

Annual Report for the Economic Sociology Section

For membership year 2015-16

Prepared by Alya Guseva, Past Chair of the Section.

October, 10, 2016



Introduction

Dear Section Past Chair;

Section Annual Reports are an important tool for building your section's institutional memory and history. In addition, they are one of the most valuable tools that the Association has to assess the vitality of your section. These reports are read and discussed by the Committee on Sections at its Fall/Winter meeting. Afterwards they are retained in the ASA's Sections archive and will be available upon request for future section members and officers.

Annual Reports should cover your section's activities during your term as chair, or approximately from the end of the previous year's Annual Meeting to the end of this year's.

Please send your completed report to the Executive Office by October 15th of this year. We prefer your reports are sent in electronic format rather than in print. Any printed materials sent to us will be converted into an electronic format.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments or concerns. I am here to assist you. Thank you for your hard work and creativity over these last several years, and congratulations for the successful completion of your term as Chair of your Section.

Sincerely,
Justin Lini, MA
Program Coordinator for Sections, American Sociological Association.
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Section Governance

This first section of the report details your section's governance activity during the last year.

Business Meeting

This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting's minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made at this meeting.

In the absence of Section Secretary/Treasurer Delia Baldassarri, minutes were prepared by Chair-Elect Nancy DiTomaso and Chair Alya Guseva.

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and report on section activities
- 2) Thanks to outgoing members of the Council and welcome to newly elected ones
- 3) Membership
- 4) Section finances
- 5) Section awards
- 6) Installing the new Chair and next year programming

Meeting Minutes

- 1) Welcome and report on section activities

Section Chair Alya Guseva started the meeting at 3:40 p.m. There were 45 people present in the room who signed the sign-up sheet that was passed around. Many noted that they would be willing to volunteer for the Section.

Alya reported on a very successful year, and expressed her thanks to the Section membership for giving her this opportunity.

One of the highlight of this year was the inaugural Section mini-conference on the New Economy held the day before the ASA meetings. There were more than 90 people in attendance, pretty equally split between students and faculty. The organizing committee received about 80 abstracts and accommodated 41 in 9 panels, 3 panels running concurrently. Alya thanked the organizing committee: Nancy DiTomaso, Marc Ventresca, Lauren Rivera, Nina Bandelj, Adam Goldstein, Angelina Grigoryeva and Sarah Quinn, noting that Sarah was phenomenal as a local organizer who procured space and organized the reception (joint with the Comparative Historical Section preconference held on the same day). Alya also mentioned a group of dedicated University of Washington graduate students led by Jenni Brandstad (Lynette Shaw, Lanu Kim and Karina Rider) who kept a tight watch on local logistics. Alya also thanked Dustin Stoltz who facilitated online registration. The costs of the miniconference were fully covered, we did not have to tap into the Section budget: 1/3 of the costs covered through registration, 2/3 through external fundraising.

For the regular ASA program, which started today, the section organized 4 panels, including one invited panel, and three defined topic panels (thanks to panel organizers: Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra, who organized an invited panel on Infrastructures of Valuation; Bruce Carruthers who organized a panel on Money, Credit and Society; Marc Schneiberg who organized a panel on

Sociology Without Borders, which took place immediately after the Business meeting; and Tim Bartley on Market Processes and Economic Lives in the Era of Neoliberalism, which was scheduled for the following day)

We also organized 17 roundtables, and thanks were given to Aaron Pitluck -- for undertaking the arduous task of selecting and organizing papers into topics, reorganizing when people pulled out and finding excellent presiders for all of them – as well as all those who agreed to preside.

Victor Nee organized 4 additional ASA Regular panels on economic sociology topics.

Alya reported on the publication of three issues of *Accounts* and thanked the hardworking Boston area editorial group: Will Attwood-Charles, Emily Bryant, Rebecca Farber, Alaz Kilicaslan, Barbara Kiviat, Carly Knight and Kim Pernell-Gallagher. The team solicited and published a lot of original material – reviews and interviews – many focused on the mission Alya articulated for her year as the Chair – that of crossing boundaries (subdisciplinary, disciplinary, national and academic).

Alya also mentioned that the Section co-sponsored a new initiative: *Work in Progress: Short-form sociology on the economy, work and inequality*, which is a public sociology blog of the American Sociological Association (ASA). It is co-sponsored by four Sections of the ASA: OOW, Labor and Labor Movements, and Inequality, Poverty and Mobility. Dan Hirschman acts as the Section liaison for it. Alya asked Matt Vidal, one of the founding editors, who was present in the audience, to take a couple of minutes to make a pitch. Matt informed the audience that the purpose of this initiative was to write accessible sociology for a general audience and welcome submissions. Each submission piece should be 800-1000 words, which can be a summary of a journal article, a book, or analysis and/or commentary on contemporary events, and so on. Matt's goal is to have at least 1 new article a day. The blog gets about 3000 hits a month.

Finally, the Section made a major progress with its web presence, capitalizing on ASA's recent move to the new platform. Thanks to Dustin Stoltz and Jacinto Cuvi, we now have a working and up-to-date Section website. Dustin continues as a webmaster this year. Alya underscored that the Section website is a work-in-progress and encouraged Section members to visit it and suggest ways it can be improved and made more useful to the members.

