

Remarks

Newsletter of the Section on Racial
and Ethnic Minorities of the
American Sociological Association

Fall 2010



Message from Our Chair

Welcome to the fall 2010 SREM newsletter. Having just returned from the annual Association of Humanist Sociology (AHS) meetings in Santa Fe, NM, I feel energized and ready to engage in dialogue about how we, as a group that cares deeply about issues of race, can collectively move SREM forward. As a side note: if you are not familiar with that organization, I would urge you to check them out. AHS has been around since 1976 and is a really good network for those of us committed to humanist values. That said I am most excited about the Chicago ASA meetings and our sessions, in particular. Our membership continues to be strong and as of September 31st, we had 820 registered members. Thus, I was informed by ASA that all of our sessions were approved. Although we are one of the larger sections in ASA, we could do better. I would ask that all of our members encourage others to join SREM and participate.

In regards to the approved sessions for the Chicago meetings, you will find the organizers and their sessions listed in this newsletter. Also included in this newsletter, you will find information on the 2011 call for award nominations.

Those awards are: Founder's Award for Scholarship & Service, Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award, Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award, James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award and the Joe R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award. Last year there were no nominations for the Founder's Award or the Feagin Undergraduate Award. Thus, I urge you to please recognize good scholarship and commitment to our sections' mission by submitting your nominations to one or more of these award committees. Additionally, we are seeking nominations for Chair-Elect, Council (2 positions), and Student Representative. Please email our nominations committee (David L. Brunsma, brunsmad@missouri.edu and Matthew Hughey, mhughey@soc.msstate.edu) your nominations for these positions. Self-nominations are encouraged and welcomed.

Finally, I would like to thank our Past Chairs—Erica Chito Childs and Emily Ignacio, our Chair-Elect—David L. Brunsma, our Council Members—Korie Edwards, Nancy Foner, Angela Gonzales, Jane Yamashiro, Karyn Lacy, and Matthew Hughey, our Treasurer—Nadia Kim, and our Student Rep.—Layanna Navarre-Jackson, for all of their hard work and dedication to SREM. I would like to also thank the session organizers and all of the award committee volunteers for their service commitments. A special note of thanks goes out to Wendy L. Moore for continuing to help with the newsletter.

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SREM Leadership Contact Information

Name	Term Expiration	Position	Email
Michael Juan Chavez	2010	Student Representative	M_chavez96@yahoo.com
Erica Chito Childs	2010	Past Chair	Er-ica.chitochilds@hunter.cuny.edu
Korie Edwards	2011	Council Member	kle@sociology.osu.edu
David Embrick	2011	Chair	dembric@luc.edu
Nancy Foner	2012	Council Member	nfoner@hunter.cuny.edu
Tanya Maria Golash-Boza	2010	Council Member	tgb@ku.edu
Angela Gonzales	2011	Council Member	Aag27@cornell.edu
Emily Noelle Ignacio	2010	Past Chair	eignacio@u.washington.edu
Amanda Lewis	2010	Sec/Treas	Amanda.evelyn.lewis@emory.edu
Hung Cam Thai	2010	Council Member	hung.thai@pomona.edu
Jane Yamashiro	2012	Council Member	jane@alumni.ucsd.edu
David Brunsmad	2011	Chair-Elect	brunsmad@missouri.edu
Nadia Kim	2013	Sec/Treas	nyk888@gmail.com
Karyn Lacy	2013	Council Member	krlacy@umich.edu
Layanna Navarre-Jackson	2011	Student Representative	laya-navarre-jackson@uiowa.edu

ASA SREM Committee Assignments 2010/2011

Nominations Committee:

David L. Brunsmad, University of Missouri at Columbia; brunsmad@missouri.edu
 Matthew Hughey, Mississippi State University; mhughey@soc.msstate.edu

Founder's Award for Scholarship & Service:

Chair: David G. Embrick, Loyola University-Chicago; dembric@luc.edu
 Member: Shirley Jackson, Southern Connecticut State University; jack-
 sons1@southernct.edu
 Member: Amanda Lewis, Emory University; Amanda.evelyn.lewis@emory.edu
 Member: Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut; ban-
 dana.purkayastha@uconn.edu
 Member: Charles Gallagher, Lasalle University; Gallagher@lasalle.edu

Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award:

