASA in several higher education organizations.

Friend, Colleague, Major Influence

Southwestern University sociologist Ed Kain, like many sociologists, values Carla both as a colleague and a friend. He expressed his congratulations for her long service, saying, “Carla has been an important part of ASA for many years and has been involved in a wide range of projects.” Kain cited two recent examples: the MOST (Minority Opportunities through School Transformation) program, aimed at improving the pipeline for bringing minority scholars into the discipline, and the IDA (Integrating Data Analysis) project, designed to

Apply Now for the Sorokin Lecture Series

The Sorokin Lecture has been a longstanding opportunity for a distinguished ASA award winner to deliver a lecture at a regional sociological meeting. Since 1967, each year the winner of the ASA Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award has traveled to a regional meeting to speak about the book that had been honored. A restricted fund, named for ASA Past-President Pitirim Sorokin, underwrites the costs for the visiting lecturer.

As part of the planning for ASA’s centennial, ASA Council discussed ways in which the Association could extend sociological knowledge to new audiences, including students, faculty in other fields, and interested community members. After some discussion, the Council decided to modify the existing Sorokin Lectureship to achieve greater outreach potential in three ways.

First, the new Sorokin Lectureship will include more possible lecturers. Any of the winners of major ASA awards in the past two years may be available to make visits. Second, the list of organizations eligible to host a lecture has expanded from regional sociological societies to include any sociological association or at college campuses. Third, ASA is now able to fund up to four lectures per year instead of a single lectureship as in past years.

These changes should provide a vibrant road show in which to share the sociological message.

The 2006 Sorokin Lecturer was Caroline Hodges Persell, New York University, who spoke at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting.

Applications Process

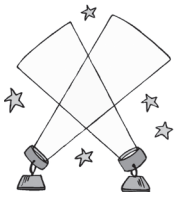
Any of the winners of major ASA awards in the past two calendar years may be available to deliver a lecture at a state, regional, or aligned sociological association meeting, or on a campus. ASA would cover the costs of travel and up to two days of hotel costs. The host would cover registration (if applicable) and meals.

To apply, send a letter of inquiry with specific information about the event and the audience as well as the lecturer preferred. Executive officers or presidents of associations, or faculty (with chair’s support) in departments may apply to host a lecturer. Submit these materials and any questions to: Michael R. Murphy, Director, Governance and Sections, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, #700, Washington, DC 20005 202-383-9005 x327, Murphy@asanet.org.

Please plan early. Preference will be given to groups who have not previously hosted a lecturer.



Carla Howery



Spotlight on Departments:

A Vehicle for Enrichment: University of Wisconsin-Madison's Undergraduate Concentration in Analysis and Research

by Kyle Anthony Murphy,
ASA Academic and Professional
Affairs Program

With the increasing emphasis on providing undergraduates with professional skills, there is at least one program that can claim to have been offering undergraduates advanced preparation in quantitative research methods and statistics since the 1980s. The undergraduate Concentration in Analysis and Research (CAR) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison provides students who are interested in research methods and statistics with the opportunity to take advanced, often graduate-level, courses in order to prepare themselves for work in applied social research or future graduate studies. In addition to taking courses like Statistics for Sociologists II (Regression Analysis) and III (Intermediate Statistics), Introductory Research Methods, and Computing in the Social Sciences, CAR students participate in an applied social research internship and the Practicum in Research and Analysis on their way to earning 36 sociology credits.

Created in 1982 by Diane Colasanto, then Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of Wisconsin-Madison, the concentration incorporates much of the same curriculum that it did in its early years. There are minimal requirements for entry into the program, and the necessary B average in research methods and introductory statistics is rarely an issue for the students who show interest in or are recommended to the program by their professors or the undergraduate advisor. James Raymo, Associate Professor of Sociology at University of Wisconsin-Madison and the current director of the concentration, explains that maintaining a B average throughout CAR courses is also rarely a problem because the students that enter the concentration are typically not "grade-worried." Instead, he says, most CAR students enter the program during their junior or senior year as a result of a unique aptitude for, interest in, and approach to social questions that can be effectively addressed with data from scientific surveys. "In fact," he mentions, "some of our best students have been natural science majors who made the switch to sociology."

Key Elements of the Program

Elizabeth Thomson, University of Wisconsin-Madison Professor of Sociology and former CAR director explains that the internship and research practicum are of paramount importance. Students are required to spend 15 to 20 hours per week in an internship during the summer or fall and many internships develop into continuous part-time employment. According to Thomson, changes in labor laws in the early 1990s made it more difficult for local research firms to hire low-wage student workers and thus it became necessary and common for the vast majority of students to find internships with one of the several social research projects on campus. The Applied Population Laboratory, the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, and the

University of Wisconsin Survey Center are among the most common places for CAR students to intern. However, given the abundance of research projects at Madison, they are hardly the only options. Students are given the freedom to select their internship as long as they are supervised by a trained social scientist and are given the opportunity for "hands-on" experience working with research data.

Recent CAR graduates Sarah Bernhardt ('05) and Justin Resnick ('05) both interned with the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study and report similar positive experiences. Bernhardt explains, "My tasks included anything from testing the computerized survey instrument to data cleaning, analysis, and transcribing responses." Both Bernhardt and Resnick tie their internship and program experiences to their current employment. Resnick, presently a research assistant at The Urban Institute in Washington, DC, says: "[At work] I have manipulated required data sets, performed analyses, and assisted in writing and dissemination. From the start, I used skills and techniques that I learned in the CAR program." Now a market research associate with Forrester Research in Boston, MA, Bernhardt thinks that her internship and the additional time she spent working for the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study was the most valuable element of her CAR experience.

The required research practicum course offers another opportunity for skill development. Much like a capstone course, the practicum's top priority is overall synthesis through the production of original research. Raymo explains how students' rough edges are polished through careful data preparation and analysis, seminars with writing center staff, and extra time with statistical software like SAS and Stata. The open and varied structure of the course lends itself to a guest instructor format whereby different skills are addressed by experts on campus. Two popular sessions are the résumé development workshop and the discussion and Q&A panel with CAR graduates. According to Raymo, the latter is the most appreciated meeting of the course because students are exposed to professionals whose experiences are very likely to foreshadow their own. Indeed, many CAR graduates have found employment under earlier CAR graduates or with employers that have successfully employed CAR graduates in the past.

CAR has maintained itself by recruiting motivated and committed students to participate in a program that provides rigorous training and hands-on experience to produce undergraduates who are exceptionally well prepared for graduate school and for careers in applied research settings.

Longevity by Design

A CAR graduate panel provides a connection to the program for CAR alumni. The cooperative community that supports past and present CAR students is also maintained through a mailing list where relevant job openings and information are posted. This network is but one of several crucial components of this program's long-term success.

In addition, a great deal of initial work was required to lay the foundation for student internships with local researchers in the public and private sector.

According to former director Thomson, during the program's creation, Colasanto devoted much time to cultivating relationships with researchers who would make good mentors for undergraduate students. By design, the program availed itself of access to

research centers on campus as well as graduate-level courses. Finally, CAR has maintained itself by recruiting motivated and committed students to participate in a program that provides rigorous training and hands-on experience to produce undergraduates who are exceptionally well prepared for graduate school and for careers in applied research settings.

For more information about the Concentration in Analysis and Research, contact James Raymo, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Madison, WI 53706, (608) 262-2783, e-mail: jraymo@ssc.wisc.edu. ☪

How to Request Meeting Space for Other Activities

102nd ASA Annual Meeting | New York City, August 11–14, 2007

The ASA provides two services for individuals or groups desiring to use meeting space at the Annual Meeting. ASA Council policies on the use of such space are outlined below. Because ASA Sections have been allotted program time, they are excluded from these provisions.

Meeting Space

Groups wishing to meet in conjunction with the 2007 Annual Meeting may request space by sending a formal letter of request with signature (*e-mail messages or files are not acceptable*) to ASA Meeting Services by March 1, 2007. Rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, one meeting per group. In the event that space exceeds demand, requests for a second meeting will be considered. Please note that space requested after the March 1 deadline cannot be assured.

Space requests are categorized as follows:

1. Small groups sponsored by ASA members requesting space for the purpose of conducting sessions focused on a special aspect of sociology will be allocated one time slot from 6:30-8:15 PM on the first or third evening (Saturday, August 11, or Monday, August 13). The topic to be discussed should be clearly stated in the request, along with an estimate of the size of the group expected to attend the session.
2. Groups or organizations wishing to gather for other meetings such

as those of a religious, political, or special interest nature are required to submit a petition containing the signatures of ten ASA members who support the request. These groups will be assigned one meeting room from 8:00-10:00 PM on the second night of the meeting (Sunday, August 12). If the number of requests exceeds the available space on August 12, groups will be assigned to the 6:30 PM time slot on August 11 or 13.

3. Those groups or organizations wishing to hold receptions, dinners, or other social gatherings should also submit requests for space by the March 1 deadline. Space availability is normally limited to 6:30-8:15 PM on August 11 or 13, and to 8:00-10:00 PM on August 12.

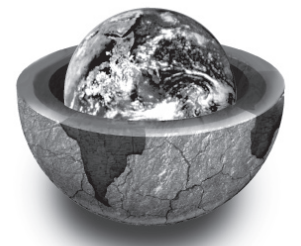
An announcement of each meeting will be included in the "Activities of Other Groups" listing and in the body of the program schedule. These listings will include the name of the group or title/topic of the session, name of organizer/sponsor, if appropriate, and date and time of the meeting. Room assignments are printed in the *Final Program* only.

