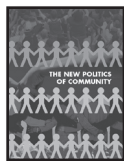


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Looking Forward to the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco

Local Flavor: Alternative Agriculture and Food Justice in the San Francisco Bay Area

by Alison Alkon, University of the Pacific

Over the past four decades, a growing movement of farmers, chefs, and citizens has worked to alter the ways we produce, distribute, and consume food. Critical of an industrial agribusiness system dominated by transnational corporations and dependent on chemical inputs, this movement seeks to promote organic farming and local food distribution. Proponents believe that an *alternative agriculture* in which consumers know "where our food comes from," to use an often iterated refrain, can contribute to environmental sustainability, social justice, and vibrant, civically engaged communities.

The Roots of Alternative Agriculture

Early movement strongholds include Madison, WI, and Ann Arbor, MI, but alternative agriculture can trace some of its deepest roots to the San Francisco Bay Area. In the 1960s, a group of radically anti-capitalist activist-performers known as the Diggers cast food as an integral part of social change. Indeed, the Diggers' very name, taken from a 17th century British commune that sought social reform through agriculture, reflects the centrality of food to their worldview. The Diggers gave away food at countercultural gatherings, which beat poet Diane di Prima characterized as both healing and sub-

versive. Although they had not yet begun to imagine alternatives to industrial food production, this group politicized the act of eating.

Beyond the city, activists embraced a more agrarian food politics. For example, during the 1969 protests that created University of California-Berkeley's People's Park, student and community activists squatted on and claimed a piece of land that the university had bought and bulldozed but never developed. One of their earliest installations was an organic garden. Noted food historian Warren Belasco referred to this strategy as the "seizure of public land for the purpose of producing food" (1989). At the same time, many Diggers left the city to go "back to the land," where they would found some of the region's first organic farms. In 1966, Berkeley activists began a "food conspiracy" buying club through which members purchased from these farmers rather than those boycotted by the United Farm Workers.

The View from the ASA

Sociologists visiting San Francisco can see many fruits of the alternative agriculture movement. The Bay Area boasts nearly 90 farmers' markets. Among San Francisco's most renowned are Alemany, the city's oldest and perhaps most ethnographically diverse, and Ferry Plaza, which cel-

brates the exceptional quality of regional produce against the city's picturesque waterfront. Not far from where the ASA Annual Meeting will be held is the scruffy, vibrant Heart of the City Farmers Market, which the local alternative paper named best in the city. Many farms featured at these markets also offer Community Supported Agriculture programs (CSAs), through which customers purchase a "share" in the farm's harvest and receive a weekly basket of produce.

Additionally, while wandering the city's residential neighborhoods, sociologists may spot one of San Francisco's 52 community gardens, which offer urban residents without access to land the ability to lease plots for food cultivation. Community gardens and CSAs create modes of production that emphasize self-sufficiency and cooperation rather than the mere selling of commodities.

Alternative agriculture has become so mainstream that the Oxford English Dictionary named it *locavore*, meaning one who eats local foods, as its 2007 word of the year. This word was coined by Bay Area chef Jessica Prentice. But, Prentice is far from the only chef who heartily supports alternative agriculture. Perhaps the most renowned is Alice Waters, founder of Berkeley's landmark Chez Panisse, who

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Brown, Donato, Isaac and McCammon Are Incoming Editors of *American Sociological Review*

by Daniel B. Cornfield, Vanderbilt University

Tony N. Brown, Katharine M. Donato, Larry W. Isaac, and Holly J. McCammon, all of Vanderbilt University, will be the next editors of ASA's *American Sociological Review* (ASR), the flagship journal of the Association. Their three-year term begins in January 2010 and follows the editorship of Randy Hodson and Vincent J. Roscigno.

Individually and collectively, my distinguished department colleagues bring an engaging, creative, and erudite sociological imagination to the ASR editorship. As their individual bios show, each is highly accomplished and pushing frontiers of the discipline. Together, they bring a commitment to academic excellence and innovation, a wide embrace of the discipline, and a sense of fairness that will inform their editorship. They write and teach in more than 25 sociological subfields and have conducted research with a wide array of quantitative, historical, and qualitative methods. As researchers, they have collaborated with a large, diverse, interdisciplinary and international group of faculty and student research associates. As a team, they are at once collegial, organized, and disciplined. Their team spirit is nourished daily in the vibrant and synergistic culture of Vanderbilt's Department of Sociology.

As sociologists, the new ASR editors practice an academic "glocalism" that involves them in leadership roles locally in the university and in the profession at large. Tony heads the largest of Vanderbilt's first-year student residential houses and has

been an active participant at the University of Michigan's Program for Research on Black Americans. Katharine chairs the Vanderbilt sociology department and is a member of advisory committees for the Russell Sage Foundation and the Mexican Migration Project. Larry has served on the editorial board of the Vanderbilt University Press, has served a total of 37 editorial-board years on 11 journal editorial boards, and just finished a term as President of the Southern Sociological Society. Holly has served as an associate dean to strengthen doctoral education and research at Vanderbilt and as 2007-08 Chair of the ASA's Collective Behavior and Social Movement Section.

This is an aerobically fit editorial team. Although each team member enjoys unique pastimes (e.g., Tony—cooking Cajun food, Katharine—tasting tequila in Mexico, Larry—sipping vinho verde in Lisbon, and Holly—reading mystery novels), they also share a love of walking, jogging, and running. Perhaps a new mobile editorial team will be increasingly sighted in Nashville's many parks and greenways.

Brown

Tony N. Brown is Associate Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt University. He earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, a historically black university in Princess Anne, MD, and his PhD from the University



The ASR editors (from left to right) are: Larry W. Isaac, Holly J. McCammon, Tony N. Brown, and Katherine M. Donato.

of Michigan. As a graduate student, he was an ASA MFP Fellow and is the first former Fellow to be an editor of a major ASA journal. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the Program for Research on Black Americans at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, Tony joined the Vanderbilt University faculty in 2001. His research, which has been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health, addresses the sociological and social psychological meaning and consequence of race and racism, especially: race, racism, and the sociology of mental health; and racial hierarchy, identity, and stratification. Tony's current projects investigate the mental health impact of race-related stressors, the meaning of racial identity, childhood ethnic/race socialization, physician-patient communication in medical encounters, the social construction of race in Brazil, and the conceptualization of mental health. His approach is informed by critical race theory and mainstream social psychological theories. He is actively involved

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from the executive officer

Only One Way to Write. Right?

The unpretentious, yet world-famous paperback *The Elements of Style* celebrated a half century of publication in April and emerged anew in the public consciousness. Its influence on generations of teachers, students, and the writing public is documented in several recent tributes and critiques in mainstream media. The reign of the pocket-sized guide to better writing, by William Strunk, Jr. and E. B. White, might seem disproportionate to its humble origins as English professor Strunk's self-published 1919 writing guide for Cornell University students. But this is a mighty if small book.

Ten million copies have sold since its first commercial publication in 1959. A reader-friendly "how to" guide, Strunk and White (as it is universally known) provides writers with advice on how to connect effectively with their audiences. True to its message of straight-forward writing, the manual "weighs in" at a mere 100 pages in most editions.

But the recent tributes are not without critics, such as Geoffrey K. Pullum (*Chronicle of Higher Education*, April 17, 2009) and Jan Freeman (*Boston Globe*, October 23, 2005). They defuse the golden anniversary festiveness with some legitimate questions about over-simplification and the consistency and accuracy of Strunk and White's grammar lessons. Many maintain that the "Little Book" has nonetheless widely and permanently raised the grammar and composition consciousness of writers in academia, journalism, and the general public during the second half of the 20th century. It achieved this, they say, partly through its eccentricities and humor.

There are many useful writing guides, but this succinct gem, with its concurrent authority and celebrity, is generally considered a necessary tool by those who take the written word seriously. I am comfortable acknowledging that I occasionally consult Strunk and White; but I am less confident writing about it, considering how frequently I violate its advice!

Should I be intimidated? Not according to Pullum or Freeman. But their specific criticisms aside, my message—during this window of opportunity of Strunk and White's 50th year—is the importance of good writing. A cliché? Yes, but one worth repeating. Borrowing shamelessly from

a Supreme Court Justice's famous quote about pornography: "Readable writing? I know it when I see it."

Strunk and White's central message is for the ages and easily recognized when it is applied: Good writing provides an effortless connection with the desired audience(s). For sociologists, it leverages the awesome power of language to focus others' thinking and actions on one's research findings; to convey sociological concepts and knowledge to students (who [whom?] we know from ASA research are thrilled by them); or to share the meaningful research insights to a client, court, or policy maker.

Like any social, physical, or biological process, language is characterized by evolutionary change driven by forces that include culture, geography, demography, technology, science, and myriad other social phenomena. As any good editor knows, immutable rules of grammar or usage—no matter how authoritative—will not make a language stand still. Good editing is a fine balance between abiding by rules and helping writers connect with their audience. Readable text can be found in good-quality newspapers and publications, but don't attempt to analyze the writing against Strunk and White! Even at its best, it won't measure up. Writing standards help us think carefully about how we communicate effectively, but they are rarely the final word.

Losing and Gaining Discriminatory Power

Editors and writers who have been diligently enforcing semantic distinctions for decades are dismayed as dictionary publishers progressively "cave in" to popular usage. But new words emerge, new meanings attach to words, and evolution moves on. Questions arise about whether English is losing its power to convey fine semantic distinctions, as written English yields to the conventions of less formal, spoken language. What does this process mean for the scholarly writer? If scientific writing capitulates to less complex language, does it lose its power to convey precise information by seeking to be understandable to broader audiences? This is a growing conundrum as scholarship increasingly goes online and search engines make

scholarly writing accessible by knowledge seekers beyond a discipline's cognoscenti.

Writing guides are especially useful when they help writers confront the realization that intuitive understanding of one's spoken language is often insufficient to produce good prose. A writing guide should instill curiosity about one's own language and evoke questions about the usefulness of communication tools such as word choice, phrasing, and compositional options in producing a text that informs correctly and communicates effectively. There are few substitutes for understanding a language's technical aspects in unshackling ourselves as writers from comfortable oral conventions that are not always helpful in constructing writing that is accurate, engaging, and connects with the intended audience.

Writing for Sociology

Scientific and other scholarly writers face many complex issues when we write, but one is deciding whom we are addressing. This seems obvious when deciding if the audience is one's disciplinary peers or a general readership. Research domains develop and reward the easy flow of specialized jargon that conveys precision and familiarity with the discipline or sub-discipline. But even here there are treacherous waters: Is the audience that rewards your writing one's departmental peers, the dean (who is of a different discipline), a larger cross-disciplinary academic body, or all of these? How does one write for this broader academic marketplace? What if that academic marketplace also includes undergraduate students or non-majors? If one of your professional goals is bringing your scholarship into the non-academic marketplace of ideas, must you rewrite your content, or is the technology of search engines applied to scholarship openly available to the general reader sufficient? There are no simple answers.

There is also a paradox in sociology that the complexity of social phenomena needs to be described in accessible writing, even if it is only to benefit the discipline, but especially if we are to disseminate our knowledge more broadly. There are attempts at this. ASA's magazine *Contexts: Understanding people in their social worlds* is one. And, *Social Psychology Quarterly* now provides "Tighter, abbreviated versions of articles emphasizing relevance and readability" online. International initiatives such as "Writing across the Curriculum" seek to cultivate logical writing by undergraduates.

Sociology's own pocket-sized writing "bible," the *American Sociological Association Style Guide*, provides invaluable advice on grammar, composition, word use, and punctuation, along with specialized guidance for writers preparing manuscripts for ASA journals. The *Chicago Manual of Style* and the *APA Style Manual* provide more comprehensive guides for social scientists writing research papers. But general writing guides such as Strunk and White provide us all with a critical service: They ask us to be self-reflective about our writing, to seek answers to our writing quandaries, and to be inquisitive about the power of our language to communicate.

Music to Our Ears

If even a small proportion of sociologists and our students adhered to a handful of the tenets in Strunk and White, we would understand each other more effectively. Legitimate criticisms aside, *The Elements of Style* is so popular that it inspired a musical adaptation in 2005, with a promise of an operatic rendition. While to my knowledge the opera has not materialized, perhaps before long we will be treated to a promising summer blockbuster movie preview . . . "Imagine a world without *The Elements of Style*!"



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How to prevent the decline in cognitive ability in the elderly: Medical treatment, education, and social networks

At a March 18 seminar in Washington, DC, three researchers, including sociologist Kathleen Cagney (University of Chicago), presented findings from their National Institute of Aging-supported (NIA) studies of cognitive impairment among the elderly.

When some people reach older ages, they begin to lose their ability to reason and to remember. With continued population aging—the number of Americans ages 65 or older is projected to swell from around 41 million to 65 million by 2025—the loss of cognitive function among some older Americans foreshadows a potentially enormous social and economic burden on

individuals, families, communities, and the nation. At the seminar sponsored by the NIA and U.S. Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, researchers presented their findings on how education, income, better treatment of stroke and heart disease, and other factors affect the severe decline in cognitive ability among the elderly. The researchers were: Kenneth Langa, University of Michigan School of Medicine and Institute for Social Research, presented research on "brain health" through better medical treatments and increased education; Dawn Alley, University of Maryland School of Medicine, also looked at the benefits of education; and Kathleen Cagney, University of



Chicago, presented findings on the neighborhood and social networks effect. For more information, see <www.prb.org/Articles/2009/cognitiveimpairment.aspx>.

A CDC resource for health researchers

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released their *Health, United States, 2008*, which presents national trends in health statistics on such topics (PDF, 14 MB) as birth and death rates, infant mortality, life expectancy, morbidity and health status, risk factors, use of ambulatory and inpatient care, health personnel and facilities, financing of health care,

See **Science Policy**, page 7

Assessing History in the Making

by Elisabeth Jacobs,
ASA Congressional Fellow

The American economy is in the midst of a crisis of historic proportions. The bursting of the housing bubble and the ensuing collapse of the financial markets have wreaked havoc on the labor market. The economy has faced the loss of 5.1 million jobs since the recession began in December 2007, with almost two-thirds of the decrease coming in the last five months. The unemployment rate stands at 8.5 percent, 13.2 million Americans are unemployed, and nearly one in four of the unemployed have been looking for work for at least six months. Job losses that were once concentrated in manufacturing and construction have spread to all sectors of the economy. Rising unemployment means rising demand for government services, while state and local governments are in the red.

The federal government has responded to the economic storm with policies of extraordinary breadth. The *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*, signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009, represents an unprecedented policy intervention committing \$787 billion in federal dollars via a combination of aid to the states, tax cuts, and safety net spending. Combined with the monetary interventions currently underway via the *Troubled Asset Relief Program* authorized by Congress in 2008 to address the subprime mortgage crisis and a host of monetary interventions undertaken by the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve, the government response to the current recession rivals any seen since Roosevelt's New Deal-era economic policies.

A Not-So-New Deal

The debate over the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* on the floors of the House and Senate and in the pages of major news outlets included numerous accounts of the "dangers" of the New Deal. Spurred by repeated comparisons between the depth

and breadth of the current recession and the Great Depression, and parallels between Obama's aggressive agenda for recovery and Roosevelt's New Deal policies, the debate was heated on the Hill this winter.

Academic (and not-so-academic) accounts of government policies' failure to jump-start the ailing economy of the 1930s provided talking points for foes of the current government intervention. For example, a 1990s study by two economists gained prominence in the conservative *Human Events* newspaper, which is circulated to all congressional offices and widely read by the Senate and House staffers who play a critical role in providing decision-makers with talking points and information on which to base decisions. *Wall Street Journal* columnist Amity Shlaes argued that the Depression-era unemployment rate continued to climb because of Roosevelt's New Deal policy interventions, or, as she writes, because of "the notion that government could engineer economic recovery by favoring the public sector at the expense of the private sector."

In response, proponents of the recovery legislation turned to academic studies as well. Research by the Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors Christina Romer (formerly of the University of California-Berkeley) and by Federal Reserve Chair Ben Bernanke (formerly of Princeton University) highlighted the importance of Roosevelt's New Deal monetary policy decisions as critical to bringing the Great Depression to an end, and Romer has repeatedly testified to Congress that Roosevelt's failure in the realm of fiscal policy was his timidity, not his aggression. Research by historian Eric Rauchway played a key role in helping supporters make the case that the New Deal helped slow the increase in the unemployment rate. All three scholars' research suggests that the "mini-recession" of 1938 was precipitated by Roosevelt's desire to balance the budget vis-à-vis a decrease in spending.

The proponents of the recovery bill prevailed, but the continued erosion of the labor market poses a challenge for the legislation's supporters. The impact of the recovery bill is likely to take quite some time to wind its way through the economy and into the labor market. For example, unemployment rates are a lagging indicator of economic health, so the job market can remain quite feeble even as the nation's economy is on its way to recovery.

Academic Social Scientists and the Economy

In light of the continued uncertainty that characterizes the economy and its future direction, the first round of debates over economic recovery legislation provides three important lessons about the role of academic social scientists:

1. Studies of the success and failure of government policies matters. Empirical evaluation of policy interventions can play a critical role in the debate over a policy, as evidenced in the use of formerly obscure academic arguments on the inside-the-beltway Sunday talk shows and on the floor of the House and Senate. Once considered an academic exercise in history, research on the impacts of the New Deal has an important role to play in contemporary debates.
2. Studies of the efficacy of the current recovery bill are critical. In the short-term, creative thinking that captures elements of the recovery bill's impact by modeling an appropriate counterfactual could prove invaluable to understanding which government policies work and why. Moreover, scholars should begin to pay attention today—thinking creatively, developing models, and collecting data—in order to provide the more definitive analysis that will only be possible in the longer term.
3. Finally, and perhaps of critical importance for sociologists, scholars should think creatively about indicators of

economic recovery. For instance, economist Jamie Galbraith noted in recent testimony to the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee that one of the most important accomplishments of the New Deal was its "physical, moral, and artistic reconstruction of the nation." While much attention has been focused on traditional economic indicators (e.g. unemployment rates and GDP), scholars would be wise to identify other critically important indicators of a prosperous nation, providing clear theoretical (and, where possible, empirical) explanations for why such indicators matter. For instance, consumer confidence and its relationship to labor markets and economic growth could serve as rich terrain for sociological inquiry. Similarly, sociology's longstanding disciplinary interest in neighborhood effects on various economic outcomes could serve as a powerful framework for discussing the impact of the housing crisis.

