

inside

- 5 New ASA Policy on Posting Electronic Manuscripts**  
 The Subcommittee on Electronic Publishing reconsiders the policy regarding posted online during and after publication.
- 5 Council Highlights**  
 A brief snapshot of the key decisions made by ASA Council in August including returning to a print edition of Footnotes and deciding on future annual meeting sites.
- 7 News on ASA Sections**  
 More on section awards, the newest Sections Manual, and a new Section on Consumers and Consumption.
- 9 Send ASA Your Nominations**  
 Know an excellent teacher, author, or student? Send in your nominations.
- 10 Profiles of the 2011 Award Winners**  
 From dissertations to lifetime achievements, find out more about who the award winners are.

From the Executive Officer.....2  
 Science Policy.....3  
 Announcements..... 16



## A Call to Duty: ASA and the Wikipedia Initiative

*Erik Olin Wright, American Sociological Association President*

This autumn the ASA is launching a Sociology in Wikipedia Initiative. This project has two main purposes: first, to improve the sociology entries in Wikipedia by making it easier for sociologists to become involved in writing and editing them, and second, to facilitate professors giving Wikipedia-writing assignments to students in their courses. Before I explain in more detail how the ASA initiative will advance these goals, let me say a little about Wikipedia.

Wikipedia has become, in the decade since it first began, the

world's largest and most used general reference encyclopedia. Currently there are more than 3.7 million articles in English, more than 1 million in German and French, and more than 100,000 articles in each of 35 other languages. It is the sixth most visited website in the world and the only one in the top 10 that is nonprofit. While a few years ago many—perhaps most—academics were disdainful of Wikipedia and actively discouraged their students from consulting it, today many academics themselves consult the site for useful information (I certainly do, frequently).



**WIKIPEDIA**  
 The Free Encyclopedia

*Continued on page 6*

## Sociological Spring: Human Rights and the Discipline

*Bruce Friesen, University of Tampa*

Grassroots movements in many Arab countries are challenging the status quo, fueled in part by a collective embrace of the notion of rights that far surpasses the limited civil and political rights enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. Respect for human rights—as specified more than 60 years ago in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)*—is fundamentally altering global human affairs. Human rights principles have had more of a sleeper effect in the United States, but the impact is no less pronounced. Minorities who served in the armed forces in WWII to defend the rights of those persecuted by the Nazis came home emboldened to secure for themselves the same rights at home. In short order, rights-based movements for racial and ethnic minorities, women, the LGBT community, people with disabilities, children, and others gained momentum.

Sociologists are awakening to both the analytical and activist possibilities embedded in a human rights framework. The last 10 years have seen a rapidly-growing sociological literature on the topic. New organizations and sections have been formed, including Sociologists Without Borders (*Sociólogos sin Fronteras*), the Human Rights Section of the ASA, and the ISA's Thematic Group on Human Rights and Global Justice. Representatives from the first two groups serve on the American Association for the Advancement of Science' Human Rights Coalition. New journals have been launched, such as *Societies Without Borders* and *Human Rights and Human Welfare*. Even *Secularism and Non Religion*, the world's first journal on secularism (first edition January 2012), edited by sociologist Ryan Cragun, seeks to examine ways in which social solidarity might be constructed outside of religious paradigms.

*Continued on page 7*

## ICPSR Celebrates its Upcoming 50th Anniversary

*Dan Meisler, ICPSR Editor*

*This piece is based on a personal history of ICPSR written by Erik Austin, former ICPSR Assistant Director who retired in 2006 after 41 years at the Consortium; interviews with Austin, former Director Myron Gutmann, former Summer Program Director Hank Heitowit, current Summer Program Director William Jacoby, and longtime ICPSR staffers Peter Granda and Mary Vardigan; and various historical documents.*

*All of this material and more can be viewed at [www.icpsr.umich.edu/fifty](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/fifty). The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) celebrates its 50th anniversary next year, but its origins go back even further than its founding in 1962. The idea for what is now the largest social science data archive in the world dates to the mid-1950s, when researchers at the University of Michigan held a series*

*Continued on page 4*

from the executive officer

*Sally Hillsman was on vacation and unable to write a Vantage Point column for the November issue of Footnotes. In her absence we are running a column from the January 2009 issue of Footnotes that remains relevant today.*

## Science Serving Human Rights

Last month, the United Nations (UN) celebrated the 60th anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR). Four years ago, in celebration of ASA's 100th year, Council released the Association's most comprehensive statement on human rights to date. In addition, in 2007, a proposal was submitted and ASA Council approved the formation of a Section-in-Formation on Human Rights. ASA has a long and admirable history of active engagement in the vital work of responding to threats against the intellectual freedom and civil rights of scientists worldwide. In August 2005, Council reaffirmed the commitment of ASA to these pursuits and also affirmed the commitment of our organization and discipline to supporting the basic civil rights and political freedom of people of all nations, principles embraced by the UDHR (see [www.asanet.org/cs/root/left-nav/governance/issue\\_statements/statement\\_on\\_human\\_rights](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/left-nav/governance/issue_statements/statement_on_human_rights)).

As the universal human rights movement presses forward in the 21st century, scientific disciplines—by their nature universalistic—will play an increasingly important role. This is reflected in the christening of the new Science and Human Rights Coalition, of which ASA is a founding member, by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). For more than a year ASA has been engaged with about 20 other science disciplines in developing this coalition under the umbrella of the AAAS. We helped conceptualize the coalition's mission and its portfolio of activities. Details are presented in an editorial in the November 28, 2008, *Science* (p. 1303), co-authored by AAAS sociologist Mona Younis and Leonard Rubenstein, President of

Physicians for Human Rights and Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace.

Younis and Rubenstein wrote, "[O]ne lesson of the past 60 years is that governments' commitment to human rights is only as strong as the demands of their citizens. As respected members of society, scientists are vital to securing governments' adherence to human rights." Sociologists will not find this alien to our work. Recall the plenary address at the 2004 ASA Annual Meeting by Mary Robinson on the UN Millennium Development Goals (see [www.un.org/millenniumgoals/](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/)).

Robinson, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and former President of Ireland, inspired attendees by stressing the important global human rights objectives of the Millennium Development Goals.

The AAAS coalition, and ASA's role in it, is a response by the science community to this growing human rights movement. It will help focus science on more coordinated efforts in the pursuit of universal human rights and actively link it with human rights communities, helping them understand the unique capabilities of science—statistical, forensic, research, technological—in pursuing our mutual human rights goals.

The objectives resonate with a statement by Nobel Laureate Thorsten Wiesel, former chair of the National Academies of Science Committee on Human Rights,

included in ASA's 2005 human rights statement: "The UDHR is the anchor of our work and, given the international character of science and its pursuit of truth, it holds particular significance for us as scientists. . . ."

### The Public Sociology Fit


Human rights advocacy by the science community is increasingly recognized as an integral part of the role of science in society. The AAAS coalition recognizes that many individual scientists need to better understand the full implications of the human rights mission of science. They should be aware that human rights include the social and economic rights essential to human well-being—the right to health, food, a clean environment among others—and

to appreciate the role scientists have in securing these rights in order to ensure all people's ability to "share in scientific advancement and its benefits," as expressed by the UDHR. It

is not surprising that the concept of public sociology has emerged in recent years as it becomes clearer how fundamental the right of access to the fruits of science is to achieving universal human rights.

This aligns with ASA's commitment to the free movement of scholars and students and the reduction of barriers to scholarly inquiry and exchange. The free exchange of scientific principles is central to the mission of the new AAAS coalition, which

affirms "the principle that science is fundamental to designing and implementing successful international collaboration on human development. Therefore, it encourages the work of the world scientific community to achieve steady global progress on human rights through efforts to gain the release of all scientists who are unjustly imprisoned for their public speech or academic work. The world scientific community can achieve its human rights goals through activities of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies, the Human Rights Program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the efforts of individual scholarly organizations worldwide including our sister societies in the social sciences."

Perhaps it was prescient of the ASA statement to say that "[ASA] urges all governments . . . to uphold the spirit and the substance of the articles of the UDHR and . . . the freedom to participate in and benefit from scientific advancement." But this brings a challenge to the scientific community to learn how to become a human rights constituency, given the often "political" flavor that is at odds with scientific culture. Although, it is just such culture (i.e., traditions of intellectual independence and integrity) that could propel human rights into the modern age. 



**“As the universal human rights movement presses forward in the 21st century, scientific disciplines—by their nature universalistic—will play an increasingly important role.”**



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science policy

**Least Segregated Metros Concentrated in Fast-Growing South and West**

Black-white residential segregation declined modestly since 2000, continuing the gradual pace begun in 1980, according to 2010 U.S. Census data. Among large metropolitan areas with a total population of 500,000 or more, the least segregated metros were located in the faster-growing South and West, while the most segregated metro areas were mainly concentrated in the slower-growing Northeast and Midwest. The 10 least-segregated metro areas all grew faster than the national average of 11 percent between 2000 and 2010, with seven of them seeing increases of 20 percent or more, according to the Population Reference Bureau Reports on America: "First Results From the 2010 Census." Only one of the 10 most-segregated metros experienced growth rates that reached even half the national average. For more information, visit <[www.prb.org/Articles/2011/us-residential-segregation.aspx](http://www.prb.org/Articles/2011/us-residential-segregation.aspx)>.

**Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence for Judges Is Updated**

The National Research Council today released the third edition of the *Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence*. Developed to guide judges as they encounter scientific evidence at trials, it replaces an edition published in 2000 and includes new chapters on areas such as neuroscience, mental health, and forensic science. The new manual was developed in collaboration with the Federal Judicial Center, which produced the previous editions, and was rigorously peer-reviewed in accordance with the procedures of the National Research Council. Chapters on topics such as epidemiology, statistics, and engineering have been updated or reshaped. Each provides an overview of principles and methods of the science from which legal evidence is typically derived and examples of cases in which such evidence was presented. The reference manual is intended to assist judges with the management of cases involving



complex scientific and technical evidence; it is not intended, however, to instruct judges on what evidence should be admissible. The introduction was written by U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer. For more information, visit <http://www.fjc.gov>.

**The White House and National Science Foundation Announce New Workplace Flexibility Policies to Support America's Scientists and Their Families**

In late September, the White House Council on Women and Girls Executive Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Director, and National Science Foundation (NSF) Director announced the "NSF Career-Life Balance Initiative," a 10-year plan to provide greater work-related flexibility to women and men in research careers. Among the best practices that NSF will expand Foundation-wide, are ones that will allow researchers to delay or suspend their grants for up to one year in order to care for

a newborn or newly adopted child or fulfill other family obligations—maximizing current policy to facilitate scientists' reentry into their professions with minimal loss of momentum. Related to this policy, First Lady Michelle Obama spoke at a White House event about the importance of supporting and retaining women and girls in STEM careers. At the event, the NSF discussed family-friendly policies for retaining women in STEM fields. Women today currently earn 41% of PhDs in STEM fields, but make up only 28% of tenure-track faculty in those fields. Reducing the dropout rate of women in STEM careers is especially important in the quest for gender equality because women in STEM jobs earn 33 percent more than those in non-STEM occupations and the wage gap between men and women in STEM jobs is smaller than in other fields. For more information on these new policies, see [www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/26/white-house-and-national-science-foundation-announce-new-workplace-flexi](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/26/white-house-and-national-science-foundation-announce-new-workplace-flexi).

**A New ASA Congressional Fellow**

The American Sociological Association has named Dennis Bogusz as the 2011-12 ASA Congressional Fellow. Bogusz received a PhD in sociology from Columbia University in May 2011. During his time at Columbia, Bogusz's substantive areas of concentration were finance and policy.



Dennis Bogusz

Prior to earning his PhD, Bogusz worked on-and-off for nearly 20 years in private sector finance. "[This experience] helped me understand, both intuitively and academically," said Bogusz, "multilateral efforts to coordinate economic policies to reduce poverty and improve metrics of economic develop-

ment." His dissertation, titled "Corporate Governance or Corporate Governments? Voluntary Firm Practices on Paths to Regulation" looks at how financial firms' voluntary behavior leads to regulatory reform.

During his tenure in Washington, Bogusz will apply his past experiences and research to his work on Capitol Hill where he will investigate financial issues.

While Bogusz's work on Capitol Hill will encompass a broad number of economic-related issues, he hopes to especially contribute to policy initiatives like financial regulatory reform; international

policy coordination; securities regulation; corporate governance; consumer protection; oversight of credit ratings agencies; and international development.

**Sociology on the Hill Is Needed**

As an economic sociologist, Bogusz is not a stranger to debate among economists and policy makers. According to Bogusz, "we have a duty to analyze a range of socioeconomic issues, such as wealth inequality, cultural contexts, and economic justice, to provide policy advice. Policy informed by rigorous scientific methods needs to prevail over policy informed by free-market ideology repackaged in this post-recession era. Policy research that adheres to standards of social

science is also necessary to quell the rancor of current political polarization and provide objective advice."

He believes a sociological presence in our nation's capital is needed because sociological inquiry provides the critical linkages necessary to understand the ways in which policy initiatives and program designs impact the experiences of the people they are intended to benefit.

Bogusz's experiences, passion, and sociological knowledge will help him succeed on Capitol Hill and bring a strong sociological voice to the political process there.

For more information on the ASA Congressional Fellowship, see the Funding page on the ASA Website. The deadline date is February 1, 2012.

**ICPSR**

from Page 1

of seminars at which they provided access to data from the American National Election Study (ANES).

Warren Miller, ICPSR's founder and one of the authors of the landmark book *The American Voter* based on ANES data, understood that the demand for the data was not likely to be temporary. He embarked on an effort that he likened to that of a traveling salesman—Miller traveled the country seeking members for a new consortium that would collect, store, and distribute survey data in political science.

In hindsight, it's easy to see that the sharing of research data was the logical next step in the progress of the social sciences, but at the time the idea was so counterintuitive that it bordered on revolutionary.

To ask researchers to voluntarily hand over their data, and to seek money from other institutions to access that data were new propositions at the time.

But by 1962, Miller had 21 universities ready to buy \$2,500 annual memberships to the new Inter-university Consortium for Political Research (the name was changed in 1975 to add the word "Social").

The powerful idea led to the quick growth of the Consortium. By 1968, there were 127 members, and in the following 15 years that number more than doubled. Currently, ICPSR boasts 700 members from around the world. The founders of the Consortium—including Miller's *American Voter* co-authors Philip Converse, Angus Campbell, and Donald Stokes—also recognized that a training component was needed. It did no good,

after all, to provide complex survey data to researchers if they didn't know how to use it. So the Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research was created simultaneously with ICPSR, with the first session held in 1963.

