September 2009

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The New Academic Year
Dear Professor Kivisto:

The new academic year is under way, and Chairlink is back from its summer hiatus. For many of you, the sense of excitement and potential of the new year may be tempered by the challenges you and your campus are facing. The economic crisis has led to furloughs, travel spending and merit increase eliminations, and a wide range of other cost-cutting measures. The threat of H1N1 virus is adding another challenge. Today’s Washington Post reports that “swine flu appears to have spread to most of the country’s colleges and universities.” A much happier challenge comes in the form of a new group of students – veterans taking advantage of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, which went into effect on August 1, 2009.

Being a department chair is never an easy job. The Department Affiliates Program and Chairlink are designed to support you and your department. Chairlink will help you stay current on issues in higher education and sociology, connect you to resources to help you with your organizational tasks, help you promote effective teaching and a learning within the department, and give you advance access to important notices regarding funding and publication opportunities for you and your department faculty.

If you have any feedback—positive or negative—about this or any issue of Chairlink, please send it to me at vitullo@asanet.org.

Wishing all of you a successful and productive year!

Margaret Weigers Vitullo, PhD
Director, Academic and Professional Affairs Program

News from the ASA

Department Affiliate renewal packets
Renewal packets for the 2009-2010 Department Affiliates year will be mailed out later this month. They will include copies of the new booklet “21st Century Careers with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology,” designed to help undergraduates understand the skills that today’s employers are seeking, and the ways a sociology major helps build those skills. The packets also include copies of the completely revised and updated brochure, “Sociology: A 21st Century Major.” The brochure is designed to help departments reach out to potential majors. It answers the question ‘What is sociology?’ and includes quotes from students about why they chose to major in sociology. It also includes a list of specific employable skills that students gain by studying sociology, and quotes from recent graduates about the jobs they got after graduation.

*If you haven’t renewed your Department Affiliate status, be sure to do so ASAP to avoid missing the renewal packet. Just click here to renew.*

**Help us amplify sociology’s voice through communications collaboration.**

ASA’s Public Information Office is seeking the assistance of department chairs in our efforts to spotlight the discipline and members’ research to the media and general public.

The Public Information Office proactively generates news coverage for sociological research published in ASA journals and pitches experts to lend a sociological perspective to hot topics and news of the day. In addition, we field hundreds of incoming media requests each year to help journalists identify appropriate sociological sources for news reports. Reporters stay abreast of the latest sociological news by subscribing to our RSS newsfeed and “following” ASA on Twitter.

So how can chairs help? The Public Information Office has been steadily building a roster of university press office contacts and we’d like to make sure we have representation from your institution. ASA collaborates with university communications representatives to increase the breadth and depth of our media relations efforts. We communicate with university public relations contacts to keep them abreast of newsworthy research by faculty members published in ASA journals or presented at ASA meetings and in return they keep us informed of notable initiatives at their institutions involving ASA members.

Please help ASA’s Public Information Office build a more comprehensive roster of university communications staff by sending an e-mail to pubinfo@asanet.org including the name, phone number and e-mail address of the public relations contact(s) at your institution who manage(s) media relations for your department or the social sciences. By doing so, you’ll be helping us build an army of sociological “evangelists” to spread the latest news of the discipline! Thanks in advance for your help, and be sure to keep abreast of news from ASA by visiting our online pressroom.

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**Resources for Department Chairs**
Discussion Board for Department Chairs and Deans

(Chronicle Forum)

Looking for advice for new chairs? Dealing with a bully in the department? Need to know how other departments are coping with furloughs? Check out the Chronicle of Higher Education’s Forum for Department Chairs and Deans.

The Burden of Confidentiality (The Chronicle)

“Over the years, I’ve observed countless department heads struggle with faculty members over administrative decisions that appeared, at first glance, to be arbitrary or self-serving. But often, those decisions arose out of personnel actions that compelled the department heads to observe strict confidentiality. The chairs were powerless in defending against criticism because to do so would reveal that a personnel action was at the root of the decision. That very revelation would likely signal who was involved, thereby violating confidentiality even without divulging details....” Click here to read the rest of Gary Olson’s useful article from The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Teaching Tidbits

Understanding Great Teaching (PEER REVIEW)

What is the meaning of great teaching? How are great teachers different than popular ones? How can professors foster deep learning, rather than surface learning or strategic learning? This thought-provoking article from the AAC&U argues that “human beings are most likely to learn deeply when they are trying to solve problems or answer questions that they have come to regard as important, intriguing, or beautiful.”