None of these points are purely academic, of course. As the debate this winter illustrated, social scientists' thinking can play a key role in shaping policy debates. Moreover, many in Washington believe an additional round of stimulus will be necessary if the economy continues to slide. For instance, critics from the left, including *New York Times* columnist and Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman, have argued that the recovery bill was "too small," and suggest that a second stimulus bill is likely to be necessary this year.

Making the case for or against an additional injection of fiscal stimulus to the nation's economy requires evidence, and providing that evidence is an important public service that could be performed by academics across the nation. ☺

Elisabeth Jacobs, 2008 ASA Congressional Fellow, served on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP), which is chaired by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA).

Sociologists Take the "Science of Science Policy" to Capitol Hill

Annual science fest exposes legislators and policymakers to range of NSF-supported research

A team of University of Maryland-College Park sociologists brought research on the science of science and innovation policy to Capitol Hill on March 24 for the 15th Annual Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) Exhibition and Reception. Sponsored by ASA, the four sociologists were at least the ninth group of National Science Foundation-funded scientists that ASA has brought to this yearly CNSF "science fest" in the nation's capital.

Sociologists Jerald Hage, director at Maryland's Center for Innovation, and Jonathon Mote, an assistant research scientist also at the center, displayed their NSF-backed research exploring the science of managing innovation in public research laboratories. For background on NSF's "Science of Science & Innovation Policy" (SciSIP) initiative, see the March 2007 and January 2009 *Footnotes* (p. 2 and 3, respectively).

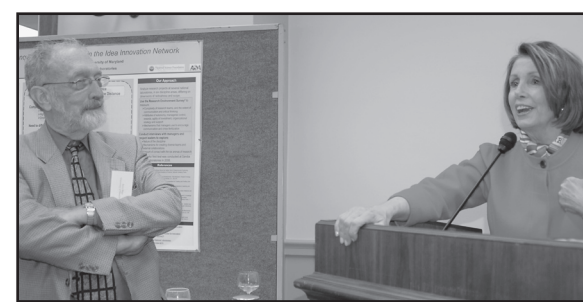
Hage and Mote, joined by University of Maryland graduate student Aleia Clark as well as Gretchen Jordan of Sandia National Laboratories, are currently in the process of data collection to identify best practices for promoting scientific innovation. The research also seeks to ascertain whether best practices vary among disciplines; the study examines chemistry, biology, material sciences, alternative energy, and geophysical sciences. The team expects the final results of the research to be available in 2012, following the completion of two preliminary reports on three labs each, expected in 2010 and 2011.

Approximately 300 attendees toured the exhibits, including several members of Congress and their staff, key congressional committee staff, NSF leadership (e.g., Director Arden Bement), and representatives from other policymaking and research agencies. Congressmen Vernon Ehlers (R-MI) and Rush Holt (D-NJ) visited the ASA-sponsored poster, and other representatives in attendance included Bill Foster (D-IL), Bob Filner (D-CA), and Bart Gordon (D-TN), Chair of the House Committee on Science and Technology.

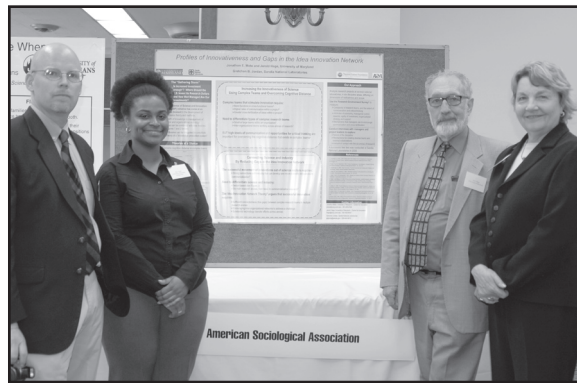
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) addressed the assembled crowd, highlighting her commitment to science.

"If you want to know the agenda for this Congress, think of four words: science, science, science, science," said Pelosi. Her prepared comments for the event are online at <www.speaker.gov/newsroom/pressreleases?id=1069>.

The CNSF event highlighted a total of 34 research projects supported by the National Science Foundation. Projects covered topics as diverse as climate change, technological



NSF-funded sociologist Jerry Hage listens as Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) addresses attendees at the Coalition for National Science Funding Exhibition.



ASA sponsored a poster presentation by sociologists from the University of Maryland: (from left to right) Jonathon Mote, Aleia Clark, Jerry Hage, and Gretchen Jordan (Sandia National Laboratories).

literacy, income dynamics, and the earth's interior. A complete listing of the posters is available at <www.asanet.org/cs/press/view_news?pressrelease.id=531>.

CNSF, of which ASA is a member, is an alliance of more than 120 organizations united by a concern for the future vitality of the national science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research enterprise as well as the related kindergarten through graduate educational base. For more information on CNSF, visit <www.cnsfweb.org>. Search for "CNSF" at <www.asanet.org> for online coverage of sociology posters at past CNSF exhibitions. ☺

The Undergraduate Sociology Degree's Real-World Application

by Jay Matchett, ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program

The transition for young adults from institutions of higher education into the labor force can often be a daunting and confusing time filled with social (and economic) pressures. This is why, as the economy faces a downturn, helping undergraduates realize the merits of their degree is even more important.

These social pressures usually do not start near or after graduation. Questions of employability, practicality, and marketability are often the first types of questions an undergraduate asks before deciding on a major. For most college students, picking a major is not just a question of academic interest, but economic as well. Students (and parents) want to know that there is a “future” to be had by majoring in a particular subject. Departments can help to allay these worries by helping students to define their skills-sets and encouraging them to go beyond the classroom.

Sociology's Marketability

Contrary to what many believe, there is not a “one-to-one” relationship between academic majors and careers. One does not necessarily need a degree in business administration or marketing to land a successful career in the corporate world. On the contrary, a degree in sociology provides an excellent springboard for entering the world of business, industry, and organizations. The sociological perspective is invaluable for working in today's multiethnic and multinational business environment (see *The Sociology Major as Preparation for Careers in Business and Organizations* at <www.asanet.org>).

In most departments, sociology majors are encouraged to go beyond the confines of the classroom. They are pushed to consider

their role in society, and their responsibilities to make the world a better place.

Approximately 30,000 newly minted sociology majors will graduate this spring. In addition to enduring the usual post-graduation jitters, this year's graduates will also have to contend with a rapidly deteriorating job market, soaring debt, and unparalleled economic uncertainty. As a result, stressing the value of a sociology degree in the labor market is particularly pressing.

Why Sociology?

According to *Pathways to Job Satisfaction: What Happened to the Class of 2005?*, published by the ASA Research Department, the most cited reason graduating seniors gave for majoring in sociology was because of the discipline's “interesting concepts.” Additionally, more than a third of respondents thought it could help them better “understand their lives.” Despite the fact that a degree in sociology can provide one of the most transferable skill sets an individual can have, less than one-fourth of graduating seniors majored in sociology because they thought it would prepare them for the job they wanted or for graduate or professional schools. The lure of the sociology major may not be the promise of a particular career, but what students graduate with is a distinctive and transferable skill-set. The challenge, though, for departments concerned with assisting their students in the job search, is helping them to conceptualize their sociological skills within the context of employment and professional development (more on this will appear in a future issue of *Footnotes*).

Conceptualizing the sociology major as distinct “skill-set,” rather than a body of knowledge may be helpful for students, especially as they transition to the labor force. Unlike a vocational degree that

trains an individual for a particular career, sociology majors must actively define their skill-set in a manner appropriate for the position sought.

Sociology's Marketable or Transferable Skills?


According to ASA's research, by the time they graduate sociology seniors have learned to develop evidence-based arguments, think abstractly, write effectively, formulate empirically testable questions, understand and perform statistical analysis, comprehend group dynamics and processes, and develop analytical skills, particularly the ability to locate issues within a larger “macro” perspective (see *Pathways to Job Satisfaction* at <www.asanet.org/galleries/default-file/ASA_Pathways.pdf>). Regardless of the job graduates seek, students must learn to effectively communicate those skills. Majors who reported communicating their sociological skills to potential employers were more likely to use them on the job than those who learned such skills but did not communicate their skill-set.

The research and applied skill sets acquired through a sociology degree, with its applied and theoretical skills, is a winning asset in the labor market. According to the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) report *How Should Colleges Assess and Improve College Learning*, “When it comes to the assessment practices that employers trust to indicate a graduate's level of knowledge and potential to succeed in the job world, employers dismiss tests of general content knowledge in favor of assessments of real-world and applied-learning approaches.... [These] include evaluations of supervised internships, community-based projects, and comprehensive senior projects.” Seventy-nine percent of business executives interviewed for the AAC&U report responded that an “advanced comprehensive

senior project, such as a thesis, demonstrating student's depth of knowledge in major and problem-solving, writing, and analytic reasoning skills,” was very effective (46%) or fairly effective. More important to these executives were real-world projects, such as internships, which 69% reported were very effective.

Sociology seniors, equipped with the sociological imagination, are in a position to be more aware of their social context, as well as able to effectively navigate within it. This social competency, which is merely the application of sociological knowledge to an individual situation, is extremely useful. In fact, it is this very ability that C. Wright Mills saw as part of the very promise of sociology.

The BA and Beyond

Students need to be aware of what they have to offer in the workforce before they graduate, especially since a majority of sociology graduates transition into the workforce rather than immediately attend graduate school (see ASA Research Department's *What Are They Doing with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology?*). Career advising in the classroom is therefore important. As the data presented in ASA's *Pathways to Job Satisfaction* indicate, less than one quarter of majors reported being satisfied with the career advising they received as undergraduates. This is easily corrected. Given the findings presented in ASA research, developing career and post-graduate advising that stresses the effective communication of the sociological skill-set is one way departments could help their graduates as they weather this economic downturn. 

For more resources to help students navigate the sociology major and assist them in their career search, see the *Students* page at <www.asanet.org>.

Diverse Research Workforce Is Key to Health of Nation's Science Enterprise*

ASA co-sponsors congressional briefing on science education policy

On March 12, the Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS), with 60 organizations spanning the spectrum of science fields and education levels, held a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill, titled *Building a Diverse Scientific Workforce: Collaboration for Competitive and Healthy Nation*, to discuss the necessity and accompanying challenges of increasing the ethnic and racial diversity of America's scientific workforce. ASA is a founding member of CEDS (see <www.cossa.org/diversity/diversity.html> for background).

The briefing's speakers were: Raynard S. Kington, Acting Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH); Wanda E. Ward, Acting Assistant Director for the Education and Human Resources Directorate (EHR), National Science Foundation (NSF); and Arthur L. Coleman, Managing Partner and Co-founder of EducationCounsel. Mary Ann McCabe, Society for Research in Child Development, served as moderator.

Welcoming the standing-room-only crowd, McCabe observed that the number of organizations co-sponsoring the event illustrated “the level of interest and concern across the diverse areas of science about these issues.” She noted that “most scientific disciplines share the same chal-

lenges” and that the level of interest is also “demonstrative of the type of collaboration among organizations that's already started.” The enormous interest in the topic reflects everyone's concern “about the science workforce for the 21st century in order for our country to stay competitive and be a leader in innovation,” McCabe said. She also clarified that for CEDS and many of the groups that cosponsored the briefing the challenges are for science across the board—“every area of science and technology.”

A Complicated Story

Using what he called “the demographic imperative” that is “required” when discussing this issue, Kington explained that the “fundamental reason why many of us are deeply concerned about the scientific workforce today and the trends that we are seeing,” is that “clearly, the country is becoming more and more diverse.” The expectation is that by 2050, white 18-year-olds will comprise less than half of the total U.S. population of 18-year-olds. “This obviously has significance for the scientific workforce because there are dramatically different probabilities of minorities—some higher, some lower—entering scientific careers and succeeding . . .,” he said.

Kington noted that the agency's starkest challenge is addressing the “startlingly low number” of NIH principal investigators (PIs) who are from underrepresented groups, particularly African-Americans and Hispanics. In addition, the percentage of Native American PIs is so “incredibly small” that making a serious analysis is difficult. Perhaps the most striking aspect of the NIH data Kington revealed is that there has not been a dramatic change over the last 10 years. A contributing factor to this situation is the low number of doctorates in science and engineering going to minorities, with no dramatic increases despite many efforts to achieve diversity. Some agencies have been working at this for literally 30 years, acknowledged Kington.

NIH has begun a series of analytic projects to address these challenges. According to Kington, the agency is doing two types of analysis, including modeling likely changes in the scientific workforce by looking at demographic changes. Kington said that the analysis is discovering interesting patterns, particularly for Asians, over the course of careers. A counter-intuitive finding is that both African-Americans and Hispanics are more likely than majority

professors to have a tenure-track position seven years post-doctorate. Conversely, Native Americans are more likely to have NIH funding, controlling for a number of factors such as age, year of PhD, and publication record. These results run counter to NIH's expectations. What the data reveal, Kington explained, is that there is “a huge need for empirical work looking at the actual evidence and understanding the dynamics of this system of careers.”

The picture is further complicated when one looks at the institutions where individuals achieve tenure, he stated, emphasizing that the NIH has just begun its analysis in this area. He also highlighted the NIH's major initiative looking at the careers of women in science.

Concluding, Kington warned the audience that “all of us need to be prepared for unpleasant evidence, evidence that might raise uncomfortable questions and uncomfortable issues.” It is a “complicated story” and “we will have to be willing to hear unpleasant things if we are finally going to have an important, serious discussion about what we can do to correct the problem.”

See **Diverse Research**, on next page



NIH Acting Director Raynard S. Kington

An Update on Gender-friendly Sociology Departments

The latest “report card” on doctoral-granting programs

The Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) recently awarded a number of PhD-granting sociology departments three different “Seals of Approval” based on: Their gender equity in the areas of faculty ratio, gender scholarship, as well as progress toward achieving both equitable faculty ratio and gender scholarship. The *SWS Report Card on Gender Scholarship and Equity in Sociology Departments: Revision to the Report Card on Gender and Women Friendly Institutions* is an update to the original 2004 report, which detailed the state of women and gender scholarship in the discipline (see the November 2004 *Footnotes*).

In the four years between the original report and this latest revision, “the presence of women and gender scholarship has changed dramatically,” with many more departments awarded the seals of honor in 2008, according to the recent report’s authors Barbara Risman and Lisa Berube, both of the University of Illinois-Chicago. While there is reason for optimism, there is still underrepresentation of women in tenure-track positions and gender scholarship, they maintain.

According to data from the National Science Foundation (NSF), females are outpacing males in earning doctor-

ate degrees in sociology. ASA’s research department found that while women’s representation in sociology departments at all types of institutions has been increasing, it has been at a very gradual pace (see the December 2008 *Footnotes*). According to NSF data, in 2005, 64 percent of new sociologists were women. Other research has found that women are overrepresented among the lowest-paid, part-time positions. In addition, a number of previous studies have found that the higher one moves along the academic ladder, the fewer women there are, and the less diversity overall. The *SWS Report Card* found some positive news in the great deal of departmental variation, even among the upper ranks, indicating positive changes for women, feminists, and gender scholars.

Seeking to provide a different ranking system from the *U.S. News & World Report* on graduate programs, the SWS report’s goal was to recognize departments that excelled at providing a welcoming climate for women and feminist scholars as well as recognize an improvement in equity. The SWS report ranks doctoral-granting departments on the “percentage of tenure-track faculty who are women” and the “percentage of tenure-track faculty with research and teaching specialties in the areas of gender and inequality” within

doctoral-granting sociology departments. Taken together, these measures represent a department’s openness to women and to gender research and teaching. The report was based on data collected from the 112 PhD-granting departments listed in the *ASA 2007 Guide to Graduate Departments of Sociology*.

Faculty Gender Equality

The most positive news in the report was the increase in women in tenure-track positions. Sixty-five percent (73) of doctoral-granting sociology departments met the standards to be awarded the SWS Seal of Approval for Faculty Gender Equity, which was given to all departments in which 40 percent or more of the faculty are women. This means that a high ratio of female professors in sociology departments is now the norm. In 2004, 37 graduate departments met this standard, representing 33 percent of the doctoral-granting departments. Of the 20 most prestigious departments in the country (among the top 20 departments as ranked by the 2006 *U.S. News & World Report*), nine received this Seal of Approval. This is triple the number of those receiving the seal in 2004. Those universities were: University of California-Berkeley, University of Michigan, Stanford University, Indiana

University, Northwestern University, Cornell University, Duke University, Ohio State University, and Yale University. On the other side of the spectrum, 13 percent of sociology departments have less than 30 percent women faculty, and two departments have less than 20 percent female faculty.

Gender Scholarship

Sociology departments with a central focus of research on gender or inequality research with an intersectional approach received the SWS Seal of Approval for Gender Scholarship. This award was given to departments in which more than 25 percent of the faculty name some form of gender or inequality studies among their specialties. Twenty-four departments met the standards of scholarship to be awarded the seal of approval, representing 21 percent of the sociology departments. In 2008, the SWS awarded 37 departments the seal, representing 33 percent of the sociology departments. Of the most prestigious departments, two universities qualified for the gender scholarship seal: Stanford University and Cornell University. This was a slight increase from 2004 when no departments received this distinction.