That year, 21 faculty members and 41 graduate students took part in the program's nine courses. While the founders had hoped that the Summer Program would only be temporary, as those trained in survey methods would in turn teach others at their own institutions, that turned out not to be the case. The Summer Program has expanded hand-in-hand with the Consortium as a whole. In 2011, there were nearly 900 participants enrolled in 67 courses offered in Ann Arbor, and separate workshops held in Amherst, MA; Bloomington, IN; Berkeley, CA; and Chapel Hill, NC.

ICPSR's earliest data holdings focused on historical data on politics and demography such as county-level election returns dating back to 1824; census data from 1790 to 1970; and congressional roll call votes going back to 1789.

The Consortium started significantly diversifying its holdings in the 1970s. This was reflected not only in the name change but in the establishment of two of ICPSR's longest lasting special topic archives: the National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging (NACDA) and the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). Both were funded by grants from federal agencies, which would prove to be an important factor in the future development of ICPSR.

At the same time, different types of institutions were finding membership in ICPSR an attractive option, namely smaller, teaching-oriented colleges and universities. The Consortium began offering memberships to "federations," in which one institution acts as a hub assisting affiliated schools to access ICPSR's data.


Of course, the technology of archiving and distributing data has changed dramatically since the 1960s. Beginning with "punch-cards," the preferred media for data migrated to magnetic tape, then

to compact disks, then to FTP and direct download from the Web. ICPSR adopted new dissemination strategy as our member institutions developed the capacity to use each new technology.

ICPSR's first website went up in 1994, but it wasn't until the development of "ICPSR Direct" in 2001 that the current model of downloading data on demand was instituted. Before ICPSR Direct, data requests had to go through each institution's Official Representative to ICPSR. Direct download of our data has proved extremely popular, as users routinely download more than half a million files each year from the ICPSR archive.

We have continued to diversify our holdings in recent years with the creation of topic-specific archives dedicated to data on minority populations, early childhood development, NCAA student-athletes, addiction, HIV, and demography. Our archiving capabilities are constantly expanding. For example, ICPSR is leading a group of three University of Michigan units in a project with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to archive, preserve, and disseminate video from the Foundation's Measures of Effective Teaching program.

As research designs have become increasingly complex, ICPSR has focused on providing secure access to potentially sensitive information about survey participants. We are in the process of developing a Virtual Data Enclave that will allow researchers to analyze restricted-use data from their own computers, while the data and analytical output stays on ICPSR's secure servers until disclosure analysis is completed. ICPSR also provides guidance on satisfying federal funders' new data management plan requirements with a webpage and blog devoted to guidelines, examples, and answers to users' questions.

As data curation, archiving, and preservation get more attention from researchers in a wide range of disciplines, ICPSR is uniquely positioned to build on 50 years of leadership to help the scientific community navigate this fast-moving field. 

## Does Your Sociology Department Have an Opening?

### There is a New Feature in the ASA Job Bank

The ASA has an exciting new feature to share with you! The ASA wants employers to get the most out of their job ad and this new feature will allow you to send information about your Job Bank listing directly to your target audience. When you post your job in the ASA Job Bank, you will be able to select up to two ASA Section listservs to have your job distributed to at no additional fee.

ASA Sections are officially recognized groups of ASA members who share interests in a specific sociological topic. Sections organize sessions at the ASA Annual Meeting, publish newsletters, and have moderated listservs for their members.

When you enter your job in the Job Bank, you will notice two new drop-down fields. All ASA Sections are listed; you may select up to two. Once your job is activated, an e-mail will be sent to the selected section listservs with the job ID, institution, department, job title, position/rank, and areas/special programs and a link to the Job Bank for full information about the listing.

Post your job ad today at <[jobbank.asanet.org](http://jobbank.asanet.org)>! If you have any questions, or would like more information on the ASA Job Bank, please contact [jobbank@asanet.org](mailto:jobbank@asanet.org).

## Electronic Manuscript Posting Policies Updated

Janine Chiappa McKenna, ASA  
Publications Department

At its August 2011 meeting, the Committee on Publications reviewed a proposal from the Joint Subcommittee on Electronic Publishing to update ASA's rules on manuscript eligibility regarding online posting of manuscripts before, during, and after publication. The policy, which had not been updated since 1997, was considered outdated, as online repositories have become the norm. This policy applies to a manuscript submitted for publication, not to final copyedited published articles, which may be published online only by ASA or its publisher.

The Subcommittee noted that "working papers are increasingly common online, and the prior posting of a paper on various websites should not preclude consideration of a paper in an ASA journal." Peer-reviewed websites are exempt from this because the

Subcommittee considers peer review to be analogous to publication.

Regarding papers posted online during and after publication, the Subcommittee felt "the continued availability of a pre-print version of papers online will help...[readers] find sociological scholarship." The proposal calls for authors to add text to any posted original manuscripts to direct readers to the final version published in an ASA journal to encourage readers to read and cite the official version of the paper.

The first proposed change removes the following language from the disclaimer ASA suggests authors include when posting a working paper on a personal Website or repository:

*This paper may not be quoted, reproduced, distributed, transmitted or retransmitted, performed, displayed, downloaded, or adapted in any medium for any purpose, including, without limitation, teaching purposes,*

*without the Author's express written permission. Permission requests should be directed to [author's e-mail address].*

Authors are now requested to use the following text when posting a working paper:

*"Copyright [year]. Name of author. All rights reserved. This paper is for the reader's personal use only."*

The next proposed change adds "peer-reviewed" to the previous policy so that it now reads:

Articles that have appeared in a peer-reviewed "electronic collection" or as part of a peer-reviewed "paper series" on a Website are considered by ASA to have been published previously and may not be submitted to an ASA publication.

The final proposed update significantly changes ASA's policy on working papers posted after the final version has been published.

The policy originally stated that once an article had been accepted for publication and the author(s) had signed the transfer of copyright, the article was to be removed from the author's Website. The proposed update states the following:

Once a submitted article has been accepted for publication by an ASA journal, authors must, if possible, modify manuscripts or headers in non-peer-reviewed electronic collections (including their own personal Websites) to indicate that the paper is forthcoming in an ASA journal. Once the article is published, authors should modify manuscripts or headers to indicate that a revised version of the paper is now published, and should include a complete citation to the published paper.

The proposal passed unanimously in the Committee's executive session. **S**

## Participate in New NSF-Funded Survey of Sociology Majors

The ASA Research Department will be sending a request to current chairs and undergraduate directors who were among the 100 departments participated in the 2005 longitudinal survey for senior sociology majors, "What Can I Do with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology?" by mid-November. The National Science Foundation has provided ASA with a new grant to survey the class of 2012. As with the 2005 survey, the purpose of this new longitudinal survey of the class of 2012, titled *Social Capital, Organizational Context, and the Job Market*, is to learn about senior majors' reasons for choosing sociology, the skills and concepts they learned, their satisfaction with their sociology programs, and their plans for the future. Sociology Departments used prior survey results to recruit majors, update their curriculum, and assess their programs.

The new survey will include questions about job search strategies. The results of these questions should overcome a lack of understanding about how sociology majors search

for and secure jobs, choose graduate schools, as well as the social connections that help them in this process. The lack of this type of information can result in sociology departments losing majors to more vocationally-oriented programs even though students are excited by the sociological concepts that they learned as part of the major. The National Science Foundation supports ASA in gathering this information.

Departments will be asked to provide a list of their senior majors along with accompanying email addresses. The study has IRB approval (see the Research Department web page for the IRB approval and for a draft version of the survey at [http://www.asanet.org/research/bacc\\_survey/bachelorsandbeyond.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/research/bacc_survey/bachelorsandbeyond.cfm)).

Along with the sample survey, we asked for volunteer departments. More than 140 additional departments volunteered to participate, demonstrating the value of the survey. **S**

If you have any questions, contact Roberta Spalter-Roth at [spalter-roth@asanet.org](mailto:spalter-roth@asanet.org).

## Council Highlights

At its August 23-24, 2011, meetings in Las Vegas, ASA Council welcomed six new members: President-Elect Cecilia Ridgeway, Vice President-Elect Jennifer Glass, and Council Members-at-large David Brunnsma, Amanda Lewis, Monica Prasad, and Laurel Smith-Doerr. Pending Council approval and online posting of the minutes, the following is a brief snapshot of key decisions and information.

**Minutes.** Approved the meeting minutes for February 12-13, 2011, February 21-22, 2011, and April 26, 2011. Minutes of all Council meetings are available online at [www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/governance/council\\_minutes](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/governance/council_minutes).

**2010 Audit.** Approved the final audit which is available online at [www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/governance/audit\\_of\\_financial\\_records](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/governance/audit_of_financial_records).

**2012 Membership.** Approved a 3.6% cost of living increase (excluding the student category) in dues and authorized free online access to all ASA journals as a benefit of Emeritus membership.

**Footnotes.** Approved returning to a print edition of ASA's newsletter *Footnotes* in 2012, which will be mailed to all members who do not use the new Opt-Out provision.

### 2012 Subscription Rates.

- Approved no increase in Member rates, which remain at 2010 levels.
- Approved institutional subscription rate increases of 8% as negotiated with the publishers.

### 2012 Annual Meeting.

Approved no increases in fees for general registration, events, and services.

### Future Annual Meeting Sites.

Approved proceeding to final negotiations with Los Angeles as the site for the 2022 Annual Meeting and Philadelphia as the site for the 2018 and 2023 Annual Meetings.

### Publications

- Approved additional page allocations for JHSB as part of the editorial transition.
- Approved a waiver of ASA policy to permit paying for release time in 2012-13 for the current *Contexts* co-editor at Rutgers.

Continued on page 6

## Council Highlights

from Page 5

- Supported outreach to invite managing editors of all sociology journals to the meeting of ASA managing editors hosted by ASA.
- Declined a proposal for a survey about manuscript review times.
- Approved an *Ad Hoc* Committee of Council chaired by Monica Prasad to work in consultation with the Publications Committee to look into manuscript review turnaround times for sociology journals.

### Constitutional Committees

- Accepted the recommendations of candidates of the Committee on Nominations, Committee on Committees, ASA Secretary, and ASA Executive Officer for 2012 elected and appointed Association positions. Invitations to members are now in progress.
- Requested that the Committee on Committees be provided with a list of Emeritus members for consideration when developing recommendations for 2013.
- Concurred with the Committee on Award's consensus to take no action on changing the name of the dissertation award.
- Recommended that award certificates be smaller sized, given the

limited wall space in many faculty offices

- Approved President-Elect Cecilia Ridgeway's selection of the following members for the 2013 Program Committee: Roberto Fernandez, David Harris, Ross Matsueda, Jane McLeod, Devah Pager, Barbara Risman, Sandra S. Smith, Robin Stryker, Kjersten Whittington; and ex-officio members Jennifer Glass (ASA Vice President-Elect), Catherine White Berheide (Secretary), and Sally T. Hillsman (Executive Officer).

### Status Committees

- Confirmed a five-year continuation of the Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology (CSREMS) and deferred discussion of the CSREMS recommendations to the February 2012 Council meeting.
- Accepted in principle the recommendations from the Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology, except for items 7 and 10 which were deferred to the next Council meeting pending specific information on cost implications.
- Approved the Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology's recommendation to include a statement about unethical conduct

in the Annual Meeting program, with the final wording of the statement to be provided by the Executive Officer at Council's February 2012 meeting based on input from the Committee on Professional Ethics.

### Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Panel:

- Confirmed support for the programmatic directions of having competitively selected Stipendiary and Non-Stipendiary Minority Fellows and developing an early Career Program for MFP Fellows who complete the PhD.
- Approved the proposed seven-year budget, to be reviewed and approved annually by Council.
- Encouraged the MFP Advisory Panel and the Executive Office to seek additional long-term support from appropriate not-for-profit, for-profit, and federal organizations.

### Sections:

- Approved the proposed bylaws for the Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity; the Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility; and the Section on Sociology of Development.
- Approved the proposal for a new section-in-formation on Consumers and Consumption.

- Approved the bylaws amendments proposed by the Section on Sociology of the Family.


**Wikipedia Project.** Affirmed efforts to place a Wikipedia portal on ASA website, which will have two primary objectives: (1) to make it easy for sociologists to upgrade sociology entries in Wikipedia, and add missing areas/topics; and (2) to offer an effectively designed way for professors to learn how to give Wikipedia assignments as coursework.

**Development.** Supported a two-year member-giving effort focused on the ASA three small grants programs (FAD, Howery, CARI) beginning January 2012, as recommended by the Council Member Giving Subcommittee.

### Business Meeting Resolutions

- Declined to adopt a Human Rights of Children resolution (presented at the 2010 Business Meeting).
- Approved immediate formation of an ad hoc committee to help develop responses to the proposed directions for change to the HHS Common Rule by the September 26, 2011, deadline (subsequently extended by HHS to October 26, 2011).

### Next Council Meeting.

Dates of the next Council meeting are February 10-12, 2012, in Washington, DC. 

## Wikipedia

from Page 1

access to the Internet, and no advertisements would appear on the site to generate revenues. Before it existed this would have been considered a fantasy.

And yet, today, wikipedians can edit any existing article—adding things, correcting passages, deleting parts of articles or even entire articles. Anyone can be an editor. To improve the quality of articles over time, the most active editors have formed several thousand specialized interest groups on all sorts of different subjects to monitor articles and engage in vigorous discussions of both the style and content of entries. To deal with occasional difficult conflicts, wikipedians elect experienced editors as “administrator” to help arbitrate unresolved disputes.

### A Real Utopia

I like to think of Wikipedia as an example of a “real utopia.” It embodies ideals of equality, open access, participation, and deliberation in a domination-free environment. It has created a public good available to all. It encourages a demystification of credentialism as a source of authority. It softens the boundary between producers and consumers of information, making everyone who uses Wikipedia a potential contributor as well. It is part of a broader movement that challenges exclusionary forms of intellectual property and treats knowledge as a vital commons. It celebrates contributions rooted in motivations of intellectual curiosity and the pleasures of collaborating with a far-flung network of interested people.

But, a skeptic will ask, what about quality and reliability? It may be inspiring and surprising that

Wikipedia is produced in such an egalitarian, open way, but in the end what good is an encyclopedia if you cannot trust the information? Anyone who has used Wikipedia extensively has come upon articles that are, at best, uneven, and sometimes contain serious errors. The old *Encyclopedia Britannica*, at least, was a pretty reliable source of information. Surely if anyone can edit anything and there are no experts in charge of reviewing and rejecting articles, reliability will be a problem.

These are legitimate concerns. There are a number of things I would say in response. First, the limited empirical research on the quality of Wikipedia articles that has been done suggests that fully developed articles in Wikipedia are generally pretty reliable. A study by Jim Giles in the journal *Nature* in December 2005, for example,

reported that in a selection of science topics the error rates in Wikipedia and *the Encyclopedia Britannica* were fairly similar. Second, the problems with well-developed articles are much more commonly sins of omission than sins of commission—gaps in coverage rather than descriptive inaccuracies. This can, of course, be a serious limitation in any given article, but it does mean that the actual information in well-developed articles is generally quite accurate.

