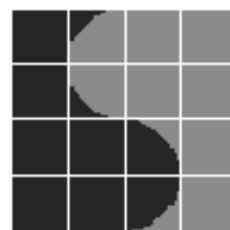




Evolution & Sociology



Fall 2005 Newsletter of the ASA Section-in-formation on Evolution and Sociology Volume 2, No. 1

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Greetings from the Chair

Alexandra Maryanski
UC-Riverside

Time for Horse-Trading?

Success at the race track means betting on the winning horse. Success at the poker tables means holding the right cards. Success at launching a new section-in-formation means rounding up 300 paying members. Let me start by welcoming all our new members and thanking everyone who helped in recruitment last year. The good news is that we now have 150 members; and because of your efforts, our invited panel session and reception were both well-attended and a resounding success. (See Tim Crippen for details in this newsletter). And, for next year, we just got the ASA go-a-head for another panel session with a reception to follow. The bad news is that we are still a "section-in-formation" with only 24 months left for recruiting.

What happens if we fail? Not much, at least on paper. But in failure we lose the opportunity to formally bring evolutionary thinking back into sociology. We also lose the chance for an institutionalized forum for the exchange of ideas with regular sessions. But, above all, we lose the surging optimism that comes with launching a cutting edge new subarea within sociology and all this would entail. So, in failure we toss away a once-in-a-long-time shot at bringing sociology in tune with the natural sciences and joining other social sciences in this pursuit.

*If each of us gets just ONE more
ASA member to join the section,
the section will be permanent!*

Yet, our odds of survival are still good, but only if YOU pitch in and help. Right now, we need everyone to renew their membership for the coming year. If we lose members at this point, we are really off the table. We also need some creative "horse-traders" who will call in their chips for past favors rendered by asking their associates to join our budding new section. Another tack to boost membership is to simply send electronic copies of this newsletter to ASA friends with a short heartfelt request. At the very least, it will help spread the word around that we exist. Signing up graduate students by paying their \$5.00 membership fee will also help with enrollment. Or consider engaging in a "tit for tat" with members of other sections seeking new members. Fall is especially favorable for recruiting because ASA members can easily check our section box when they renew their regular membership. My sense is that, with the committed already on board, we can only grow by reaching out and expanding our networks which is surprisingly easy to do. For unlike more specialized ASA sections, Evolution and Sociology is highly inclusive, serving as a intellectual umbrella for such wide-ranging specializations as primatology, hominid evolution as it effects human nature (my specializations), stage-model evolution, evolutionary psychology, world systems dynamics, evolutionary biology, neurobiology as it effect behavior, sociobiology and human ecology (see our new ASA website). But we don't stop there. Any scientifically minded scholar of any stripe across-the-board is welcome, even those who remain skeptical about evolutionary sociology. For our ultimate mission, as Gerhard Lenski laid out so well in our Spring newsletter, is nothing less than to enhance "the future well-being of the discipline of sociology..." And, hopefully, he added, "more of our colleagues will soon begin to recognize the impossibility of creating a meaningful or useful science of human societies on any foundation other than an evolutionary one." Yet, unless we finish up with a significant uptick in membership by late September 2006 (when the yearly count is done), much of our spirited momentum will be gone and we will quietly fade away.

Finally, I need your support in funding public relations. We are a "section-in-information," which means that we get no money from ASA. To get us started, I hosted last years' reception on my own, but this year I need your help. Thanks to Timothy Crippen, Stephen Sanderson and Jonathan Turner, a reception kitty has been started but ASA receptions are pricey (requiring up-front a \$500 deposit). In addition, I need funds for Evolution and Sociology buttons for us to wear in Montreal next year because I found that many sociologists don't know that we exist.

This IS the defining year for us. Keep in mind that the 300 membership count has to be met only once for us to become a permanent section with full rights (and a budget). By helping with recruitment and/or sending a small donation (if you can), we can win this numbers game. A second chance won't come again for a long, long time.