See **Gender-friendly**, on page 7

Diverse Research

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Meeting the National Need

Ward discussed NSF’s role in meeting the national need for a robust scientific workforce in the 21st century. She explained that she assumes that “there is a national imperative and that diversity does, in fact, strengthen the scientific enterprise by the intellectual diversity of thought.” Agreeing with Kington, Ward emphasized that there continues to be a crisis in the “underrepresentation of certain U.S. groups in the STEM [science, technology, engineering, and mathematics] fields—mainly women students, faculty of color, and persons with disabilities.”

Focusing on innovation, which remains the engine of U.S. economic competitiveness, Ward suggested the role of diverse intellectual capital is a topic of great interest to NSF. She stressed that fostering an innovation ecosystem would require intellectual capacity building. Thus, STEM talent development is imperative.

Ward maintained that research infrastructure “is having learning platforms of places where creativity is fostered and intellectual diversity of thought would be encouraged and fostered.” These are some of the subjects that NSF is examining. She informed the group that NSF supports “some 60 programs” at various levels and scales. Half of them are managed in EHR. The programs range from “focused programs,” which center exclusively on underrepresented minorities, to those that spotlight women, and others that emphasize persons with disabilities. Still, there

are programs where “diversity is a central element that is embedded within the thrust of the entire program,” she explained.



Wanda E. Ward, NSF Acting Assistant Director for the Education and Human Resources Directorate

Newer directions NSF has taken include its *Innovation through Institutional Integration* program. This program allows the agency to address areas such as centrally broadening participation and addressing the issue of critical educational junctures, the integration of research in education, a globally engaged workforce, as well as research and evaluation as a cross-cut to all of these issues. All of this, Ward said, occurs in the context of a global and cyber-enabled world. Basically, the program was designed to challenge

faculty, administrators, and institutions of higher education “to think more strategically about the creative integration of NSF-funded awards, toward a whole that exceeded the sum of its parts,” she explained. The agency’s approach, increasingly, is to look across the Foundation to see what it is doing in this area to move forward more robustly. Ward concluded by sharing the range of activities in which the NSF has supported professional associations to promote broadening participation.

Policy and Legal Environments

Beyond government agency details, Coleman provided the “big-picture” of the policy and legal environments that affect issues of access and diversity, focusing on science education and the science professions. His perspective from working with colleges, universities, and national associations around the country is very much an institutional perspective, he said, stressing that “you have to know that terrain” and what is permissible. He concurred with

Kington that “this is ultimately about [using] the research and the evidence base to then drive good results.”

What is the evidence? Coleman suggested that “good policy development, while importantly focused on the legal sphere, has to be correspondingly focused on the question of research and data.” He said, however, that “the perfect cannot be the enemy of the good” and that “we know more than we sometimes give ourselves credit for.”

Coleman stated that in addition to the best research and data, it is also important to focus “on building stakeholder understanding and public will and support.” He explained that the dynamic is shifting from the “court of law to the court of public opinion.” Echoing Kington’s point on the imperative of “tackling hard and unpleasant evidence,” he emphasized that it is important to “let facts, as opposed to ideology, drive this conversation.”

Citing the Supreme Court affirmative action decisions in *Grutter v. Bollinger* and *Gratz v. Bollinger*, Coleman observed that these University of Michigan cases “framed a compelling case about their institutional mission-driven imperative.” That model, he contended, whether you are sued or not, “is a foundation for broad success in the political as well as the legal enterprise.” Noting NSF’s efforts to integrate its diversity-focused programs, Coleman argued that “if you follow the theory about the benefits of diversity in education, and in science more specifically, . . . there has to be that integration, because while the numbers are critically important. . . they are the necessary-but-not-sufficient condition for achieving the kind of benefits we say we care about in education and in society.” Highlighting the majority’s opinion in the Michigan law school case, Coleman said that the arguments that the benefits

of diversity could justify some race- and ethnicity-conscious practices were pivotal in the Michigan case. “There was social science evidence, there was institutional evidence, there were specific perspectives brought to the table that convinced, in that case five justices out of nine.”

Why do we care about diversity as an educational enterprise? Coleman answered, “If you understand the ultimate theory that diverse teams actually push and challenge and force new perspectives that lead to better thinking, that lead to better solutions, and ultimately lead to better outcomes, you actually understand that there’s no specific area around where diversity works and doesn’t,” he answered. And, he argued, “this isn’t just about the educational benefits . . . but this is about the economic imperative, thematically,” as laid out by Kington and Ward. It is also about national security and the United States having the kind of military it needs, Coleman concluded.

A transcript of the briefing and the speakers’ presentations are available at www.cossa.org/diversity/diversity.html. The House Diversity and Innovation Caucus promoted the briefing. The organizations of the CEDS believe that collaboration is essential to enhancing recruitment and retention of underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities in science. In February 2008, the groups held a leadership retreat, which generated a report with recommendations, *Enhancing Diversity in Science: A Leadership Retreat on the Role of Professional Associations and Scientific Societies* (see May/June 2008 *Footnotes*). It is available at the website above.

*This article was adapted, with permission, from the March 23, 2009, issue of the COSSA WASHINGTON UPDATE, the newsletter of the Consortium of Social Science Associations.

Over 60 Years of Sociology at UMass-Amherst

by Randall Stokes, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

To the surprise of almost all of its current faculty members, the Department of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst (UMass) has a history considerably longer than the 60 or so post-WW II years it has been generally accorded. At its recent winter banquet, the department not only boasted and roasted its retiring former Chair, Jay Demerath, but was apprised of the nearly vanished first 40 years of a century of sociology at UMass by another former Chair, Randall Stokes, leading to an additional focus of the celebration.

The first sociology course at the University of Massachusetts was taught in 1908 by Kenyon Leech Butterfield, President of the university from 1906 through 1924. Butterfield came to the university, then the Massachusetts Agricultural College (MAC), after a brief stint as President of the Rhode Island Agricultural College and with an established commitment to sociology. His undergraduate (BA, Michigan) and graduate degrees (PhD, MAC) were in rural sociology, and he brought with him a nearly messianic passion to improve the lives of the then-widely impoverished small family farmers and rural workers. His first course was titled “The Rural Community,” and its progressive leanings were hinted at in the course description. Among the topics covered were “the present social conditions of farm people,” and “social class and social status

of the rural population.” At the time, MAC had a total enrollment of exactly 239 men and 2 women.

A Progressive Enterprise

Shortly after this initial offering, in 1909, Butterfield instituted a completely new unit he named the Division of Social Science, centered around the departments of rural sociology and agricultural economics. From its inception, the Division of Social Science was a self-consciously uplifting and progressive enterprise. Many of the courses were explicitly dedicated to improving the lot of rural workers and small farmers. By the early 1920s, as many as eight undergraduate courses in rural sociology were being offered each semester, including such staples as “Rural Village and Town Sociology,” “Rural Government,” and “Rural Organization.” Major topics in these three courses included the forming of class consciousness, criticism and evaluation of plans for improvement, and political institutions and rural betterment.

To appreciate Butterfield’s view that sociology had a mission to improve people’s lives, one has only to look a bit south to New Haven, CT, where in 1908, American Sociological Society President and Yale Professor William Graham Sumner was still waging war on the notion that anyone ought to attempt any sort of social betterment for fear of disturbing the processes of natural selection that ensured societal progress. Sociological loyalties then were largely divided between the progressives, led by Lester F. Ward, and the social Darwinists,

led by Sumner. Butterfield’s sympathies were unequivocally with the former. Within 10 years of the first sociology course, the Division of Social Science was offering both an MA and a PhD in sociology. The first UMass MA degree in sociology was awarded in 1921 to Aaron Smith and the first PhD in 1932 to Ezra Morgan.

In addition to Butterfield, faculty before WWI included professors Newell Sims, James Cutler, John Phelan, Joseph Novitski, and John Skinner. Like Butterfield, all were activists in the progressive movement. Sims, for example, left Massachusetts for the University of Florida where, in 1920, his house was raided by Department of Justice representatives in search of “radical” literature. Various tracts advocating racial and class equality were discovered, and he was forced to resign his faculty position.

Post-War Sociology

The modern era of sociology at UMass began with Henry Korson’s arrival from Yale in 1944. At this time, the university still had fewer than 1,000 students. Korson became the head and only member of a new free-standing UMass Department of Sociology. Within a few years John Manfredi, Edwin Driver, and T.O. Wilkinson joined Korson, and these four formed the core of the department until the explosive growth of sociology that began in the early 1960s.

Between 1963 and 1974, faculty size increased from 10 to 31, including a number of people who were already or became distinguished scholars. Among

these were Milton Gordon, Lewis Killian, Charles Page, Alice Rossi, and Peter Rossi (both to become ASA Presidents), Hans Speier, William J. Wilson (also a former ASA President), and Jay Demerath, who came from Wisconsin as chairperson. Under the directorship of Doug Anderton, the Department’s Social and Demographic Research Institute (SADRI) continues on the path blazed by Pete Rossi, and even earlier by Butterfield, with the mandate to carry out empirical and applied policy research on issues of broad public concern (see www.umass.edu/sadri). The Demerath era was capped in 1983 when the National Research Council report on graduate programs ranked UMass sociology 18th in the nation, eleventh among public universities.

Now we are beginning our second hundred years with a burst of new energy and a continued dedication to Butterfield’s vision of sociology as a discipline that can and should make a difference. Like many departments that experienced extremely rapid growth during the War on Poverty years, the department is now in the midst of a generational turnover and reconfiguration, under the guidance of our current Chair Donald Tomaskovic-Devey. Fourteen of our 24 current tenure-track faculty received their PhDs after 2000, and the mounting number of recent major publications, grants, and awards suggests that sociology’s best days lie ahead. UMass sociology remains tied to our progressive origins, blending the tools of contemporary sociological research with our historical legacy. 🌱

For more information on the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, see <www.umass.edu/sociol>.

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in funded projects that investigate whites’ racial attitudes, cultural competencies, and how poor physician-patient communication contributes to continuing racial/ethnic health disparities. Tony utilizes psychiatric epidemiologic, social survey, and quantitative methods in his research. One of his favorite books is Gordon Allport’s *The Nature of Racial Prejudice*, which he likes to assign in his undergraduate course, the Social Psychology of Racial Prejudice. Among the outlets in which his work has appeared are *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, *Contemporary Justice Review*, and *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*.

Donato

Katharine M. Donato is Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at Vanderbilt University. She earned her PhD from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. After her post-doctoral fellowship in demography at the University of Chicago, she served on the faculties of Louisiana State University and Rice University, joining the Vanderbilt faculty in 2006. Katharine’s broad interests focus on topics related to social stratification and demography, especially international migration between Mexico and the United States. Her research has addressed questions related to the impact of U.S. immigration policy on the labor market incorporation of Mexican and other Latino migrants and the process of immigrant incorporation in new U.S. destinations. This led to her service as a member of the Binational Study of Migration between Mexico and the United States, organized by the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform. She

has also been very interested in how the processes of health and migration unfold over the life course, especially how Mexican migration influences child health outcomes (see <www.mexmah.com>). With recent funding from the National Science and Russell Sage Foundations and the Vanderbilt Center for Nashville Studies, she is currently working on a tri-city project that examines immigrant parent involvement in schools in Chicago, New York, and Nashville. Katharine is also developing a new project on adolescent health and migration in Mexico, and this summer she is working on a book manuscript about variation in gender ratios among immigrant populations. Her favorite undergraduate course to teach is Contemporary Mexican Society, in which students read Enrique Krauze’s *Mexico: Biography of Power—A History of Modern Mexico 1810-1996*. Her work has appeared in *Demography*, *Social Forces*, *International Migration Review*, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Social Science Quarterly*, and *Population Research and Policy Review*.

Isaac

Larry Isaac is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt University. Before joining the Vanderbilt faculty in 2004, he earned his PhD from Indiana University and served on the Florida State University faculty as the Mildred and Claude Pepper Distinguished Professor of Sociology. His primary research areas are social movements/political sociology, cultures of class, and historical sociology, and his research has been supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the ASA. Larry has a long-standing practice of combining qualitative and quantitative methods and has been innovative by simultaneously modeling historical contingencies and

continuities with multiple methods, including textual and pictorial analysis, historical case studies, cross-national analysis, archival analysis, interviews and surveys, Boolean-based analytical techniques (e.g., QCA and ESA), as well as various multivariate statistical techniques. During his career, he has written about the social determinants of political orientations, macro-dimensions of inequality, the insurgency-state policy relationship, formal methods for analyzing social-historical contingency and continuity, labor movements, civil rights movement, interdependencies between movements, and cultural consequences of movements. His major current projects include: (a) a study of cultural, political, and institutional dimensions of militias formed as countermovement organizations against labor during the Gilded Age; (b) a study of the literary consequences of collective contention surrounding the labor movement during the Gilded Age and Progressive Era; and (c) a study of the Nashville civil rights movement (with Dan Cornfield, Dennis Dickerson, and James Lawson, Jr.). He enjoys teaching his undergraduate course on America in the Sixties and assigning Todd Gitlin’s *The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage*. Among the publications in which his work has appeared are the *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Research in Social Movements, Conflicts, and Change*, *International Review of Social History*, and *Historical Methods*.

McCammon

Holly J. McCammon is Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt University. She earned her PhD at Indiana University and joined the Vanderbilt faculty in 1990. Her scholarship, which has been supported by the NSF and American Association of University Women, is situated broadly in social movements, politi-

cal sociology, and gender, and she has long been a student of collective action. Holly is especially interested in the types of tactics and strategies that groups employ as they challenge authorities as well as the way in which the broader political and cultural context shapes these tactics and strategies. Her research has considered how the U.S. legal environment shapes workers’ strike action, particularly how the law channels workers’ behavior into less disruptive and less militant forms of action. She has also studied the U.S. woman suffrage movement and how the suffragists were able to win changes in voting rights laws for women, particularly in contexts where women had already made significant inroads into spheres of activity dominated by men, such as the professions and educational institutions. Currently, Holly is investigating efforts by women in the early 20th century to change U.S. state-level jury laws so that women could sit on juries. In states where these jury movements were strategic in their collective action, women gained a place on juries more rapidly than in other states. She is currently completing a book on the women’s jury movements. Among her favorite books is Mary Fainsod Katzenstein’s *Faithful and Fearless: Moving Feminist Protest Inside the Church and Military*, which she likes to assign in her undergraduate course on Social Movements. Some of the publications in which her work has appeared are the *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Mobilization*, and *Gender & Society*. 🌱

The ASA founded ASR in 1936 with the mission to publish original works of interest to the sociology discipline in general, new theoretical developments, results of research that advance our understanding of fundamental social processes, and important methodological innovations.

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

A Sociologist Tackles Homeland Security

by John S. Verrico, Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate

Sharla Rausch leads the research efforts in the "harder" science at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), where she is head of S&T's Human Factors/Behavioral Sciences Division (HF/BSD). While many have claimed Human Factors is the "soft" science, Rausch respectfully disagrees. "It's the harder science," she explains, meaning the most difficult to understand and research. "Chemicals you can predict," she says. "People are another story."

Rausch is a trained sociologist, with many years experience in the federal government, including research and management positions at the U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice, the National Institute of Corrections, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. She holds both a master's and a doctoral degree in sociology and has had numerous works published in various academic and professional journals. Before joining the federal government in 1987, Rausch taught college-level courses for the University of Connecticut and Eastern Connecticut University. She also was on the research staff for the Psychology Department at the University of Connecticut and had her own research consulting business. When the September 11 attacks occurred, terrorism became a national challenge, and she came to DHS in 2003, within months of its establishment, serving as the Deputy for the Office of Systems Engineering and Development.

Rausch was the initial architect for S&T's Human Factors/Behavioral Sciences Division, laying its foundation, constructing its vision, and developing the methods by which it would seek to improve detection, analysis, and understanding of the threats posed by radical elements; to enhance societal resilience; and to integrate human capabilities into the development of technology. She was appointed to the Senior Executive Service, the highest level that career federal employees can achieve, in October 2006.

Her background in social-behavioral research has served her very well at DHS, as have the rest of her experiences, both professional and personal (transitional skills she calls them). When the then-Under Secretary for S&T, Jay Cohen, came on board in 2006, he laid out a new organization for disciplines in the S&T Directorate, with Human Factors being one of them. As a whole, the Directorate was to bring scientific knowledge to bear on how we predict and respond to both terrorism and natural disasters and provide scientific support to the intelligence community. S&T was to guide the development of effective measures for deterrence, detection, and mitigation of terrorist acts.

"So," Under Secretary Cohen said in August 2006, "Who wants what?" Rausch quickly called out, "I'll take Human Factors." She had come home to her roots as a social scientist.

The Human Factors research is about "understanding the roles of communities and organizations in moving individuals toward radicalization, or, away from it," Rausch explains. "It is about biometrics and improved screening techniques, as well as developing the science and technology for understanding and identifying

hostile intent and helping communities better prepare for and respond to catastrophic events. It's about incorporating the human factor into the development and deployment of technology. In short, it's a messy problem—it involves the human element."

It also is a cross-cutting division, informing and playing a role in the development of technologies (and science) throughout the Directorate. For instance, the Explosives Division's detection technology is informed by research on terrorists and their behavior, as well as by the application of human systems research and engineering to maximize system effectiveness, safety, usability, and public acceptance.

It is more about the "science" of terrorism, not the "psychology" of terrorism as all the social and behavioral sciences play a role, Rausch has noted. In a learned nod to her former life, she wants to improve the *analytical capability* at DHS in order to understand terrorist motivation and behavior. She wants to systematically incorporate user and public input when looking at the problems, and she wants to understand the social, psychological and economic aspects of community resilience if "the bomber does get through," or if we are hit with natural disasters, because "natural disasters, too, are on our plate."

