

American Sociological Association

Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline

The Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet during the ASA's 103rd annual meeting on **Friday, August 1st at 4:30pm - 6:10pm** at the Boston Marriott Copley Place to evaluate FAD proposals received for the June 15, 2008 submission deadline. This FAD round produced 27 proposals. In order not to burden you unduly, we have randomly assigned the proposals so that each of you will evaluate about 15 proposals.

Beginning this year, the FAD application and evaluation process are now available online through ASA's website. After you sign in with the unique username and password provided, you will see two sets of proposals separated by a line: those above the line have been randomly assigned to you for evaluation, and those below the line are other proposals that have been assigned to other readers and are optional for you. After selecting a proposal, you can follow the links to download the project description, abstract, budget, bibliography, and CV(s).

Below each proposal, there is an evaluation section where you will rate and provide comments on each. Please rate each proposal on a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being the lowest score and 10 being the highest. Please write full reviews (at least a paragraph or two rather than a single sentence—e.g. "not cutting edge" is not helpful) in the *Evaluation* box at the bottom of each proposal or attach a file. Please provide your overall assessment of the proposals' strengths and weakness, based on their research design, feasibility, scholarship, and the "cutting edge" criterion. I use your reviews as the basis for the written evaluation that we provide to each FAD applicant, whether their proposal is accepted or rejected.

I urge you to complete the ratings and write-ups of the proposals by Monday, July 28, 2008, the latest, so that we can provide average ratings and have these ready for the meeting. This will speed up the process of deciding whom to fund. Please bring your individual evaluations to the meeting if you do not complete them prior to the meeting. If for any reason you cannot meet this deadline, please let me know and we can make other arrangements. By following these requests, the meeting will go quickly and allow for a quality discussion of each proposal.

Please take the time to read and evaluate the proposals assigned to you because the loss of one reader becomes more significant than usual when we limit the number of proposals that we ask each person to read. Also, this is a relatively large round and we will fund about seven proposals.

I want to thank you in advance for your commitment to the FAD program and for taking the time out of your busy schedule to review these proposals! I look forward to seeing you on August 1st.