Southern California has long been associated with gangs and Orange County is certainly no exception. I spent two years doing ethnographic research among Orange County gangs, primarily with one of the largest gangs, FxTroop (pronounced F-Troop), which has between several hundred and a few thousand members depending upon whom you ask. FxTroop, as you might have guessed, takes its name from the old Custer's Last Stand western comedy, although many of the older members of the community claim that the organization has its origins before World War I and that it merely changed its name in the sixties.

The youths (primarily young men) who make the police identify as FxTroop see themselves as the integral part of their neighborhood. Similarly, numerous local residents of all ages (most of whom do not appear to be gang members) identify their neighborhood as FxTroop. While FxTroop is primarily composed of Mexican-Americans, it is not exclusively so and its racial homogeneity reflects the neighborhood from which it originates. Most of Orange County's gang members are Mexican-Americans, especially if you use the records of the essentially Anglo law enforcement establishment. The Mexican-American community in Orange County is roughly the proportion of Anglo-American community and most Anglos are only first- or second-generation Orange County residents. According to the police, to grow up in some Orange County neighborhoods and to be male is essentially the same thing as to be a gang member and, at some local high schools, they have identified nearly all of the males as gang members.

FxTroopers generate enormous amounts of income through theft: car theft, burglary, mugging, and so forth. They are usually quite careful, however, to victimize only those from outside their neighborhood. FxTroop has a rich oral tradition and quite a few stories circulate about this effect. One classic example involved a high-school aged Anglo who had just cashed his paycheck at a local liquor store and was walking home with several hundred dollars in cash in his pocket. Some FxTroopers, who did not recognize him, stopped him and de

by Angela L. Sharpe
Associate Director of Social Science Researcher
Committee on Social Science Associations

Federal and non-federal organizations continue to examine the issue of human research participants protection. On February 22, the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Assessing the System for Protecting Human Research Subjects held a public forum to gather information for its assessment of the system for protecting human research participants. The Committee heard the various perspectives (institutional, participant, and investigator) of the conducting research involving humans. Representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Human Research Protections, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Veterans Administration also provided testimony. Opening the meeting, Chair Daniel Pedersen (Dean for Alumni Relations and Clinical Teaching, Harvard) emphasized that the committee will "deliberate thoroughly" before writing its draft report and that no conclusions or recommendations by the Committee would be made at the meeting.

Several individuals offered perspectives regarding the difficult and challenging problem of how to accommodate the social and behavioral sciences in a system based on a model created to deal with biomedical and clinical research. Felice Levine, Executive Committee member of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) and Executive Officer of the American Sociological Association (ASA), addressed the committee on behalf of COSSA and from the perspective of researchers. Levine informed the Committee that most of the professional associations and organizations that provide research funding and guidelines for researchers to follow in conducting their research, particularly when human participants are part of the research design. She emphasized, however, that there was considerable concern about the "growing fault lines in the system that protects human participants and their rights. That has developed between law and policy on 'the books' and in 'action'." For example, said Levine, even though comprehensive and mandatory data are being asked to seek approval by Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) to use these data, even though the information is anonymous and the subjects are already protected under earlier protocols.

Commenting on proposed standards for accreditation of institutions' human research protection programs, she stated that they provide further evidence of the inherent problem with the current system. Those standards are intended to be universal and to fit all research involving human participants, she said, they need to be framed in a way that meaningfully includes all research fields.

In addressing the Committee, Levine framed the concerns of the social and behavioral science community into ten recommendations. Written testimony from COSSA and ASA will provide specific illustrations of where the social and behavioral science community thinks that accreditation standards are problematic for achieving the proposed goals and where they are specifically problematic.

You Just Completed a Day of Sessions... What Will You Do?

by Johanna Elmer
ASA Communications Assistant

If your answer isn't "I'm going to Disneyland" then maybe you should reconsider. Disneyland, the American icon, is Anaheim's major attraction, enlarging Anaheim's major attraction, enlarging Disneyland's major attraction, enlarging Orange County's major attraction, enlarging Orange County's major attraction, enlarging Southern California's major attraction, and a gourmet restaurant within the theme park as well as Wolfgang Puck's restaurant. The cost for a ticket into the theme park is $43 for adults and $33 for children. Downtown Disney (300,000 sq. ft.), in the heart of the Disney Resort, is a pedes
trian esplanade stretching from the gates of the theme parks to hotels within the Disneyland resort. The non-gated area features a lush, garden-like complex by day that transforms into a brightly lit theme park by night. Opened in January, it features a 12-screen AMC movie theater, restaurants, nightclubs, and shopping. Restaurants include the Rainforest Cafe, Patina Group, La Brea Bakery, and Cafe Calit and Wine Bar. Other restaurants include a New York style restaurant, Naples Ristorante e Pizzeria, Latin dining, Y Bar, Y Bar, and New Orleans style, Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen. The House of Blues Restaurant and the ESPN Zone serve dining and entertainment, and shopping for Disney and other items abound. There is no admission fee to enter Downtown Disney.

Of course, if you are a traditionalist, there is always the original Disneyland theme park where you can meet famous Californians, Mickey and Minnie, and ride the Matterhorn and Space Mountain. Nicknamed the "happiest place on Earth," Disneyland was the created in 1955 and is the original Disney theme park. Within Disneyland is Tomorrowland, Fantasmic, Frontierland, Adventureland, New Orleans Square, and Main Street USA. The newest sections include Critter Country and Mickey's Toontown. In order to see all that Disneyland has to offer, a visitor to the park must purchase a ticket to the park and see it from a aerial view. The culture of the "Enchanted Tiki Room" and the "Pirates of the Caribbean" may not be traditional fare for sociologists, but the fantasy and fun of Disneyland is also a "Sleeping Beauty's Castle" is enough to make even the most skeptical academic feel like a kid again. The park is北方的 as the Disney's California Adventure.