All Good Wishes,
Alexandra

If you want to contribute please send (whatever the amount, and in care of me) to:

Alexandra Maryanski
Department of Sociology
University of California
Riverside, California 92521
E-mail: alexandra.maryanski@ucr.edu

P.S. Please send me your ideas on how to promote Evolution and Sociology. What, for example, should our ASA campaign buttons say?

Social and Cultural Evolution

Chris Chase-Dunn

Department of Sociology and Institute for
Research on World-Systems
University of California-Riverside

I wholly support, applaud and join the effort to organize a new ASA section on "evolution and society." I concur with the observation that the gulf that has been created between the biological and the social sciences imposes destructive blinders on both biologists and sociologists, and that the solution is to study the interactions between biological and cultural evolution.

I want to plea for the new section to be open to studies of human social and cultural evolution that do not make reference to biological evolution. Most of my own earlier work on the evolution of world-systems falls into this category (e.g. Chase-Dunn and Hall 1997).¹ There are very few other homes within sociology for long-term, large-scale studies of human social change, so I hope that our new section will welcome the scholars who pursue such studies.²

This said, the most exciting thing happening in my head lately is the discovery of animal societies. Inspired by a remark at the ASA meetings in Philadelphia by Doug Massey that there are about 60,000 social species³ in addition to humans, I have been working through E.O. Wilson's (1975) old book, *Sociobiology* with an eye to the social structures of insects and vertebrates.⁴

¹ This is a study of human social and cultural evolution that takes world-systems instead of single societies as the unit of analysis. The big claim is that one must examine intersocietal relations in order to explain human social and cultural evolution.

² Also of relevance here are the advances in "big history" as formulated by David Christian (2004). Christian pays attention to the physical as well as the biological prerequisites of human cultural evolution.

³ Those species are called social if they exhibit cooperative behavior in addition to sexual relations.

⁴ I asked Ivan Chase what would be the best basic text on animal societies and he pointed to Wilson's *Sociobiology*. I will note that one can read Wilson without buying into the notion of the selfish gene as a major element in human social behavior. Cultural constructionism and institutionalism may continue to be

What I have already learned is that animal social structures vary over relatively short periods of time in response to changing environmental conditions. I had always thought that animal societies were tightly structured by inherited instincts, which would mean that their social relations would change only slowly and based on genetic changes responding to changes in the environment. Wilson makes it clear that both insects and vertebrates change their social behaviors in response to relatively short-term changes in the environment. For insects he argues that the genetic programs are somewhat flexible, allowing for different expressions that depend on environmental circumstances. For vertebrates, especially ones with bigger brains, learning allows for even more flexibility.

