



TIMELINES

April 2009

Newsletter No.13

HISTORY OF SOCIOLOGY SECTION, AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

HOS 2009 ELECTION STATEMENTS OF CANDIDATES

Chair-Elect Candidates

Gary Alan Fine, Northwestern University

I am proud to stand for election for chair-elect of the History of Sociology section. The first responsibility of any section chair is to insure that the annual meeting sessions are diverse, lively, and informative. Meeting in Atlanta in 2010, I will organize one session on sociology in the south. How did sociologists confront segregation, and when did they not. Such a session can also examine ties between black and white sociologists, as well as the vibrant African-American sociological tradition in Atlanta and throughout the south.

The second task for any chair is to insure that section membership grows. Given the economic climate, this will be a challenge. As of September 30, 2008, our section stood at 212 members, providing only the smallest cushion. I will use my networks to insure that our membership will grow at least modestly next year.

As the section on the History of Sociology, we should encourage members to tape oral histories with senior scholars, and then make these tapes available, either on our website as audio files or in the ASA archives at Penn State. These personal memories of mid-century sociology can never be replaced. If we don't encourage these interviews, who else will? I will work with council to determine how to encourage the interviews and make them available.

Marcel Fournier, Universite de Montreal

My book on *Émile Durkheim* has been published by Fayard (Paris) in 2007. The English translation will published next year by Polity Press. I have two other projects of publication 1) (with Gilles Grivel), *Émile Durkheim, Une jeunesse lorraine* (forthcoming). This book is the collection of the papers which have been presented at the international conference "Durkheim, une jeunesse lorraine" we have organized in June 2008 at Epinal and Metz in France. 2) *Marcel Mauss en Amérique* (Fayard, forthcoming). Invited by the Laura Spelman Rockfeller Foundation, Mauss came in 1926 to the USA. The book is a presentation of this travel which gave to Mauss the opportunity to stay in the USA for three weeks, to visit six American cities (New York, Boston, Phidadelphia, New Haven, Chicago, Washington) and to meet many American colleagues : Franz Boas, Bronislaw Malinowski Edward Sapir, Franklin Henry Giddings, E. Burgess, Robert Faris, Robert Park, John Dewey, Elton Mayo, Charles Edward Merriam and L. C. Marshall.

(Continued on page 2)



Secretary-Treasurer Candidates

Madeleine Cousineau, Mount Ida College

No statement received

Anne F. Eisenberg, SUNY Geneseo

I started actively participating in state, regional and national level sociology organizations as a first year graduate student back in 1991. I have presented papers and workshops at the ASA meetings since 1993 and have served on several ASA committees. I joined this section relatively recently as my research and writing interests have developed in the history of sociology. My past experience with other sections (Social Psychology, Theory and Teaching and Learning in Sociology) is that the connections I developed with other scholars interested in the same issues were beneficial to me as a teacher and scholar. My goal for serving as Secretary is two-fold. First, I look forward to working with our section leaders in reaching out to section members to increase their participation in the section as well as to recruit new members. The second facet of my role as secretary will be to assist the section leaders in interacting with ASA to ensure recognition of the section, section activities, and section members' accomplishments.

HOS Council Candidates

Kevin Anderson, Purdue

I am very committed in my work to one area of the history of sociology, the history of social thought. As to the section, assuring its survival through increasing membership should be a major priority. At a more intellectual level, I would like to see the focus of our section expand slightly to include discussion of the work of social thinkers of the past who were not card-carrying sociologists, for example, Frantz Fanon, Michel Foucault, Rosa Luxemburg, Friedrich Nietzsche.

Matteo Bartolini, University of Padua

I am a tenured assistant professor of Sociology at the University of Padua, Italy (Ph.D., University of Bologna). My research focuses on social theory, the classics and the history of sociology, the sociology of culture and ideas, and political theory. I am on the editorial board of an online-only journal of sociology published by Italy's leading publisher in the social sciences, II Mulino, which strives to reduce the distance between Italian sociology and the rest of the world.