While Disney is, by no means, the only attraction Arena has to offer, it does provide the most well-known and largest tourist attraction in Orange County. It also has provided financial support as Anaheim expends. Besides its economic contribution, Disney offers entertainment, shopping, and restaurants in a fun, family-oriented context. Go ahead and discover social interaction at a Mouse's level—whether you choose to observe it as a sociologist, or to just have fun!
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NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research receives guidance on priorities for the social dimensions of health.

Tuesdays with Morrie
Mitch Albom's best-seller about sociologist Morrie Schwartz reconstructs the dying process.

A "Window" on the Social Landscape of Technology
Microsoft sociologist Marc Smith presents the sociological perspective on technology.

Nominations for ASA Awards
ASA award selection committees seek nominations for outstanding professional contributions.

ASA Publications on Hate Crime
ASA offers Hate Crime in America: What Do We Know and Teaching About Ethnoviolence and Hate Crime.

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Time to Renew ... if you haven’t already done so!

In order to vote in the upcoming ASA election, your membership renewal must be received by 12 March 2001. In addition, members renewing after 12 March 31 will not be included in the new 2001-2002 Directory of Members. The ASA "Member Only" area on the homepage continues to feature more and more useful resources for your use. Only current members, using their member ID number, have access to these directories and information, so please send in your renewal today.

The Executive Officer's Column

Carrying the Sociological "Flag" of Health Disparities

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) have been engaged in a year-long effort to develop strategic plans for investing in research, training, and communication on health disparities. All of the Institutes and Offices at NIH engaged in separate planning processes. Also a trans-NIH plan was developed and posted for public comment by January 31, 2001. We took advantage of the comment period to commend the importance being placed by NIH on racial and ethnic disparities and the evident inclusion of sociologists. The research produced by sociologists is firmly grounded in scientific methods and in ethical principles intended to serve the public good.

On behalf of ASA, I wish to commend you and your colleagues for the leadership and direction taken by the trans-NIH Plan and the significant resources that this plan will bring to understanding and overcoming racial and ethnic disparities in health and well-being. As social scientists, we are gratified by the apparent consensus among the plan's authors concerning the importance of focusing on social and cultural processes such as inequalities in health treatment that make race and ethnicity appear as powerful predictors of health disparities. We are also gratified by the plan's insistence on the importance of moving beyond "black and white" differences to a broader view of race and ethnicity.

As sociologists, we are especially optimistic that sustained research that focuses on social and cultural systems and processes as well as individual differences—will lead to substantive progress in eliminating racial disparities in health and disease. We urge you in the final document and in the implementation of the plan to emphasize even further the centrality of social and behavioral research to any comprehensive effort to understand health disparities. There is a strong need, for example, for sociological research on whether or how disparities in the location and quality of housing or the distribution of health resources from the government and private sectors affects long-term health behaviors and outcomes.

It is crucial to develop research initiatives that link inequalities in macro-structures (such as social, economic, and political stratification and distribution systems) that often work through mid-level institutions and processes (such as communities, schools, churches, and families) with disparate behaviors, treatments, and outcomes at both group and individual levels. It is best framed in the mandate for the Centers for Health Disparities Research. The ASA would like to see similar linkages between systems and processes with individual outcomes in each of the areas of disease risk, prevention, prevalence, and intervention and in all of NIH's research initiatives. We believe that this focus is vital if disparities are ultimately to be eliminated.

In the specific plans of a number of NIH Institutes and Offices (e.g., the plans from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research) signal this commitment. More explicit language in the trans-NIH plan would strengthen this resolve and could also have an important impact at the program level.

ASA is particularly pleased with the Strategic Plan's emphasis on the recruitment and training of minority researchers, especially those who plan to focus on health disparities. As you may know, this past summer ASA received a 5-year renewal award from the National Institute of Mental Health for its Graduate Fellowship Program for Underrepresented Minorities in Sociology. The primary goal of this Program (now in its 27th year) is to support the recruitment and training of underrepresented and minority sociologists in the field of mental health. The Program provides predoctoral students with academic and research training and mentoring, in coordination with university and graduate programs, in order to increase the talent pool of minority scholars—including some of the top sociologists working in the area of disparities and health—have added importantly to our knowledge.

ASA is deeply appreciative of the resources and long-term leadership of the National Institute of Mental Health and the involvement of other NIH Institutes in training underrepresented minorities. Nonetheless, ASA would like to see an emphasis in the Strategic Plan on programs that train minority researchers to investigate the impact of social systems and processes on health disparities on a broader arena of health issues and to attract other investigations also to focus on disparities. We would like to see funding for such programs increased, spread out throughout the Institutes, and institutionalized in interdisciplinary training programs that bring together students from the life, behavioral, and social sciences. We are also deeply gratified that more attention should be paid to the full pipeline—through investments at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels.

On behalf of ASA's 13,000 members, I commend NIH for its Strategic Plan to Reduce and Ultimately Eliminate Health Disparities. I know that all of our members as well as the Association's Executive Office are prepared to be of assistance in this significant effort to overcome inequalities in health and well-being. Please feel free to turn to me for additional support (levine@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, ext. 316). Also, Dr. Alfonso Toni, Director of Minority Affairs (tolind@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, ext. 321) or Dr. Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of the Research Program and head of ASA's project on race (spalter-roth@asanet.org or 202-383-9005, ext. 317), can be called on if you need additional help in this important effort.