Third, the norms of Wikipedia editing push articles to have citations to reliable sources for all factual statements, and this means that that it is, in general, fairly easy to check on factual claims. This norm is in practice broadly enforced through a process of intensive peer review by the community of wikipedians. At least for any topic that

Continued on page 8

## Sociological Spring

from Page 1

The human rights terrain is rich with opportunity for sociologists to make both theoretical and practical contributions.


Woodiwiss, Turner, Friesen, and others have offered sociological explanations for the emergence of human rights, but there is more work to be done. A human rights framework offers unique perspectives on micro-macro linkages. During the recent panel session on the ASA Statement of Human Rights in Las Vegas, discussant Mark Frezzo noted that a human rights approach demands a re-examination of linkages between realist and nominalist ontological frameworks. Indeed, in the forthcoming three-volume tome, titled *The Handbook of Sociology and Human Rights*, editors Brunnsma, Smith, and Gran have invited contributors representing 45 sections of the ASA to explore innovative ways in which human rights inform their areas of focus.

A human rights approach offers an opportunity to unite apparently disparate concentrations of the discipline—such as race, class, gender, sexual orientation—into a larger framework which analyzes equality and fairness on a *human* scale. Illustrative of these intersections is a planned ASA joint session in 2012 with the Political Sociology and Human Rights Sections. Blau and Moncada's *Freedom and Solidarities* points to a similar convergence at the global level. If the human rights perspective doesn't represent the re-emergence of a grand theory, its prima facie impact is to provide an analytical starting point to evaluate the health and vitality of social systems for *all* of its members.

This focus on humanity is not new, but instead operationalizes a core assumption of science and of sociology that has long driven our efforts. Science seeks to explain and predict so that we may ultimately control. And to what end? Not simply knowledge for knowledge's sake, but for the betterment of humankind, and without

harming individuals or groups in the process. This is no doubt why there was widespread support for the ASA's 2009 Statement on Human Rights ([www.asanet.org/about/Council\\_Statements.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/about/Council_Statements.cfm)).

Few of us entered the profession to be ritualists in the Mertonian sense—producing esoteric works simply for the sake of publication. Like Seidman's eloquent and personal confession in his preface to *Contested Knowledge*, the promise of bringing perspective, knowledge, and skills to improve social life is one that ultimately draws many to the discipline of sociology. Without losing a critical focus, a human rights framework offers sociologists a common language with which to communicate our questions and findings to the broader public. It offers a globally institutionalized structure ready to receive sociological knowledge that informs human rights discourse, measures human rights violations, and makes policy recommendations. It offers widespread respect and acceptance by a global public sym-

pathetic to the goals of the human rights movement. Work is already underway to organize a Sociology Day at the United Nations to showcase what sociology has to offer. We welcome your efforts in the ASA's Human Rights section. 

Bruce K. Friesen is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Tampa and Chair of the ASA's Section on Human Rights.

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## The 2012 Annual Meeting Call for Papers Is Online

The announced listing of topics for the 2012 Call for Papers is now available. See the online guide to the Call for Papers on the "Meetings" page at [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) to find resources for submitters and learn how to submit your paper. The deadline for paper submissions is January 11, 2012.

## Attendees Reflections on Las Vegas 2011



ASA CONVENTION AT  
CAESARS PALACE

Cartoon by Jeffrey Broadbent, University of Minnesota

## News on the ASA Sections

### 2011 Section Awards

The winners of this year's section awards are now available on our website. ASA also has placed all records of past award winners online for your reference and reading pleasure. See [www.asanet.org/sections/section\\_recipients.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/sections/section_recipients.cfm)


### Sections Manual

The Committee on Sections has approved a new edition of the Sections Manual. For those unfamiliar with it, this book details the policies and procedures that govern ASA's 52 sections. The changes in the 2011 edition clarify policy surrounding Sections-in-formation, receptions, and officer succession. For the first time the manual also lays out process for amending bylaws. In addition, the manual has a new and much easier to read layout. The Sections Manual is available for download at: [www.asanet.org/images/sections/docs/pdf/Sections%20Manual\\_2011\\_Edition.pdf](http://www.asanet.org/images/sections/docs/pdf/Sections%20Manual_2011_Edition.pdf).

### Consumers and Consumption

The ASA Council has approved the formation of a new section on Consumers and Consumption for the 2012 membership year. ASA's 52<sup>nd</sup> section will focus on the "growing presence and place of 'consumption,' in its many forms in daily life, in political debates, and economic policy"

The proposal was submitted by Daniel Cook (Rutgers University), Laura Miller (Brandeis University), George Ritzer (University of Maryland), Juliet Schor (Boston College), and Joel Stillerman (Grand Valley State University). It was approved by the Committee on Sections and ASA Council during the 2011 Annual Meeting.

As a new section-in-formation Consumers and Consumption will have two years to reach a membership of 300 at which time it will become a full section. The full text of the proposal is available at [www.asanet.org/consumers\\_consumption\\_section\\_proposal.pdf](http://www.asanet.org/consumers_consumption_section_proposal.pdf) for consideration and comment. 

## Wikipedia

from Page 6

falls under the watch of the more than 3,000 wiki-project groups, as soon as an existing article is modified or a new article written, many Wikipedia editors are likely to scrutinize the new contribution for conformity to Wikipedia norms of documentation and to evaluate it substantively on the basis of the editors' own expertise. Networks of collaborators and participants of wiki-groups often provide almost instantaneous peer review.

Fourth, in recent years a system of grading articles for quality has developed within the Wikipedia community. The two highest levels of quality are referred to as "good articles" and "featured article." Before achieving the status of featured article, many Wikipedia editors have to review a candidate article and agree that it has achieved a high standard on a number of core criteria, including accuracy, neutrality, completeness, readability. Of the 3.7 million English language Wikipedia articles in the fall of 2011, only 3,391 had achieved the highest quality status.

The final, and ultimately most important response to skepticism about quality is this—if you discover that an article contains factual inaccuracies or significant gaps in what is covered, then the thing to do is correct the error. Enter the fray. Contribute to the public good. The reason *you* know there is a problem is because you know things about that particular subject that the editors who have worked on the article either do not know or do not deem worthy of inclusion. When this happens, if you correct the errors and fill the gaps, then you have helped make Wikipedia a better resource for everyone. Of course, the existing editors of the article in question might object to the changes you make. They might even delete your improvements, and explain on the discussion page for the article why they did so. Since you are on an equal footing with them, you can restore the edits and reply to their objections. Other wikipedians may enter the discussion, especially if the issues in play are controversial. Eventually, the

discussion ends and even if perfect consensus is not reached, the text of the article stabilizes. In general, through this process, articles improve over time.

### An ASA Sociology Wikipedia Initiative

Wikipedia has become an important global public good. Since it is a reference source for sociologically relevant ideas and knowledge that is widely used by both the general public and students, it is important that the quality of sociology entries be as high as possible. This will only happen if sociologists themselves contribute to this public good. The basic goal of the new ASA Sociology in Wikipedia Initiative is to make it easier for sociologists to do this. (See the ASA homepage for more information at [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org).)

The heart of the initiative is the creation of a Wikipedia portal connected to the ASA website. This portal was designed in close collaboration with a research group at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) headed by Robert Kraut, Herbert A. Simon Professor of Human-Computer Interaction. With funding from the National Science Foundation, the CMU group developed a similar site for the Association of Psychological Sciences. The ASA project is also working with the Wikimedia Foundation—the nonprofit Foundation which manages the infrastructure for Wikipedia. The Wikimedia Foundation has, in recent years, become very interested in increasing the involvement of academics and university students in contributing to Wikipedia and so, in 2010, began a higher education project. The ASA initiative incorporates a range of utilities developed for this Wikimedia Foundation project.

The ASA Wikipedia Portal will do two main things. First, it will make it easy for sociologists to become involved in writing and editing sociology articles. The site will contain step-by-step tutorials on how to contribute to Wikipedia, as well as video discussions of Wikipedia norms and procedures. It will also contain a way to see lists of sociology-relevant articles that need improving or are missing from Wikipedia, and to add to these lists.

Second, the ASA Wikipedia Portal will provide instructions and materials for how to use Wikipedia writing as an assignment in academic courses. In the 2010-11 academic year the Wikimedia Foundation did an experiment in which professors in a number of universities were recruited to give writing assignments on public policy topics in their classes. In the summer of 2011, the Foundation held a higher education summit to discuss the results of these experiments. I attended this event and was enormously impressed by the potential of Wikipedia writing as a component of university curricula for both advanced undergraduate courses and graduate courses.


### Wikipedia in the Classroom

For undergraduates, the Wikipedia assignments make it possible for students to experience work in an academic course as contributing to some wider public purpose, rather than just fulfilling a homework requirement. Writing for Wikipedia helps demystify the pseudo-authority of material on the Internet while demonstrating the possibility of consumers of knowledge and information becoming producers as well. Perhaps most distinctively, writing for Wikipedia gives undergraduates the opportunity experience the excitement of being involved in discussions with Wikipedians around the world who will engage them on the substance of their contributions once they leave their Wikipedia "sandbox" and "go live." (The *sandbox* is where Wikipedia writing takes place before it is part of the searchable database of Wikipedia. *Going live* is putting the contribution into Wikipedia.)

For graduate students Wikipedia writing assignments affirm the importance of making the knowledge they acquire available and accessible to a wide public audience, not just other experts. In a graduate seminar I am teaching this fall on "Theories of the State," in addition to a regular seminar term paper, I have included a Wikipedia writing assignment for this reason. Sociology term papers themselves would generally not constitute appropriate Wikipedia articles since term papers gener-

ally violate the Wikipedia norm of presenting a "neutral point of view." Nevertheless, in the normal course of doing research for a term paper, students acquire descriptive information that is relevant to a Wikipedia article on a similar topic. Wikipedia writing, therefore, can be a constructive spin-off from ordinary academic work.

Of course, most professors do not have an understanding about how to write for Wikipedia, let alone how to organize writing assignments on Wikipedia for students. The Wikimedia Foundation was very aware of these barriers to adopting this kind of course assignment, and thus they created what they call "campus Wikipedia ambassadors" as a way of relieving professors of the burden of learning how to teach Wikipedia writing. Campus ambassadors are experienced wikipedians on campuses who get training from the Wikimedia Foundation on how to teach the procedures of Wikipedia writing and editing. When a professor decides to do a Wikipedia writing assignment, campus ambassadors are available to help the students in the class, both by giving presentations in class about Wikipedia writing and by being available for one-on-one assistance. In addition, there are on-line ambassadors available to provide help when the campus ambassadors are unavailable. The Wikimedia Foundation, in conjunction with the Carnegie Mellon group, have also developed online tools that make it easy for professors to track the work that students are doing on their writing projects. The ASA Wikipedia portal will contain information on all of these devices for assisting the use of Wikipedia writing assignments, and at the ASA Annual meeting in Denver in August 2012, the Wikimedia Foundation will run a professional workshop on using Wikipedia writing in the classroom.

The ASA Wikipedia Initiative is an experiment. I do not expect masses of professional sociologists to become avid Wikipedians. But perhaps there will be a steady flow of sociologists who integrate Wikipedia writing into their academic lives, both as scholars and teachers. 

## Call for ASA Award Nominations

ASA members are encouraged to submit nominations for the following ASA awards. Award selection committees, appointed by ASA Council, are constituted to review nominations. These awards are presented at the ASA Annual Meeting each August. The deadline for submission of nominations is January 31, 2012, unless otherwise noted.

### **W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award**

This award honors scholars who have shown outstanding commitment to the profession of sociology and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to the advancement of the discipline. The body of lifetime work may include theoretical and/or methodological contributions. The award selection committee is particularly interested in work that substantially reorients the field in general or in a particular subfield. Nominations should include a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae and letters in support of the nomination. The most compelling cases contain five to eight letters from a variety of individuals able to speak to the qualifications of the nominees. The person making the nomination should obtain this material and forward it to the committee, with the nominee's curriculum vitae, as a package.

### **Distinguished Book Award**

This award is given for a single book published in 2008, 2009 and in the month of January in 2010. Nominations must come from members of the Association and should include the name of author, title of book, date of publication, publisher, and a brief statement about why the book should be considered for this award.

### **Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award**

The ASA Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award honors outstanding contributions to undergraduate and/or graduate teaching of sociology. The award recognizes contributions that have made a significant impact on the manner in which sociology is taught at a regional, state, national, or interna-

tional level. These contributions may include preparation of teaching- and curriculum-related materials and publications, participation in the scholarship of teaching and learning, development and communication of innovative teaching techniques, leadership in teaching-related workshops and symposia, involvement in innovative program development, and contributions to the enhancement of teaching within state, regional, or national associations. The award typically is given for a series of contributions spanning several years or a career, although it may recognize a single project of exceptional impact. The award is not designed to recognize outstanding teaching ability at one's own institution unless that is part of a career with a broader impact. Individuals, departments, schools, or other collective actors are eligible. Nominations should include the nominee and a one- to two-page statement explaining the basis of the nomination. Nominations should also include a vita, if applicable, and relevant supporting materials.

### **Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology**

This award honors outstanding contributions to sociological practice. The award may recognize work that has facilitated or served as a model for the work of others; work that has significantly advanced the utility of one or more specialty areas in sociology and, by so doing, has elevated the professional status or public image of the field as a whole; or work that has been honored or widely recognized outside the discipline for its significant impacts, particularly in advancing human welfare. The recipient of this award will have spent at least a decade of substantial work involving research, administrative, or operational responsibilities as a member of or consultant to private or public organizations, agencies, or associations, or as a solo practitioner. Nominations should include a one- to two-page statement and the vita of the nominee.

### **Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues Award**

The Award for Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues honors individuals for their promotion of

sociological findings and a broader vision of sociology. The ASA would like to recognize the contributions of those who have been especially effective in disseminating sociological perspectives and research. The ASA is cognizant of the fact that there are many professionals (e.g., journalists, filmmakers) whose job it is to translate and interpret a wide range of information, including sociological perspectives and research, for the general public. This award is intended to promote a broader vision of sociology and gain public support for the discipline.