I have published essays and book chapters on Talcott Parsons, Emile Durkheim, Hannah Arendt, civil society, the Catholic church, and associative democracy. Most of my theoretical (and even normative) stuff focuses on the problem of pluralism in the public sphere and the search for non-Statist political institutions. I have edited unpublished work by Parsons and Eric Voegelin and translated into Italian essays and books by Parsons, Margaret Archer, Adam Seligman, and Partha Chatterjee.

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Bartolini, continued

My first book was published in 2005 as *L'immunità necessaria. Talcott Parsons e la sociologia della modernità* (*Necessary Immunity: Talcott Parsons and the Sociology of Modernity*, Rome, 2005, in Italian). Consciously writing in a highly "presentist" vein developed from Niklas Luhmann's works on the evolution of social theory, I created a "theoretical fiction" of Parsons' works aimed at showing the theoretical decisions which led him to the creation of his complex and evolving theoretical system. My main claim was that many of Parsons' theories might be understood as attempts at resolving the paradoxes of a non-individualistic explanation of modern individualism, which I defined as "the" question of classical and theoretical sociology. The book also sketched a comparison of Parsons' and Norbert Elias' conceptions of the individual that I will try to develop in the future.

My current research project started as a case-study in the sociology of intellectuals titled "The Parsonians." Its main questions were: What does it mean to be a well-known student of an exceedingly pivotal, disputed, loved and hated intellectual figure? What does it mean to carry on and try to develop the heritage of a master of sociology obsessed with filling each and every theoretical and empirical space, ready to extend his intelligence and insight to any field and object? What does it mean to find oneself in a professional world that has become abruptly a very hostile, and even dangerous, environment? These seemed to me the two most important intellectual challenges that the first and the second generation of sociologists who studied with Talcott Parsons had to face during and after their mentor's demise as the most important inspirational figure in American sociology.

Anyway, the original project progressively reduced its scope as I discovered the "pleasures" of historical research in the sociology of intellectuals. I first reduced my focus to only three of Parsons' students and then again to one, Bellah. I am presently writing Bellah's sociological biography from the point of view of the main questions of my original project on "the Parsonians." Bellah's intellectual and academic career is a goldmine of interesting episodes, from his "problems " with McCarthyism in the 1950s to the so-called "Bellah Affair" at the IAS at Princeton in 1973, from his contribution to "modernization theory" in the 1950s to his attempt at a paradigm shift in the sociology of religion in the early 1970s. Bellah's rising status, from respected sociologist to academic star to public intellectual also helps to highlight the different roles that an intellectual may play in disciplinary and public debates and the specific expectations and dynamics of intellectual fields.

So far, this research has produced two papers. In the first (which has been submitted to a major journal for consideration), I outline the "American civil religion debate" started by Bellah's influential essay, "Civil Religion in America." In the second paper, I outline the so-called "Bellah Affair" at the IAS in Princeton. Both papers use historical materials to highlight theoretical questions: the traps of typecasting and the dynamics of reputation building. In a third paper, which I am currently writing, I close this "Seventies triptych" focusing on Bellah's fascination with heterodox authors (Norman O. Brown, Herbert Fingarette) in the late 1960s and his failed attempt at a paradigm shift in the early 1970s, as he proposed the highly criticized idea of "symbolic realism."

This said, I have not abandoned the original idea of a more comparative work which will surely include an assessment and a study of Smelser's intellectual career. I am sure that a comparison between Bellah's and Smelser's careers would, in fact, prove very fruitful for understanding the dynamics of teacher-student relationship and the "take-off" of the intellectual as an individual voice. My research has a wider, and maybe "practical," meaning if one thinks of the discomforting situation of today's Italian university and the complete absence of doctoral programs worthy of this name in the social sciences and the humanities. The problem of the *Bildung* of the intellectual is a most urgent practical problem today in my country.

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As a newcomer to this ASA section, I hope to be able to deepen my acquaintance with most of its members and find a fruitful way to work together on future projects. As in Italy the sociology of the social sciences is an almost absent field, I hope that my involvement in the ASA History of Sociology section will help to strengthen ties between Italy, the US, and the rest of the world in this field. Moreover, as the history of the Italian social sciences is horribly underdeveloped, I hope to be able to gain attention for the history of modern sociology in Italy, its institutionalization, and the "oblivion" of its roots during the early 20th century and the Fascist regime.