Table Space

ASA members may apply for table space to display literature about related non-profit organizations or sociologically pertinent projects. Available space is assigned without charge on a first-come, first-served basis. ASA Sections are excluded from these provisions because two general display tables are provided

for sections in the ASA registration area; requests from individual sections for tables cannot be considered.

Due to the number of requests and the limited space available for displays, two parties are usually assigned to each table. There are no general storage facilities beyond the space beneath each table, so each party is solely responsible for the security of its display materials. Policies on use of table space are that (1) nothing may be sold and (2) nothing of an offensive nature may be displayed.



Deadline

Formal letters of request—not email messages—for meeting space and/or table space must be postmarked no later than **March 1, 2007**. Letters should be printed on the official stationery of the sponsoring organization or member's institution and must include sender's signature.

All letters requesting meeting space should identify the nature of the meeting, the number of people expected to attend, desired room setup or other physical space needs, and the scheduling preference of the group within the parameters given above.

Send space requests to: Janet Astner, ASA Meeting Services, 1307 New York Ave., NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-4701, USA; (202) 638-0882 fax. ☪

Council on Contemporary Families Disseminates Nonpartisan Knowledge

by Karina Havrilla,
ASA Minority Affairs Program

Sociologist Barbara Risman, University of Illinois-Chicago, is the newly elected Executive Officer of the Council on Contemporary Families (CCF), a non-profit dedicated to addressing issues facing today's American families. Risman, former co-chair since 2001, is an accomplished leader in the discipline. She is the author of *Gender Vertigo* (Yale 1998), a frequent contributor to the leading journals in the field, and editor (or co-editor) of numerous journals, collections, and anthologies. She has served as President of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) and on the ASA Program Committee and Council.

The organization, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in May 2007, is comprised of family researchers and practitioners that seek to further a national understanding of how American families are changing and what is known about the strengths and weaknesses of different family forms and various family interventions. It was started by social scientists from San Francisco who were frustrated with the information being disseminated by certain political groups regarding family research, which did not reflect the research being published in academic journals, explained Risman. The Council, a non-partisan organization, was started to give the public more accurate information about the condition

of America's families through the use of scientific and clinical expertise to support the diversity of American families. Under Risman's leadership, the CCF recently moved from Manhattan to Chicago.

Work and Family in the Spotlight

Risman said that the primary mission of the CCF then and now is "to look at how people in today's world think about family by creating an organization in which social scientists and practitioners work together to provide the press and public with accurate information about families and relationships. We see no need to battle with ideologies; rather we present information in the form of press releases, briefings, and conferences." Over the past decade, the organization has worked hard to complete its mission, issuing press releases and holding symposiums highlighting topics such as divorce, family leave policies, marriage, welfare, same-sex marriage, and, most recently, work and family.

In October, the Council on Contemporary Families, in conjunction with the Family Initiative at Michigan State University and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois-Chicago, hosted a symposium, titled "Who Cares? Dilemmas of Work and Family in the 21st Century." The symposium brought together social science experts to address issues of work-family conflict and the social and personal dilemmas it has created.

More than 200 people attended the one-day "Work and Family" symposium. Each of the three sessions included three academic presentations, followed by two journalists' reflections. The October 2006 symposium organizers, Kathleen Gerson (New York University) and Janet Gornick (CUNY), felt the timing was appropriate since work and family is an issue of increasing importance. According to Gornick, "More women are in the labor force, and the percentage of employed parents has increased, yet work hours haven't declined," both in single- and dual-parent households. She also noted that the issues of work and family have not yet gained strength in the U.S. public policy realm, so the problems have not been well addressed.

Gerson commented that encouraging a greater national dialogue about work and family issues was important because it not only allowed both journalists and social science experts to receive feedback from one another, but also gave social scientists an idea of how to present journalists with the latest research. The symposium gave journalists a resource to find accurate information and the skills to "sort through the sometimes conflicting views of experts."




Barbara Risman

The Ten-Year Anniversary

Symposiums such as these are what Risman considers one of the best ways to do public sociology because they are "combining a group of academics with journalists, thus creating a relationship that is in the best interest for both as it gets out the latest information to the public." This devotion to public sociology will continue with the CCF's 10th annual conference.

Under the leadership of Risman, CCF co-chair Steven Minz (University of Houston), and newly elected co-chair Waldo Johnson, the CCF is preparing for its 10th anniversary conference to be held May 4-5, 2007, at the University of Chicago. This gala celebration, titled "What Works for Today's Families? And What Doesn't? A Decade of Research, Practice, and Dialogue," will feature Al Franken. This two-day conference will feature cutting-edge research and best-practice findings on family issues such as promoting healthy relationships and responsible

fatherhood, helping at-risk youth, and providing social services and counseling to families under extreme stress. It also offers hands-on training sessions on interpreting social science findings, writing newspaper op-eds, translating research and clinical experience into trade books, and improving communication between family experts and journalists. For more information, see <www.contemporaryfamilies.org>. 

Weber's 1904 Visit to the United States

by Diego de los Rios, ASA Governance Office

Although he died more than 80 years ago, Max Weber's list of contributions to sociology continues to grow. The latest addition to the list comes from Appalachian State University where professors Larry Keeter and Steve Hall have produced a video that records their project to document Weber's visit to Mount Airy, NC, in 1904 after his well-documented visit to the World's Fair in St. Louis, MO. It was his visit to Mount Airy that started the rumor that Weber was a German spy. The full story was featured in an August 1980 issue of *Footnotes*.

Although Keeter's work began three decades ago, it was not until 2004 that Keeter and Hall released a video.

This video not only serves as documentation of Weber's visit to his relatives in rural North Carolina, but it also serves as a source of inspiration and ideas for sociologists around the country who might be thinking about starting a similar research project with their students.

Through some serious detective work, Keeter and Hall were able to find Weber's relatives and then interview them. While the quality of the video is not ideal, it is important to recognize that the interviews were conducted in 1976. At the time that the video was produced, Maggie Fallenstein and Annie Miller Booker, both daughters of Weber's second cousin, were the only surviving relatives who were present at the time of Weber's visit. They were 11 and 10 years old, respectively.


Uncle Max's visit was, as one would

expect, quite an event in the small town of early 20th century Mount Airy. Memories of the event are still vivid to these two now-elderly women. These two women narrate what they remember from Weber's visit. One amusing fact is that one of the things they most clearly remember is Weber's peculiar outfit, especially his "knicker-type pants that bloused out over heavy socks up to his knees."

Although the interviews with Fallenstein and Booker provide peculiar information on how the events took place, the value of the video is the fact that it

also tells us how this information was obtained. The video includes translations of Marianne Weber's biography of her husband and the process that was

taken to find the genealogy of Weber's relatives in Mount Airy, NC, including the way in which the spelling of their last names changed. The research was inspired and sustained over more than 20 years by student interest and effort both in the classroom and on treks to urban centers in the United States and Europe sponsored by these teachers. With dedication and hard work from Keeter, Hall, and their students, the project became a reality.

For those interested in using this video in their courses, or simply viewing for fun, contact Keeter and Hall. Most of the video is also available from the *Sociation Today* website, which also features a review of the video by Michael Wise. To stream the video and contact information, see <www.ncsociology.org/sociationtoday/v42/wise.htm>. 

Iraq, from page 4

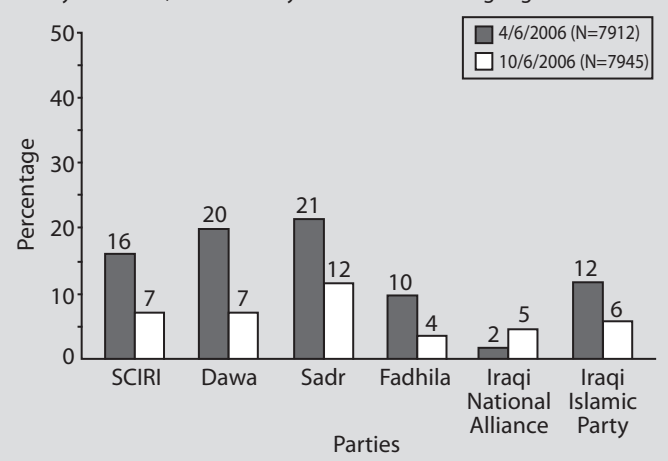
declined significantly between the two surveys. It is noteworthy that the only political party that experienced an increase in the very favorable rating was the secular Iraqi National Alliance. Although very small, the change nonetheless is consistent with the trend among Iraqis toward secularism (Figure 2).


To appreciate the significance of the attitudinal changes displayed by Iraqis since 2004, we compare adherence to national identity in the capitals of several Middle Eastern countries. In the Baghdad province, those describing themselves as "Iraqis, above all" jumped from 30% to 60% between 2004 and 2006 surveys. Attachment to national identity in 2001, for Cairo, Egypt, was 11%; for Amman, Jordan, 12%; for Rabat, Morocco, 34%; and in 2003 for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 17%. The only comparable case is for Tehran, Iran, where those who described themselves as "Iranians, above all" jumped from 38% in 2000 to 59% in 2005.