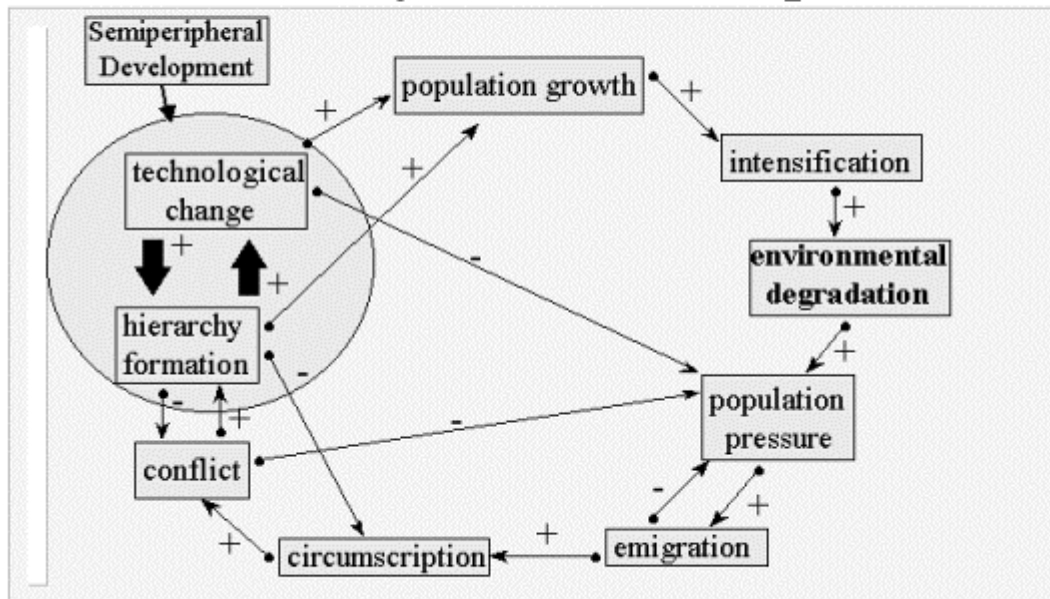
I happened to be reading a draft manuscript on the evolution of human warfare (Thompson and Levy, forthcoming) so I started paying attention to Wilson's descriptions of aggression and warfare among animals. It turns out that the levels of aggression and warfare (and cannibalism) vary with population density and the availability of food. Within-species aggression spaces animals out, and cannibalism and warfare reduce numbers. In other words, part of the demographic regulator is within-species conflict. Most species demonstrate more hierarchy, more aggression, and more territoriality (and more cannibalism and other "abnormal" behaviors) under conditions of high population density relative to the availability of resources. Something similar also works in interspecies relations when there is competition for the same resources.

In the comparative human world-system theory this is what we call the "nasty bottom" of the iteration model.

Population pressure leads to emigration unless the land is already occupied. If the land is full (circumscription) this causes higher levels of within-society and between-society

understood as important processes within human social evolution without denying the role of genes. I still agree with the early Gerhard Lenski that there are important differences as well as similarities between biological and cultural evolution.

Basic Iteration Model of World-System Development



conflict. This reduces population pressure by killing off users of scarce resources, which reduces population pressure. It is like flour beetles in a jar. Over the long run there is a equilibrium ratio between the population and the amount of food. This works for some human world-systems that get stuck in the nasty bottom. Patrick Kirch (1991) shows this cycle as revealed in archaeological evidence for the Marquesas Islands.

But some human systems break out of the nasty bottom by developing new technologies that allow more resources to be produced in a given area (diversified foraging, gardening, agriculture, industry) or by erecting a new hierarchy that regulates access to scarce resources (chiefdoms, states).

So animal and human patterns overlap considerably, at least at the level of the nasty bottom. It does not require complex symbolic systems to run a simple demographic regulator of this kind.

The next question is about the rest of the model. I am still plowing my way through *Sociobiology*. Can others suggest other readings that might be useful? Where this is going is a study of world-systems ecology in which human and animal evolve.

chriscd@ucr.edu

Sociobiology. Can others suggest other readings that might be useful? Where this is going is a study of world-systems ecology in which human and animal world-systems co-evolve. chriscd@ucr.edu

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Evolutionary Sociology: Entrée or a la Carte?

Christopher Schmitt
University of California- Riverside
schmic01@student.ucr.edu

This past summer, I saw Alexandra Maryanski in the hallway at school and we wondered together a bit about the future of the ES section-in-formation; she asked if evolutionary sociology was still important to me. It was a good question and involved more than just my continued membership. We first met some eight years ago at a PSA session that included a presentation on primates. I confessed then to feeling a little concerned about my interests in that direction- the climate was such that biology of any sort smacked of some politically incorrect "ism". As an avowed interactionist, it seemed difficult to reconcile my convictions about human agency with the uncomfortable suspicion that (in Kurt Vonnegut's term) we seemed to possess "meaty" inclinations. I remain somewhat discomfited by the difficulty of that reconciliation, but cheered by the change in its prospects, if indeed "all evolution in thought and conduct must at first appear as heresy and misconduct," (George Bernard Shaw). To my mind, biology and other similar influences on sociological thought were and perhaps still are what Avery Gordon calls a "present absence". We cannot avoid being haunted by their effects, regardless of attempts to dismiss them as phantasms or worse.