2) Thanks to outgoing members of the Council and welcome to newly elected one

Alya thanked outgoing Council members Jenn Bair and Fred Wherry. Fred is not going away, as he has just been elected Chair Elect, and will take over the section after Nancy. Congratulations to Fred! Alya welcomed incoming Council members: Nitsan Chorev, Emily Erikson and the student member Kelly Russell. Finally, Alya thanked Greta Krippner, the outgoing Chair, for being generous with advice during the year, and for running Nominations and insuring that the Annual Report is in by the due date and to the incoming chair, Nancy DiTomaso, for stepping into her Chair Elect role with eagerness and going above and beyond.

3) Membership

Our Membership committee, Jenn Bair and Simone Polillo oversaw a membership drive last fall and throughout the year, aiming to hit the magic 800 threshold so that we could have an extra session. At the moment, our membership stands around 746 members. Alya reminded that

increasing our membership is important because this is how we are allocated session slots at the next meeting and it also determines the size of our budget for the coming year. Alya reminded members that faculty can sponsor student memberships through the ASA website. Membership is \$50 for ASA for students, plus \$5 for section membership.

4) Section Finances

With regard to Section finances, our income slightly exceeds our expenses if we continue spending at about the same level. This year, we were able to successfully fundraise, which helped pay for the conference. We usually get about \$3000+ annually from ASA, and our expenditures include the Section reception, council breakfast, award plaques, and a monetary award for the student paper award. We estimate total expenses for this meeting to be approximately \$2540 which will leave us with \$862 to carry over into the next fiscal year.

5) Section awards

Alya thanked all those who served on award committees for engaging in a very time-consuming task, but one that is really critical for showcasing the excellent work being done in economic sociology. All of the committee chairs reported that they had many, many excellent submissions, an indication that our section is intellectually vibrant.

Kieran Healy presented the Burt Best Student Paper award:

"The committee this this year was Basak Kus, Daniel Della Posta, and myself. We received thirty two nominations for the award, covering a very wide range of substantive topics, theoretical preoccupations, and methodological approaches. We read them all.

The winner this year was the unanimous and independent choice of the committee, by which I mean there was no awkward haggling phase because everyone chose the same paper on the first round. The paper is "The Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt" by Alexander Roehrkassee, of UC Berkeley. Roehrkassee's paper is a study of the surprisingly rapid elimination of civil incarceration for debt default, or the classic debtor's prison. Indefinite imprisonment for unpaid debt was once a standard aspect of life in Anglophone legal systems, and the character of the gentleman languishing in a debtor's prison is a familiar once in eighteenth and nineteenth century fiction. Over about a fifty year period in the nineteenth century, however, it disappeared.

Focusing on the elimination of debtor's prisons in New York State, Roehrkassee argues that changes in the social structure of creditor–debtors relations ignited moral debates about the sacredness of debt and the causality of default, which in turn shaped contestation over the morality of debtor law. Some of this was rooted in cultural developments endogenous to the growth of credit markets and credit instruments, but Roehrkassee argues that the gradual expansion of state capacity and American jurisprudence was necessary to realize the end result.

Together these processes remade the moral content of indebtedness, and its practical consequences, making it a moral failing and a civil violation while removing it from the category of crimes requiring retributive punishment. By the same token, he argues, the elimination of civil imprisonment for default was also a crucial episode in the definition of distinctively economic crimes such as fraud, and the establishment of an exclusive correspondence between penal incarceration and crime. Please join me in congratulating this year's Ronald Burt Award winner, Alexander Roehrkassee.

Emily Barman presented the Granovetter Best Article Award:

“This year, the committee, composed of myself, Rachel Dwyer, Andras Tilcik, and Fred Wherry, unanimously decided that the Economic Sociology Section's Mark Granovetter Prize for Best Article should be awarded to Delia Baldassari's article entitled “Cooperative Networks: Altruism, Group Solidarity, Reciprocity, and Sanctioning in Ugandan Producer Organizations ,” published in the *American Journal of Sociology* in 2015.

Using the case of producer organizations in Uganda, Baldassari's article seeks to identify the general mechanisms that bring about cooperation among members, going beyond the standard assessment of only whether or not the presence of social networks leads to particular types of collective outcomes. Using a methodological approach that combines on the ground experiments with survey interviews and complete social networks data, this article identifies and systematically measures four general mechanisms— generalized altruism, group solidarity, reciprocity, and the threat of sanctioning— and tests which of them brings about cooperation in the context of Ugandan producer organizations. In terms of findings, the article first establishes a positive relationship between actors' position in the network structure and propensity to cooperate in the producer organization. Further, Baldassari then uses farmers' behavior in dictator and public goods games to test different mechanisms that may account for such a relationship. In all, the results show that cooperation is induced by patterns of reciprocity that emerge through repeated interaction rather than from actors' possession of other-regarding preferences like altruism or group solidarity.

The committee was impressed with the multiple strengths of the article. First, the empirical setting is interesting and well chosen. These Ugandan producer organizations (farmer cooperatives) face serious and consequential collective action problems on a regular basis, which makes them a highly opportune context in which to study these questions.