From these figures, it appears that Iraqis are showing greater attachments to national identity and secular politics than they did more than two years ago. These are the basic traits of a modern political order. Among Sunnis, the decline in support for an Islamic state is most dramatic, and may have significant ramifications for the influence of

Figure 2. Percentage of Responders Giving "Very Favorable" Rating to Religious and Political Parties

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being very unfavorable and 10 being very favorable, how would you rate the following organizations?



religious extremists to recruit among them. While Iraqis remain angry about the violence in their country, they maintain their sense of national identity. At the same time, they appear to be holding onto important democratic values. Whether these can be translated into a peaceful reality remains the difficult challenge. Nonetheless, if the Iraqi government succeeds in national reconciliation and manages to establish security, there is a significantly higher likelihood for the emergence and solidification of secular-national politics than an Islamic government in Iraq. 

Mansoor Moaddel is a professor of sociology at Eastern Michigan University and a research affiliate at the Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

New Staff Join ASA

Kyle Murphy joined the ASA as the new Academic and Professional Affairs Program Assistant on September 5. Kyle has a BA from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA, where he



majored in sociology and philosophy and minored in African/African-American Studies. He feels privileged to have worked with exceptional teachers, scholars, and friends during his time in Harrisonburg. Before joining the ASA, he managed an organic farm and permaculture site in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and later moved to Washington, DC, to work with DC and Baltimore youth as both a director of an outdoor mentoring program and as a teacher in an environmental education program.

Kyle is currently studying gentrification in DC as well as pursuing his commitment to sustainable living and activism. Kyle has an impossible number of interests but is currently focused on racing his bicycle during the winter cyclocross season. He delights his coworkers by bringing his sometimes wet and dirty bicycle into the office day after day.

Diego de los Rios was born and raised in Colombia. He moved to the United States with his family when he was 18 years old and has been living in Baltimore since.



Diego recently graduated magna cum laude from McDaniel College with a BA in sociology, psychology, and religious studies. During his tenure at McDaniel, Diego was an active member of the stu-

dent body, having served as a Resident Assistant for two years, president of the International Club, vice-president of the Hispano-Latino Alliance, and student representative on the Campus Technology Committee. He also served as a technology tutor and as a teaching assistant for two English classes.

Outside of school, Diego enjoys traveling—most recently to Thailand, India, and Colombia. For his senior thesis, Diego combined his passion for sociology and religion and wrote about the Sai Baba movement as a social network. To conduct his research, Diego was granted a travel award from the college to return to Colombia and do some investigating. Upon completion of his paper, Diego's research was highlighted on the McDaniel College website. With school completed, Diego hopes to travel to Spain and Mexico. In a few years, he plans on going to graduate school to study social development and Latin America.

Nicole Van

Vooren joined the Research and Development Department team full time in August 2006. She was born and raised in New Jersey and graduated summa cum laude from



Rider University with a BA in sociology and elementary education. In pursuit of her master's degree in sociology, Nicole moved to Washington, DC, in 2004 to attend American University where she worked as a teaching assistant. She graduated in 2006 after completing research for her thesis on coffee consumers at independently owned coffee shops and Starbucks. Her primary interests within the field include global issues and popular culture studies. In her free time she enjoys exploring the city and volunteering and is eager to travel to Europe in the near future. ☺

ASR, from page 5

impressed by the quality and breadth of research in our field. No single method or approach currently available or on the horizon is likely to fully encompass the complexity of social life. But our studies are rapidly becoming richer and more sophisticated by using a range of methods, samples, and comparisons, shedding light on many fascinating and important aspects of our social world. Our discipline's embrace of diverse approaches to analyzing social life leaves me optimistic about sociology's ability to illuminate our ever-changing social world. ☺

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Suggestions for Encouraging a Satisfying Conference

In response to Dean Harper's Public Forum article, "How *Not* to Make a Presentation" (*Footnotes*, December 2006, p. 11), I suspect that most of us have at least occasionally been among the guilty in presenting too much, too fast, in too little time—in patiently hoping that speakers would stop talking soon so that we won't have to rudely tear them from the podium—and in having too much information in a table or diagram. I even suspect that I am not alone in having spent time in a hotel room rather than in a session, trying to shorten my paper. Two fundamental factors, if changed, could reshape what it means to attend a conference.

First, a primary impediment to running a conference with a focus on *exchanging* ideas and *thinking* through the challenges in our work is the way that conference travel is funded. Most universities and granting agencies fund a researcher's travel *if* he or she is "on the program" with the greatest spoils going to "presenters." Yet, we all know that being on the program is not a predictor of how much we either learn or impart at a conference because there is so little time in most sessions for actual exchange. Why? Because most organizations realize that, in order to get funding to attend their conference, potential attendees need to be on the program. This knowledge becomes an incentive to include as many people in as many sessions as possible. This creates the additional problem of limiting the number of people who can actually attend a session and the possibility of the "collective" dialogue that comes from being in the

same room with others, thinking about the same ideas, even if one says nothing. Listening can be a remarkably effective way of learning something that will improve one's research and scholarship.

Second, another impediment that is more specific to ASA is the requirement that potential presenters submit completed papers for open submission sessions. Writing a full paper demands a logic and approach that is often the antithesis of a good presentation. Two or three good "talking points" do not begin with a thorough literature review, a detailed discussion of a conceptual framework and analytical approach, the presentation of findings or elegant argument, and a conclusion that wraps up findings or a well-developed conceptual idea. It is impossible to present a full paper in a 10- to 15-minute presentation. Yet, when a completed paper is the starting point of a presentation, there is a common tendency to preserve as much of that paper as possible.

If we want to have time to talk with each other and to encourage presentations that deal with a manageable amount of information, I suggest that ASA get rid of the completed paper submission process. I also suggest that we lobby to change travel funding priorities to include hearing what others have to say, talking with people about shared research interests, meeting potential employers and employees, and exchanging ideas, as legitimate reasons for attending a conference.

Ingrid Arnet Connidis, University of Western Ontario

Howery, from page 8

infuse quantitative data analysis across the undergraduate sociology curriculum. "Both of these illustrate how her focus is upon all parts of our craft (i.e., teaching, research, public service) and how the structure of the academy can be changed to enhance our field," said Kain.

As ASA staff, Carla has helped organize, and has served on, a number of key teaching-related task forces. "These resulted in important documents that can be used by departments in strengthening their programs," said Kain, providing three examples: the first and second editions of *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Major*, and the new document on the role played by sociology in general education, due early next year.

Carla's influence on the field is clearly one of strengthening the status of teaching and establishing long term structures that will help maintain its continuing contribution to sociological research and practice and society. "Throughout all of this, Carla does her work with remarkable insight, unending energy, and a humor that energizes us all," said Kain, expressing a sentiment shared by all Carla's ASA office colleagues.

Editor's Note: After 25 years of loyal service to the ASA, Carla recently announced her upcoming departure this spring, but her contributions to sociology and the ASA are lasting and her spirit enduring. ☺

Nominations Being Accepted for 2007 Section Awards!

ASA sections honor work in their specialty areas through awards made to articles, books, dissertations, career achievements, and other special contributions. Listed on the ASA website are the sections offering information on awards for which nominations are sought. Awards will be presented at the 2007 ASA Annual Meeting in New York City. Please consider nominating colleagues and students whose contributions should have the special visibility accorded by a section award.

To see the complete list of awards go to <www.asanet.org> and click on the sections link located on the left. Under "Section Information" you will find a link to the "Call for Award Nominations (2007)."



Correction

In the December 2006 article, "New ASA-NSF Awardees," Isaac Martin's institutional affiliation was incorrectly cited. His correct affiliation is the University of California-San Diego.

Call for Papers

Meetings

4th Annual Graduate Student Ethnography Conference, March 2, 2007, Stony Brook University. We invite graduate students to submit abstracts of ethnographic research for the conference with the following three panels: Intersectionality, The Body and Performance, and Political Ethnography. Each panel will have invited senior scholar discussants. Submit abstracts by January 24 to SB_Ethnography2007@hotmail.com. Contact: Lajoseph@notes.cc.sunysb.edu for more information.

Confronting Fundamental Problems in Society and Sociology, August 10, 2007, New York City. The Sociological Imagination Group seeks papers for a two-day conference the day before the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. We are a group of sociologists and other scholars who have been working together over the past seven years to advance C. Wright Mills' vision as expressed in *The Sociological Imagination*. We seek to overcome the tower-of-Babel specialization of ASA's 44 sections and to promote a social science that integrates the knowledge within those sections so that we can address the full complexity of human behavior. Potential participants who are interested in presenting their work should submit a 2-page abstract in the body of an email to Bernard Phillips at bernieflps@aol.com no later than March 1. For more information visit <www.uab.edu/philosophy/sig>.

Critical Themes in Media Studies 7th Annual Graduate Student Conference, April 21, 2007, The New School. The Media Studies Conference is an entirely student-run program and covers diverse themes from globalization, televisuality, cyberspace and popular culture to political economy, media/social theory, film, philosophy and beyond. All themes are open for consideration. The deadline for submitting abstracts is February 16, 2007; papers will be due no later than March 9, 2007. For further information, visit <www.criticalthemes.com>. Contact: mediaconference2007@gmail.com or Marianna Mott Newirth, Communications Officer, at mmm104@gmail.com.