Rausch and her expert staff of psychologists, sociologists, economists, lawyers, statisticians, physicists, and engineers understand that everything ultimately comes down to the human aspect. They tackle topics ranging from understanding the intent and motivation of terrorist individuals/groups and how radicalization leads to violence, to how we address catastrophic events, and the way we develop technologies that are not only effective, but publicly acceptable. They are tackling a very unwieldy constellation of difficulties.

Numerous research projects, programs, and technologies are being funded by Rausch's team. They manage to wrap their arms around some amazingly thorny challenges. Some of the projects that the HF/BSD researchers are currently tackling include the following:

- "Counter-Improvised Explosives Devices Predictive Screening Project," which will derive observable behaviors that precede a suicide bombing attack and develop extraction algorithms to identify and alert personnel to indicators of suicide bombing behavior.
- "Violent Intent Modeling and Simulation Project," which uses advanced modeling and simulation techniques that integrate social and behavioral science data and theories to improve the efficiency and accuracy of intelligence estimates of the likelihood of a group to engage in violence. It also seeks to determine the factors (e.g., ideological, contextual, and organizational) that may increase the probability of violent strategies. (There currently is an opening in HF/BSD for this area.)
- "Mobile Biometrics Project," which develops multi-modal biometric sensors and technologies to provide accurate identification capabilities for screening at remote sites along U.S. borders, during disasters and terrorist incidents, at sea, and in other places where communications access is limited.

It is a full plate, but as Rausch points out, "we don't do it alone." We work closely with DHS operational components, such as the Transportation Security Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Customs and Border Protection, as well as state and local first responders to identify capability gaps. We then leverage, fund, or partner with other federal agencies, countries, universities, industry, national labs, and DHS Centers of Excellence, such as the University of Maryland's START (Study of Terrorism and Response to Terrorism), to develop the solutions.

At the end of the day, Sharla Rausch turns over what she has learned in her mind, calls colleagues and experts, bats ideas around with them, and focuses her strategies. When asked at a recent conference what her biggest challenge was, Sharla responded, "staying one step ahead of the bad guys without negatively impacting the good guys. It's putting the human in the equation."

As Rausch reminds her staff on those days that overwhelm, "it's not a job for sissies." ☺



Sharla Rausch

Gender-friendly

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Overall Seal of Excellence

The SWS recognized those departments that excelled in both the proportion of faculty who are women and in the representation of scholarship in gender inequality with the SWS Seal of Excellence. This award is meant to suggest that a department is more likely to be one of the most gender- and women-friendly in the country. Among the doctoral-granting departments, 29 met the high standards and were awarded the seal of excellence in 2008, which was more than double the number (12) of departments that received the honor in 2004. Of the 29

departments recognized by the SWS for the gender-friendliness, 18 were ranked among the 60 most prestigious sociology departments by the *U.S. News & World Report*, and two were among the 20 most prestigious.

"Our hope is that department leaders in sociology departments across the country will use these findings to advertise these strengths and to identify and overcome their weaknesses," said Risman and Berube. They believe that the most important finding is that students don't have to decide between a prestigious department or a female-friendly department. ☺

For the full SWS report and a more detailed listing of the universities that received seals of approval, visit <www.socwomen.org/new_report.pdf>.

Science Policy

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health insurance and managed care, and other health topics. The 32nd annual report card on the nation's health includes a special chartbook section focusing on the health of young adults ages 18-29, which shows that Americans in this age group face a number of obstacles to their health, including increasing obesity, substance abuse, high injury rates, and a greater likelihood to be uninsured than other adults. In addition to the chartbook, the report includes over 150 detailed tables presenting trends on health status and health care utilization, resources, and expenditures. The report can be accessed on the NCHS website at <www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

Renew Before Registering...

Renew your ASA membership online *before* you register for the Annual Meeting in order to qualify for the lower registration fees available to members. See <www.asanet.org/members/membership.html>.





Looking Forward to the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco

MFP at the ASA Annual Meeting

At the ASA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, you are invited to join the ASA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) as it continues to commemorate 35 years of supporting minority graduate students in the discipline. Below are a variety of sessions and celebrations sponsored by the MFP. For more information, visit the online program at the ASA website <www.asanet.org>.

Special Session:

Glancing Back, Looking Forward: Celebrating 35 Years of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)

Organizers: David Takeuchi, University of Washington

Presider: Patricia White, National Science Foundation

A distinguished panel of former MFP Fellows from different entering cohorts will discuss the contributions of MFP to the discipline-at-large, focusing on the diverse intellectual achievements, pipeline related efforts, and scholarly network development over its history.

MFP Benefit Reception

Set aside time on Sunday to join good friends and supporters of the Minority Fellowship Program! Plan to relax after dinner, meet current Fellows and MFP alumni, and reaffirm your commitment to the program. Admission is by ticket only, with proceeds supporting the MFP.

Professional Workshop:

The Next Generation of MFP Scholarship in Service to Social Justice

Organizer and Presider: Jean H. Shin, American Sociological Association

This workshop is geared toward graduate and undergraduate students, focused on how to integrate sociological scholarship with interests in serving social justice. In doing so, current and former Fellows will speak on the future of studying disparities within various subareas.

MFP Research Session:

Topics in Race and Ethnicity

Organizer: Jean H. Shin, American Sociological Association

Presider: Elena Bastida, University of North Texas Health Science Center


This session features four papers in the area of race and ethnicity, given by current MFP Fellows Ana L. Campos-Holland, University of Iowa; Shiguero Julio Tsuha, UC-Riverside; Ruth Thompson-Miller, Texas A&M University; and Louis Edgar Esparza, Stony Brook University.

MFP Research Session:

Topics in Mental Health and Health

Organizer: Jean H. Shin, American Sociological Association

Presider: Gloria Jones-Johnson, Iowa State University


This session features four papers in the area of mental health and health, given by current MFP Fellows Mary Gee, UC-San Francisco; Robert Peterson, Case Western Reserve University; Melissa Kew, University of Chicago; and Tiffani L. Saunders, Indiana University-Bloomington. 

East vs. West?

As many members noticed, the ASA Annual Meetings for 2005-2008 were all located in the eastern US/Canada. ASA Council and the Executive Office have received and noted the comments from members regarding this regional focus. This concentration on eastern sites was unintentional. It was the inadvertent result of juggling future meeting contracts to stay out of cities where there appeared to be a strong likelihood of strikes by hotel workers' unions in 2006-2007.

ASA Council took member comments into account when looking at future years that were open for site selection, and the Executive Office was

directed to investigate western cities other than San Francisco for 2012 and 2016. (San Francisco was not included because ASA was already booked there for 2009 and 2014.) At its meeting in February 2009, ASA Council reviewed site reports on Denver, Portland, San Diego, Seattle, and Vancouver. Denver was designated for 2012, and Seattle was chosen for 2016. Contracts with facilities in both cities have now been finalized.

The normal rotation of Annual Meetings runs on an East-Central-West pattern, with consideration given to northern/southern sites within those regions and to meeting in Canada once every decade. 

The schedule of future Annual Meetings for 2010-2016.

2010	Atlanta	Aug. 14-17	Hilton Atlanta, Atlanta Marriott Marquis
2011	Chicago	Aug. 13-16	Hilton Chicago, Hilton Palmer House
2012	Denver	Aug. 17-20	Colorado Convention Center & Hyatt Regency
2013	New York City	Aug. 10-13	Hilton New York, Sheraton New York
2014	San Francisco	Aug. 16-19	Hilton San Francisco, Parc55
2015	Chicago	Aug. 22-25	Hilton Chicago, Hilton Palmer House
2016	Seattle	Aug. 20-23	Washington Convention Center & Sheraton
2017	eastern site tbd		
2018	central site tbd		

San Francisco

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features locally grown, organic ingredients on her ever-changing menu, often crediting the farms from which they came. Waters commonly refers to alternative agriculture as a “delicious revolution” because of the potential for food to become a vehicle for broader social and environmental change. Support from chefs such as these has certainly contributed to the movement’s growth and allowed sustainably minded producers to charge premiums for their produce. However, because the movement’s platform encourages consumers to support alternative agriculture through the purchase of high-priced gourmet food, it has often been characterized as elitist.

Seeking Food Justice

While the movement has successfully animated the desires of affluent communities for local, organic produce, low-income communities of color often lack access to any produce at all. Since the 1960s, full-service grocery stores have closed many of their inner-city locations, particularly those in African American neighborhoods, in favor of suburban ones. This leaves residents of so-called “food deserts” dependant on the plentiful local liquor stores and fast-food chains. Bay Area-

based activist Van Jones commonly labels such inequalities “eco-apartheid.”

In response, citizens hailing from and working with low-income communities of color have begun organizing in pursuit of *food justice*. The concept of food justice integrates the more established notion of food security—access to sufficient and nutritious food through non-emergency means—with an environmental justice perspective addressing the racial and economic distribution of environmental benefits.

Like the alternative agriculture movement, food justice activism is deeply rooted in Bay Area counterculture. In 1968, the Black Panther Party began the Free Breakfast for School Children Program, which quickly spread from Oakland to cities throughout the country. Like the Diggers, the Black Panthers linked the distribution of food to political empowerment. Additionally, they established that it was their right and responsibility to provide for their communities’ basic needs. Contemporary food justice activists name this legacy as an important inspiration for their present work.

Food justice activists have adapted many tools of the alternative agriculture movement including farmers markets, CSAs, community gardens and school lunch programs. Through this approach, not only do low-income, minority com-


munities reap the fruits of alternative agriculture, but food becomes an organizing tool empowering residents to address structural inequalities within the food system and to create sustainability, community-self-reliance, and social justice. Farmers’ markets in predominantly black neighborhoods such as West Oakland, for example, publicize the systemic discrimination endured by African American farmers at the hands of the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture). Additionally, school and community gardening programs in marginalized neighborhoods promote the foods most culturally familiar to local residents. As in the alternative foods movement, many of these efforts take place in the Bay Area, particularly the Bayview/Hunter’s Point neighborhood of San Francisco and the flatlands of East and West Oakland. Bay Area organizations work with a growing nationwide network of food justice activists.

Food justice activists have urged the alternative agriculture movement to reflect on issues of structural inequality and to deepen their commitment to social justice. While some leaders resist this direction, others have begun the difficult work of



Vegetable bounty at San Francisco’s Ferry Plaza Farmer’s Market

alliance building. Some progress has been made; conferences historically dedicated to environmental sustainability have featured food justice leaders in plenary sessions, and foundations focused on ecological health have begun to fund urban food initiatives. Additionally, Bay Area residents, including Berkeley’s Michael Pollan and organizations such as Berkeley’s Ecology Center and Oakland’s Food First, have led efforts to transform food policy to a more just and sustainable model. Together, food justice and alternative agriculture activists might continue to pursue this agenda, perhaps eventually fueling a revolution that is not only delicious, but nourishes a hunger for justice as well.

For more information on the food culture in San Francisco, see the ASA Annual Meeting Dining Guide online and in your program packet. 

Between Public and Professional: Chinese Sociology and the Construction of a Harmonious Society

by Xiaogang Wu, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Unlike American colleagues who lament their invisibility in the Ivory Tower and who only recently called for a public sociology, Chinese sociologists are very involved in the society they study, either through policy research consultation for the government or through public discussion and contributing essays to the mass media. Sociology in China, since its re-establishment in 1979, has been deeply imprinted by an applied orientation, mixed with what Michael Burawoy called policy and public sociologies. This orientation can be traced back even further to the older generation of Chinese sociologists, influenced by the Confucian tradition, who believed in a mission of using their professional knowledge to advance the social well-being.

From Being Abolished to a “Spring of Sociology”

To be sure, the fall and rise of Chinese sociology has been strongly influenced by politics and the Chinese Communist Party’s policy agenda from time to time. Sociology was denounced as a bourgeois science and abolished in 1952. In 1979, after Deng Xiaoping, the leader of China from 1978 to the early 1990s, acknowledged the neglect of sociology in China in the past and called for “catching up,” sociology was re-established as a discipline with much focus on policy-oriented, empirical-based research. To justify the existence of their discipline, Chinese sociologists stressed the notion of “problem consciousness” and actively attempted to use their knowledge to give advice on various critical issues that the country faced. A landmark project in the early 1980s, led by China’s prominent sociologist Fei Xiaotong (1910-2005), was on the development of “small towns,” focusing on the path of urbanization for a country with a huge rural population. The findings of the project had a large impact on government policies on rural industrialization and population migration in China. The sociology major was able to recruit talented students in the 1980s, and graduates usually had good careers in government or educational institutions.

The development of Chinese sociology had experienced a setback after the Tiananmen Square protest in 1989. With the suspicion by the regime that sociology was a politically sensitive discipline and with the further economic marketization since 1992, sociological research was sidelined for a decade or so, in sharp contrast to the booming economic research in China. Hence, Chinese sociologists should have been encouraged to observe the recent policy initiatives on the construction of “a harmonious society” (*hexie shehui*) under the leadership of Hu Jintao (China’s President) and Wen Jiabao (China’s Premier). Recently, development priorities have gradually shifted from over-emphasis on efficiency and growth to social justice and harmony, with aims to reduce social tension and maintain political stability. On February 21, 2005, after a lecture presented by two sociologists to the members of the Politburo of the Chinese Communist Party, President Hu Jintao remarked that “the construction of a harmonious society is a very good opportunity for the development of sociology, or we can say that the spring of sociology is coming!” Sociologists are expected to play a significant role in setting China’s policy agenda on education, employment, income


stratification and mobility, community construction, and migration. In the first area, an influential project, led by Lu Xueyi at the Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS), shows that, after 30 years of economic reforms, Chinese society has differentiated into 10 strata (classes), with state cadres on the top and peasants on the bottom. Special attention is paid to the emergence of a new middle class, especially its members’ values and their identities. In the second area, with the decline of work units (*danwei*), the commercialization of housing allocation, and the development of the real estate market, sociologists are now analyzing the community as the basic unit of social administration in urban China. Finally, waves of internal rural-to-urban migration have generated a large number of policy-oriented sociological studies on the *minggong* (peasant-workers) since the mid-1990s.

While sociology in China could not have survived and grown without the blessing from the state, it would be naïve to assume that the sociological research agenda entirely follows the party’s policy initiatives or ideological teachings. Scholars are vigilant in their attempts to avoid controversial, theoretical issues and focus on empirical research through large-scale surveys or case studies. Western

projects have tended to be on similar topics without clear theoretical guidelines and appropriate research designs. Hence, there is a pressing need in China to institutionalize sociological research, to establish an evaluation system to assess the quality of scholarly work, to develop shared standards of sociological research, and to disseminate sociological knowledge. Universities and social science academies—the two types of institutions in China that employ over 6,000 professional sociologists—have gradually differentiated their roles, with the latter more focused on policy research and government consultation and the former on academic research. As of 2008, within Chinese universities, 74 programs offered bachelor’s degrees in sociology, 87 offered master’s degrees, and 16 offered doctoral degrees. Qualitative and case studies continue to prevail in empirical investigations.

The Central Government’s Role

The greatest impetus for the professionalization of sociology comes from the central government’s initiatives to build programs of academic excellence. The “985 Project” identified the best universities to enhance the first-rate quality of the country’s academic research, whereas the “211 Project,” which sought to strengthen a number of higher learning institutions and disciplinary areas, selected two top sociology programs (at Renmin and Peking Universities), among 98 others programs, as the recipients of infrastructure building through data collection, course training, and international collaboration. For example, Renmin University, in collaboration with Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, has launched and run the Chinese General Social Survey (CGSS) since 2003; Peking University is home to the Chinese Family Panel Studies (CFPS) project, a long-term project (2008 to 2020), as well as a summer training program with the University of Michigan on quantitative methodology since 2006. Following international practices, the CGSS and CFPS data sets will be available to other users and will become major public goods to benefit the social science research community both inside and outside China.

With sharpened professional skills, increased interactions with the international research community, and local insights, Chinese sociologists are now in a unique position to study the monumental social changes in human history, and they will likely make important contributions to sociological knowledge. Their sociological imagination cannot be tamed by political force, and their professional research will not make them disappear within the Ivory Tower, but, rather, earn them greater confidence in addressing critical issues that China is now facing. The recent importation of the American version of public sociology, if not entirely counter-productive, will unlikely change the trend of professionalization of Chinese sociology. 

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“Sociologists are expected to play a significant role in setting China’s policy agenda on education, employment, income distribution, social security, public health, and community governance in the future.”



distribution, social security, public health, and community governance in the future.

Research Interests and Agendas

Against this context, Chinese sociologists’ research interests are generally concentrated in three areas: Social

(American) academic jargon and neutral terms are more favorably used than Marxist clichés in sociological writings. A typical example is the choice of the term “strata” instead of “class” by the CASS stratification project on the grounds that the latter has roots in Marxism, which emphasizes conflicts of interest, antagonism, and struggles among social groups. On the other hand, by recognizing diverse interest groups in a rapidly changing society, and under pressure from aggrieved citizens, laid-off state workers, rural migrant workers, villagers, and middle class homeowners, the current leadership has begun to adopt a pragmatic attitude towards social conflicts and has given more room to research on social movements and collective action from the standpoint of maintaining social stability.

To the young generation of scholars trained in the discipline, sociology is not only a tool for resolving the problems of Chinese society, it is also a scientific discipline with its own agenda and standards. Despite a proliferation of empirical research in the 1980s and 1990s, not much sociological knowledge had been accumulated because many

Book Your Annual Meeting Housing Today

The ASA understands your budgetary concerns and has partnered with the meeting hotels to offer you a competitive hotel rate and incentives to stretch your travel dollar. Guests within the block have access to special amenities, including: complimentary Internet access in guestrooms, double points in hotel programs, complimentary access to health clubs. Booking a room in the ASA room blocks helps to support the Association and ultimately keep overall meeting costs as low as possible. We are a discipline concerned with workers’ rights and improved living standards. Support the various hotel staff by staying in the Annual Meeting hotels.

