Gary Alan Fine to Edit Social Psychology Quarterly

It all began with a bustling registration hall. As attendees moved between sessions each day, for the second year in a row, the very busy meeting offered more than 600 sessions. Yet, for all of the excitement and activity, and relatively late determination that Montreal would host the meeting (see Vantage Point on page 2 of this Footnotes issue for background), it ran flawlessly.

101st Annual Meeting Was an Overwhelming Success . . .

Sociologists Draw Significant Attention in Montréal

A few years ago Montréal sent its baseball team (The Montréal Expos, for you non-baseball fans) to Washington, DC (to become the new two-year-old Nationals team), and, in return, the DC-based American Sociological Association, feeling sorry for the baseball-less Montréal, held its 101st Annual Meeting in the welcoming city of Montréal, Québec, Canada, this past August. Well, maybe that’s not the real reason the ASA Annual Meeting was held in Montréal sooner than the official Annual Meeting site line-up had originally scheduled, but it was a most enjoyable and rewarding meeting, according to the many participants who complimented the ASA leadership, staff, and program committee.

Despite having their mouthwash and water bottles confiscated by the Transportation Security Administration before boarding their planes, the Annual Meeting attendees, for the most part, enjoyed a very smooth run meeting with fascinating panels and several big-name speakers. Of course, also enjoyable to attendees, most of whom came from areas that hadsecond-hand experienced summer heat waves, was the lack of humidity in Montréal.

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Fourth-Highest Registration

With 4,974 registered attendees, the 2006 annual meeting had the fourth-highest registration of any ASA meeting in our 101-year history. The exciting plenary sessions drew record crowds, and the fifth floor of the Palais des congrès de Montréal the primary meeting hall bustled with energy as attendees moved between sessions each day. For the second year in a row, the very busy meeting offered more than 600 sessions. Yet, for all of the excitement and activity, and relatively late determination that Montréal would host the meeting (see Vantage Point on page 2 of this Footnotes issue for background), it ran flawlessly.

Much of the success of this year’s meeting is due to President Cynthia Fuchs Epstein and the members of the 2006 Program Committee for their work on building an interesting and diverse program. Credit is due also to the 2006 ASA Council, session organizers, and participants.
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The “Worlds of Work” theme will be explored in Boston in 2008.

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Friends Remember Robin Williams, Jr.
Colleagues mourn and celebrate a man who did not know how to accept retirement.

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The Executive Officer’s Column

Annual Meeting Venues Past, Present, and Future
By all accounts, the Montréal Annual Meeting was a great success, thanks to the hard work of Cynthia Fuchs Epshten and the 2006 Program Committee, and the splendid venues and hospitality provided by the Montréal convention bureau, the hotels and their staff. Preparation for this meeting had its difficult moments, however, as the ASA membership knows. It took over a year for Council, the Executive Officer, and the Program Committee to ensure an appropriate location, and our 2006 planning process took us from New York City to San Francisco and finally to Montréal. Playing “musical meeting places” is not typical for the ASA. Meetings of our size require much forward planning and advantageous long-term contracts for space to ensure their success, and ASA has been exceptionally well served in this regard by the strong working relationships we have developed with our long-standing hotel partners. In the past, these collaborative relationships have also been essential to ASA’s ability on rare but important occasions to make swift and successful changes in meeting location, for example, as a result of an electrical fire (IX 1994). These civil rights decisions by Council (Atlanta 1988). And these relationships remain essential today as the Association seeks to respond to a new, positive environment in the hospitality industry, one in which labor unions have become greatly invigorated and collective bargaining has become increasingly national in scope.

New Challenges in the Hospitality Industry
In recent months there has been an on-going discussion within Council about how the Association might best relate to labor unions whose members provide us with important services that help make our meetings successful and whose conditions of employment matter on general principle to all ASA members. As a result, ASA elected leaders, the Executive Officer, and the Director of Operations and Meetings have met and talked with union leaders from UniteHere, the major hotel workers union, as the hospitality industry has been undergoing change, and we have developed a good working relationship with them. Early in its discussions, Council also agreed that, in principle, the Association should seek to participate in collaborative efforts by organizations such as ours that are major consumers of the hotel and convention industry’s services to develop quality information and standards to guide our individual decision processes over the long run.

