When Mary Robinson, the former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, addresses the 2004 meeting of the ASA in San Francisco, members will understand why the human rights community considered her early departure from the post both unfortunate and predictable. Despite being credited for "putting human rights on the map" by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and lauded for the "remarkable progress" she had achieved in making human rights "a central issue in all societies," a second term as high commissioner was cut short in 2002. Human rights defenders explained the campaign against Mary Robinson by pointing to her effectiveness in amplifying the voices of the unheard and the pointing to her effectiveness in amplifying the voices of the unheard and the potential of the woefully under-funded human rights laws.

Ms. Robinson’s initial appointment in 1990 was seen by many as an "insult to the human rights community," according to one observer. The campaign against her followed up on her effectiveness in raising awareness of the voices of the unheard and the potential of the woefully under-funded human rights laws.

In 1990, Robinson was appointed to the Senate, where she became the youngest professor of law to be appointed at Dublin University’s Trinity College and was elected to the Senate that same year. Over the next two decades, she revealed herself to be a tenacious and fearless defender of human rights, championing women’s human rights and campaigning for the liberalization of Ireland’s laws prohibiting divorce and abortions. Later, as President of Ireland (1990–1997), she achieved international standing by, among other things, becoming the first head of state to visit famine-ravaged Somalia and post-genocide Rwanda. This presaged the perspective she would carry to the post of High Commissioner, one that recognized the indivisibility of human rights such as the right to life and the right to food. Those who approved Ms. Robinson’s initial appointment in 1997 as the only second high commissioner for human rights should have known that she would seek nothing less than the enforcement of international human rights laws.

But, then, it was easy to minimize the potential of the woefully under-funded and high-profile political human rights office wedged inside the U.N. bureaucracy. In her five years in office, Ms. Robinson transformed the institution by extending it into the real world, where the victims and perpetrators were to be found, and encouraging the direct participation of civil society in the deliberations and operations of the human rights agency back in Geneva. Indeed, noting that the Human Rights Commissioner “has no big stick except the appeal to the moral conscience of the world,” she enlisted non-governmental organizations in the task of monitoring governments’ compliance with international human rights laws that required them to “respect,” “protect,” and “fulfill” the human rights of every person within their borders.

Mary Robinson contributed to the change in the way we think of human rights without changing a single word in any document. She reminded the world that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, covenants, specialized conventions, customary international law that codify governments’ obligations and give ordinary citizens "a vocabulary of complaint and inspiration," and that "[h]ard trial and the right of participatory and representative government sit shoulder-to-shoulder with the right to work, to equal pay for equal work, and the right to education.” The fact that she addressed the full spectrum of human rights as the Declaration’s original framers had intended drew the attention of activists in developing countries long weary of the West’s exclusive focus on freedom of information, fair elections, and other civil and political rights, while their communities struggled to survive violations to their rights to health, a living wage, housing, and other economic, social and cultural rights.

Bifurcation of Rights

The separation of human rights into civil and political, on the one hand, and economic, social, and cultural, on the other, should never have happened. When the Universal Declaration was adopted in 1948, a U.N. committee was assigned the task of presenting an International Bill of Rights. The project was envisioned to take one year; instead, it took 19, as it fell hostage to Cold War politics of the Cold War and the Cold Peace.
In This Issue...

Race, Ethnicity, and Religion Panel Study
Rice University and Notre Dame sociologists examine the religiosity of a variety of ethnicities and races.

Social Sciences in the STEMM Workforce
The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics workforce is in need of social science data and application.

NSF Opportunity for Sociologists
The NSF’s Human and Social Dynamics initiative is the first NSF priority area led by the social and behavioral sciences.

Homelessness in San Francisco-Annual Meeting Series
The politics of what to do about the homeless population is a divisive issue in San Francisco.

State of the State Sociology Associations
A five-article series about state associations, their progress, tips for success, and concerns.

Public Anger over Political Actions
All sides of the political spectrum are angry, but is their anger misdirected?

City and Community Journal
The first section journal is enjoying some successes and learning lessons.

Our Regular Features
Public Forum ..................................................... 11
Departments ..................................................... 12
Obituaries ......................................................... 15

The Executive Officer’s Column
A Full Menu of Public Policy, Science

As an increasingly full menu of national and state-level policy issues on public, social, and science matters is adding to ASA’s slate of activities for 2004, it is also a year in which presidents and election politics will inexorably add spice to nearly every debate and discussion from which legislative, regulatory, or executive branch actions might emerge. Stir in the flavor of the current social context that Americans can already taste (namely, that we are entering into an increasingly uncertain future) and the appetite for sociologists is stimulated for new challenges to theory, research, and practice. With our social world being reshaped by rational economies converging on a “global world,” computer technology providing “virtual worlds,” solar system exploration bringing us virtually to “other worlds,” stem cell and cloning research presenting a “new world” of social and ethical challenges, and molecular technology promising magical, though not problem-free, applications of “nano worlds,” sociology has never been a more relevant participant at the science table. The social science arena is one where funding opportunities are there for sociologists to participate in this scientific feast.

Prix Fixed
The federal research budgets for agencies supporting sociological research are undergoing change. The resources are still rising, but the bill covering the entire menu of necessary scientifc work will be much larger. Returning to work last month, Congress passed the 2004 federal science spending appropriation, bringing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) a 3.7% increase (a $1-billion increase over 2003) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) a 6% (or $300-million) increase. Some of the latter will support a new $18-million “Human and Social Dynamics” initiative (see p. 3) and a new math and social and behavioral sciences initiative for projects that advance the mathematical or statistical foundations of research in the social, behavioral, or economic sciences (see www.nsf.gov/pubs/04155/ nsf04155.jsp). However, the plan to double the NSF budget required a 15% increase in 2004, considerably more than the 6%, and such small increases do little to address the NSF’s $200-million Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate in absolute terms. Belt-tightening is upon us.

The nearly $30-billion NIH budget, the largest source of federal funding for academic researchers (about 10% of which is allocated to behavioral and social sciences), has just entered the down slope following completion of the Clinton-initiated five-year doubling of its budget. While the Defense Department is slated for a hefty 7% increase in FY 2005, NIH faces chronically small increases at the same time it faces significant budget requests. For support. Its increasing number of grant submissions seems partially a result of pressure on public university researchers to seek federal support as the economy has placed the higher education budgets of 42 states on a diet. In late January, for example, the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) reported, “The number of applications received by CSR jumped a dramatic 24% between FY 2002 and 2003—from 55,030 to 68,478 applications.”

This unprecedented increase is continuing this year. During the first three months of FY 2004, CSR received more than 23,000 applications, an increase of more than 15% over the number received in the same period last year (20,040). According to Director Rita Colwell, NSF is also experiencing unprecedented increases in applications (see December 2003 Footnotes, p. 3).

Other activities in Washington are also presenting challenges to the conduct of science. ASA has them all on its plate.

NIH Peer Review Remains Under Scrutiny
In late January, the science community was pleased by NIH Director Elias Zerhouni’s much-anticipated formal, public defense of NIH-supported sexual behavior research in a letter to Congress. This research, some of it conducted by sociologists, had come under attack (see September/October 2003 Footnotes, p. 2) by congressional allies of the Traditional Values Coalition. Zerhouni sent letters defending the research and the peer review system to key congressional leaders in response to the late 2003 congressional inquiries into NIH’s research portfolio. His letter described the NIH peer review of the human sexuality research, continued with detailed explanations of a representative selection of the targeted grants, and concluded with strong support for NIH’s funding choices and priorities. ASA is continuing the fight for the social sciences and the nation’s public health to help ensure that science in the area of sexuality remains on the table and is not undercut by ideology or politics. ASA is a member of the new Coalition to Protect Research, and is co-sponsoring a congressional briefing next month on the public health importance of sexuality research.

Peer Review by OMB?
Peer review continues under attack in Washington. ASA and other science groups are concerned about proposed rules to have the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) insert itself into the process. OMB was created in 1970 to advise the president on the federal budget. The President has proposed that OMB staff (who are not scientists) review the science underlying proposed federal agency regulations. And, in addition, OMB has proposed new rules regarding conflict-of-interest for peer review that would disqualify many scientists (because they have been recipients of government research grants), while allowing industry-funded scientists onto peer review panels.