As for my response to Dr. Maryanski's question, the answer is yes- evolutionary sociology remains important to me, and in a very practical way. My own deliberations about where nature ends and nurture begins opens up possibilities for me when I teach. Evolutionary sociology weaves its way into the design of my courses and appears in sidebar discussions that arise in class. An evolutionary approach permits me to include materials from other disciplines that connect with my student's learning experiences in other classes, personal questions, and the real world. And it never hurts to reveal that sociology just might have a few useful thoughts for those in the business,

pre-med, and pre-law majors that take our courses as necessary, if unwanted electives...

Compared with other disciplines, sociology comes late to the table. Most other disciplines have their chance to tempt students earlier on, but ours typically offers its first glimpses of the sociological banquet only after students have become accustomed to other fare. As a latecomer, sociology must often entice students into trying something new, or worse, be placed in the position of justifying its place at the table at all. Further, sociology's frequently unwilling and/or youthful clientele can lack the benefit of the very life experiences that make its value manifest. Survey courses such as the introduction to sociology offer undergraduates a new analytical perspective on social worlds both familiar and perplexing. From genetics and physiology to the unfolding of societies evolutionary sociology links those perspectives into a more coherent framework. Coherence is good, or at least it's a comfort of sorts.

I have this strange dream that I can share the larger sociological picture with my students at the same time they're learning the specifics. Unfortunately, or perhaps serendipitously, each introductory lecture really represents an entire set of courses, specializations, or even careers. Taking an evolutionary approach is inclusive and informative about where the gray areas of intra- and interdisciplinary boundaries lie. The accumulation of knowledge can be seen for the wonderfully messy recipe that it really is: recurrent debates and sociological fault lines such as the relative merits of quantitative or qualitative methodologies, public or private sociology, materialism or idealism, the usual macro/meso/micro distinctions, and so on. Knowing the relevant dimensions by which professionals demarcate their own fields helps students locate themselves somewhere on the sociological dial.

If nothing else, the nature-nurture debates are familiar territory for many and tend to spark class discussions that draw in the quiet students and firm up the necks of the sleepy in the back of the classroom. Sex, politics, and religion are perfect tonics in the classroom when we tire of the sound of own voice, and especially when we know we aren't alone in that weariness. Silence is exactly what you

don't get in the classroom when you spend time on topics that involve human similarities and differences. In a larger sense, why should sociology matter to business majors, pre-med's, pre-law, and physical science students? The same question may be posed concerning anthropology, psychology, and other social science students. Evolutionary sociology breaks the ice- and if we aren't part of the dialogue, we're part of the silence.

Reconciling the individual with the social lies at the heart of so many social paradoxes... Last Fall's issue of this newsletter included an article by Dr. Robert Burgess sketching out just how an evolutionary sociology helps us to understand human nature and the social world in which it is embedded. For me, it provides a vehicle by which I can connect concepts I consider important with issues that appeal to and inform the students I teach. Evolutionary sociology makes for solid educational fare you can season to your own taste. All too often, however, if it appears at all, it only makes its way onto our menu as an a la carte item or occasional special designed to use up the leftovers.

Creating the syllabus for an introductory sociology course reminds me of my days as a food services director designing menus for a rural school district: doing my best to balance out the nutritional requirements with more enticing fare. My own inclinations run toward sugary treats: Mintz's *Sweetness and Power* provides an explicit connection between innate biological preferences, social constructions of taste, and contemporary inequities. Few students shown the film on the Hadza (a hunting and gathering tribe) ever forget what it takes to get honey out of the rock. This leads immediately into lively debates over Sahlins' "original affluent society" versus Stephen Sanderson's criteria for the good life. Talking about types of societies, gendered divisions of labor, and conflict flow naturally thereafter. Teaching here in the Los Angeles area, students are most definitely savvy to the import of race, inequality, and location, location, location...what could be better than a quick synopsis of Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel*? In these instances, evolutionary sociology takes us from the past to the present; this approach works just as well in reverse.