Hotel rates at the ASA properties are some of the most competitive in the area and rooms sell out fast. **Deadline: July 1, 2009.** For more information, see <www.asanet.org>

ASA Awards Grants for the Advancement of Sociology

The American Sociological Association announces eight awards from the December 2008 cycle of ASA's Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD). A competitive program co-funded by ASA and the National Science Foundation (NSF) and administered by the ASA, FAD provides seed money (up to \$7,000) to PhD scholars for innovative research projects and for scientific conferences that advance the discipline through theoretical and methodological breakthroughs. Funding decisions are made by an advisory panel comprised of members of ASA's Council and the ASA Director of Research and Development. In this round, the Advisory Panel decided to fund a higher number of proposals at smaller amounts. Below is a list of the latest FAD Principal Investigators (PIs) and a brief description of their projects.

Esther Ngan-ling Chow, American University, \$3,500 for *International Conference on Gender and Social Transformations: Global, Transnational and Local Realities and Perspectives*. The purpose of this grant is to help support an international conference on gender to be held in Beijing, China, on July 17-19, 2009. The conference seeks to examine how women and gender relations are shaped by societal transformations economically, politically, socially, and culturally in the global, transnational, and local contexts. Gender will be an analytical and critical lens to study the globalization and transnational processes and their intricate linkages and impacts. A group of U.S. and Chinese gender scholars in sociology will present their work at this conference. The conference will address the cutting-edge issues, pressing social problems, and emergent phenomena that are critical for interrogating the theoretical paradigms on globalization and transnationalism from gender perspectives. It will promote the development of theory, method, and practice by emphasizing how theory and research on gender can inform public debates and policy, contribute to research and feminist scholarship, and inspire collective action locally, transnationally, and globally. The Chinese Women's Research Society (CWRS) of the All-China Women's Federation will provide additional funding.

Gary Alan Fine and Alice Eagly, Northwestern University, \$3,500 for *Bridging Social Psychologies: Building Linkages between Sociological and Psychological Social Psychology*. The purpose of this grant is to support graduate student participation in a small conference that establishes links of theory and methodology between sociological and psychological approaches to social psychology in order to introduce the next generation of social psychologists to cross-disciplinary practices. The PIs have invited seven senior social psychologists from each discipline to consider the benefits and challenges of cross-fertilization between sociology and psychology. Each senior scholar will invite a graduate student to attend. The conference will explore similarities and differences between social psychology as practiced by sociologists and psychologists. Paired senior scholars will examine central analytical topics and prepare essays that address how social psychologists can establish cross-disciplinary research agendas. Sessions will examine identity, inequality, cognition, emotion, culture, gender, and prejudice from the standpoint of both disciplines.

Kathryn Gold Hadley, California State University-Sacramento, \$7,000 for *Deconstructing the Model Minority Experience in an Urban High School: Educational Expectations and Ethnic Identities*. According to the PI, the model minority stereotype depicts Asian Americans as a homogeneous group of high achievers, who some researchers

believe lose connections to ethnic identities through assimilation and academic achievement. In reality, Asian Americans are a heterogeneous group with variation in ethnic identity, social class, language proficiency, and immigration history. Using participant observation, student-led focus groups, and in-depth interviews with Asian American students, their parents, and teachers, the PI will investigate how Asian American students at a low-income public high school manage their ethnic identities in the face of academic stereotyping and varied academic performances. Academic achievement data reveal that, on average, lower- and working-class Asian Americans outperform other racial or ethnic groups at their school, but still fall short of state-imposed academic standards. The PI proposes that the school-level data mask the struggles this diverse group faces, including peer discrimination and academic pressures, and hopes to show how college-prep- and non-college-prep- track Asian American students manage the conflicting definitions of "academic success" and their ethnic and academic identities.

Annette Lareau and Kristen Harknett, University of Pennsylvania, \$3,500 for *Thinking about the Family in an Unequal Society: A Workshop Proposal*. The PIs argue that research opportunities for sociologists are increasingly stratified because younger scholars at non-elite institutions have higher teaching loads, fewer colloquia, and a lack of travel monies compared to those in more prestigious institutions. As a result they have fewer chances to obtain informal feedback concerning their work, especially grant proposals to fund their work. The PIs will run a one-day workshop to provide such an opportunity for 20 qualitative and quantitative early- and mid-career researchers whose area is sociology of the family, but who are not employed at Research I universities. The scholars will receive feedback on a work-in-progress, attend a grant workshop, and mingle with senior scholars in sociology of the family. The workshop will occur the day before a conference on "Thinking about the Family in an Unequal Society" at the University of Pennsylvania, which will provide a discussion of current weaknesses in the field. In addition to advancing the quality of future research in sociology of the family, the workshop seeks to build a network among its 20 participants for future collaboration and exchange.

Erin Leahey, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, \$6,370 for *Straight from the Source: How Highly Cited Authors Explain Their Influence*. The PI proposes to capitalize on an under-examined data set of more than 4,000 interviews spanning 17 years with authors of heavily cited science articles as to why they thought their work had become important. According to the PI, sociologists of science have theorized and empirically examined factors that contribute to such influence, including institutional support and social processes like the

Matthew effect (by which initial advantage accumulates, regardless of merit). But the thoughts, ideas, and "origin stories" of the authors themselves should be considered, even though incorporating social actors' "own understandings" or "points of view" are seldom analyzed. Such analysis may be critical to a complete, process-oriented explanation of the dissemination of innovations. In order to fill this gap, Leahey will code these stories using a variety of themes including integration, adaptability, institutional context, relationships, forms of novelty, and overturning. She is particularly interested in how these perceptions vary over time and across scientific fields.

Susan C. Pearce, East Carolina University, \$6,996 for *Re-imagined Communities, Mnemonic Mirrors, and Europe's 1989 Revolutions: Research on the Twenty-Year Anniversaries*. The PI will conduct ethnographic research in Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Serbia as these countries commemorate the 20th anniversary of the dissolution of the Eastern Bloc of the former Soviet Union. By comparing different countries, the PI seeks to demonstrate that context matters by emphasizing the historical contingencies of collective memory. The research will include photo documenting, recording, and collecting materials produced to remember the revolutions of 1989. In addition, the PI will supplement the naturalistic observations of these events and productions with qualitative interviews. She will ask about discrepancies between what was hoped for and what was achieved in the 20-year transformation process and about satisfaction with the present in light of perceived discrepancies. The goal is to understand the social-memory meanings that both state and civil society produce and to draw comparisons across countries. The research will emphasize the historical collective memory and the process of remembering non-traumatic histories. If successful, it will contribute to stronger links between cultural and political theory, particularly in the nexus where collective memory and social movement theory meet.

Erin Ruel and Deirdre Oakley, Georgia State University, \$7,000 for *Journaling the Public Housing Relocation Process: Home, Place and Strata in the Social Hierarchy*. In early 2007, the Atlanta Housing Authority (AHA) announced plans to demolish 12 more public housing communities by 2010, effectively ending the vast majority of project-based public housing in the city. The goal of this project is to employ participant audio journaling and photo-elicitation, an innovative and little used methodol-

ogy within the social sciences, in order to explore the lives of public housing residents as they are relocated to subsidized, private market housing. According to the PIs, the project will add an in-depth dimension to their current longitudinal data collection efforts of public housing residents before and after relocation. They argue that having the "Photo Journalists" document their relocation experiences will provide insights into how the residents negotiate and cope with the power structures that control many aspects of their lives. The project studies a disadvantaged group as their lives are about to be changed by the imposition of circumstances beyond their.

Lindsey Wilkinson, Portland State University, and **Jennifer Pearson**, Wichita State University, \$6,550 for *Exploring the Role of Heteronormative School Culture in the Sexual Identity Development, Disclosure, and Well-Being of Young Adults*. The PI will analyze data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (ADD Health), and supplement it with in-depth interviews of young adults. The purpose of this data collection effort is to investigate how variation in heteronormativity within high schools impacts the well-being of self-identified lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) young adults and the construction and disclosure of sexual identity in young adulthood. According to the PIs, this study will overcome the lack of research aimed at understanding the subtle, yet pervasive influence of heterosexist norms within our social institutions on the sexually marginalized feelings and identities. The PIs build on prior analysis of ADD Health that found heteronormativity within schools, as measured by the religiosity of the student body, the prevalence of participation in hyper-masculine team sports, and urbanicity, as a moderator between adolescent same-sex attraction and well-being. The current study focuses attention to the power of socializing institutions, such as schools, to reinforce or undermine the reproduction of stigmatizing beliefs and practices.

FAD grants are funded through a dollar-for-dollar match by ASA and NSF. FAD provides awards to sociologists at all levels and all types of institutions for cutting-edge research and conferences. Send contributions to FAD, c/o Business Office, American Sociological Association, 1430 K St., NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005, or call Girma Efa at (202) 383-9005, ext. 306. The program director, Roberta Spalter-Roth, can be reached at spalter-roth@asanet.org. For more information, visit www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/funding/funding_overview. 

Be on the Lookout for the Results of a New Jobs Survey

The ASA Research Department is following up the 2006 ASA Job Bank study, *Too Many or Too Few PhDs? Employment Opportunities in Academic Sociology*. The new survey asks how many 2008 advertised positions have been filled, versus those cancelled. For preliminary comparative findings, see the "Research and Stats" webpage at www.asanet.org or the April 2009 issue of *Footnotes*.

Four New Projects Are Funded through the ASA Community Action Research Initiative

The ASA's Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy announces the recipients of the 2009 Community Action Research Initiative (CARI) awards. This small grants program encourages and supports sociologists to bring social science knowledge, methods, and expertise to address community-identified issues and concerns. Each applicant described a proposed project for *pro bono* work with a community organization or local public interest group, the group's request for collaboration, and the intended outcomes. CARI provides up to \$3,000 for each project to cover direct costs associated with doing community action research. The principle investigators are listed below along with a description of the four approved proposals.


Shannon Elizabeth Bell, University of Oregon, will work with the Sludge Safety Project (SSP), a grassroots organization based in the coal mining region of West Virginia. The SSP was created with the goal of informing, protecting, and organizing coalfield citizens who suffer from the environmental consequences of irresponsible coal mining practices, specifically, the water pollution from coal waste. The SSP has taken on several projects to raise awareness of the detrimental effects of coal pollution. Bell and five colleagues will work on a project titled "The Southern West Virginia Photovoice Project." The goal is to develop a full-color booklet of photos that will tell the stories of the women whose health and livelihood is impacted by the coal industry. The photos will be taken by the participants in the program. Each week, the participants will get together to reflect on the pictures and write narratives to go with them. At the end of the project, the 30-page booklet will be distributed to the West Virginia State

Senators, delegates, congressional representatives, and the state governor with the intention of creating a line of communication between the participants and policymakers and other elected officials.

Patricia Campion, Tennessee Technological University, will work with L.B.J. & C. Head Start, which oversees head start centers in 12 counties in the upper Cumberland region of middle Tennessee. LBJ&C, established in 1965, is a child development program that aims to improve the lives of families in its communities. In the past ten years, the Hispanic population the organization works with has increased dramatically; 44% of the children are Hispanic. Campion's project will assess the needs of the Hispanic families who are a part of the Head Start program in Monterey, TN. She will administer a two-part survey to collect demographic data as well as information on the families' knowledge of existing services and services they would like implemented. A separate research group will conduct interviews

with service providers and community leaders involved with social services about how the available resources are used by the Hispanic community. The goal of the project is to increase awareness of Head Start services to the families, better understand the cultural differences among Hispanics, provide cultural training to the Head Start staff, and increase the number of bilingual staff members.

Lori Hunter, University of Colorado-Boulder, will work with The Greenbelt Movement, a Kenyan NGO to undertake a "baseline social research within a tree planting project site in the Mau Forest complex of western Kenya." The Greenbelt Movement, founded by the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai, is an active grassroots social movement led primarily by women to restore the natural ecosystems in rural western Kenya and thus improve the livelihood of the households depending on those ecosystems. Hunter will conduct qualitative research to study rural livelihoods, environmental perceptions, society-environment association, food security and issues related to conservation in rural Africa. At the project's conclusion, they hope to have a final summary and technical report of their findings to submit to the Greenbelt Movement, The Nature Conservancy, and Adopt-an-Acre. The hope is that the lessons and findings will help launch other tree planting projects in various parts of Kenya.

Debbie Storrs, University of Idaho, will collaborate with the Idaho Community Action Network (ICAN) on the "Welcoming Idaho" campaign. This project will measure the effectiveness of the educational dialogues on increasing pro-immigration attitudes in Idaho. The goals of this project are to identify an appropriate billboard message to encourage the citizens of northern Idaho to support and welcome immigrants into the region; to foster dialogues regarding immigration in the region and increase the residents' understanding and support of immigrants; and assess the effectiveness of immigration messages in attitudes towards immigrants and immigration. Focus groups will help identify appropriate and appealing messages on the topic of immigration for a billboard that will be displayed in northern Idaho. After the messages are made public, another dialogue will be held with members of the community to see if their attitudes towards immigrants and immigration have changed. This project is especially important to ICAN because the Latino population, which makes up about 10% of the state's population, continues to rise. With this research, ICAN hopes to continue improving and building relationships in the communities. 

The deadline for the 2010 CARI Award is February 1, 2010. For more information, visit the ASA website and click on "Funding."

ASA Forum



for public discussion and debate


Needed: A codified socio-economic theory of development

If you read books such as *Bad Days in Basra*, *Life in the Imperial City*, or *Winter in Kabul*, you will be struck by the lack of a coherent body of knowledge on how to "reconstruct" a nation. You may share my strong sense that the United States and other Western powers should not have interfered by the use of force in countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan in the first place, but you may still agree that if foreign powers are to assist with economic development in these nations, their efforts should be guided by an empirically valid, robust conception of deliberate social change. They presently are not. True, this is in part due to greedy contractors, laws that require that large chunks of American aid be spent by American companies, the fact that most Americans in these countries do not speak the local languages and have no clue about their cultures, and so on. But it is also true that those in charge are not guided by a solid understanding of what must be done and how it can be done.

The challenge is not limited to Iraq and Afghanistan. An extended review of the World Bank efforts over the last decades shows how little good it did.¹ The nations that received most of the aid (especially in Africa) developed least, while the nations that received very little

aid grew very fast (especially China, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan).

One may say that providing a robust guidance to development is the job of economists. However, obviously numerous social, cultural, and political factors play a key role in development—and in preventing it from taking off. The World Bank's economists, for instance, only recently discovered that gross corruption and poor governance are major factors in hindering development. Economists are not particularly well-equipped to indicate how these factors may be turned about.

My fellow sociologists have much to give here. However, for their work to be as helpful as it ought to be, some codification of the myriad findings and insights of individual scholars is needed. This could be helped if the ASA would consider sponsoring another one of its masterful review volumes, as long as it was formed to help policymakers and citizens—rather than to speak only to fellow sociologists. Or, the ASA may consider forming a development codification standing workshop that will publish occasional papers. Surely other ways can be found. These lines are merely meant to try to open a dialogue on what needs to be done and how it might be done—to be of service to countries that call out for help. 

Amitai Etzioni, *George Washington University*

¹ Knack, Stephen. 2004. "Aid Dependence and the Quality of Governance: Cross Country Empirical Tests," *Southern Economic Journal*, 68(2):310-329. See also: Easterly, William. 2006. *The White Man's Burden*, New York, NY: The Penguin Press.

Sociologists Receive 2009 Guggenheim Fellowships

This past April, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation announced the winners for the 85th annual United States and Canadian Guggenheim Fellowship Awards. Among the almost 3,000 applications, 180 fellowships were awarded to artists, scientists, and scholars totaling \$8 million. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of outstanding achievement and exceptional promise for continued accomplishment.


Seventy-five disciplines and 81 academic institutions are represented by this year's Fellows. Three of these recipients are members of the American Sociological Association: Robert Courtney Smith, John D. Stephens, and Susan Cotts Watkins.

Robert Courtney Smith is an Associate Professor of Sociology, Immigration Studies, and Public Affairs at Baruch College and the Graduate Center, CUNY. He is the author of *Mexican New York: Transnational Worlds of New Immigrants*, which received book awards from ASA's International Migration Section and the Urban and Community Sociology Section. He is the author of more than 30 articles and chapters on migration, education and immigration, and state-Diaspora relations. His current project on the school, work and social lives of children of immigrants as they enter early adulthood is funded by the W.T. Grant Foundation.

John D. Stephens is the Gerhard E. Lenski, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Sociology; Director, Center for European Studies at University

of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. His main interests are comparative politics and political economy, with area foci on Europe and the Caribbean. He is the author of *The Transition from Capitalism to Socialism*, and coauthor of *Democratic Socialism in Jamaica* and *Capitalist Development and Democracy*, and *Development and Crisis of the Welfare State*. He is currently working on a study of social policy in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Iberia.

Susan Cotts Watkins is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and a Visiting Research Scientist at the California Center for Population Research. Her work has focused on large-scale demographic and social change, specifically fertility transitions in historical Europe, the United States, and contemporary Africa; the AIDS epidemic in Africa; and the role of social networks in these changes. With colleagues, she has organized two longitudinal survey projects, one in Kenya and a larger project in Malawi. In addition to a large number of journal articles, she is the author of *Social Interactions and HIV/AIDS in Rural Malawi*.

