

**Global and Transnational Sociology Section-in-Formation  
American Sociological Association**

**Minutes of Business Meeting, August 16, 2010  
Atlanta**

The meeting was called to order by George Thomas at 4:35 pm in Marriott Marquis Room L404. Forty-five persons were in attendance.

Chair-Elect George Thomas welcomed participants and announced a video greeting by Chair George Ritzer, who could not be present in Atlanta. Ritzer thanked Council, officers, and Committee Chairs for their efforts to launch the Section on Global and Transnational Sociology (GATS). He expressed special gratitude to George Thomas for running and organizing the business meeting in 2010 and to his assistant PJ Rey. Ritzer conveyed his enthusiasm and high hopes for the Section.

Thomas made the following announcements. GATS is expected to become an official section on October 1. It is still a "section in formation." Section status requires at least 300 dues-paying members by September 30. GATS currently has 477 members. With current membership numbers, we will be allotted 3 sessions at the 2011 meetings. For 4 sessions, 600 members are required. Current size puts us in the middle of the pack (25<sup>th</sup> in size out of 49 ASA sections).

Thomas announced that the website is up and that the second issue of the newsletter (Summer 2010) has been completed. He thanked Aneesh Aneesh and PJ Rey for editing the GATS Newsletter. Aneesh will stay on next year, but Rey is stepping down and a new co-editor will be needed. The website and listserv will move to the ASA server on October 1. There will be two lists, which can be separately subscribed. Official business will be restricted to section officers and listserv managers. The public access list will be open to all subscribers.

Thomas opened the floor for discussion of minutes to the 2009 organizational meeting, which were distributed prior to the meeting. No comments. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved. Vote in favor was unanimous.

Maria Charles, co-Secretary/Treasurer reported on GATS finances. GATS is running a small deficit (approximately \$15) for printing of award certificates. Sections-in-formation do not receive any portion of membership dues. No funds are provided until one year after the requisite membership number (300) is achieved. The ASA office offered GATS an advance (not to exceed \$500) to cover costs associated with a possible mentoring luncheon, but the luncheon will be postponed until the 2011 meeting due to organizational difficulties this year. After October 1, GATS will keep \$2 for every member and it will receive an additional allocation of \$1,000 (assuming at least 300 members). Based on current membership numbers, the Section should have approximately \$2,000 on hand by the 2011 meetings. GATS dues will go up to \$10 for general and low-income members and \$5 for students next year.

Ryoko Yamamoto reported on activities of the Information Resources Committee. The Committee will solicit syllabi, reading lists, assignments, lessons, and audio-video materials. Materials will be posted on the section website. Yamamoto discussed ideas for solicitation and broader dissemination of these materials.

Awards Committee Chair David Frank thanked Awards Committee members for their hard work and announced the following awards:

Distinguished Career Award

Roland Robertson, Chair in Sociology and Global Society, University of Aberdeen  
Committee: Colin Beck; David John Frank; and Ann Hironaka

Best Scholarly Book Award

Terrence C. Halliday and Bruce G. Carruthers. *Bankrupt: Global Lawmaking and Systemic Financial Crisis* (Stanford University Press 2009)  
Committee: Nitsan Chorev; Heather Hurwitz; and Simone Pulver

Best Scholarly Article Award

*Kiyoteru Tsutsui and Hwa Ji Shin* "Global Norms, Local Activism, and Social Movement Outcomes: Global Human Rights and Resident Koreans in Japan." *Social Problems* 55:391-418 (2008).  
Committee: Sara Curran; Rachel Sullivan Robinson, and Miriam Abu Sharkh

Best Publication Award by an International Scholar

*Max Haller, Roger Jowell, and Tom W. Smith, editors. The International Social Survey Programme, 1984-2009: Charting the Globe* (Routledge 2009).  
Committee: Elizabeth Heger Boyle; Katja M. Guenther; Joachim Savelsberg

Best Publication by a Graduate Student

*Patricia Bromley and Susan Garnett Russell.* "The Holocaust as History and Human Rights: A Cross-National Analysis of Holocaust Education in Social Science Textbooks, 1970-2008." *Prospects* 153 (2010).  
Committee: Salvatore Babones; Andrew Jorgenson; and Matt Mathias.

Thomas presented a special award to PJ Rey for Outstanding Service to GATS over the past year.

Thomas congratulated Sarah Babb on her election as Chair-Elect. The Nominations Committee will issue a report on the election process.

Thomas noted that Heather Hurwitz, Coordinator of Student Outreach will be submitting a report on activities of the Student Outreach Committee. Hurwitz is stepping down and a new Coordinator will be needed. The Committee has doubled in size over the past year, but student volunteers are still needed. Charles asked interested students to identify themselves to her after the meeting. Council members Langman and Levitt are working

with the Student Outreach Committee to organize a mentoring lunch at the 2011 meetings. They hope to put together an event that will be inexpensive to students.

[Transition to new 2010/11 Section Chair: George Thomas.]

Discussion of program for the 2011 meeting began with a presentation by Program Committee member Vida Bajc. An important question is how to organize the three GATS sessions for next year. Should they be open submission or should themes be specified in advance? Other issues: Should there be a mini-conference (e.g., on links between international organizations and NGOs)? What sort of reception should be held? Should the reception be combined with a dinner? If so, how should this be organized? Council member Lauren Langman expressed willingness to organize a dinner in Chicago if Council so decides.

Thomas reviewed the program timeline: Plans for section sessions at 2011 meeting must be submitted by September 15, 2010. Paper submissions are due by January 2011, and all papers must be assigned to sessions by February 2011. Requests for invited thematic sessions for the 2012 meeting (which do not count against Section's allotted sessions) must be submitted by November 2010. Thomas proposes co-sponsoring an invited session with the International Studies Association in 2012. A member noted that a thematic session on Globalization has been organized by the ASA Program Committee for 2011.

Open discussion on how to allocate 2011 sessions. Thomas expressed preference for open sessions, which would allow substantive themes to be culled from submitted papers. There were mixed opinions on this issue. Some members favored at least some pre-selected themes or high-profile invited sessions, while others agreed that open sessions would better allow the membership to define the Section. A member suggested a joint session with the new Human Rights Section. Another member noted that this is a two-year commitment (with a joint session counting against one section's allotment in the first year and the other section's allotment in the second year). A member suggested aligning the 2012 GATS themes to the meeting theme of "utopia." A member suggested that the Program Committee use the listserv to solicit input from members regarding 2011 session themes.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.