

Committee on Publications
Meeting Minutes
American Sociological Association
August 9, 2020

Participants: *Elected members:* Abigail C. Saguy (Chair), Julia Adams, Syed Ali, Mary Bernstein, Philip Cohen, Nancy López, Nancy A. Naples, Mary Romero, Kristen Schilt, Kristin Turney, and Debra Umberson. (Umberson was present for part of the meeting, but not during voting.). *Editors:* Yasemin Besen-Cassino, Jody Clay-Warner, Aaron Gullickson, Michele Kozimor, Rory M. McVeigh, David Melamed, Dina Okamoto, Timothy J. Owens, Linda Renzulli, Susan Roxborough, Iddo Tavory, Michael Vuolo; *Staff:* Karen Gray Edwards, Nancy Kidd, Jamie Panzarella; *Guests:* Marlese Durr (incoming member), Gary Alan Fine (incoming member), Andrew Thompson (SAGE Publishing).

Call to order

Chair Abigail Saguy called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Eastern. Introductions were made and incoming members of the committee were welcomed. Saguy reviewed the format of the meeting as well as the expectations of confidentiality for all participants. Saguy explained that all agenda items will be discussed with the Committee and editors present. Then the Committee will move into executive session without editors for further deliberation and voting. *Note that for ease of comprehension, in these minutes we have included the ultimate vote on each issue immediately following the description of the item, though in fact the votes (except approval of the agenda and January 2020 meeting minutes) were all taken during the executive session at the end of the meeting.*

Approval of the agenda. Saguy drew the Committee's attention to the agenda in the meeting materials.

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

January 2020 meeting minutes. Saguy indicated that the draft minutes for the last committee meeting are in the meeting materials.

A motion was made to approve the January 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The Committee on Publications moved into executive session at 12:21 p.m.

Sociology of Education editor selection activities. Director of Publications Karen Gray Edwards summarized the written materials that were provided to the Committee with an update on the search for a new editor for *Sociology of Education*.

State of the journal and editor selection: City & Community. Edwards summarized the written state of the journal report provided by the Community and Urban Sociology section and

introduced the section's recommendation for a new editor of *City & Community*. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Support the Community and Urban Sociology section's selection for the next editor of City & Community. Motion carried.

Deputy editor and editorial board nominations. Saguy introduced the journal editors' nominations for Committee consideration. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Approve the deputy editor and editorial board nominations submitted by journal and Rose Series editors for 2021-2023 service as presented. Motion carried.

Proposal for Teaching Sociology special issue with guest editors. Saguy presented a proposal from the current journal editor for a guest-edited special issue of *Teaching Sociology* on "Teaching Horror, Dystopia, and the Post/Apocalypse in the Sociology Classroom." The guest editors will be Graham Cassano, Barb Gurr, Melissa Lavin, and Christina Zozula.

Motion: Approve the Teaching Sociology special issue as presented. Motion carried.

The Committee on Publications moved out of executive session at 12:31 p.m.

One-time page increase requests. Edwards presented a proposal from the editor of *Social Psychology Quarterly* for a temporary increase of 63 pages for the December 2020 special issue on "Social Networks and Social Psychology" and a proposal from the editor of *Sociology of Education* for a temporary increase of 20 pages to publish one additional article in the October 2020 issue.

Motion: Approve 63 additional pages for the December 2020 special issue of SPQ. Motion carried.

Motion: Approve 20 additional pages for the October 2020 issue of SOE. Motion carried.

Permanent page increase request for Sociology of Education. Edwards presented a proposal from the editor of *Sociology of Education* to permanently increase the journal's page allocation by 40 pages each year starting in 2021.

Motion: Approve a permanent increase in the Sociology of Education page allocation from 390 to 430 starting in 2021. Motion carried.

Permanent page increase request for City & Community. Edwards presented a proposal from the Community and Urban Sociology section to permanently increase the journal's page allocation by 216 pages each year starting in 2021.

Motion: Approve a permanent increase in the City & Community page allocation from 384 to 600 starting in 2021. Motion failed. [Note, however, that the amount of content on a SAGE page is substantially greater than on a Wiley page. Therefore, with the switch in

publishers, the journal is automatically getting an annual increase equivalent to 70 Wiley pages.]

Use of non-gendered singular pronoun/capitalization for race groups. The Committee on Publications had a discussion about the *ASA Style Guide*'s approach for using the singular "they" as a generic third-person singular pronoun. The Committee also had a discussion about the *ASA Style Guide*'s approach for capitalizing race groups.

Motion: Bring a proposal to Council to change our guidance to authors in the ASA Style Guide as follows—Recommend the use of the universal "they" as a singular pronoun while providing an option to authors to offer a rationale for alternate approaches.

Motion carried.

Motion: Bring a proposal to Council to change our guidance to authors in the ASA Style Guide as follows—Recommend capitalizing colors when used to describe social status groups while providing an option to authors to offer a rationale for alternate approaches.

Motion carried.

Motion: Form a subcommittee composed of Marlese Durr, Nancy López, Kristen Schilt, and Saher Selod to focus on producing the specific language for the proposals to Council. The proposals of the subcommittee will be considered at the Publications Committee meeting in January 2021. Motion carried.

Report from ad hoc data committee. Julia Adams, chair of the ad hoc data committee, introduced the report. The committee had two mandates. First, develop a statement regarding conditions for sharing data and research materials in a context of ethical and inclusive production of knowledge. Second, review the question about sharing data currently asked of all authors submitting manuscripts to incorporate some of the key points of the Committee on Publications' earlier discussions.

Motion: Recommend to Council the mandate 1 and 2 proposals from the ad hoc committee, with one specified line edit, to Council in March 2021. Form a subcommittee of Syed Ali and Julia Adams to develop a detailed approach for collecting responses to mandate 2, including the possibility of offering drop-down menus with prepopulated reasons for not providing data. Motion carried.

The committee took a break at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened at 2:20 p.m.

Report from SAGE. Andrew Thompson, Social Science Editor at SAGE Publishing, highlighted a few points from the SAGE annual report included in the meeting materials. Discussion ensued.

Appointment of new Publications Committee chair. Saguy proposed appointment of Kristin Turney as the next chair of the Committee after consultation with all of the members going into their second year of service, the group traditionally considered for the role. [Note that in new

bylaws going into effect as of September 1, 2020, the name of the Committee on Publications will become the Publications Committee.]

Motion: Approve Kristin Turney as chair of the Publications Committee for the term September 1, 2020-August 31, 2022. Motion carried.

Outgoing member appreciation. Saguy expressed gratitude to outgoing committee members and editors. Executive Director Kidd expressed gratitude to Saguy for her exemplary service as chair of the committee for the last two years.

Executive session. The Committee took a break at 2:48 p.m. and then moved into executive session without editors present at 3:03 p.m. to continue deliberation and vote on all of the agenda items. *Note, again, that these votes are reflected above in the meeting minutes.*

Adjournment. Saguy adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.