Ethnographies without Texts: A Student Workshop in Ethnographic Non-fiction

tion Film and Video, April 27-28, 2007, Film Study Center Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Ethnographies Without Texts (EWT) is a two-day workshop for graduate students working in non-fiction film and video. The workshop aims to benefit students currently preparing new work, by providing the opportunity to participate in scholarly and artistic exchange and critique with a selected group of other student practitioners, faculty, and filmmakers, from programs across the United States and abroad. EWT is currently accepting submissions that are at a stage of editing in which critical feedback will be useful toward the completion of the project. Submissions should include a cover sheet, a one-page project description including location and objectives of the fieldwork upon which the project is based, and two copies of the media project on MiniDV or DVD format, along with any cueing instructions. The selection committee will view no more than 30 minutes of work per applicant. Deadline: February 1, 2007. Contact: Ethnographies Without Texts, c/o Media Anthropology Lab, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, 11 Divinity Ave., PM 5th floor, Cambridge, MA 02138; email ewt@fas.harvard.edu.

Special Conference of the Research Committee 30 of the International Sociological Association, August 28-30, 2007—Téluq-Uqam, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Special conference of the Research Committee 30 of the International Sociological Association in conjunction with the Annual Conference of the Association d'économie politique. The conference is on labor, work, gender, innovation and technological change, new forms of work organization, and changes in work and socio-economic security. We invite proposals for different types of presentations, including paper presentations, poster presentations, and panel presentations. Academic, labor, and community-based researchers are invited to submit proposals for either a conference presentation (proposals to deliver a poster presentation are also welcome) or panel discussion (proposing a panel of two, three, or four speakers) on a topic. Contact: Diane-Gabrielle Tremblay, Télé-université, UQAM, 100 Sherbrooke oust, Montréal, Québec, Canada H2X 3P2; dgtrembl@teluq.uqam.ca. Deadline: January 30, 2007.

Publications

Humanity & Society's Special Issue is dedicated to the exploration of connections between the oppression of animals and broader issues of social injustice. This special issue, titled "Social Justice and the Animal Question," will frame debates about animals and their centrality to broader issues of power and oppression. A range of papers that thoughtfully examine the moral landscape of human-animal relations is encouraged. Manuscripts should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages of text,

plus notes and references, and should follow the "Notice to Contributors" guidelines supplied at <www.humanist-sociology.org>. Authors should include both an abstract and a Reflexive Statement explaining his or her commitment to and personal involvement in efforts to alleviate the form of injustice addressed in the manuscript. Articles using a conventional scholarly format as well as personal essays and policy "think" pieces are welcome. Papers should be submitted via email to Ann Goetting, the Executive Editor, at humanityandsociety@wku.edu. Identify submissions with the subject: Animals. Contact: Leslie Irvine at irvinel@colorado.edu. Deadline: July 1, 2007.

Humanity & Society is requesting submissions for future issues. *Humanity & Society* is the official peer-reviewed journal of the Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS). It seeks original research on and critical analyses of social-structural-level dynamics affecting justice and equality. Subject areas include race, class, and gender inequality; war, peace, and international relations; colonialism; political sociology and political economy; organizational analysis; social theory; social change; social movements and backlash; and humanism and human rights. Articles may be theoretical and/or speculative, critical essays, or analyses of data utilizing various qualitative and quantitative research strategies. Theoretical orientations may be eclectic, Marxist, feminist, critical theory, symbolic interaction and humanist sociology (designed to contribute to a more humane egalitarian society). *Humanity & Society* is particularly interested in publishing the work of scholars. For directions on submission, review the "Notice to Contributors," located on the AHS website: <www.humanistsociology.org>. Contact: Ann Goetting at humanityandsociety@wku.edu.

The Journal of Applied Social Science, the official, peer-refereed journal of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS), is requesting submissions for future issues. We publish original research articles, essays, research reports, teaching notes, and book reviews on a wide range of topics of interest to the sociological practitioner. All submissions are processed electronically. Send an email attachment of your manuscript in a word-processed format file, an abstract of no more than 150 words, and a brief biographical statement. Tables and figures must be camera-ready. Submissions for the winter issue will be accepted through August 15 and through February 15 for the spring issue. Submissions should be accompanied by a processing fee of \$15 sent via postal mail (this fee is waived for members of AACS). Contact: Jay Weinstein, Editor, *Journal of Applied Social Science*, Department of Sociology, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197; email jay.weinstein@emich.edu; <www.aacsnet.org>.

Meetings

January 25-27, 2007. First North American Conference on the Study of Radicalism, Michigan State University's Kellogg Conference Center. Theme: "Global Radicalisms: Beyond Left and Right?" The conference is associated with a new print journal from MSU Press: *Journal for the Study of Radicalism*, whose website is <www.msu.edu/~jsr>.

March 16-18, 2007. Workshop on Surveillance & Inequality, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, will bring together a multidisciplinary and international array of scholars studying the social implications of contemporary surveillance with a particular interest in questions of the public sphere, equality, civil liberties, privacy, and fairness. Contact: workshop@publicsurveillance.com; <www.publicsurveillance.com/workshop.html>.

March 26-30, June 11-15, August 6-10, 2007. Workshops in Quasi-Experimental Design and Analysis in Education. These workshops are designed to complement the current interest in randomized experiments in education by simultaneously seeking to improve the quality of the quasi-experiments that are needed when random assignment is not feasible or breaks down. The deadline for applications for the March workshop is January 25; for the June workshop is March 15; and for the July workshop is May 15. Contact: Karen Burke, Institute for Policy Research, 2040 Sheridan Road, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208; <www.northwestern.edu/ipr/events/workshops/qeworkshop.html>.

March 30-31, 2007. Community Building and Identity Formation in the African Diaspora, the African American Studies Program and the African Studies Center, Boston University. This multi-disciplinary conference is on the comparative study of community building and identity formation in the African Diaspora in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean regions. Contact: Christine Loken-Kim, Program Administrator, African American Studies, Boston University, 138 Mountfort St., Brookline, MA 02446; email lokenkim@bu.edu.

April 4-7, 2007. The Midwest Sociological Society and the North Central Sociological Association Joint Annual Meetings and Conference, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL. Theme: "Social Policy, Social Ideology, and Social Change." Contact: Lauren Tiffany at (608)787-8551; MidwestSS@centurytel.net; <www.themss.org/meetings.html>.

April 12-14, 2007. The British Sociological Association Annual Conference 2007. University of East London. Theme: "Social Connections: Identities, Technologies, and Relationships." Contact: BSAConference@britsoc.org.uk; <www.britsoc.co.uk/events/Conference>.

April 18-21, 2007. The White Privilege Conference, 8th Annual Conference, Colorado Springs, CO. Theme: "The Matrix: Examining Intersections, Making Connections and Building Allies." For details, visit <www.uccs.edu/wpc>.

May 3-5, 2007. Northwestern University Workshop on Sociology of Taxation. A one-day graduate workshop held in conjunction with a conference on the sociology of taxation. For more information about the two-day conference or the one-day workshop, see the website at <www.cics.northwestern.edu/GPCHS_Conference.html>.

May 25-27, 2007. International Sociological Association, Research Committee 04, Sociology of Education Mid-term Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus. Theme: "New Directions in Sociology of Education." For more information, visit <www.isa-rc04conf2007.com>.

May 30-June 2, 2007. 6th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences, Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, Honolulu, HI. Submission Deadline: January 24, 2007. For more information, visit <www.hicsocial.org>. Contact: social@hicsocial.org.

June 3-5, 2007. Academy Health 2007 Annual Research Meeting, Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotels, Orlando, FL. Visit <www.academyhealth.org/arm> for more information.

MSS/NCSA Workshop on

Quantitative Literacy

Start off the Midwest/North Central Sociological Association (MSS/NCSA) joint meeting with a bang by registering for a pre-conference workshop on "Models of Quantitative Literacy Across the Sociology Curriculum." The workshop is scheduled from 12:30-4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 4, 2007, in Chicago. After a break from 4:00-4:30 PM, there will be a panel on "Quantitative Literacy: Mathematicians, Statisticians, and Sociologists Share What Works," followed by a reception.

This workshop and other sessions and workshops during the MSS/NCSA are a joint venture of the National Numeracy Network (NNN), the Mathematics Association of America's Special Interest Group in Quantitative Literacy (SIGMAA QL) and the American Sociological Association (ASA). These groups are collaborating to enhance the teaching of quantitative literacy skills to students across the curriculum, in general education courses and within the sociology major.

The workshop registration fee is \$25 for the first individual from a department, and \$10 for each additional registrant from the same department. Advance registration is required. Send a check payable to ASA to: Academic and Professional Affairs, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, #700, Washington, DC 20005.

MSS NCSA

ASA Honors Program Call for Nominations

ASA seeks applications from exceptional undergraduate sociology students who wish to be considered for the 2007 ASA Honors Program, an experience in professional socialization at the **ASA Annual Meeting, August 10-14, 2007, in New York**. Honors Program students come to the Annual Meeting and experience a laboratory on the profession. They participate actively including special sessions designed just for them, and develop valuable networks with their peers as well as meet prominent professionals in the discipline. Taking part in the ASA Honors Program provides a significant and meaningful early experience in the careers of the next generation of sociologists.