Chair: Karyn Lacy, University of Michigan; krlacy@umich.edu
 Member: Paul R. Ketchum, University of Oklahoma; pketchum@ou.edu
 Member: Leland Saito, University of Southern California; lsaito@usc.edu
 Member: Wendy Moore, Texas A&M University; wlmoore@tamu.edu
 Member: Carina Bandhauer, Western Connecticut State University; bandhau-
 erc@wcsu.edu

Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award:

Chair: David L. Brunsmad, University of Missouri at Columbia; brun-
 sma@missouri.edu
 Member: Nancy Foner, Hunter College; nfoner@hunter.cuny.edu
 Member: Marlese Durr, Wright State University; marlese.durr@wright.edu
 Member: Rodney Coates, Miami University- Ohio; coatesrd@muohio.edu
 Member: Meghan Burke, Illinois Wesleyan University; mburke@iwu.edu

James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award:

Chair: Jane Yamashiro, UC-San Diego; jane@alumni.ucsd.edu
 Member: Nadia Kim, Loyola University-Marymount; nyk888@gmail.com
 Member: Aliya Saperstein, University of Oregon; asaper@uoregon.edu
 Member: Carla Goar, Kent State University; cgoar@kent.edu

Joe R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award:

Chair: Matthew Hughey, Mississippi State University; mhughey@soc.msstate.edu
 Member: Layanna Navarre-Jackson, University of Iowa; laya-navarre-
 jackson@uiowa.edu
 Member: Angela Gonzales, Cornell University; Aag27@cornell.edu
 Member: Carol S. Walther, Northern Illinois University; cwalther@niu.edu

New SREM Member Publications!

ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS

-González, Belisa and Kathryn A. Sweeney. 2010. "The Color of Affirmative Action: Exploring Contemporary Racial Ideologies through Public Responses to Affirmative Action Policies in Michigan," Journal of Race and Policy, 6, 1: 106-122.

-Moore, Wendy Leo and Joyce M. Bell. 2010. "Embodying the White Racial Frame: The (In) Significance of Barack Obama" Journal of Race and Policy, Vol. 6, No. 1: 123-137.

-Golash-Boza, Tanya. 2010. "The Criminalization of Undocumented Migrants: Legalities and Realities" Societies without Borders 5:1.

-Golash-Boza, Tanya. 2010. "Had They Been Polite and Civilized, None of This Would Have Happened: Racial Discourses in Multicultural Lima" Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies. 5: 4.

-Golash-Boza, Tanya. 2010. "Does Whitening Happen? Distinguishing between Race and Color Labels in an African-Descended Community in Peru" Social Problems 57: 1: 138-156.

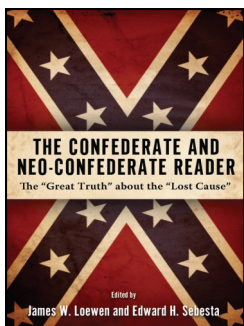
-Faranda, Regina and Nolle, David B.(2010) 'Boundaries of ethnic identity in Central Asia: titular and Russian perceptions of ethnic commonalities in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan', Ethnic and Racial Studies, First published on 13 October 2010 (iFirst), DOI: 10.1080/01419870.2010.516004. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2010.516004>

-Mize, Ronald L. and Alicia C.S. Swords. (2010). Consuming Mexican Labor: From the Bracero Program to NAFTA. University of Toronto Press: Ontario, Canada.

-Mize, Ronald L. (2010). "The State of Theorizing the Bracero Program: Elision, Domination, Resistance, and Resiliency," pp. 1-26 in Paul Lopez ed. ¿Que Fronteras? Mexican Braceros and a Re-examination of the Legacy of Migration, Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

-Mize, Ronald L. (2010). "Book Review: How the United States Racializes Latinos: White Hegemony and its Consequences." José Cobas, Jorge Duany, and Joe Feagin eds. Latino Studies 8(2): 292-294.

BOOKS

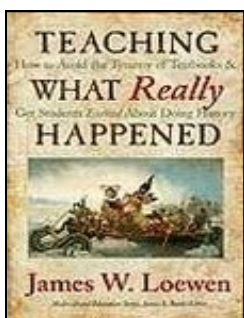


The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader

University Press of Mississippi. 2010.

Loewen, James W. and Edward H. Sebesta, Etds.