Teaching Sociology Through Documentary Film

Need to recommend films for the library collection? Jessi Daniels at Hunter College—CUNY has started a wiki that lists documentary films that relate to many of the major concepts and areas of investigation within sociology.

Articles

“Down Market? Findings from the 2008 Job Market Study” Early Release for Department Affiliates Only

Those seeking new assistant professor positions in sociology in AY 2008-09 face a difficult job market as the number of job openings decreased and some jobs were cancelled before and after the search began. Still, 70% of jobs advertised were filled with the highest percentage at bachelor’s-only schools. Find out more in the new brief, Down Market? Findings from the 2008 Job Bank Study.

Two Inside Higher Ed articles about sociology
“Sociology Turns Up Assessment” – Measuring student outcomes continues to be a force in higher education. *Inside Higher Ed* noted that assessment is wide-spread in sociology, and still increasing.

“The Missing Masters Students” – Based on findings from the *ASA Task Force on the Masters Degree in Sociology*, this Inside Higher Ed article includes an example of a Masters in Sociology program that was in danger of closing, but when faculty reconceptualized the program’s emphasis and added professional training, became a success story. [Click here](#) to learn more about the ASA’s work to better understand and support the Master’s degree.

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### Professional Opportunities to Share with Students & Faculty

*Department Affiliates receive advance notice of calls for papers, meetings, and funding opportunities that will appear approximately a month later in Footnotes.*

- **Call for Papers – Publications**

  *Foucault Studies* special issue on the relations between the work of Michel Foucault and Giorgio Agamben. This issue aims to collect and present a set of essays concerning many different facets of the influence and resonance between them. Deadline: February 15, 2010. Contact: Jeffrey Bussolini at bussolini@gmail.com with “Agamben Issue” in the subject line.

  *Handbook of Research on Educational Leadership for Diversity and Equity*. This AERA project will feature chapters that reframe research within the field of educational leadership, a reframing consonant with the existing social, cultural, economic, and political contexts of U.S. schools. The goal is to present theoretical and empirical scholarship that focuses on socially just educational leadership, particularly with respect to the education of diverse student populations. Proposals are due by November 1, 2009. Submit to Linda C. Tillman at ltillman@email.unc.edu or James Joseph “Jim” Scheurich at jscheurich@tamu.edu. For more information, visit <www.aera.net/HREL.htm>.

  *The Journal of Homosexuality* is devoted to scholarly research on homosexuality, including sexual practices and gender roles and their cultural, historical, interpersonal, and modern social contexts. Researchers and practitioners interested in current knowledge about human sexuality will find every issue of this journal brimming with a balanced selection of scholarly and practical articles. The frequency of the journal will also be increased from eight to ten issues beginning in 2010. The *Journal of Homosexuality* welcomes the submission of papers on a variety of topics and from a range of disciplines and perspectives for review and publication. For more information, visit <www.tandf.co.uk/journals/WJHM>.

  *New Voices in Sociological Theory and Methodology*. The editors of a new volume tentatively, titled *New Voices in Sociological Theory and Methodology*, invite chapter proposals of up to 500 words from sociologists who have received their PhDs within the last 10 years and are pursuing new directions in sociological theory and methodology. Submission deadline is November 1, 2009. The editors invite the new generation of sociologists to
evaluate and critique the traditional, theoretical, and methodological approaches taken by 20th century sociologists, and to offer suggestions for new paths forward. The overarching goal of the volume is to move students beyond current textbook treatments of theory and methods by offering them a look at the trends of the sociology of tomorrow. Therefore, the editors encourage prospective contributors to think creatively, critically, and philosophically about sociological theory and methods, and to propose chapters on a variety of topics that they consider important, timely, and in most dire need of a critical examination. Contact: Ieva Zake at zake@rowan.edu; Michael DeCesare at decesarem@merrimack.edu.