Drawing parallels between primates such as Kanzi, feral children, and my student's personal recollections of childhood (or parenting) move us to deeper understandings about the development of self, language, play, learning, tools, and technology. The topic of dreams requires little urging on my part to begin a firestorm of speculation about the brain, the effects of drugs or neurotransmitters, and the meaning of dreams. It's a short step from there to speculation about basic emotions, the burgeoning field of social emotions, morals, manners, and religion. The recent film "What the Bleep Do We Know?" (for all its shortcomings) clearly illustrates the mutual interactions between the production of neurochemicals, changes in neurowiring, and our own behavioral choices. It also makes for a lovely transition to learning about becoming a marijuana user, deviance, social control, and the materialist-idealist positions that underpin sociological theorizing. I'm very pleased for the students who grasp the important connection between the meaning of social things and the meat in which those meanings reside. The number of students who make that connection is also pleasantly surprising. I'd like to take credit for being a great teacher, but I'm afraid it's just that sociology tastes good, and evolutionary sociology is a well-seasoned dish enjoying renewed appreciation. In keeping with the food metaphor, and the current McMoment of educational consumerism, sociology could certainly benefit from better presentation and wider variety. Our discipline would also enjoy a wider appeal and greater profit from putting evolutionary sociology back on the menu- as a regular entrée.

A Lively Panel Session at the Annual Meetings in Philadelphia

Timothy Crippen
University of Mary Washington

Our section-in-formation hosted its first panel session at the annual ASA meetings in Philadelphia this past August. The well-attended session on "Sociology & Evolutionary Science: A Natural Alliance" featured brief presentations by Rosemary Hopcroft, Richard Machalek, Doug Massey, and Jon Turner, and was followed by questions and comments from those in the audience. Audience participation, in fact, was so lively that it was brought to a conclusion only because the food and wine for our session's reception had arrived. Animated conversations continued as those in attendance sated their appetites!

The panelists illustrated various ways in which attentiveness to aspects of evolutionary biology may help to more sharply focus the sociological imagination and to raise questions that otherwise might be ignored. Hopcroft, for example, argued that the tool kit of evolutionary biology can provide the basis for a metatheoretical unification of an admittedly fragmented discipline, and made reference to some areas of sociological inquiry that have benefited from careful use of evolutionary theory. Machalek used his time to emphasize that sociologists need not abandon their disciplinary identity or convictions by incorporating evolutionary reasoning into explanations of human social behavior. He provided a few examples, such as Guttentag and Secord's award-winning analysis of unbalanced sex ratios, to suggest that conventional approaches to sociological problems are often only inches shy of genuine evolutionary explanation. Taking the next small step, in Machalek's view, is both relatively easy and potentially very productive for the development of our craft.

Massey opened his remarks by noting that in 2005, for the first time in our species' lengthy history, the majority of men and women now find themselves living in urban areas. He went on to provide a brief synopsis of the argument put forward in his new book, *Strangers in a*

Strange Land. Therein he traces the trajectory of hominid evolution and notes that we are today living in sociocultural environments vastly different from those to which our ancestors' traits were reasonably well-adapted. We are organisms whose design features, especially aspects of our neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, suit us for life in relatively small groups of closely related others. Failure to recognize this disjunction between our ancestral and current sociocultural environments stands as a crucial impediment to our ability to understand the human condition and to foresee what the near future portends. Turner's presentation similarly emphasized the urgent need for sociologists to become better acquainted with developments taking place in the cognitive neurosciences. Those who specialize in the scientific study of human social behavior can no longer afford to remain uninformed about these revolutionary advances taking place in our understanding of the human brain and endocrinology. The developments illuminate our grasp of the proximate mechanisms that govern human behavioral "output;" they are rooted in a deep appreciation of the selection pressures (especially those emanating from the social and cultural environment) that shaped human neuroanatomical and neurophysiological traits, and they are inescapably enhancing our sense of what it means to be a human social animal.