Secession, leading to Civil War, was perhaps the most important single event in U.S. history after the founding of the U.S. Yet it is consistently mis-taught. 60% to 70% of all HS history teachers believe (and teach) that the South seceded "for states' rights." They can only maintain this because they've never read the key documents. The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader sets the record straight, just in time for the sesquicentennial. As the documents show, slavery -- its protection and expansion -- was the cause that prompted secession. The seceding states were clear...The "states' rights" claim is an example of white supremacy afflicting history and historiography. It's not an innocent mistake, even though most teachers today make it innocently. The University Press of Mississippi released this book August 1. "The Confederate flag" is its cover, but its interpretation is anything BUT Confederate! Please ask your college library to get it!

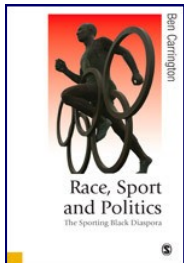


Teaching What Really Happened: How to Avoid the Tyranny of Textbooks and Get Students Excited About Doing History

Teachers College Press. 2009.

By: James W. Loewen

In this follow-up to his landmark bestseller, *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*, James Loewen continues to break silences and change our perspectives on U.S. history. Loewen takes history textbooks to task for their perpetuations of myth and their lack of awareness of today's multicultural student audience (not to mention the astonishing number of facts they just got plain wrong). How did people get here? Why did Europe win? Why Did the South Secede? In *Teaching What Really Happened*, Loewen goes beyond the usual textbook-dominated viewpoints to illuminate a wealth of intriguing, often hidden facts about America's past. Calling for a new way to teach history, this book will help teachers move beyond traditional textbooks to tackle difficult but important topics like conflicts with Native Americans, slavery, and race relations.



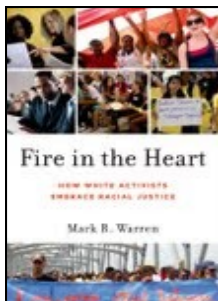
Race, Sport and Politics: The Sporting Black Diaspora

Sage Books. 2010.

By: Ben Carrington

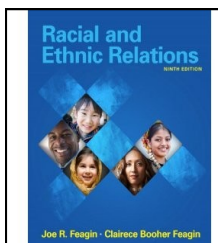
"From tennis to soccer, basketball to boxing, football to golf, the visibility of black athletes within global popular culture is beyond dispute. Rejecting the view that the level playing field of sport provides compelling evidence that we have moved beyond the racial inequalities of the past, *Race, Sport and Politics* suggests instead that sport has long constituted an important site of struggle for racist and anti-racist projects alike, and that ideas about 'the black athlete' persist as central to contemporary racial politics. In this intellectual tour-de-force, Carrington navigates the troubling contradictions of race and sport, helping us see that when we forgo blind celebration of the exploits of black athletes we might see new paths for racial progress" —Patricia Hill Collins, Distinguished University Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland.

BOOKS, Continued...



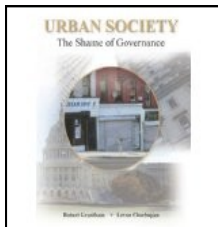
Fire in the Heart: How White Activists Embrace Racial Justice
Oxford University Press, 2010
By: Mark R. Warren

Drawing upon accounts of the development of racial awareness drawn from in-depth interviews with fifty white activists in the fields of community organizing, education, and criminal justice reform, *Fire in the Heart* uncovers the processes through which white Americans become activists for racial justice. The book shows how white Americans can develop a commitment to racial justice, not simply because it is the right thing to do, but because they see the cause as their own. The book also considers the complex dynamics and dilemmas white people face in working in multiracial organizations committed to systemic change in America's racial order, and provides a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role that white people can play in efforts to promote racial justice.



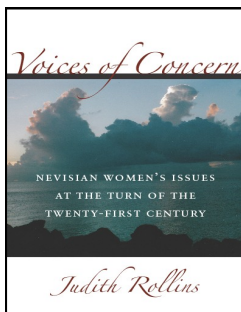
Racial and Ethnic Relations (9th Edition)
Prentice Hall. 2010.
By: Joe R. Feagin and Clairece Booher Feagin

For courses in Majority-Minority Relations, Racial and Ethnic Relations, Cultural Diversity, and Multiculturalism in departments of Sociology and Ethnic Studies. *Racial and Ethnic Relations, 9/e*, examines the “what”, “why”, and “how” of racial and ethnic oppression and conflict. Drawing on a broad array of sources, this text provides readers with access to important research and literature on racial and ethnic groups in the United States and, to a lesser extent, in certain other countries around the globe.



