Present: Kathryn Edin, Arne Kalleberg (outgoing ASA President), Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, Michael Hout (Chair), Patricia Martin, Amy Wharton, Christine Williams, Howard Winant, Patricia Hill Collins (incoming ASA President), Cecilia Ridgeway, Gary Fine, Judith Stepans-Norris, Alan Sica, Doug Hartmann, Chris Uggen, Philip Gorski, Elizabeth Grauerholz, Yu Xie, Jeffery Alexander, Naomi Rosenthal, Vincent Roscigno, and Randy Hodson

Present from the Executive Office were Sally T. Hillsman (Executive Officer), Karen Gray Edwards (Director of Publications and Membership), and Janine Chiappa McKenna (Journals and Publications Manager).

The Committee voted to:

- Forward the proposal for a section journal from the Mental Health section to Council with a strong positive recommendation, pending negotiations with ASA’s new publishing partner.
- Increase the permanent page allocation for Sociology of Education.
- Appoint Christine Williams as Chair of Committee on Publications.
- Forward the nomination Gilda Zwerman as coeditor of the Rose Series to Council with a strong positive recommendation.

Selection of ASA Editors. Five editorships are scheduled to expire at the end of 2009, so the Committee began the selection process for the next editors. It compiled lists of candidates who will receive letters of invitation; there will also be an open announcement in Footnotes and on the ASA website for self-nominations. The Committee will review applications at the December 2008 meeting and make recommendations for Council’s approval.

Open Access. The Joint Committee on Electronic Publishing met in June and discussed ASA compliance with federally mandated open access of NIH-funded research through PubMed. The Committee recommended amending ASA’s publication agreement to allow authors to post an unedited, un-typeset version of the accepted manuscript with a 12-month embargo. Council approved the proposal via e-mail. Only recipients of direct grants from NIH are required to make data available, not secondary sources of grants.

Request for Publication Guidelines in Contexts. At its December 2007 meeting, the Publications Committee created a Subcommittee to modify or create guidelines for Contexts editors. The Subcommittee reviewed the ASA Publications Manual and focused on areas that were relevant to Contexts and created an addendum highlighting how Contexts operates differently than ASA journals. Four areas are different:

1. Editorial decisions have greater flexibility in how they are made because of the different types of content and less original research in articles.
2. Editors’ responsibilities include offering the Executive Office input on marketing.
3. Editors who author content beyond editorial notes must disclose they are authors.
4. While most content should be double-blind peer reviewed, the nature of the editorial process is more flexible, allowing for other types of peer review (i.e., not double blind). Editors should make review process explicit to authors and submitters.

Proposal for New Section Journal. The Section on Mental Health submitted a proposal for establishing its own journal. The Committee approved the proposal for Committee decision. As with all section journals, it will be reviewed periodically (usually concurrent with the selection of editors). The ASA will negotiate a publishing agreement, first approaching its new publishing partner.

New Monograph Series. A new monograph series was proposed by some members at the December 2007 meeting and the Committee agreed to revisit the proposal at the August 2008 meeting if the Subcommittee submitted a formal proposal. While the Subcommittee presented additional information, the Committee awaits a formal proposal for the December 2008 meeting.

The Committee will meet next on December 6-7, 2008.