The floor was then opened to members of the audience who offered insightful comments and posed challenging questions. In the ensuing discussion, I couldn't help but notice how many of the remarks emphasized the necessity for sociologists to be alert to all kinds of interdisciplinary cross-fertilization. To be sure, we have much to gain by opening our eyes to developments taking place in evolutionary biology and cognitive neuroscience. Similarly, much of value can be mined from the work of other social and behavioral scientists as it bears on the problems that we strive to tackle.

While speaking of the value of interdisciplinary approaches, I should briefly note an offer that each of you will be receiving in the near future. While at the meetings, I ran into Mary Curtis, president of Transaction Publishers. After discussing a few matters of

mutual interest, I told her a little about the Evolution & Sociology section-information. Upon hearing of our effort, she told me that Transaction would be happy to offer our members a discounted subscription rate to the journal, *Human Nature: An Interdisciplinary Biosocial Perspective*. More details about this offer are located elsewhere in this issue of our newsletter, and all of our members should be hearing directly from Transaction in the not too distant future. Mary has since mentioned to me that Jane Lancaster, the journal's editor, most likely would appreciate receiving submissions from our membership. So, if you have an article manuscript in search of a refereed outlet, don't be reluctant to send it along to Jane.

In closing, I'd like to thank Alexandra Maryanski for helping me to organize the panel session for the Philadelphia meetings and for much else that she has done for our section in its infancy. And be assured that we've already started making preparations for a similar event at the meetings next summer in Montreal. Stay tuned for updates.

Student Award Update

Rosemary L. Hopcroft
University of North Carolina-Charlotte

I am pleased to say that seven fine papers were submitted for the 2005 Student Award. What follows is a brief overview of the authors and their papers. I proceed alphabetically:

Daniel E. Adkins, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Paper Title: "Unified Stratification Theory: Structure, Genome and Status across Human Societies."

This paper integrates research genetics with traditional status attainment research in sociology to develop a theory of how the structure of society mediates the influence of the genome on status outcomes. The thesis is that the strength of the influence of the genome on status outcomes is mediated primarily by three properties of social structure- inequality, poverty and social mobility. When inequality

and poverty are high and social mobility is low, genetic influences are less, when inequality and poverty are low and social mobility is high, genetic influence is greater.

Biographical Note:

Daniel E. Adkins is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Doctoral Fellow at the Carolina Population Center. His research interests include biosocial modeling, demography, stratification and quantitative methods. His dissertation research examines the efficacy and robustness of behavioral genetics models, as well as developing a framework for the integration of molecular genetics and the social sciences.

(Note: this paper won the Evolution and Sociology Student Award for 2005. It also won the 2005 Shils-Coleman Award from the Theory Section of ASA for distinguished work in Theory).

Yen-Sheng Chiang, University of Washington

Paper title: "The Blessed Fairness? Exploring the Evolution of Strategies in the Ultimatum Game."

This paper examines the question of why individuals do not behave in a strictly rational manner in experimental studies. The paper examines the evolution of different strategies in simulation models, and in particular examines how the frequency of role turnover influences individual strategies. The paper shows how and in what circumstances fairness strategies could evolve.

Biographical Note:

Yen-Sheng Chiang is a student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Washington. His research interest is in modifying rational choice theory in sociology using insights from the study of social networks and evolutionary game theory. He is particularly interested in accounting for why human subjects behave in an altruistic manner in social psychological experiments. His future plans are to continue exploration of the co-evolution of social structures and social

actions. How do social institutions emerge as a function of the evolution of the two factors? How does the relative pace of evolution between the two influence the emergence of institutions?

Sean Cunningham, University of Washington.