Michael DeCesare, Merrimack College

With the possible exception of the Section on Teaching and Learning, the Section on the History of Sociology is, in my view, the most relevant to the greatest number of sociologists of the ASA's 45 current sections. After all, each of us is living the history of sociology! My vision and priorities for the Section are simple: to foster a deeper understanding—among both sociologists and sociology students—of the field's history and development in this country; to replace the ideologically- and politically-driven arguments and debates that too often characterize American sociology with impartial data-driven analyses; and to help build a bridge between the history of sociology and the teaching and learning of sociology. These three priorities will guide me if I am elected to the History of Sociology Section's Council. I believe they represent the future of this Section. If we do not pursue them, I fear that we will find ourselves in the tragic position of watching American sociology grow taller while its roots wither.

Anne F. Eisenberg, SUNY Geneseo

I started actively participating in state, regional and national level sociology organizations as a first year graduate student back in 1991. I have presented papers and workshops at the ASA meetings since 1993 and have served on several ASA committees. I joined this section relatively recently as my research and writing interests have developed in the history of sociology. My past experience with other sections (Social Psychology, Theory and Teaching and Learning in Sociology) is that the connections I developed with other scholars interested in the same issues were beneficial to me as a teacher and scholar. My goals for serving on the council will be to encourage the recruitment of new members and encourage more active participation of current members. It is our interactions with one another, at meetings and through the newsletter, that provide the personal and intellectual sparks that stimulate our teaching and research.

Matthias Gross, Helmholltz Centre, Liepzig

I was drawn to the history of sociology as a graduate student by a conflict in the interpretation of the discipline's development. On the one hand, many of today's environmental sociologists, almost by reflex, regard classical sociology as detached from material and natural issues; on the other hand, many scholars in the sociology of science and technology treat classical authors as founding fathers and mothers of a sociology of the material environment. From then on, I have used the history of sociology in many shades to gauge the contributions of classical social thinkers useful for our analysis of contemporary issues and to rescue long forgotten contributions of classical sociology for current problems (mainly, but not exclusively, environmental issues). Today I mainly teach for non-sociologists, mostly natural scientists, who hardly know how to spell sociology before they enroll for the course. Lo and behold, in order to "convince" non-sociologists of the importance of sociology for the current age, classical insights and conceptual musings, including biographical anecdotes of some of the well and also the not so well known founders, have turned out to be the didactically best way to jolly non-sociologists along. I guess it is this perspective that I would like to get better known in the Section, that is, the challenges and also the benefits of teaching the history of sociology to non-sociologists.



Student Representative Candidates

Kristin Haltinner, University of Minnesota

As a student representative of the History of Sociology section, I plan to accomplish several tasks. First and foremost I will commit to expanding the participation and commitment of graduate students in the section. This is something drastically needed and, as a current graduate student, I am in the prime position for recruiting. The shortage of graduate students is not a result of the fees for membership, but is due to a lack of awareness among graduate students about our section. This can easily be changed through targeted recruitment based on information gathered at regional meetings, graduate school websites, and at the ASA annual meeting. Furthermore, graduate students are likely turned off by what they perceive to be a limited scope of scholarship offered by the section. As such, while serving as a student representative, I will answer the call from current chair Dr. Camic (December 2008) to expand our gaze beyond that which we traditionally study into the histories of political sociology and the sociology of migration. My research focuses on social movements as well as migration—two areas the section on the History of Sociology has yet to explore in depth—and it is prime time we ventured into more exciting areas.

Ethan Schoolman, University of Michigan

Present Professional Position:

Doctoral Student (3rd Year, post-qualifying exams) in the Department of Sociology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) in Sociology

Previous Professional Positions:

Graduate Fellow, University of Michigan Honors Program, 2006-07 Lecturer in Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, 2005

Education:

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M.A. in Political Science, Princeton University, 2005 (major fields: political theory, public law, and environmental studies)

B.A. in Fundamentals: Issues and Texts, University of Chicago, 1999

Publications and Professional Accomplishments:

National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention, 2007 University of Michigan Nonprofit and Public Management Center, Doctoral Research Award, 2007 "High Pass" in Sociology Department Qualifying Exam in Culture and Knowledge, 2006 Princeton University Environmental Institute, Research Grant, 2005 University of Chicago College Honors Scholarship, 1995-99

