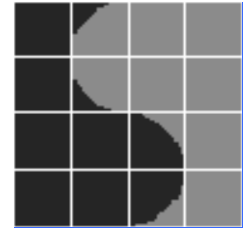




Evolution, Biology & Society



Fall, 2015. Newsletter of the ASA Section on Evolution, Biology & Society Volume 11, No. 2

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University of Toronto at Mississauga

Past Chair, 2015-2016

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Virginia Commonwealth University

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A Note From the Chair



Marion Blute
University of Toronto at Mississauga

I would like to thank Bruce for preparing this newsletter and all of you who agreed to sit on committees this year. You have been very responsive and I am grateful. Michael Hammond's name has been removed from the program committee at his request. He was taken seriously ill but I am happy to report that he is on the mend.

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A Note From the Chair (continued from p. 1)

As David Franks pointed out in the summer newsletter, the membership in our ASA section is small. In fact, at the end of the last calendar year, at 135 members, it was the second smallest section after ethnomethodology at 129 members. As Colter Mitchell, our chair elect, pointed out at last summer's meeting, we were unlikely to reach the 300 members required to increase the number of our sessions in time for Seattle so I concentrated instead on getting some interesting roundtables with interesting presiders into our schedule (see my e-mail to members of Oct. 2 and program in this newsletter). But membership is important and all that we can all do to increase it is important. Did you know that if a graduate student is an ASA member, you can have them added as a gift (with their permission of course) to our section for only \$5. The process is simple. After you (and they) have renewed your memberships for the new 2016 calendar year, go to <http://asa.enoah.com/Home/My-ASA/Gift-Section>, sign in, pick a section, then pick a name and pay.

Both the paper session and roundtables are open, none are invited, so there will be lots of space to appear on the Seattle program to let us hear about your work on evolution, biology and society. Word is that our sessions are on the fourth day, but nothing is final until it is final. Please get your papers into the ASA submission site between Nov. 3 and Jan 6. Of course, those who do not submit a paper are welcome to join us at the roundtables as well as the paper session and participate in the conversation. Some other important deadlines - books for the faculty book award and papers for the student paper award are due to the appropriate committee members by March 1 and don't forget to vote in the spring for our chair elect and two replacement council members. Have a good and productive rest of 2015!

2015-2016 Section Award Nominations

The section awards, due dates, and nomination information is listed below. PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL NOMINEES MUST BE REGISTERED MEMBERS OF THE ASA TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SECTION AWARDS

Evolution, Biology and Society Faculty Book Award

Deadline: March 1, 2016

Description: In 2016 (an even-numbered year) the Evolution, Biology and Society section's faculty award will be given to the best book published over the last three years by a member(s) of the section. Nominations (including self-nominations) should be sent electronically and paper copies should be mailed by the publisher or author to the committee members below.

Send to: Jacob E. Cheadle, j.e.cheadle@gmail.com
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
737 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0324

Bridget Goosby, bgoosby@gmail.com
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
741 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588

Kenneth Hudson, ckhudson@usouthal.edu
5905 Apple Tree Road, Mobile, AL 36609

Evolution, Biology and Society Student Paper Award

Deadline: March 1, 2016

Description: In 2016 the Evolution, Biology and Society section's student award will be given to the best paper published over the last three years by a graduate student member of the section. Co-authored papers are eligible as long as a student is the first author. Nominations (including self-nominations) and copies of the paper should be sent electronically to the committee members below.

Send to: Dudley L. Poston, d-poston@tamu.edu
Joanna Lara, jlara2@twu.edu
Micah Roos, micah.roos@okstate.edu

2015-2016 Committee Members

Nominations Committee:

(Set at 2015 meeting as per by-laws)

David D. Franks, Virginia Commonwealth University,

Chair, daviddfranks@comcast.net

Rosemary L. Hopcroft, UNC Charlotte,

rlhopcro@unc.edu

Will Kalkhoff, Kent State University,

wkalkhof@kent.edu

Programme Committee:

(Chaired by chair as per by-laws)

Marion Blute, University of Toronto, Chair,

marion.blute@utoronto.ca

Francois Nielsen, University of North Carolina,

francois_nielsen@unc.edu

Rengin Firat, Georgia State University,

rfirat@gmail.com

Faculty Book Award:

Jacob E. Cheadle, University of Nebraska Lincoln,

Chair, j.e.cheadle@gmail.com

737 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0324

Bridget Goosby, University of Nebraska Lincoln,

bgoosby@gmail.com

741 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588

Kenneth Hudson, University of South Alabama,

ckhudson@usouthal.edu

5905 Apple Tree Road, Mobile, AL 36609

Student Paper Award:

Dudley L. Poston, Texas A & M, Chair,

d-poston@tamu.edu

Joanna Lara, student member, Texas Woman's

University, jlara2@twu.edu

Micah Roos, Oklahoma State University,

micah.roos@okstate.edu

Membership Committee:

Colter Mitchell, University of Michigan, Chair,

cmsm@umich.edu

Hexuan Liu, University of North Carolina at Chapel

Hill, hexuanl@live.unc.edu

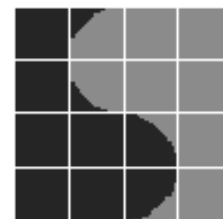
Invitation to Participate 2016 ASA Sessions, Seattle WA

Plan now to attend and participate in The Evolution, Biology and Society Program at the 2016 ASA meetings in Seattle! Sessions include:

- 1) A one hour & forty minute **open** refereed paper session. Organizer & Presider: Marion Blute, University of Toronto
- 2) A one hour & forty minute **open** refereed round table session. Organizers: Francois Nielsen, University of North Carolina and Rengin Firat, Georgia State University
- Table 1. The Interaction of Genes, Culture and Social Structure in Understanding Social Action and Social Change. Presider: Jeremy Freese, Northwestern University.
- Table 2. Evolving by Genes or Memes? Presider: Richard S. Machalek, University of Wyoming.
- Table 3. Evolutionary Perspectives on Inequality. Presider: Christopher Chase-Dunn, University of California – Riverside.
- Table 4. The Neurosociology of Social and Political Behavior. Presider: David D. Franks, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Note that the ASA's submission site to be used for both the open paper session and the open roundtables is expected to open Nov. 3 and close Jan 6.

- 3) a one hour & forty minute business & council meeting
- 4) an on-site reception joint with Rationality & Society and Mathematical Sociology



New Publications and News of Section Members

Blute, Marion. "While I have no new publications to report since our spring newsletter, I am continuing to pursue my career-long interests in evolution - biological, sociocultural and gene-culture coevolution. I am preparing an article on "Density-dependent selection revisited: mechanisms linking explanantia and explananda" as well as one on "The evolutionary approach to history: sociocultural phylogenetics" - the latter for *The Oxford Handbook of Evolution, Biology, and Society* that Rosemary Hopcroft, editor of *Frontiers in Evolutionary Sociology and Biosociology*, is editing. Some of you might also be interested to know that David Sloan Wilson and others are in the process of founding a Society for the Study of Cultural Evolution (SSCE) - membership and other information is available on the web."

Brashears, Matthew E. and Eric Quintane. 2015. "The Microstructures of Network Recall: How Social Networks are Encoded and Represented in Human Memory." *Social Networks*. 41: 113-126. [DOI 10.1016/j.socnet.2014.11.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2014.11.003)

Brashears, Matthew E., Emily Hoagland and Eric Quintane. 2016. "Sex and Network Recall Accuracy." *Social Networks*, 44: 74-84. [doi:10.1016/j.socnet.2015.06.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2015.06.002)

Brashears, Matthew E. and Eric Gladstone. 2016. "Error Correction Mechanisms in Social Networks can Reduce Accuracy and Encourage Innovation." *Social Networks*, 44: 22-35. [doi:10.1016/j.socnet.2015.07.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2015.07.007)

Chacon, Yamilette, David Willer, Pamela Emanuelson, Richard Chacon. Fall 2015. "From Chiefdom to State: The Contribution of Social Structural Dynamics." *Social Evolution and History* 14(2).

ABSTRACT: Unlike previous theory that focused on external conditions to explain the rise of the state, this paper proposes an explanation grounded in social structural dynamics. Like previous theory, we see the state as developing out of increasingly

intense conflict, but here that conflict is traced, not to population pressure, but to instabilities of the status lineage structures of contending chiefdoms. The social structure of the state is seen as the outcome of strategies adopted to stabilize the chiefdom social structure.