Secondly, the article engages with big theoretical topics of substantial importance to not only economic sociologists, or even sociologists in general, but social scientists more broadly. It addresses issues -- collective action problems, prosocial behaviours, cooperation, and social networks -- that are significant to sociologists, social psychologists, political scientists, and economists.

Finally, Baldassari's article is innovative methodologically. It is a nice application of the "lab-in-the-field" experimental method (and a particularly helpful illustration of how wider use of that method might benefit sociological research). As the author puts it, the paper shows us how we can take "behavioral games out of the aseptic walls of the laboratory" and bring them to the field in a way that allows us to harness the power of random assignment while also preserving a degree of external validity. But more than simply an application of the "lab-in-the-field" method, the paper also is a great example of integrating different data sources (experiments, survey interviews, and social network data) in order to tease out the social *mechanisms* that underlie the observed relationships.”

Akos Ron-Tas, chair of the Zelizer committee, presented the Zelizer Best Book Award:

“It is a testimony to how far economic sociology has come in recent decades that the Zelizer Book Award committee, that included Paromita Sanyal, Dani Lainer-Vos, Ashley Mears and myself, had received so many excellent submissions, that in the end, we had to split the prize and even hand out an honorable mention. In fact, some books we did not reward, received well deserved awards elsewhere.

So it is my pleasure and privilege to announce that the 2016 Viviana Zelizer Book. The winners are:

Gabriel Abend's *The Moral Background: An Inquiry into the History of Business Ethics* and Debbie Becher's *Private Property and Public Power: Eminent Domain in Philadelphia*.

Honorable mention goes to Nigel Dodd's *The Social Life of Money*

Gabriel Abend's *The Moral Background* is an excellent book of historical and economic sociology, with great theoretical ambitions, written with verve and at places with a subtle irony. Morality, a prime preoccupation of the founders of American sociology, has disappeared from our intellectual agenda. When it resurfaced in the past, it always masqueraded as abstract concern for social justice or simply as politics.

Recent literature in sociology, and economic sociology in particular, set out to reclaim morality as a subject of sociological investigation, and Abend's book is a path breaking contribution to this effort.

Abend argues that when it comes to morals, behind action and behind discourse, we also have a third dimension, he calls the moral background that is essentially a set of interrelated assumptions that undergird moral thinking, argumentation and behavior.

He builds the idea of the moral background on the works of philosophers, John Searle and Charles Taylor, but also draws on a wider sociological literature on framing and cultural repertoire by the likes of Erving Goffman, Michele Lamont and Anne Swidler. By switching the focus of inquiry from what actors in the economy do, and what business ethicists argue they ought to be doing, to the background assumptions supporting their thinking and **how** they make their arguments, Abend can show why seemingly perennial, evergreen issues in business are not simply the rehashing of earlier arguments, which then explains why these arguments keep going in the first place. He identifies two sets of background assumptions, one he calls the Christian Merchant and other the Standards of Practice. Below the stable surface there is a shifting set of assumptions moving from the first to the second. By showing the change in how arguments are made, we begin to understand why those seemingly similar arguments are, in fact, different. This is theory at its best: it makes the familiar first look strange than familiar again but in a different way, and provides a conceptual tool for others to do the same with different subjects.

Debbie Becher's book *Private Property and Public Power* also takes us back to the concerns of the founders, the Chicago School in particular, who had a deep interest in urban sociology.

Becher's book is addressing a puzzle: if eminent domain, the process by which local authorities can appropriate private property from citizens for development projects are roundly condemned both from the right as a violation of private property rights and from the left as the exploitation of the powerlessness of the poor, why do we see in certain places relatively little political conflict around this issue? Becher gives a meticulous historical account and analysis of eminent domain struggles in Philadelphia between 1992 and 2007.

Presenting a wide range and type of evidence with amazing methodological dexterity, Becher makes the compelling argument that at the heart of this puzzle lies a special understanding of

private property as investment. Owners bought, maintained, improved their property—and also invested it with meaning and emotions -- and expected to be able to recoup their investment, which, of course they could have if somehow they could have kept their property until the development project was completed. Seeing property as investment and establishing compensation on that basis, as opposed to on the basis of the property's market value, authorities were able to reach mutually acceptable agreements with the owners.

This book is a shining example of how to bring masterfully crafted sociological research to bear on policy questions with a theoretical reach much wider than those interested in the initial question.

There are books that open inquiries, and others that settle them. Good books do some of both but the balance of the two can vary enormously. Abend's book leans more heavily in the first, Belcher's to the second direction.

We also had a runner-up.

Nigel Dodd's *The Social Life of Money* deserves honorable mention. In that book, Dodd took on a formidable task: he set out to rethink what money is. This stunningly erudite and wonderfully lucid book ranges from Marx, Simmel, Keynes, and Milton Friedman to Nietzsche, Walter Benjamin, from coins and banknotes, to mobile money and bitcoin, is a major step towards a new sociologically informed understanding what money is and can be."

Congratulations to all the winners!