Sincerely,
Felix J. Levine, Ph.D.
Executive Officer
OBSSR Looks to the Future

NIH Agenda on Social and Cultural Dimensions Taking Form

A research agenda designed to stimulate research on the social and cultural dimensions of health is taking shape at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The agenda is an offshoot of a widely noted conference held June 27-29, 2000, at Towson University. "Towson EPI Progress and Promise in Research on Social and Cultural Dimensions of Health." The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) sponsored this conference in order to highlight social science contributions to the study of health. The conference complemented several ongoing initiatives at NIH, and importantly the initiative to reduce health disparities. The conference was the first of a NIH conference series to focus on the social and cultural dimensions of health. Numerous people attended.

The first two days of the conference featured presentations by eminent sociologists on topics related to the measurement of race and ethnicity to the provision of effective mental health treatment. Sessions covered several major areas: basic research on sociocultural constructs, sociocultural processes and health, inter-personal, neighborhood, and community processes involved in the etiology of health, sociocultural processes in prevention and treatment, health services and service seeking, global perspectives on health, and health justice and ethics.

On the final day of the conference, a group of approximately 60 scholars met to develop recommendations for a research agenda that would advance research on social and cultural aspects of health. Six working groups addressed directions for social and cultural research on (1) the etiology of health and ill health; (2) prevention; (3) treatment and services; (4) positive health, gene expression, personal ties, healthy communities, inequality, population health, interventions, methodology, and infrastructure. A key theme of the report is on multiple pathways to health and well-being.

The report focuses on 10 thematic priorities, including preadverse pathways, positive health, gene expression, personal ties, healthy communities, inequality, population health, interventions, methodology and infrastructure. A key theme of the report is on multiple pathways to health and well-being. The report provides a comprehensive approach to health promotion interventions. The processes underlying racial, ethnic, and social inequalities in health can not be fully understood without consideration of multiple pathways at different levels of analysis. This approach also expands the knowledge base for more individualized health and well being.

From the Desk of...
Tuesday With Morrie Reconstructs the Dying Process

by Carla B. Honary
Deputy Executive Officer

"He is the best known sociologist around," laughs Maury Stein, Brandeis University, referring to his late colleague Morrie Schwartz. Schwartz's insights into his terminal illness from ALS were captured by his former student Mitch Alborn in the book Tuesdays With Morrie. The book has been in the top ten of the New York Times bestseller list for 155 weeks. The four million copies sold to date are 16 times the number of copies of such sociological classics as Street Corner Society.

Brandeis colleagues Stein and Peter Conrad reflected on what makes the book so popular. "You can begin to see this. We now have maps of cyberspace, but yet communities do take place in cyberspace. Project, he is currently studying how advances and community relations. He techniques, he has helped to develop about technology," he said. He noted scratch the surface, sociology is all nature and quality of communication. The technological revolution, in fact, has replaced the industrial revolution as a service for the research or increased content quality and user satisfaction researchers and participants of the researchers and participants of the Netscan project addresses the challenges not exclude technology from research or they will miss a big part of the picture. They received his PhD in sociology in 1999 from the University of California—Los Angeles. With his former advisor at UCLA, Alborn says, "I've co-edited Communities in Cyberperspectives on New Forms of Social Organization, a collection of essays exploring the ways identity, interaction, and social order develop in online groups. While teaching at the UCLA, Smith worked for three years as a research consultant for Microsoft, which led to his being hired full-time in 1999. Stein notes that Microsoft became interested in hiring a sociologist in 1994 when, "they felt the future of virtual reality would be in communities and that it would be bad for them to move through the day with apparent joy. His many aphorisms about life and death touched his many visitors. His friend and colleague for 35 years, Maury Stein shared some of these thoughts with a writer at the Boston Globe who wrote a front-page story about Schwartz. That coverage caught the eye of Ted Koppel's Nightline staff. Ultimately Koppel met the Schanberg at home and had three interviews with him, each showing more mutual affection.

The book has had a low-key presence on the Brandeis campus. It was mentioned in the alumni news. The University gave a copy of the book to all seniors one year for the senior sociologist. Stein says, "it uses the book in teaching a course on Birth and Death. From their long friendship, Stein remarks on Schwartz's charm, "but no one knew how telegenic he was until Nightline." Stein notes that Morrie was very affected by the sudden death of their mutual colleague Irv Zola. The packed funeral and loving tributes led him to remark, from his wheelchair, "I am not going to let that happen to me." He saw the terminal diagnosis from ALS as a "gift" that allowed him to share and receive love while he was still alive. "He didn't want a 'come to my bedside, as much as the reverse, asking his student about his life choices, helping resolve a difficult relationship with his brother, and encouraging him to express his emotions with joy and tears.

When Schwartz was diagnosed with ALS, he consciously refused to retreat and become distant from those loved. He felt the future of virtual reality would be in communities and that wisdom and growth are possible in the late stages of illness. Many people reading the book do doubt have someone close to them die with a scenario that diverges from Morrie's loving embrace. Indeed, one of the most poignant passages in the book centers on Morrie's description of the death of his mother, when he was a child, and the death of his father years later. Then and now, death is shut away and not discussed when it happens or later. Then and now, death is shut away and not discussed when it happens or even in later years. This social psycholigist realized the harm in that approach and used his Tuesday reflections to suggest a different path.

Thus, his actual funeral was as much as a "living funeral" where friends came and made tributes while he was alive to hear and enjoy them. "He had renewed energy at the end," says Stein, "even delivering 200-300 letters a week from people who had seen him on television. He taught his son to not gradually incapacitating him," says Stein.

"I am not going to let that happen to me," he said.

A "Window" on the Sociological Landscape of Technology by Johanna Ehren
Public Information Assistant

Marc Smith, currently the only research sociologist employed full-time at the Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, WA, is an enthusiastic advocate for the study of technological change from a social perspective. Technology, Smith notes, affects people universally. "The rapid changes in technology are witnesses profound effects generally on the quality of life, in social relationships, and in the nature and quality of communications. The technological revolution, in fact, has replaced the industrial revolution in importance.

