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Looking Forward to the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco

Building Excellent, Diverse, and Just Communities: A Conversation Among Artists, Academics, and Activists

by Patricia Hill Collins, University of Maryland-College Park and ASA President

The 2009 Annual Meeting will be launched with an exciting opening plenary session, "Building Excellent, Diverse, and Just Communities: A Conversation Among Artists, Academics and Activists." The plenary features innovative thinkers from diverse backgrounds, fields, and stages of the life course who have placed their craft in service to issues of social justice. The panelists will share how their work gives them a distinctive viewpoint on the needs of contemporary and future communities. Through a conversation across different perspectives, my goal is to encourage an exchange that might catalyze new sociological thinking about the communities in which we are engaged as well as imagined communities that we might create. Because our panelists are not simply thinkers but also doers, this session should provide pragmatic ideas about what works, what doesn't, and why.

Why Is This the Opening Plenary?

The program theme, "The New Politics of Community," examines how ideas and practices concerning community might shed light on contemporary politics. Currently, the term *community* resonates throughout social policy, popular culture,

and everyday social interaction in ways that generate dynamic social and political identities. Ideas about community hold significance for quite different populations with competing political agendas—the right and left invoke ideas of community, yet with different definitions in mind. In this context, building excellent, diverse, and just communities constitutes one of the major challenges of our times.

The artists, academics, and/or activists on the panel are involved in building local, regional, national, or global communities. Some are focused on building learning communities for students, while others are students. Some work directly with communities who strive to tackle social inequalities of race, gender, poverty, ethnicity, and immigration status. Some study and use art, music, and film to educate and inspire youth, while others craft excellent scholarship that examines youth cultural production. Because our panelists are so different from one another, we envision a lively and substantive dialogue as panelists consider the connections between social justice and building excellent, diverse, and just communities.

And the Panelists Are...

Marcyliena Morgan is founder and Executive Director of the Hiphop Archive

See **Annual Meeting**, page 9

Results of 2009 Election Are In

Randall Collins, University of Pennsylvania, has been elected to serve as the 102nd President of the American Sociological Association (ASA) for 2010-2011. David Snow of the University of California-Irvine has been elected Vice President-Elect. Collins and Snow will assume their respective offices in August of 2010, following a year of service as President-



Randall Collins

Elect and Vice President-Elect. Collins and the 2011 Program Committee are responsible for shaping the ASA Annual Meeting, which will be held August 13-16, 2011, in Chicago. As President, Collins will serve as Chair of the ASA Council, which governs the Association and its policies.

Members also elected Kate Berheide of Skidmore College as the new Secretary-Elect. Berheide will take office as Secretary-Elect in August 2009 and will overlap with current Secretary, Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, for one year. In August 2010, she will start a three-year term as Secretary.

The four newly elected Council Members-at-Large are: Sarah Fenstermaker, University of California-Santa Barbara; Jennifer Lee, University of California-Irvine; Sandra Smith, University of California-Berkeley; Sarah Soule, Stanford University. Also elected were two members of the

See **Election Results**, page 9

ASA Partners with Sage for Journal Publishing

by Karen Gray Edwards, ASA Director of Publications and Membership

After an exhaustive two-year process, the ASA has signed an agreement with Sage Publications to partner with the Association in publishing its journals. Sage will begin publishing the *American Sociological Review*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Social Psychology Quarterly*, and *Teaching Sociology* with the 2010 volume year. Until now, ASA has self-published these six journals. *Sociological Methodology* and *Sociological Theory*, currently published for the ASA by Wiley-Blackwell, will fold into the Sage partnership in 2012.

The decision to move away from self-publishing these six ASA journals began several years ago with the evolution of web-based journal content—and the opportunities and challenges it presents. While the self-published journals were financially stable, it was increasingly difficult to manage the demands for online-only pricing, international markets, consortia and "bundling" arrangements, and interactive content for member subscribers.

The decision to enter a partnership with Sage followed a request for proposals to a number of publishers and a detailed review of the resulting proposals by the ASA Executive Office, Committee on Publications, the Executive Office and Budget Committee, and ASA Council. Only proposals that met a detailed list of criteria were considered.

ASA Secretary Don Tomaskovic-Devey



Front: Jayne Marks, Sage Vice President and Editorial Director and Sally T. Hillsman, ASA Executive Officer. Back: Karen Gray Edwards, ASA Director of Publications and Membership; Thomas Taylor, Sage Vice President of Marketing and Sales; and Michele Sordi, Sage Vice President and Editorial Director (Books).

(who helped coordinate discussions between the Committee on Publications, the Executive Office, and ASA Council) noted the remarkable consensus that developed in the selection of Sage as our publishing partner: "From every perspective—scholarly potential, intellectual reach, and financial assurances—Sage is a great choice to partner with," he said.

The agreement with Sage offers the Association's journal publishing program significant national and international marketing and advanced technological expertise—while maintaining the revenue stream vital to quality publication and support of ASA educa-

See **Sage Press**, page 6

David Bills to Edit *Sociology of Education*

by James Rosenbaum, Northwestern University

One of the great things about the ASA Section on Sociology of Education is the extent that so many of us identify with it. That is also one of the burdens. We expect a lot from the editor



David Bills

of the *Sociology of Education* journal. When we say we want administrative efficiency, what we really want is something much more subtle. We want efficient management—someone who will ruthlessly badger, cajole, and embarrass delinquent reviewers to expedite the reviewing process. We want somebody who is able to say "no" but do it nicely. We want someone who responds often enough to reviewers' suggestions so that they will consent the next time they are tapped, but an editor can't respond to all of reviewers' concerns, or papers would never get published. If an editor has all of these qualities, they will get the job done, and that is no easy feat.

In addition, we seek great vision and judgment about which articles will make intellectual contributions to our field. We don't voice this desire very often, and sometimes it seems too much to hope for. Indeed, the review process is occasion-

See **Bills**, page 6

from the executive officer

Quantitatively Hard Science: Counting Us

The first U.S. census was in 1790 and every decade since, as required by *Article I, Section 2, of the Constitution of the United States*. Decennial counts of the nation's residents (citizen and non-citizen) are conducted primarily to determine the serious matter of how many of the 435 U.S. House of Representative seats will be allocated to each of the 50 states to achieve fair representation. The Census count of April 2010 is practically upon us.

States control the process of aligning their voting districts in accordance with the law that requires delineating fair boundaries so that the power of political groups within congressional districts is equal relative to others. Sociologists, like other quantitatively and socially adept observers, spend considerable energy assessing the actual political outcomes of this process each decade. But voting power is not the only impact of Census numbers today because they also drive the flow of \$300 billion in federal dollars to states and communities, supporting everything from education and housing to infrastructure and welfare. (See article on page 10 of this issue on Census-related jobs.)

Politics, Scientific Leadership & the National Interest

With so much at stake each decade, politics have always been center stage. In 1790, slaves (until the 14th Amendment) were counted as only partial residents and Native Americans were not counted at all. Ever since open and behind-the-scenes political negotiating in Congress emerged like clockwork every decade, beginning before the ink is dry on Census reports from the just-completed count. Such political maneuvering has significant impact on the funding, conduct, and accuracy of every Census. For a quick view of news items about the long, painful legislative history of hostile amendments to the Census budget and management, frequently reflecting mistrust from both parties about the potential for damaging under-counts or over-counts, see The Census Project website at <www.thecensusproject.org/>.

Of significant consequence to the upcoming Census is the absence of a confirmed U.S. Census Bureau director as of late June, which leaves the bureau leaderless 10 months before the 2010 count starts. Sociologist Robert M. Groves is President Obama's nominee for this critical post.

Groves' completed his largely uneventful Senate hearings weeks ago, but his final confirmation is caught up in a larger political context: given the outcome of recent elections, there are some who don't think a really successful Census count is in their interests. Groves' hearing before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and

Governmental Affairs provided only a fig leaf of cover for this dawdling over final confirmation. There was some needless political controversy about census methodology—"needless" because

Census must abide by the 1999 Supreme Court ruling that statistical sampling cannot be used to redress under-counting of even difficult-to-reach populations, and Groves has firmly stated his intention to follow this course for 2010 and 2020. (See June 24, 2009, Associated Press article, "Locke Urges End to GOP Block on Census Nominee.")

Structural Obstacles

Not all citizens understand the potential personal value of completing Census forms or responding to Census interviewers. Some are understandably skeptical when the federal government seeks data about their household composition. (While individual fears may be exaggerated, not all fears by groups are unfounded.) Structural impediments also abound in counting difficult populations such as the homeless or migrant workers. As if such bottom-up challenges to accuracy were not daunting enough for Census counters, the long history of top-down obstacles to adequate funding threaten each Census. There is a stalwart advocacy community (in which ASA participates) that fights tooth-and-nail every decade from outside the government to support the funding necessary to ensure a well prepared and accurate count. (See June 9, 2009, *New York Times* editorial, "Census Follies, Continued.")

It is never an easy battle. The Census Bureau is buried within the \$14-billion U.S. Department of Commerce, which is comprised of an assortment of unrelated agencies and bureaus with disparate missions (e.g., NIST, NOAA, Patents/Trademarks). Census also has an anomalous 10-year budget that rises dramatically years before the actual April count. This makes its budget unique (and vulnerable) among federal agencies. Commerce's "catch-all" functions degrade this Cabinet-

level department's ability to fight off adverse congressional budgetary actions, especially in fiscally difficult times.

Some stakeholders are pushing to establish the Census Bureau as an independent agency as a means to increase its visibility in top-level policymaking arenas and to reduce its budgetary vulnerability to legislators raiding its annual appropriations. The Census Director is a presidential appointee, so some advocacy groups also have suggested making that appointment a fixed, six-year term (like some other science positions in government) to reduce the perception of and possibilities for partisan mischief.

Counting on Science


Business, government, citizens, and residents of all modern nations count on census data. All elements of society can best plan for the future if they have accurate and current data on their nation's population size, geographic distribution, and key characteristics (e.g., age, gender, and racial/ethnic composition, education, per capita income, mortality/morbidity rates). The U.S. Census Bureau's mission is to count the U.S. population with accuracy and efficiency.

Census also is responsible for statistical innovations such as the American Community Survey (ACS), designed to replace the decennial Census "long form" and to be a basic tool for social and business research in the United States. ACS, covered in several past *Footnotes* issues, is an ongoing nationwide annual survey of certain metropolitan areas that even Fortune 500 businesses identify as essential to efficient planning and development in the commercial sector. Because its data are more detailed and timely than the decennial Census, it is strategically more useful for business, community, government decision making and scientific research.

In an ideal world, conducting a human population count would be like an ecological or ethological count of a particular animal species in its natural habitat. Meticulous methods and strategies would be established and scientists would return from the field with a reasonably realistic assessment. Of course, even such scientific endeavors are social phenomena: an ethnologist counting the population of a federally protected, endangered species quickly learns about the politics of counting animals, especially if they inhabit economically valuable geography. Counting U.S. residents similarly touches sensitive nerves

that transmit directly to our nation's political nerve center, Congress.

Within this context, science continues its efforts to deliver decennial and other products that are good for people, good for business, and good for knowledge building. Every decade, Congress and the President gradually increase the annual Census budget as more resources are required to meet each year's more costly, complex, and time-consuming tasks. To the uninformed, these increases may seem to be government excess and they are a tempting target to be skimmed or redirected for non-Census purposes. Appropriations amendments emerge like crabgrass. While they are often defeated, the process is not without significant and endless defensive work by Census advocates. The nation's taxpayers, their states and localities pay extra for the costs of the battle and sometimes pay even more dearly for the increased potential of an inaccurate count.

The House has signed off on Census's FY 2010 budget, but the full Congress needs to vote the final appropriations bills by October 1, the start of the fiscal year. It also needs to vote on the Census Director immediately. We can only hope that the Bureau will have the resources Americans need to count on. 



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ASA footnotes


Published monthly with combined issues in May/June, July/August, and September/October. Mailed free to all ASA members. Subscription, \$40. Single copies, \$3.

Editor: Sally T. Hillsman
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Secretary: Donald Tomaskovic-Devey

Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words and must have journalistic value (e.g., timeliness, significant impact, general interest) rather than be research oriented or scholarly in nature. Submissions will be reviewed by the editorial board for possible publication. "ASA Forum" (including letters to the editor) contributions are limited to 400–600 words; "Obituaries," 500–700 words; and "Announcements," 200 words. All submissions should include a contact name and, if possible, an e-mail address. ASA reserves the right to edit all material published for style and length. The deadline for all material is the first of the month preceding publication (e.g., February 1 for March issue).