6) Installing the new Chair and next year programming

Alya asked Nancy DiTomaso to the podium as a new Chair, explaining that she is stepping down as a Chair at the end of this meeting. Nancy thanked Alya for her boundless energy in running the section this year, and particularly for taking the lead on a very successful preconference, and asked the audience to join in the applause. Nancy then posed two questions to the audience: whether to have another miniconference at the 2017 meeting and how to go about regular Section panels, arguing for open-topic or very broadly-conceived ones.

Because of time constraints we did not get to discuss these, but Nancy promised to follow up on these issues via email.

Section Council Meeting

In this portion of the report, please discuss your section's deliberations at its Council Meeting. This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting's minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made by the Section Council. Please include information on all other Council Meetings conducted during the previous year.

Council Breakfast, 8/21/2016, 7 – 8:30 am

Present:

Alya Guseva
Nancy DiTomaso
Emily Barman
Emily Erickson
Rachel Dwyer
Lauren Rivera
Jenn Bair
Kelly Russell
Angelina Grigoryeva
Marc Ventresca
Simone Polillo
Fred Wherry

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Student council member
3. Section membership (Jenn and Simone will report)
4. Mentorship
5. Restructuring Chair responsibilities to spread the work over the 3 years
6. Budget report
7. Mini-conference report and discussion whether to have another preconference in 2017
8. New business: How to make the section serve its members beyond the once-a-year programming, build a stronger sense of community and stay relevant?
 - a) website
 - b) Accounts
 - c) survey of members
 - c) social media
9. Next year programming: whether to have completely open submission panels or panels organized around specific topics or themes.
10. Other business.

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions. Thanks to those whose term is up.
2. Student Council member

Alya Guseva introduced the discrepancy around Student Council membership. Our by-laws allow for 1 student member to serve 2 years. Angelina's term is up next year. We have elected Kelly this year for her term to start immediately after the ASA.

The Council voted to have Angelina and Kelly serve concurrently in 2017, and have Kelly serve alone in 2018. We will not hold election for a student seat next year, and move to 1-year terms after Kelly's. This means changing by-laws (which currently stipulate 2-year terms), and running an election for a one-year student seat in 2018. The reasoning behind 1 year terms is that it will provide opportunities to serve to more students.

3. Membership

We are currently at 746 members; competition for members continues to be acute as the number of sections in the ASA grows, and we may need to establish a more continual thrust on this front to hold ourselves above the 800 threshold.

We did not reach 800 last year, and as a result we are only hosting 4 Section sessions at this meeting, but the concern of hosting fewer sessions was not too grave because of the preconference plans (it hosted another 9 panels).

The membership committee – Jenn Bair and Simone Polillo -- reported on the attempts to recruit members by sending emails to those that lapsed their membership, to those that presented in economic society themed panels (and the mini-conference) but were not already members. Plus encouraging faculty to sponsor students, particularly those new to PhD programs or economic sociology.

Regarding the continuing efforts, Marc Ventresca will try to reach to people outside of economic sociology departments (in policy schools, information schools and management schools)

4. Mentoring Activities

We have not run this initiative this year, reasoning that preconference will provide opportunities for presenting and networking (and the organizing committee was deliberate in mixing faculty and students on panels), but did not do anything formal.

At the last year business meeting we noted that individual meetings are taxing for mentors, suggested to possibly explore group meetings that some other sections practice.

Suggestions for mentoring activities included the use of Roundtables, for example, hosting themed roundtables on landing academic jobs, on nonacademic career tracks, and on surviving tenure and promotion.

Others present pointed to general fatigue and burden placed on the faculty, and an expectation that these activities should already be done by home departments, etc.

No decision was made about following up on any specific mentoring initiatives at this point.

5. Webmaster

The Chair reported that we have a new website, rolled out in conjunction with the ASA's new website, and we had two webmasters setting it up, but only one is continuing next year – Dustin Stoltz.

6. Restructuring Chair Responsibilities

We discussed this last year, and decided to move informally to a situation when Past Chair runs Nominations and submits Annual Report; Chair-Elect takes a lead or co-chairs next year programming, and the Chair does the rest: appoints committees – membership, award and ad hoc if necessary; does announcements (some sections recruit students to compile them; and I wonder whether this task can be wrapped in with the Webmaster job, which we can call “chair of

communications committee"); plans the reception; publishes the newsletter. We have also discussed a possibility of appointing an editor of the newsletter (some sections run a call for an editor where they ask for plans and vision, etc.), but Nancy has already put together a great team of students and they are busy working on the first issue.

No formal decision, but Chair-Elect (Fred Wherry) enthusiastically volunteered to be responsible for planning the reception (possibly joint with Consumers and Consumption).

7. Budget Report

The Council reviewed the budget. Although there were some questions about how much we as a Section get, how it is connected to our membership numbers and how to read the financial statements we are given by the ASA, the important point that was emphasized by the Chair (the Treasurer was not present) was that thanks to the fundraising efforts of Alya Guseva, Marc Ventresca and Sarah Quinn who managed to solicit funds from Boston University, University Washington, Socio-Economic Review and Oxford University, the preconference paid for itself. Besides, this year's reception, joint with Comparative Historical and OOW, was the cheapest reception in the past several years that the records were available (\$1656). This is due to splitting space rental three ways, and the negotiating skills of Sarah Quinn who organized catering. So overall, we spent less this year than we were allocated, and we are expected to carry more than \$800 to the next year. We are slowly building our reserve.