○ Call for Papers - Meetings

31st Annual Conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association, March 11-13, 2010, University of Tampa, Tampa, FL. Theme: “Theatricality and the Performative in the Long Nineteenth Century.” Dramatic expression and self-conscious performances marked almost every aspect of 19th century life and artistic culture, as theatrical turns and performative mindsets introduced in the 17th and 18th centuries through the beginning of World War One. Proposals for papers and panels that bring scholarly and theoretical interests in performativity to bear on concepts of identity, individuality, and audience in the given era are welcome. Submit abstracts of approximately 500 words along with a brief CV to the Program Co-Chairs, Janice Simon and Regina Hewitt at ncsa2010@earthlink.net by September 15, 2009. Any graduate student whose proposal is accepted may submit a full-length version of the paper in competition for a travel grant. Contact: ncsa2010@earthlink.net; <www/english.uwosh.edu/roth/ncsa>.

British Sociological Association Annual Conference 2010, April 7-9, 2010, Glasgow Caledonian University. The British Sociological Association invites submissions to its 2010 Annual Conference. Participants can present on topics they wish within broad streams (and open streams) that reflect the core research areas of the membership. Deadline: September 25, 2009. Contact: BSAConference@britsoc.org.uk; <www.britsoc.co.uk/events/Conference>.

Cross Cultural Bioethics Session at the International Sociological Association World Congress, July 11-17, 2010, Gothenburg, Sweden. The broad theme of this session is the history, evolution, and social functions of bioethics work around the globe and across cultures. Academics and researchers who wish to promote the field internationally within the social science community are strongly encouraged to submit their proposals. Submission Deadline: October 1st, 2009. Contact: Kristina Orfali at ko2145@columbia.edu or Raymond DeVries at devries@umn.edu; <www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc15.htm>.

Sixth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 26-29, 2010, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign. Theme: “Qualitative Inquiry for a Global Community in Crisis.” It is clear that in these troubling political times qualitative researchers are called upon to become human rights advocates, to honor the sanctity of life, and promote the core values of privacy, human dignity, peace, justice, freedom from fear and violence. Submissions of papers, posters, and session proposals are invited. Submissions will be accepted online from October 1-December 1, 2009. For more information, visit <www.icqi.org>.
Meeting Announcements


October 26-28, 2009. *First Triennial Conference on Latino Education and Immigrant Integration*, University of Georgia’s Center for Latino Achievement and Success in Education, Athens, GA. The conference will provide an important venue for research, policy, and information regarding immigrants and education, particularly in the rapidly changing Southeast. For more information, visit <www.coe.uga.edu/clase/conference/index.htm>.


November 5-8, 2009. *1989: The Fall of the Berlin Wall, Twenty Years After*, Laguna Beach, CA. The Fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 signaled the termination of the Communist state and all its trappings in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and brought about the birth of something new across the region. 20 years later, we can see that change after 1989 has taken all manner of varying shapes. Contact: Nina Bandelj at nbandelj@uci.edu, or Dorothy Solinger at dorjsol@uci.edu; <www.democ.uci.edu>


December 13-14, 2010. *First Critical Governance Studies Conference*, University of Warwick. The objective of the conference is to bring together scholars and activists challenging orthodoxies and developing critical approaches to the study of governance. Contact: 02476 574688; yvonne.field@wbs.ac.uk; <go.warwick.ac.uk/orthodoxies>.

March 11-13, 2010. *31st Annual Conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association*, University of Tampa, Tampa, FL. Theme: “Theatricality and the Performative in the Long Nineteenth Century.” Contact: ncsa2010@earthlink.net.
March 31-April 3, 2010. Joint Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society and the North Central Sociological Association, Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL. Theme: “Communities in an Age of Social Transformation.” Contact: Peter J. Kivisto at PeterKivisto@augustana.edu; Debra H. Swanson at swansond@hope.edu.