Urban Society: The Shame of Governance.
Sloan Publishing, 2010.
Robert Grantham and Levon Chorbajian, Eds.

This collection features many classic and original essays on the effects of neoliberalism and its predecessors going back to 1950 on urban minorities and the urban poor in favor of vested financial and development interests. Many prominent urban scholars such as Elijah Anderson, Mike Davis, William Julius Wilson, Joe Feagin, and David Harvey are featured along with young scholars such as John Arena on Post-Katrina New Orleans and Meghan Ashlin Rich's study of self-imposed tax levies in a Baltimore neighborhood to access formerly municipally provided services.



Voices of Concern: Nevisian Women's Issues at the Turn of the Twenty-First Century. Calaloux Press. 2010.
By: Judith Rollins

Voices of Concern is a concise and powerful summary of the issues facing women on the Caribbean island of Nevis, their views of those issues, and the factors that have contributed to those views. In addition, it identifies recent improvements in the situation of women in Nevis and the causes of those improvements. Beginning with an exploration of the major trends in Nevisian history, Rollins then focuses on current concerns, allowing her forty interviewees to speak for themselves whenever possible. Through their insightful comments and the nuanced analysis by the author, the reader comes to understand why significant changes for Nevisian women are taking place at this moment in history and how these changes are interconnected to those for women in other parts of the world.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape explores how cultures around the globe make social categories of race, class, gender and sexuality meaningful in particular ways. The book will examine power and privilege, as well as oppression and marginalization, as it illustrates how inequalities are constructed, mobilized, and challenged through language and representation. Analyses will take up the “politics of representation” — the cultural struggles over how events, processes, institutions, and people are to be understood. As such the collection will contribute insights into the production of culture, knowledge, and power.

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape welcomes all styles of textual analysis and close reading. The collection will be edited by Celine-Marie Pascale, an Associate Professor of Sociology at American University, Washington D.C. <<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>>

The strongest manuscripts will present complex ideas with clear language. Please avoid jargon and define all specialized terms so that readers unfamiliar with textual analysis will be able to enjoy and appreciate the insights being offered.

All manuscripts should be submitted as Microsoft Word files, double-spaced, and between 25-30 pages in length, including references. Authors are responsible for securing permissions for all images and excerpts.

Manuscripts are due by December 1, 2010 to <celinemariepascale@gmail.com>.

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
T-14 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016-8072
202-885-2524
<http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

Call for Chapter Proposals

In 2004 and 2008, the SSSP and the Justice 21 Committee published the first two volumes of the **Agenda for Social Justice**. Those reports contained chapters on a variety of social problems, among them poverty, educational inequality, unemployment, environmental health risks, global economic change, capital punishment, post-Katrina disaster response, gender inequality in the criminal justice system, the vulnerability of ESL students in public schools, surveillance technologies, civil unions, domestic violence.

We are now beginning our work on the third publication--**Agenda for Social Justice-2012**. This publication is designed to inform the public-at-large about the nation's most pressing social problems and to propose a public policy response to those problems. This project affirms the commitment of SSSP to social justice, and enables the members of the association to speak on public issues with the sponsorship of the corporate body. This report will be an "agenda for social justice," in that it will contain recommendations for action by elected officials, policy makers, and the public at large. The report will be distributed as widely as possible to policy makers, those in progressive media, and academics.

The quadrennial report will be a product of the most valid and reliable knowledge we have about social problems and it will be a joint effort of the members and Divisions of SSSP. We invite you to consider preparing a chapter for the 2012 publication. We ask you, individually or with colleagues, to consider submitting a brief proposal (1-2 pp) identifying a social problem of concern to members of SSSP, and respond to the questions:

What do we know? How do we know it? What is to be done?