Vision: I come to sociology with a background in philosophy and political theory, but also with a deep commitment to political engagement, mainly in the area of environmental issues. As graduate student representative to the History of Sociology section, my hope is twofold: first, to strengthen the discipline's understanding of the reasons why people have gravitated toward—or been repulsed from—the study of human societies; and second, to address how sociology has been shaped by the desires and prejudices of sociologists themselves.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jan Marie Fritz , University of Cincinnati

Jan Marie Fritz, a professor at the University of Cincinnati and a vice president of the ISA, recently represented the ISA at the ACAS (the Association of Central American Sociologists) conference in San Salvador, El Salvador. She spoke about the history of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, "Women, Peace and Security." Her recent book, *International Clinical Sociology* (Springer, 2008), includes four contributions on the history of clinical sociology in the United States, Quebec, France and Japan. In addition all contributors to the volume were asked to connect their topics to the history of the country and/or the history of clinical sociology, 2008) included information about the history of the legislation and her article "Environmental Justice" (*Battleground: Women and Gender*, 2008) included a timeline of women's notable contributions to the environmental justice movement. jan.fritz@uc.edu

Uta Gerhardt, University of Heidelberg

Uta writes: "In the recent years, since 2005, I have published two books and six articles in journals etc., in German, reconstructing the contribution of American sociology in the 1940s toward the conception and the politics of reeducation for Germany under U.S. military government after the miasma of National Socialism.

At present, I am writing my third book on Talcott Parsons (in English), this time focusing on how his systems theory, from the 1930s to the 1970s, was geared toward understanding the ethos of American democracy, featuring US society as encompassing equality as well as freedom of the individual, the two principles not easily reconciled and constantly in jeopardy historically. The idea is to show that Parsons's theory, though allegedly dated, is indeed amazingly modern in its conception of civic culture and fits the globalized world."

Vincent Jeffries, Cal State, Northridge

Vince continues in his leadership role in the ASA Section-in-Formation on Altruism and Social Solidarity, and hopes that members of the HOS section will consider joining. In this connection, Vince notes that the study of altruism and social solidarity has historical roots dating back to the formative period of modern sociology.

Stephen Kalberg, Boston University

Some recent publications:

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism and Other Writings on the Rise of the West*, translated and introduced by Stephen Kalberg. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008.

"The Perpetual and Tight Interweaving of Past and Present in Max Weber's Sociology." Pp. 273-288 in *Max Weber Matters*, eds. D. Chalcraft, F. Howell, M. Lopez Menendez and H. Vera. Brighton, VT: Ashgate Publishers, 2008.



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Kalberg, continued

"Macro Comparisons in Max Weber's Sociology: Precautions, Possibilities, Achievements and Limitations." *Eurostudia: Transatlantic Journal for European Studies* 4, 2 (December 2008). <u>Http://www.cceae.umontreal.ca/-revue-Eurostudia</u>.

"Max Weber's Analysis of the Unique American Civic Sphere: Its Origins, Expansion, and Oscillations," *Journal of Classical Sociology* 9, 1 (February 2009): 117-142.

Mikaila Mariel Lemonik Arthur, Hamilton College

A recent publication — "Thinking Outside the Master's House: New Knowledge Movements and the Emergence of Academic Disciplines." *Social Movement Studies* 8:1, 71-85, 2009.

Larry Nichols, West Virginia University

Larry's paper, "The Russian Roots of Pitirim A. Sorokin's Sociological Work in the United States," was included in the proceedings volume of the recent conference commemorating the 120th anniversary of Sorokin's birth, which was held simultaneously in Moscow and Syktyvkar (Komi Republic). His paper, "Gordon W. Allport: Social Relations and Social Ethics at Harvard, 1943-1967," is accepted for presentation at the upcoming conference of Cheiron (International Association for the History of the Behavioral Sciences) at Penn State, in June.

Jeremy R. Porter, Rice University

A recent publication — Frank M. Howell and Jeremy R. Porter. (*Forthcoming/Accepted*). "Surveys and Geographical Information Systems," *Handbook of Survey Research, 2/e*, Peter V. Marsden and James D. Wright, Editors. Academic Press.