Send communications on material, subscriptions, and advertising to: American Sociological Association, 1430 K Street, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005; fax (202) 638-0882; email footnotes@asanet.org; <www.asanet.org>.

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science policy

Governmental Affairs, led by Chairman Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) and Ranking Member Susan Collins (R-ME), will consider the nomination, which requires Senate confirmation (see this issue's Vantage Point column).

President nominates new head of the National Endowment for the Humanities

In early June, President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate Jim Leach, former Republican Congressman for Iowa for 30 years, as Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). He founded and co-chaired the

Congressional Humanities Caucus, which is dedicated to advocating on behalf of the humanities in the House of Representatives and to raising the profile of humanities in the United States. The Caucus worked to promote and preserve humanities programs and commissions such as

the Historical Publications and Records Commission. The Obama administration's budget proposal calls for a FY10 budget of \$171.315 million for NEH, an increase of \$16.3 million over the FY 2009 enacted level. A detailed summary of the NEH budget proposal is available at: <www.neh.gov/news/archive/20090507.html>. 



Data Users Struggle to Prevent Suppression of Race, Ethnic, and Gender Statistics

by Roberta Spalter-Roth, ASA Research and Development Department

The strength of the data user community made itself felt in an effort to prevent the Science Resource Statistics (SRS) branch of the National Science Foundation (NSF) from suppressing data on the race, ethnicity, and gender of new doctorates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The final outcome is still unclear, however.

Each year since 1957, the SRS has issued a report based on the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), a census of all doctorates receiving their degree in a particular year. This survey provides a wealth of information on the new PhD recipients including their educational history and their career plans. This information is available by race, ethnicity, and gender. The user community for these data includes many programs whose goal is to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in the STEM workforce. The data serve as a benchmark for progress in these fields.

In 2007, in response to a new set of privacy rules for federal statistical agencies issued by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), SRS decided to suppress (not publish) certain small data cells containing information on gender and racial and ethnic minorities in specific degree fields to maintain confidentiality in an era of data miners. Under their revised rules, no cell would be published that had fewer than six individuals. This meant that no data on women or underrepresented minorities would be published in small fields such as analytic chemistry, atmospheric science and meteorology, computer and information sciences, comparative psychology, statistics, and demography. In addition, all zeros (fields in which there were no women or minori-

ties) were also to be suppressed. Finally, if the size of the sub-field could be deduced through subtraction from larger fields then the larger field was suppressed also. The result of this scheme would be the loss of data that had been widely used for years.

SRS made this decision without the input of members of the user community. At first the response was slow, but over time both the number and the decibel level of the phone calls, memos, and letters to NSF, including those to Arden L. Bement, Jr., the Director of NSF, grew. In the course of these communications, users found that the leadership of NSF, as well as directors of programs that encouraged the use of these data, did not know of the SRS decision. Members of SRS's Advisory Board (the Human Resources Experts Panel) also strongly voiced their concern about the value of the SED data.

No Longer Hush Hush

Declaring this non-transparent decision-making process a "grave mistake," Lynda Carlson, head of SRS, attempted to open-up the process. SRS then issued the 2006 tables in their original format to those who requested them. They also developed a series of alternative tables that re-aggregated the data in several ways, with users being asked to discuss which alternatives they preferred. These methods included combining years of data, sub-fields, or minority groups. Simultaneously, Carlson asked several organizations, including the Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (CPST) to conduct a series of meetings where users would be invited to discuss the various alternatives presented by SRS staff. The Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network agreed to conduct the meetings and write a report of their findings. (In the interest of full disclosure, I was chair of the SRS Human Experts Committee and President of CPST's Board,

as well as the ASA representative to one of the QEM meetings, during this period.)

QEM set up a series of eight meetings across the country during fall 2008 and developed a report from the information they gathered at these meetings. According to their report, users were dismayed by the idea of suppression of data that had long been available and the alternatives presented. Users argued that SRS had failed to explain how publishing the actual data could lead to the identification of individuals, had not provided any examples of the negative impact of the availability of small data cells, and did not understand the impact of its scheme on equal opportunity programs. More specifically, they agreed that small cells needed to be published, zeros needed to be displayed, aggregating separate race/ethnic categories into one "underrepresented minority" category was not useful, separate years needed to be published to understand trends, and field aggregation must be meaningful, not haphazard. See the QEM report at <www.cpst.org/pastmeet.cfm>.

New Decision Rules


In February 2009, QEM's President, Shirley McBay, presented the results of the study to NSF's Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering, an advisory body for issues concerning underrepresented minority groups in STEM fields. At this meeting, Carlson surprised the audience and delighted data users by announcing that SRS would not use any of the schemes that they had proposed previously. Instead SRS presented three new decision rules, which would suppress far less data than previously strategies. These are:

1. Establish a bigger minimum criteria.

SRS will publish all race/ethnic/gender degree counts for sub-fields of degrees if at least 25 PhDs were granted in the

broad field. Numbers in sub-fields and zeros will be published. For example, the number of women and specific underrepresented minority groups in sociology with 467 PhD recipients in 2006 would be published and similar data on criminology with 88 2006 PhDs would be published.

2. *Aggregate some small degree fields.* SRS would aggregate small fields of degrees into broader categories with at least 25 PhDs granted. The field of demography with 8 PhDs in 2006 would not be published separately, and would likely be folded into sociology. Choices about aggregation of small fields will be guided by the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) taxonomy. These aggregations could change over time as small fields become bigger and big fields become smaller.
3. *Report all minority groups separately in disaggregated form.*

Users seem pleased with the SRS's changed strategy to protect confidentiality. McBay stated, "SRS heard the concerns expressed...and has reconsidered its approach." There were still questions by members of the Human Resources Expert Panel about why the new concern with confidentiality was necessary. The story is not over. At the request of SRS, the Committee on National Statistics of the National Academies convened an expert panel to review the QEM report and the SRS confidentiality decision rules in order to provide advice on how SRS might proceed. Steve Cohen, the Chief Statistician for SRS stated, "These decisions are not carved in stone." The tenor of the meeting appeared to slant toward concerns about confidentiality rather than concerns about providing information to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in the science workforce. 

ASA's Rose Series Continues Award-Winning Ways

by Matthew Mahler, Rose Series Fellow

The American Sociological Association's Rose Series is rapidly becoming one of the premier publishing outlets for scholarly books. Yet, being published through the Rose Series is not easy. Only a few select Rose volumes are added each year. They are evaluated through a meticulous review process and are chosen for their quality, sophistication, and policy relevance. Increasingly recognized for their scholarly excellence, their ability to challenge prevailing paradigms and offer fresh views on enduring controversies, almost two-thirds of the Rose volumes published over the past decade have won major awards. Recent prize winners include:


- *Changing Rhythms of the American Family* by Suzanne M. Bianchi, John Robinson, and Melissa Milkie. 2006. 2007 Otis Dudley Duncan Award.
- *Market Friendly or Family Friendly? The State and Gender Inequality in Old Age* by Madonna Harrinton Meyer and Pamela Herd. 2007. 2008 Richard Kalish Publication Award, Section on Behavioral and Social Sciences, The Gerontological Society of America.

- *Passing the Torch: Does Higher Education for the Disadvantaged Pay Off Across the Generations?* by Paul Attewell and David Lavin. 2007. 2009 Grawemeyer Award for the Best Book in Education (including a \$200,000 award).
- *Beyond the Boycott: Labor Rights, Human Rights, and Transnational Activism* by Gay Seidman. 2007. 2008 ASA Section on Labor and Labor Movements, Honorable Mention.

This success is the result of the mandate given to the Series as well as the hands-on attention and financial resources provided by the ASA-appointed editors and its publisher, The Russell Sage Foundation. Established in 1967 by a bequest to ASA from Arnold and Caroline Rose to support innovations in scholarly publishing, the Series combines the intellectual rigor associated with refereed journals, the visibility of publishing with a major press, and the benefit of a sustained marketing campaign that extends beyond sociology into cognate disciplines and relevant policy circles. Rose books receive the most thor-

ough editing available in academic book publishing. Authors are signed to contracts (with payment of an advance) on the basis of a book proposal reviewed by editors, often after several substantive exchanges about how the book will be constructed. A mid-course review (scheduled once drafts of the core of the book are complete) includes careful reading by at least two editors, a one-day conference including a seminar in which the draft is presented to a qualified professional audience, and a detailed and critical review of the manuscript provided by the editors. The final draft is sent to two eminent scholars in the field who are compensated for a detailed, lengthy, and timely review. The finished manuscript is painstakingly edited by professional copy editors. In addition to the national and international marketing that Russell Sage undertakes, many titles are also the subject of special "Author Meets Critics" sessions at the ASA annual meeting. This year, for example, the editors will be hosting a session dedicated to Gay Seidman's *Beyond the Boycott: Labor Rights, Human Rights, and Transnational Activism*.

The editors are always looking for exciting new manuscripts or propos-

als and invite submissions from senior scholars who are ASA members and have either written or are thinking about writing synthetic works based on original research. For guidelines and more information on the Rose Series, see <asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/publications/rose_series/homepage>. 

Currently the Rose Series is housed at Stony Brook University. Its editors, Diane Barthel-Bouchier, Cynthia Bogard, Michael Kimmel, Daniel Levy, Tim Moran, Naomi Rosenthal, Michael Schwartz, and Gilda Zwerman, are affiliated with three different institutions in the New York metropolitan area: Stony Brook University, Hofstra University, and SUNY Old Westbury. Much of the success of the Series is also a result of the work of the previous editors: Douglas L. Anderton, Dan Clawson, Naomi Gerstel, Joya Misra, Randall G. Stokes, and Robert Zussman, from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, who recruited all of the Rose volumes published between 2001 and 2007.

NSF Report Tackles Standards of Evaluation for Qualitative Research

by Michèle Lamont, Harvard University, and Patricia White, National Science Foundation

Academics from the disciplines of anthropology, law and social science, political science, and sociology gathered for a two-day workshop in May 2005, on “Interdisciplinary Standards for Systematic Qualitative Research” at the National Science Foundation (NSF) (see www.asanet.org/footnotes/mar05/fn6.html). The results of this workshop were recently released in an NSF report.

It is well recognized that the four disciplines have different research design and evaluation cultures as well as considerable variability in the emphasis on interpretation and explanation, commitment to constructivist and positivist epistemologies, and the degree of perceived consensus about the value and prominence of qualitative research methods. Within this multidisciplinary and multimethods context, 24 scholars from the four disciplines sought to (1) articulate the standards used in their particular field to ensure rigor across qualitative methodological approaches; (2) identify common criteria across the four disciplines for designing and evaluating research proposals and fostering multidisciplinary collaborations; and (3) develop an agenda for strengthening the tools, training, data, research design, and infrastructure for research using qualitative approaches. The explicit purpose was not to define standards for all qualitative researchers but for proposals submitted for funding to the NSF.

Prior to the workshop, each participant prepared a short paper addressing the three topics (qualitative research standards, evaluation criteria, and agenda of future opportunities and needs). At breakout sessions, each disciplinary group was asked to discuss and list the field’s major qualitative research standards. From these lists the full workshop identified two categories of qualitative research standards: “Shared” or key standards relevant to all four disciplines and standards judged essential by two or three disciplines. Participants also provided recommendations for improving qualitative research, training, and infrastructures and identified promising areas of research in the four disciplines that

would benefit from the use of qualitative research approaches.

The workshop was cofunded by a grant from four NSF Programs—Cultural Anthropology, Law and Social Science, Political Science, and Sociology—to Michèle Lamont, Harvard University. Lamont organized the workshop with representatives from each discipline who coordinated group reports. The Cultural Anthropology group was co-chaired by Ted Bestor (Harvard) and Gery Ryan (RAND); Law and Social Science by John Bowen, (Washington University-St. Louis); Political Science by Andrew Bennett (Georgetown University); and Sociology by Kathleen Blee (University of Pittsburgh).

The recently released workshop report can be accessed at www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/soc/ISSQR_workshop_rpt.pdf. It is organized into four sections: Qualitative Research Design and Methods; Standards for Qualitative Research across Disciplines; Recommendations for Producing Top Notch Qualitative Research; and Promising New Research Areas and Topics. Below is a brief summary of the report and the results from the workshop.