Many scientists are fearful that these changes will bog down important regulations in endless debate and that under the pretense of “peer review,” they could sidetrack many areas of research (e.g., children’s health, air pollution, climate change), with administration would be able to short-circuit proposed rules simply by questioning the underlying science. The new rules would provide legal protection, rather than an appeal process, rather than an appeal process, as a basis for evaluating science issues. Among the critics are the National Academies of Science, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Federation of American Scientists, and the Association of American Medical Colleges. The whole scientific community awaits OMB’s next action following receipt of public comments on its proposal.
Sociologists Receive 2003-2004 Fulbright Awards

More than 850 U.S. academics, professionals, and independent scholars have received awards under the Fulbright Scholar Program to study abroad in 2003-04. Among this year’s recipients were 26 sociologists (listed below with their titles, affiliations, and countries in which they will study).

The annual U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program sends scholars and professionals to more than 140 countries, where they lecture, consult, or conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. The Fulbright program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars. For more information, see www.cies.org.

Mensah Adinkrah, Associate Professor, School of Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice, Metropolitan State University-St. Paul. Legon, Ghana.

Virginia Marie Babcock, Social Learning-Director, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Justice Studies, University of Idaho. Graz, Austria.

David P. Baker, Professor, Education Policy Studies Department, Pennsylvania State University-University Park. Potsdam, Germany.

David B. Bills, Assistant Professor, Educational Policy and Leadership Studies Department, University of Iowa. Berlin, Germany.

Ginetta E. Candelario, Assistant Professor, Departments of Sociology and Latin American and Latino/a Studies, Smith College. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Lory J. Dance, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland-College Park. Lund, Sweden.

Jeffrey A. Hallay, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Texas-San Antonio. Baku, Azerbaijan.

Harry Lenyo Humphries, Associate Professor, Department of Social Science, Pittsburgh State University. Kazan, Russia.

Gary Hytek, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, California State University-Long Beach. Heredia, Costa Rica.

David Ted Johnson, Associate Professor, University of Hawaii-Manoa. Tokyo, Japan.

Jeffrey Jon Kamakahi, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Saint John’s University. Seedad, Japan.

Russell Lee Kleinbach, Professor, School of General Studies, Philadelphia University. Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.

Lynne G. Lackey, Scientist, Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University. Mbabane, Swaziland.

Sharon M. Lee, Professor, Department of Sociology, Portland State University. Toronto, Canada.

Gerald K. LeTendre, Associate Professor, Department of Education and Policy Studies, Pennsylvania State University-University Park. Bremen, Germany.

Kenneth B. Liberman, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon. Pordicidria, Italy.

William Thomas Markham, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Essen, Germany.

Debra C. Minkoff, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Washington. Berlin, Germany.

Mehrangiz Najafizadeh, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Kansas. Baku, Azerbaijan.

Lynn D. Nelson, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Virginia Commonwealth University. Moscow, Russia.

David John O’Brien, Professor, Department of Rural Sociology, University of Missouri-Columbia. Moscow, Russia.

Araf B. Omer, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina-Asheville. Deha, Qatar.

Glorian Sorensen, Professor and Director, Department of Health and Social Behavior, Harvard University. Mumbai, India.

Jon Van Til, Professor, Department of Public Policy and Administration, Rutgers University. Ulster, United Kingdom.

Anthony Waters, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, California State University-Chico. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Yehudi O. Webster, Associate Professor, Sociology Department. California State University-Los Angeles. Lodz, Poland.

Online Census software ranks 100 largest U.S. cities . . . The Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program has released an interactive application that allows internet users to query Census 2000 data, instantly generating rankings of the largest one hundred U.S. cities on more than 150 demographic indicators. The “Living Cities Interactive Database,” provides users with the ability to create indicator-specific ranking tables or download raw Census data on population, educational attainment, race and ethnicity, employment, immigration, commuting, age, income and poverty, households and families, and housing trends during the 1990s. For more information see <www.brookings.edu/urban>.

National Academies to pursue vetting of science advisors . . . Recent concerns among scientists about political challenges to the nominating review at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) were bolstered by earlier broad-based anxiety across the scientific community during the past year and a half over the process used to vet nominees to federal government science advisory panels. Past White House science advisors, and leaders of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Public Health Association, and the American Psychological Association, have all raised concerns about the equitable conduct of the nominations process. After deliberating for several months, COSEPUP recently released a summary of the study they intend to pursue, Science and Technology in the National Interest: Ensuring the Best Presidential and Advisory Committee Appointments-3rd Edition, (see the 2000 edition at <book.caps.psu.edu/catalog/9973.html>). The study commenced this year, shortly after the anticipated release of a 10th edition of the study, which the National Academies’ website at <www.nationalacademies.org/morenews/ mmn0114b>.
Our purpose is to increase knowledge of how religion and ethnicity influence people's lives in their efforts to encourage the spiritual formation and growth of individuals and families in the midst of a rapidly changing world. - Michael Emerson

Social Science are Key to Developing the STEM Workforce

by Roberta Spalter-Roth, Research Program on the Profession and the Discipline

The science policy community describes the continuing lack of racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in among disciplines training students to participate in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce as a problem. The problem contributes to decreased economic and national security in the United States. In this fall, the National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored a PwC workshop of a diverse group of labor force researchers, program directors, department, and corporate managers to provide research data on pathways to science careers and best practices for recruiting and retaining a diverse, competitive, and globally engaged U.S. workforce.

The workshop, titled “Pathways to STEM Careers,” was directed by C. Danielle Martin, Professor and Chair of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Virginia, and sociologist Willie Pearson, Jr., Professor and Chair, School of History, Technology, and Society, Georgia State University.

Although not always the case, the social sciences were recognized as key to understanding the dynamics of developing STEM careers as well as being part of the STEM workforce.

Proposed New NSF Priority Area

Opening remarks by Joseph Bordogna, Director and Chief Operating Officer of the NSF, focused on a proposed NSF priority called “Workforce for the 21st Century,” an $8.5-million effort included in the President’s budget request being funded by Congress.

The FY 2005 budget requests $20 million. This initiative would “draw on existing, successful education programs to establish a seamless route of advancement for students from pre-K-12 to post-doctorate levels,” according to NSF. Bordogna’s effort is intended to learn why U.S. students do not flock to the sciences. He stated that NSF would fund efforts to integrate institutional programs, develop future faculty, and research the pathways and the barriers to STEM careers, to eliminate barriers. Bordogna also noted that the “heart of social science is including ethnographies, for providing, the understanding of the pathways and processes for and evaluating programs.

Socially Informed

The workshop was comprised of plenary sessions on successful programs, the status of research, stakeholders for the STEM workforce, small breakout sessions, and a synthesis panel, “Where Do We Go From Here.” Discussion was lively and sometimes contentious as participating scientists said that for their labs they prefer to hire researchers with high human capital wishing to work 24/7.

In contrast, Paula Rayman, a noted market economist, presented data on surveys and in-depth interviews of people working in STEM fields indicating that while you want women and people of color in an industry or discipline, the 24/7 model is not going to appeal to them.

Robert Spalter-Roth’s findings show that work/family issues, such as work/family issues, are important to workers. Spalter-Roth questioned whether science needs to be a 24/7 enterprise. In final words at this panel, Indira Nair, Vice President for Education and Professor in the Department of Education at Carnegie Mellon University, called for a paradigm shift from building capacity for the STEM workforce to a notion that the STEM workforce is the “enablers for the health and economic welfare of the people.

One outcome of this workshop so far has been a visit to ASA by Norman Fortenberry, Director for the Center for the Advancement of Scholarship on Engineer- ing Education (CASEE), the first operating site of the National Academy of Engineering. Fortenberry met with ASA Executive Office staff to discuss the idea of ASA and CASEE collaborating on a “sociology of the professions” project, with a focus on in STEM.

ASA would identify sociology faculty who might participate directly in such a venture or in the supervision of post-docs to be placed at engineering institutions. Additional NSF solicitation on Human and Social Dynam- ics [see page 3 of this Footnote issue] might be a venue for such an initiative. Sociology faculty who might be interested in such a project for this year or next should get in touch with Robert Spalter-Roth at spalter-roth@asanet.org.
Motivation for NSF’s development of HSD was the recognition that extreme uncertainty and change are inescapable facts of life in the twenty-first century. The new foundation of knowledge is the social science’s ability to anticipate and navigate rapid and extensive change. It anticipates awarding some 40-60 awards for a comprehensive, interdisciplinary effort that includes the development of associated research infrastructure. NSF anticipates awarding some 40-60 awards under this initiative. Learn more at www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/under this initiative. Learn more at getpub.cfm?nsf04537>.