Research in Progress — Most recently, my primary research focus has been on the institutionalization and maintenance of white-flight, segregationist private academies in the American South and the related historical disinvestment by those communities in the local public school systems.

Awards and Grants — Outstanding Graduate/Postdoc paper competition, American Statistical Association (\$800.00 prize). To be presented at the annual "Joint Statistical Meetings" in Washington D.C., Aug. 2009.

Alexander Riley, Bucknell University, Sarah Daynes, New School, and Cyril Isnart, MMSH

A recent publication — *Saints, Heroes, Myths, and Rites: Six Durkheimian Studies*, By Robert Hertz, Henri Hubert, and Marcel Mauss. Translated and introduced by Alexander Riley, Sarah Daynes, and Cyril Isnart.

This volume of translations of works (nearly all never translated, currently out of print in English, or only available in expensive library editions) in the Durkheimian sociological tradition by Marcel Mauss, Henri Hubert, and Robert Hertz makes an important contribution to the appreciation of a historically foundational intellectual school. It also provides support for a significant reinterpretation of the Durkheimian theory of culture, religion, and symbolism and helps make that theory useful for contemporary work in cultural sociology. The introductory essay outlines this reinterpretive effort and situates the six studies in the volume with respect to it, pointing to contemporary work that can linked to these classic studies; it also carefully places each essay in the context of its production and gives a description of its substantive contents.

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These texts exploring the structure and production of myth, the cults and beliefs surrounding saints and heroes, and the sacred in pure and impure forms contribute theoretical insights that are relevant for the investigation of cultures both pre-modern and contemporary. Durkheim indicated in *The Elementary Forms* that the sacred would certainly transform itself in modernity, but he did not say much about how. Much contemporary work in cultural sociology has taken up the challenge of Durkheim's provocative observation in postulating new manifestations of the sacred in seemingly secular cultural forms. These texts show how thoroughly such efforts can be rooted in the work emerging in the original Durkheimian school during its heyday in the first two decades of the 20th century.

Diane Rodgers, Northern Illinois University

Diane M. Rodgers' (NIU) book, Debugging the Link between Social Theory and Social Insects (Louisiana University State Press 2008) explores the interdisciplinary connection between sociologists and entomologists during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Entomologists theorized that social insects—such as ants, bees, wasps, and termites—organize themselves into highly specialized, hierarchical divisions of labor. Using a distinctly human vocabulary that reflected the dominant social structure of the time, they described insects as queens, workers, and soldiers and categorized their behaviors with words like marriage, slavery, farming, and factories. At the same time, sociologists working to develop a model for human organization compared people to insects, relying on the same premise that humans arrange themselves hierarchically. These coconstructed theories reinforced one another, thereby naturalizing Western conceptions of race, class, and gender as they gained prominence in popular culture and the scientific world. Placing these theories in historical and cross-cultural context, Rodgers explains the widespread use of these hierarchical ideas, despite the existence of opposing theories in the literature. She provides sufficient background information to accommodate readers unfamiliar with entomology-including indepth explanations of the terms used in the research and discussion of social insects, particularly the insect sociality scale.

Pierre St. Arnaud, Universite de Laval

Pierre writes, "I am a relatively new member of ASA (summer 2008) and its HOS Section as well. I want to signal the publication of my recent book, released in the first weeks of February 2009: *African American Pioneers of Sociology: A Critical History*, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 381 pages. Six pioneers' works (DuBois, Johnson, Frazier, Cox, Cayton, Drake) are thoroughly examined and a comprehensive interpretation is proposed of their overall scientific production between the years 1896 and 1964.

I project to write another 'critical' book but on the present generations of African American sociologists: from the 1960's to the 2010's. In the above research, my scientific evidence was exclusively documentary (books, articles, speeches, reviews, etc.) since all the pioneers are now dead. In this new one, my evidence will combine documentary pieces and interviews with individuals and/or groups chosen on the basis of their expertise nationally and/or internationally recognized. Since this research project is in its earliest stages, any form of collaboration from colleagues attracted by its central subject is sincerely welcomed."