Qualitative Design and Methods

Workshop participants discussed the strengths of qualitative methods, standards qualitative research shares with quantitative research, and standards that are unique to qualitative research. The major strength of qualitative research was judged to be the rich range of methodological tools available to study meaning, social processes, and group variations. The sample sizes and strategies of qualitative and quantitative approaches to research were contrasted, including the recursive character of theory generation in qualitative research. Qualitative research stresses in-depth contextualization, usually with small sample size. Qualitative research sampling techniques, while nonrandom, are usually attentive to demographic and theoretical dimensions. The small and in-depth samples chosen for theoretical relevancy allow qualitative research findings a degree of significance beyond individuals or single cases and provide opportunities to demonstrate rigor in all phases of a qualitative research project.

See NSF, page 5

Sociology in the Twittersphere

by Jackie Cooper, ASA Public Information Office

It seems that everyone is a-twitter these days over the online social media darling Twitter (see www.twitter.com). According to a May 2009 report by marketing research company comScore, Twitter logged an estimated 32 million visitors worldwide in April, surpassing the number of monthly unique visitors to the website of *The New York Times*, among other popular sites. The evidence of Twitter’s growing popularity is potentially much stronger, however, since the comScore data does not account for those who “tweet” using mobile phones, desktop applications, or other websites.

So what is Twitter? It is a service that allows users to broadcast short (up to 140 characters) text updates known as “tweets.” Tweets can be sent via the Twitter website or through a desktop application, an instant message, or text message via cell phone. Others can subscribe to a user’s updates using the “follow” function.

A number of current and budding sociologists are already using Twitter to communicate with their social networks and the Twittersphere. A partial list of Twitter users with an interest in sociology may be found at wefollow.com/tag/sociology/. Twitter also has a search function that allows users to search for people by e-mail address or name.

ASA and Twitter

Recognizing the power of this tool and the increasing use of Twitter by the media, ASA’s Public Information Office established a Twitter profile earlier this year under the username “ASAnews.” ASAnews tweets provide followers with information about the latest sociological research from ASA journals, links to sociologists in the news, and updates on relevant news from the association.

Twitter posts allow ASA to simultaneously alert various communities (both sociological and non-sociological) of newsworthy happenings and material in an efficient one-stop manner. A number of sociologists currently follow our updates, in addition to reporters from media outlets such as *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, Discovery News, CNN, *Chicago Sun-*

Times, and the Social Science Research News blog. ASA members who use Twitter are encouraged to follow ASAnews, although anyone with Internet access can view the public information office’s updates at www.twitter.com/asanews.

California Tweeting


ASAnews will be tweeting about research presented at the 2009 ASA Annual Meeting, and meeting attendees are encouraged to tweet from the meeting as well to highlight noteworthy presentations or to share and discuss ideas. These updates can be used as a note-taking tool and also present an opportunity to share proceedings with absent colleagues or

connect virtually with other meeting attendees. Attendees can use mobile phones to text updates

to Twitter. Internet access will also be available for those wishing to tweet using a computer. ASA is providing free wifi access in Yosemite Hall at the Hilton San Francisco, as well as a free cybercafé with hardwired Internet access in the meeting’s registration area. Guest rooms in the Hilton also have free Internet access.

Contexts Counts

Contexts magazine will be hosting a website that aggregates tweets from the meeting. To have updates posted on the *Contexts* site (www.contexts.org/asa), Twitter users writing about the meeting should use the hashtag #asa09. Hashtags (text following the # symbol) signal that a tweet relates to that particular topic. Hashtags make it easier for users to search for popular topics, and the most popular topics get listed by Twitter under a sidebar on the website for “Trending Topics.” Meeting attendees and sociologists back at home can visit the *Contexts* site to get a feel for the hot topics generating discussion at the annual meeting.

The Chronicle of Higher Education recently wrote about the benefits and drawbacks of Twitter at academic conferences in a May 26 article. The article referenced a paper presented at the annual EduMedia Conference in Salzburg, Austria, titled “How People Are Using Twitter during Conferences.” For more details, read the paper at lamp.tu-graz.ac.at/~i203/ebner/publication/09_edumedia.pdf. Happy tweeting! 



SWS Targets Healthcare Policy as Action Issue

by Jessica Holden Sherwood, Executive Officer, Sociologists for Women in Society

When Joey Sprague ran for President-Elect of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) she shared a new vision for the organization, and after being elected in 2007, she worked to make that vision a reality. With its considerable resources, of both expertise and funding, the organization has been excellent for member networking and professional development. Sprague thought SWS could do better for women in society, by focusing on one target for concerted political action.

At the winter 2008 meeting in Las Vegas, SWS members voted to focus significant organizational resources, attention, and action on one issue for two years. What issue, you ask? We agreed on the principle first, and then discussed and

voted on the issue. The winner: universal healthcare in the United States. This is indeed an urgent issue, as about one hundred million Americans are uninsured or underinsured. And it is timely, as health care reform is on the national agenda.

At the end of the two years, SWS members will have the opportunity to vote on whether to extend this focus, to repeat the program with a new issue, or neither.

A Wiki and a White Paper


SWS started with two projects: A paper competition and a wiki for sharing information. On the wiki—a group-edited website—SWS members both post and read about healthcare policy options and activism and are invited to make contributions from their own areas of expertise. Within a week of its launch, the wiki had more than 60 members join, and is up to

75 as of this writing. Once the wiki site is further developed, it is likely to be opened beyond SWS members. Sociologists interested in the wiki should contact Christine Morton at Stanford University or Cameron Macdonald at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

For the paper competition, SWS offered a \$1,000 prize for the best “feminist white paper” on current knowledge about the health policy options open to the United States. The winning entry, by SWS member Liz Legerski of the University of Kansas, is posted on the wiki site.

Legerski’s paper reviews health programs in various U.S. states and other countries. It analyzes the pros and cons of President Obama’s “Plan for a Healthy America,” ultimately finding it lacking. Legerski concludes: “If our goal is to achieve universal health insurance cover-

age in America, we must ask ourselves if we are willing to settle for anything short of a citizenship based, single-payer system.” Although Obama’s plans for healthcare reform represent a substantial improvement over the status quo, evidence suggests that millions of Americans will still remain uninsured.

Thanks to the wiki, the paper competition, and sessions at the 2009 Winter Meeting, organized by current president Shirley Hill, SWS members are now engaged in self-education and dialogue about health policy. Our next step is to develop a political action plan and act! We hope to see you in San Francisco as this exciting new venture unfolds. For more information, see the SWS website at www.socwomen.org and apply for 2009 SWS membership (if you haven’t yet), then log-in to the Members’ Homepage. 

The Significance of the Jessie Bernard Award

This is the second in a series of three articles about ASA's named awards

by Patricia Yancey Martin,
Florida State University

The American Sociological Association Council established the Jessie Bernard Award in 1976 to recognize “work that has enlarged the horizons of the discipline of sociology to encompass fully the role of women in society.” Upon her death, the *New York Times* wrote that Bernard’s “wide-ranging research and writings on women’s issues provided scholarly foundation for the modern feminist revolution,” (October 11, 1996). By naming the award after her, the ASA honored the work of a brilliant, productive, and courageous woman. Her research inspired feminist sociologists to demand incorporation of women’s lives into sociological theories, research, publications, and professional associations. Her personal story epitomizes the experiences of many women, not only sociologists, in 20th century America.

Jessie Sarah Ravitch (1903-1996), the third of four children born to Romanian Jewish parents, entered the University of Minnesota at age 16, where she completed a BA in sociology in three years and an MA in one more. At Minnesota, she studied with Pitirim Sorokin, N. S. B. Gras, Karl Lashley, and Luther Lee Bernard (an eventual ASA president known as LLB). She worked for LLB as a research assistant and later married him, despite his being 21 years her senior and not Jewish, prompting her family to reject her. Jessie stayed with LLB for 21 years, until his death. She had three children, the first at age 37, and raised them as a single-mother after LLB died.

Jessie’s master’s thesis was published in the *American Sociological Review* in 1925, and, although she followed LLB to several institutions where she held ancillary positions, she completed her PhD at Washington University at age 32. In later years, LLB followed Jessie, and when he died she held a permanent faculty position at Pennsylvania State University. Over the years, she spent substantial time in Europe and Washington, DC, and as a visiting professor at—among other universities—Princeton. After retiring at 62, she wrote 10 books, many of which became classics. In all, she authored 14 books, was co-author or co-editor of seven more, and was author of 60+ journal articles and 85 book chapters. Bernard’s key books included *The Sex Game: Communication Between the Sexes* (1968), *Women and the Public Interest* (1971), *The Future of Marriage* (1972), *The Sociology of Community* (1973), *The Future of Motherhood* (1974), and *The Female World* (1980). She was perhaps best known for claiming that heterosexual couples experience marriage differently, producing a “his” and “her” marriage.

Bernard’s intellectual journey entailed both compliance and rebellion, characterized by seismic shifts in perspectives and methods. Trained in the positivist tradition, she believed that studying “the objective” world was the goal of the “science of sociology” (Lipman-Blumen 2001). Later, she challenged positivism, focused on the subjective aspects of social life, and

rejected the notion that “science will save the world.” She nevertheless maintained a life-long commitment to evidence and all of her scholarship was empirically based. Along with shifts in methodological foci, she also moved theoretically—from functionalism to interactionism to feminism.


Jessie described herself as experiencing four “sociological revolutions” (Bernard 1973). The first, in the 1920s, was led by W. F. Ogburn and pushed sociology toward “quantifying” and away from (only) grand theories. The second, in the 1930s, came when LL Bernard, with others, helped U.S. sociology institutionally “escape from the clutches of the University of Chicago sociology department.” The third was her co-founding the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), with Alfred McClung Lee and Arnold Rose in 1951, to challenge the American Sociological Association’s “elitism” and refusal to address pressing social issues. Her fourth revolution, feminism, “came as a surprise to me,” although she said it should not have. Her 1964 book, *Academic Women*, failed to anticipate the coming women’s movement and she always regretted this (atypical) lack of foresight.

Jessie’s goal as a feminist was to eliminate “the sexist bias in the discipline.” Sociology was, she said, “a science of male society” and “when women have been dealt with in this sociology of male society, it has usually been in a chapter or footnote on ‘the status



Jessie Bernard

of women,” thrown in as an extra, rather beside the point, rather than, as an intrinsic component of a total society.” In the 1970s, she helped found Sociologists for Women in Society and participated in a New Orleans “sit-in” that objected to a male-only restaurant. She often joked about becoming a feminist after becoming a grandmother.

Jessie Bernard regularly challenged received wisdom and acted against the grain. Upon being elected president of SSSP, she refused to give a presidential address, saying such talks were boring. She also refused nomination as president of the ASA. Jessie’s unpretentious style in her written work and personal and professional life made her a beloved mentor and inspiration to those fortunate enough to know her. Well into her 80s, she sat in the front row of ASA sessions on gender and offered encouragement and advice to the often junior scholars presenting. The ASA memorialized her lifetime of achievements to acknowledge those who study gender, have improved women’s status in society, and have notably incorporated women and gender into sociological theories and research. Only time will tell if Jessie’s hopes are realized. 

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Written with the help of Judith Lorber (CUNY Graduate Center), Barrie Thorne (University of California-Berkeley), Myra Marx Ferree (University of Wisconsin), and Irene Padavic (Florida State University).

TEF Small Grants Renamed to Honor Howery

Patricia Hill Collins, ASA President

The American Sociological Association Council voted unanimously on May 14 to rename the Teaching Enhancement Fund (TEF) and its program of small grants for the pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning as the **Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grants Program**. This action on behalf of the ASA membership is meant to both “recognize and honor Carla Beth Howery for the work in which she took most professional and personal pride—enhancing the discipline of sociology through practical ways of nourishing the fruits of great teaching and by recognizing those who labor in its vineyards at all levels.”

Former ASA Deputy Executive Officer Howery, who died March 31, 2008, from cancer, served the association for more

than 25 years as Director of the Academic and Professional Affairs Program. Her fierce commitment to actively advancing teaching and honoring teachers moved her to create the Teaching Enhancement Small Grants Program at the ASA. By naming the grant after Howery, Council is recognizing her life-long mentoring and support of young sociologists who want to be better teachers; her support of teaching and learning scholars who want to improve the art and science of teaching; and her support of those who work diligently in the teaching trenches for their whole careers but rarely get recognized for their contributions.