Council member were dismayed that our allocated budget was so small, and the Chair promised to investigate how ASA allocated money [this was later communicated to Council members via email. But the question remains why the Section returns less than 50% of money collected in dues. AG].

8. Mini-Conference report

The Chair reported on the mini-conference, and emphasized that while the conference managed to pay for itself (we did not use Section money despite have allocated \$500 at the 2015 Council meeting), we had to do some additional fundraising in the end because catering turned out to be more expensive than originally budgeted. If we were to do it next year, the Chair suggest going up on the registration (it was set at \$20 for faculty and \$10 for students) and/or going down on the food/coffee offering.

Council discussed a possibility of organizing another mini-conference in 2017. Several "pros" were mentioned, including generates excitement around the section and accommodates additional papers that section and regular panels cannot accommodate. Providing value to the participants, particularly students, and potential recruitment and retention of members. For practical reasons, a preconference can only be hosted when section days are 1 and 2, so 2017 is the year to do it.

Several downsides were mentioned too: it generates a lot of additional work for the chair, can only work if there is local committee to provide space/deal with on-the-day logistic, competes with other preconferences, of which there are lots these days organized by other sections; and it is expensive requiring fundraising.

The Council generally favored this possibility, but cautioned to find out 1) whether there is a local team that can take care of all the logistic, and 2) whether meeting space can be available for free.

The Council briefly discussed a possibility of eliminating breakfast and coffee, but ultimately decided they should stay.

9. Next year Programming

The Council favored hosting broad-themed panels based on member suggestions, and no more than 1 invited panel

The Council discussed the issue of whether having an on-site or off-site reception. Chair Elect Fred Wherry volunteered to take charge of this task and explore the possibilities (as well as whether to join in with other sections).

10. Other Business

Discussed ways to be more valuable to members throughout the year, perhaps through the website or other means. Possibilities include setting up a Student Social Media committee would be good. Can ask Section webmaster Dustin Stoltz to be part of this. The new initiative – Works-in-Progress Blog – was mentioned as already working towards this goal.

State of the Section Budget

Did your section operate within its budget for this year? Please include a copy of last year's projected budget and compare it with actual expenses.

This is a brief overview of the section budget provided by the outgoing Section Treasurer Delia Baldassarri.

The section operated within its budget, ultimately saving more than we spent and increasing our surplus to be carried into the next year.

The overall budget expenses for 2016 are estimated to be \$ 4,791.85.

The main expense this year has been the New Economy pre-conference (\$3,560.4), which has been, however, fully funded through fundraising and participation fees (we budgeted \$500 from the Section towards the conference, but did not have to use it). Additional expenses were the reception (total of \$1,656, of which \$952 were paid last year, and only \$704 figure into this year budget), monetary award for the graduate student paper (\$300), and the award plaques (\$234.45). The council breakfast (around \$300) was covered with cash collected in additional fundraising.

We have \$ 491 carried over from last year [possibly, \$132 more, once the credit for overpaying for the joint reception is posted to our Section account by OOW], and \$2,944, added from membership dues. The latter combines \$ 2,496 of base dues, which we received at the beginning of the year, and \$ 448 of extra dues, which was paid over two quarters.

In the last three years, we have started to save more. The increase in dues that has become effective last year, is giving us financial stability for the years to come (granted that our membership will remain stable). Our end of the year balance should be approximately \$ 2,600.

Considering a membership size of around 750, our estimated section allocation for the coming year will be around \$3000+.

Expenditures				
Annual Meeting		Amount	Code	Notes
	Reception	\$704.00	37300	total cost is 1656\$. We paid 959\$ last year NEW ECONOMY preconference
	Other Meet	\$3,560.40	37310	
	Misc		37320	
	Other		37370	
	Total	\$4,264.40	n/a	
Awards		Amount	Code	Notes
	Student Aw	\$300.00	37360	
	Award Plac	\$234.45	37360	
	Misc		37360	
	Other		37360	
	Total	\$534.45	n/a	
Communications		Amount	Code	Notes
	Website		37330	
	Misc		37370	
	Other		37370	
	Total	\$0.00	n/a	
Miscellaneous		Amount	Code	Notes
	Membership		37370	Gift Memberships may not be funded from allocated funds. Funds must be raised for this purpose.
	Misc		37370	
	Other		37370	
	Total	\$0.00	n/a	
Summary		Amount	Notes	
	Total Expe	\$4,798.85	From Net Assets, Beginning Balance in Q1	
	Current Ye	\$6,903.70		
	Carryover	\$491.00		
	End of Yea	\$2,595.85		

Income			
	Source	Amount	Calculated
	Section All	\$2,496.00	
Description	Fill this in using the "Section Budget Allocation" from the "Year to Date" Column		
	Levied Dues	\$848.00	Special
Description	Fill this in using the "Dues Income" from the "Year to Date" Column. Your section may not collect excess dues. Dues income accrues on a monthly basis, so this number will change over time.		
	Contributions	\$3,559.70	n/a
Description	contributions for preconference and preconference registration		
	Royalties		n/a
Description	Royalties donated by members or generated through other activities.		
	Outside Contributions		n/a
Description	Funds donated from individuals/entities outside the section.		
	Miscellaneous Income		n/a
Description			
	Miscellaneous Income		n/a
Description	Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description		
	Total	\$6,903.70	n/a

Operating budget for the coming year

Economic Sociology should receive approximately \$3000 in membership dues. We will carry over approximately \$862.