Smith believes that sociologists, who have long studied social interaction and social networks, need to be at the forefront of this revolution. "Once you scratch the surface, sociology is all about technology," he said. He noted that the study of society comes from Durkheim to Weber's study of bureaucracy, has always been affected by technology. His research on cyberspace communities reflects Smith's interest in applying collective action and social network theory to technological advances and community relations. He specializes in the sociological analysis of online communities. On the Netscan project, he is currently studying how social relationships change when people take place in cyberspace. Using sociological principles and data mining techniques, he helps determine key software, which measures and maps social spaces in the Internet, such as Usenet or Internet newsgroups.

"There are invisible communities in cyberspace, but yet communities do exist," Smith says. "Therefore, as a sociologist, you can begin to see this. We now have maps of cyberspace, which you can look to see the communities." His research examines social interaction in online communities in ways similar to how sociologists study a local neighborhood and its organizations. It is like a "microscope," he says. The Netscan project challenges newsgroups or discussion groups have in determining social cues about the interactions they host. This may lead to increased content quality and user satisfaction while giving the researchers a context to study the information and data being developed on the Netscan project is publicly available to both researchers and a community of online communities at http://www.research.microsoft.com. These tools are usually applicable to any form of message-based community.

"We provide a microscope, or more like a macroscope on the World Wide Web as a service for the research community," Smith says. Some critics claim that the Internet lacks intellectual credibility, but Smith hopes to change this through research and measurement. Taking a page from Heisenberg, he says, "if you measure it, you change it. Maybe we can change the behavior of people in the online community by making it so that metrics that track their behavior and their performance are then pumped back into the interface which they explore." His ambition is "to have a long term and profound impact on the nature of these social cyberspaces."

When Smith first proposed the study of technology, many academics did not understand the extent to which technology would affect social behavior. Smith's advice to sociologists is to embrace the area of technology because the field needs people who have both the tools and the critical approach to really explore and provide guidance. There are fabulous opportunities ahead, but people also need to realize the warning signs of negative effects that technology can have on society and work to understand them. "The worst part is you can't have one without the other," he says. "And you are going to get it whether you like it or not." His advice to students is that they should not exclude technology from research or they will miss a big part of the picture. While teaching at UCLA, Smith has renewed energy at the end, "even delivering 200-300 letters a week from people who had seen him on television. He taught his son to not gradually incapacitating him," says Stein.

Stein feels that the appeal of the book is "a reconstruction of what is possible in the dying process. Morrie showed it can be a lively, communicative process and that wisdom and growth are possible in the late stages of illness." Many people reading the book do doubt have someone close to them die with a scenario that diverges from Morrie's loving embrace. Indeed, one of the most poignant passages in the book centers on Morrie's description of the death of his mother, when he was a child, and the death of his father years later. Then and now, death is shut away and not discussed when it happens or even in later years. This social psycholigist realized the harm in that approach and used his Tuesday reflections to suggest a different path.

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June 15 Deadlines

Nominations Sought for 2002 Major ASA Awards

AsA members and interested persons are encouraged to submit nominations for the 2002 ASA Awards outlined below. Nominations are due June 15, 2001 for 2002 awards (for the 2001 Dissertation Award, see Announcements). Please check the ASA website, or contact the ASA Governance Committees, appointed by the ASA Council, are constituted to receive nominations and make a final decision for 2002 awards at the 2001 ASA Annual Meeting. These awards will be presented at the 2002 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Jesse Bernard Award

The Jesse Bernard Award is given in recognition of scholarly work that has enlarged the horizons of sociology to encompass fully the role of women in society. The contribution may be in empirical research, theory, or methodology. It may be for an exceptional single work, several pieces of work, or significant cumulative work done throughout a professional career. The award is open to women by and for women and is not restricted to works by sociologists. The work need not be recent; however, it must have been published by the date of nomination. Nominations for the Jesse Bernard Award may be submitted only by members of the Association. Nominations for scholarly works should include a one to two page statement explaining the importance of the work. Nominations for career achievement should include a letter of nomination, two copies of the vita of the nominee, and examples of relevant scholarship or other materials. For further information on how to submit nominations, please check the ASA homepage at http://www.asanet.org or contact David Bachman, Governance Coordinator, at (202) 983-9005, ext. 327; e-mail bachman@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

The ASA Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award recognizes outstanding contributions to undergraduate and/or graduate teaching of sociology. The award recognizes contributions that have had a significant impact on the manner in which sociology is taught at a regional, state, national, or international level. These contributions may include preparation of teaching materials and publications, participation in the scholarship of teaching and learning, development and dissemination of innovative teaching techniques, leadership in teaching-related workshops and symposia, involvement in innovative program development, and contributions to the enhancement of teaching within specific regional, state, local, or national associations. The award is typically for a series of contributions spanning several years or an entire career, although it may recognize a single significant effort. The award is not designed to recognize outstanding teaching ability at one's own institution with a broader impact. Individuals, departments, schools, or other collective actors are eligible. Nominations should include the name of the nominee and a one to two page statement explaining the basis of the nomination. Recipients may also include a vita, if applicable, and other relevant materials. Members of the Association or other interested persons may submit nominations to: Gregory Squires, Department of Sociology, George Washington University, 2129 G Street, NW, Room 201, Washington, D.C. 20052; (202) 994-6455; fax: (202) 994-3239. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology

This award honors outstanding contributions to the practice of sociology. The award may recognize work that has facilitated or served as a model for the practice of sociology, or work that has significantly advanced the utility of one or more societally useful ideas or tools, reducing the professional status or public image of the field as a whole, or teaching and curriculum-related materials and publications, participation in the scholarship of teaching and learning, development and dissemination of innovative teaching techniques, leadership in teaching-related workshops and symposia, involvement in innovative program development, and contributions to the enhancement of teaching within specific regional, state, local, or national associations. The award is typically for a series of contributions spanning several years or an entire career, although it may recognize a single significant effort. The award is not designed to recognize outstanding teaching ability at one's own institution with a broader impact. Individuals, departments, schools, or other collective actors are eligible. Nominations should include the name of the nominee and a one to two page statement explaining the basis of the nomination. Recipients may also include a vita, if applicable, and other relevant materials. Members of the Association or other interested persons may submit nominations to: Gregory Squires, Department of Sociology, George Washington University, 2129 G Street, NW, Room 201, Washington, D.C. 20052; (202) 994-6455; fax: (202) 994-3239. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Dissertation Award

This award is given for a single book or monograph published in the three calendar years preceding the award year. The winner of this award will be offered a one-year lectureship known as the Sokolik Lecture. Regional and state sociological associations/societies may apply to ASA to receive this lecture at ASA’s expense after the award recipient is announced. Two members of the Association must submit letters in support of each nomination for the award. Nominations should include name of author, title of book, date of publication, publisher, and brief statements from (1) different redacted to protect the identity of the person nominating, and why the book should be considered. Send nominations to: Katharine M. Donato, Rice University, Department of Sociology, MS 214, 6100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005-1892; (713) 348-4366; fax: (713) 348-5296; e-mail kmdonato@rice.edu. The deadline is June 15, 2001.

Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award

This award honors scholars who have shown outstanding commitment to the profession of sociology and whose cumulative work has contributed in important ways to theoretical and methodological contributions. The award typically is given for a series of contributions spanning several years or an entire career, although it may recognize a single significant effort. The award is not designed to recognize outstanding teaching ability at one's own institution with a broader impact. Individuals, departments, schools, or other collective actors are eligible. Nominations should include the name of the nominee's curriculum vitae and letters in support of the nomination. The most compelling cases contain five to eight letters from a variety of individuals able to speak to the qualifications of the nominee. The nominations should be submitted in late 2000 or early 2001 to the ASA Awards Committee, c/o Governance Coordinator, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; fax: (202) 383-6950; Department of Labor. These sites give harvard.edu or governance@asanet.org. The deadline is June 15, 2001. Nominations submitted in previous years for carryover nominees may be updated; any new nominations must be submitted by June 15, 2001 for consideration for the 2002 Award. Any late arriving nominations or package updates will be held over for the following award year.

April 1 Deadline

2001 ASA Dissertation Award

The ASA Dissertation Award honors the best PhD dissertation from among those submitted by advisors and mentors in the discipline. Dissertations defended in the 2000 calendar year will be eligible for consideration for the 2001 ASA Dissertation Awards. Nominations must be received from the student's advisor or the scholar most familiar with the student's research. Nominations should explain the potential of the dissertation, its theoretical or methodological contributions, and its likely impact on the field. The award consists of $5,000 and a certificate. Nominations must include a letter of support from the advisor indicating a willingness to serve as the nominating scholar. The dissertation, or a copy thereof, must be submitted as part of the nomination. The dissertation must not exceed 80 pages, including references and appendices. The dissertation may recognize work that has been published or presented, or as a solo practitioner. Nominations for the 2002 award are due April 1, 2001. For further information, contact the ASA Awards administrative assistant, c/o Governance Coordinator, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005, ext. 327; fax: (202) 383-6882; e-mail amounhar@luc.edu or governance@asanet.org. The deadline for nominations for the 2001 Award is April 1, 2001.

New NYC Demographics Website

Beveridge's site also includes links and descriptions and/or reviews of other relevant websites, including the U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, U.S. Commerce Department, and the U.S./NYS Department of Labor. These sites give statistics on such issues as unemployment, population, ethnicity, housing, and income. They also give data on the New York metropolitan area's population and its changes. A story is the first in a continuing monthly series of topics dealing with demographic information and implications. The changes will alternate on topics such as immigration, age, economic status, divorce, and so forth and how these relate to Census data. Thus, will profile the changing demographics of the population in New York City on topics that the general public, government officials, and those involved in New York affairs will find relevant and understandable. Beveridge describes the idea behind it as follows: "This website is to be the first stop for those involved with New York City on topics that the general public, interest groups such as unions, policy people, and others."
Human Subjects, from page 1

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CONFERENCE

Regional and National System.

Second International Workshop will be held on Plaza Latina (at the International Congress Center) of the Facultad de Ciencias Juridicas y Sociales-University of La Plata (argentina) on October 4-5, 2001. This primary aim of this meeting is to develop theoretical and methodological concepts able to prospect and to evaluate social and economic changes of the future. Authors may submit a one-page abstract of their contribution. The abstracts by e-mail to: evaro@ipm.platon.com.ar. Deadline for fellowship applications and contribu- tions is June 30, 2001.

Feminist Ethics and Social Theory. The fourth International Congress of the IReS-The International Research Network of Latin American and the Caribbean, Margarita Island, Ven- ezuela, May 7-12, 2001. Theme: "Estas Tienen la Cabeza, no el Corazón. Social, Feminist, Political and Philosophical Experiences that are the Result of a Search for Change." Call for papers. Deadline to submit abstracts of a maximum 250 words, February 15, 2001 to: Roberto Becerra-Lopez, Laboratorio de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de los Andes, Apartado Postal 7479, Cali 13401-A, Colombia. E-mail: rbecerra@soc.csc.edu.co or dsereno@soc.csc.edu.co. Deadline: May 1, 2001.

International Political Science Associa- tion. The 104th Congress and Annual World Conference will be held at the Hebrew Uni- versity of Jerusalem, Israel on June 25-28, 2001. Deadline to submit papers tobe in parents for presentations or paper presentations is April 28, 2001. The conference will be held on the campus of the Hebrew University, and will be a single page as soon as possible to Mary Volkanov, Texas Christian University, e-mail: mvolkanov@tamu.edu. Deadline: May 1, 2001.