The Guggenheim Foundation offers fellowships to further the development of scholars and artists by assisting them to engage in research in any field of knowledge and creation in any of the arts, under the freest possible conditions. To apply for the Guggenheim Fellowship or for more information, see <www.gf.org/broch.html>. Applications must be submitted by the candidates themselves by September 15, 2009. 

announcements

Call for Papers

Publications

The *Journal of Applied Social Science*, the official journal of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS), is requesting submissions for future issues. The journal publishes 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 as an e-mail attachment as a word-processed (not PDF) file of the manuscript, an abstract of no more than 150 words, and a brief biographical statement. Tables and figures must be camera-ready. Two issues per year. Submissions are accepted at any time and should be accompanied by a processing fee of \$15 sent via postal mail (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; jay.weinstein@emich.edu. For more information, visit <www.aacsnet.org>.

Meetings

Association for Humanist Sociology 2009 Annual Meeting, November 12-15, 2009, Hampton Inn & Suites Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. Theme: "Doing Change Work: The Many Paths to Peace, Equality, and Justice." Proposals for papers, special sessions, panels, workshops, or more creative formats that reflect the conference theme or related humanist concerns should be sent to Greta Pennell, Program Chair, at gpennell@uindy.edu. Deadline: June 15, 2009. For more information, visit <www.humanistsociology.org>.

Eighth Conference on Women in the Military, September 24-25, Women in Military Service for America Memorial, Arlington, VA. Theme: "Women in the Military: Lessons of the Past Decade." Papers and presentations are invited on U.S. and international perspectives on women in the military and women veterans. Members of the military, civil servants, scholars, writers, and interested individuals are invited to participate. Sponsored by the Women's Research & Education Institute and Alliance for National Defense, the conference serves as an opportunity for scholars, practitioners, service members

to meet and compare notes. Presenters do not have to submit a research paper to participate, but presentations should be based on sound research or experience. Submit title and abstract or outline by July 3, 2009. Presenters do not pay the conference attendance fee. Send submissions to Captain Lory Manning, USN (ret), WREI, 1828 L St. NW, Suite 801, Washington, DC; lmanning@wrei.org; or by fax 202-332-2949. For additional information, call (202) 280-2719.

Head Start's National Research Conference Program Committee invites proposals for presentations at Head Start's 10th National Research Conference. The Conference will be held June 21-23, 2010 at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, DC. Both symposia and poster presentations are invited. These presentations may either discuss recent research or synthesize findings already in the literature. The goals of the conference are to identify and disseminate research relevant to young children (birth to 8 years) and their families and to foster partnerships among researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. The conference focuses especially on research relevant to the low-income families who are Head Start's service population. The theme of the conference is sharing and using evidence of effective policies and practices for children and families. Research is welcome from all relevant fields, including education, child development, and sociology. The three-day conference will feature plenary sessions, symposia, poster symposia, conversation hours, posters, and informal events. Deadline: July 1, 2009. Direct all inquiries about program content to Faith Lamb-Parker, Scientific Director, at (212) 304-7310; hsrcprogram@icf.com. For general submission questions or information on submitting a paper application, contact Jennifer Pinder at (800) 503-8422; hsrc@esi-dc.com. For more information, see <www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/hsrc/presentations/cfphsrc10/2010_call_for_presentations.html>.

Meetings

May 27-28, 2009. 2009 Northeast Family Strengthening Conference, Providence, RI. Theme: "Empowering Families: Tools for Healthy Marriage, Responsible Fatherhood and Family Finances." Hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, Administration for Children and Families and partners, the conference will equip family support providers, state agencies, and community and faith-based organizations with information and tools to consider how to include responsible fatherhood, healthy marriage, and financial stability services in their work to strengthen families and communities. For more information, visit <www.empoweringfamilies2009.com>.

June 5-6, 2009. Globalization and European Integration, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom. Theme: "The Nature of the Beast." The conference aims to stimulate interdisciplinary exchange on the historical materialist frameworks used to investigate the relationship between global governance, regional integration, and the national state, with special reference to the European Union. Contact: Andreas Tsolakis at A.A.Tsolakis@warwick.ac.uk and Petros Nousios at P.Nousios@warwick.ac.uk.

July 5-8, 2009. 15th International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (ISSRM), University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria. Theme: "Meet Old and New Worlds in Research, Planning and Management." Contact: +43 1 47 654 7247; fax +43 1 47 654 7209; issrm09@boku.ac.at <www.issrm09.info>.

July 17-19, 2009. Gender and Social Transformation: Global, Transnational and Local Realities and Perspectives, Beijing, China. The goal of the conference is to provide an international forum in which to examine how women and gender relations are shaped by societal transformation economically, politically, socially, and culturally in the global, transnational, and local contexts and processes. Contact: Esther N. Chow at echow@american.edu.

August 7, 2009. ASA Pre-Conference: Teachers Are Made, Not Born: A Workshop for New Sociology Instructors. The day-long conference will combine presentations, panels, and roundtable discussions on teaching and learning issues, all led by experts in the field. Contact: Idee Winfield at (843) 953-4899; winfieldi@cofc.edu; <www2.asanet.org/sectionteach/>.

August 7, 2009. The Carework Network Sixth International Carework Conference, San Francisco, CA. Theme: "Bridging Worlds of Care." The Carework Network is sponsoring a one-day conference that brings together researchers, policymakers, and advocates involved in various domains of carework. For more information, visit <www.carework-network.org>.

August 8-11, 2009. Sociologists for Women in Society 2009 Summer Meeting, San Francisco, CA. In conjunction with American Sociological Association 2009 Annual Meeting. For more information, visit <www.socwomen.org>.

September 10, 2009. Institute of European and American Studies (IEAS) Conference on Contemporary European and American Societies, Taipei, Taiwan. This conference will be the first of a series of biennial conferences providing a forum for social scientists from Taiwan and around the world interested in contemporary European and American societies to exchange ideas and research findings. For more information, visit <idv.sinica.edu.tw/ieassoc>.

September 20-30, 2009. XVIII International Conference-Seminar on Sobriology, Preventive Maintenance, Social Pedagogy and Alcology, Sevastopol (Crimea). Theme: "Legislation and Lawmaking in Protection of the Healthy, Sober Person." For more information, visit <www.stop-drogama.net/images/ukraina.pdf>.

October 15-18, 2009. Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) 13th National Conference on Planning History, Oakland, CA. Contact: Alison Isenberg, at isenberg@history.rutgers.edu, or Owen Guttfreund at guttfreund@columbia.edu.

November 11-14, 2009. American Evaluation Association (AEA) Annual Conference,

Rosen Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, FL. Theme: "Context and Evaluation." Contact: Heidi Nye, (888) 232-2275 or (508) 748.3326; info@eval.org; <www.eval.org/eval2009>.

November 12-15, 2009. Association for Humanist Sociology 2009 Annual Meeting, Hampton Inn & Suites Convention Center, New Orleans, LA. Theme: "Doing Change Work: The Many Paths to Peace, Equality, and Justice." For more information, visit <www.humanistsociology.org>.

Funding

Greenopolis Funds Educational Foundation for Sustainability Projects. Following the launch of the Greenopolis Foundation, \$100,000 in grants will now be available to fund sustainability projects that promote green living and education in communities across the United States. Created by Greenopolis, a social networking site providing tools and information to encourage environmental changes in peoples' lives, the Greenopolis Foundation is open to any educator or community activist looking for support. Grant applicants must be registered members of Greenopolis. While grants generally range from \$100-\$1,000, they will be adjusted to meet the needs of a specific request. Once a project gets underway, recipients are asked to set up a group page on the Greenopolis website where they can post documents, photos and videos relating to the scope of work. This will, in turn, serve as a blueprint for those looking to develop similar projects. For more information, visit <www.Greenopolis.com>.

Humboldt Research Fellowships for Postdoctoral and Experienced Researchers. The Humboldt Research Fellowship enables highly qualified scientists and scholars of all nationalities and all disciplines to carry out research projects in cooperation with academics in Germany. Fellowships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, the quality and feasibility of the proposed research, and the applicant's publications. Fellowships for postdoctoral scientists and scholars who have completed a doctoral degree within four years prior to the application submission date are eligible. The fellowship allows for a stay of 6-24 months in Germany and provides a monthly stipend of €2,250. Fellowships for experienced research scientists and scholars who have completed a doctoral degree within 12 years prior to the application submission date are eligible. This fellowship allows for a stay of 6-18 months in Germany, which may be divided into a maximum of three visits of at least three months each, and provides a monthly stipend of €2,450. For more information, visit <www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/1710.html>.

Institute of European and American Studies (IEAS) Travel Awards for the IEAS Conference on Contemporary European and American Societies, September 10, 2009, Taipei, Taiwan. This conference will provide a forum for social scientists from Taiwan and around the world interested in contemporary European and American societies to exchange ideas and research findings. Two competitive travel awards in the form of airline tickets plus a small per diem stipend to subsidize travel expenses to the conference will be awarded. To qualify for the travel awards, authors must agree to first submit their papers to *EurAmerica: A Journal of European and American Studies*, <euramerica.ea.sinica.edu.tw> and not to another journal or edited volume unless it is rejected by *EurAmerica*. Contact: Jui-Chung Allen Li at jli@sinica.edu.tw; <idv.sinica.edu.tw/ieassoc>.

The Urban Long-Term Research Areas: Exploratory Research Projects (ULTRA-Ex). The National Science Foundation and the U.S. Forest Service invite proposals to enable interdisciplinary teams of scientists and practitioners to conduct research on the dynamic

interactions between people and natural ecosystems in urban settings in ways that will advance fundamental and applied knowledge. Because of the highly integrated character of the coupled human and natural ecosystems that will be studied, these teams will require the involvement of researchers from the social and behavioral, ecological, and echnical sciences. Up to 16 awards of up to two years duration and up to \$300,000 per award are expected to be made. Each ULTRA-Ex project will be expected to contribute to the broader base of scientific knowledge regarding human-ecosystem interactions and to benefit user communities. Teams of scientists as well as members of local communities should focus on one or a few targeted research activities that will enable the team to work together more effectively and conduct research that will yield basic and practical knowledge. Deadline: July 7, 2009. For more information, visit <www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09551/nsf09551.htm?govDel=USNSF_25>.

Competitions

Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS) 2009 Book Award. Nominations for the 2009 AHS Book Award are being sought. Authors and publishers may nominate books for consideration. Nominations should be for sociology or interdisciplinary social science books that approach their subjects from a humanist perspective. For more information, visit <www.humanistsociology.org>.

In the News

Aging and the Life Course

Glen H. Elder, Jr., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was quoted in *The New York Times* on March 8 about age differences in the adverse health effects of "hard times" among adults who were children during the Great Depression. These effects were more severe in the lives of adults who were of preschool age (1930-33) than among young adolescents at the time, although the cohorts began to converge by the middle years.

Linda Waite and Erin Cornwell, both of the University of Chicago, had their research on older adults, loneliness, and health detailed in a March 18 United Press International article. Reporting in the March issue of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, Waite and Cornwell found that the combination of few friends and feelings of loneliness was linked to declining mental and physical health in the elderly.

Asia and Asian American Sociology

Pyeong Gap Min, Queens College, discussed the number of Korean associations in the New York region in a March 27 *New York Times* article about a heated campaign for the presidency of the Korean-American Association of Greater New York.

Children and Youth

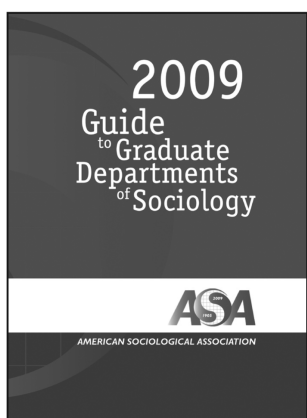
Jay Coakley, University of Colorado, was quoted in an April 5 article in *The Day* about misperceptions surrounding the availability of athletic scholarships for high school athletes. He said just a small percentage of all college athletes have full scholarships.

Eric Hirsch, Providence College, was quoted in a March 11 *Providence Journal* article about a report on homeless children in Rhode Island. Hirsch said that information from homeless shelters would be needed for a complete picture of the problem in the state.

Michael A. Messner, University of Southern California, authored a column in the March 28 *Pasadena Star-News* about girls and youth sports. Messner is the author of *It's All for the Kids: Gender, Families and Youth Sports*.

It's Here...

The 2009 Guide to Graduate Departments of Sociology



This invaluable reference has been published by the ASA annually since 1965. A best seller for the ASA for many years, the *Guide* provides comprehensive information for academic administrators, advisors, faculty, students, and a host of others seeking information on social science departments in the United States, Canada, and abroad. Included are listings for 224 graduate departments of sociology. In addition to name and rank, faculty are identified by highest degree held, institution and date of degree, and areas of specialty interest. Special programs, tuition costs, types of financial aid, and student enrollment statistics are given for each department, along with a listing of recent PhDs with dissertation titles. Indices of faculty, special programs, and PhDs awarded are provided. 424 pages.

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announcements

Nena Stracuzzi, University of New Hampshire, discussed a 10-year study of 650 students in a March 16 New Hampshire Public Radio segment. The study is being conducted by the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire.

Collective Behavior/Social Movements

Jeff Ferrell, Texas Christian University, commented on the phenomenon of “dumpster diving” in a March 29 *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* article. Ferrell is the author of *Empire of Scrounge: Inside the Urban Underground of Dumpster Diving, Trash Picking, and Street Scavenging*.

Clark McPhail, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was cited in the *Washington City Paper* (January 15), *The Washington Post* (January 21), and *The New York Times* (January 28), and quoted in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (December 8, 2008), *Wall Street Journal* (January 8), *Washington Examiner* (January 9 and 21), *Associated Press* (January 13), *Los Angeles Times* (January 20), and the *Chicago Tribune* (January 21) regarding the estimated size of gatherings on the National Mall for the 2009 presidential inauguration in Washington, DC.

Communication and Information Technologies

Julie Albright, University of Southern California, was quoted in a March 12 *Today Show* segment about social etiquette online. She said that breaking up a relationship digitally is becoming more common and acceptable.

Ed Collom, University of Southern Maine, was quoted in an April 6 *USA Today* article about a small number of communities who are printing their own money. Collom, who has studied local currencies, said they encourage people to buy locally.

Ailsa Craig, Memorial University of Newfoundland, was interviewed for *The Scope* (St. John’s arts and entertainment newspaper) on why Newfoundlanders Google sex-related terms more often than those in other Canadian provinces.

Mark Granovetter, Stanford University, was quoted in a March 19 *Press of Atlantic City* column about the benefits of using social networking sites in a recession. He discussed the opportunities presented by weak ties.

Peter Marsden, Harvard University, was cited about the number of confidants Americans have in a March 15 *St. Petersburg Times* article about online social networks.

Manny Schegloff and **Steven Clayman**, both of University of California-Los Angeles, were quoted in a March 27 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article about President Barack Obama’s speech patterns during a televised news conference.

Jeannette Sutton, University of Colorado, discussed the use of social networking in emergencies in a March 26 *Associated Press* article about the response to flooding in North Dakota. The story was printed in newspapers across the country. She was also quoted in a March 6 *United Press International* story about her research on the role of Twitter.

Zeynep Tufekci, University of Maryland-Baltimore County, was quoted in a March 31 *Baltimore Sun* article about the omnipresence of Twitter in pop culture. Tufekci suggested that Twitter may be a passing trend, unlike Facebook.

Community and Urban Sociology

Trevor Brooks, South Dakota State University, was quoted about the number of farms in South Dakota in a March 30 *Argus Leader* story.

Randy Cantrell, University of Nebraska, had his research on job growth in rural areas detailed in a March 22 *Associated Press* article. Cantrell found that in most rural counties in Nebraska between 18

and 30 percent or more of jobs are now due to self-employment.

Karla Erickson, Grinnell College, was quoted in the March 22 *Des Moines Register* about the sense of community created by neighborhood haunts. Erickson is the author of *The Hungry Cowboy*.

Kenneth M. Johnson, University of New Hampshire, discussed Census figures that showed fewer people leaving New York City in a March 18 *New York Times* article.

Robert J. Sampson, Harvard University, was quoted in a March 15 *Boston Globe* article about the consequences of a neighborhood fire for the community. Sampson discussed the “third place” quality of community restaurants.

Crime, Law, and Deviance

Steven Barkan, University of Maine, was quoted in an editorial in the April 10 issue of the *Bangor Daily News* on recent mass murders around the United States.

Ryken Grattet, University of California-Davis, was quoted in a March 24 *San Francisco Chronicle* article about California’s flawed parole system. He co-authored a study on the system for University of California-Irvine’s Center for Evidence-Based Corrections.

Peter Ibarra, University of Illinois-Chicago, was quoted in a March 12 *CNN.com* article about a sex offender who murdered a teen. He studies the use of GPS in stalking and domestic violence cases.

Jack Levin, Northeastern University, discussed rising crime rates linked to the economy in an article posted March 21 on *DailyFinance.com*, an AOL money and finance website.

Stephen J. Morewitz, Stephen J. Morewitz, PhD, & Associates and San Jose State University, was interviewed about his book, *Stalking and Violence. New Patterns of Trauma and Obsession*, for a March 26 *Chicago Tribune* article on new stalker laws.

Katherine Newman, Princeton University, was quoted in a March 11 *Associated Press* article about theories related to school shootings. She is the author of *Rampage: The Social Roots of School Shootings*.

Murray Straus, University of New Hampshire-Durham, and **Jacquelyn Campbell**, Johns Hopkins University, were cited in a March 12 *Chicago Tribune* article about domestic abuse and homicide. Straus said that a small number of domestic violence cases that show warning signs result in homicide, while Campbell was cited for her research on predictors of domestic homicides.

Sandra Westervelt, University of North Carolina-Greensboro, was quoted in an April 1 *News & Observer* article about nursing home security in light of a shooting spree at a facility in North Carolina in March. Westervelt said that violent crimes are more likely to be committed by someone known to the victim.

Sociology of Culture

Claudio Benzecry, University of Connecticut, had his research on opera devotees detailed in a March 18 *Reuters Life!* article. Benzecry found that the passion for opera among its fans is much like the emotions described for love at first sight.