HSD’s purpose is to increase science’s ability to predict behavioral and social consequences of change, better understand and behavioral dynamics across levels of analysis; elucidate psychological and social structures that generate and define change; and help society and organizations navigate rapid and extensive change. These goals also necessitate a comprehensive, interdisciplinary effort that includes the development of associated research infrastructure. NSF anticipates awarding some 40-60 awards under this initiative. Learn more at www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/ getpub.cfm?nsf04537>.

The National Science Foundation recently approved the FY2004 program solicitation for a new cross-cutting funding priority area, Human and Social Dynamics (HSD) (see July/August 2003 Footnotes, p. 3). This NSF-wide initiative, housed in the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, has been in development for the past three years; it is the first in NSF’s history in which the social and behavioral sciences have leadership. The HSD priority area will extend for five years.

The aim of HSD is to foster breakthroughs in knowledge about human action and development as well as organizational, cultural, and societal adaptation to change. It represents an enormous opportunity for sociology. HSD’s purpose is to increase science’s ability to predict behavioral and social consequences of change, better understand social and behavioral and engineering, and education. The emphasis areas supported in HSD’s first year are listed below. Three areas focus on substantive issues associated with the dynamics of change and behavior on different scales and on human responses to changing environments (i.e., Agents of Change, Dynamics of Human Behavior, and Decision Making and Risk). The other areas focus on the methods, tools, and resources needed to illuminate the substantive areas and to realize the potential of the priority area (i.e., Spatial Social Science, Modeling Human and Social Dynamics, and Instrumentation and Data Resource Development).

All six emphasis areas encompass topics for which interdisciplinary synergies hold special promise for important breakthroughs. Grant proposals must focus on at least one of these emphasis areas. Support will be provided for research-focused, education-focused, infrastructure-focused, and exploratory projects. A brief discussion of each of these areas is included below. Complete information about the mandate of the Letter of Intent (LOI) and Proposal Preparation and Submission (deadline of March 30, 2004) as well as descriptive information about the HSD priority area may be found at www.nsf.gov/home/corspgn/hsd/. If you have questions, contact the Sociology Program Directors, Pat White (pwhte@nsf.gov) and Joane Nagel (jnagel@nsf.gov). Human and Social Dynamic Substantive and Resource-related emphasis areas include:

**Substantive Areas**
- Agents of Change: Examination of large-scale transformational changes on different scales, such as globalization, democratization, migrations, and epidemics; the reciprocal relationship between individual and social action, including its role in educational settings; the evolution of culture and society and its interaction with climate, geography, and environment in settings ranging from high-density cities to sparsely populated polar regions; the implications of cultural variation for conflict and assimilation; the implication of large-scale transformational changes for diversity and equality; and adaptation and resistance to technological change and new science- and engineering-based knowledge.
- Dynamics of Human Behavior: Explorations into the dynamics of change in human behavior over time, including links between mental processes and human behavior; the dynamics through which human and social systems, such as organizations, entities form, grow, learn, change, and act under the impetus of internal and external stimuli; and explorations of cognitive, computational, linguistic, development, social, organizational, cultural, biological), and other processes as dynamic, evolving systems.
- Decision-making and Risk: Explorations of changing risks and risk perception and of their role in the development of human and social behavior; individual and societal responses to risk, such as translation and interpretation of complex scientific information for decision making; decision making under uncertainty associated with many factors, including environmental change, risk assessment, and responses to hazards, and extreme events; research on how educational processes or systems respond to changes in risk and risk perceptions; and basic understanding about chronic risks, especially in the areas of environment, energy, and health.

**Resource-related**
- Spatial Social Science: Exploration of how recent technological advances (such as embedded sensors, global positioning systems, and geographic information systems) that provide tools and techniques for acquiring geospatial data through which we combine demographic, political, health-related, historical, and other social data to advance fundamental understandings of the spatial dimensions of human and social dynamics and/or to expand the utility and accessibility of those tools.
- Modeling Human and Social Dynamics: Advances in modeling theory and techniques as well as research involving innovative combinations of empirical and theoretical models designed to specify causal relationships, despite confounding factors, in human and social dynamics; the development and application of innovative approaches to understand complex interactions, such as stochastic agent-based modeling, social network analysis, and new techniques for modeling human behavior and interaction using innovative information and engineering technologies.
- Instrumentation and Data Resource Development: Development of instrumentation and software that takes advantage of advanced technologies, data resources, including new and extended longitudinal databases, collaborative tools, and mechanisms for preserving confidentiality in databases that incorporate sensitive biological, behavioral, and social information.

Impetus for Human and Social Dynamics

Motivation for NSF’s development of HSD was the recognition that uncertainty and change are inescapable features of life in the twenty-first century and that the social and economic disruptive potential is great. For example, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, have awakened the nation to the potential of American vulnerability; global economic vacillations have shaken America’s faith in the “American economy”; biotechnological advances paradoxically offer both hope for workforce in the global market. HSD is designed to better tap the potential of human creativity and human skill as “important raw materials and physical infrastructure,” according to HSD’s descriptive materials. Recognizing that human development new knowledge that leads to new technologies in the context of social institutions that largely shape what is produced and determine how these new products become part of everyday life, HSD is tailored to help us understand the interdependence of individual and society, the effort are to:

- Develop a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to understanding human and social dynamics, incorporating international, regional, and cross-cultural approaches.
- Exploit the convergence in biology, engineering, information technology and cognition to advance our understanding of human behavior and performance at the individual level, and the development of human and social systems, such as organizations, entities form, grow, learn, change, and act under the impetus of internal and external stimuli; and explorations of cognitive, computational, linguistic, development, social, organizational, cultural, biological), and other processes as dynamic, evolving systems.
- Dynamics of Human Behavior: Explorations into the dynamics of change in human behavior over time, including links between mental processes and human behavior; the dynamics through which human and social systems, such as organizations, entities form, grow, learn, change, and act under the impetus of internal and external stimuli; and explorations of cognitive, computational, linguistic, development, social, organizational, cultural, biological), and other processes as dynamic, evolving systems.
- Decision-making and Risk: Explorations of changing risks and risk perception and of their role in the development of human and social behavior; individual and societal responses to risk, such as translation and interpretation of complex scientific information for decision making; decision making under uncertainty associated with many factors, including environmental change, risk assessment, and responses to hazards, and extreme events; research on how educational processes or systems respond to changes in risk and risk perceptions; and basic understanding about chronic risks, especially in the areas of environment, energy, and health.

**New NSF Priority Area Represents Significant Opportunity for Sociology**

by Lee Herring, Public Affairs Office

New NSF Priority Area Represents Significant Opportunity for Sociology

Cross-cutting “Human and Social Dynamics” Is First NSF Priority Area Led by Behavioral & Social Sciences

by Pat White and Joane Nagel, National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation recently approved the FY2004 program solicitation for a new cross-cutting funding priority area, Human and Social Dynamics (HSD) (see July/August 2003 Footnotes, p. 3). This NSF-wide initiative, housed in the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, has been in development for the past three years; it is the first in NSF’s history in which the social and behavioral sciences have leadership. The HSD priority area will extend for five years.

The aim of HSD is to foster breakthroughs in knowledge about human action and development as well as organizational, cultural, and societal adaptation to change in a comprehensive, interdisciplinary effort that includes the development of associated research infrastructure. NSF anticipates awarding some 40-60 awards under this initiative. Learn more at www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/ getpub.cfm?nsf04537>.
Amidst this fragmentation, one program model that is growing in popularity across the political spectrum is “supportive housing.” Supportive housing combines the provision of affordable housing with on-site support services, by placing case workers and other support staff in housing developments. Because supportive housing involves an increase in housing units, it resonates with the systemic frameworks of the center-left. At the same time supportive housing places homeless people within a that San Francisco’s homeless system is not only about finding a place for those who already are on the streets, but also about assuring the security of low income people who are one step from being homeless. While building supportive housing may be an answer for some of the currently homeless, it does not alter the broader systemic issues such as the widespread lack of affordable housing, health care, community-based support services, or living wage jobs. Critics say that San Francisco’s homeless system is already so unaccountable and wasteful, before adding another layer, serious cuts and measures of accountability must take place.