A nationally competitive, grassroots ASA program, TEF is supported by many

members’ donations each year and by contributions from the yearly fundraiser (“Just Desserts”) at the Annual Meeting.

TEF grants provide practical financial support to members’ efforts to improve teaching sociology in ways that significantly advance the discipline at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The small grants often go to teachers who could not otherwise experiment with pedagogy because they lack resources, and the grants also provide recipients with recognition at their home institutions as well as at the national level. Selecting the recipients of the TEF small grants each year was one of Howery’s greatest pleasures and a constant reminder of what she was accomplishing through her work at ASA.



Carla B. Howery

NSF

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“Shared” Criteria Across Disciplines

Workshop participants agreed that the four disciplines shared several standards for designing and evaluating high-quality qualitative research. All value projects that:


- Situate the research in appropriate literature; that is, the study should build upon existing knowledge;
- Articulate clearly the connection between theory and data;
- Describe and explain case selection—why particular sites, participants, events, or cases are chosen;

- Pay attention to alternative explanations and negative cases;
- Operationalize constructs and describe expected findings;
- Provide clear and detailed descriptions of both data collection and anticipated data analysis techniques: specify what counts as data, how the researcher will go about obtaining and analyzing data;
- Describe the intellectual, social, and political significance of the research;
- Discuss generalizability or significance beyond the specific cases selected;
- Specify the limitations of the research and anticipate potential reviewer objections;

- Discuss the researcher preparation for the proposed project in terms of: Cultural fluency; Language skill; Appropriate methodological/technical training; Knowledge of particular research context.

Recommendations

In order to produce top-notch results, participants established that qualitative research could be enhanced by increased investments in education, training, and infrastructure. For example, NSF could enhance qualitative research through increased funding for students and scholars as well as publicizing its commitment to supporting high-quality qualitative proposals. Support for pre-dissertation funding, small pilot

Council recognized that the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning has already named its teaching award for Howery and that other sociological associations including the Sociologists for Women in Society, of which she was a former president and activist, and the Midwest Sociological Society, which was special to her because of her Midwest roots, are considering ways to honor her. Because the ASA TEF Program is uniquely Carla’s accomplishment, Council concluded that the most significant honor ASA could bestow was to make it the Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grants Program as a continuing reminder of her commitment to outstanding teaching in the discipline. A memorial event will be held August 9 at 8:00 PM at the 2009 ASA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. 

For more information on the TEF Program, see the “Funding” link at <www.asanet.org>.

study grants for faculty, and student training opportunities through professional associations would likely be most effective.

Promising New Research Areas and Topics

Each disciplinary working group articulated new and exciting research areas that would benefit immensely from qualitative research or are taking advantage of qualitative methods, and in the process they are opening up new avenues of understanding. Social and cultural anthropological studies of responses to climate change, natural resources management, genetically modified food, food scarcity, and the global

See NSF, page 10

Sociologists Elected to the National Academy of Sciences

In May, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) announced the election of two sociologists—Adrian Raftery, University of Washington, and Yu Xie, University of Michigan—among this year's 72 new members. These newly elected NAS members were recognized for their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Members in the Academy, considered one of the highest honors in American science, help write reports on key scientific issues to help inform policymakers' decisions.

"Election to the National Academy of Sciences is a huge individual honor," said Michael Hout, University of California-Berkeley, chair of NAS section 53, which pertains to sociology, political science, and demography. "I applaud this year's new members Adrian Raftery and Yu Xie for their many achievements. It is also important to see how sociology is growing within the NAS. To me, the way we keep growing validates our discipline's claims of doing research that contributes to scientific knowledge."

Adrian Raftery is Blumstein-Jordan Professor of Statistics and Sociology and the founding Director of the Center for Statistics and Social Sciences at the University of Washington-Seattle. He obtained a doctorate in mathematical statistics in 1980 from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris, France. At

Trinity College-Dublin, he was a lecturer in statistics (1980-86), and at the University of Washington, an associate (1986-90) and full (1990-present) professor of statistics and sociology. Raftery is a former editor of *Sociological Methodology*. He has published over 100 refereed articles in statistical, sociological, and other journals. His research focuses on Bayesian model selection and Bayesian model averaging, model-based clustering, inference for deterministic simulation models, and the development of new statistical methods for sociology, demography, and the environmental and health sciences. He was recently identified as the world's most cited researcher in mathematics for the decade 1995-2005 by Thomson-ISI.

Yu Xie is Otis Dudley Duncan Distinguished University Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology at the University of Michigan. He is also affiliated with the Department of Statistics, the Population Studies Center, the Survey Research Center of the Institute for Social Research, and the Center for Chinese Studies. At the Survey Research Center, he directs the world-famous Quantitative



Adrian Raftery

Methodology Program (QMP). He began as an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Michigan in 1989 and earned tenure in 1994.

He is the current editor of *Sociological Methodology* (2006-2009). A native of China, he received his PhD in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1989). His research interests are social stratification, methods and statistics, demography, sociology of science, and Chinese studies. Among his numerous publications, is his often-cited book *Women in Science* (co-authored with Kimberlee Schauman, 2004).

The 2009 election was held during the 146th annual meeting of the Academy. NAS is a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to the furtherance of science and its use for the general welfare. The Academy acts as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology. Additional information about the institution and a full directory of NAS members can be found at <national-academies.org>.



Yu Xie

Sage Press

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tional programs—without any significant increase in subscription prices. In addition, the editorial process will get an upgrade through SageTrack, with its web-based submission, review, and tracking of manuscripts.

Sage uses Highwire (based at Stanford University) for online journal content. Beginning in 2010, ASA journal articles from 2004 on will be housed on Highwire, and ASA will end its agreement with Ingenta. ASA will continue to be a participating publisher in JSTOR.

"We couldn't be more pleased that ASA has selected Sage as their publisher and are delighted to be working with them to grow and strengthen their publishing program," said Alison Mudditt, Sage Executive Vice President. "The ASA's prestigious journals will increase the quality of our already strong list in sociology. Our extensive online presence, marketing efforts, and international sales team will help ASA receive heightened worldwide visibility for their journals."

The new partnership with Sage is an exciting new chapter in ASA journal publishing. Sage offers financial strength and security to the Association and its publishing program, content depth and breadth in sociology, strong global reach, and an innovative web 2.0 university-based technology platform. Future issues of *Footnotes* will provide additional information as the new online platform and related products are launched. We look forward to members' input and reaction.

Be sure to stop by the Sage booth at the 2009 Annual Meeting exhibit hall in San Francisco to welcome our new publishing partner.

Bills

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ally described in terms of passive editors counting votes. But that is not what our great editors have done, and we have had many great editors. While listening to the reviewers, a great editor will take a broader view, considering articles in context of the major issues across the field.

The Early Years

David Bills is well suited to take on that important responsibility as the *Sociology of Education* Editor. David has conducted research in many fields: education and the workplace, labor markets, technological and organizational change, educational demography, and social inequality. In some of his earliest work, he took on one of the most important works of the time—the Bowles-Gintis correspondence principle. His conceptual and empirical review brought to light the limitations of the model, and the original authors have subsequently recognized some of his points.

I met David soon after he received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin, where he was advised by William Sewell. At a time when the field was enthralled with the Wisconsin status attainment model, David took it seriously, but saw beyond it. I was impressed by his vision that the trajectories of individuals, and the apparent "impact" of individual attributes, were shaped by factors outside the model. He published important research on how employers make the decisions that shape individual attainments.

His recent book, *The Sociology of Education and Work*, is a masterful analy-

sis. He takes on many of the fundamental issues in our field, brings together a wide variety of research from different parts of our discipline, and judiciously and insightfully weighs the evidence. He sees the underlying phenomena underneath our studies, and he thoughtfully puts together quantitative studies of large-scale surveys and qualitative micro-analyses of the underlying dynamics in ways that address major issues in the field.

In addition, he recently published two edited volumes on topics of great concern today. One is on job training for *Research in the Sociology of Work* and the other is on comparative social stratification for *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*. The latter was a Festschrift for Arch Haller. He has also written on the use of information technology in graduate education.

Right Skills for the Job

As for the more basic need of administrative effectiveness, his academic responsibilities suggest strong skills in these areas and a willingness to take on responsibility and challenge. David is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Programs in the University of Iowa College of Education and Professor of the Sociology of Education, with a courtesy appointment in the Sociology Department. David served as the Chair of the Educational Policy and Leadership Studies Department from 1994-99. He has served on the Faculty Senate and Faculty Council at the University of Iowa as well as many other university committees and task forces. He has directed 50 dissertations.

In terms of professional leadership, David has had numerous professional responsibilities. He was the Iowa Director

for the Midwest Sociological Society from 1997-99 and chaired the Society's Publication Committee from 2003-04. He directed the ASA Honors Program from 1988-94, is the past chair of the ASA's Committee on Undergraduate Education, and served on the ASA Task Force on Community Colleges. He recently chaired the Nominations Committee for the ASA Section on Sociology of Education. He has also served on other committees for ASA and the Midwest Sociological Society.

As for being able to juggle multiple demands as an editor, David has had much experience at that. He has been active in many professional activities, including the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28), the Iowa Academy of Education (2006-present); the Scientific Review Board, *Population Review* (2007); the Editorial Board, *Sociology of Education* (2002-04, 2007-10); the Editorial Board, *The Sociological Quarterly* (1999-2007); the Technical Review Panel for 1999 and 2001 National Household Education Survey (1999-2000). He has also served as consultant on ACT Work Keys Program, 2001. He also takes pride in contributing to his local community, serving on an evaluation of Iowa City Community School District's Senior High Alternative Center.

He has also branched into comparative international research. He spent the fall 2003 semester at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Social Science Research Center-Berlin) to collaborate on a project examining trends in the hiring and training practices of German and U.S. employers over the past 20 years. He is also

collaborating with colleagues at the Federal University of Minas Gerais on a study of social stratification in Brazil.

David's most important qualification for this job—his ability to impart useful feedback—doesn't appear on his résumé. Many people, from full professors to graduate students, say that David has given them useful comments to their presentations at sociological conferences. This is what conferences are supposed to be about. For a seasoned senior researcher to receive such thoughtful comments on new work is gratifying. For a nervous graduate student giving a first presentation, receiving comments from someone other than an adviser is a memorable experience. David has been preparing for this editor role for a long time.

As if this weren't enough, David is now completing a Sociology of Education textbook, which will be completed before he takes over as *SOE* editor. The intellectual breadth and insight in his work provide strong reassurance that we have gained an editor who possesses intellectual vision and judgment. His many activities suggest that he has the administrative skills and professional commitment to lead our journal in a way that will strengthen our field. We are fortunate to have gained an editor with such qualifications.

SOE provides a forum for studies in the sociology of education and human social development. It publishes research that examines how social institutions and individuals' experiences within these institutions affect educational processes and social development. The journal presents a balance of papers examining all stages and all types of education at the individual, institutional, and organizational levels.

Sustaining Sociology in a Bad Economy

The University of South Florida introduces a new PhD program in sociology.

by Maralee Mayberry and Donileen Loseke,
University of South Florida

We were told to expect the phone call at 1:00 pm on January 29. Sure enough, it came: The Board of Governors of the State of Florida had approved the sociology department's new PhD program. While we had heard that this would happen, we had a hard time believing it. After all, the most common topic in the news was the horrid fiscal shape of the state so certainly they wouldn't approve new programs for a state university now. And, after winding its way through the multiple University of South Florida (USF) channels of approval, the proposal had awaited legislative approval for over three years. Was it luck, or, were there characteristics of our university, department, and proposed PhD program that worked in our favor? We like to think that program approval was more than a matter of luck because, if so, then others might benefit from our experiences. We offer some reflections on what might be associated with state approval.

Strengthen the MA

We'll start with patting ourselves on the back: For several years we had been working to strengthen our MA program, acting as if the Ph.D. program would be approved. For example, we started organizing many of our classes so that they would lead to papers suitable for professional presentation, we helped students craft these papers, and we made it a budget priority to help them

defray the costs of attending conferences. We also strengthened our efforts to place our MA graduates in excellent doctoral programs and were successful in sending our students to programs at universities such as Rutgers, Boston College, University of Colorado, and University of Missouri. These and other such efforts yielded statistics about our MA program that cast us in favorable light on the PhD proposal.