As the coordinating committee for **Justice 21**, we invite members to prepare a draft statement for a proposed contribution to the 2012 publication, tentatively to be produced and distributed by the Edwin Mellen Press (<http://www.mellenpress.com/>). For the 2012 edition, confirmed contributors include the following well-known sociologists: Frances Fox Piven, Alejandro Portes, and Amatai Etzioni. Please submit a copy of your 1-2 page proposals to each of the members of the committee by March 1, 2011, and contact us if you have questions or would like additional information. Final manuscripts will be due near the end of 2011, and will appear in print prior to the 2012 SSSP annual meetings in August 2012.

Glenn Muschert (chair), Miami University, muschegw@muohio.edu
 Kathleen Ferraro, Northern Arizona University, kathleen.ferraro@nau.edu
 Brian Klocke, SUNY Plattsburgh, bkloc001@plattsburgh.edu
 JoAnn Miller, Purdue University, jlmiller@purdue.edu
 Robert Perrucci, Purdue University, perruccir@purdue.edu
 Jon Shefner, University of Tennessee, jshefner@utk.edu

For an expanded discussion of **Justice 21**, see the May 2001 issue of *Social Problems* ("Inventing Social Justice"). To see the 2004 and 2008 publications, see the SSSP website at the following address: <http://sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323>

Crime & Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives & Participation

July 11 – 29, 2011, Ohio State University

Faculty pursuing tenure and career success in research-intensive institutions, academics transitioning from teaching to research institutions, and faculty members carrying out research in teaching contexts will be interested in this Summer Research Institute. Organized by Lauren J. Krivo and Ruth D. Peterson and funded by the National Science Foundation and Ohio State University, the institute is designed to promote successful research projects and careers among faculty from underrepresented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. During the institute, each participant will complete an ongoing project (either a research paper or grant proposal) in preparation for journal submission or agency funding review. In addition, participants will gain information that will serve as a tool-kit tailored to successful navigation of the academic setting. The Summer Research Institute will provide participants with:

- Resources for completing their research projects;
- Senior faculty mentors in their areas of study;
- Opportunities to network with junior and senior scholars;
- Workshops addressing topics related to publishing, professionalization, and career planning;
- Travel expenses to Ohio, housing in a trendy Columbus neighborhood, and living expenses.

The institute will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience.

Completed applications must be postmarked by February 11, 2011. To download the application form, please see our web site (<http://cjrc.osu.edu/rdcj-n/summerinstitute>). All applicants must hold regular tenure-track positions in U.S. institutions and demonstrate how their participation broadens participation of underrepresented groups in crime and justice research. Graduate students without tenure track appointments are not eligible for this program. Please direct all inquiries to kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu.

Call For Book Proposals

Professor Joe R. Feagin is starting a new book series project with Paradigm Books as of October 1, 2010. The Critical Viewpoints Series: This series invites manuscripts that take a fresh and critical look at persisting or changing dimensions of societal oppression and inequality, especially class, racial, and gender oppression and inequality. Based on interview, ethnographic, or other qualitative data, books in this series will lay bare longstanding and new structures of societal oppression that generate singular inequalities or cut across multiple inequalities. Authors are encouraged to illuminate pathways toward greater societal equality and the social and organizational efforts needed to bring it about. Please send your book idea or prospectus to Joe Feagin, Professor, Sociology Department, Texas A&M University (jrfeagin@yahoo.com).

**A letter to the ASA section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities
about the Real Utopias theme of the 2012 ASA annual meeting
Erik Olin Wright
October, 2010**

(a full version of this memo can be found at: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~wright/ASA/ASAsectionsMemo.pdf>)

The theme for the 2012 Annual meeting of the ASA is “Real Utopias: Emancipatory projects, institutional designs, possible futures.” Here is how I described the core idea of this theme in the ASA newsletter, *Footnotes*:

“Real Utopias” seems like an oxymoron: Utopia means “nowhere” – a fantasy world of perfect harmony and social justice. To describe a proposal for social transformation as “utopian” is to dismiss it as an impractical dream outside the limits of possibility. Realists reject such fantasies as a distraction from the serious business of making practical improvements in existing institutions. The idea of real utopias embraces this tension between dreams and practice: “utopia” implies developing clear-headed visions of alternatives to existing institutions that embody our deepest aspirations for a world in which all people have access to the conditions to live flourishing lives; “real” means taking seriously the problem of the viability of the institutions that could move us in the direction of that world. The goal is to elaborate utopian ideals that are grounded in the real potentials of humanity, utopian destinations that have accessible way stations, utopian designs of viable institutions that can inform our practical tasks of navigating a world of imperfect conditions for social change.

