



## American Sociological Association Council Highlights

ASA Council held its mid-year meeting on February 7, 2015, in Washington, DC. Pending Council approval and online posting of the minutes, the following is a snapshot of key decisions and discussions.

**Minutes.** The minutes for the summer Council meetings on August 19-20, 2014, were approved and are now posted at <[www.asanet.org/about/Council\\_Minutes.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/about/Council_Minutes.cfm)>.

### Budgets.

- Approved the general operating budget and the Spivack budget for 2015.
- Approved the MFP budget for 2015-2016 with an allocation from the Spivack Fund to support two additional Fellows.

### Publications.

- Selected new editors for three ASA journals:
  - *American Sociological Review*, Omar Lizardo, Rory McVeigh, and Sarah Mustillo (Notre Dame University)
  - *Sociological Methodology*, Duane Alwin (Penn State University)
  - *Sociological Theory*, Mustafa Emirbayer (University of Wisconsin).
- Approved a one-time 50-page increase for *Contemporary Sociology*.
- Approved the Committee on Publications' recommendation not to renew the experiment of posting vision statements from candidates for editorships.
- Approved placing on the 2015 ASA Ballot a change in the ASA Bylaws to expand the size of the Committee on Publications from six to nine elected members.
- Supported the appointment of a subcommittee of the Committee on Publications to review the guidelines for ASA and section journals.

### New Grants.

- **Archives.** Acclaimed the National Science Foundation peer panel recommendation for funding of the grant application "*Creating a Digital Archive for Research on the Production of Scientific Knowledge*" (ASA Editorial Office Files 1991-2010); final award pending adjustments to the budget and timeframe;
- **FAD.** Acclaimed the National Science Foundation peer panel recommendation for renewal funding of the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline; final award pending.

**Amicus Brief.** Confirmed proceeding with preparations to file a second *amicus curiae* brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on the impact on children of two-parent gay, lesbian, and different-sex parents.

### Annual Meetings.

- Approved setting up a working group to communicate to members available information about criteria for meeting site selection; obtain input from the ASA membership about preferences for meeting dates and sites; explore possible cost savings for the meeting, including moving away from the weekend; and make recommendations to Council.

- Authorized the ASA President to appoint the working group members, with the expectation that appointments would include the ASA Secretary, several Council members, the ASA Executive Officer and appropriate staff members (*ex officio*), and several ASA members with varying perspectives.
- Clarified current policies on children entering the ASA Exhibit Hall.

#### **Sections.**

- Reviewed and approved proposed bylaws amendments for six sections: Comparative and Historical Sociology; Communications and Information Technology; Latina/o Sociology; Economic Sociology; Altruism, Morality and Social Solidarity; and Global and Transnational Sociology.
- Revised and approved bylaw amendments for the Section on Political Economy of the World System.

**Status Committees.** Accepted reports from the Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology and the Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons in Sociology.

#### **Task Forces.**

- Approved the proposed members for the new Task Force on *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Major*, Third Edition.
- Acclaimed the decision of Oxford University Press to publish the edited volume of new material prepared by the ASA Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change.
- Accepted an update from the Task Force on Community College Sociology Faculty.
- Reviewed the report of the Task Force on Engaging Sociology's subcommittee on the ASA website in conjunction with the decision made by the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget in January to allocate resources for a complete redesign the ASA website.