Be Interdisciplinary

Second, and more importantly, rather than a general PhD program in sociology ours is formally linked to PhD programs in both history and government. Doctoral students in all three disciplines will begin and end their studies with seminars facilitated by core faculty from these linked departments. Designed to provide settings in which students and faculty meet as a community, these seminars will allow students to work together in exploring relevant epistemologies, methodologies, and theories that inform interdisciplinary research. Such "cross-training" will be an invaluable addition to the more traditional grounding in sociological research provided by the required coursework in the department.

In addition to the interdisciplinary approach, our program also has a particular focus: Building sustainable communities in global and urban environments. Issues of sustainable communities unite scholars from a wide variety of social science, natural science, and humanistic disciplines who have


developed substantial theoretical and empirical literatures that extend across multiple disciplines and transcend the boundaries of academic departments and the nation state. It is likely this program characteristic was attractive to state legislators. Rather than the traditional argument that "knowledge is good," we emphasized how students graduating from our program will be prepared to train future community and urban researchers, problem solvers, and other specialists engaged in building and sustaining better local, national, and global communities.

Gain Administrative Support

Lastly, probably the largest reason for our success: Clearly our chances for approval were greatly helped by the fact that USF is a university on the move. According to USF Provost Ralph Wilcox, "The University of South Florida is committed to growing its graduate program offerings, both the quality of existing programs as well as introducing new programs that are relevant to the needs of a global society." Such organizational goals are echoed by President Judy Genshaft who believes that "expanding USF's doctoral-level programs is an investment in the future of the university, which is certainly no small feat given the state and national economic climate. Together, the new programs in sociology, history, and government support integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry and will position USF to become the university of the future."

We were the beneficiaries of administrative support. Critically, this support included more than making statements about the importance of new PhD programs. The support was tangible. The most obvious indicator is that the department had grown from 10 faculty members to 18 in the past three years. On the record, our program would not cost much other than graduate student stipends because most faculty already were in place. This did not simply happen but rather was the result of administrative support, including the President, the Provost, and the (several) Deans of our College of Arts and Sciences.

Although we were surprised that, after all the years of waiting, the State of Florida approved our PhD program in Sociology, there was far more than good luck involved. Packaging the program in ways emphasizing outcomes linked to local and state causes, producing indicators that the department was ready for a doctoral program, and consistent administrative commitment came together to give us the opportunity to contribute to sociology's future and to the strategic ambitions of our university.

The program is a minimum of 60 credit hours beyond the MA and includes an interdisciplinary professional seminar, disciplinary core requirements (Advanced Research Methods and Study Design, Advanced Sociological Theory), disciplinary and interdisciplinary electives, a capstone interdisciplinary seminar, and a dissertation. For further information, see <sociology.usf.edu/> or contact Donileen R. Loseke, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, at dloseke@cas.usf.edu. 

What's Segregation Got to Do With the Nation's Subprime Mortgage Lending Fiasco?

Sociologists examine factors in the U.S. financial industry implosion and address policy implications

by Lee Herring, ASA Public Affairs and
Public Information Office

For the first quarter of this year, the National Home Price Index tallied a 19.1 percent drop, the largest quarterly drop in the index's 21-year history. American homeowners, depending on their particular housing market, have suffered to varying degrees a precipitous 32-percent drop in home values since the 2006 peak.

Despite daily high-profile attention to financial institutions, the nation's Federal Reserve Board actually devotes serious air-time to financial services issues affecting low- and moderate-income individuals, families, and communities. In fact, the Consumer and Community Affairs Division of the Federal Reserve System organizes a well-attended biennial research conference on a range of interrelated economic and social issues. In April, the Federal Reserve held its sixth Community Affairs Research Conference, which featured a presentation by sociologists and students from George Washington University (GWU) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Titled "Innovative Financial Services for the Underserved: Opportunities and Outcomes," this 2009 Washington, DC, conference was held to encourage objective research exploring the role, processes, and outcomes of innovation in financial services for low- and moderate-income consumers and underserved populations. Featuring leading researchers, it was intended to "inform innovative market and product development."

Emphasizing the need for a balance between innovation and regulation, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben S. Bernanke was the closing keynote speaker at the event. More than 20 panelists from national research, policy, and other organizations participated. Attendees included business and government executives, representatives from the lending industry, and compliance and community development officers of financial institutions; leadership of community and economic development organizations; policymakers, and researchers in economics, finance and banking, and urban and rural development.

Sociology in the Mix

In a sea of economists GWU sociologists Gregory Squires and Derek Hyra and their colleague Robert Renner, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, presented their research paper, titled "Segregation and the Subprime Lending Crisis," which was supported by the Ford Foundation and the National Fair Housing Alliance.

Squires, Hyra, and Renner argued that, except for a general acknowledgement that the recent rise in subprime lending and record-level foreclosure rates are explained in terms of a confluence of several documented factors (i.e., ill-informed borrowers, irresponsible lenders, greedy investors, lax regulators and infrastructure, fraudulent appraisers, and other institutional actors), few have asked whether broader contextual factors influence the growth of high-cost loans. While some research has exam-

ined selected individual- and neighborhood-level predictors of subprime lending, no larger-picture analyses have surfaced.

In particular, the researchers maintain that while prior research has shown that minorities or residents of predominately minority neighborhoods are more likely to receive a subprime loan, little research has examined the possible effects of racial segregation and the geographic concentration of people of color. Using data from the 2006 *Home Mortgage Disclosure Act* report, the 2006 American Community Survey, the 2000 U.S. Census, and credit score information, these sociologists found evidence that—after controlling for percent minority, low credit scores, poverty, and median home value—racial segregation is clearly linked with the proportion of subprime loans originating at the metropolitan level.

They also discovered that black segregation has a stronger effect than Hispanic segregation, suggesting that the contextual variable of racial segregation is an important determinant of subprime lending. They also found that general education levels seem to be an important protective factor against high proportions of subprime loans. Consequently, policy initiatives should address these broader dimensions of segregation and uneven economic development, in addition to consumer behavior, banking practices, and regulation of financial services industries.


Graduate Students' Reactions

Students in Squires' sociology course, "Race and Urban Redevelopment," were

graciously offered complimentary registrations by the Federal Reserve to attend the 2009 conference. Here is what they had to say: "From an academic point of view, I found the conference enriching.... The sharing of ideas and methods among smart, motivated people helps promote future research and understanding," said Rajeev Darolia, a GWU doctoral student in public policy and administration. "However, from a policy perspective, I lament the difficulty to move from research to action.... There were few immediate actions available due to the cautious, measured restraint commensurate with quality research."

Lee Goldstein, an MA student in public administration at GWU, said, "The extreme knowledge gap that was highlighted between lenders and consumers was one of the most significant themes I noted." In addition, in referring to Bernanke's speech, Goldstein said, "[I] feel as though he didn't hold back. In his calls for increased transparency and reduced complication, he decried the notion that we cannot have both innovation and regulation. There must be regulation when innovation is abused and complicated lending practices are used to confuse consumers."

Next Conference

The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City organized this year's Community Affairs Research Conference and is interested in broadening participation beyond economic research for the next conference. *Footnotes* readers should contact Steven Shepelwich (steven.shepelwich@kc.frb.org) for more information, and/or visit <www.kc.frb.org>, where the presented papers and videos of the presentations are posted. 

Introducing MFP Cohort 36

The American Sociological Association and the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) are pleased to introduce the nine new Fellows who comprise MFP Cohort 36. The MFP Advisory Panel met this spring in Washington, DC, to review the highly competitive pool of applications. MFP Cohort 36 consists of PhD candidates with strong research interests in the sociology of mental health and mental illness, race, and ethnicity, and the discipline in general. The new Fellows will officially begin their training on August 1.

They will attend the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, where they will take part in a day-long orientation that will include a brief history of the ASA and a series of presentations by sociologists (including several former MFP Fellows) with expertise in mental health, medical sociology, and race and ethnicity. During the remainder of their time in San Francisco, the new Fellows will participate in a number of sessions and workshops and have the opportunity to network with sociologists with similar research interests. They will attend MFP-sponsored events including an all-Fellow meeting on Saturday, August 8 and a special session wrapping up the 35th anniversary year of MFP on Sunday, August 9. They will also be introduced individually and as a group at the MFP Benefit Reception on Sunday, August 9.

The MFP is funded primarily through a T32 training grant provided by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and recent co-funding by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). MFP is also supported by generous contributions from Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), the Southwestern Sociological Association (SWSA), and ASA Council as well as contributions from numerous individual ASA members. The new Fellows are listed below.

Arturo Baiocchi (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: University of California-Davis

Graduate Institution: University of Minnesota

Arturo Baiocchi was born in Recife, Brazil, and migrated to the United States when he was six. He received bachelor's degrees in psychology and history from the University of California-Davis and later received his MA in social sciences from the University of Chicago. Currently, Arturo is a doctoral student in sociology at the University of Minnesota and is broadly interested in mental health, medical sociology, and issues of race and difference. Before pursuing graduate work, Arturo worked as a case manager and counselor for a foster care agency in California. Since coming to Minnesota, Arturo has been working with Doug Hartmann, Chris Uggen, and Donna McAlpine on several ongoing projects. One of these has been a longitudinal study of individuals exiting a variety of institutionalized settings where Arturo is exploring how notions of "good mental health" are communicated to, and



Arturo Baiocchi

in turn taken up by, high-risk groups in different contexts. Arturo is also a student editor for ASA's *Contexts* and can be heard as the host of the publication's biweekly podcast.

Jamie Chang (NIDA)

Undergraduate Institution: University of California-San Diego

Graduate Institution: University of California-San Francisco

Jamie graduated from the University of California-San Diego with degrees in political science and communications, and concentrations in biology and humanities. In 2002, she returned to her hometown of San Francisco and began a seven-year long research career in the department of radiology at the University of California-San Francisco. There she researched MRI of brain tumors and other neurological diseases. In 2005, she completed her master's degree in political science at San Francisco State University. In 2007, Jamie joined the sociology of health and illness doctoral program at UCSF with an interest in working on homelessness and health care, a major issue in San Francisco. She is currently in the early stages of developing her dissertation on improving health care delivery for homeless women with mental health and/or substance use issues. Jamie is program evaluator of a SAMHSA/CSAT grant funded in 2008 to provide support services to formerly homeless adults with dual diagnosis living in the Tenderloin district of San Francisco. She volunteers in homeless communities and has recently completed her pilot project on the health care needs of homeless women. She has also published in the fields of long-term care and developmental disabilities. Jamie is a vegetarian and unabashedly loves PBS, microbrews, cleaning, and potting plants.



Jamie Chang

Celeste Campos (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: University of California-Santa Barbara

Graduate Institution: University of Iowa

Celeste was born and raised in North Hollywood, CA. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California-Santa Barbara, where she worked primarily on research in social cognition. Celeste then moved to the midwest to study sociology at the University of Iowa, where she received a Dean's Graduate Fellowship. Her current primary research interests are in the areas of social psychology, mental health, organizations, and technology. She uses a variety of methodological techniques, including lab experiments, survey research, and ethnography. Her current manuscripts in preparation or under review cover topics such as trust in technology, specialist organizations and their environments, the role of social networks in depression, and work-life balance. She is currently preparing to conduct her dissertation research, which will be on doctor-patient trust and its effects on patient mental health. The



Celeste Campos

project will involve a multi-method assessment of how status characteristics, social identity, and social learning influence trust in the doctor-patient relationship. She will be working with the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics to conduct her research. Celeste also sits on the board of two local feminist organizations.

René Flores (MSS)

Undergraduate Institution: University of California-Berkeley

Graduate Institution: Princeton University

René was born and raised in Mexico City. He attended the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) until a student strike led him to relocate to San Diego, CA. He received his BA in interdisciplinary studies from UC-Berkeley where, as a Doreen B. Townsend Fellow, he wrote a book chapter on the transformation of the Salvadoran oligarchy from plantation owners into financial tycoons following the country's civil war, which is forthcoming in a volume published by Duke University Press. For his senior thesis, through the Haas and McNair Scholars Programs, he explored the growing nativist sentiment in northeastern Pennsylvania by conducting fieldwork on several communities that passed anti-immigrant ordinances. Before starting graduate school at Princeton, he worked as a research assistant at El Colegio de México in Mexico City. René has been the recipient of the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship and the Merage American Dream Fellowship and was recently awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. René is currently working with Edward Telles on a new multinational project on race and ethnicity in several countries of Latin America. His research interests include race/ethnic relations, economic development, immigration and Latin America.