### **Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award**

The Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award is given to an individual or individuals for their work in the intellectual traditions of the work of these three African American scholars. Cox, Johnson, and Frazier placed their scholarship in service to social justice, with an eye toward advancing the status of disadvantaged populations. Their scholarship was not limited to just the gathering of more data, but was rather scholarship that was attempting to better conditions globally. Cox, Johnson, and Frazier worked to broaden the thinking of society and to broaden what the mainstream included. In the spirit of the lifetime efforts of Cox, Johnson, and Frazier, the committee invites nominations of individuals or institutions with a record of outstanding work, such as, but not limited to: work on social justice issues, work on human rights, activism, community efforts, the building of institutions, or sustaining programs, with an emphasis on African American or similarly disadvantaged racial/ethnic populations that have experienced historical racial discrimination. Occasionally institutional commitment to social justice and to broadening the tradition to include and empower marginalized scholars and marginalized people, is so compelling that this award can recognize a communal institutional effort. Nominations should include a one to two-page cover letter that explains why the individual or institution fits the criteria, a CV, and possibly one or two additional letters of recommendation


### **Award for Public Understanding of Sociology**

This award is given annually to a person or persons who have made exemplary contributions to advance the public understanding of sociology, sociological research, and scholarship among the general public. The award may recognize a contribution in the preceding year or for a longer career of such contributions. Nominations should include the nominee's vita and a detailed one to two page nomination statement that describes how the person's work has contributed to increasing the public understanding and knowledge of sociology.

### **Jessie Bernard Award**

The Jessie Bernard Award is given in recognition of scholarly work that has enlarged the horizons of sociology to encompass fully the role of women in society. The contribution may be in empirical research, theory, or methodology. It is presented for significant cumulative work done throughout a professional career. The award is open to women or men and is not restricted to sociologists. Only members of the American Sociological Association may submit nominations for the Jessie Bernard Award. Nominations for career achievement should include a narrative letter of nomination, a copy of the vita of the nominee, and three supporting letters.

### **Dissertation Award**

The ASA Dissertation Award honors the best PhD dissertation from among those submitted by advisors and mentors in the discipline. Dissertations from PhD recipients with degree awarded in the 2010 calendar year will be eligible for consideration for the 2011 ASA Dissertation Awards. Nominations must be received from the student's advisor or the scholar most familiar with the student's research. Nominations should explain the precise nature and merits of the work. 

Please send nominations to: American Sociological Association, 1430 K St. NW, Suite 600; (202) 383-9005; [governance@asanet.org](mailto:governance@asanet.org). For more information, see [www.asanet.org/about/awards.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/about/awards.cfm).

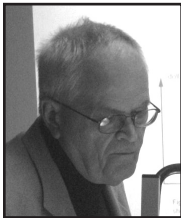
## Major ASA Award Recipients Honored in Las Vegas

The American Sociological Association (ASA) presented the 2011 major awards at this year's Annual Meeting on August 21 in Las Vegas, NV. The Awards Ceremony, followed by the Presidential Address, was well attended. These awards are given to sociologists for their outstanding publications, achievements in the scholarship, teaching, and practice of sociology, as well as for their overall advancement of the discipline. Below are the profiles of the awardees.

### Harrison C. White

*W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award*

The W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award honors scholars who have shown outstanding commitment



Harrison C. White

to the profession of sociology and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to the advancement of the discipline. Harrison Colyar White, Columbia University, is perhaps the most influential sociologist of the last half-century. Daring, original, and provocative, White has made transformative contributions to the study of organizations, stratification, culture, and economic sociology. His contributions, however, transcend specific subfields, embodying a powerful new vision of the fundamental nature and dynamics of social structures.

Trained originally in physics, Harrison White reimagined the nature of social organization, seeing—and finding innovative ways to measure—the otherwise invisible structure behind the buzzing complexity of social life. His agenda-setting work on “vacancy chains” envisioned organizations, as well as labor markets, as structures constituted by the movement of vacancies: sequences of positions linked together by the movement of occupants between them, as those hired to fill positions vacated by others create new vacancies in their turn. In *Canvases and Careers* (with Cynthia White), he produced an unsurpassed analysis of the

transformation of an art world, as the academic system of French painting gave way to Impressionism. The Whites showed how aesthetic change could arise from a shift in the institutional structures that produced artists, organized their careers, and evaluated their art.

Harrison White is best known for the body of work that revitalized and transformed network analysis. Along with several collaborators, he created an innovative theoretical approach (and related methods) that could capture not only ties among individuals, but patterns of equivalent relationships. Grouping together those who had the same pattern of relationships to others, these methods revolutionized the sociological view of social structures, cultural structures, organizations, scientific communities, and many other arenas of social life.

White also stimulated the growth of economic sociology with his innovative work on markets. He argued that markets were not really made up of independent actors linked only by information about supply and demand as conveyed through prices. White instead envisioned markets as cultural constructions created by comparison processes through which firms, attempting to reduce uncertainty in their local environments, orient themselves to the behavior of other firms, setting prices and defining markets as they watch their immediate competitors.

*Identity and Control*, White's magisterial work of social theory, envisions the dynamic and contingent interconnections of identities, stories, and structures that make up social life. He pursues the large theoretical question of how dynamic processes can produce and repro-

duce institutions and structures. White shifts the emphasis from network structures understood as fixed entities, to the ephemeral processes that continually create and recreate structural connections.

A world-renowned figure, White is also known for the astonishing number of major sociologists who have been his students or whose work has been fundamentally influenced by his vision. White developed new mathematical techniques for sociology, and he revitalized theoretical traditions dealing with structure and agency.

White's work speaks to a number of disciplines outside sociology as well as to a wide array of fields within sociology. Many of his innovations have spawned whole literatures that continue to generate creative new work in the field. His mathematically complex and theoretically daunting work, has provided a powerful vision of new ways to imagine and to describe social structures reverberates across the discipline. It is this magnificent record of creative endeavors and its wide influence that the Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award seeks to recognize. A fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, Harrison Colyar White has earned the W.E.B. DuBois Career Award in recognition for a lifetime of distinguished scholarship, extraordinary mentorship, and service to sociology

### Randall Collins for *Violence: A Micro-sociological Theory*

*Distinguished Book Award, co-winner*

Bullying, mugging, dueling, gunfights, looting, mosh pits, soccer hooliganism, snipers, domestic abuse, and on and on. Violence in its many different forms is all around us. Or so it seems.



Randall Collins

Like many great studies, Randall Collins's *Violence: A Micro-sociological Theory* (Princeton University Press, 2008) begins with social phenomenon of great interest and a counter-intuitive insight about that phenomenon. In his words, “if we consider that everyday life unfolds in chains of situations, minute by minute, most of the time there is very little violence.” Instead of assuming that violence is prevalent and in need of explanation, Collins begins with the observation that although confrontational situations are common, actual violence is rare. How people avoid violence is at least as important as understanding how they engage in it.

Rather than pursuing violence with fervor, in most cases people do everything they can to avoid it. Therefore, “violence is a set of pathways around confrontational tension and fear.” It is, however, the path less traveled. When taken, it is usually done quickly and clumsily. How exactly this is achieved is the empirical focus of this study, and symbolic interactionism is the theoretical lens.

Although symbolic interactionism is commonly taught in introductory sociology courses, rigorous and high-profile examples of true interactionist studies are rare. Violence is such an exemplary interactionist analysis, grounding larger social processes and outcomes in emergent interactional situations. Violence from this perspective is not a thing, not a property of individuals or organizations. Violence, rather, is a process, that takes place in a great many micro-situations. In seeing violence emerging in and through interactions between concretely situated individuals, Collins reveals his indebtedness to Erving Goffman and his own work on *Interaction Ritual Chains* (2004).

At the heart of Collins' micro-sociological theory is the concept of “confrontational tension.” As people enter into an antagonistic interactional situation, their fear/tension is heightened. These emotions become a roadblock to vio-

lence, and so flight and stalemate often result. Actual violence only occurs when pathways around this roadblock can be found that lead people into a “tunnel of violence.” Collins identifies several pathways into this tunnel, the most dangerous of which is “forward panic.” In these situations, the confrontational tension builds up and is suddenly released so that it spills forward into atrocities including the Rodney King beating, the My Lai massacre, the rape of Nanking, and the Rwandan genocide. Other ways around the stalemate of confrontational tension are to attack a weak victim (e.g., domestic violence) or to be encouraged by an audience (e.g., lynch mobs). Clearly, these pathways can also be combined, as when a schoolyard bully is encouraged by a crowd of classmates or when forward panic is stimulated by a group of bystanders.

How exactly to study the emergent character of violence is a significant challenge that Collins addresses very resourcefully. Although he did observe first hand some violent situations, the bulk of the data Collins analyzes is not from fieldwork but from underutilized data sources such as videotapes, audio recordings, photographs, memoirs, historical accounts, and diaries.

Although it comprehensively analyzes what it sets out to, this book self-consciously brackets some aspects of violence, including violence institutionalized in meso- and macro-organizations, warfare and geopolitics, torture and rape. Collins promises to take these topics up in a companion volume. Given all that he has offered here, we look forward to the sequel.

*Violence* is a distinguished book in its own right, but we cannot help but observe that it is written by a very distinguished author. Randall Collins is The Dorothy Swaine Thomas Professor in Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and the President of the American Sociological Association. With this award, he joins Charles Tilly as a two-time winner of the Distinguished Book Award. Collins' *The Sociology of Philosophies: A Global Theory of Intellectual Change* won the award in 1999.

**Marion Fourcade for Economists and Societies**

*Distinguished Book Award, co-winner*

Marion Fourcade's *Economists and Societies: Discipline and Profession in the United States, Britain, and France, 1890s to 1990s* (Princeton University Press, 2009) is comparative-historical sociology at its best. Indeed, it is sociology at its best.



Marion Fourcade

Fourcade, University of California-Berkeley, wants to understand individual identities in terms of the larger social structures that constitute them. In her words, “different societies create different types of individuals.” She examines what economics is and what economists do in different national contexts and how those different definitions develop and change over time.

Her approach to understanding how different societies create different individuals is informed by the macrosociology of culture found especially in the work of Pierre Bourdieu, William Sewell, Jr., and the new institutionalists. From this perspective, a national culture is the institutional arrangement in which economics and economists are embedded. Institutions are understood here as cultural practices and processes (“logics”) that are constitutive of the outcomes in question—they condition rather than cause. Fourcade focuses on three main institutional logics that together shape the unique approaches to economics found in the United States, Britain, and France: the state (“administrative order”), university system (“order of learning”), and economy itself (“economic order”).

Fourcade argues that the institutional configuration of the United States has historically been characterized by a fragmented state bureaucracy, disciplinary organization of the university, and market competition in the economy. This leads to a definition of economics as a mathematical science independent of the state and economists as formally-competent profession-

als situated in universities (think “Chicago School”).

Although this conception of the economics profession will resonate with many readers, Fourcade shows that there are other legitimate ways of doing economics based on the unique institutional logics seen in different national cultural settings. With its strong centralized state, elite civil service, and less professionalized universities, France is institutionally quite the opposite of the United States. Not surprisingly, the understanding and practice of economics in France is quite different, being more closely tied to the state and practiced by technical and civil administrators as well as university professors. Economics is thus more diverse and contentious in France than in the United States.

Fourcade's third case, Britain, contrasts with both the United States and France. Not as *laissez-faire* as the former and not as statist as the latter, Britain is a sort of middle-ground between the two. But this is not to say that it is a hybrid; its national culture and institutional configuration makes it a unique third type. Fourcade characterizes the British type as “public-minded elitism,” influenced by the “genteel” tradition of civil service and Oxbridge-LSE educations. This helps define economists as publicly-minded elites who are morally superior and have a right/duty to uphold British Culture and ensure social welfare.

These descriptions only gloss the many insights and subtleties of Fourcade's work. As befits the winner of the ASAs Distinguished Book Award, *Economists and Societies* speaks broadly to all sociologists, while informing the work of specific constituencies: sociologists of culture and knowledge, economic and political sociologists, and comparative-historical sociologists. The extent of Fourcade's contribution is evidenced in the recognition it has already received from various ASA sections, including winning the Culture Section's 2010 Mary Douglas Prize for Best Book, honorable mention for the Comparative and Historical Sociology Section's 2010 Barrington Moore Award for Best Book, and honorable mention for the Science, Knowledge and

Technology Section's 2010 Robert K. Merton Award for Best Book

**Maxine P. Atkinson**

*Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award*

Maxine P. Atkinson, professor and head of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at North Carolina State University, has



Maxine P. Atkinson

made significant contributions to the scholarship of teaching and learning, mentoring of graduate students and new faculty, and the broader teaching movement. Her work in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL); involvement in the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning and ASA Departmental Resources Group (DRG); numerous influential publications; and presentations at local, regional, and national venues provide an overview of her significant contributions to teaching and learning. Her work shows the knowledge of a 25-year career devoted to effective teaching.

Atkinson has won numerous teaching awards and other recognitions for her work. A sample of awards includes the Distinguished Teaching Award, Southern Sociological Society (2004); The Hans O. Mauksch Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Sociology, ASA Section on Teaching and Learning (2007); and the Carla B. Howery Award for Developing Teacher-Scholars, ASA Section on Teaching and Learning 2010. Maxine was the first woman at NC State to win the Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2009, the most prestigious award given for teaching excellence by the North Carolina University system.

By developing materials to enhance the teaching and learning of sociology for both undergraduate and graduate students, mentoring new teachers, and offering workshops for instructors of sociology, Atkinson has had an impact on instructors across the country. She

*Continued on next page*

## Awards

from Page 11

has published numerous influential papers in *Teaching Sociology* on topics such as integrating data analysis skills into the undergraduate sociology curriculum, on quantitative reasoning, and on what we know about teaching and learning in sociology. She is also in demand as a speaker and departmental reviewer.

Her publications and contributions are often in collaboration with her own graduate students, thus demonstrating her mentorship skills, collegial manner of work, and her inspiration to others to become involved in SoTL activities. She has focused on scholarly areas that need reflection and research to move ideas to a new level. Her presentation as the recipient of the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning Hans Mauksch teaching award, "The Sociology of the College Classroom," illustrates this point, demonstrating breadth and depth in thinking about and conducting research on the sociology of teaching and learning.

In collaboration with her graduate students, her recent published work continues research into the college classroom. In 2009, *Teaching Sociology* published two articles: "Introduction: From the Outside Looking In: The Sociology of the College Classroom," with Kristine Macomber and Sarah Rusche; and "Sociology of the College Classroom: Applying Sociological Theory at the Classroom Level," with Alison R. Buck and Andrea N. Hunt. Her list of publications on teaching is a testament to her devotion to SoTL scholarship. She has also served on the *Teaching Sociology* editorial board for six years.

Atkinson's involvement in the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning shows the breadth of her contributions to the field. These include editor of the section newsletter, reviewer, committee member, taskforce member, council member, and advisory board member for the ASA Departmental Resources Group. She has played key roles in national teaching initiatives such as the NSF/ASA integrating data analysis project and Preparing Future Faculty program.