Participation in the Honors Program requires nomination and later, sponsorship, by a sociology faculty member at your college or university. Interested students and prospective faculty sponsors are encouraged to consult the ASA website at <www.asanet.org> (click on "Students") for additional information and an application form. Questions? Contact Dennis M. Rome, Director, ASA Honors Program (dennis.rome@uwp.edu). **Applications must be postmarked by Monday, February 26, 2007.**



June 22-24, 2007. *Geography and the Humanities Symposium*, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. For more information visit <www.aag.org/humanities>.

July 9-26, 2007. *Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives and Participation*, Criminal Justice Research Center, Ohio State University. For more information and to download an application, see our website <cjr.osu.edu/summerinstitute>. Contact: cjrinstiute@osu.edu.

August 10, 2007. *Miniconference on the Future of Consumer Studies*, by the Consumer Studies Research Network, Barnard College, New York. For more information, visit <www.wilson.edu/csrn>.

March 12-14, 2008. *International Symposium—A Changing Cuba in a Changing World*, Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies, The Graduate Center—City University of New York. This international, inter-disciplinary forum will probe changes currently underway in economics, politics and policy models, civil society, art and literature, race relations, national identity and culture, as well as Cuba's role in world affairs. Contact: Cuba Project, The Bildner Center, 365 Fifth Ave, New York, NY 10016-4309 or via email to cubaproject@gc.cuny.edu or via fax to (212) 817-1540. For more information, visit <www.bildner.org> and <www.procuba.org>.

Funding

The Advertising Educational Foundation invites you to apply to the Visiting Professor Program (VPP). Deadline: February 16, 2007. The VPP is a highly competitive, two-week fellowship for professors of advertising, marketing, communications, and the liberal arts. Whether a professor is placed with an agency, a marketing, or media company depends on his/her area of expertise. Preference is given to professors with little or no industry experience and to those who have not already participated in the program. The objective is to expose professors to the day-to-day operations of an advertising agency, marketing, or media company, and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between academia and industry. The Program is only offered to professors teaching in the United States. For an application, visit <www.aef.com>. Contact: Sharon Hudson, (212) 986-8060 x15; email: sh@aef.com.

The Behavioral Science Training in Drug Abuse Program currently has openings for three Postdoctoral Fellows. Fellows will develop knowledge and skills in the areas of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS research through formal training and hands-on research experience at one of the nation's largest non-profit research institutes funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and affiliated with Columbia University in New York City. Stipends range from \$20,772 for predocs and \$36,996 to \$51,036 for postdocs, depending upon years of experience. See

<www.ndri.org> for details and application requirements.

The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) announces a call for proposals for a new program of academic policy research conferences. This new program replaces the Research Fellowship Program and encourages and supports academic research on pressing policy issues. The aim of this program is to support a series of transatlantic research-driven conferences of scholars and policymakers working on policy areas that will change on a yearly basis. This year, GMF will consider proposals in three areas: the rise of China as a transatlantic issue, energy security, and economic policy. GMF will award six grantees up to \$25,000 for conferences to be held in the 2007-08 academic year. American and European university-based scholars from any discipline may apply. Preference will be given to those proposals with a comparative and interdisciplinary approach. Proposals will be evaluated on their intellectual merits, transatlantic cooperation, engagement with the policy community, and potential policy impact through publications or other means. Deadline: March 1. Contact: Oliver Mains, German Marshall Fund of the United States, 1744 R St. NW, Washington, DC 20009. Further details may be found at <www.gmfus.org/template/page.cfm?page_id=242>.

Stiftung Deutsch Amerikanische Wissenschaftsbeziehungen (SDAW/Foundation German-American Academic Relations) is prepared to fund research groups composed of German and North American

scholars, and, where appropriate, other European scholars, who propose to explore topics of particular interest for the transatlantic relationship, focusing on international or domestic and comparative issues and/or opening up new methodological approaches. For more information, visit <www.stifterverband.de/pdf/sdaw_call_for_proposals_2007.pdf>. Deadline: March 31, 2007.

school districts, or educational policy. The awardee should be a member of AERA during the year in which the award is given, and he or she will be honored at the AERA Annual Meeting. Deadline: February 28, 2007. For each nomination, send a letter identifying the person and the reasons the scholar is worthy of this award. Contact: Daniel A. McFarland at mcfarland@stanford.edu.

Competitions

Fifth Norbert Elias Prize will be awarded in 2007. The Prize consists of €1,000 and it will be awarded to a significant first major book published between January 1, 2005, and December 31, 2006. The Prize is awarded in commemoration of the sociologist Norbert Elias (1897-1990), whose writings, at once theoretical and empirical, boldly crossed disciplinary boundaries in the social sciences to develop a long-term perspective on the patterns of interdependence. This does not mean, however, that the prize-winning book will necessarily be directly inspired by Elias's own work. Nominations for the prize should be sent to Saskia Visser, Secretary to the Norbert Elias Foundation, J.J. Viottastraat 13, 1071 JM Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Deadline: March 31, 2007.

The International Center for Qualitative Inquiry announces the second annual Illinois Qualitative Dissertation Award, for excellence in qualitative research in a doctoral dissertation. Eligible dissertations will use and advance qualitative methods to investigate any topic. There are two award categories, traditional (Category A), and experimental (Category B). Submissions in both categories address social justice issues. Submissions in Category A use traditional qualitative research and writing forms, while Category B submissions experiment with traditional writing and representational forms. An award of \$250 plus a book credit of \$150, courtesy of Sage Publications, will be given to each winner. All doctoral candidates are eligible, provided they have successfully defended their proposals prior to January 1, 2007, and will defend their final dissertation by April 1, 2007. Receiving or being considered for other awards does not preclude a student from applying for this award. Deadline: February 1, 2007. For further information, visit <www.qi2007.org> or <www.c4qi.org/award.html>. Contact: Norman Denzin at dissertationaward@qi2007.org.

The Lewis A. Coser Award for Theoretical Agenda-Setting recognizes a mid-career sociologist whose work holds great promise for setting the agenda in the field of sociology. While the award winner need not be a theorist, his or her work must exemplify the sociological ideals Coser represented. Eligible candidates do work that is of crucial importance to sociology. They must have received a PhD no less than five and no more than twenty years before their candidacy. Nomination letters should make a substantive case for the nominee's selection and should discuss the nominee's work and his or her anticipated future trajectory. No self-nominations. After nomination, the Committee will solicit additional information from nominees and others for those candidates they consider appropriate for consideration. Submission Deadline: March 1, 2007. Send nominations to: Andrew Perrin, Chair, Lewis A. Coser Award, Department of Sociology, CB#3210 Hamilton Hall, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3210; (919) 962 6876; coser_nomination@perrin.socsci.unc.edu.

The Sociology of Education Special Interest Group at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) invites nominations (including self-nominations) for the Elizabeth G. Cohen Applied Research in Sociology of Education Award. The award is given once every two years to a sociologist or someone in a related field whose body of research has focused on the improvement of schools,

In the News

Algernon Austin, Thora Institute, LLC, wrote an op-ed with **Jared Bernstein** for the November 8 *Baltimore Sun* on the misconception of black culture.

Robert N. Bellah, University of California-Berkeley, was featured in the December 1, 2006, *Chronicle of Higher Education* because Duke University Press is honoring his 80th birthday by publishing *The Robert Bellah Reader* with selected works on the evolution of civil religion in the United States.

Suzanne Bianchi, University of Maryland-College Park, had her research on trends in Americans' social networks and family, which was part of the Rose Series publication *Changing Rhythms of American Family Life*, featured in a November 7, 2006, *New York Times* op-ed by Stephanie Coontz. Her research was also mentioned, along with colleagues **Melissa A. Milkie** and **John P. Robinson** in an October 22 article in the *Washington Post* by Marie Cocco.

Diane R. Brown, University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, was quoted in an October 25 *Star-Ledger* article on racial disparities in health plans.


Karen A. Cerulo, Rutgers University, has done a number of 30- and 60-minute interviews on both commercial and public radio stations in Columbia, MO, Minneapolis, MN, Nevada City, CA, New Brunswick, NJ, Phoenix, AZ, Philadelphia, PA, Plainfield, VT, Salt Lake City, UT, Santa Barbara, CA, and Santa Cruz, CA. She has also done two syndicated programs, one with Richard Baker and another with Bruce Wadzeck. The interviews focus on her new book *Never Saw It Coming: Cultural Challenges to Envisioning the Worst*.

Dalton Conley, New York University, was quoted in the November 14, 2006, *Washington Post* about persisting disparities in income and education among racial/ethnic groups within the United States, according to new data released by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Peter Dreier, Occidental College, authored an article, in the *Los Angeles Business Journal* on November 27 analyzing the results of two housing bond measures on the November 7 ballot. His article in *American Prospect* magazine on November 10 examined the results of successful ballot initiatives in six states to raise the minimum wage. He had an article appear on the *TomPaine.com* on November 27. He was interviewed about his research on widening economic segregation within American metro areas in *Los Angeles Magazine* in October and he was quoted in an October 27, 2006, story in the *Los Angeles Times* about the death of labor leader Miguel Contreras and in a November 2, 2006, *Los Angeles Times* story about the role of business groups and labor unions in campaigns for statewide public works bonds. He was also quoted in a cover story in the December 2006 issue of *Los Angeles Magazine* about LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's first 18 months in office.