Outside of his studies, René plays the drums in NAFTA, a folk band composed by Princeton graduate students from Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

ManChui Leung (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: Simon Fraser University

Graduate Institution: University of Washington

ManChui Leung is currently a graduate student at the University of Washington where she is studying how immigrant social networks, place, and gender impact mental health outcomes. She was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Vancouver, Canada, where she received her BA with honors in sociology and anthropology at Simon Fraser University. Her interest in medical sociology and health disparities stems from her past 12 years of community health service and immigrant organizing in Canada, the United States, and the Pacific where she held various leadership positions, including Director of the HIV/AIDS Program at the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum. ManChui received a 2006-07 Price Fellowship at the Centers



René Flores

for Disease Control and Prevention. Her fellowship project focused on the intersection of HIV/AIDS and domestic violence with the goal of improving HIV prevention policies for women of color. She has continued her research by conducting a review of promising practices in HIV and violence prevention programs in Asian immigrant and refugee communities. In addition to her graduate studies, she continues to write creative non-fiction and volunteers for local and national Asian, Pacific Islander, and immigrant lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, and queer organizations.

San Juanita García (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: Sam Houston State University

Graduate Institution: Texas A&M University

Juanita was born and raised in Houston, TX. She received her BA at Sam Houston State University double majoring in criminal justice and Spanish with a minor in sociology. As an undergraduate, she was fortunate to participate in several activities that enhanced her academic abilities and empowered her to go into graduate studies. Her passion for research was influenced by her participation in the McNair Scholars Program, the Summer Research Opportunity Program, and the National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates. She was active as an undergraduate in Kappa Delta Chi Sorority and *El Siguierte Paso* Mentoring Program. Currently, Juanita is a doctoral student in sociology at Texas A&M University. Her experience as a second-generation Mexican-American growing up in an impoverished community inspired her to do her thesis and dissertation work on issues of mental health, specifically depression, among undocumented Mexican women in the context of increasing nativism. Furthermore, her research will focus on how Mexican-born women perceive anti-immigrant sentiment and how this perception manifests itself into symptoms of depression. She is eager to serve as a role model for other students of color. She has a passion for conducting research that enriches the Latina/o community and other underrepresented groups in an ever-changing society.



San Juanita Garcia

Rebecca Romo (SWS)

Undergraduate Institution: California State University-Sacramento

Graduate Institution: University of California-Santa Barbara

Rebecca is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of California-Santa Barbara under the primary mentorship of Denise Segura. She received her BA in sociology at California State University-Sacramento where she was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. Rebecca is completing dissertation research that focuses on multiracial identity in the United States. Specifically, Rebecca's research explores the identity formation and development of "Blaxican," individuals who are the offspring of black and Mexican or Chicana/o



Rebecca Romo

See MFP, next page

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parentage. The interdisciplinary nature of her research connects Chicana/o studies, black studies, and sociology in new and inventive ways. Rebecca's general research interests include comparative race and ethnic relations, multiraciality, Latina/o sociology, race, gender and justice, and multi-gathering qualitative methods.

Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: Cornell University

Graduate Institution: Duke University

Elizabeth received her BA from Cornell University, where she completed a double major in biology and Spanish/Latin American Studies. After graduating, she worked to promote international education at the University of Tampa, UNC-Charlotte, and the Consulate of Spain. Originally planning to use sociology to highlight racial disparities in education, her research goals have evolved. She received her MA in sociology at Duke University in 2008, where she is currently a PhD student specializing in mental health, race and ethnicity, racialized social systems, and social psychology. During her graduate tenure, Elizabeth has received three Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowships and numerous summer grants to support fieldwork on mental health in Brazil. Her work is comparative as it focuses on race-specific anxiety in native and immigrant blacks in the United States and it explores depression in Afro-descended populations in the U.S. and Brazil. She examines whether ethnic identities provide mental health benefits and whether intra-racial ethnic differences can predict differential emotional responses to distributive justice. Her dissertation investigates how families resist and reproduce dominant



Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman

racial ideologies in ways that orchestrate differential treatment and create significant mental health consequences for adolescent girls. As an extension of this work, she has co-authored with colleagues a forthcoming article in the *Journal of Marriage & Family* that addresses "colorism" in U.S. families.

Robert Winston Turner II (NIMH)

Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University

Graduate Institution: The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Robert is a doctoral candidate in sociology at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. His dissertation, "Fifteen Minutes of Fame: The life and the mind of the NFL athlete," examines how the structural inequalities of the NFL—particularly those of economics and race—impact athletes after leaving the game. The project draws largely on in-depth interviews and observations conducted with 120 present and former NFL athletes and members of the NFL community, highlighting athletes' labor struggles against management, economic hardship, forced retirement, physical and mental health problems, and family conflicts. Along with receiving a four-year athletic scholarship and earning a degree in communications from James Madison University, Robert played football professionally for three different leagues over a four-year span. In addition to attending graduate school, Robert serves as the director of the Reaching Out Together Foundation, a non-profit organization that works with present and former NFL athletes to encourage academic achievement, health promotion, social responsibility, and general life skills awareness among student athletes from economically disadvantaged communities. Robert was born in Newark, NJ, and attended Piscataway High School in Middlesex County, NJ. ☺



Robert Winston Turner II

Election Results

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Committee on Publications, six members to the Committee on Nominations, and four members to the Committee on Committees.

In announcing the results of the election, Secretary Donald Tomaskovic-Devey and Executive Officer Sally Hillsman extended their heartiest congratulations to the newly elected officers and committee members, and appreciation to all who have served the Association by running for office and by voting in this election.

Members of the ASA community took part in the 2009 election in strong numbers. Of the 11,305 members eligible to vote, 4,549 cast ballots in this election. This translates to a very strong 40% participation rate, which far surpasses the participation rates of similar scholarly societies. ASA Sections also made a very strong showing, with 21 Sections recording more than 50% participation in their 2009 elections.

Of the votes cast, 98% were cast online, with the remaining 2% cast via paper ballots.

Below is the full slate of newly elected officers and committee members:

President-Elect

Randall Collins, University of Pennsylvania

Vice President-Elect

David Snow, University of California-Irvine

Secretary-Elect

Kate Berheide, Skidmore College

Council

Sarah Fenstermaker, University of California-Santa Barbara
Jennifer Lee, University of California-Irvine
Sandra Smith, University of California-Berkeley
Sarah Soule, Stanford University

Committee on Publications

Jeremy Freese, Northwestern University
Robert Zussman, University of Massachusetts

Committee on Nominations

Manisha Desai, University of Connecticut
Wendy Nelson Espeland, Northwestern University
Yen Lee Espiritu, University of California-San Diego
Joan Fujimura, University of Wisconsin
Karen Hansen, Brandeis University
Devah Pager, Princeton University

Committee on Committees

Irene H. I. Bloemraad, University of California-Berkeley
Carol Jenkins, Glendale Community College
Peggy Levitt, Wellesley College
Andrew J. Perrin, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill ☺

The XVII ISA World Congress of Sociology Gothenburg, Sweden, July 11-17, 2010

Call for Papers

The International Sociological Association (ISA) will hold the XVII World Congress of Sociology in Sweden in July 2010, with the theme "Sociology on the Move." The Call for Papers is included in links to Research Committees (RC) and Working and Thematic Groups on the ISA website. Deadlines for proposals vary by RC, but all close during the fall of 2009. See <www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/index.htm> and connect to specific RCs to view information for submitting proposals.

ASA will provide travel support to the XVII World Congress with funds awarded by the National Science Foundation for this purpose. Information about travel support will be published in January 2010 in various ASA sources. The selection process will include a peer-reviewed assessment of applications, and will seek to ensure a presence at the World Congress of junior scholars and sociologists underrepresented in international scholarly meetings.

The ISA is the major international organization of sociologists, and the World Congress is therefore an important opportunity for U.S. sociologists to exchange ideas and scholarship and promote collaborations on an international scale. ☺

Annual Meeting

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at Harvard University, a collaborative effort among students, faculty, artists, staff, and other participants in hip-hop culture. The Archive is committed to supporting and establishing a new type of research and scholarship devoted to the knowledge, art, culture, materials, organizations, movements, and institutions developed by followers of hip hop. Morgan's research focuses on youth, gender, language, culture and identity, sociolinguistics, discourse and interaction, and she teaches courses at Harvard on hip hop, discourse, language and identity, race, class and gender, the ethnography of communications, and representation in the media.

Tam Tran is a student, activist, and filmmaker, and an outspoken advocate for immigrant rights and immigration reform. While an undergraduate at University of California-Los Angeles, Tran directed a film project featuring testimonies from undocumented students in the United States, spotlighting their unique challenges, fears, and hopes. Her film has been screened at immigration reform events across the country. In May 2007, Tran, an

undocumented student, testified before the House Subcommittee on Immigration in support of the *DREAM Act*, which would give children of undocumented immigrants the opportunity to obtain citizenship if they earn a high school diploma and attend college or join the military. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in American Civilization at Brown University.

An activist, author, and organizer in the women's, civil, and human rights movements for four decades, **Charlotte Bunch** is the founder and Executive Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University. Bunch was previously a Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, a founder of Washington, DC Women's Liberation and of *Quest: A Feminist Quarterly*. She is the author of numerous books, essays, and anthologies, including the Center's reports on the *UN Beijing +5 Review* and the World Conference Against Racism.

Nancy Lopez is on the faculty in the Sociology Department at the University of New Mexico-Albuquerque. Her research focuses on race, ethnic relations, gender, and education. Her book, *Hopeful Girls, Troubled Boys: Race and Gender Disparity in Urban Education*, looks at second-generation Dominicans, West Indians, and Haitians to

explain why girls of color are succeeding at higher rates than their male counterparts. Lopez's co-edited book with Raul Ybarra, *Creating Alternative Discourses in Latino and Latina Education: A Reader*, addresses the need for new ways of improving educational opportunities for Latinos and Latinas.

Amina Mama, currently at Mills College, served as the first Chair in Gender Studies at the African Gender Institute, University of Cape Town, South Africa, where she initiated the graduate program in gender studies and convened a series of continental research and publication projects. Prior to 1998, she spent more than a decade engaged in development consultancy, policy advocacy, community activism, and research in several African countries. Mama currently chairs the Board of Directors of the Global Fund for Women and serves on the United Nations Committee for Development Policy, the Development Policy Council of Sweden, and the Board of Directors of the Institute for African Studies at the University of Ghana. She is a founding editor of *Feminist Africa*.

Donald Guest is pastor at Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco. For more than three decades, Glide has been a model for building an

inclusive community across differences of race, class, gender, sexuality, age, immigrant category, and/or health status. Since the 1960s, Glide has offered its flagship Free Meals Program and has been an active force in combating poverty, drug abuse, violence, and homelessness in the San Francisco community. In addition to focusing on social issues facing its community, Glide has been involved in countless progressive political efforts. Recently Glide Memorial Church received recognition in the film *The Pursuit of Happiness*.

Some of the most imaginative thinking and innovative ideas occur when people from diverse backgrounds think and work together on common concerns. Solving the many complex social problems that confront us today requires that the best minds be at the table. Building communities across multiple differences is one path to innovation and excellence. Hopefully, attendees will engage the ideas of these panelists by carrying the conversational format into the Welcoming Party that directly follows this plenary session and throughout the conference. Think, talk to one another, and have fun in San Francisco as we build a sociological community that is excellent, diverse, and just. ☺

The State of Russian Sociology Today

by Mischa Gabowitsch, Princeton University

Compared with Germany, France, or the United States, sociology in Russia is a young discipline: The first dedicated undergraduate departments in sociology were created in 1989, less than two years before the breakup of the Soviet Union. Russian sociology does, however, have a prehistory.

Institutionally, the Russian sociological tradition began abroad, with the foundation of the Russian Higher School of Social Sciences in Paris in 1901 by a diverse group of intellectuals with ties to the political opposition. The discipline struggled to gain legitimacy in the Russian Empire, but the revolutions of 1917 put an end to its development. By the early 1920s, most the founding figures had either died—like Maxim Kovalevsky—or left the country, like Pitirim Sorokin, who was exiled in 1922 and went on to create the sociology department at Harvard. The Bolsheviks considered scientific communism to have made sociology obsolete.

