

2023 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Section on Asia and Asian America

Introduction

Annual reports are used by the Sections Committee to assess the health of a Section, measure the Section's vitality, and identify processes, programs, or initiatives that could serve as a model for other Sections. In addition, they serve to provide institutional memory, socialize new Section leaders, and promote transparency to Section members.

This annual report covers the period of Section activity from September 2022 to August 2023 and a fiscal year from January 2023 to December 2023. This portion of the report will be shared publicly.

Section Governance

Provide details of your Section's governance activity during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

Business Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes from the Section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

In the 2023 Business Meeting, the Section 1) acknowledged service of 2022-23 Council members, especially of those who finished their term (Hyunjoon Park, Hyeyoung Woo, Amy Hsin, and Hope Xu Yan); 2) announced new Section Council members (Yingyi Ma, Rina Argarwala, Yung-Yi Diana Pan, and Olivia Y. Hu); 3) informed about the section size and the secretary/treasurer's report on the budget and expenses; and 4) introduced the Section activities for the 2023 ASA and acknowledged organizers of those activities (mentoring luncheon, roundtables, session paper sessions, etc.). Then, the Section used the remaining time to hold a 2023 Section Awards Ceremony where all awardees but one participated in person. The Award Committee Chairs directly described the merits of each awardee's work, delivered the award plaques, and congratulated awardees.

Council Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

The section had a council meeting remotely on August 14, 10AM PST. Chair, Chair-Elect, and current and incoming Council members, including Wei-hsin Yu, Feinian Chen, Bin Xu, Yung-Yi Dinan Pan, Olivia Hu, Natasha Warikoo, Jennifer Lee, and Yan Long, were present. The council members discussed the budget difficulties to meet the increasing cost of hosting section receptions at the ASA meeting and possibilities for fund raising in the future. The members also discussed plans to seek donations from faculty members to pay for the section dues for students, as a way to increase section size. In addition, the council discussed the proposal to change the by-law to alternate the distinguished career award with an early career award (each

award is given in a biyearly fashion) and expressed support. The council also discussed potential themes for next year's ASA section sessions.

Awards

Provide a list of Section awards and awardees conferred in the past year.

Best Book Award on Asia/Transnational

Kimberly Kay Hoang, *Spiderweb Capitalism: How Global Elites Exploit Frontier Markets*, Princeton University Press (2022)

Honorable Mention:

Le Lin, *The Fruits of Opportunism Noncompliance and the Evolution of China's Supplemental Education Industry*. University of Chicago Press (2022)

Best Book Award on Asian America:

Pallavi Banerjee, *The Opportunity Trap: High-Skilled Workers, Indian Families, and the Failures of the Dependent Visa Program* (NYU Press, 2022)

Best Research paper Award:

Katrina Quisumbing King, Northwestern University, for "The Structural Sources of Ambiguity in the Modern State: Race, Empire, and Conflicts over Membership," published in *American Journal of Sociology* (2022).

Honorable Mention:

Andy Scott Chang, Singapore Management University, for "Selling a Resume and Buying a Job: Stratification of Gender and Occupation by States and Brokers in International Migration from Indonesia," published in *Social Problems* (2021).

Best Student Research Paper Award:

Di Zhou, for "The Elements of Cultural Power: Novelty, Emotion, Status, and Cultural Capital," published in *American Sociological Review* (2022).

Honorable Mentions:

Kai Feng, for "Unequal Duties and Unequal Retirement: Decomposing the Women's Labor Force Decline in Post-Reform China" (working paper)

Austin Vo, for "Contexts of Contestation: How Competing Logics of the State Enable and Constrain Immigrant Political Action" (working paper).

Significant Contribution to the Field Award:

Mary C. Brinton, Harvard University

2023 Finances

Provide a narrative on how the 2023 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2023. Please account for any substantive differences.

Our expected expenses were \$4550. Our actual expenses were \$2642. The difference is due to the fact that we hosted a joint section with the International Migration section, which reduced the total cost considerably. We also did not subsidize the mentor lunch as the previous year in LA, since Philadelphia pricing was more reasonable.