One letter supporting her nomination said, "Maxine has been a significant mover and shaker in the teaching movement within sociology. Maxine has made a career of mentoring better teachers of sociology nationwide and advancing the scholarship of teaching and learning." Another states, "Maxine has been... a pivotal figure in promoting the importance of teaching." As president of the Southern Sociological Association she promoted teaching through various channels, including the establishment of a teaching award and her presidential address: "The Scholarship of Teaching: Conceptualizations and Implications for Sociologists." This address contributed new dimensions to the field of SoTL.

Atkinson has acted as a social change agent, working to promote and improve teaching, learning, and SoTL in our discipline. She has a determined passion for teaching and learning in the discipline and beyond, and she has used her positions in the discipline to further excellence in teaching and learning. She has garnered respect and appreciation from professional colleagues at the institutional, state, regional and national levels.

Whether leading workshops on teaching, publishing in top-tiered journals, or mentoring instructors and graduate students across the nation, Maxine embodies the qualities of a scholar-researcher and practitioner in teaching and learning.

### Henry J. Steadman

*Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology*

Henry J. Steadman, President of Policy Research Associates, is a world-renowned scholar in the sociology of mental health

and criminal justice. In a distinguished career of more than 40 years, he epitomizes the sociological practitioner who weaves fundamental contributions to knowledge with significant practical applications. He is the author of eight



Henry J. Steadman

books, 20 book chapters, more than 130 peer-reviewed journal articles, and numerous reports. His publications are strongly focused on how research findings can be incorporated into new treatment decisions and policies. The patient protection policies and treatments in place today for mental health populations with abuse histories are a direct result of Steadman's pursuit of research-based evidence.

True to the spirit of this award, Steadman has embraced the role of sociological practitioner throughout his career. A mentor to many young and mid-career sociologists and clinical and legal scholars, Steadman has been enormously effective in institution-building as well as in scholarship. In 1971, he joined a group of research sociologists at the New York State Office of Mental Health in Albany. For 17 years, he directed the most visible and highly-regarded state mental health research unit in the United States. A series of innovative studies were undertaken during this time on the career contingencies of persons detained as 'criminally insane' and released to the community following a Supreme Court decision. His team tracked releases back into the community and showed that they were no more dangerous than others.

Steadman's research called into question the capacity to predict future dangerous behavior—far too often relied on as the basis by which courts deprive mentally ill persons of their life and liberty. Through publications on these and related cognate issues, Steadman pioneered a field of sociological research that brought empirically based knowledge to the courtroom and reframed the basis of making clinical and forensic judgments. This work propelled Steadman quite justifiably to the forefront of investigators applying sociological concepts and methods to the study of mental health and criminal justice systems.

In 1987, Steadman co-founded Policy Research Associates, a research firm dedicated to advancing the field of behavioral health services research for vulnerable populations (he is currently president). He is also a founding member of the MacArthur Foundation's

Network on Risk Assessment and the Network on Mandated Treatment. Over the past 20 years, Steadman and his colleagues have produced influential research on the risks of violence among mental patients (much lower than popularly believed) and the coercion that can be associated with clinical treatment. Importantly, this work led to several risk-assessment scales and measures of perceived coercion that are now widely used in the research and clinical practice fields.

Steadman has also led and carried out numerous evaluations of Federal demonstration programs throughout the United States that were focused on persons with mental illness in the justice system. This work yielded numerous policy briefings and regional forums for judges, attorneys, correctional administrators, law officers, mental health clinicians, and other interested citizens. Over the past decade, these sessions have attracted thousands of participants. Steadman has also been regularly sought as an advisor to Federal and state agencies, private foundations, and professional associations. His current projects include: the National GAINS Center for Evidence-Based Practices in the Justice System, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Mental Health Court Study, the CMHS Transformation Center, and SAMHSA's Technical Assistance and Policy Analysis Center for Jail Diversion.

Steadman has been honored with awards by professional societies and advocacy groups, including the Distinguished Service Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (2007); Carl A. Taube Award for Outstanding Contributions in Mental Health Services Research from the American Public Health Association (2005); the Isaac Ray Award from the American Psychiatric Association for outstanding contributions to the psychiatric aspects of jurisprudence (1999); Distinguished Contribution to Forensic Psychology from the American Academy of Forensic Psychology (1998); Saleem A. Shah Award from the State Mental Health Forensic Directors (1994); Philippe Pinel Award from the International Academy of Law and Mental Health

(1988); and the Amicus Award from the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (1987). He received the William Foote Whyte Distinguished Career Award from the American Sociological Association Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology in 2010.

**David Brooks**

*Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues*

The Award for Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues goes to *New York Times* columnist and PBS Newshour commentator



David Brooks

David Brooks. As the nominating letter for Brooks stated, “Few commentators in the public sphere, from anywhere on the political spectrum, have done as much as David Brooks to promote public understanding of and appreciation for the social sciences in general and sociology in particular in recent years.” Over the years, Brooks’s columns have used or explored, either explicitly or implicitly, such core sociological themes as social capital, status, trust, embeddedness, networks, norms, and the impact of social structures of life chances. His columns regularly mention sociologists (ranging from senior scholars to graduate students) by name and provide a wide audience for their work. For example, his recent columns have described or otherwise promoted the work of scholars including Manuel Castells, Christopher Jencks, Lisa Keister, Annette Lareau, and Robert Wuthnow. He has criticized economists for an insufficiently social view of human nature, insisting that economics must “get human nature right” (Brooks). For these accomplishments and others detailed in his nominating letter, David Brooks is the recipient of the 2011 Reporting of Social Issues Award.

**Eduardo Bonilla-Silva**

*Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award*

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Professor of Sociology at Duke University, is the 2011 recipient of the Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award (CJF). This

award—named for Oliver Cromwell Cox, Charles S. Johnson, and E. Franklin Frazier—recognizes outstanding



Eduardo Bonilla-Silva

scholarship and activity focused on racial issues, especially those affecting “African American or similarly disadvantaged racial/ethnic populations.” Like the award’s namesakes, the award recognizes individuals (and groups) whose work seeks to improve conditions globally, to address directly issues of social justice. A final consideration, mentoring (especially students of color), has evolved from previous CJF committees. The CJF Award Committee felt that Eduardo Bonilla-Silva embodied all of the very best qualities of Cox, Johnson and Frazier.

After completing graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin, Eduardo had academic appointments at the University of Michigan, Texas A&M, and now Duke. No matter his location, he always focused on issues related to race, through his courses, his research, his public speeches, and in his everyday encounters with students and colleagues. The intersection of Eduardo’s biography and history has compelled his work, infusing it with not just intellectual curiosity but intellectual passion.

His first major article, “Rethinking Racism,” was published in *American Sociological Review*. It was followed by a reply to a comment, titled “The Essential Social Fact of Race.” Other works included in their titles such phrases as “This Is a White Country”; “I’m Not a Racist but . . .”; “Fight the Power!”; “How to Talk Nasty about Blacks without Sounding Racist”; “Anything but Racism”; “When Whites Flock Together”; and “Every Place has a Ghetto.” The impression one gets from this list, of fusing intellectual curiosity and passion, is underscored when looking at his book titles: *White Supremacy and Racism in the Post-Civil Rights Era*; *Racism without Racist*; *White Out: The Continuing Significance of Racism* (with Ashley w. Doane); *White*

*Logic, White Methods* (with Tukufu Zuberi); and forthcoming *Anything but Racism: How Social Scientists Minimize the Significance of Race*.

Eduardo does not hide behind the canons of science once his well-theorized, empirical story is told, instead he often goes on and into the public eye to preach it. In this sense, he has become a public intellectual, doing his own kind of public sociology—beyond trying to understand the world, he is trying to change it. For almost his entire career, sociology’s annual meetings—national or regional—have become venues for Eduardo to challenge our discipline. For Eduardo, advancing knowledge is never enough. Here again, phrases from the titles of his talks are informative: “The Invisible Weight of Whiteness”; “When Whites LOVE a Black Leader: Race Matters in Obamerica”; and “Was Blind but Now I See!” There is a passion to his work.

Eduardo has not been afraid of getting outside of sociology to spread the word, to argue for the importance to his work. A wonderful title in this vein occurred when Eduardo was at Texas A&M, “Aggieland” as it is known in Texas and on campus. In an attempt to facilitate racial and ethnic diversity on the campus, Robert Gates, then-president, proposed a new admission policy. Finding it seriously flawed, Eduardo wrote a piece titled “Aggieland or Crackerland

Eduardo has become an almost heroic figure to graduate students and young faculty colleagues. Every letter supporting his nomination for the CJF Award cites his tireless work on behalf of students of color. He has become an important bridge for students moving from undergraduate to graduate studies. As one letter says, “He has engulfed my family as if it were his own.” He understands well the risk of living at the edge of larger social systems. It is there, in particular, that he has helped to bring students of color in; to make them feel that they have an important, legitimate voice; that they are not simply to be tolerated but to be embraced. As a former student, now assistant professor, says in his letter: “The example he sets with his voracious intellectual appetite and

tireless work ethic, pushes me every day to be a better scholar, mentor, and teacher who seeks to engage the Ivory Tower and the Public at Large in . . . debates around inequality.”

Eduardo has urged us to see that no matter how it is papered over, whether with words or deeds, racism continues to exist. The evolution of our social norms has often masked how something like racism persists, reproducing inequalities in forms old and new. Eduardo has made it his job to keep poking and probing to find these inequities and shine a light on them, including in the academy, even in sociology itself!

As one of his nominating letters says, “I hope that you see in him, as I do, the embodiment of the dreams of those whose names are upon this award.” Indeed, we do.

**Barbara Risman**

*Public Understanding of Sociology Award*

This year, we honor Barbara Risman (Professor and Head, Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois-Chicago,



Barbara Risman

former President of Sociologists for Women and Society, and Executive Officer and Board Member of Council of Contemporary Families) as the recipient of the 2011 Public Understanding of Sociology Award.

For the past 20 years, Risman has been contributing in a thoughtful, provocative and insightful way to the public understanding of sociology not only generally (i.e., “as a consistent advocate” for expanding sociology’s role and influence), but also specifically as a contributor in her own right to the public understanding of sociology in the areas of gender, marriage, and family.

Through research, meticulously designed and thoughtfully carried out, with considerable attention paid to methods that enhance her credibility as a researcher who can be counted on for providing accurate general information. Her research reveals her dogged deter-

*Continued on next page*

## Awards

from Page 13

mination to approach the substantive issues confronting American families in a non-partisan manner. Risman has come to be recognized as sociologist with an impressive research record.

Risman's sociological approach to research on the subject of gender inequities has been both from the standpoint of treating gender as a "visible" structure to be observed in the myriad ways we interact and live together and also from the standpoint of conceptualizing gender as learned in the sense that "we choose to reproduce gender." It thereby expresses a certain continuity with the past and a present-centered awareness of current sociological questions.

Perhaps then it may be said that, in a not-so-subtle way (i.e., through research, report writing, and essays grounded upon facts and reasoning), Risman has been working hard to steer sociological thought away from marriage and family in the traditional sense toward thinking of marriages and families as they are in the many different ways they reveal themselves. Risman also reminds us of the reality of "family diversity" and of the fact that the historical institution of the American family has long been, and still is, going through a process of change.

In that sense, her scholarly focus on feminist issues, as well as her leadership as Executive Officer of the Council on Contemporary Families, demonstrated her ability to both empirically study the causes and consequences of those changes, and to develop pragmatic strategies to advance social justice and freedom for families.

Risman's "tireless effort" to bring our work in the social sciences generally, and of sociology in particular, to the attention of the press, the general public and, more recently policy makers, is to be commended.

Risman's commitment to the development of a sociology of gender, sexuality, marriage, and family that is inclusive and, thereby, responsive to the "fears" and concerns that such changes have evoked makes her work understandable to diverse audiences.

Risman's work is informed by her own family's immigrant experience and religious background. She was born into a traditional Jewish family of Russian immigrants to the United States.

Yet, in so far as she is perhaps the first to acknowledge that gender inequities belong to the category of the things that "we can get beyond" as distinct from the things that we can't, her work makes her colleague's work so much easier to understand as it shows what we can accomplish together by a concerted effort and within the limits of a scientific perspective.

In this context, Barbara Risman is to be recognized for her individual achievements, her service, and the leadership that she has shown on many different fronts.

In the words of Maxine Atkinson, "As a board member of the Council on Contemporary Families, I have seen her most intensive work on public understanding through that organization."

Barbara has been a significant spokesperson for the organization (as well as for her research that's been presented to the organization). Meanwhile, she has helped to build our media program to be perhaps the most cost-effective media program a non-profit think-tank could hope to have. This captures some of the scope and value of her contribution. She has built an organization that will far outlast her own

Time to help the public better understand sociology and other social sciences.

### Verta Taylor

Jessie Bernard Award

Taylor's career is characterized by courageous and innovative scholarship, innovative teaching, and

selfless mentoring that is evident throughout the field today. One of Taylor's major contributions has been bringing gender into social movement studies and in connecting gender and sexuality studies. She did this, not just through her work on the women's movement (*Survival in the Doldrums*), but



Verta Taylor

also through a study of a movement by women that didn't look like a stereotypical women's movement. *Rock-a-by Baby: Feminism, Self-Help, and Postpartum Depression*, her archival, observational, and interview study of women who mobilized around feeling that their postpartum depression was misunderstood and ignored, forced both the field of social movements and gender scholars to rethink some of their assumptions. It didn't fit many gender scholars' assumptions. The social movements literature took note had previously ignored most movements of women, instead focusing on movements directed against the state (this one wasn't) and, for decades, ignored the role of emotions in favor of "cooler" concepts such as resources, interests, and "political opportunity structures." In this movement, expressing anger at doctors was key. The book also made contributions to the sociology of culture and sociology of emotions.

Her most recent book, *Drag Queens at the 801 Cabaret*, winner of the Sex and Gender Sections distinguished publication award in 2005, is about female impersonators. It is a qualitative study of their performances and off-stage life. In an innovation, she used focus groups of mainly heterosexual, conventional, non-cross-dressing audience members from the performances to see how the transgressive aspects of the performances affected their thinking about gender. Her current project is on the social movement for gay marriage rights. Throughout her extraordinarily productive career, Taylor has brought an open mind and fresh perspectives to everything she has studied. She has mainstreamed gender into the field of social movements and brought more thinking about social movements and sexuality to the sociology of gender.

As an educator and mentor on gender issues, Taylor is also impressive. She has won many teaching awards at both Ohio State University and University of California-Santa Barbara. She is also the co-editor of *Feminist Frontiers*, one of the best-selling

anthologies for introductory Women's Studies or Sociology of Gender courses, which is about to come out in its 8th edition. Through this important book, she has influenced generations of undergraduates.

Taylor is also an indefatigable mentor of graduate students, often publishing with students and helping them navigate the job market. Her efforts did not go unnoticed—she was awarded the 1995 SWS mentoring award. Today, many of her students are successful academics continuing to contribute to gender studies.