San Francisco’s newly elected mayor, Gavin Newsom, has proclaimed supportive housing to be the centerpiece of his approach to homelessness. Newsom’s campaign was heavily funded by the right, first took interest in homelessness as a member of San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors. In the past and again, Newsom sponsored two homeless related ballot initiatives: one that reduced cash benefits to homeless people in lieu of services, and one that increased legal restrictions and fines for “inappropriate” panhandling. Newsom sold both of these initiatives to voters by including in them measures that increased services and substance abuse assessment for homeless people, though opponents of the initiatives claimed the measures to increase services were empty, unfunded advertising gimmicks.

Building a Policy that Works

In his January 8 mayoral inaugural address, Newsom called for San Franciscans to move beyond the conten- tion that San Francisco has no homeless policies, or which has paralyzed them for years, and to work together to find common ground. In my report on homeless policy in San Francisco (see citation below), I suggest that the most effective way to do this would be to strengthen the alliances between the center and left organizations, including city departments, foundations, small and large service providers, homeless advocates, community activists, housing developers, and homeless research organizations. Although most of these organizations frame homelessness in similar ways, many are nonetheless deeply alienated from each other. Whether San Francisco can collaborate and develop a workable homeless policy may largely depend on the degree to which center and left organizations come together to develop an authoritative plan based on a systemic framing of homelessness, as well as the degree to which Newsom is willing to let this happen and to hold his supporters and campaign funders at bay as he does that.

For a more in-depth discussion of this issue, see the report, “Building a Policy that Works,” online at studies.berkeley.edu/∼droyo/.

Robinson, from page 1

The Politics of Homelessness in San Francisco

The fourth article in a series highlighting the sociological context of ASA’s next Annual Meeting location... San Francisco, California

2004 Annual Meeting... Public Sociology

by Darren Noy, Graduate Student, University of California-Berkeley

As ASA members gather for this summer’s meeting in San Francisco, it will simultaneously serve as a reminder of how homeless people feel on the city’s streets. Estimates place San Francisco’s homeless popula- tion anywhere between 7,500 and 14,000. Homelessness is especially visible in San Francisco because, unlike in other U.S. cities, where heavy-handed police tactics have driven homeless people from sight, San Francisco’s political left has often managed to stymie such measures. At the same time, however, the city has not been able to develop a cohesive, positive homeless policy with commonly accepted goals and widespread support. By mapping the organizational and ideological field underlying San Francisco homeless policy, my recent research aims to explain why.*

Framings of Homelessness

Despite the fractionation of San Francisco’s homeless policy field, the majority of actors involved have surprisingly similar understandings of homelessness and of its solutions. In particular, organizations in the political center and left of the field both “frame” homelessness within the context of rights violations. That is, they focus on the role of economic and housing systems in causing homelessness, and on society’s failure to provide adequate health care, substance abuse treatment, and other social benefits. These center and left organizations include these service providers, homeless advocates, and government agencies that are involved on a day-to-day basis in addressing homelessness. Along with their understanding of the systemic causes of homelessness, these organizations also broadly agree on the ineffective- ness of social control or punitive mea- sures in resolving homelessness. Finally, they believe that San Francisco homeless programs are generally doing good work, but are under-funded.

While the center and the left see homelessness in fairly similar ways, their framings are in stark contrast to those of Robinson, from page 1
is nourished in state sociological associations, and invites more participation in these societies by members of the faculty. It then shows who the state sociological associations are, what they can and should do, and how to pay for it. I have four remarks to add to what is said in these essays.

The importance of realizing that state associations are not to be recognized. The ASA estimates that there are two to three times as many professional sociologists in the United States as the roughly 13,000 members of the ASA. Many of these sociologists are enthusiastic about state associations and benefit from the social contacts and intellectual stimulation of participation in annual meetings of a state association to maintain and improve their professional competencies, as they often do not have an opportunity to participate in the meetings of national and regional sociological associations. Second, state sociological associations are predominantly pr {}'.

派系。在社会学界中，对于其重要的影响，特别是对增进人道的事业，候选人应获得荣誉。候选人应被授予一个到两页的提名声明，以及该提名人的简历。
How to Maintain a Positive Cash Flow in a Sluggish Economy...without Becoming the Next ENRON

by Robert A. Wortham, North Carolina Central University

As the 2000-2001 President-Elect for the North Carolina Sociological Association (NCSA), I was responsible for planning the 2001 annual meeting. During that year, the NC2000 learned firsthand about the tremendous cash flow opportunity. In this invited article, I would like to suggest a few avenues that other state organizations may want to explore. To make this “informal” a little more interesting, I will adapt one of David Letterman’s “Top Ten” formats.

10 Ways to “Cash Flow” Your State Association

10. Realize that the annual meeting can generate a positive cash flow. Be willing to be creative. A positive attitude, enthusiasm, and energy are critical. These qualities are invaluable negotiating and impression management tools. Also, graciously accept the creative input of the annual meeting planning committee. If the committee recognizes that their input really is important, a superior product will be produced.

9. Hotels and Conference Centers will negotiate with you to receive your business. Remember, all costs, rooms, food, technology needs are negotiable. Costs can also be cut significantly if most of the activities can be held on one day. If your program chair is not a good negotiator or does not possess strong people skills, make sure the chair works with someone who excels in these areas.

8. Accept support from endowment funds from institutions or organizations and seek them. Most of the time, such requests are a part of an overall strategic plan. Serendipity is great! While attending the 2000 NCSA annual meeting, several Duke University sociology faculty members indicated that the department had access to some endowment funds. They offered to support the NCSA to help with next year’s meeting. Of course, this unsolicited offer was graciously accepted. When it came time to begin planning for the 2002 annual meeting, the next President-Elect decided to see if the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences for the host school would help. Once the Dean was made aware of the generous gift that had been offered the previous year, the Department was very receptive to helping. When we met in 2003, it rolls around...well...you get the idea. Some chain reactions really are beneficial.

7. Enlist the support from the Department Chair of the host institution and other larger sociology departments within the association. Department chairs may be more willing to help if promised a return on this relationship.

6. It really is all about marketing. Involve your students. By designing an annual meeting program that appealed to students, academicians, and professionals in applied fields, attendance at the annual meeting increased dramatically. Since 1999, 50 percent or more of the NCSA’s annual meeting support has come from students, and half the sessions are geared to issues that are relevant for students at the undergraduate and graduate level. The annual meeting represents an excellent networking opportunity for students. The NCSA charges students a reduced annual meeting registration fee that also includes a one-year membership.

5. Encourage involvement by sociologists working in community colleges and in applied settings. The annual meeting is an excellent networking opportunity for academicians and applied sociologists at all levels. Due to differences in the availability of travel support at various institutions, some sociologists may be more willing to support the activities of a state association than a regional or national association. Remember, an important by-product of effective networking (marketing) is increased revenue.

4. Cut your normal annual communication costs by employing an electronic newsletter. For several years, we have had an electronic newsletter. Although we have never charged an exhibit fee ($250), which includes a booth space and a lunch buffet ticket. Since the exhibitors are guaranteed that their booths will be placed in visible, high-traffic areas, they realize that their cost per potential prospect can be very low. In recent years, the NCSA has been able to attract four to five book reps. However, we have also discovered that companies like SAS and financial planners will support the meetings. In recent years, as many as four or five book reps, a software vendor, and two or three financial planners have supported the annual meeting. I think you can see the cash flow potential here.

2. Discover your association’s geographic base and then go regional. Financial dynamics vary spatially. The NCSA has discovered in recent years that the Piedmont region is the association’s geographic base. A cluster of schools is located within this region. Since the organization caters to professionals and students, this is an important piece of information. In 1998, the NCSA met in Durham, the meeting moved to Raleigh in 1999, and went back to Durham in 2001. Prior to the 1998 meeting, attendance was in the 40-50 range. During the 1999-2001 time period, attendance rose to the 150-180 range. At this point, the association felt that a reasonable support base had been established and decided to see if the association would continue to receive strong support if the annual meeting was held in the extreme eastern and western region of the state. In 2002, the meeting was held in Wilmington (beach) for the first time, and in 2003 the meeting was held in the western part of the state at both mountains and coast. Although 1000 attendees are now roller-coasting.