International Sociological Association. Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, Margarita Island, Ven- ezuela, May 7-12, 2001. Theme: " Equity and Power, in the Wake of a New Regional Framework." It is an annual series published by Elsevier Science, 525 B Street, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101. Call for papers. Deadline to submit a one-page abstract plus a brief bio by April 15, 2001 to: Xiao Su, Morton Institute Research, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, P.O. Box 1001, Kunming, Yunnan 650032, China. E-mail: yunfsc@ynssn.org.cn. For more information: e-mail bigstar@ynssn.org.cn.

PUBLICATIONS

Advances in Gender Research is a series in which the Oxford University Press is collecting manuscripts for a series of books to be published in 2001, which will consist of microseparated articles. The ultimate aim of the theme is to examine emerging frames of solidarity which shape international, especially in light of globalization, and the transformational flow of ideas and move- ments. Authors interested in contributing to this book are invited to contact the Director, Daniele Joly as soon as possible with a project; 44-24-765 33523; fax (502) 852-0099; e-mail sajol@online.emich.edu. A $200 pro- posal fee is charged to authors whose papers are accepted for publication.

Missouri Electronic Journal of Sociology (MEJS) invites submissions of manu­ scripts dealing with sociology in Missis­ sippi. The official journal of the Mississippi Soci­ ology Association. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2001. For further information, contact Kim Hall at hallkim@appstate.edu or (828) 262-6313.

Research on the Black Community. "New Paradigms and New Policies for the New Century" will be held in Detroit, Michigan, May 19-21, 2001. A two-day interdisciplinary conference devoted exclu- sively to issues of social stress. More in­ formation and call for papers can be found at our website: <http://www.arts.gsu.edu/sociology/BlackCommunity>. The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for the presentation of papers on a wide range of topics that address the various dimensions of class, race and gender. Authors are invited to submit proposals for paper presentations.


South African Sociological Association. Conference on Social Change, Inequality, and Identity, Pretoria, South Africa, July 1-3, 2001. Deadline for abstracts is March 15, 2001. For more information contact the secretary of SASA, who can be reached at: SASA Secretariat, Department of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, Johannesburg, South Africa. Tel: 27-11-717 4448; fax 27-11-231 6815; e-mail sessa@wits.ac.za

Women & Society will hold its 11th conference June 9-10, 2001 at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, New York. Interested authors are invited to submit 250 word, abstract, paragraph, or short article, to be published in the journal. Details of the conference are available at: www.marist.edu/colleges/wm/ wmsa11thconference.html. For further in­ formation or to submit a proposal, contact Rachel M. Blankenship, Chair of the Women & Society Conference, Marist College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Tel: 518-437-4734; for more information: e-mail rblankensh@soc.marist.edu.

Michigan Sociological Review (MSR) in­ vitations submissions for its Fall 2001 issue. MSR focuses on the issues of and the implications of the Michigan Sociological As­ sociation. The MSR publishes research articles, conference papers, and book reviews on a wide range of sociological topics. The deadline for submission of original manuscripts is May 1, 2001. Send three hand copies of your article to: MSR, Michigan Sociological Review, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197; e-mail msr@online.emich.edu. A $200 pro­ posal fee is charge to authors whose papers are accepted for publication.

Missouri Electronic Journal of Sociology (MEJS) invites submissions of manu­ scripts dealing with sociology in Mis­ sissippi. The official journal of the Mississippi Soci­ ology Association. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2001. For further information, contact Kim Hall at hallkim@appstate.edu or (828) 262-6313.

Funding

Center for Research in Ethnical Relations in Health and Disease invites applications from students currently registered for a social science doctoral degree at educational institutions in the European Union (except in the UK) to participate in a research project on immigration, refugees and ethnic minorities. Send curriculum vitae in- cluding the names of two references, one reference must be included with the applica­ tion. The deadline for applications is February 28, 2001. Payroll will be provided, depending on the time spent on the project. Send your applications to: European Commission, Human Resources and Administration Service, Contracting Unit B-30, 52193 Brussels, Belgium. For more details on criteria, see: <http://www.conclav.europa.eu/improving/>.
Funding, continued

cation Technologies (ICT) for Science Solicitation. Deadline for delivery of pro-
posal is 4 p.m. on March 30, 2001.
Texas Institute for Society and Health is a five-year, $7.5 million, research,
search, public policy, community action and political action program to address
social/societal factors on population health. Interested applicants are invited to
year post-doctoral fellowship opportunity. Academic appointments will be provided at
state's top universities where the training sites are.
Applicants must have experience or a goal of developing expertise in one of four areas (1) labor markets and job insecurity; (2) social class inequalities and the sociobiologicaltranslation; (3) health inequalities and public policy; (4) ethnicity, social capital, and health.
Interested applicants should send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to:
Benjamin C. Amick, III, Associate Director for Training, Texas Institute for Society and Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston School of Public Health, 12100 Prentice Road, RAS 8-499, Houston, TX 77225-3026; (713) 500-9449; e-mail bami8@uth.tmc.edu.

Competitions

Sociology of Culture. 2011 Section Award Nominees for the 2011 Section Award for best paper in Sociology of Culture. The deadline is March 1, 2001. Best Book Award, send four copies to Albert Benner’s address: School of Social Work, University of Arizona, Social Sciences Building, Room 408 Tucson, AZ 85721; e-mail albertbenner@arizona.edu. Best Article or Chapter Book Award, send four copies to Sara Ahmed, Center for the Study of Religion and Society, University of Chicago, 5840 S. University Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637; e-mail sahmed@uchicago.edu.

In the News

Ernest Burgess’, and other sociologists from the University of Chicago, research on social disorganization, which is included in an exhibit at the University of Chicago Library, was featured in an edition of a newsmagazine program on WBEZ, Chicago, December 15, 2000.