Exploring real utopias implies developing a sociology of the *possible*, not just of the *actual*. This is a tricky research problem, for while we can directly observe variation in what exists in the world, discussions of possibilities and limits of possibility always involve more speculative and contentious claims about what could be, not just what is. The task of a sociology of real utopias, then, is to develop strategies that enable us to make empirically and theoretically sound arguments about emancipatory possibilities.

I am hoping that many of the sections of the American Sociological Association will be enthusiastic about engaging this theme in some of the sessions which they directly organize, but I also hope that members of different ASA sections will submit proposals to the program committee for thematic panels which explore the problem of real utopias within their subfield.

I think issues connected to the study of racial and ethnic minorities pose constructive and difficult challenges to thinking about “real utopias.” Most critical writing on issues of race and ethnicity focus on the nature of the oppressions connected to these social categories, the social processes which reproduce and undermine such oppression, and the struggle of people against such oppression. The normative concerns are animated by commitments to social justice and social emancipation, but less attention is usually given to the real utopia question of what kinds of institutions are needed to fully realize the normative goals embodied in the critique of existing institutions. Are there aspects of the ideal design such institutions that reflect distinctive characteristics of racial and ethnic relations? The answer to this question involves a wide range of considerations, including, among other things, issues of identity and multiculturalism, the question of the appropriate response to historical legacies of injustice, and the relationship between recognition and redistribution as dimensions of social justice. My hope is that there are people in the Racial and Ethnic Minorities section who will find engaging these kinds of issues (and others that I have not thought of) productive and will elaborate proposals for panels at the 2012 meeting.

Information about submitting proposals for different kinds of panels for the meeting can be found at: http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/septoct10/2012_0910.html.

To facilitate such proposals I thought it might be helpful if I shared some of my general ideas on the structure of the thematic and plenary panels for the 2012 meetings. This is all quite tentative – the first real meeting of the program committee where these and other ideas will be discussed will be in early December – but it may give people some idea of the kinds of things I hope to see happen. What follows, then, is a brief sketch of the different kinds of panels around the theme of Real Utopias I would like to see at the meeting.

I. Real Utopia Proposals Sessions

Each of these sessions will revolve around a proposal for a real utopian design to resolve some domain of problems. Examples would include: unconditional basic income, market socialism, equality-sustaining parental leaves, participatory budgets, random-selection democratic assemblies, worker cooperatives, stakeholder corporations,

solidarity finance, democratic media, etc. The ideal here is to recruit an anchor person for the session who we know has already worked extensively on formulating such real utopia designs rather than simply a person who has thought critically about the theme (although there will certainly be flexible on this). This format will not be appropriate for all of the themes around real utopias; it will be especially effective for those problems around which there exists an on-going discussion of alternative institutions.

My idea is for the sessions to be organized as follows:

- We will create a dedicated website for these sessions.
- The person who anchors these sessions will prepare an elaborated proposal for institutional designs around some theme which will be posted online by early 2012. While of course these essays will include some discussion of what's wrong with existing structures and institutions, the goal is for them to sketch the central contours of alternatives. By this I do not mean a detailed "institutional blueprint", but rather a careful elaboration of the core principles of an institutional proposal. My expectation is that these will be in the 10,000 word range, although some could be longer.
- In some sessions there could be two competing or contrasting proposals. Having two different proposals could make for a very lively session for some topics.
- The website will allow for comments and dialogue so that these proposals can be part of a discussion prior to the meeting. I am not sure yet precisely what the best design for the website would be, but I am hopeful that it will be an interactive site rather than simply a passive site.
- At the session there will be a very brief – 15-20 minute – presentation of the proposal and at most one commentary, or perhaps a contrasting proposal. I want to avoid panels with lots of presentations and little time for debate and discussion.

In *Footnotes*, section newsletters, and other modes of information dissemination we will encourage people to look at the proposals before the meeting and to come to sessions with issues they want to raise. While of course we want to avoid long-winded speeches from the floor, I think somewhat longer than usual interventions could be constructive.