1. Go non-profit/fax exempt and invest some of the funds. Remember, since you have now transformed your association’s annual meeting into a “cash flow machine,” you need to be able to park the revenue and generate additional funds. Successful organizations know that management is both an art and a science. At one point in our history, the NCSA had 1100 members. This enables the organization to support more ambitious projects like multiple student paper cash awards and an electronic journal (see www.ncsociology.org).

A Quick Look at Grassroots Sociology

An updating of the survey of the state of the state associations

by Catherine T. Harris, Wake Forest University, and Michael Wise, Appalachian State University

In 1998, we published “Grassroots Sociology and the Future of the Discipline,” a study of the state sociological associations, in the winter issue of The American Sociologist (Vol. 29, pp. 29-47). The intent of our survey was to ascertain the structure, activities, cares, and concerns of 26 state associations repre- senting 32 states. Our concern was the niche occupied by the state association in the overall sociological enterprise as it begins to address the gap between the larger national and regional organiza- tions and sociologists in the trenches who are teaching, doing research, and applying their skills to knowledge. At the time of our initial report, we were gener- ally optimistic about the unique potentials of these associations for identifying and re-acting to emerging problems for the discipline. Now, five years later, there are some changes emerging that give us cause for concern.

As preparation for this follow-up study, we contacted the officers of all the state associations listed in the 2002/03 ASA Directory of Aligned Organizations (see www.asanet.org/government/ aligned.html). Our purpose in this preliminary survey was to determine the perceptions among these state association officers about their relationship to regional, national, and other state associations. Of particular interest was the perception of and knowledge about the National Council of State Sociologi- cal Associations (NCSSA). This latter association meets concurrently with the ASA and seeks to be supportive of state associations by providing a forum for issues and concerns (see www.state sociologicalassociations.org/).

Summary of Findings

There were 26 associations in our 1998 report, including DC, Ohio, and New England. Each of these associations is now listed by the ASA under “Regional Associations” (Ohio has become the North Central regional association). Of the current 25 identifiable state associa- tions, 16 have web sites, but some have been inactive for up to five years. At least six state associations are heavily organized and viable. One from the southern region has tried mightily for a number of years to establish a full- fledged association but has yet to generate sufficient support among its universities. A second southern state administers being in its infancy. A third state still has a contact person. One organization from the midwest is reduced to a single contact person, associated with its 1996 program. A neighboring associa- tion, though active, reports its organiza- tion as “weak.” One formerly active western association is no longer listed in the ASA directory. A second western state has formally disbanded, although it still holds a website. One formerly active state association has not met for a while, has lost its web manager, but appears to have some individuals interested in reviving the association. West of Oklahoma, the only active association is 6-state association meetings are held in the north and south of the state in alternate years. Geographically, the state associations listed in the south, the midwest, and central states. The large western states with low population density do not have active state associa- tions.

The distribu- tion of officers listed in the ASA directory and website suggests that state associations are thriving, as indicated by the representation of officers, there is a thereon to active support from the represent- ations. Where they are struggling, by the same indicator, support from the larger institutions is lacking.

Responses to our preliminary survey indicate that respondents felt that the ASA and regional associations were very important to them. Relationships to other related state associations were, however, seen as relatively less impor- tant as were relationships to other state sociological associations. There are, however, several state sociological associations (e.g., the Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois) that have a tradition of joint meetings. Alabama and Mississippi have long combined resources, as have North Carolina and South Dakota. The former Ohio Sociological Association is now the North Central Sociological Association—crosses several boundary lines encompassing Eastern, Western, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Ontario, Western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

State associations’ participation with the NCSSA, the ASA, and regional associations was not strong. Several respondents had heard of the NCSSA and could recall having been contacted by the Council. No respondent had, however, ever attended a meeting of NCSSA. About half of the respondents had attended meetings or workshops related to state associations at a regional level. Most had heard from the ASA about the NCSSA, the meeting of Aligned and Associated Associations, but again, few had ever attended.

As part of their own programs, a number of state associations had availed themselves of ASA and NCSSA grants and opportunity. Their evalua- tions of these resources were, however, mixed. Some respondents thought the information and consultants were quite effective, but not all. Goat took the floor.

Continued on next page...
I attended my first meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) in 1994. I went to Los Angeles as a middle-aged outsider, hoping to gain a little disciplinary knowledge from the natives. For five days, I was mesmerized by phenomena that were not listed in the official program—a perpetual display of Goffmanesque rituals of deference and disapproval.

These customs are by no means limited to this tribe of sociologists. All academic disciplines are defined by what Robert K. Merton called their manifest functions. The obvious and intended function of scholarship is the production and dissemination of knowledge. These professional practices also have what Merton identified as latent functions, consequences that are unintended and frequently unrecognized. The scholarly enterprise has one latent function that dares not speak its name—status stratification.

The professional culture and reward structure of our discipline have evolved gradually over the past half century and are now so much the taken-for-granted-reality that most sociologists are oblivious to their functions. Ralph Linton once observed that the last thing a fish in the water would notice is that there is water. The late Stanley L. Saxton was a perceptive denizen of the water. The last thing a fish in the academic labor market is a meritocracy is that it entails—is the linchpin of supremacy. The old bromide about how one gets tenure now holds true for promotion, external professional recognition, and even superstar status: publish, publish, publish. The highest rank accrues to those doing esoteric research, with subsequent authorship in prestigious journals and publishing houses. This “gold standard” diminishes other types of scholarship, reduces teaching and service to second-rate activities, and reproduces a regime of status stratification within the discipline. If most rank-and-file sociologists continue without question to concede this criterion, it only serves to legitimate the oligarchy’s dynastic succession.

An outsider to the disciplinary canon, Alfred Schutz, developed a sociology of knowledge that poses an alternative to this elitist paradigm of practice. He distinguished between scholarship aimed at the “expert” and scholarship destined to the “wider public.” American sociologists once saw the well-informed citizen as their primary audience. Conversely, the disciplinary elite today sees fellow experts as their audience. How do we restore sovereignty to that large majority of sociologists who toil under the “unwritten rules” of academic practice but remain second-class citizens within the profession? The state professional association (ASA) is one vehicle. As an apprentice to the craft, I found congenial homes, first in Sociologists of Minnesota (SOM), and later in the National Council of State Sociological Associations (NCSSA).

I was welcomed by colleagues who refused to be constrained by the “expert” model but were engaged in scholarships of integration, application, and teaching. I was mentored by master teachers who prided themselves in conducting three to five sections of undergraduate classes each semester, devoted to developing a sociological perspective in students who may or may not be “future sociologists.” I but a provincial from the periphery was invited to theomoic rituals of deference and disapproval. Let 50 flowers bloom.

Grassroots Sociology, from page 8

Courses in survey research covering:
Survey Sampling Methods
Web Surveys Qualitative Methods
Cognitive Foundations of Survey Interviewing Questionnaire Design
Survey Data Analysis Hierarchical Linear Models
Event History Analysis Handling Missing Data
Plus one-week courses covering a variety of topics in survey research methods

More for information contact:
Dr. Steven G. Heeringo, Director
Summer Institute, Survey Research Center Institute for Social Research
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248
Call toll free: 877-880-9389
Fax: 734-763-2663
Email: summers@umich.edu
www isr umich edu/sr/si

Ideas for Invigoration
Respondents noted several areas in which the regional and national sociological associations could provide assistance to the state associations. For one, they suggested that the regional and national associations become more active in assisting the establishment of state associations. Second, respondents were interested in broader communication among state, regional, and national associations. Specifically, they cited announcements about meetings, news about other state associations, and ideas about teaching, practice, and research. Finally, they noted a need for assistance with various program activities. These included workshops, speakers, dealing with different clientelists and dealing with organizational maintenance. All state associations wish to be responsive to a variety of members including students, high school and community college teachers as well as the traditional college and university faculty. With respect to organizational maintenance, respondents cited needs related to recruitment of members, organizing conferences, developing websites, applying for tax-exempt status, and generally strategies and techniques for strengthening their organization.