Adelle Clark, University of California-San Francisco, was featured in a June 1, 2000, San Francisco Examiner article, "The Pill's 40th Birthday Halved with Sa­e Sexual Revolution. Peter Bates, Occidental College, was quoted in a Philadelphia Inquirer article, January 20, 2001, which was excerpted in the Philadelphia Daily News.

People

Paul A. Amato, Pennsylvania State Uni­versity, won the Reuben Hill Award from the American Sociological Association for his book, "Social Capital and Parenting: The Influence of Family, Friend, and Community on Families." He also received the 2000 ASA Distinguished Professional Achievement Award from the ASA Committee on Professional Achievement. His research has focused on the social and psychological implications of family formation, social capital, and social support for individuals and families.

James F. Short, Jr., Washington Uni­versity in St. Louis, received the 2000 ASA Distinguished Professional Achievement Award from the ASA Committee on Professional Achievement. His research has focused on social capital, social networks, and social support for individuals and families.

Mia Tsu and Jianmei Liu Lee, University of Minnesota, received the 2000 ASA Distinguished Professional Achievement Award from the ASA Committee on Professional Achievement. Their research has focused on social capital, social networks, and social support for individuals and families.

People

Pauline Bart will be teaching an ad­vanced women's studies class, "The Poli­tics of Sex, Gender, and the Law." The course will cover topics such as gender, sexuality, and the law. The course will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. in the Mugar Library, Room 220.

Gender and Sexuality in International Relations. This course was founded at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1997, and has been taught by the course director, Victoria Bay, since 2002. The course is designed to explore the role of gender and sexuality in international relations, focusing on issues such as gender and war, gender and peace, and gender and global governance.

Contact

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New Projects

Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis is seeking new members for its new Center for Arts in Society. The program has two areas of concentration: family and medical soci­ology. Additional information on the program can be found at <http://www.iupui.edu/~casa/MA.htm>, or by calling the program coordinator at (317) 278-4891.

Summer Programs

New Programs

Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis is seeking new members for its new Center for Arts in Society. The program has two areas of concentration: family and medical soci­ology. Additional information on the program can be found at <http://www.iupui.edu/~casa/MA.htm>, or by calling the program coordinator at (317) 278-4891.

Policy and Practice

New Programs

Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis is seeking new members for its new Center for Arts in Society. The program has two areas of concentration: family and medical soci­ology. Additional information on the program can be found at <http://www.iupui.edu/~casa/MA.htm>, or by calling the program coordinator at (317) 278-4891.
Obituaries, continued

in Bemidji, MN.

Alan also joined the University of Nebraska faculty in 1949. As Chair of the Department of Sociology until 1971-72, he laid the groundwork for the development of the Department, including its curricular and extracurricular programs. Many students remember him not only as a professor, but as a mentor who guided them toward careers, grace, charm, and eloquence, for his graceful presence at every event and his mastery of the piano at departmental gatherings at his home on Pine Lake in Lincoln. Alan was born June 5, 1915, in Chicago. The son of YMCA workers in China, he spent much of his childhood in Beijing. His family returned to the United States in 1923, settling briefly in Connecticut before eventually moving to Chicago. He called the Puget Sound area home. With the exception of one year in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin where his education was interrupted in 1942 by service as a Senior Labor Market Analyst for the War Manpower Commission, he held his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Washington at Seattle, obtaining his BA degree in 1938, his MA in 1940, and his PhD in 1945.

Alan continued as a member of the University of Nebraska faculty for 29 years. He was President of the Mid-West Sociological Society in 1963-1964 and chaired the University of Nebraska Department of Sociology from 1965 to 1969. Always active in the sociological community, he served on various national committees for the American Sociological Association. For example, he was the first national vice president of the American Sociological Association from 1975-1977. He also served as an executive committee member from 1967 until his retirement in 1978 as a Scholar in Residence for the Sociological Quarterly from 1960 to 1963 and as a member of the editorial board for Social Forces from 1957 to 1976.

Alan's early research centered on role studies. Among his early projects were The Community and the Loco, co-authored with Eugene T. Schaefer and John Baumbach, and The Logic of Social Change, co-authored with William L. Robinson, appeared in 1958. He authored several papers on such topics as parental roles in courtship, social ranking in small face-to-face groups, and conformity to role expectations in small groups. In the 1960's and early 1970's he teamed with his University of Nebraska colleague Julius Cohen to study so-called Balbchik and Jerry Clay in grounded theory. Their studies expanded the variables and groups, group norms, and member roles, and contributed to the teaching and research of role theory. They collaborated in the teaching of undergraduate sociology. This research, reported in numerous articles and, in 1967, The Sociological Enterprise, is his notable commentary on the development and advancement of the sociological enterprise. He later served on the Program Committee on Aging, as well as on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Aging, including its National Advisory Council. His work helped design, implement, and manage the National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Health, which research was of the utmost importance to an aging country over the past years. Many of Professor's contributions were recognized by a number of national and international honors. At the 1961 ANES, he was nominated for the presidency of the American Sociological Association. He had been a serious garden, and now his interest in the environment led him to join the National Audubon Society and become an advisor to the Australian government's National Academy of Science Committee on Aging.

Those whose careers he facilitated are currently established in responsible positions throughout the world. As a member of the faculty of the Duke University Department of Sociology, he influenced the professional careers of many doctoral and post-doctoral students. Those whose careers he facilitated are currently established in responsible positions throughout the world. As a member of the faculty of the Duke University Department of Sociology, he influenced the professional careers of many doctoral and post-doctoral students. Those whose careers he facilitated are currently established in responsible positions throughout the world. As a member of the faculty of the Duke University Department of Sociology, he influenced the professional careers of many doctoral and post-doctoral students. Those whose careers he facilitated are currently established in responsible positions throughout the world. 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Minutes, continued

giving drive yielded only modest funds, the Minority Fellowship Program, even though the project was important in returning to the topic of a development campaign. Levine also provided an overview of in- novations in the ASA’sarks, including the efforts of the ASA to improve the use of technology. She indicated that the Membership Committee had received a proposal from the EOB to add a new subcommittee on the website. The subcommittee would be charged with developing new features and improving the user experience. The proposal was approved with some modifications.