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I am currently working (my next book) on the following subject: the emergence and substantive development of the African American social novel as a major intellectual genre. The historical period covered by this sociological inquiry extends from the last quarter of the 19th century to the present times. Once again, any colleague and/or group interested by this type of research is invited to contact me at the following address : <u>pierre.st-arnaud@soc.ulaval.ca</u>."

Rosalind A. Sydie, Alberta

Re life after retirement, Rosalind writes, "I had been retired for about two months and had settled happily in the archives beginning some research on the artist Dora Mar, research I had formerly little time to pursue being Chair of the department prior to retirement, when I was asked to take on the organization of the University's Centenary. After some reflection I agreed and it has been an absolutely wonderful experience, quite different from anything I had done before and had great bonuses such as meeting some incredible scholars, artists, politicians and social activists who came to the university to help us celebrate the occasion. People such as Salman Rushdie, Edward O. Wilson, Jane Goodall, Mary Robinson, the six living former Prime Ministers of Canada, Margaret Atwood, and many more. In addition, as all of the faculties were involved in various events I had the good fortune to meet colleagues I had not encountered before and come to the realization that the university, which I had always thought was indeed a truly remarkable place, was even more outstanding than I had imagined.

Sometimes the "timelines" can surprise you. The Centenary is winding down and I am looking forward to resuming my research, but it was an exciting and unexpected blip in my retirement and if you are retired I can recommend that you "seize the day" if anything similar is offered."

Edward Tiryakian, Duke University

Ed sends the following note. "For Durkheim: Essays in Historical and Cultural Sociology will be published this spring by Ashgate Publishing Ltd. (ISBN 978-0-7546-7155-8). The 17 chapters in this volume cover a wide array of themes around Durkheim from the puzzling unawareness of Durkheim and Weber to original chapters on applying Durkheim to the Danish cartoons affair, and to avant-garde art. Some of the essays were first published in French and translated for this edition.

A forthcoming issue of *Footnotes* will carry my recollections of the ASA meeting in San Francisco 40 years ago when radical students held a rump meeting honoring "Sorokin Lives".

I have organized a regular session for the 2009 ASA meetings around the actuality of a modern classic, Benedict Anderson's *Imagined Community*.

To keep up with times, I have developed a new course for undergraduates and graduates, *comparative disaster studies*.

My paper, "Modernity and the return of mechanical solidarity," which was presented at the conference on Durkheim and Solidarity, held at the British Centre for Durkheimian Studies, Oxford, in October 2008 will appear in the festschrift *Raymond Boudon: A Life in Sociology* (Oxford: Bardwell Press, 2009). "



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Section Officers 2008–2009

Chair: Charles Camic, Northwestern University Chair Elect: Craig Calhoun, SSRC Past Chair: Jennifer Platt, University of Sussex Secretary-Treasurer: Mikaila Mariel Lemonik Arthur, Hamilton College

Council:

- Silvia Pedraza, University of Michigan (2006-2009)
- Alford A. Young Jr., University of Michigan (2006-2009)
- Marcel Fournier, Universite de Montreal (2007-2010)
- Richard Swedberg, Cornell University (2007-2010)
- Anthony J. Blasi, Tennessee State (2008-2011)
- Kay Richards Broschart, Hollins (2008-2011)

Student Representatives:

- Michelle Christian, Duke University (2008-2010)
- Zandria F. Robinson, Northwestern University (2008-2009)

Section Committees 2008-2009

HOS Committees

Program Committee

- Charles Camic, Northwestern (Chair)
- Craig Calhoun, SSRC
- Michael Hill, Nebraska
- Neil McLaughlin, McMaster

Membership Committee

- Richard Swedberg, Cornell (Chair)
- Larry Nichols, West Virginia

Nominations Committee

- Jennifer Platt, Sussex (Chair)
- Matthieu Deflem, South Carolina
- Neil Gross, British Columbia

HOS Prize Committees

Distinguished Scholarly Publication

- Margaret Somers, Michigan (Chair)
- Tony Blasi, Tennessee
- Kay R. Broschart, Hollins College

Distinguished Achievement

- Craig Calhoun, SSRC (Chair)
- Gary Alan Fine, Northwestern
- George Steinmetz, New School

Graduate Student Prize

- Zandria Robinson, Northwestern (Chair)
- Owen Whooley, NYU
- Michelle Christian, Duke