Franks, David. 2015. "Misconceptions of our Social Brains," *ASA Footnotes Newsletter*, September/ October, p. 16.

Franks, David has been invited to Kent State University to give a talk on the limits of all our epistemologies and how it is impossible in any sense of the word to know the world objectively independent of anything human.

Franks, David is up-dating his book on *Neurosociology* and making it easier for graduate students to read. He hopes to have this finished by February 2016.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. 2015. "Sex differences in the relationship between status and number of offspring in the contemporary U.S." *Evolution and Human Behavior* 36, 2:146-151.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. 2015. "Sociobiology at work in modern populations." Chapter 7 in *Handbook on Evolution and Society: Toward an Evolutionary Social Science* edited by Jonathan H. Turner, Richard Machalek and Alexandra Maryanski. Boulder, CO: Paradigm Press.

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. Forthcoming. *Evolution and Gender: Why It Matters for Contemporary Life*. Routledge.

Hopcroft, Rosemary is also editing a new journal of interest to section members, *Frontiers in Evolutionary Sociology and Biosociology*, is an open access journal run by the Nature Publishing Group.

Kiat, John, Beth Straley, Jacob E. Cheadle. 2015. "Escalating Risk and the Moderating Effect of Resistance to Peer Influence on the P200 and Feedback Related Negativity." *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, September 28. <http://scan.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2015/09/28/scan.nsv121.full.pdf?keytype=ref&ijkey=Sc9fi22ZoUnFOkw>

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ABSTRACT: Young people frequently socialize together in contexts that encourage risky decision making, pointing to a need for research into how susceptibility to peer influence is related to individual differences in the neural processing of decisions during sequentially escalating risk. We applied a novel analytic approach to analyze EEG activity from college-going students while they completed the Balloon Analogue Risk Task (BART), a well-established risk-taking propensity assessment. By modeling outcome-processing-related changes in the P200 and feedback-related negativity (FRN) sequentially within each BART trial as a function of pump order as an index of increasing risk, our results suggest that analyzing the BART in a progressive fashion may provide valuable new insights into the temporal neurophysiological dynamics of risk taking. Our results showed a P200, localized to the left caudate nucleus, and an FRN, localized to the left dACC, that were positively correlated with the level of risk taking and reward. Furthermore, consistent with our hypotheses, the rate of change in the FRN was higher among college students with greater self-reported resistance to peer influence (RPI).

Lara, Joanna writes: "I co-authored an entry titled, "The Feminization of Poverty" in *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Family Studies*, with Gina Alvarado, Ph.D., a Gender and Evaluation Specialist at the International Center for Research on Women, to be published in December 2015. Moreover, Celia Lo, Ph.D., a professor of sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Texas Woman's University, and I have recently launched research concerning Type 2 Diabetes, social inequality, and social problems. We examine the important role of biomarkers in the relationship between socioeconomic status and Type 2 Diabetes. Lo and I recently co-authored a review with Tyrone C. Cheng, Ph.D., a professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Alabama, on the relationship between socioeconomic status and Type 2 Diabetes indicated by biomarkers and self-reported doctor's diagnosis. Our manuscript is in preparation for review by the *International Journal of Equity in Health*."

**Congratulations to
David Franks
Virginia Commonwealth University**



**Recipient of the
Sociology of Emotions Section
Lifetime Achievement
Award
ASA Meetings
Chicago, IL
August 2015**

**WANTED:
YOUR OPINIONS**

Did you know you can use this newsletter as a recruiting tool to build our section? Simply distribute this newsletter to members of your Department, research associates, and graduate students, so they have an opportunity to learn of the fascinating work being done in the field.

In the same spirit, we invite you to write a brief article that potential section members might find interesting. Where do you see the field going in the next 2 to 5 years? What are the pressing research questions? Why should graduate students in Sociology consider investigating research questions that combine an interest in evolution, biology, and society?

We would love to hear your thoughts in 200 to 500 words. Submit your article for the next newsletter before the end of January 2016 to Bruce Friesen, University of Tampa.



**Send newsletter
submissions to
Bruce Friesen, Editor
bfriesen@ut.edu**