The state association serves the sociologist in the trenches. It is in many ways the “trip wire” signaling problems that ultimately affect the larger organizations. It serves to integrate sociologists from all academic levels and those in applied positions. Given its importance to the sociological endeavor, its importance in identifying emerging problems for the discipline, it seems clear that the support of and coordination with regional and national associations is important. At the present, it is clear that we, as sociologists, do not adequately integrate our various organizational levels and fail to take full advantage of what each layer can uniquely offer.
**Public Anger, Politics, and the Middle Class**

by Marjorie Schafman, ASA Congressional Fellow

An "anger fuse" has been ignited by recent disruptive economic, political, and cultural events in American society. A question of interest to sociologists is whether public expressions of anger have the capacity to turn the country in new directions. Sources of anger are: populist concerns about prolonged joblessness; liberal anger about George Bush "stealing" the 2000 presidential election; and conservatives' anger about threats to traditional values. The board would advise the funded activities "reflect diverse perspectives—" and one possibility is that we are on the threshold of developing economic and political institutions that can enable us to live civilly with social changes wrought by civil rights, women's liberation, social revolution, and women's movements.

**The Contours of Public Anger**

In Vilen Work Disappears (1996), William Julius Wilson describes the effects of a deep structural shift created by loss of a manufacturing infrastructure on urban African-American workers and the neighborhoods they live in. This socio-economic shift has been exacerbated and has impacted a broader process by the loss of massive numbers of manufacturing jobs to overseas workers. Since 1998, the United States lost 3.1 million jobs. This macro-crisis in capital and production threatens to leave behind—in once-thriving small industrial cities—workers who lack health care coverage, job-related pension benefits, and living wages. Anger at displaced workers directed against multi-national corporations has stimulated industrial action, and conditions, and lack of human rights in sweatshops abroad. Liberal anger has not been this intense since the 1960s. First, many liberal believe that George W. Bush fraudulently stole the 2000 election. Second, he has abandoned 30 years of national commitment to environmental protection by negating the Kyoto Treaty, questioning the adequacy of the science it is based on, and passing his "Clear Skies Initiative,” an example of insidious framing of things to appear as something they are not. Third, the Iraq war has been seen as a preemptive action, enabled by deliberate deception of members of the Senate and of the American people, a betrayal of trust. The presidential primaries and the 2004 general election may be political referendums on this perceived betrayal. For conservatives, shifts in cultural values that threaten identity are a source of public anger. The political right has essential lost efforts to prevent racial integration. Senator Trent Lott suffered a public embarrassment by speaking about the political struggle to maintain racial segregation. Political efforts to undermine a woman's right to a medically safe abortion were successful in recent enactment of restrictions on abortion. But social and political trends are in the direction of enabling women to achieve gender equality. In November 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional to bar gay couples from civil marriage. The judicial decision ignited conservative anger around a perceived threat to hetero- sexual marriage and traditional values. Gay rights may displace race as a focal point for conservative rage. Or, this anger may force a thoughtful examination of legal and social meanings of marriage and the importance of families, care, and attachments to the social health of our society.

Anger, Identity, and a Political Shift

Stanley Greenberg's Middle Class Dream: The Politics and Power of the New American Majority (1998) examined social forces underlying a massive political shift in Macomb County, Michigan, after court-ordered busing. He established links between the War on Poverty, White middle-class resistance to social change, and the emergence of Reagan Democrats in 1980. In the 1960s, the county was a strong Democratic suburban county, giving John F. Kennedy 85% of the vote in 1960 and Lyndon Johnson 74% in 1964, compared to a 67% victory for President Gerald Ford in 1976. Greenberg concluded that these people defined social reality in terms of race—and not economic race-based values. They voted for the post-Civil War obstacles to their middle-class advance.

**Anger in the Middle Without Political Direction**

Michael Lind, in The Next American Nation (1995), observed that the nation's multicultural society proliferated racial and ethnic preferences and reduced wealth and employment benefits—to the advantage of the upper class. Erosion of middle-class and workers' economic security led to distrust in government. But, historically, government programs created the American middle class. The middle class is not an inevitable byproduct of capitalism. Greenberg found a massive political shift in Michigan driven by feelings of threat to middle-class identities. Public anger in 2004 is driven by fears of losing middle-class status, race-based immigration, non-traditional values and a government that doesn't respect the needs of people. If we encourage people to think beyond the anger created by racial integration and gender equality, we may understand the profound destructiveness of these emotions on the very social phenomena that threaten the middle class. The political attention and power of the middle class has been diverted toward focusing anger on these and I ask questions about roots, paying attention to the economic factors that are the root culprit in threatening identity as (and membership in) the middle class. By being politically diverted from legislation that would protect the middle class, this group has sacrificed its own interests (e.g., to the upper class, which is capturing an increasing share of the nation's wealth). Race and gender status are not the core issues for the middle class, wealth accumulation is.

Further Intelligence Challenges to Higher Education

In the fall, the House of Representatives unanimously passed the International Studies in Higher Education Act (H.R. 3877), which authorizes foreign area studies in U.S. universities. It authorizes a secretary, two of these three representing federal agencies with national responsibilities. Many in the academic world are concerned that the advisory board’s activities would amount to surveillance and that its decisions and advice could tantamount recipients of Title VI funds, even though the bill explicitly forbids the board from micromanaging instructional content, curriculum, or instruction program. But politicians and academicians are worlds apart on this. One compromise proposal suggested to members of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, which will consider the bill, is that the advisory board’s goals be established by an independent entity such as the National Academy of Sciences.

"No Child Left Behind" Disfranchises Sociologists as Potential Teachers

Sociology, anthropology, and psychology college majors who become teachers would be effectively disenfranchised in the public K-12 education system by being unable to get certified or to properly advance. NCLB identifies (in Section 9101) the following as qualifying core academic content areas: Language Arts, Reading, English, Science, Mathematics, History, Government, Geography, Economics, Arts, Civics, and Foreign Languages. The opportunity to influence the application of this federal law could come during the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (a.k.a. NCLB) and during annual appropriations debates. Scientists are now focusing their economic and public accountability pressure to align their education programs with the federal priorities and to the "high quality" standards that recognized for HQT could rest on two factors: (1) The serious, documented, and growing knowledge base for K-12 teachers (especially in the sciences) across all states, and (2) The precedent (at least in NJ) of sociology majors having been recognized for HQT prior to NCLB. It would be difficult for states to pass up high-quality, educated people, such as sociology majors, as they scour the nation to fill teacher slots. As an accountability issue, states would have to consider all sources of high-quality personnel to be considered good stewards of education. Given the teacher shortages, the large number of sociology majors, many of whom possess knowledge in empirical and quantitative methods, may be a levering point to get sociology back into the HQT game. With many in the political arena believing that NCLB is not receiving appropriations equal to the law’s mandates, there is a need to get to this issue. The public and congressional scrutiny of the implementation of NCLB at both the federal and state levels. At the annual appropriations process could be a hotbed of further reform activity to steer the law’s implementation. The above are just a "sample platter" of what is likely to happen in political to the year 2005, and there no doubt will be new items added to the menu as the year progresses. Students at all levels of policy debate and discussions will be critical to inserting socially informed science expertise into their progress and resolution.

---Sally T. Hillman, Executive Officer

FEBRUARY 2004 FOOTNOTES
ASA's First Section Journal Is Expanding

by Johanna Elmer, Public Information Officer

A City & Community enters its third year, its editor and founders in ASA’s Community and Urban Sociology Section (CUSS) have much to celebrate. As the only section journal, City & Community has significantly since it included the cost of membership. Because the editorial board, especially the Associate Editors, and because of the existence of modern social inequalities?

City & Community was first developed, there was some concern that its inventory of topics might cause a significant drop in CUSS membership. Because all CUSS members are required to subscribe, the cost of belonging to the section went up significantly since it included the cost of a subscription. There has been little need in the recruitment of articles as well as in recruiting members of the editorial board, especially the Associate Editors, and because of the existence of modern social inequalities?

How much do social inequalities shape metropolitan life? And, equally, how much does the metropolitan, especially its spatial configurations, affect the reproduction of modern social inequalities?

Issues that have already been explored in the journal include Herbert Ganze “The Geography of Poverty” and Barry Wellman’s “Neighboring in Netville: How the Internet Supersets Community and Social Capital in a Wired Suburb” and Robert A. Beauregard’s much discussed “City of Superlative.” The journal also includes editorial, book reviews, and Orum’s Editorial Introduction.

“I have loved editing this new journal,” said Orum. “Partly because of the support and generosity of the editorial board, especially the Associate Editors, and because of the existence of modern social inequalities.”