### Alice Goffman

Dissertation Award

The ASA Dissertation Award honors the best PhD dissertation for a calendar year from among those submitted by advisors and mentors. The winner of this year's award is Alice Goffman, an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Mitchell Duneier served as her dissertation advisor with Viviana Zelizer, Paul Dimaggio, Devah Pager, and Cornel West.

Drawing on intensive fieldwork with unemployed young men in Philadelphia, Goffman's thesis gives us a view of mass incarceration from the ground. It is a close-up account of the profound impact that the prison boom and the war on drugs are having on everyday life in the American ghetto.

Goffman's thesis focuses on a group of loosely connected young men who spend their days enmeshed in one aspect of the criminal justice system or another: entangled in court cases, probation and parole sentences, living in halfway houses and on house arrest. They frequently have low level warrants out for their arrest, mostly for technical violations of their probation or parole, for failure to show up to court, or for unpaid fines. The thesis first describes the sophisticated tracking techniques that a growing number of special police units now deploy to make their arrest quotas. Then it takes the reader into the world of young men living with a liminal legal status, in their words,

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## The ASA Seeks Applicants for Postdoctoral Fellowships

The American Sociological Association invites applications for six (6) two-year Postdoctoral Fellowships. These awards are intended for scholars interested in working on understanding the origins of the current economic crisis and/or the crisis's social impacts on such areas as race and gender relations, employment, housing, education, health, culture, migration, and politics. In addition, research can focus on the social impacts of government and private efforts to address and regulate the crisis, including the sociology of finance and markets, organizational theory, and the sociology of law.

Funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), this program will fund one Postdoctoral Fellow for a period of two years, beginning in August/September 2012, in the sociology department at EACH of the following major research universities: Cornell University, Harvard

University, Princeton University, Stanford University, the University of California-Berkeley, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In some cases university rules require that initial appointments are for one year, renewable based on satisfactory performance.

Each of the Fellowships will provide a supportive research environment and an opportunity for collegial interaction with scholars in the Fellow's host university and with program participants in the other participating universities. The six Fellowships will be offered pending final budgetary approval from NSF in 2012.


The Fellowship Program seeks to recruit new or recent PhDs who are looking to strengthen research skills in economic sociology and better understand comparative economic institutions and processes. Applicants need not have done prior research on the current economic crisis. Stipend: \$45,000 annually plus benefits. Successful

candidates will be assigned to one of the six research universities in consultation with the sociology faculty of those universities.

To be eligible, candidates must have received the PhD in sociology on or after May 1, 2010, or affirm that they will complete all PhD requirements, including the dissertation defense, by August 1, 2012. Completion by this date is a strict requirement for beginning the position. All Postdoctoral Fellows will be required to teach one seminar or limited-enrollment undergraduate course related to their research during their Fellowship period (typically in the first year of the Fellowship) and will also be expected to participate regularly in seminars or workshops of the department and/or program with which they are affiliated.

Postmark deadline for the application is December 19, 2011. Application forms may be found at [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) under "Funding". In addition to a CV,

official graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation, applicants will submit a personal statement (up to 10 double-spaced pages) that includes 1) why they are interested in the Fellowship Program; 2) how their research experience fits the goals of the program; and 3) a description of their research agenda for the near future. Applicants will submit one writing sample (i.e. a single-authored published article or a dissertation chapter, maximum of 50 pages). ASA and the six universities welcome applications from all who are qualified from a wide range of PhD programs and strongly encourages sociologists from under-represented populations, including women, racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities, to apply for the Fellowship.

Per NSF guidelines, all applicants are required to be a U.S. citizen or a legal U.S. permanent resident. 

### Awards

from Page 14

"on the run." Goffman explains how boys learn to successfully spot and hide from undercover police; how they come to see their mothers' homes as last-known addresses, and their closest kin as potential informants. By the time they reach adulthood, young men recognize that the activities and relations that should help them constitute a respectable, law-abiding identity—going to work, attending the birth of a child, or maintaining a stable and public daily routine—function instead as a net of entrapment. Staying out of jail requires secrecy and unpredictability—strategies deeply at odds with any effort to be responsible fathers, spouses, or workers.

After bringing the reader deep into the lives of young men "dipping and dodging" the police, the thesis switches gears, taking on the perspective of these young men's mothers, girlfriends, and neigh-


bors. Through first-hand accounts of early morning raids and lengthy interrogations, Goffman documents the sustained pressure the police place on female family members to inform. As the police destroy their homes and threaten to take their children away, women are forced to choose between their own security and their partner or son's freedom. In painful detail we learn how familial and romantic relationships unravel in suspicion and betrayal.

Yet for all this, Goffman's thesis never depicts these men and women as hapless victims, immobilized in webs of control. Some of the most interesting parts of the dissertation involve the creative ways that residents use the police and the courts for their own purposes, in ways the authorities never intended. For young men with few employment prospects, warrants become a ready excuse for failures in the labor market. The bail office becomes an alterna-

tive banking system, and even jail occasionally serves as a safe haven when the streets become too dangerous. In anger and frustration, women harness the threat of the police to control and punish the men in their lives. They also organize meaningful routines around court dates, bail payments, and jail visiting hours. An entire branch of the informal economy has developed to supply the goods and services that legally compromised people seek to evade the authorities, including clean urine and fake documents.

In the penultimate chapter Goffman shows how the threat of prison has come to permeate the social fabric of the community, creating a moral framework through which residents carve out their identities, negotiate right from wrong, and demonstrate their attachment to one another. Her dissertation ends with the assertion that the collective effect of imposing a

legally precarious status on large numbers of young men results in far more going to prison, returning home as convicts, and ultimately, amounts to a denial of basic citizenship rights for a large segment of the country's African American poor. Goffman makes a convincing case that the systems of policing and surveillance currently deployed in American ghettos are not producing the disciplined subjects one might expect in some prison-like panopticon, but rather a community of suspects and fugitives who are living underground, in fear of capture and confinement.

This year's thesis is not only a major contribution to the study of U.S. poverty and racial inequality, but a landmark contribution to urban ethnography. It should serve to inspire another generation of sociologists to see the value of long-range, respectful, and observant participation in everyday life. 

## announcements

## Call for Papers

## Publications

The *Global Social Justice Journal* invites the submission of original research articles for publication. The *Global Social Justice Journal* disseminates peer-reviewed research on all aspects of global social justice including issues of economic globalization, human rights, indigenous peoples, the environment, education, gender, class, poverty, inequality, and race. The journal welcomes the submission of articles analyzing the social impacts of markets and governments from normative or marginalized perspectives and specifically those originating in the global south, as well as the submission of articles that shed light on an otherwise neglected aspect of global social justice or that analyze alternative forms of social and political organization to the present structuring of globalization. The *Global Social Justice Journal* has a commitment to the open access model of research dissemination and provides free public access to its articles. Contact: jan\_hancock@cbu.ca. For more information, visit <globalsocialjusticejournal.org>.

The *International Review of Modern Sociology* (IRMS) and the *International Journal of Sociology of the Family* (IJSF) welcome research papers, essays, research notes, and book reviews for 2012 issues. Contact: kukreja@pugetsound.edu. For details and submission guideline, visit <www2.ups.edu/faculty/kukreja/journals.htm>.

**Righting Wrongs: A Journal of Human Rights.** The Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies at Webster University is currently soliciting undergraduate research papers and book reviews for possible publication in the 2011/2012 issue of *Righting Wrongs: A Journal of Human Rights*. *Righting Wrongs* is a peer-reviewed academic journal that provides space for students to explore human rights issues, challenge current actions and frameworks, and engage in problem solving aimed at tackling some of the world's most pressing issues. Submissions are accepted from undergraduate students at universities around the world; papers must be written in English. Research papers should include a full paper, bibliography, a 100-word abstract, and a brief author(s) biography. Also, papers must be formatted according to APA style. Deadline: January 9, 2012. E-mail your submission as a Word attachment to humanrights@webster.edu. For more information, visit <www.webster.edu/rightingwrongs>.

**Sociological Studies of Children and Youth** announces a special issue, "Youth Engagement: The Civic-Political Lives of Children and Youth." Completed papers focused on children and youth's civic and political engagement, broadly conceived, are welcome. Dead-

line: January 20, 2012. Contact: Sandi Nenga, SU Box 7421, Southwestern University, 1001 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78626; nengas@southwestern.edu.

## Meetings

**2013 Organization of American Historians (OAH) Annual Meeting.** April 11-14, 2013, San Francisco, CA. Theme: "Entangled Histories: Connections, Crossings, and Constraints in U.S. History." Session or single paper proposals for the 2013 OAH Annual Meeting are welcome. For more information, visit <meetings.oah.org>.

**ISA Thematic Group on Institutional Ethnography.** August 1-4, 2012, Buenos Aires, Argentina. For more information, visit <www.isa-sociology.org/tg06.htm>.

**Justice Studies Association (JSA) 14th Annual Conference.** May 30-June 1, 2012, Loyola University Chicago - Lake Shore Campus. Theme: "Justice and Work." We seek presentations that relate matters of work not only to quality of life generally but also to how individuals choose to live justly. Presenters might also wish to address topics related to peacemaking, restorative justice, and nonviolent conflict resolution. The association puts great emphasis on the full participation of all at its conferences so presenters are encouraged to be brief. All sessions are plenary. You may submit an abstract for a scholarly paper or propose an entire panel session. JSA also encourages more creative modes of presentation including, but not limited to, video, photography, song, and interactive sessions. Send title and abstract to Dan Okada at <dokada@csus.edu>. Deadline: March 1, 2012.

**Living Together "in" Diversity. National Societies in the Multicultural Age.** May 21-22, 2012, Central European University, Budapest. The aim of the conference is to explore how living together in diversity is imagined, narrated, organized, justified, and practiced within contemporary national societies. With the stress on "in" rather than with diversity we want to move away from reifying the dominant majority society perspective. We particularly welcome empirically informed work. The privileged level of analysis we are interested in is the national scale, but papers focusing on sub-national and supra-national scales can also be welcomed inasmuch as they can offer insights regarding how living together in diversity works at the national scale. Regionally, the conference will focus on Europe, but contributions discussing other geographical contexts are also welcomed. Deadline: December 31, 2011. Contact: Marco Antonsich, Central European University, +36-1-327-3017; fax +36-1-327-3243; AntonsichM@ceu.hu; or Tatiana Matejskova, Central European

University, +36-1-327-3000/2327; fax +36-1-328-3501; MatejskovaT@ceu.hu.

**Minorities in Islam/Muslims as Minorities.** October 19-20, 2012, Wake Forest University. Conference organized by the Middle East and South Asia Studies Program. Abstracts deadline: December 20, 2011. For more information, visit <www.wfu.edu/politics/MESAminor>.

**RC 31 Sociology of Migration Session N.** August 1-4, 2012, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Theme: "Migrating Out of the Home and Into the Gendered and Racialized Globalized Market of Household Labor." This panel examines the racialized globalized market that reproduces traditional gendered labor, particularly in informal economic service sectors. The panel also examines the type of collective strategies used to change working conditions, gain social justice, and erode these women's vulnerable position in the labor market. Deadline: December 15, 2011. For more information, visit <www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/rc/rc.php?n=RC31>.

## Meetings

**January 8-10, 2012.** *Applied Demography Conference*, San Antonio, TX. For more information, visit <idser.utsa.edu/ADC/2012>.

**February 23-26, 2012.** *Eastern Sociological Society 2012 Annual Meeting*, Millennium Broadway Hotel, New York, NY. Theme: "Storied Lives: Culture, Structure, and Narrative." For more information, visit <essnet.org>.

**March 29-April 1, 2012.** *Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) Annual Meeting*, Minneapolis, MN. Theme: "Sociological Understandings of the Global Transformation." Contact: Linda Lindsey and Priya Dua at mss2012@maryville.edu; <www.theMSS.org>.

**April 11-14, 2013.** *2013 Organization of American Historians (OAH) Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA. Theme: "Entangled Histories: Connections, Crossings, and Constraints in U.S. History." For more information, visit <meetings.oah.org>.

**May 21-22, 2012.** *Living Together "in" Diversity. National Societies in the Multicultural Age*, Central European University, Budapest. Contact: Marco Antonsich, Central European University, +36-1-327-3017; fax +36-1-327-3243; AntonsichM@ceu.hu; or Tatiana Matejskova, Central European University, +36-1-327-3000/2327; fax +36-1-328-3501; MatejskovaT@ceu.hu.

**May 30-June 1, 2012.** *Justice Studies Association (JSA) 14th Annual Conference*, Loyola University Chicago - Lake Shore Campus. Theme: "Justice and Work." Contact: Dan Okada at <dokada@csus.edu>.

**August 1-4, 2012.** *ISA Thematic Group on Institutional Ethnography*, Buenos

Aires, Argentina. For more information, visit <www.isa-sociology.org/tg06.htm>.

**August 1-4, 2012.** *RC 31 Sociology of Migration Session N*, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Theme: "Migrating Out of the Home and into the Gendered and Racialized Globalized Market of Household Labor." For more information, visit <www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/rc/rc.php?n=RC31>.

**October 19-20, 2012.** *Minorities in Islam/Muslims as Minorities*, Wake Forest University. For more information, visit <www.wfu.edu/politics/MESAminor>.

## Funding

The **National Institutes of Health Director's Transformative Research Award** program allows investigators to pursue unconventional ideas and sidestep stumbling blocks they often face when applying for funding for high-risk research, such as the need for preliminary data or a restriction on the amount of funds that can be requested. Awards may be up to \$25 million total costs per year for five years for a single project. Awards are open to all investigators at any career stage and multiple principal investigator and "team science" applications encouraged. Projects in basic, clinical, translational, or behavioral science allowed. Preliminary data not required. Deadline: January 12, 2012. Letters of intent to apply should be submitted by December 12, 2011. See the instructions in the Funding Opportunity Announcement RFA-RM-11-006. Contact: Transformative\_Awards@mail.nih.gov. For more information, visit <commonfund.nih.gov/tra>.

## Fellowships

**Andrew W. Mellon Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship.** "The Age of Emancipation: Black Freedom in the Atlantic World" John E. Sawyer Seminar. The Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities will host a year-long interdisciplinary Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar during the 2012/2013 academic year. We invite applications for the Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship from scholars in all disciplines. Applicant's PhD must have been awarded between December 30, 2006, and December 30, 2011. The seminar meets weekly and will allow the Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow ample time to pursue a major research project. The Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow is provided with an office within the Center's building. The fellowship pays a stipend of \$50,000 and provides a research fund of \$3,000 for the academic year in residence. The fellowship also provides up to \$1,500 in moving expenses. Deadline: January 16, 2012. For more information, visit <www.vanderbilt.edu/rpw\_center/visitingfellowship.php>.

announcements

**American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)** offers fellowships in five programmatic areas: Congressional; Diplomacy, Security & Development; Energy, Environment & Agriculture; Health, Education & Human Services; and Roger Revelle Fellowship in Global Stewardship. AAAS seeks candidates from a broad array of backgrounds and a diversity of geographic, disciplinary, gender, and ethnic perspectives as well as disability status. Fellows have ranged in age from late 20s to early 70s and represent a spectrum of career stages. Fellows also come from a range of sectors, including academia, industry, non-profit organizations, and government labs. Deadline: December 5, 2011. For more information, visit <fellowships.aaas.org/index.shtml>.