Our total balance should be a bit shy of \$4,000.

Our expenditures this coming year will include:

- Approximately \$1,900 for the section reception (possibly less)
- \$300 for the graduate student paper award
- Approximately \$280 for award plaques (possibly less)
- Approximately \$350 for council breakfast

Subtotal = \$2,830

We should be able to save around \$932 this coming year.

An operating budget for the coming year approved by the Section Council.

*A separate spreadsheet is provided to calculate the planning budget and track expenses. Please work with your Section's Secretary Treasurer on this point. The budget is of critical importance to the Committee on Sections and **must** be included with the section's annual report.*

Budgeted Expenditures

Annual Meeting	Amount	Code	Notes
Reception	\$1,900.00	37300	council breakfast
Other Mee	\$350.00	37310	
Misc		37320	
Other		37370	
Total	\$2,250.00	n/a	
Awards	Amount	Code	Notes
Student Aw	\$300.00	37360	
Award Pla	\$280.00	37360	
Misc		37360	
Other		37360	
Total	\$580.00	n/a	
Communications	Amount	Code	Notes
Website		37330	
Misc		37370	
Other		37370	
Total	\$0.00	n/a	
Miscellaneous	Amount	Code	Notes
Membership		37370	allocated funds. Funds must be raised for
Misc		37370	
Other		37370	
Total	\$0.00	n/a	
Summary	Amount	Notes	
Budgeted	\$2,830.00	Brought over from current year's report	
Estimated	\$2,900.00		
Carryover	\$2,595.85		
Est. End of	\$2,665.85		

Estimated Income				
Source	Amount	Calculated		
Section All	\$500.00	(750*2)+A		
Description	A is determined by the overall membership size. Sections with fewer than 200 members receive a base allocation of \$500. Sections with less than 300 members but more than 200 members receive a base allocation of: (# of section members minus 100) multiplied by \$5. Sections with more than 300 members receive a base allocation of \$1,000. In addition the section receives two dollars from dues of each member. To calculate this amount enter your section's membership in the shaded box on the left. See your			
Levied Dues		Special		
Description	Your section does not levy additional dues			
Contributi		n/a		
Description	These are funds raised from members.			
Royalties		n/a		
Description	Royalties donated by members or generated through other activities.			
Outside Contributions		n/a		
Description	Funds donated from individuals/entities outside the section.			
Miscellaneous Income		n/a		
Description	Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description			
Miscellaneous Income		n/a		
Description	Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description			
Total	\$2,900.00	n/a		

Statements, Notes, Observations

Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.

Past Chair's preparation of the Annual Report is complicated by the fact that as Past Chair was not included in the emails on sections most recent membership counts or the 3rd quarter financials (the Treasurer that prepared the budget for this report is also outgoing, and did not receive it either – neither, apparently, is the new Treasurer). Being included in the section chair emails at least till the Annual Report due date would significantly simplify the task. Thanks!

The Previous Year

This section discusses your section's activities during your term as Section Chair.

Overview

Please provide an overview of your section's programming for the last year. We also invite you to include information on the state of the section, sentiments of the members, important issues in the field.

The 2015 Annual Report listed the following plans for the 2016 year:

- 1) Regular Section programming
- 2) Organizing an inaugural Section mini-conference the day before ASA 2016 regular programming starts.
- 3) Improving our Section website to make it more attractive and useful to our section membership
- 4) Surveying membership to gather information regarding how members use services the Section currently provides, and what services they would most like to see the Section offer in the future.

I am happy to report that we have accomplished the first three of these tasks.

- 1) The section organized 4 panels, including one invited panel, and three defined topic panels:
 - a. Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra organized an invited panel on Infrastructures of Valuation;
 - b. Bruce Carruthers – a regular open-submission panel on Money, Credit and Society;
 - c. Marc Schneiberg -- a regular open-submission panel on Sociology Without Borders
 - d. Tim Bartley -- a regular open-submission panel on Market Processes and Economic Lives in the Era of Neoliberalism

Aaron Pitluck organized 17 section roundtables. This year, to elevate the profile of round tables, and to provide sufficient feedback to presenters given the 1 hour time slot, Aaron took an initiative to allocate no more than 2 or 3 papers to each roundtable and to assign presidors. Several Council members, including the Chair, agreed to serve as presidors. Aaron continued to consolidate assigned papers following several last-minute cancellations, printed finalized lists to bring to the location, and was on hand to coordinate. The roundtable participants were so engaged that the business meeting could not start on time because they continued to discuss the papers!