The rate of manuscript submission doubled between the start-up period and the second full year, from about two per month to almost four per month. In the first two years, Orum also invited several people to write manuscripts, believing that a good piece from a well-known social scientist would help to make the journal. Orum now says the quality of submissions has risen. Although the rejection rate is only about 30 percent compared to about 80 percent at older, traditional journals such as the American Sociological Review, he believes the invited manuscript effort has helped increase the journal’s visibility, and he will occasionally continue to invite manuscripts on important and timely topics.

For a clear, from the work that has been submitted, that there is a lot of good stuff being done, and written, about cities and communities,” said Orum. “I don’t think there are any scholars who were involved for several years in thinking about the work that the journal had any idea how much good work there is. The success of the journal is really due to the writers and researchers who are out there, imagining and thinking about urban issues.”

Topics

There are several topics that the editor particularly encourages writers to contribute. These include the importance of place to human beings? How much do social inequalities shape metropolitan life? And, equally, how much does the metropolitan, especially its spatial configurations, affect the reproduction of modern social inequalities?

Issues that have already been explored in the journal include Herbert Ganze “The Geography of Poverty” and Barry Wellman’s “Neighboring in Netville: How the Internet Supersets Community and Social Capital in a Wired Suburb” and Robert A. Beauregard’s much discussed “City of Superlative.” The journal also includes editorial, book reviews, and Orum’s Editorial Introduction.

“I have loved editing this new journal,” said Orum. “Partly because of the support and generosity of the editorial board, especially the Associate Editors, and because of the existence of modern social inequalities.”

The rate of manuscript submission doubled between the start-up period and the second full year, from about two per month to almost four per month. In the first two years, Orum also invited several people to write manuscripts, believing that a good piece from a well-known social scientist would help to make the journal. Orum now says the quality of submissions has risen. Although the rejection rate is only about 30 percent compared to about 80 percent at older, traditional journals such as the American Sociological Review, he believes the invited manuscript effort has helped increase the journal’s visibility, and he will occasionally continue to invite manuscripts on important and timely topics.

For a clear, from the work that has been submitted, that there is a lot of good stuff being done, and written, about cities and communities,” said Orum. “I don’t think there are any scholars who were involved for several years in thinking about the work that the journal had any idea how much good work there is. The success of the journal is really due to the writers and researchers who are out there, imagining and thinking about urban issues.”

A Cuban Experience

During the trip, I caught a cold, which worsened to bronchitis. On the fourth day, the tour leader came to me to tell me she noticed I did not look well, and she wanted to have a physician see me there in Havana, before the bus would leave the next day for Santa Clara and on to Trinidad. She took me to a woman physician who insisted that I stay at a hospital for a few days. At the prospect of missing a visit to one of Cuba’s oldest and most interesting cities, Trinidad, I was very reluctant to agree to visit the hospital instead.

Fortunately, I had to give in, and, as a result, was able to experience the Cuban medical system, which was very good, in my opinion. Admittedly, while I was in a hospital and restricted only for foreign tourists, I was given a private room with bath and received excellent care.

In the early afternoon of the fifth day, I was discharged from the Clínica Central Cira García—where only Spanish had been spoken—and was escorted back to the hotel by taxi by a bilingual physician. There, I enjoyed the sunshine and flew home with them. I’ll be happy to recount more details to interested readers.

Hannah R. Wartenberg, retired and long-time ASA member (lwartenberg@buffalo.edu), New York, NY

Public Action and Public Policy

Footnotes: the new “Public Sociology” column defines public action as “projects that engage sociology in the civic arena in support of organizations and communi-
ties.” Public action can also contribute to public policy, although I argue below that sociologists should avoid public policymaking itself. I see at least five ways in which sociological public action can be useful to public policy. 1. Empirical research. Our most important contribution is still what ASA President Michael Burawoy calls professional sociology, particularly when it is empirical research conducted among populations and in institutions for which policy may be made. Policy experts often hold inaccurate assumptions about how populations behave and institutions function, as well as how they relate to the larger society. Ethnographic and qualitative research is most likely to reach the policy experts, but economic research and quantitative studies help correct outdated assumptions as well. 2. Policy Implications. Researchers can assist public policy by discussing policy implications of their research findings. For example, they could suggest reforms that would ameliorate problems their research identified. Diane Vaughan’s 2003 Public Sociology column detailed organizational failures in NASA as well as documented conditions that may prevent future space shuttle disasters. 3. Policy Consequences. Sociologists can also make direct contributions to policy analysis by reviewing proposed policies and indicating likely conse-
quences, positive as well as negative. Policy experts generally know the formal structures that operate in the implementation of public policy, but sociologists know the informal structures that may determine whether such policies are effective. Sociologists also see the social structure top-
down, while sociologists especially those who have done fieldwork, typically see it from the bottom up and understand what happens to policies handed down from the top. Policy experts can generally assess the economic consequences of their policy ideas and elected officials will take care of the political ones, but sociologists know the political ones—opponents—that can facilitate or frustrate the experts’ objectives. For sociologists, it is necessary to use research experience and specialized knowledge to criticize public policy. Whether and when they have the requisite knowledge to criticize proposed or existing policies as sociologists has been disputed within ASA, most recently over the Iraq war, but that dispute had as much to do with sociologists lacking the adequate knowledge of professional sociology. When the policy is less controversial, sociological knowledge is usually judged less harshly. As a result, sociologists often act as expert witnesses, offer testimony before public officials, and as act pro bono advisers to citizens groups or social movement organizations.

Moreover, sociologists are always free to be policy critics and even policymakers as they believe they can make public policies more effective. Sociologists can study how people use research experience and specialized knowledge to criticize public policy. Having for generations studied victims and underdogs, sociologists may in some sense be uniquely positioned to provide basic needs and rights of the voiceless. I would even argue that sociologists have an advantage over policy experts because they have the research experience and knowledge to criticize public policy. Having for generations studied victims and underdogs, sociologists may in some sense be uniquely positioned to provide basic needs and rights of the voiceless. I would even argue that sociologists have an advantage over policy experts because they have the research experience and knowledge to criticize public policy. Having for generations studied victims and underdogs, sociologists may in some sense be uniquely positioned to provide basic needs and rights of the voiceless. I would even argue that sociologists have an advantage over policy experts because they have the research experience and knowledge to criticize public policy. Having for generations studied victims and underdogs, sociologists may in some sense be uniquely positioned to provide basic needs and rights of the voiceless. I would even argue that sociologists have an advantage over policy experts because they have the research experience and knowledge to criticize public policy.
Those Who Can, Teach!  
An ASA Annual Meeting Pre-Conference

The spotlight will be on graduate teaching assistants and first-time instructors at this special ASA pre-conference event in San Francisco, bringing experts in the field of teaching and learning together with approximately 25 participants for more than six hours of presentations, workshops, discussions on teaching issues, and small group mentoring. The pre-conference will begin on August 13 and continue on August 14 in conjunction with the Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology section day activities.

The pre-conference will open with a panel, “How Do They Do It? Successful Teaching Strategies,” featuring award-winning teachers. This will be followed by breakout discussion groups, workshops, working groups on substantive course topics (introductory, methods, theory, others depending on interest), a session on “Pittfalls in Teaching: What Works/What Doesn’t,” and mentoring sessions.

Participants can select from a number of concurrent workshops led by experts. Depending on interests expressed by participants, topics will include: creating a course from scratch, managing classroom dynamics, “Should You Take a Stand? Controversial Issues in the Classroom,” teaching the large class, ethical issues in teaching and academia, teaching portfolios, assessment in the classroom, teaching apps, getting a teaching job, evaluating teaching performance, and writing and presenting on teaching and learning.

The selection of participants will be on a rolling basis with consideration as applications are received. Applications will be available on March 1 on the Section for Teaching and Learning in Sociology web page, in the Section newsletter, and from Jeanne Ballantine, Section Chair, Sociology, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435. A $50 registration fee will cover Section membership for those who are ASA members, conference materials and food. In addition, this fee will be returned to those who attend the entire pre-conference in the form of participant-selected ASA Teaching Resource Center publications worth $40.

The pre-conference is organized and sponsored by the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology and draws on the talents and experiences of those who have served in key leadership roles in the Section and in the ASA. As such, we are grateful to all who have contributed to the success of the Section and the ASA and to all those who will attend the pre-conference.

WE ENCOURAGE INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS TO APPLY SOON.