**American Bar Foundation (ABF) Doctoral Fellowship Program in Law and Social Science.** The American Bar Foundation is committed to developing the next generation of scholars in the field of law and social science. The purpose of the fellowships is to encourage original and significant research on law, the legal profession, and legal institutions. Applications are invited from outstanding students who are candidates for PhD degrees in the social sciences. Applicants must have completed all doctoral requirements except the dissertation by September 1, 2012. Applicants who will have completed the dissertation prior to September 1, 2012 are also welcome to apply. Doctoral and proposed research must be in the general area of sociological studies or in social scientific approaches to law, the legal profession, or legal institutions. Fellows receive a stipend of \$27,000 for 12 months. Fellowships are awarded for 12 months, beginning September 1, 2012 and are held in residence at the American Bar Foundation in Chicago. Deadline: December 15, 2011. Contact: Kathryn Harris, (312) 988-6515; kharris@abfn.org; <www.americanbarfoundation.org>.

**The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)** 2011-12 fellowship competitions are now open. ACLS awarded nearly \$15 million in research support to over 350 scholars worldwide during the past year. The majority of competition deadlines are in the early fall. You will find the most up-to-date and comprehensive information on all our programs on the ACLS website at <www.acls.org/programs/comps>.

**Law and Social Science Dissertation Fellowship and Mentoring Program.** The Law and Society Association, in collaboration with the American Bar Foundation and the National Science Foundation, seeks applications for the Law and Social Science Dissertation Fellowship and Mentoring Program (LSS Fellowship). Fellowships are held in residence at the American Bar Foundation in Chicago, IL, where Fel-

lows are expected to participate in the intellectual life of the ABF, including participation in a weekly seminar series. LSS Fellows will receive a stipend of \$27,000 per year beginning fall 2012 and will attend LSA annual meetings in both years of the fellowship and the Graduate Student Workshop in the first year of the fellowship. Third-, fourth-, and fifth-year graduate students who specialize in the field of law and social science and whose research interests include law and inequality are invited to apply. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply. Deadline: December 1, 2011. Contact: Mary McClintock at LSA, mcclintock@lawandsociety.org or Laura Beth Nielsen at the ABF, lnelsen@abfn.org. For more information, visit <www.lawandsociety.org>.

**Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships in the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences 2012-2014.** The School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania invites applicants for four two-year postdoctoral teaching fellowships in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. Fellows will teach one course per term. Eligibility is limited to applicants who will have received their PhD within two years prior to the time they begin their fellowship. \$49,440 stipend. Deadline: November 30, 2011. For more information visit <www.sas.upenn.edu/deans-office/Mellon>.

**Rutgers University's School of Management and Labor Relations** offers fellowships for the 2012-2013 academic year to study of employee stock ownership, profit sharing, broad-based stock options, and broadened ownership of capital and economic democracy in the corporation/society. There are 10-15 \$25,000 and \$12,500 fellowships available to doctoral candidates, recent PhD graduates, and pre- and post-tenure scholars in the social sciences. Fellows may be in residence at their own university or visit Rutgers. Deadline: January 31, 2012. Contact: Joseph Blasi at blasi@smlr.rutgers.edu. For more information, visit <smlr.rutgers.edu/research-and-centers/fellowship-programs>.

**Samuel DuBois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship.** The Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in the Social Sciences (REGSS), an affiliate of the Social Science Research Institute at Duke University, announces the establishment of the Samuel DuBois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship. Cook, a political scientist, was the first black tenured professor at Duke University. REGSS seeks to provide a context where scholars interested in examining the constructs of race, ethnicity, and gender from an interdisciplinary perspective can engage each other in dialogue and collaboration. Scholars interested in the study of race, ethnicity, and the intersection of gender with race and ethnicity are invited to apply

for this one-year fellowship. Individuals working in the field of comparative race are also encouraged to apply. Postdoctoral fellows teach one course during the year, present their research at one of the center's monthly research colloquia, and devote the rest of their time to research and writing. Any social science discipline is welcome. Stipend: \$40,000 per fellowship period. Health benefits are available. Some funds are available for research expenses, including conference travel. Fellowship period: August 1, 2012 - May 15, 2013. Deadline: January 16, 2012. Contact: Paula D. McClain at pmcclain@duke.edu or Kerry L. Haynie at klhaynie@duke.edu; (919) 681-2702; <regss.srri.duke.edu>.

**Competitions**

**The Jane Addams Award.** The Jane Addams Award (formerly the Park Article Award) goes to the author(s) of the best scholarly article in community and urban sociology published in the past two years. Nominations are being sought for articles that appeared in 2010 or 2011. Nominations should include standard bibliographic information about the work and a brief comment on its merits. Self-nominations are welcome. Deadline: March 1, 2012. Contact: Alice Goffman at agoffman@ssc.wisc.edu.

**Community and Urban Sociology Section (CUSS) Student Paper Award.** The CUSS Student Paper Award goes to the best graduate student paper in community and urban sociology. The competition is open to published and unpublished article-length papers written by a graduate student in the last two years. No student-faculty collaborations will be accepted. The Committee will select the paper that demonstrates the most thoughtful, competent or innovative analysis of a theoretical or empirical issue that is germane to the section's main interests. Deadline: March 1, 2012. Contact: Michael Bader at bader@american.edu.

**Leonard I. Pearlin Award for Distinguished Contributions.** The ASA Sociology of Mental Health Section solicits nominations for the Leonard I. Pearlin Award for distinguished contributions to the sociological study of mental health. The award honors a scholar who has made substantial contributions in theory and/or research to the sociology of mental health. Mental Health Section members are encouraged to submit nominations. Self-nominations are welcome. Deadline: November 15, 2011. Contact: Elaine Wethington, Department of Human Development, MVR Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853; ew20@cornell.edu.

**Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) Student Paper Competition.** The Midwest Sociological Society's 2012 Student Paper Competition is open to

all students who are members of MSS. Graduate and undergraduate papers are judged in separate divisions with three prizes in each division. Deadline: January 9, 2012. For more information, visit <www.TheMSS.org>.

**North Central Sociological Association Student Paper Competition 2012.** Winners may have their papers published in *Sociological Focus*. There will be two divisional awards: graduate and undergraduate. The competition is open to all students at 2-year and 4-year colleges, universities, and community colleges. Papers with multiple authors will be considered provided that all authors are students in the same division category. Deadline: January 6, 2012. Contact: Carolette Norwood at Carolette.Norwood@uc.edu, subject line: NCSA Student Paper Competition.

**The Population Association of America (PAA) 2012 Awards.** *Clifford C. Clogg Award:* This award recognizes mid-career achievement in population studies and demography, broadly defined. It honors outstanding innovative scholarly achievements of a population professional who has attained his or her highest professional degree within the previous 10 to 20 years. *Dorothy S. Thomas Award:* This award is presented annually for the best graduate student paper on the interrelationships among social, economic, and demographic variables. *Mindel Sheps Award:* This award recognizes scholars for their outstanding contributions to mathematical demography, demographic methodology, and the modeling and analysis of population data. *Early Achievement Award:* This award recognizes the contributions of PAA members who have made distinguished contributions to population research during the first 10 years after receipt of the PhD. Deadline: December 31, 2011. For more information, visit <www.populationassociation.org>.

**The Robert and Helen Lynd Award** recognizes distinguished career achievements in community and urban sociology. Nominators should send a letter stating the case for the nominee winning the award and a copy of the nominee's vitae. Although the award is for a body of work of sociological importance, neither the nominator nor the nominee need be members of the Community and Urban Sociology Section or of the ASA. Deadline: March 1, 2012. Contact: John Logan at john\_logan@brown.edu. For more information, visit <www.commur.org/Lynd\_Award\_Contacts.htm>.

**The Robert E. Park Award for Best Book.** The Park Award goes to the author(s) of the best book published in the past two years. Nominations are now being sought for books that appeared in 2010 or 2011. Nominations should include standard bibliographic information about the work, a brief

## announcements

comment on its merits, and copies of the book. Deadline: March 1, 2012. Contact: Robert Garot, John Jay College/CUNY, 736 Ayres Ave., North Plain-ledge, NJ 07063; rgarot@jjay.cuny.edu.

**The Social Psychology Section Graduate Student Paper Award.** Eligible papers are those that from March 2011-February 2012, were: submitted for a class or seminar; filed as a thesis or dissertation; presented at a professional meeting; submitted or accepted for publication; pre-published on a journal website; or published. Authors must be graduate students at the time of submission. Authors may only submit one paper for consideration each year. Multi-authored papers may be submitted if all authors are students. The recipient(s) will receive financial support to attend the ASA meetings in August. Deadline: March 1, 2012. Contact: Jill Kiecolt, at kiecolt@vt.edu.

**Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) Undergraduate Social Action Award.** The Undergraduate Social Activism Award is given annually to recognize a student or team of students making a substantial contribution to improving the lives of women in society through activism. SWS recognizes work done in this spirit regardless of applicant gender identity. Up to three awards are given each year. Candidates must be nominated by an SWS member. The work for which the candidate is nominated must have been undertaken as an undergraduate. Nominations are acceptable for candidates up to one year after they complete their BA. A recipient may be honored for a collection of ongoing activism for women or for a substantial single action that has affected positively the lives of women. Deadline for Submission: December 9, 2011. Contact: Jeanne Flavin at jflavin@fordham.edu. For more information, visit <www.socwomen.org>.

## In the News

**Rene Almeling**, Yale University, was the subject of a September 20 Q&A interview in *The Huffington Post* about her research for her book, *Sex Cells: The Medical Market for Eggs and Sperm*.

The *American Sociological Review* was mentioned in a September 17 *Huffington Post* article about divorce.

The *American Sociological Review* was mentioned in a September 26 *Guardian* article, "Why the New Atheism Is a Boys' Club."

**Cynthia Anderson** and **Christine Mattley**, both at Ohio University, were quoted in an August 23 *Inside Higher Ed* article, "Parity in STEM Faculty."

**Wendell Bell**, Yale University, was quoted in a September 6 Mainichi Newspapers article on how the United States has changed since the 9/11 attacks. He emphasized tendencies toward the total surveillance society,

the rhetoric of evil, the demonization of others, and restrictions on freedom and justice.

**Philip N. Cohen**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was quoted in an October 8 *National Journal* article about the importance of married parents in order to provide economic and social support.

**Stephanie Coontz**, Evergreen State College, **Lawrence Gaong**, University of Missouri, and **Naomi Gerstel**, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, were quoted in a September 20 *New York Times* article, "In a Married World, Singles Struggle for Attention."

**Marci Cottingham**, University of Akron, was quoted in an October 4 ABCNews.com article about her study, which found that the gender of people's eating companions influences how much they eat. The article also quoted **Alex McIntosh**, Texas A&M University.

**Ilana Demantas**, University of Kansas, and **Kristen Myers**, Northern Illinois University, were quoted in an August 23 MSNBC.com article about their study, which found shifting domestic roles for men who lost jobs in the current recession. The study was also the subject of articles in a number of media outlets including the *Chicago Sun-Times* on August 19, *U.S. News and World Report* and ABCNews.com on August 23, *USA Today* on August 27, and a variety of others.

**Charles A. Gallagher**, La Salle University, was interviewed by a number of media outlets on racial inequities in the labor market, racial discrimination, or the perceptions by whites that the race no longer shapes life chances. The media outlets include Fox News 29 in Philadelphia on May 19 and June 19, MSNBC.com on May 23 and August 29, *The Automotive News* on June 1, *El Pais de Espana* on August 23, WCHB Radio One in Detroit on August 30, the *Galveston Daily News* on September 4, and *The Catholic Review* on September 18.

**Roberto Gonzales**, University of Chicago, had his *American Sociological Review* study mentioned in a September 23 *Dallas Morning News* editorial, "Young Lives Are Shaped by Fear and Vigilance."

**Brian J. Grim**, Pew Research Center, and **Roger Finke**, Pennsylvania State University, were mentioned in a September 10 *Miller-McCune* article, "Myth of the Modern Religious War."

**Jessica Halliday Hardie**, Pennsylvania State University, was quoted in an August 21 Yahoo!News article about her study, which found that mothers' poor health impairs their children's well-being, beyond genetics. The study, which she coauthored with **Nancy S. Landale**, Pennsylvania State University, was also the subject of articles in a number of media outlets including *Newsday* and *U.S. News and World*

*Report* on August 21, and *The Times of India* and the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* on August 22.

**Paul Hirschfield**, Rutgers University, was quoted in an August 21 *Washington Post* article about the rise of police-issued court citations in response to school misconduct.

**Thomas R. Hochschild Jr.**, Valdosta State University, was quoted in a September 15 *Florida Times-Union* article about facial appearance research that he conducted with **Casey Borch**, University of Alabama-Birmingham.

**Hayward Derrick Horton**, SUNY-Albany, spoke on racial differences in the perception of racial inequality in the Obama era on the radio program, "Issues Concerning Women," on Blogtalkradio.com/icw on July 28.

The *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* was mentioned in a September 27 *Christian Post* article, "Divorce Could Cause Hair Loss for Women, Study Says."

**Charles Kurzman**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was quoted by CNN, Fox News, *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and other media outlets about his recent report on Muslim-American terrorism and his book, *The Missing Martyrs: Why There Are so Few Muslim Terrorists*.

**Katrina Leupp**, University of Washington, was quoted or mentioned in a number of articles about her study on supermoms, which was presented at the 2011 ASA Annual Meeting. Media outlets that published articles on her study include the *Los Angeles Times*, *U.S. News and World Report*, MSNBC.com, CNN.com, Reuters.com, and Yahoo!News on August 20, *The Globe and Mail* on August 21, the *Toronto Sun*, *The Huffington Post*, FoxNews.com, and *The Boston Globe* on August 22, *The Wall Street Journal* on August 30, the *Washington Post* on September 26, and a variety of others.

**Maria R. Lowe**, **Reginald A. Byron**, **Griffin Ferry**, and **Melissa J. Garcia**, Southwestern University, were mentioned in an August 23 *Inside Higher Ed* article about their research, which explores what happens when college students of different races and ethnicities eat together in the dining hall.