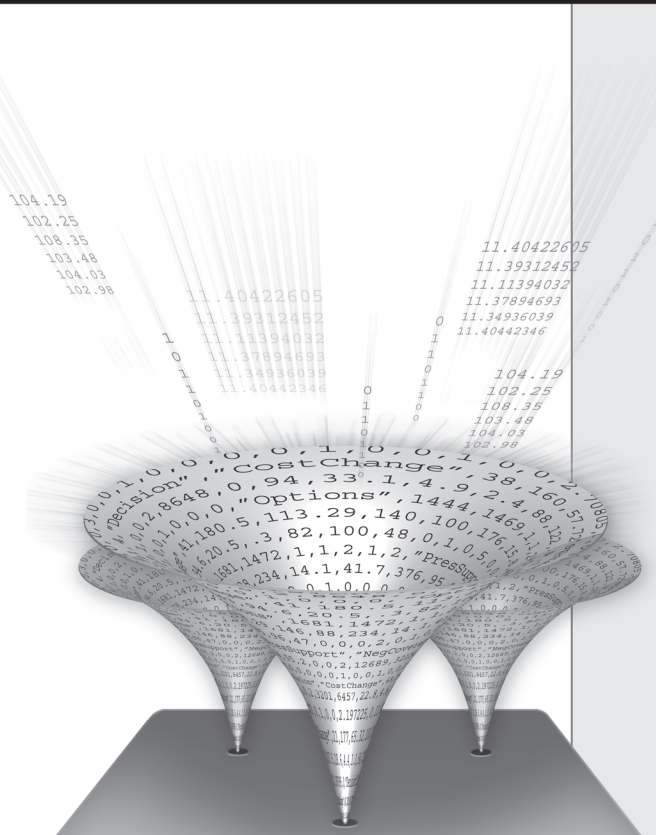
Mitchell Duneier, Princeton University, was quoted in a November 25 *Washington Post* article on New York City street vendors.

Julio Frenk was mentioned in the November 5, 2006, *Washington Post* for his candidacy for the World Health Organization Director in the general election.



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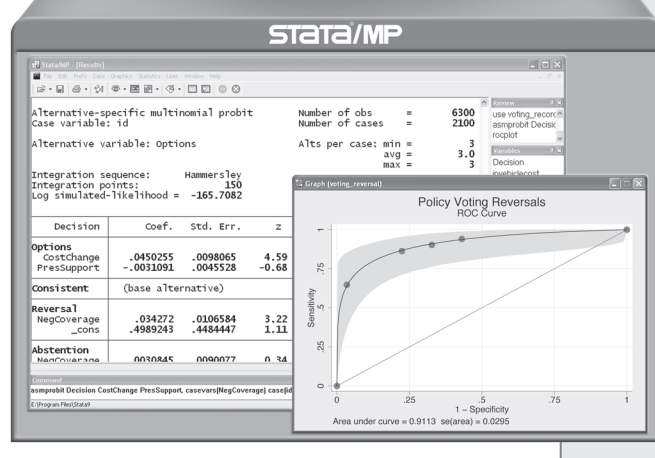
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Decision	Coeff.	Std. Err.	z
Options			
costchange	-.0450255	.0098065	4.59
PresSupport	-.0031091	.0045528	-0.68
Consistent	(base alternative)		
Reversal			
NegCoverage	.034272	.0106584	3.22
_cons	.4989243	.4484447	1.11
Abstention			
NegCoverage	.0016845	.0000077	0.34

Kathleen Gerson, New York University, and **Jerry Jacobs**, University of Pennsylvania, had their research on trends in Americans' social networks, featured in a November 7, 2006, *New York Times* op-ed by marriage historian Stephanie Coontz.

David J. Hanson, SUNY-Potsdam, was quoted in the November 6, 2006, *Washington Post* about the efficacy of the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program to reduce drug use in K-12 school settings.

Janice Irvine, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, was quoted in a December 3 *New York Times* article on being repulsed but unable to turn away from celebrity gossip.

Michael Jacobson, Vera Institute of Justice, was quoted in a November 26 *Washington Post* article on decreased crime rates and a decreased need for jails.

Colin Jerolmack, The Graduate Center-City University of New York, had his letter to the editor critiquing an essay that portrayed people who care for and feed urban pigeons as "crazy" and "marginal," published in the November 19 *New York Times Magazine* and was featured in a September 19 *Philadelphia Metro* article about the merits and dangers of websites where students can post public and anonymous evaluations of professors.

Jerry M. Lewis, Kent State, was quoted in an article in the Akron Beacon Journal on the possibility of celebration riots after the Ohio State-University of Michigan Championship football game.

Wilbrod Madzura and **Scott Magnuson-Martinson**, both of Normandale Community College, were quoted in an article on grade inflation in the November 27 issue of the *Community College Week*.

Ramiro Martinez, Florida International University, **Robert J. Sampson**, Harvard University, **Stephen Raudenbush**, University of Chicago, **Alejandro Portes**, Princeton University, and **Ruben Rumbaut**, University of California-Irvine, were all quoted or mentioned in a December 3 *New York Times* article on immigration and crime rates.

Miller McPherson, University of Arizona, **Lynn Smith-Lovin**, Duke University, and **Matthew Brashears**, University of Arizona, had their research on declining social networks, which appeared in the June *American Sociological Review*, mentioned in the November 26, 2006, *Time* magazine article "The Year in Medicine From A to Z." **Smith-Lovin** was interviewed on National Public Radio's *On Point* on November 20.

Valentine M. Moghadam, UNESCO and Purdue University, was quoted in an article that appeared in the French daily *Le Monde* on November 18, 2006. The article, which also appeared in the November 19 edition, described a seminar on Islamic Feminism that Moghadam had co-organized at UNESCO and cited her on the definition of Islamic feminism and on its cultural and political significance.

Mark Nord, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), was quoted in the November 16, 2006, *Washington Post* about a newly released USDA report on a scientific definition of hunger and the prevalence of hunger in the United States.

Lisandro Perez, Florida International University, was quoted in a November 15 *USA Today* article about Cubans fleeing their homelands for U.S. shores.

Tony Pogorelc, The Catholic University of America, was interviewed in the November 11 *Milwaukee Catholic Herald* about his research on the social movement Call to Action. He was also quoted in the November 10 *Boston Pilot* and November 17 in the *Tennessee Register* about his study on the process the U.S. Bishops used to compose their 1986 Economic Pastoral Letter.

Harriet Presser, University of Maryland-College Park, had a letter to the editor in the December 1 *New York Times*.

Jennifer A. Reich, University of Denver, was a guest on the *Today Show* on October 30, to discuss trends in work and family and changes in family size.

Alan R. Sadovnik, Rutgers University, wrote a letter to the editor on the racial testing gap that appeared in the November 24 *New York Times*.

Matthew Salganik, Columbia University, was quoted in *The Guardian* in an article about predicting the success of pop music, and his research was mentioned in the *Economist* on November 9.

David R. Segal, University of Maryland, was quoted in the *USA Today* on August 1 regarding mothers and grandmothers who are joining the army. He was quoted in the *Sioux City Journal* on August 7 and the *Council Bluffs Daily Nonpareil* regarding legislation introduced by Iowa senators and congressmen aimed at preventing suicide among military veterans. He was interviewed on *All Things Considered* on National Public Radio (NPR) and quoted in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* on August 15 regarding military recruiting violations and in the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Fort Wayne Journal* on August 16 regarding recent declines in army enlistment standards. He was quoted on the use of the National Guard as a "back door draft" on August 24 in the *Kansas City Star*, and on August 27 in the *Aberdeen (SD) American News* and the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. He was interviewed on *WILL* on NPR on September 7 about the state of the American military, and was quoted on teenagers' concerns about a return to a military draft in the *Sacramento Bee* on September 22, the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* on September 25, the *Riverside (CA) Press-Enterprise* on September 30, and the *Ventura County Star* on October 3. He was also quoted in the *Christian Science Monitor* on September 25 regarding the role of clergy acting as counselors for National Guard troops returning from Iraq, in the *Baltimore Sun* on October 19 regarding an increase in U.S. war fatalities in Iraq, and in the *Navy Times* on October 23 regarding a proposal to allow Navy reservists to spend a month with an operational unit rather than drilling for one weekend a month and two weeks during the summer.

Robert Getso returned from civilian service with the U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and accepted a position as professor of sociology at Passaic County Community College. He also continues to instruct sociology at City University of New York.

Hayward Derrick Horton, SUNY-Albany, has been promoted to Professor of Sociology.

Odin Johnson, Jr., accepted a faculty appointment at the University of Maryland-College Park, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences effective July 1, 2006.

Karrie Ann Snyder, previously of the University of Chicago, has recently started a position at the Institute for Women's Health Research, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, as a Research Assistant Professor.

Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University, *Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution*, 3rd ed., (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006) and *Mothers in Poverty*, paperback edition, originally published in 1970 (Aldine Transaction, 2006).

Awards

Steven Barkan, University of Maine, won the 2006 "Texty" Textbook Excellence Award in the humanities and social science category from the Text and Academic Authors Association for *Criminology: A Sociological Understanding*.

Judith Blau, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, received the 2006 Lester Ward Award for Distinguished Contributions to Applied Sociology from the Society for Applied Sociology. As such she was invited to present the keynote address at the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology annual meeting.

Jeff Breese, Marymount University, received the 2006 Alex Boros Award from the Society for Applied Sociology.

Anne Charvat, Inservice, Inc., received the 2006 Robert Ezra Park Award from the Society for Applied Sociology.