Black Hawk Hancock, DePaul University, was quoted in a March 12 *Chicago Tribune* article about recession-friendly entertainment options.

Donald Hernandez, University at Albany, commented on the slang usage of Barack Obama’s name in a March 21 article in the *Times Union* (Albany, NY).

Wesley Shrum, Louisiana State University, was quoted in a March 30 *USA Today* article about science in entertainment.

Oliver Wang, California State University-Long Beach, is a music reviewer who reported in a March 18 *National Public Radio All Things Considered* piece about

new trends in music, including custom music studios as repositories of local talent recordings.

Economic Sociology

Gary Becker, University of Chicago, discussed the potential for a rise in the birthrate during the current recession in a March 18 *Gannett News Service* article about record birth rates in the United States in 2007. Becker said that women who were laid off might view the current economic climate as a good time to have a child. The article appeared in *USA Today* and other news outlets around the country.

Dennis Culhane, University of Pennsylvania, was quoted in a March 13 *FOX News* article about the definition of homelessness in reaction to a report by the National Center on Family Homelessness that estimated that one out of every 50 children in America experienced homelessness between 2005 and 2006.

David O. Friedrichs, University of Scranton, was quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* in a March 29 article about proposals to limit executive pay. Friedrichs said that executives who took millions in pay and stock as their companies faltered committed grand theft.

Herbert J. Gans, Columbia University, had his letter to the editor of *The New York Times* published on March 25. Gans proposed that the furor over the AIG bailout might be the first public outcry over wealth and income inequality in the United States.

Gregory M. Hooks, Washington State University, was quoted in a March 23 *Washington Post* article about objections to a plan to close rural prisons. He has analyzed the economies of prisons.

Kevin Leicht, University of Iowa, was quoted in a March 27 *Minnesota Public Radio* segment about the economic stimulus and public outcry over the government’s reaction.

Chris Pieper, University of Texas-Austin, was profiled in a March 7 *New York Times* article about the economy’s effects on the job prospects of doctoral candidates.

Philip Rutledge, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, discussed the potential end of a consumer culture due to the economic downturn in a March 15 *Charlotte Observer* article.

Juliet Schor, Boston College, was quoted about American consumer spending in a March 31 *Chicago Sun-Times* article about the middle class and “affluenza.”

Deborah Thorne, Ohio University, discussed the causes of consumer bankruptcy in an April 2 article appearing in *McClatchy Newspapers* including the *Charlotte Observer* and the *Ft. Worth Star-Telegram*.

Sudhir Venkatesh, Columbia University, was profiled in a *Forbes* magazine

article from the April 13 issue. The article discussed Venkatesh’s study of the “underground economies” of prostitution and drug dealing.

Sociology of Education

Richard Arum, New York University, was quoted in a March 23 *New York Times* article about a case to be heard by the Supreme Court in which an eighth-grade student was strip-searched by school authorities.

Pamela R. Bennett, Johns Hopkins University, and **Amy Lutz**, Syracuse University, were cited for their research on college admission rates among African Americans in articles in the March 17 *Inside Higher Ed* and the March 24 *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*. The research was published in the January issue of *Sociology of Education*.

Neil Gross, University of British Columbia, was cited in *Inside Higher Ed* on March 20 for his research on faculty politics. Gross found that faculty members feel that they should not try to force their views on students.

Elizabeth McGhee Hassrick, University of Chicago, had her research cited in a March 24 *Education Week* article. Hassrick and co-author **Barbara Schneider**, Michigan State University, explored parental involvement in children’s education in an article published in the February issue of the *American Journal of Education*.

Melissa Herman, Dartmouth College, discussed the importance of counting multiracial students in schools in a March 23 *Washington Post* article that detailed changes in the way that public school systems track the race of their students.

Marta Tienda, Princeton University, was cited in a March 14 *Dallas Morning News* article for her research that found high school graduation rates in Texas outpaced the growth in the number of slots at Texas public universities.

Richard L. Wood, University of New Mexico, was quoted in an April 2 *Inside Higher Ed* article about growth in salary budgets at the University of New Mexico. Wood discussed faculty attention to governance at the university.

Environment and Technology

Thomas Dietz, Michigan State University, was quoted in a March 7 *Jackson Citizen Patriot* article about the environmental impact of daylight saving time.

Robert Brulle, Drexel University, discussed the potential effectiveness of different social movements in the climate change debate in a March 28 post on *The New York Times*’ “Dot Earth” blog.

James William Gibson, California State University-Long Beach, authored an opinion piece published in the *Los Angeles Times* on April 2 about the impact of

the Bush administration on public land in the United States. Gibson is author of the forthcoming book *A Reenchanted World: The Quest for a New Kinship with Nature*.

Sociology of Family

Cara Bergstrom-Lynch, Eastern Connecticut State University, was quoted in a March 13 *Forbes.com* article about domestic violence. She discussed the fears that mothers face in an abusive relationship.

Sharlene Hesse Biber, Boston College, was quoted in a March 30 *New York Daily News* article about the results of a Families and Work Institute report on gender and attitudes about work-life balance. Biber is co-author of *Working Women in America: Split Dreams*.

Scott Coltrane, University of Oregon, **Kathleen Gerson**, New York University, and **Brian Powell**, Indiana University, were quoted in a March 27 *USA Today* article about a Families and Work Institute report on gender and attitudes about work-life balance in families. Coltrane was also interviewed on the report in an April 1 *Minnesota Public Radio* broadcast.

Paula England, Stanford University, was cited in an April 8 *CNN.com* article about out-of-wedlock births. England is co-editor of *Unmarried Couples with Children*.

Nancy Foner, Hunter College and CUNY Graduate Center, was quoted in a March 16 *New York Times* article and interviewed on March 18 on *National Public Radio*’s *Tell Me More* about the family histories that the first- and second-generation immigrant students wrote in her Hunter College course “The Peopling of New York.”

Rosemary Hopcroft, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, was cited in a March 31 *Time.com* article about childbearing and “type A” personalities. Hopcroft’s research indicates that wealthy men have more children than poor men.

Organizational Sociologist

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 announcements

Maria Kefalas, St. Joseph's University, and **Kathryn Edin**, Harvard University, had their research detailed in an April 3 *Columbia Daily Tribune* article about poverty and motherhood. Kefalas and Edin are authors of *Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage*.

Shelby Longard, Belmont University, proposed that an increase in multigenerational households due to the recession may be short lived in an April 5 *Tennessean* article.

Pepper Schwartz, University of Washington, was quoted about marital relationships in a March 11 *Real Simple* article that also was posted on CNN.com.

Pamela Smock, University of Michigan, was quoted in an April 4 *Tennessean* article about the number of children in Tennessee born to unwed mothers. Smock explained potential sociological factors behind the phenomena.

Judith Stacey, New York University, criticized a Florida campaign to make it more costly for couples to wed in order to prevent divorce in a March 18 United Press International story. Stacey said that most children living in poverty are parented by unwed mothers, not divorcees. Stacey was quoted on the same topic in a March 18 *Orlando Sentinel* article.

International Migration

Philip Kasinitz and **John Mollenkopf**, both of CUNY, and **Mary C. Waters**, Harvard University, had their book, *Inheriting the City*, cited in a *Washington Post* feature on mixed marriages among the children of immigrants. **Daniel Lichter**, Cornell University, was also quoted in the same article.

Douglass Massey, Princeton University, and **Anny Bakalian**, **Andrew Beveridge**, **Mehdi Bozorgmehr**, **Philip Kasinitz**, **Pyong Gap Min**, and **Robert C. Smith**, all of CUNY-Graduate Center, were cited in a March 15 *New York Times* feature on immigrants in new destinations.

Labor & Labor Movements

Dan Cornfield, Vanderbilt University, was quoted in an April 1 *Tennessean* article about the potential for growth in the area's health care unions. Cornfield said that as union membership declines because of the loss of manufacturing jobs, union organizers have started to view the health care sector as more stable ground for recruitment.

Jonathan Cutler, Wesleyan University, authored an opinion piece published in the March 15 *Hartford Courant* about the "Employee Free Choice Act." Cutler is the author of *Labor's Time: Shorter Hours, the UAW, and the Struggle for American Unionism*.

Latino/Latina Sociology

Laura Gomez, University of New Mexico, was quoted in a March 12 *San Diego Union-Tribune* column about Latinos and race in America. She said that Latinos are visible in the public eye, yet they are uniformly perceived to be immigrants and undocumented Mexicans.

Gilbert Mireles, Whitman College, was a guest on the March 11 broadcast concerning Latinos and the Washington economy on National Public Radio affiliate KUOW-FM. Mireles is a commissioner on the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

Gaspar Rivera-Salgado, University of California-Los Angeles, was quoted in a March 14 Associated Press article about the potential influence of Salvadorans in the United States on their home country elections. Rivera-Salgado spoke about the influence of people who send remittances. The article appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, among other newspapers.

Nestor Rodriguez, University of Texas, and **Tom Janoski**, University of Kentucky, were quoted in an April 7 *Houston*

Chronicle article about a record surge in naturalizations driven by Latinos in the United States.

Medical Sociology

David Baker, Pennsylvania State University, was quoted in a March 23 United Press International article about his research surrounding education and HIV rates in sub-Saharan Africa. His findings suggest that increased schooling might be lowering the number of new HIV infections among young adults.

Nicholas A. Christakis, Harvard University, was quoted in a March 30 *Philadelphia Inquirer* article about anxiety surrounding allergies. He was also cited for his social network research in a March 16 *Philadelphia Inquirer* story about the importance of personal connections.

Troy Duster, New York University, discussed sociological considerations related to genetic testing in a March 11 *Washington Times* article. He also discussed the current limitations on DNA tests.

Samantha Kwan, University of Houston, had her research on obesity cited in a March 17 United Press International article. She found that the obesity "epidemic" may be overstated and instead may be more of a moral panic.

Eric Reither, Utah State University, **Robert Hauser** and **Karen Swallen**, both of University of Wisconsin-Madison, had their findings on high school yearbook photos as predictors of obesity detailed within the March 29 *Desert News*.

Sociology of Mental Health

Matt Wray, Temple University, cited statistics on suicide rates in an April 5 *Las Vegas Sun* article about potential linkages between suicides and the economy. Wray's research on Las Vegas has been profiled in newspapers, magazines, and online news sites and blogs in Sweden, Denmark, Russia, and India.

Organizations, Occupations and Work

Chris Baker, Walters State Community College, was quoted in a March 22 United Press International article about illegal immigrants in the workforce. Baker said that illegal immigrants have kept many factories open due to their willingness to work for lower wages and no benefits. Baker was quoted on the same topic in a March 22 *Gainesville Sun* article.

Gregory M. Maney, Hofstra University, discussed research that found that hiring sites for day laborers reduce hate crimes against them in a March 10 *Newsday* article. Maney conducted the study in conjunction with the nonprofit Workplace Project.

Devah Pager, Princeton University, was quoted about the ability of ex-convicts to get a job in a March 10 McClatchy Newspapers story that appeared in a number of newspapers across the country. Pager is author of *Marked: Race, Crime, and Finding Work in an Era of Mass Incarceration*.

Hernan Ramirez, University of Southern California, had his research on Mexican immigrant gardeners detailed in the *Wall Street Journal* on March 3, and on *Marketplace*, the American Public Media radio program, on March 23.

Josh Whitford, Columbia University, discussed the auto industry in an April 1 Associated Press article about the potential for a Fiat merger with Chrysler. The article was published on Forbes.com and in *Newsday*, among other outlets.

Peace, War, and Social Conflict

Marc Dixon, Dartmouth College, was quoted in a March 13 CNN.com article about American fatigue with the war in Iraq. Dixon said that social activists against the war have seen a drop-off.

Morten Ender, United States Military Academy-West Point, was quoted in the March 14 *Stars & Stripes* newspaper about

stay-at-home civilian husbands and fathers coping with their soldier wives who are deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. He also was quoted in a March 12 *Dallas Observer* story that featured some of the first American female Army deserters in Canada avoiding returning to Iraq. Ender discussed his book, *American Soldiers in Iraq: McSoldiers or Innovative Professionals?*, in an April 8 segment on BlogTalkRadio's Yourmilitarylife.com.

Andrew Lindner, Concordia College, explained how lifting the ban on photographing military coffins could change public opinion about war in an April 6 Talk Radio News Service segment.

David Segal, University of Maryland, was quoted in a March 15 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* article about the impact of the current economy on military recruitment.

Political Economy of the World System

Ho-fung Hung, Indiana University-Bloomington, was interviewed on the radio show *Open Source with Christopher Lydon* on March 19 to discuss the origins of the current global economic crisis and the roles of emerging countries, such as China and India, in bringing the global economy back to balance.

Political Sociology

Jacqueline L. Angel, University of Texas-Austin, was quoted in a March 14 *Dallas Morning News* article about an Obama administration proposal to cut funds to private insurers who cover Medicare patients.

Gary Fine, Northwestern University, was quoted in an April 2 *Chicago Tribune* article about "populist rage" created by the current economy. The article made the point that the situation was more a case of populist "irritation" and Fine said that democracies do not lend themselves to widespread rebellion.

John Logan, Brown University, proposed that gay marriage is no longer a fringe issue in an April 4 Associated Press article about Iowa's move to legalize same-sex marriage.

Isaac William Martin, University of California-San Diego, was quoted in a March 29 *Hartford Courant* article about tea party protests of federal spending. Martin said that current protests have more in common with taxpayer rebellions in the 1970s and '80s than with the Revolutionary War.

Doris Wilkinson, University of Kentucky, was a guest on Kentucky Educational Television's *Connections with Renee Shaw* on February 19. Wilkinson discussed the historic election of Barack Obama.

William Julius Wilson, Harvard University, was quoted about the Illinois politician Roland Burris in the March 23 issue of *The New Yorker* magazine.

Race, Gender, and Class

Raj Ghoshal, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, authored an opinion piece, "Despite Racial Leap, Disparities Linger," in the January 6 *News & Observer*. The piece, addressing the persistence of racial inequality in the United States following Obama's election, cited research by several other sociologists.

William Julius Wilson, Harvard University, was interviewed on National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation* on March 23 about "the culture of poverty." His book, *More than Just Race: Being Black and Poor in the Inner City*, was reviewed in the March 29 *Washington Post* and on Slate.com on March 16. He was interviewed on ABC's *Good Morning America* on March 31 in a segment about race in America in which the show reproduced the Clark experiments on race.

Matt Wray, Temple University, had his ongoing research on white social identity featured prominently in the cover story of January's *The Atlantic Monthly*, "The End of White America?" He is author

of *Not Quite White: White Trash and the Boundaries of Whiteness*, and his work for this book was cited extensively in a June 8, 2008, op-ed piece in the *Los Angeles Times* that was syndicated to more than 25 newspapers.

Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Art Evans, Florida Atlantic University, suggested that recessions can lead to surges in racism in an April 7 *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* article regarding a local incident involving the Ku Klux Klan.

Zhenchao Qian, Ohio State University, was cited in a March 8 *Washington Post* article about declining rates of mixed-race marriages among Hispanics and Asians.

Sociology of Religion

Nancy Ammerman, Boston University, discussed faith communities in a March 16 *Christian Science Monitor* article about renewed interest in church weddings.

James Davidson, Purdue University, was quoted about a resurgence of interest in traditional practices in the Catholic church in a March 21 Associated Press article that was published in newspapers such as *USA Today*, *Denver Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, and others.

Penny Edgell, University of Minnesota, was a guest on a March 16 Minnesota Public Radio segment about the rise of secularism in America.

Barry A. Kosmin, Trinity College, was quoted about the American Religious Identification Survey in the March 10 *Los Angeles Times*. He was the survey's principal investigator.

Anthony Pogorelc, Catholic University of America, was quoted in the April 5 *Los Angeles Times* about the potential for changes in the Catholic church due to bishop retirement in the United States. United Press International (UPI) picked up Pogorelc's quote in an April 5 article on the same topic.

Rodney Stark, Baylor University, and **Mary L. Gautier**, Georgetown University, were quoted in a March 11 *Buffalo News* story about the declining number of New Yorkers who identify themselves as Catholic. The findings were part of the American Religious Identification Survey.

Steve Walk, California State University-Fullerton, discussed how sports became a "civic religion" during the Great Depression in a March 6 *Fort Worth Star Telegram* article that was reprinted in a number of newspapers across the country.

W. Bradford Wilcox, University of Virginia, authored an opinion piece for the March 13 *Wall Street Journal* about secularism in America. Wilcox cited statistics from **Robert Wuthnow**, Princeton University, about religious attendance.

Science, Knowledge, and Technology

James Evans, University of Chicago, was cited for his findings on research citations in a March 20 *SEED* magazine article about scientists' online research behavior.

Sherry Turkle, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, participated in a question and answer column in the March 27 *Chronicle of Higher Education*. The column discussed Turkle's new book *Simulation and Its Discontents*.

Social Psychology

William Alex McIntosh and **Wesley Dean**, both of Texas A&M University, were cited in the February issues of *Dairy Herd Management* and *Drovers* magazines for their research on feedlot veterinarians' sense of moral obligation to treat sick and at-risk cattle, based on their article, "Feedlot Veterinarians' Moral and Instrumental Beliefs Regarding Antimicrobial Use in Feedlot Cattle," published in the *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology*.

Sociology of Sex and Gender

Mary Jo Kane, University of Minnesota, spoke about a college athlete's vow to win or pay back her scholarship in a March 23 *New York Times* article. Kane asserted that the statement is a direct contrast to the sense of entitlement felt by many male athletes.

Sociology of Sexualities

Elizabeth A. Armstrong, Indiana University, was quoted about a San Francisco sex commune in a March 13 *New York Times* article. Armstrong has studied San Francisco's sexual subcultures.