In addition, the section coordinated with Victor Nee, organizer of regular panels in Economic Sociology, who managed to organize 4 regular panels on economic sociology topics.

- 2) The section organized an extremely successful inaugural preconference on the New Economy, which took place the day before the start of regular ASA programming. There were more than 90 people in attendance, much more than expected and equally split between students and faculty. The organizers received close to 80 extended abstract submissions and were able to accommodate just over 40 in 9 panels, 3 panels running concurrently, following a morning plenary with Nicole Biggart (UC Davis), AnnaLee Saxenian (Dean of iSchool, Berkley) and Peter Levin (Intel). The Organizing Committee was chaired by Alya Guseva and included Section Chair-Elect Nancy DiTomaso, Council members Marc Ventresca and Lauren Rivera, as well as Nina Bandelj and Adam Goldstein, two members with long-term ties to the section, former Chair and former Student Council member respectively; Angelina Grigoryeva, current

Student member of the Council; and Sarah Quinn, past Section Council member, who was invaluable as the leader of the local organizing team. Sarah procured phenomenal meeting space (courtesy of UWash Sociology) and organized the reception. UWash graduate student Jenni Brandstad organized a local student team (Lynette Shaw, Lanu Kim and Karina Rider) who kept a tight watch on the logistics. Last, but not least, our webmaster Dustin Stoltz facilitated online registration.

After a day of talks and hallway discussions over coffee breaks, attendees were greeted in a nearby reception hall (shared with the Comparative Historical Section pre-conference). The response to the preconference was so overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic, that the consensus among the several section officers who presented and/or presided was to follow up with another preconference in 2017. Both the participation in the miniconference and the volunteering efforts are tribute to the vitality of our section. The Council voted to explore a possibility of organizing the Second Section preconference, and Chair Nancy DiTomaso is currently discussing the logistics with economic sociologists at McGill, Montreal, who will lead the local organizing efforts.

- 3) The Section has a new webpage hosted on the new ASA platform, developed by our two web masters – Dustin Stoltz and Jacinto Cuvi. Jacinto stepped down once the website was up and running, and Dustin is continuing as the section webmaster.

Additional steps:

Now that the website is up, the Section can explore the possibility of using it as a means of communicating with section members about the services that they would want the Section to provide for them (the 4th goal that was identified in the 2015 Annual Report).

Finally, this year's Section newsletter Accounts team, lead by the Chair and comprised of Boston-area graduate students that hailed from 3 campuses (BU, Harvard and BC), produced three very successful issues with a lot of original content around the theme of "crossing boundaries" (including disciplinary, national and the boundaries of the academe). In addition to continuing with the features pioneered by previous Accounts teams, like "Conversations" with prominent economic sociologists on a particular issue – our team focused on States and Markets in one of the issues, and on Money in another -- and reviews of recently published books, we introduced a regular teaching column (one of the issues featured interviews with three economic sociologists teaching outside of North America), put out interviews with non-sociologists whose work is key to economic sociology and with economic sociologists in non-academic career tracks.

Recruiting and Retention Efforts

*What efforts did your section make to retain last year's members and reach out to new members?
What were the results of the section's retention efforts?*

Here is what Simone Polillo, Council member in charge of Membership reported:

Our recruiting efforts for the year consisted of the following:

1. We reached out to past, lapsed members individually, focusing in particular on those who renewed ASA membership but not their membership in the Econ Soc section.
2. Our New Economy Conference was the main recruiting tool for 2016, in particular with regards to graduate students. We targeted individually all conference presenters, and later all conference attendees who left a contact address on the signup sheet that was circulated at the conference.
3. ASA roundtables and business meetings have also been important sites for recruitment. In these cases as well, anyone who was on the program but did not have membership in the section, and any participants who left contact information and similarly was not in our roster, was later contacted with a personalized invitation to join the section.

Additionally, broader efforts have included Alya Guseva's (Chair) and Nancy DiTomaso's (Chair-Elect) invitations on the section newsletter to actively recruit new members. More informally, we've reached out to council members inviting them to reach out to their networks, particularly those that reach to business schools, organizational sociology, policy and information schools. On this last point, Nancy DiTomaso wrote a solicitation for the Academy of Management Organization and Management Theory Division newsletter inviting their members to consider joining ASA and Economic Sociology.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to reach the 800 milestone, coming 18 members short at the latest count provided by the ASA. (782), but we will intensify our efforts, focusing both on retention and on recruiting scholars outside of traditional economic sociology departments.

Communications Strategy

How does your section communicate with its members? Did it begin using any new technologies or techniques, if so were they effective? Please include links to your section's website, newsletter and other electronic media used.

The section communicates via regular monthly (sometimes, more often) email listserv announcements from Chair that post relevant information to section members. The section also produced three newsletters, which can be found here:

<http://www.asanet.org/asa-communities/sections/sites/economic-sociology/newsletter>

The section website is:

<http://www.asanet.org/communities/sections/sites/economic-sociology>

The new public sociology blog *Work in Progress: Short-form sociology on the economy, work and inequality*, which the section co-sponsored by four other Sections of the ASA -- OOW, Labor and Labor Movements, and Inequality, Poverty and Mobility -- can be found here:

<https://workinprogress.oowsection.org/author/mattvidal/>

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The Coming Year

This portion of the report discusses your section's plans for next year.