Partial list of potential Topics for Proposal Sessions

Below is an initial list of possible thematic panels built around real utopia proposals. I have identified these sessions by the central principle of the proposal (for example, Unconditional Basic Income) rather than by the general topic or target of a proposal (eg. Healthcare), except where I do not have a specific real utopian proposal in mind. Because of my own expertise, most of the topics I have thought of revolve around political and economic issues. Nevertheless, it would be good if some of these thematic proposal sessions revolved around cultural issues of various sorts and around egalitarian and social justice issues that are not exclusively socio-economic in character (gender, race, sexuality, etc.). Some of these topics may be more suitable for general thematic sessions rather than for the proposal sessions.

- Unconditional Basic Income
- A democratic media system
- "High road" capitalism
- Democratizing finance
- Participatory budgeting
- A democratic, egalitarian system of campaign finance
- Deliberative referenda
- Gender: Parental leaves for gender equality
- Parecon (participatory economics)
- A framework for a digital network economy
- Building the Scientific Commons (publications, data dissemination, etc.)
- Community policing
- Worker-owned Cooperatives
- Pensions, labor's capital, solidarity finance, wage earner funds

Randomocracy, citizens assemblies
 LETS (local exchange trading systems)
 Globally just Fair trade
 Market socialism
 Intellectual property – the creative commons
 Public education
 Universities
 Healthcare

II. Film/documentary sessions

I think it would be interesting to have a number of sessions which present documentary films on exemplary and iconic cases of social innovations to solve problems. The intention here is not to have cheerleading films, but documentaries that analyze specific kinds of leading cases. The films could either be presented by the filmmaker or by an expert who researches the case and could lead a discussion following the film. Most documentaries which are thematically relevant on these issues tend to be mainly about social movements and struggles – sometimes of the “heroic struggle” variety – and not so much about outcomes, institutional innovations, actual transformations of social structures. So, I am not sure exactly what is available.

Examples could include things like:

- The *kibbutz* – there are a number of films that are retrospectives on the kibbutz experience
 - *Holding Ground* – a film about the Dudley Street neighborhood association
 - Public transportation – I understand that there is an interesting film about innovative public transportation in a Brazilian city, but I have not seen it
- Local food, alternative agriculture

III. Thematic panels around broad topics and disciplinary subfields

Some of the topics listed under Real Utopia Proposals sessions could be shifted to these regular thematic sessions if we don't find a suitable anchor person with a well-worked out institutional/transformational proposal. And some of the topics listed below, of course, could also be moved to the institutional proposal category.

In terms of format, I have a strong preference for sessions which do not have so many presentations that there is little time for discussion, and generally I prefer sessions without discussants – my experience is that it is usually more interesting to have discussion from the floor unless the discussant is really engaged in a debate with a specific argument (as in the proposal sessions). For these sessions, then, I would generally like three presenters and no discussant.

Some possible topics for general thematic sessions

1. Consumerism, 2. The corporation: alternative models for more democratic/participatory governance 3. Care-work 4. Future studies as a framework for envisioning real utopias 5. The Cleveland cooperatives initiatives 6. Mondragon, Emilia-Romagna and other exemplary worker cooperative districts 7. Utopian thinking within sociological theory 8. Utopian and dystopian visions 9. Marxism and real utopias or Marxism vs real utopias 10. Energy 11. Global Warming 12. The family 13. Sexuality 14. Childhood/children 15. Cities 16. Multiculturalism 17. Linguistic justice 18. Race, racial justice 19. International migration 20. Methodological issues: nonevents and possible futures 21. Criminal justice: crime & punishment 22. The military 23. Intentional communities 24. 19th century utopian communities 25. Transforming culture 26. Local food 27. Alternative Agro-food Systems 28. The Internet 29. Wikipedia 30. Creative commons 31. Voluntary simplicity 32. The Chicago participatory budget experiment 33. Transhumanism 34. Science policy

IV. Plenary Panels

The program contains up to three plenary sessions – one on Friday evening and the in the noon slot on Saturday and Sunday. Tentatively, I am thinking of the following possibilities:

1. *Big Ideas for Real Utopias*: This could be one or two of the plenary panels, depending on other plenary sugges-

tions. The idea would be to have a panel(s) featuring very prominent, articulate advocates of specific real utopian proposals. I envision three presentations for this panel, each around some Big Idea. One idea is also for these panelists to lead a proposal-thematic session (category I above) on the day after they are on the plenary panel. This would make it possible for there to be intensive discussion of the high profile ideas presented in the plenaries.