Starting in the late 1950s, attempts to revive the discipline were undertaken in the Soviet Union. The Soviet leadership needed tools to gauge popular opinion and understand changing ethnic vs. Soviet and rural vs. urban identities. It also needed to save face: The Soviet Sociological Association was created in 1957, more than 10 years before the first sociological institute, so Soviet delegates could officially attend ISA congresses. At the same time, a number of “liberal” researchers, usually with a background in philosophy, became interested in the classics of the discipline as well as contemporary sociology in the West.

Sociologists who managed to travel abroad or otherwise establish contacts with Western colleagues were profoundly influenced by the functionalism of Talcott Parsons—who visited the USSR several times—as well as Lazarsfeldian opinion research. Based on such contacts, Andrei Zdravomyslov and Vladimir Yadov created what became known as the Leningrad school of sociology. Even after the creation of sociological institutes at the Academy of Sciences, and although large-scale sociological studies were sometimes carried out by ethnologists and others, the

field remained heavily regimented and censored. Igor Kon, a leading sexologist, was perhaps the only author whose work attracted consistent international attention outside the field of Soviet Studies. Much theoretical thinking about Soviet society went on outside the official institutional framework, and indeed outside the discipline.

Post-Soviet Sociology

The liberalization of the late 1980s renewed interest in the scientific study of society. In Moscow, an All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion was created by official decree in 1987. Tatiana Zaslavskaja, the founding director, had created a school of economic sociology in Novosibirsk; Boris Grushin, her deputy, had been at the forefront of early Soviet opinion research in the 1960s. Methodologically, they took their cue from Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann's German school of opinion research. Iurii Levada, who joined the Institute with his team and soon replaced Zaslavskaja, had led a seminar in social theory since the early 1960s; after a clampdown on his institute in 1969, that seminar became something like an underground circle. The fusion between his team's particular brand of functionalism, their normative prescriptivism, and almost exclusive reliance on opinion polls, shaped the public face of post-Soviet sociology for years to come. For the media and most non-social scientists, “sociology” has become synonymous with opinion polling.

The most salient fact about post-Soviet sociology—and perhaps Russian academia in general—is its chronic underfunding. Together with very limited geographical mobility, this has led to the emergence of several disconnected networks. Sociologists routinely teach at two or three institutions, with teaching loads of 400 hours a year being common, especially at the junior level. They thus rely either on state salaries and official career mechanisms, dominated by a highly conservative elite based in Moscow, or on Western funding. Even more frequently than in the West, a sociology degree prepares one for a job in marketing or public relations rather than for an academic career.


Moscow State University

What does “conservative” mean in this case? The Faculty of Sociology at Moscow State University, Europe's largest sociology department in terms of student numbers, is controlled by Dean Vladimir Dobren'kov, an anti-Semite who campaigns against democratic elections and champions an “Orthodox Christian sociology.” He has granted degrees and institutional space to extreme-right politicians; to prepare for exams, students are required to study his three-volume textbook, a work mostly plagiarized from other authors. In 2007–08, a group of students staged a revolt against these conditions, but despite massive international resonance, this was soon quelled, and the instigators expelled (see the July/August 2007 *Footnotes*). Around the same time, Dobren'kov and several colleagues founded a new association called the Union of Sociologists of Russia (SSR in Russian), organized around the idea of patriotism and a positive reassessment of the Soviet past. Dobren'kov's institutional influence is largely due to his contacts in the Ministry of Education, which wields enormous power in Russia's state-based education system.

Other Institutions and Research

On the other side of the spectrum are sociologists who remain outside the official system (at the European University at Saint Petersburg, the Center for Independent Social Research, the Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, or the Levada Center, which replaced the Center for the Study of Public Opinion after a clampdown in 2003) or at state institutions that rely heavily on contacts with the West (such as the Higher School of Economics the Russian State University for the Humanities, and a few small university-based centers in provincial Russia). They are at their most interesting and productive when they specialize in clearly defined subfields or sets of methods. The lack of large-scale funding forces some institutions to draw on the non-academic community. Thus, the Center for Independent Social Research and Education in Irkutsk trains non-sociologists in ethnographic methods, and the Demos Center in Moscow has used

local human rights activists to gather data for nationwide studies. However, the lack of non-project-based funding often means that fascinating and rigorous research projects never translate into publications. As in other East European countries, there has been some debate about Western “colonization,” with foreign partners being accused of getting all the credit for joint work. When Russian authors do publish their work, it is often in interdisciplinary or non-academic journals, which are seen as more dynamic and indeed more rigorous than official academic publications. Disciplinary identities are not always clearly defined, and co-operation with anthropologists, historians, economists, and literary scholars is the rule rather than an exception. Additionally, the lack of long-term funding—as well as language skills—means that data-intensive fields and methods, such as historical and comparative sociology or longitudinal studies, are extremely rare.

The state of Russian sociology has itself been an object of much sociological scrutiny, usually with rather pessimistic conclusions. Scholars in their fifties and sixties, such as Iurii Kachanov and Lev Gudkov, have found fault with the discipline, judging it by standards derived from diverse Western models. Younger authors, including Mikhail Sokolov and Alexander Bikbov, have brought network analysis and Bourdieusian field theory to bear on the study of sociology. Through the example of their own work, they prove that professional, rigorous, and internationalized sociological research is possible in Russia. Whether this will translate into the emergence of an organized nationwide sociological community is, however, a problem of funding and institutional design that will take years if not decades to solve. 

*Mischa Gabowitsch is a post-doctoral fellow in the Princeton University Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts and lecturer in Princeton's Department of Sociology. He is also editor-in-chief of *Laboratorium: Russian Review of Social Research*, a bilingual peer-reviewed journal published in Saint Petersburg. The first issue, scheduled to appear in July, focuses on the state of Russian sociology in historical and international context, and will be available online at www.soclabo.org.*

Short-Term Jobs with Long-Term Results with the 2010 Census

For sociology students interested in demography, the U.S. Census Bureau is seeking job applicants for the 2010 Census. By working on this once-a-decade population headcount, applicants have an opportunity to be a part of history. Conducted every decade since 1790, the constitutionally mandated census is used to determine an accurate assessment of the number and location of people within the United States (see the Vantage Point column on p. 2).

“The jobs, which offer competitive wages and flexible schedules, also allow people to work in their neighborhoods and for their neighborhoods,” said Marilia Matos, the Census Bureau's associate director for field operations. “An accurate count means a fair distribution of money for schools, roads, neighborhood improvements and elderly care in your community.”

United States
**Census
2010**

In 2009, the Census Bureau will hire about 140,000 people to help update the Census Bureau's address list. The workers will use GPS-equipped hand-held computers to verify, add, and delete addresses, and they will be paid for training. By the end of the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau will have employed about 1.4 million temporary workers in communities across the country.

Employees will update the Census Bureau's address list, interview people who do not respond to the census by mail, and perform other assignments vital to the national count.

The U.S. population is more diverse than ever before, with people speaking a record number of languages. As a result, in many areas the Census Bureau will need to hire people who are bilingual. Most positions require U.S. citizenship, a driver's license, and use of a vehicle, and each applicant will undergo a background


check. A short-term job with long-term results, 2010 Census positions offer competitive wages and flexible schedules.

By 2010, there will be more than 310 million people living in an estimated 130 million households across the country and everyone must be counted in order to ensure seats are apportioned in the U.S.

NSF

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food trade would be greatly enhanced by being subject to systematic qualitative analysis. Law and social science scholars are conducting interdisciplinary research on conservation, intellectual property, and medicine by paring with social studies of science and technology researchers who are using a range of qualitative approaches. In political science the rich contextualization of qualitative research could be used to

more fully understand the rise of religious movements, relations between racial/ethnic and class identities and political actions, and policy making processes, especially across institutions. Finally, most topics that sociologists study are amenable to both qualitative and quantitative analysis, but qualitative methods are particularly useful for studying timely topics such as group identities and boundaries; globalization at the micro level; race, class, gender, and age and health outcomes; and social and cultural meanings of food and obesity. 

announcements

Corrections

In the May/June 2009 issue of *Footnotes*, the following individuals' new titles were incorrectly listed. **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 Assistant Professors.

Call for Papers

Publications

Foucault Studies is an electronic, open access, peer-reviewed, international journal that provides a forum for scholarship engaging the intellectual legacy of Michel Foucault. Articles range from theoretical explications of Foucault's work and texts to interdisciplinary engagements across various fields, to empirical applications of Foucauldian concepts to contemporary phenomena. *Foucault Studies* strives to move beyond received orthodoxies, simplifications, and uncritical appropriations of Foucault's work, while addressing the richness and diversity of the broad intellectual field associated with Foucauldian thought. For more information, visit <www.foucault-studies.com>.

The International Journal of Sociology of the Family invites submissions for a special issue on "Policing Motherhood: How Motherhood Is Facilitated, Interrupted, Controlled, and Evaluated by the State and Associated Agencies." The journal is seeking sociologically related articles, research papers, and commentaries that explore the ways in which current state policies express specific ideologies about who is a good mother and the ways in which those policies shape the experience of motherhood for women in different social classes, women of different races/ethnicities, and women with different citizenship rights. Papers are welcome on the policing of motherhood in all countries. Deadline: December 1, 2009. Contact: Anita Garey at anita.garey@uconn.edu or Margaret K. Nelson at mnelson@middlebury.edu; <internationalsociology.org/ijfs.htm>.

The International Review of Comparative Sociology invites papers for its second issue. The purpose of this biannual journal is to examine, through a comparative lens, the issues and problems confronting societies or their distinct subpopulations around the world with the goal of providing innovative solutions from a sociological perspective. Deadline: July 31, 2009. Contact: Debarun Majumdar, Department of Sociology (Derrick 105), Texas State University-San Marcos, 601 University Dr., San Marcos, TX 78666; <www.soci.txstate.edu/IRCS/Journal.html>.

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography (JCE). Published bi-monthly, *JCE* is an international, interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal for sociological research that uses ethnographic methods to analyze social life as it occurs in specific social contexts. *JCE* focuses on empirical studies based on ethnographic methods such as participant-observation, unobtrusive observation, intensive interviewing, contextualized discourse analysis, narrative analysis, and qualitative feminist analysis. *JCE* invites researchers from all social sciences to submit original articles, reviews, or special issue proposals to the editors. Manuscripts should be contextualized within relevant theoretical or methodological literatures and highlight their theoretical or methodological contributions to the field. Empirical pieces should detail the methods for data collection and analysis. For more information, visit <jce.sagepub.com>.

Race/Ethnicity: Multidisciplinary Global Contexts. Volume 4, Number 1. Theme: "Intersections of Race and Gender." Papers must be received by September

2009 to be considered for publication in this issue. Contact: Eavon Mobley at mobley.2@osu.edu; <www.raceethnicity.org/call4paper.html>.

Societies without Borders. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has launched its Human Rights initiative. This initiative creates a network of scientific organizations that recognize a role for science and scientists in efforts to realize human rights. In view of this initiative, *Societies without Borders* will publish a special interdisciplinary issue focused on human rights and the social sciences. Deadline: January 1, 2010. Contact: Julie Mertus at mertus@american.edu or John C. King at jcking@american.edu; <www.brill.nl/swb>.

Women's Studies Quarterly special issue on "Market." This issue seeks to consider consumption and markets anew, from feminist, queer, cultural, and critical perspectives and will explore urgent questions related to markets. This special issue invites submissions exploring the market and its many instantiations from a

variety of perspectives including theory, empirical research, literary and cultural studies, as well as creative prose, poetry, artwork, memoir, and biography. Deadline: October 2, 2009. Send academic work to Mara Einstein and Joe Rollins at: WSQMarketIssue@gmail.com. Send poetry submissions to Kathleen Ossip at ossipk@aol.com. Send fiction, essay, and memoir submissions to WSQCreative-Prose@gmail.com. Send art submissions to WSQMarketIssue@gmail.com.

Meetings

2010 Pacific Sociological Association's (PSA) 81st Annual Meeting, April 8-11, 2010, Marriott Oakland City Center, Oakland, CA. Theme: "Revitalizing the Sociological Imagination: Individual Troubles and Social Issues in a Troubled World." For the session: "Sociology of Memory: New and Old Conceptualizations of Memory, Personal or Commodity, Public or Private?" Papers pertaining to collective memory; personal memory; narrative; new and old sociological

theories and conceptualizations of memory; conceptualizations pertaining to personal, trauma, repressed, body memory; socio-political issues pertaining to commodity memory; and closely related topics are invited. Deadline: October 15, 2009. Contact: Noel Packard at packardn@prodigy.net. For more information on all PSA sessions, visit <www.pacificsoc.org>.