New Staff Join ASA

ASA is pleased to announce the arrival of three new full-time staff at ASA headquarters in Washington, DC. While you already have the opportunity to meet these new staff at the 2003 ASA Annual Meeting or in another venue, here are some brief introductions.

Felicia Evans

Felicia Evans joined ASA in October as a Program Assistant for the Minority Affairs Program (MAP). Prior to ASA, she worked at the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Felicia brings varied experience to ASA, having worked with university students and faculty for five years at George Washington University, where she was a Program Specialist in the Information Technology Department. She enjoyed assisting adult students making career transitions to the world of Information Technology, guiding them in course selections to ensure they received their certification.

Felicia has also worked at the Alexand-ria Redevelopment and Housing Authority as a Section 8 Placement Office Certification. She was instrumental in helping the organization convert its technology from an antiquated dues-based database to a new access-based system. She was the first point of contact for both the members and members-to-be, as well as the technicians for the new database.

“I enjoy membership because it gives me the opportunity to deal with and talk to all sorts of people,” said Felicia.

Donya Williams is the voice that bores into your inbox with the same message every time you access the ASA website. Before arriving at ASA, Donya was on a one-and-a-half year hiatus from the job scene as she cared for an autistic child at home.

Prior to joining ASA, she worked for five years with the American Bankers Association and was promoted each year she was there, having begun as a Staff Assistant in the meetings department. But Donya “quickly figured out that membership was where I belonged,” she said. Once in membership, “my skills blossomed.” She became second only to her department director when it came to knowledge of the membership system and processes. She was instrumental in helping the organization convert its technology from an antiquated dues-based database to a new access-based system. She was the first point of contact for both the members and members-to-be, as well as the technicians for the new database.

“I enjoy membership because it gives me the opportunity to deal with and talk to all sorts of people,” said Felicia.

Donya was born in Patterson, NJ, but calls Washington, DC, home to her four children (Alessi 10, Marcus 7, Demetrius 4, and Cameron 2) and is very interested in getting the best education for all of them.

Felicia Evans

Felicia Eastman is our newest staff member, joining the Meeting Department: She joined ASA in May 2003, as the Meeting Services Assistant. Some members may have seen her at the 2003 Annual Meeting helping to make the meeting a great experience. She continues to work on the large conference planning behind both the 2004 and 2005 meetings, particularly with the exhibits.

Kendra Eastman

Kendra Eastman is our newest member of the Meeting Department: She joined ASA in May 2003, as the Meeting Services Assistant. Some members may have seen her at the 2003 Annual Meeting helping to make the meeting a great experience. She continues to work on the large conference planning behind both the 2004 and 2005 meetings, particularly with the exhibits.

Kendra comes to us from Omega Technology Consulting, a company that provided meeting-planning service with its information technology consulting. She brings to ASA four years of meeting planning experience with a special emphasis in Tradeshow Management. She was born in Anchorage, Alaska, and is pleased to have been “raised around the world as an Army brat.” With a degree in Communication Arts from the University of San Diego, Kendra decided to move closer to her family and make a home in the Maryland area.

Felicia Evans

Felicia Eastman is a member of the ASA Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology and draws on the talents and experience of those who have served in key leadership roles in the Section and in the ASA. As such, we are grateful to all who have contributed to the success of the Section and the ASA and to all those who will attend the pre-conference.

Felicia brings varied experience to ASA, having worked with university students and faculty for five years at George Washington University, where she was a Program Specialist in the Information Technology Department. She enjoyed assisting adult students making career transitions to the world of Information Technology, guiding them in course selections to ensure they received their certification.

Felicia has also worked at the Alexand-ria Redevelopment and Housing Authority as a Section 8 Placement Office Certification. She was instrumental in helping the organization convert its technology from an antiquated dues-based database to a new access-based system. She was the first point of contact for both the members and members-to-be, as well as the technicians for the new database.

“I enjoy membership because it gives me the opportunity to deal with and talk to all sorts of people,” said Felicia.
Members’ New Books


classroom and social justice.


classroom and social justice.


classroom and social justice.


The breadth and scope of her intellectual and academic interests can also be seen in the some 15 courses she taught in the sociology department of the University of Massachusetts.

We watched her eat the same energy as she worked at her desk. In the last few years, she spent more time on research, but always maintained her commitment to teaching and service, truly making a difference in the lives of her students and colleagues.

As a member of the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Study of Social Problems, the Social Problems Association, and other professional organizations, she was involved in numerous activities that contributed to the advancement of sociological knowledge and to the wellbeing of society. She always took a keen interest in the work of her colleagues, often providing constructive criticism and offering valuable insights.

Aliza Keiller was one of the few state sociological associations that have established the Aliza Spector Award to honor her memory. This annual award recognizes a sociologist who has made significant contributions to the field of sociological research.

Dr. Paul Burleigh Horton was one of the most influential African-American sociologists of the 20th century. Throughout his career, he made significant contributions to the development of sociology as a discipline and to the advancement of understanding of African-American communities.

He was a member of the Rockefeller Foundation Task Force on South Africa that resulted in the groundbreaking report, South Africa: Time Running Out. This Commission helped to shape the political policies in Washington State University that contributed to passing the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986. He was also the President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and a Trustee of the American Sociological Association (ASA).

In 1921, he co-founded the Task Force on Urban and Metropolitan Studies in the College of Social Science, starting from studies at MSU (w w w. s s c. m s u. e d u / s s c / h o m e /).

Subsequently, she was a key figure in the world of sociology and played a major role in the development of the discipline.

Ruth received many awards for her work, including the A. W. Shaw-Smith Award for Outstanding Teaching, Mentoring and Service in 2000 from the Association of Black Sociologists, the 1995 Ralph Smucker Award for Advancing International Studies and Programs at MSU; the 1971 TeacherScholar Award and a MacArthur Foundation Grant in 1999.

She was a caring, compassionate, responsible, and serious human being—and a dear friend who will be missed terribly by so many of us who knew and worked with her.

Derald Wiley, Steve Gold, Raymond Familusi, Robert Horton, Donald Bouma, Tom Van Vleet, Western Michigan University (1944-1955)

Aliza Keiller, Professor of Sociology at George Mason University in Washington, D.C., passed away on November 27, 2003, in Sun City, Arizona, from complications due to Alzheimer's disease. As a result of her dedication to her family, her children, and her grandchildren.

Alicia (husband Jim and son Christopher). John was the most well-known and most respected American sociologist in Japan in the field of social problems, criminology, and social policy. After graduating from the University of California-Santa Cruz in 1965, he was awarded a PhD in sociology and moved to Sun City, Arizona, in 1980. He was a Trustee Emeritus of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and a Trustee of the University of California-Santa Cruz.

We also discussed university and school personnel encouraged or discouraged. We also discussed a journal of education and research assistant, I was introduced to the impact of school personnel encouraged or discouraged. We also discussed a journal of education and research assistant, I was introduced to the impact of school personnel encouraged or discouraged. We also discussed a journal of education and research assistant, I was introduced to the impact of school personnel encouraged or discouraged. We also discussed a journal of education and research assistant, I was introduced to the impact of school personnel encouraged or discouraged.
2004 Student Travel Awards Available

The American Sociological Association (ASA) Student Forum is pleased to announce that the ASA Council is making funds available to support travel awards to the ASA Annual Meeting. ASA anticipates granting approximately 25 travel awards in the amount of $200 each. These awards will be made on a competitive basis and are meant to assist students by defraying expenses associated with attending the 2004 ASA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA. All applicants are encouraged to seek additional sources of funding to cover expenses associated with attending the Annual Meeting.

To apply for a student travel award, complete and submit four (4) copies of the application form no later than May 1, 2004. Decisions will be announced by June 15, 2004. No part of the application may be submitted by FAX, and only applications from individuals on their own behalf will be accepted.

Applicants must be students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate sociology degree in an academic institution and a current student member of ASA at the time of application. Participation in the Annual Meeting (e.g., paper sessions, roundtables), purpose for attending (e.g., workshop training, Honors Program participation), student need, the availability of other forms of support, matching funds, and the potential benefit to the student are among the factors taken into account in making awards. A travel award committee of the Student Forum convened especially for this purpose will select awardees.

The 2004 Student Travel Award Application is available on the ASA website at <www.asanet.org/students/travelaward.html> or upon request. For more information, contact the ASA Executive Office at (202) 383-9005 extn 327, or via e-mail at studentforum@asanet.org.