April 7-9, 2010. British Sociological Association Annual Conference 2010, Glasgow Caledonian University. Contact: BSAConference@britsoc.org.uk; <www.britsoc.co.uk/events/Conference>.


May 26-29, 2010. Sixth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Theme: "Qualitative Inquiry for a Global Community in Crisis." For more information, visit <www.icqi.org>.

July 11-17, 2010. Cross-Cultural Bioethics Session at the International Sociological Association World Congress, Gothenburg, Sweden. The broad theme of this session is the history, evolution, and social functions of bioethics work around the globe and across cultures. Contact: Kristina Orfali at ko2145@columbia.edu or Raymond DeVries at devries@umn.edu; <www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010/rc/rc15.htm>.

Funding

American Philosophical Society Franklin Research Grants. The Franklin program is designed to help meet the costs of travel to libraries and archives for research purposes; the purchase of microfilm, photocopies, or equivalent research materials; the costs associated with fieldwork; or laboratory research expenses. Franklin grants are made for noncommercial research and are not intended to meet the expenses of attending conferences or the costs of publication. Applicants are expected to have a doctorate or to have published work of doctoral character and quality. Funding is offered up to a maximum of $6,000 for use in calendar year 2010. Grants are not retroactive. Application deadlines: October 1, 2009, and December 1, 2009. Contact: Linda Musumeci, (215) 440-3429; LMusumeci@amphilsoc.org; <www.amphilsoc.org/grants/franklin.htm>.

The Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies offers up to one year of research support at the Freie Universität Berlin. It is open to scholars in all social science and humanities disciplines. The program accepts applications from U.S. and Canadian nationals or permanent residents. Applicants for a dissertation fellowship must be full-time graduate students enrolled at a North American university who have achieved ABD status by the time the proposed research stay in Berlin begins or U.S. and Canadian PhDs who have received their doctorates within the past two calendar years. Deadline: December 1, 2009. Contact: bprogram@zedat.fu-berlin.de; <userpage.fu-berlin.de/~bprogram>.

Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellowships. American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) invites applications for the ninth annual competition for the Charles A. Ryskamp
Research Fellowships. These fellowships support advanced assistant professors and untenured associate professors in the humanities and related social sciences whose scholarly contributions have advanced their fields and who have well-designed and carefully developed plans for new research. The fellowships are intended to provide time and resources to enable these faculty members to conduct their research under optimal conditions. ACLS does not fund creative work (e.g., novels or films), textbooks, straightforward translation, or pedagogical projects. ACLS will award up to 12 Ryskamp Fellowships in the 2009-2010 competition. Each fellowship carries a stipend of $64,000. Ryskamp Fellowships are intended to support an academic year of research (nine months), plus an additional summer’s research (two months) if justified. Applicants must hold the PhD or equivalent and be employed in tenure-track positions at degree-granting academic institutions in the United States. For more information, visit <www.acls.org/grants/Default.aspx?id=408>.

First Book Grant for Minority Scholars. The Louisville Institute’s First Book Grant Program for Minority Scholars seeks to assist junior, non-tenured religion scholars of color to complete a major research and book project, focusing on some issue pertaining to American Christianity. This grant program seeks to enable scholars to spend an entire academic year devoted to that research project while free of other professional responsibilities. The Louisville Institute is interested in identifying and supporting scholars of color who seek through their academic work to be in conversation with church leaders and to strengthen their faith communities. Application materials should demonstrate both the applicant’s proficiency in the academy and commitment to her or his faith community. All materials must be postmarked by January 15, 2010. The grant amount requested should not exceed $40,000. For more information, visit <www.louisville-institute.org/Grants/programs/fbmdetail.aspx>.

Foundation for Child Development (FCD) Young Scholars Competition. FCD’s Young Scholars Program supports a new generation of scholars conducting research on the development of young children in immigrant families, particularly those who are low-income. Researchers must have earned their doctoral degrees within the last 15 years, and be tenure-track faculty members at a U.S. college or university. Three to four fellowships of up to $150,000 for use over one to three years (and in rare cases, up to five years) will be awarded. Tenure-equivalent positions are not eligible for the program. Deadline: November 4, 2009. Contact: ysp@fcd-us.org; <www.fcd-us.org/usr_doc/YSPProgDescipt2010.pdf>.