Hayward Derrick Horton, SUNY-Albany, is a recipient of the University's 2006 Excellence in Academic Service Award. He is also a recipient of the 2006 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Academic Service.

Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University, received the Peace and Justice Studies Association's Peace Scholar Award at its annual meeting on October 7, 2006.

Barbara Walters, Kingsborough Community College, received a President's Faculty Award for 2006.

Transitions

Gennifer Furst was promoted to assistant professor of sociology at William Paterson University.

Robert Getso returned from civilian service with the U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and accepted a position as professor of sociology at Passaic County Community College. He also continues to instruct sociology at City University of New York.

Hayward Derrick Horton, SUNY-Albany, has been promoted to Professor of Sociology.

Odin Johnson, Jr., accepted a faculty appointment at the University of Maryland-College Park, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences effective July 1, 2006.

Karrie Ann Snyder, previously of the University of Chicago, has recently started a position at the Institute for Women's Health Research, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, as a Research Assistant Professor.

People

Thomas Calhoun, Southern Illinois University, presented his presidential address on "The Quest for Inclusion: A Sociological Mandate" at the Mid-South Sociological Association annual meeting.

Karen Cerulo, Rutgers University, was selected as the new editor of *Sociological Forum*, published by the Eastern Sociological Society.

Aya Ezawa, Swarthmore College, was named a 2005 Abe Fellow by the American Council of Learned Societies.

John L. Hammond, Hunter College and Graduate Center-CUNY, was a visiting professor at Nanjing University last

summer. He taught a course on social movements.

Eric Klinenberg, New York University, was named a 2005 Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellow by the American Council of Learned Societies.

Ross Koppel, University of Pennsylvania, has been named president of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociologists.

Fatos Tarifa, former Albanian Ambassador to the United States, presented on the topic of "Facing Tomorrow's Global Challenges: What Can Sociology Offer?" at the 2006 Society for Applied Sociology annual meeting.

Mary Virocho, Humboldt State University (HSU), recently received a \$500,000 National Science Foundation Scientific Leadership Scholars grant. The funds will support 30 Native American and/or first generation college students studying Computer Science, Environmental Resources Engineering, or Mathematics at HSU for four years. Mary is a co-principal investigator teaming with colleagues from the sciences to address structural inequities in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

Members' New Books

Dean John Champion, Texas A&M International University, *Crime Prevention in the United States* (Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007).

James M. Jasper, *Getting Your Way: Strategic Dilemmas in Real Life* (Chicago, 2006).

Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University, *Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution*, 3rd ed., (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006) and *Mothers in Poverty*, paperback edition, originally published in 1970 (Aldine Transaction, 2006).

Aaron Kupchik, University of Delaware, *Judging Juveniles: Prosecuting Adolescents in Adult and Juvenile Courts* (NYU Press, 2006).

David Mechanic, Rutgers University, *The Truth About Health Care: Why Reform Is Not Working in America* (Rutgers University Press, 2006).

Bernard Phillips, Ed., *The Invisible Crisis of Contemporary Society: Reconstructing Sociology's Fundamental Assumptions* (Paradigm Publishers, 2007) and *Understanding Terrorism: Building on the Sociological Imagination* (Paradigm Publishers, 2007).

Harland Prechel, Texas A&M University, Ed., *Politics and Globalization: Research in Political Sociology*, Vol. 15 (Elsevier Press, 2007).

Jennifer Rothchild, University of Minnesota-Morris, *Gender Trouble Makers: Education and Empowerment in Nepal* (Routledge, 2006).

James W. Russell, Eastern Connecticut State University, *Double Standard: Social Policy in Europe and the United States* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2006).

Robert A. Stebbins, University of Calgary, *Serious Leisure: A Perspective for Our Time* (Transaction Publishers, 2006).

A. Javier Treviño, Wheaton College, ed. *Classic Writings in Law and Society: Contemporary Comments and Criticisms* (Transaction Publishers, 2007).

Other Organizations

Humanity and Society is seeking people to serve as book reviewers. As a generalist journal, *Humanity and Society* publishes reviews of books on a wide variety of topics. We are particularly interested in books that are relevant to humanist sociology, broadly defined as sociology that views people not only as products of social forces but also as shapers of social life and that is committed to a more humane, equal and just society. To be considered as a book reviewer, send a summary of your areas of interest and (if applicable) previous reviewing experience to Daniel Egan at Daniel_Egan@uml.edu. We welcome reviewers from a diverse range of backgrounds, including activists, graduate students, and practitioners in fields other than sociology.

New Publications

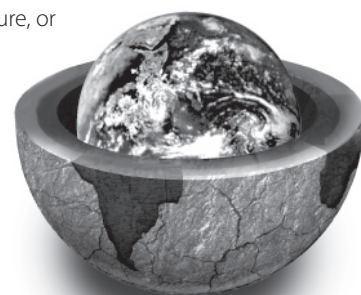
The Journal of World-Systems Research (JWSR) needs a new editor or editorial team. The journal has established a strong reputation in the publication of cutting-edge interdisciplinary research on global social change and world-systems. It is currently under consideration to become the official journal of the Political Economy of World-Systems (PEWS) Section of the American Sociological Association. The PEWS Publications Committee is seeking proposals for a new editor or editorial team. Ideally the new editor(s) would have tenure at a research university and would be able to obtain financial support from their university for the publication

IS ANOTHER WORLD POSSIBLE?

SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

Intellectuals in the West have long believed that progress was inevitable, while having vastly different ideas about how and why progress would occur. Whether their confidence was in revolution or parliaments or technology, it was generally assumed that societies would become more just and more prosperous, and that this prosperity would be more widely shared. No more. Alarming trends are unfolding in the 21st century that threaten confidence in a better future, or even in any future at all.

What are the prospects for understanding, and reversing, these trends? How can sociologists, whose intellectual mission it is to understand the connections between everyday life and large social forces, and to communicate that understanding to wider publics, contribute to the strengthening of democratic forces on which the prospects for a better future depend?



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of the journal. The PEWS Publications Committee will review all proposals and will make the decision regarding the editorial transition. Send queries and proposals to Marina Karides, Sociology, Florida Atlantic University, 2912 College Avenue, Florida Atlantic University, Davie, FL 33314; (954) 236-1053; fax (954) 236-1150; email mkarides@fau.edu; <jwsr.ucr.edu>.

New Programs

Harvard to Present Advanced Quantitative Research Methodology Course Online. The course begins February 6, 2007. Gary King, distinguished Professor of Government and Director of the Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard University, will present his popular daytime advanced quantitative research methodology course to students around the world via the Harvard Extension School's distance education program. Until this year, the course had only been available to matriculating students at Harvard; it is now available online to anyone wishing to learn from King how new approaches to research methods, data analysis, and statistical theory are developed. This course introduces the theories of inference underlying most statistical methods. Online registration begins December 4; classes begin February 6, 2007. Visit <www.extension.harvard.edu/DistanceEd> for more information.

Summer Programs

Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives and Participation, Criminal Justice Research Center, Ohio State University, July 9-26, 2006. Organized by Lauren J. Krivo and Ruth D. Peterson and funded by the National Science Foundation and Ohio State University, the Institute is designed to promote successful research projects and careers among scholars from under-represented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. Participants will be provided with necessary resources for completing research that is already ongoing and will work with senior faculty mentors in their areas of study. Research and professional development workshops will address topics related to publishing, professionalization and career planning. The institute will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience. Expenses for travel to Ohio, living, and local transportation will be provided. Applications are due February 9, 2007. For more information and to download an application, visit <cjrc.osu.edu/summerinstitute>. Contact: cjrcinstitute@osu.edu.

Summer Institute in Applied Research in Child and Adolescent Development, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development/National Institutes of Health. June 24-29, 2007, Bolger Center, Potomac, MD. A goal of the Institute is to support investigators who are beginning careers as applied

researchers by providing training that will build upon their existing content knowledge and research skills. The Child Development and Behavior Branch and the Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch of the NICHD are organizing this Institute with financial support and guidance from the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) and the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD). Application packet and Institute information are available at: <www.nichd.nih.gov/about/org/crmc/cdb/summerinst/index.cfm>. Contact: summerinst@mail.nih.gov. Deadline: February 15, 2007.

Deaths

Samuel W. Bloom, Graduate Center-City University of New York and the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, passed away on December 20.

Bill Borchert Larson passed away on July 28, 2006.

Yuri Levada died November 16 of a heart attack at the Levada Analytical Center in Moscow.

Robert Smock, University of Michigan-Dearborn, died of natural causes on February 25, 2006, in Plymouth, MI, at the age of 80.

Obituaries

Feliks Gross (1906-2006)

On Thursday, November 9, 2006, my good friend, colleague, and mentor Feliks Gross died peacefully in his sleep at his apartment on the upper west side of Manhattan. He was 100 years old but ever so young. On the occasion of my last visit to his bedside he explained that he was reviewing his prior publications and "working on another book." He smiled when I wished him "Sto Lat!"

For his Jubilee in June the Academy of Humanities and Sciences of the City University of New York held a special "Feliks Gross Endowment Award" luncheon. The American Sociological Association also recognized him as its "oldest living member" (November 2006 *Footnotes*). The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America (PIASA) honored him with an archival exhibition and discussed his life and work during its 64th Annual Meeting. The PIASA sessions "Feliks Gross: The Enlightened Pluralist" and "Feliks Gross: Teacher, Friend, and Colleague" captured his essence. He was fondly remembered not merely for his excellent scholarship but for his exceptional character, charity, and respect for people of any social station.