**Bill McCarthy** and **Teresa Casey**, both of University of California-Davis, were mentioned in an August 22 United Press International article about their study, which found that happier adolescents are less likely to be involved in crime or drug use. Their study was also the subject of articles in a number of other media outlets including the *Indian Express*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and Yahoo!News on August 22.

**David S. Meyer**, University of California-Irvine, wrote an op-ed that appeared in the August 14 *Washington Post* on why the riots in the United Kingdom have not occurred in the United States.

**Ann L. Mullen**, University of Toronto, was quoted and **Jayne Baker**, University of Toronto, was mentioned in an August 22 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article about their study, which found that the culture of some colleges may foster gender segregation by major. The article also quoted **Maria Charles**, University of California-Santa Barbara.

**Ann L. Mullen** and **Katie Stuart**, both of University of Toronto, and **Kimberly A. Goyette**, Temple University, were mentioned in an August 22 *Inside Higher Ed* article, "Who Applies (and Gets In)."

**Alondra Nelson**, Columbia University, was quoted in an August 25 *Scientific American* article about racial disparities in NIH grant funding.

**Andrew J. Perrin**, **Neal Caren**, and **Sally Morris**, all of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and **Steven J. Tepper**, Vanderbilt University, were mentioned in an August 22 *Talking Points Memo* article about their study, which revealed cultural characteristics of the Tea Party movement. The study was also mentioned in articles in a number of media outlets including the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Las Vegas Sun*, and the *Epoch Times* on August 22, *The Plain Dealer* on August 27, and a variety of others.

**Corinne Reczek**, University of Cincinnati, was quoted in an August 23 MSNBC.com article about her study, which found that straight people in marriages and gay people in long-term, intimate cohabitation relationships may pick up unhealthy habits from their partners. The study was also the subject of articles in a number of media outlets including United Press International on August 19, the *Daily Mirror* and the *Daily Mail* on August 20, and a variety of others.

**Craig Reinerman**, University of California-Santa Cruz, was quoted in an October 7 *San Jose Mercury News* article about who uses medical marijuana and for what ailments.

**David Roelfs**, University of Louisville, was quoted in an August 18 MSNBC.

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announcements

com article about his *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* study, which found that single people may die younger.

**Wilbur Scott**, U.S. Air Force Academy, was quoted in a September 24 *Science News* article, "Stress Spears Deployed Service Personnel."

**Roberta Spalter-Roth** and **Janene Scelza**, American Sociological Association, and **Jerry Jacobs**, University of Pennsylvania, were mentioned in an August 20 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article and an August 22 *Inside Higher Ed* article about their research, which found that the sociology job market has improved.

**Roberta Spalter-Roth**, **Olga Mayorova**, and **Jean Shin**, all of the American Sociological Association, and **Patricia White**, National Science Foundation, were mentioned in an August 20 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article about their report, "The Impact of Cross-Race Mentoring for 'Ideal' and 'Alternative' PhD Careers in Sociology."

**Dmitry Tumin** and **Zhenchao Qian**, both of Ohio State University, were quoted in an August 22 WebMD article about their study, which found that large weight gains are most likely for men after divorce and for women after marriage. Their study was also the subject of articles in a number of other media outlets including the *Toronto Sun*, the BBC, the *Star Tribune*, the *New York Daily News*, Time.com, *The Vancouver Sun*, MSNBC.com, *The Guardian*, and ABCNews.com on August 22, *USA Today* and *The Times of India* on August 23, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* on August 25, and a variety of others.

**Ronald Weitzer**, George Washington University, wrote an op-ed, which appeared in the August 24 *Huffington Post*, titled, "Myths about Human Trafficking."

**W. Bradford Wilcox**, University of Virginia, was featured on a September 9 *Washington Post* live Q&A forum about his study, which looks at the ramifications cohabitation can have on children.

**W. Bradford Wilcox**, University of Virginia, and **Andrew J. Cherlin**, Johns Hopkins University, were quoted in an August 21 *Huffington Post* article about their study that found that less educated Americans are turning their backs on religion. **Jeremy E. Uecker**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and **Matthew Messel**, Johns Hopkins University, coauthored the study with Wilcox and Cherlin, which was also the subject of articles in a number of media outlets including MSNBC.com, Yahoo!News, and LiveScience.com on August 21, *The Christian Post* on August 22, CNN.com on August 24, the *Sun-Sentinel* and the *Orlando Sentinel* on August 26, *The Wall Street Journal* on September 2, and a variety of others.

**Lisa M. Williams**, Ohio State University, was quoted in an August 23 *Education Week* article about her study, which found that bullying victims often suffer academically, particularly high-achieving black and Latino students. The study, which she coauthored with **Anthony A. Peguero**, Virginia Tech University, was the subject of articles in a number of other media outlets including *The Huffington Post*, *Newsday*, *U.S. News and World Report*, MSNBC.com, and Yahoo!News on August 23, the *Boston Herald* on August 24, and a variety of others.

**Awards**

**Gerald Klonglan**, Iowa State University, received the Alumni Service Award from the Iowa State University Alumni Association.

**Wanda Rushing**, University of Memphis, was awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Research Award in August 2010.

**Mildred A. Schwartz**, University of Illinois-Chicago and New York University, received the 2011 Seymour Martin Lipset Best Book Award from the Canadian Politics Section of the American Political Science Association for *Party Movements in the United States and Canada*.

**Transitions**

**Esther Ngan-ling Chow**, American University, has retired and is now Professor Emerita of Sociology.

**Ingrid Arnet Connidis**, University of Western Ontario-London, will be the Visiting Chair of Gerontology at St. Thomas University-Fredericton fall 2011.

**Diane E. Davis** has been appointed Professor of Urbanism and Development in the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University beginning January 2012.

**Davita Silfen Glasberg**, University of Connecticut, was appointed Associate Dean for the Social Sciences.

**Wanda Rushing**, University of Memphis, was appointed a Dunavant University Professor in August 2011.

**People**

**Hayward Derrick Horton**, SUNY-Albany, gave a talk, "Racial Differences in the Perception of Racial Inequality in the Obama Era," on C-SPAN at the Harlem Book Fair Panel "Race in the Age of Obama" on July 23, 2011.

**Zakiya Luna**, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, was selected as the Mellon Sawyer Seminar Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Luna is also the recipient of a 2012-13 University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellowship at University of California-Berkeley.

**Akil Kokayi Khalfani**, Essex County College, launched a new talk show this

summer, of which he is the host and executive producer, called "The Pulse." The show explores the diverse experiences of people of African descent around the world using a sociological lens. It airs Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Northern New Jersey market. The first episode is available at <www.youtube.com/user/ThePulseTV1>.

**Robert O'Brien** and **James Elliott**, University of Oregon, are the new editors of *Sociological Perspectives*.

**Dennis Rome**, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, was recently chosen for his third three-year term as the director of the ASA Honors Program.

**Anthony J. Spires**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, was named a fellow in the 2011-2013 cohort of the Public Intellectuals Program supported by the National Committee on US-China Relations.

**New Books**

**Patricia A. Adler**, University of Colorado, and **Peter Adler**, University of Denver, *The Tender Cut: Inside the Hidden World of Self-Injury* (New York University Press, 2011).

**John C. Alessio**, Minnesota State University-Mankato, Ed., *Social Problems and Inequality: Social Responsibility through Progressive Sociology* (Ashgate Publishing, 2011). (Series Editor: Bonnie Berry, Director of the Social Problems Research Group)

**Robert N. Bellah**, University of California-Berkeley, *Religion in Human Evolution: From the Paleolithic to the Axial Age* (Harvard University Press, 2011).

**Esther Ngan-ling Chow**, American University, **Marcia Texler Segal**, Indiana University Southeast, and **Lin Tan**, Eds., *Analyzing Gender, Intersectionality, and Multiple Inequalities: Global, Transnational and Local Contexts* (Emerald Group Publishing, 2011).

**Diane E. Davis**, and **Nora Libertun de Duren**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Cities and Sovereignty: Identity Politics in Urban Spaces* (Indiana University Press, 2011).

**Michael G. Flaherty**, Eckerd College, *The Textures of Time: Agency and Temporal Experience* (Temple University Press, 2011).

**Michel S. Laguerre**, Berkeley Center for Globalization and Information Technology, *Network Governance of Global Religions: Jerusalem, Rome and Mecca* (Routledge, 2011).

**Olena Nikolayenko**, Fordham University, *Citizens in the Making in Post-Soviet States* (Routledge, 2011).

**Susan C. Pearce**, East Carolina University, **Elizabeth J. Clifford**, Towson University, and **Reena Tandon**, *Immigration and Women: Understanding the American Experience* (New York University Press, 2011).

**Maurice Pinard**, McGill University, *Motivational Dimensions in Social Movements and Contentious Collective Action* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011).

**Shweta Prasad**, Banaras Hindu University, Ed., *Women in India* (Viva Books Private Limited, 2011).

**Kim Scipes**, Purdue University North Central, *AFL-CIO's Secret War against Developing Country Workers: Solidarity or Sabotage?* (Lexington Books, 2010).

**Emanuel Smikun**, American Social Indicators, *Distributive Justice and Fair Exchange: How to Find and Use Social Standards* (Aminso, 2011).

**David Stark**, Columbia University, *The Sense of Dissonance: Accounts of Worth in Economic Life* (Princeton University Press, 2011).

**Mark Tausig** and **Rudy Fenwick**, both of the University of Akron, *Work and Mental Health in Social Context* (Springer, 2011).

**Summer Programs**

**Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives and Participation.** July 9-27, 2012, Ohio State University. The institute is designed to promote successful tenure/careers among faculty from underrepresented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. Each participant will complete an ongoing project in preparation for journal submission or agency funding review. The Summer Research Institute will provide living and travel expenses for the duration of the workshop that will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience. Deadline: February 10, 2012. Applicants must hold tenure-track positions in U.S. institutions and demonstrate how their participation broadens participation of underrepresented groups in crime and justice research. Contact: kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu. For more information, visit <cjrc.osu.edu/rdcj-n/summerinstitute>.

**Deaths**

**Lawrence Carter** died on October 9, 2011 from complications of multiple sclerosis. He was Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Oregon.

**Judith Richie Demerath**, wife of Jay Demerath (for 51 years) and mother of Loren Demerath, passed away September 25, 2011.

**Howard B. Kaplan**, a Regents Professor, a Distinguished Professor of Sociology and the Mary Thomas Marshall Professor of Liberal Arts at Texas A&M University, passed away on October 9, 2011 surrounded by his family.

**Raymond Mack**, a former Northwestern University Provost and Sociology Professor, died August 25 at his North Carolina home. He was 84.

funding

## Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline

Application Deadline: June 15 & December 15

The ASA invites submissions for the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) awards. FAD is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation with matching monies from ASA. The goal of this award is to nurture the development of scientific knowledge by funding small, groundbreaking research initiatives that will advance the discipline. FAD awards provide scholars with "seed money" for innovative research that provides opportunities for substantive and methodological breakthroughs, broadens the dissemination of scientific knowledge, and provides leverage for acquisition of additional research funds.

### Selection Criteria and Funding Requirements

Proposals are reviewed for scientific merit and the importance of the proposed research project or a conference for sociology as a discipline. Specific evaluation criteria include the following:

- Innovativeness and promise of the research idea;
- Originality and significance of research goals;
- The potential of the study as a building block in the development of future research;
- Appropriateness and significance of the research hypothesis;
- Feasibility and adequacy of project design;
- Plans for dissemination of results; and
- Appropriateness of requested budget.

Principal investigators (PI) and co-PI(s) must have a PhD or equivalent. Awards shall not exceed \$7,000. Payment can go directly to the PI and is not taxed. Award money may not be used for ASA convention expenses, honoraria, or PI's salary, which includes buying out of courses. Awardees must agree to meet the reporting requirements of the award and must be ASA members when they receive the award.

### Online Application Process

Proposals must be submitted online at <[www.asanet.org/funding/fad.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/funding/fad.cfm)>. Applications must include title of project, name of lead author and additional author(s), 100-200-word abstract, maximum of five (5) single spaced pages describing the project, detailed budget and time schedule, statement of pending support, bibliography, applicable appendices, and vitas for all authors.

### Contact Information

For more information, see the "Funding" page at <[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org)>. For questions, contact project director Roberta Spalter-Roth, (202) 383-9005 x317, [spalter-roth@asanet.org](mailto:spalter-roth@asanet.org) or Nicole Van Vooren, (202) 383-9005 x313, [vanvooren@asanet.org](mailto:vanvooren@asanet.org). For examples of recent FAD awards see the December 2010 issue of *Footnotes*.

## For Members Only

The ASA website is open for 2012 membership enrollments and renewals. Visit [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) for the latest information regarding member benefits and fees. Members may register for the 2012 annual meeting during the online renewal or enrollment process.

ASA has two member category updates starting with the 2012 membership year.

- **New "Unemployed" Membership Category:** Given the challenging economic climate, ASA has created a new regular membership category for unemployed sociologists. ASA members who are not employed can join or renew for a reduced annual membership dues of \$20. In addition, members in this category will receive significantly reduced journal subscription rates.
- **New Benefits for Retired/Emeritus Members:** Any member who has retired can now change to emeritus status, eliminating the previous 10-year full membership requirement. In addition, emeritus membership now includes online access to all ASA journals at no charge.
- **ASA Express Renewal:** This option simplifies online member renewals for the 2012 calendar year. If the contact information and the membership selections remain the same, you may advance to the payment page to complete the 2012 membership renewal. Individuals with lapsed memberships before 2011 will have to use the regular online renewal system.
- **Footnotes Change:** After considerable feedback from members, ASA has reverted to publishing print copies of the monthly Footnotes newsletter. Starting in January 2012, Footnotes copies will be automatically mailed to members. Members have the ability to "opt-out" of receiving print copies when they renew or join the association. Online issues can be accessed at <[footnotes.asanet.org](http://footnotes.asanet.org)>. Members may also contact ASA membership at (202) 383-9005 x389 to be added to the online-only subscriber list.
- **Membership ID Cards** can be printed out as part of the renewal process (or at anytime during the year from the online member menu when you log in). The online ID cards are individualized with member name, ASA ID, and online password. New members may also access a copy of the ASA Code of Ethics online by clicking on the "Ethics" box on the ASA home page.

**For complete information on these and other ASA member benefits, visit <[www.asanet.org/benefits](http://www.asanet.org/benefits)>. Membership in ASA benefits you!**

# ASA footnotes

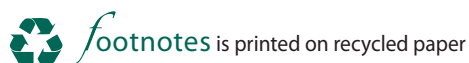
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Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words and must have journalistic value (e.g., timeliness, significant impact, general interest) rather than be research oriented or scholarly in nature. Submissions will be reviewed by the editorial board for possible publication. "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](mailto:footnotes@asanet.org); <[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org)>.

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