Humboldt Research Fellowship enables highly qualified scientists and scholars of all nationalities and disciplines to carry out research projects for extended periods of time in cooperation with academic hosts at research institutions in Germany. Fellowships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, the quality and feasibility of the proposed research and the applicant’s publications. Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers: Postdoctoral scientists and scholars who have completed a doctoral degree within four years prior to the application submission date are eligible. This fellowship allows for a stay of 6-24 months in Germany and provides a monthly stipend of €2,250. For more information, visit <www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/771.html>. Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers: Scientists and scholars who have completed a doctoral degree within 12 years prior to the application submission date are eligible. This fellowship allows for a stay of 6-18 months in Germany which may be divided into a maximum of three visits of at least three months each an provides a monthly stipend of €2,450. For more information, visit <www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/1710.html>.
Applications may be submitted at any time.

The Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship Program is designed to support the final year PhD or ThD dissertation writing for students engaged in research pertaining to North American Christianity. Applicants must have fulfilled all pre-dissertation requirements, including approval of the dissertation proposal, by February 1 and expect to complete the dissertation by the end of the following academic year. Eligible proposals should promise a significant contribution to the study of American religion. Preference will be given to proposals that attempt to describe more fully how the Christian faith is actually lived by contemporary persons and to bring the resources of the Christian faith into closer relation to their daily lives, helps us understand more adequately the institutional reconfiguration of American religion, or explores the nature and challenge of pastoral leadership. Proposed projects may employ a variety of methodological perspectives and may be interdisciplinary in nature. All materials must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2010. Dissertation Fellowships will provide a stipend of $19,000 for twelve months beginning in September. Fellowships are not renewable. All tuition, medical insurance, and required fees are the responsibility of the student. For more information, visit <www.louisville-institute.org/Grants/programs/dfdetail.aspx>.

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships. American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) invites applications for the fourth annual competition for the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships. These fellowships are to assist graduate students in the humanities and related social sciences in the last year of PhD dissertation writing. Applicants must be prepared to complete their dissertations within the period of their fellowship tenure and no later than August 31, 2011. ACLS will award 65 fellowships in this competition for a one-year term. The total award of up to $33,000 includes a stipend plus additional funds for university fees and research support. Deadline: November 11, 2009. For more information, visit <www.acls.org/grants/Default.aspx?id=512>.

Competitions

AAAS – Science to Serve Society Fellowship. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) seeks applicants for its annual Science & Technology Policy Fellowships. Doctoral level, U.S. citizen sociologists are encouraged to apply for these year-long fellowships (beginning Sept. 1, 2010), which allow a unique opportunity to apply knowledge and skills to national and international issues in the federal policy realm, while learning first-hand how to craft policy in Congress and implement policy in more than 15 federal agencies. Fellows represent a spectrum of career stages--from recent PhD graduates, faculty on sabbatical, retired scientists--and come from a range of sectors--from academia, industry, non-profits, and government labs. Register for an October 2 webinar at <w.on24.com/r.htm?e=160694&s=1&k=D785140CCA5582862DACE58A06E97335> to learn more. Among other benefits, stipend is $73K-$95K (depending on experience and previous salary); relocation allowance (up to $4K if greater than 50 miles outside Washington, DC), and reimbursement for health insurance and travel/training to conferences. Deadline is December 15, 2009. Online applications only at <www.fellowships.aaas.org/>.

AACU – K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award. The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award recognizes graduate students who show exemplary promise as future leaders of higher education; who demonstrate a commitment to developing academic and civic responsibility in themselves and others; and whose work reflects a strong emphasis on
teaching and learning. The awards honor the work of K. Patricia Cross, Professor Emerita of Higher Education at the University of California-Berkeley. From 1996 through 2005, the K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Awards were administered by the American Association for Higher Education, where Professor Cross had served as Chair of AAHE’s Board of Directors. The Association of American Colleges and Universities became the partner association in 2006 and is pleased to continue the tradition of this prestigious award. Deadline is October 5, by standard mail.