XVII World Congress of Sociology, July 11-17, 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden. International Sociological Association Research Committee Futures Research (RC07) invites proposals for papers and sessions. Contact: Markus S. Schulz at isarc07@gmail.com; <www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc07.htm>.

Pennsylvania Sociological Society 59th Annual Conference, October 23-24, 2009, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg, PA. Theme: "Community and Social Justice." Proposals are encouraged from students. Both an undergraduate student paper and poster competition will be held. All

papers/proposals/abstracts must be submitted as a Word file to Chad Kimmel at cmkimm@ship.edu. Deadline: September 18, 2009. For more information, visit <www.pasocsociety.org>.

Meetings

August 7, 2009. Marking 20 Years of AIDS in Sociology: Reflecting Back & Moving Forward, San Francisco, CA. This conference marks the 20th anniversary of the first major ASA panel on AIDS and provides those interested in HIV/AIDS an opportunity to reflect on the field and contemplate new directions through presentations by HIV researchers, local activists, and federal agency representatives. Contact: padamsee.1@osu.edu; <www.sociologistsaidsnetwork.org>.

August 7, 2009. Psychoanalysis and Society Symposium, Hilton Union Square, San Francisco, CA. Contact: Lauren Langman at Llang944@aol.com, Lynn Chancer at lchancer@hunter.cuny.edu or Patricia Clough at stmart96@aol.com.

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announcements

August 7, 2009. *The Social and Natural Limits of Globalization and the Current Conjunction*, University of San Francisco. This conference explores the relationship between the political-economic transformation that engenders globalization, and the social and ecological challenges confronting the continued expansion and deepening of that process. For more information, visit <www2.asanet.org/sectionpews/miniconf.html>.

August 7, 2009. *Sociologists without Borders Conversation to Revise the U.S. Constitution*, Alliant International University, San Francisco, CA. The main focus will be on civil and political rights, and socioeconomic, cultural, democratic, and environmental rights. To participate in the preliminary discussions, visit <ssf-thinktank.org>. Contact: Mark Frezzo at mfrezzo@fau.edu.

August 7-10, 2009. *Sociologists for Women in Society Summer Meeting*, San Francisco, CA. For details and pre-registration, visit <www.socwomen.org/meetings.php>.

August 8, 2009. *Consumer Studies Research Network (CSRN) Business Meeting*, Parc 55 Hotel, San Francisco, CA. There will be a business meeting of the CSRN to discuss future activities of the Network, including a mini-conference prior to the 2010 meeting in Atlanta. Contact: Laura Miller at lamiller@brandeis.edu or Dan Cook at dtcook@camden.rutgers.edu; <csrn.camden.rutgers.edu/>.

September 15-17, 2009. *Third Conference on Aging in the Americas*, AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, University of Texas-Austin. Theme:

"Key Issues in Hispanic Health and Health Care Policy Research: Biobehavioral Underpinnings and Social Interaction on Hispanic Health." For more information, visit <www.utexas.edu/lbj/caa/index.php>.

October 8-9, 2009. *Pennsylvania State's 17th Annual Symposium on Family Issues*, University Park campus. Theme: "Biosocial Research Contributions to Understanding Family Processes and Problems." This symposium seeks to stimulate conversation among scholars who construct and use biosocial models as well as among those who want to know more about biosocial processes. For information, visit <www.pop.psu.edu/events/symposium/2009.htm>.

October 16-18, 2009. *Undocumented Hispanic Migration: On the Margins of a Dream*, Connecticut College, New London, CT. A multidisciplinary conference including panel presentations by more than a hundred scholars, health, and social-service providers, educators, attorneys, immigrants, and government personnel from the United States and Mexico. Contact: Frank Graziano at fgraz@conncoll.edu; <www.conncoll.edu/AcademicsDocs/ConnCollConfPre-Registration.pdf>.

October 23-24, 2009. *Pennsylvania Sociological Society 59th Annual Conference*, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg, PA. Theme: "Community and Social Justice." Both an undergraduate student paper and poster competition will be held. All papers/proposals/abstracts must be submitted as a Word file to Chad Kimmel at cmkimm@ship.edu.

edu. Deadline: September 18, 2009. For more information, visit <www.pasocsociety.org>.

November 13-14, 2009. *California Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, DoubleTree Marina, Berkeley, CA. Theme: "The Next Generation." Contact: Jacqueline Carrigan at carrigan@csus.edu; <www.csufresno.edu/csa>.

March 31-April 3, 2010. *Joint Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society and the North Central Sociological Association*, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL. Theme: "Communities in an Age of Social Transformation." Contact: Peter J. Kivisto at PeterKivisto@augustana.edu or Debra H. Swanson at swanson@hope.edu.

April 8-11, 2010. *81st Annual Pacific Sociological Association Annual Meeting*, Oakland, CA. Contact: Karen Sternheimer at sternhei@usc.edu or psa@csus.edu; <www.pacificsoc.org>.

July 11-17, 2010. *XVII World Congress of Sociology*, Gothenburg, Sweden. ISA Research Committee Futures Research (RC07) invites proposals for papers and sessions. Contact: Markus S. Schulz at isarc07@gmail.com; <www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc07.htm>.

Funding

The Embassy of France recently launched a new public-private partnership called Partner University Fund (PUF) to promote innovative collaborations of excellence in research and education between French and American institu-

tions of higher education. PUF supports emerging transatlantic partnerships with a potential to be sustained after the phasing out of the grant. Partnerships can be funded at a level of up to \$80,000 per year over a three-year period, subject to annual review by the Grant Selection Committee. Contact: puf@ambafrance-us.org; <www.facecouncil.org/puf>.

The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) announces a Special Focus Competition: Innovative Strategies in Community Colleges for Working Adults and Displaced Workers. FIPSE is particularly interested in projects that propose innovative strategies to benefit working adults and displaced workers who are pursuing degrees or credentials in community colleges. Applicants should focus on meeting the unique needs of community college students and adult learners and preparing them for high-growth occupations and to meet employer needs. Deadline: August 4, 2009. Contact: Levenia Ishmell, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW, Room 6147, Washington, DC 20006-8544; (202) 502-7668; Levenia.Ishmell@ed.gov; <www.ed.gov/programs/fipsecc/applicant.html>.

German Chancellor Fellowship. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation annually awards 10 German Chancellor Fellowships to young professionals in the private, public, non-profit, cultural, and academic sectors who are citizens of the United States. The program sponsors individuals who demonstrate the potential to strengthen ties between Germany and their own country through their profession or studies. The German Chancellor Fellowship provides for a stay of one year in Germany for professional development, study, or research. Applicants design individual projects and decide at which institutions or organizations to pursue them. Application deadline for 2010-11: October 31, 2009. For more information, visit <www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/1600.html>.

Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies University of Pennsylvania Post-Doctoral Fellowship 2010-2011. Converts and Conversion to and from Judaism. The act of conversion is a ritualized, often public, transformation not only of interior religious and psychological consciousness, but of cultural and social affiliation. Conversion is doubly freighted—it can mark a break with one's birth community, but it has often also marked the impossibility of such a break. The center hopes to bring several arenas of inquiry and debate into a single conversation so that methodological, social scientific, and historical studies may be mutually instructive, enriching our broader understanding, not only of Jews in their world but of the religious experience itself. The Katz Center invites applications from scholars at all levels as well as outstanding graduate students in the final stage of writing their dissertations. Stipends are based on a fellow's academic standing and financial need with a maximum of \$40,000 for the academic year. Deadline: November 10, 2009. Contact: Sheila Allen at allenshe@sas.upenn.edu; <www.cajs.upenn.edu>.

The Princeton University Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts invites applications for three-year postdoctoral fellowships for recent PhDs in humanities or allied social sciences. Annual stipend approximately \$72,000. Deadline: October 1, 2009. For details, visit <www.princeton.edu/~sf>.

Recovery Act Academic Research Enhancement Awards. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has released a Funding Opportunity Announcement for an Academic Research Enhancement Award (AERA) program supported by funds from the Recovery Act. The purpose of the AERA program is to stimulate research at educational institutions that provide baccalaureate or advanced degrees for a significant number of the

nation's research scientists, but that have not been major recipients of NIH support. AREA grants are intended to support small-scale health-related research projects proposed by faculty members of eligible, domestic institutions otherwise unlikely to participate extensively in NIH's biomedical and behavioral research effort. Deadline: September 24, 2009. Complete information about this initiative may be found in the NIH Guide Notice (RFA-OD-09-007) <grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-09-007.html>.

Competitions

2009 Essay Prize in Psychoanalysis and Culture. The American Psychoanalytic Association Committee on Research and Special Training encourages the involvement of higher education academics in psychoanalysis and works with them to stimulate interest in psychoanalysis at the university level. Academics may submit essays on psychoanalytically informed research in the biobehavioral sciences, social sciences, and humanities. The winning essay will be presented at APsA's 2010 National Meeting in New York and be reviewed for publication by the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*. The winner will receive a \$1,000 prize. Deadline: September 8, 2009. Contact: Dottie Jeffries (212) 752-0450, ext. 29; djeffries@apsa.org; <www.apsa.org>.

Gypsy Lore Society Young Scholar's Prize in Romani Studies. The Gypsy Lore Society established the Gypsy Lore Society Young Scholar's Prize in Romani Studies for the best unpublished paper by a young scholar on a topic in Gypsy and Traveler Studies. The prize is \$500. The winning paper will be published in an issue of *Romani Studies*. Papers written by undergraduate students, graduate students beyond their first year of study, and recent PhD recipients are eligible to compete. The selection committee will look for self-contained scholarly articles of publishable quality that treat some relevant topic in an interesting and insightful way. Deadline: October 30, 2009. Contact: Katalin Kovalcsik, Gypsy Lore Society Prize Competition, Institute of Musicology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Pf 28, H-1250 Budapest, Hungary; kovalcsik@zti.hu.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program provides two years of support to post-doctoral scholars at all stages of their careers to build the nation's capacity for research and leadership to address the multiple determinants of population health and contribute to policy change. The program is based on the principle that progress in the field of population health depends upon multidisciplinary collaboration and exchange. Deadline: October 2, 2009. For more information, visit <www.healthandsocietyscholars.org/>.

In the News

Aging and the Life Course

Linda George, Duke University, was quoted about volunteerism among older Americans in an April 23 CNN.com article about a rise in international volunteerism by seniors.

Alcohol and Drugs

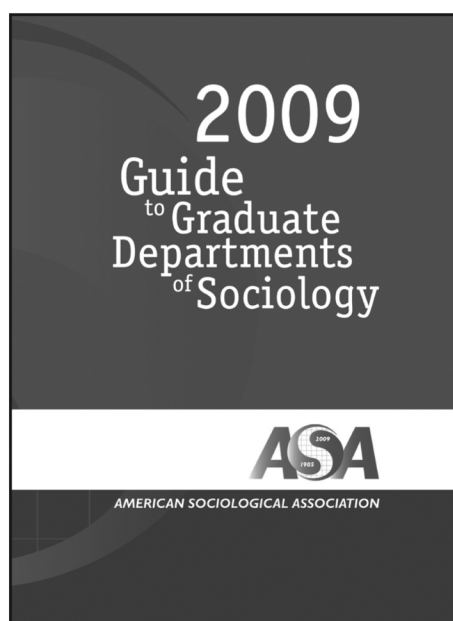
Craig Reinerman, University of California-Santa Cruz, was quoted in a May 26 Associated Press article about the United States' appetite for illegal drugs. The article appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on May 30 and in a number of other newspapers around the country.

Children and Youth

Julie Albright, University of Southern California, was interviewed in a segment about hugging among teenagers that aired on NBC's *Today* show on May 28.

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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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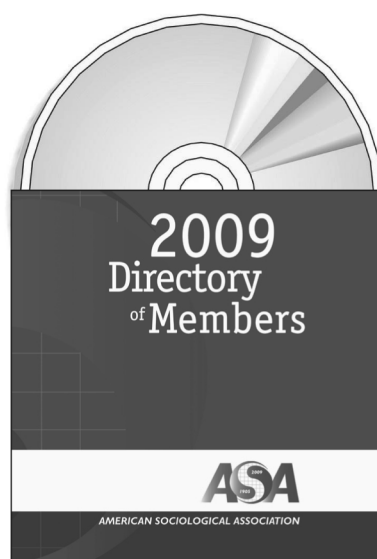
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