The Previous Year

Describe Section activities during the period between September 2022 and August 2023.

Provide an overview of the Section's communications with its members and include explanation of how your communication strategy meets the goals and values of the Section. Include links to the section website, newsletters, and any other electronic media used.

This year we have set rules for recruiting members for the Social Media and Newsletter Committee. The committee will routinely contain two faculty members and the student representative in the council. One of the faculty members serves as the committee chair and the other will become the chair as the current rotates off in a year. This ensures continuity of the committee, which helps the section stay in touch with members. The committee of 2022-2023 includes Yue Qian, Zhiyong Lin, and Hope Xu Yan. The committee was active in social media, routinely sending out news on members' publications and other section activities. In Fall 2022, the committee also created "highlights" for student members on the job market and circulated them.

The year 2022-2023 was also the year when the ASA experimented the ASA Connect. The chair and members have frequently used the platform to communicate about useful webinars, job postings, recent publications, and other news.

Describe the Section's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. What steps were taken this year to achieve those goals?

The Section embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion and has continued to take steps to achieve related goals. Specifically, at the end of previous year, the Section sent out a membership questionnaire where all section members could indicate their willingness to participate in various functions of the Section including candidacy for Council members, Section paper/roundtable session chairs/discussants, Section award committees, Newsletter committee, and other roles. In consultation with council members, the Chair and Chair-Elect have made sure that the members recruited for award committees, candidates for officer positions, and other functions, well represent a wide variety of groups that make up the body of section members. We also actively promote webinars that are especially beneficial for our members who may belong to marginalized groups, such as job related webinars for BIPOC students.

Provide an overview of the section's programming at the annual meeting and include explanation of how this programming meets the goals and values of the section (e.g. intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, inclusion).

The Section organized three paper sessions to cover themes related to f 1) Asia, 2) Asian America, and 3) transnational (Asia and Asian America), respectively. Instead of setting a substantive theme for each session, the three session organizers work together to select papers submitted to the centralized pool and select the papers that are thematically coherent and best fit the geographic focus for each session. The section also organized multiple roundtables with separate themes from papers submitted to the section. In addition, the section hosted two major activities at the annual meeting: 1) Mentoring luncheon – Organized by Wei-hsin Yu (Chair) and Feinian Chen (Chair-Elect), which took place at a restaurant nearby the conference site. Over 50 section members across diverse academic career stages – graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, junior and senior members, attended the event. We made sure that every faculty member would face one student member in seating arrangements. We also encouraged members who already knew each other not to sit together. Attendants all had many opportunities to network and learn from each other. 2) Onsite reception – We hosted a joint reception at Marriott with the International Migration Section. Food and music (played by one of our section members) were provided. Section members were excited to meet others in our section as well as become acquainted with some members from the IM section. Altogether, 100+ people attended the joint reception. All attendees enjoyed the opportunities to meet new people with similar interests. Both events provided great networking opportunities for our members.

Provide an overview of the Section's programmatic activities outside of the Annual Meeting (e.g. webinars, networking events, mentoring initiatives, resources for dissemination) and include explanation of this programming meets the goals and values of the Section.

As mentioned earlier, we frequently communicated with section members through ASA Connect. The Chair and other members sent announcements about jobs, publications, and other news (e.g., membership drive, award calls, etc.) several times each month. The Social Media and Newsletter Committee also created the newsletter and sent tweets on member news and members on the job market frequently. Although in the year before the section had a virtual meeting to showcase the books winning awards in our section, the attendance was low. The survey responses from members also indicated that section members are far more interested in in-person activities than virtual meetings. Nevertheless, the chair has taken advantage of other webinars offered by various professional organizations (e.g., UCLA, with which the 2022-2023 chair is affiliated, the Population Association of America, and certain journals' editorial offices) and shared the links with section members. The webinars shared covered topics such as finding teaching-oriented tenured/tenure-track jobs, publishing work on international contexts, and the processes of publishing and job search. Based on the section responses, it appears that this type of webinars is what the student section members want the most. The strategy of promoting existing professionalization seminars, instead of organizing new ones, seems to be an efficient way to satisfy our members' needs.