Paper title: "Social Class and Fertility in Post-demographic America – an Evolutionary Approach."

This paper tests the van den Berghe/Whitmeyer model of the relationship between social class and fertility. Results show mixed support for the model, but results conform more readily to traditional sociobiological predictions. In particular, the models show that income increases reproductive fitness when education is controlled.

Biographical Note:

Sean Cunningham is an MA student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Washington, currently on leave.

Hiroko Inoue, University of California-Riverside

Paper title: "A Sociological Theory of Cognitions and Emotions"

This paper attempts to explicate the relationship between macro social organization and individual conscious and unconscious processes in the work of Emile Durkheim. The paper notes that Durkheim had a particular understanding of human nature as a product of evolution, although his understanding of the process of evolution was flawed (as in most of his contemporaries). As with current evolutionists, Durkheim argued that despite the increased complexity of human society, human nature retains its older characteristics.

Biographical Note:

Hiroko Inoue is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Riverside. Her research plan for the future is to use evolutionary theories and concepts to understand micro interaction

processes (especially emotional processes) and macro institutional dynamics.

J. Scott Lewis, Bowling Green State University

Paper title: "The Evolution of Emotions and Their Role as an Exaptive Social Force"

This paper attempts to connect sociological work on the emotions by Alan Fiske with evolutionary and neurological models of the emotions. In particular the paper attempts to expand on Alan Fiske's four elementary forms of social interaction by showing how emotions contribute to the four modes of interaction. Specific hypotheses drawn from the new model are drawn, and possible ways of testing these hypotheses using exchange games are described.

Biographical Note:

J. Scott Lewis is a PhD candidate at Bowling Green State University. Within the domain of social psychology, Scott's dissertation is centered around constructing an equilibrium model of solidarity, and offering new directions in understanding the problem of collective action. Other research interests include status, emotions, philosophy of social science, and linking evolution and sociology. He is currently on the job market.

Rita Smaniotto, Groningen University.

Paper title: "Score Keeping or Bonding? What do studies on hunter-gatherer food sharing tell us about proximate mechanisms of reciprocal altruism?"

This paper examines whether mechanisms of reciprocal altruism or commitment mechanisms were likely to have been adaptive as the basis for social relations among our hominoid ancestors. Reciprocal altruism is the classic "you scratch my back and I will scratch yours" approach; commitment is the "love thy neighbor" approach where unconditional help is provided to group members as needed. Using evidence from studies of contemporary hunter gatherers, Rita Smaniotto concludes that interaction patterns in these groups provides support to the idea that interaction was based on a commitment mechanism in ancestral

hunter-gatherer groups, and provides little support for the notion of a strict score-keeping mechanism.

Biographical Note:

From 1994-1999, Rita Smaniotto was a student in Sociology at the University of Groningen, Netherlands. From 1999-2004, she was a Ph.D. student at the Interuniversity Centre of Social Science Theory and Methodology (ICS). Her research subject was proximate mechanisms of reciprocal altruism. She defended her doctoral thesis November 11th, 2004. She is currently a teacher in the department of Sociology, University of Groningen. From November 15th, 2005, she will be a postdoc at the University of Groningen on a project with Liesbeth Sterck (University of Utrecht) entitled "'That's what friends are for." Acceptance of underbenefiting in friendships of human and non-human primates.'

Arnout van de Rijt Cornell University

Paper title: "An Equilibrium Concept for Models of Network Evolution"

Models of network evolution use the Nash equilibrium, that assumes actors act independently. This paper argues that when network ties are made in an undirected fashion and formed only under mutual consent, the Nash equilibrium model is inappropriate. He proposes a new equilibrium concept "unilateral stability" as more preferable for models of network evolution.

