

2023 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Political Sociology

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 8/18/23 at 3pm

About 25 people in attendance

Introduce new Chair, Caroline Lee

Discussion: Change to bylaws—career award every year

Review Budget- have some extra money; no crisis

Mentoring event- high enthusiasm about this

Ask of membership: Need webmaster and 2 to help with section newsletter

Section Awards announced and distributed

Treasurer's Report

Council Meeting 8/18/23 7am

10 Present, including one incoming council member, and 2 section chair elects

Budget Report from Treasurer

- Budget: \$7500 surplus
- o Talk of mini conference or nicer reception

Volunteers/officers

- Need new web master
- New newsletter volunteer
- Elections upcoming
- o Sec/Tres term end (elections for 2024)

Communications

- Start doing Instagram
- Take more pictures

- Better with member engagement

Awards

- How long until graduate student paper eligibility expires (in terms of award)
- Issue: some winners aren't serving

Projects

- Maybe a zoom panel
- Book give away- raffle at reception (sign up grad students if enter)
- Election year- what do political sociologists have to say about presidential elections?

Panels

- Broad themes—make it easy for people to bring their research

Awards

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

Graduate Student Paper Award 2023
Regulatory Capture's Third Face of Power
Wendy Y Li
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Distinguished Book Award 2023
Thinking like an Economist
Elizabeth Popp Berman
University of Michigan

Distinguished Book Award 2023
Outsourcing Repression
Lynette H. Ong
University of Toronto

Distinguished Article Award 2023
Modernizing Leviathan
María Fatima Santos
University of California, Berkeley

Honorable Mention
Distinguished Article Award 2023
Repurposing Title IX
Celene Reynolds
University at Buffalo

2023 Finances

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

The Political Sociology Section spent \$2,534 on the ASA conference reception. An additional \$1,000 was used to assist student officers with travel costs to attend ASA in Philadelphia. Our final expenditure involved an additional \$845 for award plaques and shipping fees. We ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$8,555. The expenses were within what the section estimated over the year.

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. We also invested time in recruiting mentors and student mentees for our conference mentoring program.

The major activities involved transitioning section communication from the ASA section Listserv to ASA Connect. We were active with our website and Twitter account making announcement about new member publications and other opportunities. We also successfully produced two editions of our section Newsletter, *States Power and Societies*. The links for all of these activities can be found here:

<http://asapoliticalsoc.org/>

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/ASA/CommunityEmailAttachments/KrMHkpL6Rb2J8FZ6xxBu_ASA-PolSoc_States-Power-Societies_Spring-Summer-2023.pdf

http://asapoliticalsoc.org/wp-content/uploads/ASA-PolSoc_States-Power-Societies_Fall-Winter-2022.pdf

<https://twitter.com/ASApoliticalsoc>

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

The section advanced in DEI goals over the year. We successfully passed a bylaw change allowing for the career award to be offered every year (instead of every other year). This meets the goal of inclusiveness and allows for more opportunities to recognize senior scholars in the field. In terms of officer selection, our two newly elected councilpersons are Scholars of Color, and the new Chair and Chair-Elect, are women after the past two presidents were men. We had an open call for conference panel themes and several of the organizers were Scholars of Color and the panels focused on race, gender, and climate justice. The paper presenters were also from ethnic and racial backgrounds. This same level of diversity could be seen in our section award committee membership.

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).

Our Section Panels included the following topics in addition to our roundtable sessions:

- BIPOC Political Thought in the Post-Trump Era
- The State and Racial Capitalism (joint session with Section on Comparative-Historical Sociology)

- The Politics of Gender and Sexuality
- The Politics of Climate Change
- Tides and Struggles of Democracy and Constitutionalism
- Populism and Authoritarianism

The sessions were well-attended and covered several major areas within the broad subdiscipline of Political Sociology. The roundtables were successfully organized by two Graduate Students, giving them professional development experience and networking opportunities as they coordinated the event in the months prior to the ASA meetings. The section also held a joint reception with Collective Behavior and Social Movements; Peace, War, and Social Conflict; and Sociology of Human Rights. This provided the opportunity for section members to mingle with scholars in closely related specialty areas. The culminating experience for the section was the graduate student mentoring event, organized by two graduate students. The event involved 50+ participants and was held just before the section reception.

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.

The section was still emerging from the Covid pandemic and its aftermath. The section leadership made the strategic decision not to over plan activities and tax people's time and mental health. The major activities outside of the conference involved constant updates on ASA Connect by the section's Communications Officer. On nearly a weekly basis membership was made aware of new opportunities such as job ads, webinars, conferences, RFPs for grants and publications, as well as new publications by section members. Substantial time was also placed into preparing the mentoring event in the months leading up to the ASA conference in terms of calls for participants, especially securing faculty mentors.