Feliks Gross deserves a place in the pantheon of those who sought to understand, and solve the most vexing of human problems, or perhaps better "our afflictions." He brought with him a wealth of European ideas that were transformed here by his experience in American society. Believing that basic moral norms are universal, if not absolute he constructed a rational-normative model of reasonable and ethically acceptable standards for the conduct of society. His work lies well within the Classical Tradition and, like Jürgen Habermas, he used reason to hold power to account. To the end Gross was sure that theory disconnected from human values and human beings is meaningless. For this we should be eternally grateful.

Feliks Gross is survived by his only child, Eva Helena Gross Friedman, his niece Augusta Gross, his nephew Jan Gross, his grand niece Magda Gross, and a grand nephew Tomek Gross.

Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College-CUNY

Doris P. Slesinger (1927-2006)

Doris P. Slesinger, Professor Emerita of Rural Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, died of pancreatic cancer on October 1, 2006. She was 78 years old. She is survived by her husband, Professor Emeritus Edward Wellin, her three sons and daughters-in-law, and five grandchildren.

Doris earned her undergraduate degree in 1949 from Vassar College, her masters in 1960 in sociology and demography from the University of Michigan, and her PhD in sociology, with emphasis on demography and health, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1973. She joined the faculty of UW-Madison's Department of Rural Sociology in 1974, and retired in 1998. In retirement, she remained engaged in university affairs, including serving in the UW-Madison Faculty/Staff Ombuds Program.

Doris Slesinger's outstanding career as an applied sociologist built on the long-standing traditions of rural sociology. Her research and outreach activities concerned the health and well-being of minorities, including African Americans and Native Americans, women, migrant farm workers, and the rural poor. Doris conducted significant research on the health and health care of migrant agricultural workers in Wisconsin, providing data used to support policy and legislative reforms. She provided a unique combination of demographic expertise, medical sociology focus, and concern for applied research. She served as a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Migrant Labor from 1998 until her death.

Doris authored or co-authored four books and nearly 100 articles and reports. Her "Women's Health Brochures" contributed to the expansion of public knowledge on health issues. Written in user-friendly prose in both English and Spanish, the brochures cover an array of topics on women's clinical health issues and are distributed throughout the country. She was an active participant in the faculty governance and professional societies. She became the first woman chair of a rural sociology department in the country in 1987, a position she held until 1991. She also led the department's Applied Population Laboratory as director or co-director from 1974-87. She served on the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) governing council from 1983-87; she was elected RSS Vice President in 1989. Doris received the Distinguished Rural Sociologist Award in 2002 for lifetime career achievements. Within the Population Association of America, she was instrumental in the creation and survival of the Committee on Applied Demography in the late 1970s and 1980s.

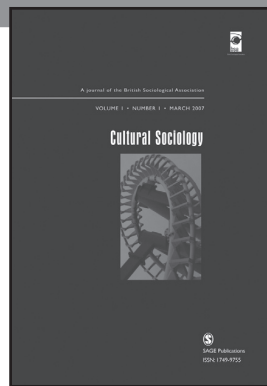
Doris was in the generation of women professors who were always breaking new ground. Academic women in the generations that followed have had a somewhat easier time because of pioneers like Doris who forged the way, fought the early battles, and established the precedents. Doris actively and continuously tried to make their way easier by her service as an advisor and mentor to women graduate students and junior faculty. She provided what many professional women sought: an advisor, a collaborator, a role model, a protector, a steady and sturdy shoulder. The University of Wisconsin's Women Faculty Mentoring Program not only selected her as the first recipient of its mentoring award in 1998, but also named it the Doris P. Slesinger Award for Excellence in Mentoring. She was soft-spoken, but never unspoken. She was passionately concerned about fairness and justice, and she never forgot that people have many dimensions to their lives. She made sure that life transitions were marked and celebrated. Doris brought intelligence, honesty and humor to all her activities and relationships.

Those interested in making a memorial gift in Professor Slesinger's honor should contact the Rural Sociology Department Chair (608-262-9536) or consult the department's website <www.drs.wisc.edu> for information.

Eleanor Cautley, Glenn V. Fuguitt, Gene F. Summers, Leann Tigges, Paul R. Voss

Classified Ad

Editor Sought for *The Sociological Quarterly*. The Midwest Sociological Society has opened a search for the next Editor of the Society's journal, *The Sociological Quarterly* (TSQ). The Editor serves a four-year term and will begin work in 2008. MSS seeks candidates with distinguished scholarly records, previous editorial experience, strong organizational and management skills, ability to work well with others, and commitment to TSQ's mission. The review process begins Feb. 1, 2007. Finalists should prepare to be interviewed April 4-7, 2007. Please visit <www.TheMSS.org> to see the full job description, or email MidwestSS@centurytel.net.



NEW in 2007

Cultural Sociology

Cultural Sociology is the first journal explicitly to be dedicated to the sociological comprehension of cultural matters. It will act as a key meeting point for sociological analysts of culture coming from a wide range of theoretical and methodological positions, and from a great variety of national contexts. It will be a locale where different analytical traditions in cultural sociology and the sociology of culture can engage with and learn from each other.

Cultural Sociology seeks high quality papers in the fields of cultural sociology and the sociology of culture. Please see <http://cus.sagepub.com> for full submission details.

Articles should be between 5000 and 8000 words. Book reviews should be between 800 and 1500 words. Authors will be asked to provide a CD or diskette of the final version. Submissions will be refereed anonymously by at least two referees.

The journal uses the Harvard system of referencing with author's name and date in the text, and a full reference in alphabetical order at the end of the article.

All submissions should be sent electronically (preferably as Microsoft Word documents) to: culturalsociology@abdn.ac.uk

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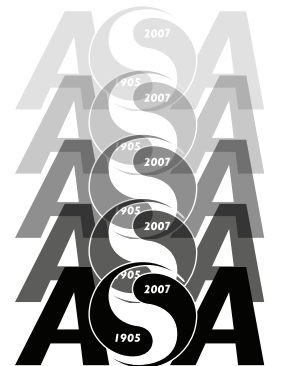
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This is your last issue...

...unless you have renewed your membership for 2007. As part of our "membership-friendly" approach, ASA is sending the January 2007 issue of *Footnotes* to 2006 and 2007 members. In order to continue to receive your newsletters, journals, and other ASA correspondence, renew today online at www.asanet.org! 

ASA Position Announcement

Staff Sociologist/Director of Academic and Professional Affairs

The American Sociological Association (ASA) seeks a sociologist to join the professional staff and direct ASA's Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP). The position provides the opportunity to work with a like-minded group of other sociologists and a staff seeking to advance sociology, work on field development, and promote ASA objectives and activities. The APAP Program Director is responsible for program planning and for administering the day-to-day and Annual Meeting operations of the Academic and Professional Affairs Program, including initiatives relating to departments, chairs, directors of graduate study, teaching materials, professional development in teaching, leadership on current trends in higher education and so forth. This staff member, like other staff sociologists, also serves as liaison to ASA committees or task forces.

Nominations and applications are sought. Candidates should have a PhD in sociology; in-depth knowledge of the academy; experience in higher education and the scholarship of teaching and learning; skills in presenting (in writing and orally) to diverse audiences; an appreciation of Academic and Professional issues and opportunities; and leadership, management, and administrative skills. Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled; interested candidates should submit application materials immediately. The ASA recognizes that those with academic commitment may not be able to commence their appointment until late spring/early summer 2007. The start date and other conditions of appointment (e.g., leave from an academic position) are flexible.

Candidates should send a letter of interest, resume, and a list of five references to:

APAP Search, Executive Office, American Sociological Association,
1307 New York Avenue NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-4701.

For further information, please contact Sally T. Hillsman, Executive Officer (202-383-9005 x316, Hillsman@asanet.org). The ASA is interested in identifying persons who are drawn to professional service and who bring a strong commitment to making a difference for sociology and academic and professional affairs. If you or someone you know is searching for a job or might be interested in a professional change, please do not hesitate to suggest a name or encourage an application.



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Washington, DC 20005-4701

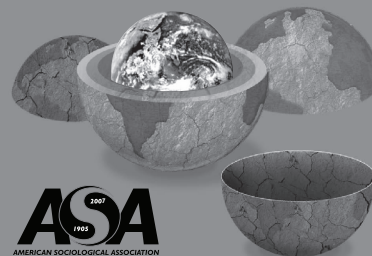
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New York, New York

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2008 Meeting: August 1-4 in Boston

Footnotes

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Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words and must have journalistic value (e.g., timeliness, significant impact, general interest) rather than be research-oriented or scholarly in nature. Submissions will be reviewed by the editorial board for possible publication. "Public Forum" contributions are limited to 800 words; "Obituaries," 500 words; "Letters to the Editor," 400 words; "Department" announcements, 200 words. All submissions should include a contact name and, if possible, an e-mail address. ASA reserves the right to edit for style and length all material published. The deadline for all material is the first of the month preceding publication (e.g., February 1 for March issue).

Send communications on material, subscriptions, and advertising to: American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-4701; (202) 383-9005; fax (202) 638-0882; email footnotes@asanet.org; <http://www.asanet.org>.

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