Biographical Note:

Arnout van de Rijt is a Ph.D. student at Cornell University. In "Power and Dependence in Intimate Exchange" (with Michael W. Macy; forthcoming in *Social Forces*) he performs a critical test of the principle of equi-dependence (sociology) / least interest (social psychology) / monotonicity (economics) by investigating its operation in the least likely relational setting, the bedroom. In "Trust in Intimate Relationships" (with Vincent Buskens; forthcoming in *Rationality and Society*) he explores the changing role of embeddedness in the solution of trust problems in intimate relationships. Arnout's dissertation research concerns the social network evolution of

immigrants. It conceptualizes integration as a fast and polarizing process rather than the conventional notion of a slow but unifying process. Just as the scores of immigrants of the same family but different cohorts on dimensions of integration form a bimodal distribution, so do those of immigrants of different families but the same cohort.

People

Thomas D. Hall, is on sabbatical for 2005-06.

Robb Willer is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at Cornell University who is currently on the job market. His dissertation, "Testing A Status Theory of Collective Action and Altruism," introduces a new theory of the role of status in the organization of collective action and altruism. Across three experiments, Robb finds support for his status-based explanation of contributions to collective action over competing accounts. One experiment pitted a generosity-signaling account of reputational rewards for altruism against Zahavi's handicapping account, finding support for generosity-signaling. He is currently developing follow-up studies on the effects of sanctions on indirect reciprocity.

Robb is also working on several research projects in a variety of areas. His recent paper on the positive effects of government-issued terror warnings on presidential approval ratings received widespread media attention. Robb has also recently completed multi-experiment projects on the following topics: 1) the behavioral and attitudinal effects of masculine overcompensation, 2) the social psychological basis of generalized exchange, 3) the role of sanctioning in the promotion of unpopular norms (with Michael Macy and Ko Kuwabara), and 4) the role of fear of death in belief in the afterlife.

Robb's research with colleagues has appeared in *American Journal of Sociology*, *Annual Review of Sociology*, *Social Networks*, and *The Sociological Quarterly*. He has recently completed the experiments for his dissertation and will be on the job market this Fall.

New Publications of Section Members

Hall, Thomas D. and James V. Fenelon. 2005. "Trajectories of Indigenous Resistance Before and After 9/11." Pp. 95 - 110 in *Transforming Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities in the Post 9/11 Era*, edited by Bruce Podobnik and Thomas Reifer. Leiden: Brill.

Hall, Thomas D. and James V. Fenelon. 2005. "Indigenous Peoples and Hegemonic Change: Threats to Sovereignty or Opportunities for Resistance?" Pp. 205-225 in *Hegemonic Decline: Present and Past*, edited by Jonathan Friedman and Christopher Chase-Dunn. Boulder: Paradigm Press.

Fenelon, James V. and Thomas D. Hall. 2005. "Indigenous Struggles over Autonomy, Land and Community: Anti-Globalization and Resistance in World Systems Analysis." Pp.107-122 in *Latinos in the World-System: Towards the Decolonization of the US Empire in the 21st Century*, edited by Ramón Grosfoguel, Nelson Maldonado-Torres and Jose David Saldivar. Boulder: Paradigm Press.

Hall, Thomas D. *Borders, Borderland, and Frontiers, Global*. 2005. Pp 238-242 in *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 1 edited by Maryanne Cline Horowitz. Detroit: Charles Scribner's Sons.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. 2005. "Status Characteristics among older individuals: The diminished significance of gender." Forthcoming in *Sociological Quarterly*.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. 2005. "Sex, status and reproductive success in the contemporary U.S." Forthcoming in *Evolution and Human Behavior*.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. 2005. "Parental status and differential investment in sons and daughters: Trivers-Willard revisited." *Social Forces* 83(3):169-193.

Lenski, Gerhard, Jean Lenski and Patrick Nolan. *Human Societies*. 10th Edition. Paradigm Publishers of Boulder, CO. Due out in November.

Allan Mazur. 2004. *Biosociology of Dominance and Deference*. Rowman & Littlefield.

Congratulations to **Daniel E. Adkins**,
University of North Carolina,
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