Elections and Nominations

This section details who is on the section's Nominations Committee and how they were appointed. If your section does not have a standing Nominations Committee, please discuss your process for nominating candidates for next year's elections.

Past Chair, Alya Guseva is running the Nominations committee. The committee was appointed jointly by Alya Guseva and Section Chair, Nancy DiTomaso. Alya will be joined by Jens Beckert (Max Planck) and Elizabeth Gorman (U of Virginia). In order to broaden the pool of potential candidates for the next year's election, the committee is composed of people with diverse research interests, and non-overlapping networks; one of the committee members is a European scholar.

Plans for the coming year.

What sort of programming will your section conduct for next year's Annual Meeting. Will the section begin any new projects before then?

The Section is planning on organizing 4 regular panels focused on broad themes identified by the Section Council and finalized by Chair:

Economic Sociology and Public Policy: How Does Economic Sociology Matter?

Culture and the Economy

Economic Sociology and Inequality

Markets, Finance, Credit, and Money

Additionally, the Section is considering organizing another preconference, and Chair, Past Chair and the McGill team are currently discussing a possible theme and the composition of the Organizing Committee. If the plan goes forward, the call for papers will go out in November with a submission deadline in early-to-mid February.

Chair Nancy DiTomaso composed a new Accounts student team in the late summer, and the group is busy working on the first issue to come out this Fall.

Chair Nancy DiTomaso put out a new initiative: Graduate Student Professional Development committee, led by and comprised of student volunteers. It is our hope that their effort will help better serve, and therefore, recruit and retain student members.

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The Association and the Executive Office

This is your opportunity to put items onto the agenda of the Committee on Sections and ASA Staff.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the ASA Council and Committee on Sections?

This is your opportunity to make policy suggestions or discuss any difficulties that your section encountered during your tenure as Section Chair.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback on my term as a Chair. One of the biggest difficulties I encountered as a Chair was trying to organize various events and activities to serve Section members while also staying within a very meager budget we have. Almost all of our annual Section budget allocation goes to our regular very modest Annual Meeting expenses (the reception, student award monetary prize, award plaques and the council breakfast) leaving very little to carry over to the next year. This year we organized a miniconference, and had to fundraise and penny pinch to make ends meet. Economic Sociology is one of the bigger sections and based on the composition of our members, we collected about \$7000 in section dues (\$7005 to be precise, given the 748 membership count on Oct 1 2015), but were given \$3386 back, less than 50%. Where do the rest of our section dues go? I was told that the rest of the money pays for the services that the ASA provides to the Sections, including the Annual Meeting. But I cannot help but point out that every one of our section members already pays a substantial amount of money in annual membership and meeting registration: a middle-of-the-income-scale faculty pays \$288 for annual membership +\$210 for meeting registration; this is almost \$500 that goes to the ASA. So the additional \$12 of section dues is 2.4% on top of this already substantial amount of money (which is much more than other social scientists – economists, for instance – pay for their national association membership, despite them being paid much better than sociologists). So returning less than 50% of our section dues strikes me as unfair and unjust, particularly because it is a very small amount compared to our general membership fees. Sections are incredibly important for ASA members as they provide a strong sense of community and professional identity, and give many real opportunities to network, present their work and volunteer. We, as a Section, could do much more for our members if we were given more of our section dues. For instance, a pre-conference we organized this year provided an opportunity to present their work to more than 40 section members, about a half of them students. This is much more than out 4 allocated Section sessions could accommodate. And the response to the preconference was extremely positive, and I detailed above. The biggest challenge of organizing another preconference is money. We are exploring possibilities of fundraising and the local institutions donating space, but it would be make a big difference if we can count on the rest of our section dues. Perhaps, the ASA can institute a process by which sections can apply for a bigger budget specifically for the purpose of organizing a section preconference. I would like the ASA Council and the Committee on Sections to put these issues on the agenda at one of the meetings. Thank you!

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to ASA Staff?

Please feel free to suggest improvements to sections procedures or services provided to sections.

We would like to thank the ASA staff for providing support for the Section throughout the year. We are particularly thankful for their responsiveness to our Section webmasters' request to set them up on

the new ASA platform as soon as possible. The new ASA webpage looks great, and so is our Section website. The one problem is that the front page of the Section website <http://www.asanet.org/communities/sections/sites/economic-sociology> is not under the Section control, and we have tried several times to change or correct information on this page (some of it eventually got corrected, but several other requests have not been followed up). Our webmaster Dustin Stoltz would be happy to correct it, but he does not have the access. Is it possible to provide it to him?

Another issue I would like to bring up is related to finances. The Section is planning on organizing another preconference, and we would like help or ideas in processing advance online registration. Last year we used someone's personal Paypal account to process payments, and then had that individual submit a check to the ASA. Is it possible to simplify this process by having money transferred directly to the Section account? Besides, I know that many other Sections organize pre-conferences, and I think it would be helpful to have a way for Sections to share information and knowledge on this or other issues (perhaps via chairs and treasurers discussion group or listserv).

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