If we have only one plenary session of this character, the topics could include, for example, some of the following:

- Basic Income
- A democratic media system
- Participatory Budgets and direct democracy
- Gender Equality and the family

Cooperatives

If we have two panels of this sort, one could be built around democracy issues and one around equality issues:

Democracy:

- Making Elections truly democratic
- Participatory budget and direct democracy
- Democratic media

Equality

- Basic income
- Gender equality and family
- Cooperatives

2. *Energy, the environment, and global warming*: This plenary would focus on institutional designs for countering global warming and other aspects of ecological crisis rather than just the nature of the problem itself. Mostly when I have seen panels and discussions of these issues the discussion of institutional design is pretty thin. There is a sharp indictment of existing consumption and production patterns and a call for dramatic transformation in how we do things, but little discussion of the mechanisms for accomplishing this and how sustainability and low growth can be institutionalized and reproduced.

3. *Sociology as Real Utopia*: I am less sure about this, but it might be possible to have a session which reflected on the nature of the discipline and academic life, and asked what the real utopia vision for sociology might be.

SREM SESSIONS FOR ASA 2011
 Sponsor: Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Session 1

Session Type: Invited
 Session Title: Race, Methodology and Epistemology
 Session Organizer: David G. Embrick
 Loyola University-Chicago
 dembric@luc.edu

Session 2

Session Type: Open Submission
 Session Title: Changing Notions of Blackness in the Americas
 Session Co-Organizers: Mindelyn Buford, II
 Northeastern University
 m.buford@neu.edu

Tanya Golash-Boza
 University of Kansas
 tgb@ku.edu

Session 3

Session Type: Open Submission
 Session Title: The Growing Racial Wealth Gap and its Implications
 Session Organizer: Michael Emerson
 Rice University
 moe@rice.edu

Session 4

Session Type: Open Submission
 Session Title: Shifting Lines/Shifting Boundaries: Toward a Critical Sociology of Multiraciality
 Session Co-Organizers: David L. Brunσμα
 University of Missouri at Columbia
 brunsmad@missouri.edu

Kerry Ann Rockquemore
 soclady@yahoo.com

Session 5

Session Type: Open Submission
 Session Title: Race, Ethnicity and Human Rights
 Session Organizer: Rodney Coates
 University of Miami
 coatesrd@muohio.edu

Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities Roundtables (one hour)

Session Co-Organizers: David G. Embrick
 Loyola University-Chicago
 dembric@luc.edu

Bhoomi Thakore
 Loyola University-Chicago
 bthakor@luc.edu

Announcements

- Mindelyn Buford II has joined the Northeastern University Department of Sociology and Anthropology as an Assistant Professor of Sociology.
- Tanya Golash-Boza started a professional development blog: Weekly Tips on How to Succeed in Academia and Have a Life Too <http://getalifephd.blogspot.com/> <<http://getalifephd.blogspot.com/>>.
- Joyce M. Bell has joined the University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor.
- Waverly Duck has joined the University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor.

FROM THE EDITOR

I have committed to another year as editor of Remarks, and I am very excited to see that with each issue I put together more and more section members are sending in information about their publications, and opportunities for scholarship and programs, as well as career and scholarship announcements. I hope that this will inspire even more members to send me information for the spring and summer issues in 2011!

I want to thank Erica Chito-Childs for her work as SREM Chair in 2009-2010 and welcome David Embrick as our new section Chair. At the suggestion of Dr. Embrick I have included, on page 2 of this issue, a chart with the SREM leadership past, present and future. If you want to get involved in any way with the section, these are the people you should contact—and I encourage everyone to do just that.

Along the lines of getting involved, I also encourage all of you to think about ways you may contribute to future issues of Remarks. Dr. Joyce M Bell will continue with Community Corner beginning in spring 2011; she is taking time off from the newsletter as she makes her transition from the University of Georgia to the University of Pittsburgh! Her new email contact, if you have ideas for Community Corner, is jmb267@pitt.edu. If you have ideas for a similar creative contribution to the newsletter, please let me know—I would welcome new ideas for Remarks!

—Wendy Leo Moore

Remarks is edited by Wendy Leo Moore

If you have comments, concerns, or ideas for future issues, please contact Wendy at wlmoore@tamu.edu.