Section on Sections

The Section on Sections discussed the importance of sections in the ASA’s mission and how they contribute to the organization’s goals. The section highlighted the need for increased communication and collaboration among sections. It recommended that the ASA develop a more comprehensive strategy to support sections and improve their effectiveness.

Annual Meeting

The Executive Office provided an update on the planning for the 2021 Annual Meeting. The meeting was scheduled to take place in-person and virtually. A number of logistical challenges were discussed, including venue selection, registration, and accommodation arrangements. The committee also discussed the potential for hybrid attendance options.

Membership

The Membership Committee reviewed the latest membership data and discussed strategies for improving membership engagement. The committee highlighted the importance of member feedback in shaping membership programs and services. It recommended the development of a feedback loop to ensure that member needs are being met.

Finance

The Finance Committee presented an update on the financial status of the ASA. The committee noted that the organization had experienced a significant increase in membership dues revenue, which contributed to a positive financial outlook. It recommended that the ASA continue to focus on expanding membership and exploring new revenue streams.

Committee on Publications

The Committee on Publications discussed the ongoing work to develop new publications and improve existing ones. The committee highlighted the importance of member input in shaping publication content and design. It recommended the establishment of a new task force to explore the potential for developing a new publication.

President’s Message

President Massey provided an update on the activities of the ASA and highlighted the importance of the organization’s mission. She emphasized the need for continued engagement and support from members to ensure the ASA’s success.

Executive Office

The Executive Office presented an update on the work of the office and discussed the challenges and opportunities facing the organization. The office highlighted the importance of effective communication and collaboration in achieving its goals. It recommended the development of a new communication strategy to better reach members and engage them in the organization’s activities.

ASA/AAAS Relations

The ASA/AAAS Relations Committee provided an update on the ongoing work to improve collaboration and communication between the two organizations. The committee highlighted the importance of member input in shaping the relationship and recommended the establishment of a new task force to explore the potential for developing new collaboration opportunities.
Minutes, continued
Chair of the Publications Committee, has been called to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be on the COPAG's agenda for December. Because this is the final meeting of the year, there will be a broad consensus meeting. Council discussed the financial situation and the importance of finding out what appeals to members beyond the benefit of attending meetings or providing feedback, whether decoupling or any other restructuring might be considered. In general, given that membership has been fairly flat, Council decided that it had realized that a change to the system for handling dues for member and nonmember dues for member and nonmembers has been devised for the Program to have a 10 percent increase. Council has been concentrating on the need to find new revenue streams. The overall goal is to increase the revenue from member dues. The Council has been working on this issue for a number of years and has already made some progress. One of the key areas for improvement is the development of new revenue streams. The Council has been focusing on this issue for the past two years. The overall goal is to increase the revenue from member dues. The Council has been working on this issue for a number of years and has already made some progress. One of the key areas for improvement is the development of new revenue streams. The Council has been focusing on this issue for the past two years. The overall goal is to increase the revenue from member dues. The Council has been working on this issue for a number of years and has already made some progress.
Publications on Hate Crime Available from ASA ...

Hate Crime in America: What Do We Know?
Issue Series in Social Research and Social Policy
By Abby L. Ferber, Ryken Grattet, and Valerie Jenness

The stream of violent incidents in the late 1990s has brought the issue of hate and hate-motivated behavior to the forefront of national concern and debate. Hate crimes, like all crimes, are to a major extent social constructions. As a nation, the U.S. is engaged in a controversial and ongoing legal and social experiment in which the criminal law is being motivated behavior to the forefront of national concern and debate. Hate crimes, invoked in an effort to combat attitudes and behaviors that have long been a part of our history, but have only recently been labeled "hate crime." This volume in the ASA Issue Series on Social Research and Social Policy provides expert testimony on several areas of research and data on hate crimes, and includes summaries of recent legislation, a detailed bibliography, and an expert list.

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*********
Teaching About Ethnoviolence and Hate Crimes
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Compiled by Howard J. Ehrlich and Regina Fidazzo
Seven Syllabi, seven projects, assignments, and class exercises, and four video exercises explore teaching about Ethnoviolence and Hate Crimes. Topic included:
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Footnotes, in its role as a community newspaper, seeks to cover the important professional activities of ASA members. Send your new book, your media appearances, awards, promotions, and job changes to us at: footnotes@asanet.org. We welcome information on funding and publication opportunities as well.

Now available from the American Sociological Association!

Rural Sociology:
Teaching About the Complexities and Diversities of American Rural Life
Edited by Carol A. Jenkins and Cathy Rakowski
A joint project of the Rural Sociological Society/Kellogg Diversity Initiative, the American Sociological Association, and the ASA Section on Undergraduate Education

With a focus on diversity, eleven chapters detail curriculum transformations, initiatives, and techniques for teaching about American rural life. Includes fifteen course outlines, one distance learning course outline, three continuing education course outlines, a chapter on visual portrayals of rural social problems and bibliographic resources. A must for teaching about life among rural people and in rural places to students in undergraduate sociology and rural sociology courses.

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- Send orders to: ASA Customer Service Department, 1307 New York Avenue NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005. To order with a Visa or Mastercard, call (202) 383-9005 X389
- You may also order with a credit card online at: www.asanet.org.

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Chicago, Illinois

2003
August 16-20
Atlanta, Georgia