Teaching and Learning

Bonnie Thornton Dill, University of Maryland, was quoted about the evolution of women's studies programs in the March 5 issue of *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

Michèle Lamont, Harvard University, participated in a question-and-answer column published in the April 3 *Chronicle Review*. The column explored her research on the peer review process from her new book, *How Professors Think: Inside the Curious World of Academic Judgment*.

Jeffrey Sallaz, University of Arizona, was quoted in a March 27 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article about techniques to stem procrastination.

Awards

Jay Coakley, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, will be inducted into the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) Hall of Fame for his internationally recognized work and writing related to sport, society, and culture.

Herbert C. Kelman, Harvard University, was awarded the 2009 Socrates Prize for Mediation by the Centrale für Mediation, Germany. The Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Emeritus, and co-chair of the Middle East Seminar, Kelman was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the solution of national and international conflicts. The award was presented on April 2 at the 13th Annual Mediation Congress in Berlin.

Linda Kalof, Michigan State University, and **Brigitte Resl**, University of Liverpool, received an award for their six-volume work, "A Cultural History of Animals," which was named a 2008 Outstanding Academic Title by *Choice*, a magazine published by the American Library Association.

Martin N. Marger, Michigan State University, received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Canadian Studies Center of Michigan State University.

Doug McAdam, Stanford University, was named a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar for 2009-10.

Richard Quinney, Northern Illinois University, received the 2009 August Derleth Nonfiction Book Award from the Council for Wisconsin Writer for his book *Things Once Seen*.

Transitions

Robert Bozick has joined the Academy for Educational Development's Center for Education Research, Evaluation, and Technology as a Senior Research Scientist.

Soma Chaudhuri, **Chris Ganchoff**, **Stephen Gasteyer**, **Hui Liu**, **Maryhelen MacInnes**, **Sabrina McCormick**, **Aaron McCright**, **Alesia Montgomery**, **Stephanie Nawyn**, **Xuefei Ren**, and **Zhenmei Zhang** have all joined Michigan State University's Department of Sociology as Associate Professors.

Ann Baker Cottrell has retired from San Diego University after 33 years of service.

announcements

Toby Ewing was appointed Director of the California Research Bureau, a section of the California State Library, by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on March 11, 2009.

Stephanie Farmer has joined Roosevelt University's Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor.

Tugrul Keskin will be joining the International Studies Department at Portland State University as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2009.

Harriette Pipes McAdoo will be retiring from Michigan State University later this year.

People

George Bohrnstedt, American Institutes for Research, has been chosen by the American Educational Research Association (AERA) as a member of its newly created Fellows Program. AERA created the program to honor education researchers with substantial research accomplishments and recognize excellence in research.

Lawrence Busch, Michigan State University, has been elected a foreign member of the Academie d'Agriculture de France. Busch was also awarded an honorary doctorate from the Technical University of Lisbon in April 2009.

Robert B. Hill, Westat, testified about the importance of appointing a new U.S. Census Director before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee's Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services and International Security Subcommittee on March 5. He was also invited by the U.S. Senate Census Oversight Committee to present testimony on recommendations for improving the 2010 Census.

Guillermina Jasso, New York University, was appointed to the Scientific Advisory Board of DIW Berlin (Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung -- German Institute for Economic Research).

Tiffany D. Joseph, University of Michigan, was featured on the State Department's Fulbright webpage at <fulbright.state.gov/fulbright/regionscountries/whereare/the-americas/brazil/highlights/joseph-story> where she discussed her experiences conducting dissertation research on the impact of U.S. immigration on Brazilians' racial perceptions as a 2007-08 IIE Fulbright Brazil grantee.

Tugrul Keskin, Portland State University, was invited to talk about sociology of Islam and secularism at "The Patterns of Secularism" workshop organized by the Middle East Center at the University of Utah, in collaboration with the Department of Education Title VI Grant and the Departments of Political Science and Religious Studies, June 12-13, 2009.

Judith Little, Humboldt State University, was honored by the Association on Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS). Beginning in the fall of 2009, the student team winning an applied sociology competition will be recognized with the "Judith Little Student Award."

Tracy Ore, Saint Cloud State University, is the new president-elect of MSWS.

Christy Visher, University of Delaware, testified before the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies on March 11, 2009, about the evaluation of prisoner reentry programs.

Member's New Books

Christine E. Bose, University at Albany-SUNY, and **Minjeong Kim**, Virginia Tech, Eds., *Global Gender Research: Transnational Perspectives* (Routledge, 2009).

Andrew J. Cherlin, Johns Hopkins University, *The Marriage-Go-Round: The State*

of Marriage and the Family in America Today (Knopf, 2009).

Thomas Dietz and **Linda Kalof**, both of Michigan State University, *Introduction to Social Statistics: The Logic of Statistical Reasoning* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2008).

Morten Ender, United States Military Academy-West Point, *American Soldiers in Iraq: McSoldiers or Innovative Professionals?* (Routledge, 2009).

John H. Kramer and **Jeffery T. Ulmer**, both of Pennsylvania State University, *Sentencing Guidelines: Lessons from Pennsylvania* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2009).

Karl-Dieter Opp, University of Leipzig, *Theories of Political Protest and Social Movements: A Multidisciplinary Introduction, Critique and Synthesis* (Routledge, 2009).

Diane Rodgers, Northern Illinois University, *Debugging the Link Between Social Theory and Social Insects* (Louisiana State University Press, 2008).

Other Organizations

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) seeks proposal reviewers for FY 2009 grant competitions. FIPSE anticipates receiving additional funds for its Comprehensive Program as well as the EU-U.S. Atlantis Program from the 2009 budget. This will create a demand for proposal reviewers from all fields in the postsecondary sector. Reviewers are generally asked to read five to ten proposals and are compensated for their efforts. The Office of Postsecondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education requires that all field readers have a bachelor's or higher degree. If you are interested in being a proposal reviewer, sign up in the Department of Education's field reader database. For more information, visit <opeweb.ed.gov/frs/register.cfm>.

Caught in the Web

Marquette Journals. New and recently published issues of five open-access scholarly journals are available for viewing at no charge, including the *Journal of Media Sociology*, *Journal of Health & Mass Communication*, *American Journal of Media Psychology*, *Journal of Global Mass Communication*, and *Journal of Communication Studies*. For more information, visit <www.marquettejournals.org/mediasociology.html>.

New Programs

Michigan State University Graduate Specialization in Animal Studies: Social Science and Humanities Perspectives. Established by Linda Kalof, the program is administered by the Department of Sociology and provides graduate students with basic knowledge of relationships between humans and other animals and how they are linked together in a fragile biosphere. For more information, visit <sociology.msu.edu/GraduateSpecializationinAnimalStudies-SocialScienceHumanitiesPerspective.html>

Obituaries

Carla Beth Howery 1950-2009

Carla Beth Howery, long time (14 years) Deputy Executive Officer of the American Sociological Association (ASA) died on March 31, 2009 at her home in Takoma Park, MD, at age 58. She spent more than a quarter of a century serving sociologists, students, and society through her work at the ASA.

Carla Howery was a mainstay at the ASA executive office since 1981, only recently retiring due to ill health. She served with four different executive officers, participated in three major moves, and helped in countless ways to shape and enact the mission of the Association. Carla had an encyclopedic knowledge of the history of the discipline and the ASA as well as a repository of information about and integral different networks of sociologists across substantive areas, universities, colleges, and levels of seniority. "Carla was a singular light within the ASA for a quarter century," said Executive Officer Sally T. Hillsman. "Her accomplishments on behalf of our discipline were legend, her sense of humor quick and sharp, but never cutting, and her wisdom a touchstone for the myriad sociologists whose lives she touched, many profoundly. The world is now a smaller place."

Carla was committed to supporting all the dimensions of sociology—research, teaching, and public service—and worked tirelessly on behalf of the discipline, its national and regional professional associations, sociology departments, and myriad individual sociologists across the country, meeting each new challenge with an appealing combination of determination, creativity, ability, and humor. She left a legacy of accomplishments and service at the ASA, a gap difficult to fill. "Carla's embrace of sociology and sociologists was second to none," former ASA Executive Officer, Felice J. Levine, recalled. "She lived every day with wisdom, wit, and willingness to make our discipline and the world a better place. Carla's legacy will remain a presence in our sociological imagination, in our hearts, and definitely in our sense of humor and proportion, even as we struggle with her absence."

Her name is most commonly linked to the teaching mission of our field. As a graduate student (and Moen's office-mate) at the University of Minnesota in the late 1970s, Carla recognized early on the need for preparing graduate students (i.e., as teaching assistants in the classroom) to launch their own future careers as teachers. She started what was the first teaching training program for graduate students in the nation, as a grassroots effort and then as a formal departmental initiative. Her emphasis on the importance of teaching as well as research remains an integral part of the culture of sociology at the University of Minnesota. Carla's legacy is the department's extensive graduate training in teaching, its leadership in integrating service learning into the sociology curriculum, and its well-established and well-used Teaching Resources Center.

Carla received the Outstanding Teaching Award when she worked at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1979. Throughout her career, Carla maintained her strong commitment to preparing graduate students to teach. In 2008, the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning established the Carla B. Howery Award for Developing Teacher-Scholars. Its inaugural awarding will occur at the 2009 ASA Annual Meeting.

Carla's passion for excellence in teaching continued when she moved to Washington, DC, to work for the ASA; she served as the director of the Teaching Services Program from 1981-90. During that time she developed and institutionalized a number of teaching resources: the wealth of instructional, curricular, and teaching support materials now taken-for-granted by ASA members. As Theodore Wagenaar, Miami University pointed out, "Carla played 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 Goldsmit 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." He noted that she was "a strong spokesperson for teaching and curriculum issues at professional meetings and at meetings connected with the ASA [and knew] just about everyone engaged in promoting the teaching and learning of sociology."

Carla believed that sociologists could learn from one another, in teaching and research, but also in administration. She was the Director of the Academic and Professional Affairs Program and the Department Resources Group, offering expert consultation to departments, chairs, high school affiliates, and community college teachers. Minnesota's Jeylan Mortimer recalled "her determination to make the ASA a meaningful, useful association for all sociologists at all types of institutions, not just research universities. She was highly successful in developing programs that reached out to our highly diverse sociological community." Even as an undergraduate at St. Olaf (1968-1972), Carla attended the first meetings of the Sociologists of Minnesota and was one of the founding student members of that organization. She continued to participate in Sociologists of Minnesota annual meetings and in 2007 was honored with a Distinguished Contributions to the Discipline award, created especially for her.

Carla was particularly invested in enhancing the experience of sociology for undergraduate and graduate students. She worked with the MOST (Minority Opportunities through School Transformation) to interest underrepresented populations of undergraduates in sociology, helping 18 departments to achieve their goals of inclusiveness and excellence by restructuring their curricula, research training, mentoring and outreach. She also directed the IDA (Integrating Data Analysis) project, working with faculty to strengthen undergraduate students' quantitative literacy skills, to use those skills to analyze sociological issues skills, and possibly encourage undergraduates to consider graduate education in sociology. Ed Kain, Southwestern University, said, "Both of these illustrate how her focus was 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."

Public service was a prominent part of Carla's portfolio. She co-directed ASA's Spivack Program on Applied Social Research and Social Policy from 1990-2007, seeking to translate the science of sociology in ways that made sense and was useful to the broader community. Carla also served as advisor to the ASA's Community Action Research grant program and the Congressional Fellows. She believed in the value of sociological evidence and worked to bring sociological insights and findings to inform policy debates.

Carla was also active in the advancement of higher education as the chair of the Association of American Colleges' Task Force on the Sociology Major and as a member of the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE) Sociology Task Force on Faculty Roles and Rewards. She also served on the AAHE-ASA Project on Service Learning, and was project director of Preparing Future Faculty in collaboration with the American Association of Colleges and Universities and the Council of Graduate Schools. She authored over a dozen journal articles and book chapters and gave countless talks and workshops at sociology and higher education conferences worldwide.

Carla was a past president of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), and, as Mary Zimmerman, University of Kansas, said, "She helped lay the organizational foundations for SWS that brought it from its 1970s-1980s feminist social movement roots into the 1990s as a strong advocacy organization of social science scholars, working to improve the lives of women both inside and outside the academy. SWSers will remember her

combination of wisdom and wit—part Eleanor Roosevelt, part Erma Bombeck. No one who witnessed it can ever forget her impromptu stand-up comedy as she deftly played auctioneer for the annual SWS charity fundraiser. Carla has left an incredible legacy."

Carla was also past president of the District of Columbia Sociological Society, served on the board of the National Association of Social Workers, and was the recipient of over a dozen awards for her service to the profession. In August, she will be posthumously awarded the ASA's Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award.

A longtime member of Christ Lutheran Church in DC, Carla served twice as Vice President of the church council and served as President, Vice-President, and Board Member of the Transitional Housing Corporation (which her church co-founded), a faith-based, non-profit that provides housing and comprehensive support services to homeless and at-risk families. She received their first Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2003. Characteristic of Carla's commitment to service, one of the first things she did after retiring from ASA was to train to be and serve as a Stephen Minister, a lay minister who provides one-on-one Christian care to others. Even in illness, Carla served others.

Following her diagnosis and first treatment for breast cancer at the age of 44, and particularly after its recurrence in 2000, Carla devoted increasing amounts of her seemingly boundless time and energy to breast cancer volunteer work. She dealt with her health challenges as both a cancer survivor and a sociologist, serving on several grants panels, including for the Komen Foundation; conducting training sessions for agency staff receiving Komen funding; lecturing medical students and potential donors; and as an active member of several breast cancer advocacy organizations, which sometimes involved trips to the Hill to gain funding support for breast cancer research and treatment.

Carla regaled her friends with philosophical updates that offered both reader and sender a sense of perspective, reminding us that cancer was only a part, and often a small part, of her life. Her "Cancer Chronicles," were, as Kerry Strand, Hood College, observed, "full of keen insights, moving reflections, and—true to form—witty comments and hilarious stories that left her devoted readers laughing through their tears. Friends were also left with a deepened understanding of the cancer experience and the oft-ignored sensitivities of those who are dealing with cancer." Carla wrote, "Cancer is a growth, not a growth experience," and she insisted that she not be defined by her disease. Her many personal interests—knitting, reading groups, theater, and travel—nurtured new and old friendships.

Carla Beth Howery was born in Cedar Rapids, IA. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of St. Olaf College and did advanced graduate work at the University of Minnesota and the University of Pennsylvania. She was preceded in death by her father, Victor I. Howery; and her sister, Marcia Howery, who died of breast cancer last spring. She is survived by two beloved sons, Andrew Victor Fremming and Kevin Carl Fremming; her mother and stepfather, Garnett Graf and Edwin Graf; and a multitude of friends, colleagues, and relatives from all over the country. Margaret Andersen, University of Delaware, reflected that "even in her death, Carla has continued to teach us lessons about the importance of nurturing our friendship networks and facing life's adversities with both courage and good humor." A memorial service will be held August 9 at 8:00 pm at the ASA Annual Meeting.

Phyllis Moen, University of Minnesota, and Maxine Atkinson, North Carolina State University

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journals in transition

New Addresses for ASA Journal Submissions

American Sociological Review: As of July 1, 2009, all new submissions should be sent to the new editors, Tony N. Brown, Katharine M. Donato, Larry W. Isaac, and Holly J. McCammon, at Vanderbilt University, *American Sociological Review*, PMB 351803, 2301 Vanderbilt Place, Nashville TN 37235; (615) 343-0426; ASR@vanderbilt.edu. Correspondence regarding revisions of manuscripts already under review will continue to be received until August 7, 2009, by the outgoing editors: Vincent Roscigno and Randy Hodson, Ohio State University, Department of Sociology, 238 Townshend Hall, 1885 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, OH 43210-1222; (614) 292-9972; ASR@osu.edu.

Sociology of Education: As of July 1, 2009, all new submissions should be sent to the new editor, David Bills, at the University of Iowa, N491 Lindquist Ctr, Iowa City, IA 52242; (319) 335-5383; david-bills@uiowa.edu. Correspondence regarding revisions of manuscripts already under review will continue to be received until June 30, 2009, by the outgoing editor: Barbara Schneider, College of Education, Michigan State University, 516 Erickson Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824; (517) 432-0300; soe@msu.edu.

Sociological Methodology: As of July 1, 2009, all new submissions should be sent to the new editor, Tim Liao, at the University of Illinois, Department of Sociology, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 333-1950; soc-methodology@illinois.edu. Correspondence regarding revisions of manuscripts already under review will continue to be received until August 15, 2009, by the outgoing editor: Yu Xie, University of Michigan, 2076 ISR, 426 Thompson St, POB 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248; smeditor@umich.edu.

Sociological Theory: As of May 1, 2009, all new submissions should be sent to the new editor, Neill Gross, at the University of British Columbia, *Sociological Theory*, Department of Sociology, 6303 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1, Canada; (604) 827-5511; Sociological.Theory@ubc.ca. Neill Gross will begin reviewing manuscripts on May 1; however new submissions should continue to be sent to the Yale office until June 30. Correspondence regarding revisions of manuscripts already under review will continue to be received until July 15, 2009, by the outgoing editors: Julia Adams, Jeffrey Alexander, Ron Eyerman, and Philip Gorski, *Sociological Theory*, Department of Sociology, Yale University, P.O. Box 208265, New Haven, CT 06520-8285; soc.theory@yale.edu.

Teaching Sociology: As of July 1, 2009, all new submissions should be sent to the new editor, Kathleen Lowney, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA 31698-0060; teachingsociology@valdosta.edu. Correspondence regarding revisions of manuscripts already under review will continue to be received until August 7, 2009, by the outgoing editor: Liz Grauerholz, Department of Sociology, Howard Phillips Hall 403, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL 32816-1360.

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footnotes

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