During this time, the union and individual members of nonprofit organizations that use substantial hotel space and services for meetings, including members of ASA and sister social science associations, have been working to establish an independent organization designed to provide and share information relevant to organizational consumers. The Informed Meeting Exchange (INMEX) was established in June 2006 as a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation [a 501(c)(6) organization under IRS classification], chaired by John Stephens, Executive Director of the American Studies Association. It is based upon the recognition that nonprofit organizations in many fields are key stakeholders in the meetings industry; that they want to conduct fruitful meetings in environments free from the threat of labor disputes; that transparency in this industry is a major component in holding successful meetings and conferences; and that access to information about destination cities, hotels, and union activities is essential to better planning. INMEX is also based upon the principles that hotel workers deserve fair pay for their work, and that they have a right to work in environments free from discrimination, intimidation and harassment, and to bargain collectively.

ASA Joins the Informed Meeting Exchange
After considerable discussion and fact finding, the ASA Council voted unanimously in June 2006 to become a subscribing member of the new INMEX. INMEX will aim to help associations organize annual meetings to avoid situations of labor-management conflict that have caused several of our sister associations to face significant financial losses because of decisions to change meeting venues at a late date. It intends to collect information and data about subscriber experience and relationships with various hotel chains, cities, etc., so that subscribers can have the benefit of broader experience and be familiar with best practices in the marketplace. Council felt such information could be a valuable resource for the Executive Office and Council as we work together to ensure successful future meetings.

As ASA President Frances Fox Piven said, “This initiative is based on the idea that in the hotel industry, as in other industries, employers currently face a choice between a low-road strategy and a high-road strategy. The first—often driven by short-term financial considerations—rests on weakening unions and driving wages down, while the latter involves cooperative relations with unions and upgrading of employee skill levels and compensation. The purpose of INMEX is to exert consumer pressure on this industry to follow the high road. Since some key players in this industry have already opted for the high road, it is clearly a viable option. It is consistent with the interests of ASA as an organization and the preferences of our members to do what we can to prevent yet another industry from following a low-road strategy. We suspect that many of the staffers at the hotel chains that we work with also hope that the industry chooses more cooperative labor relations.”

As the ASA moves forward to complete its planning for the 2007 Annual Meeting in New York City, this expectation is being fulfilled. The city’s hotels and hotel workers union have reached contract agreements. This is a fitting beginning for President Piven’s 2007 theme: “Is Another World Possible? Sociological Perspectives on Contemporary Politics.”
NIH Celebrates 10 Years of Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research

ASA Past-President Troy Duster is keynote speaker at historic celebration

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) celebrated the tenth anniversary of the opening of its Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSRR) in June, using the format of a yearly conference on the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD, to elucidate and explore social and behavioral research on illness and health. The two-day event drew a capacity crowd of nearly 600. Sociology was “front and center” at the NIH celebration’s opening plenary session, which included OBSRR Director David Abrams [at the podium] in the photo welcoming [right to left] NIH Director Elias Zerhouni; OBSRR’s first director and now CEO of the American Psychological Association, Norman B. Anderson; OBSRR’s former director, now NIH Deputy Director, Raynard S. Kington; keynote speaker Troy Duster, New York University; and Nobel Prize Laureate and Princeton University psychologist Daniel Kahneman.

The opening plenary panel of OBSRR’s 10th Anniversary commemoration included NIH director Elias Zerhouni and the current OBSRR director and both of the previous two directors. “Celebrating a Decade of Progress and Promise” was the theme of NIH’s official recognition of OBSRR’s formation 10 years ago.

ASA, along with the Consortium of Social Science Associations, the American Psychological Association, and other science societies, further capitalized on the event by bringing the event’s research posters to the “front-door” of Congress, hosting a well-attended congressional reception and exhibition in the ornate Cannon Caucus Room on Capitol Hill to showcase achievements of social and behavioral research presented at the NIH event. Abrams had initiated the plenary session by saying that the behavioral and social sciences lay at the “crossroads between biology and behavior” and that only health-related and prevention innovation that improves society and well-being requires behavior change, “a daunting challenge and great responsibility” for our disciplines.

Sociology Exhibited on Capitol Hill

ASA sponsored another successful and popular science poster this summer on Capitol Hill at the 12th Annual Exhibition and Reception sponsored by the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), an organization of approximately 100 science societies. Johns Hopkins University sociologist Karl Alexander displayed his National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded research on “The Beginning School Study: Life Course Patterns and Development of a Large, Representative Sample of K–12 Educational Research” to an attentive audience. Among those who made comments at the event.

Changing of the “sociological guard” at NSF . . .

Sociologist Edward J. Hackett, Arizona State University (ASU), will be the next NSF director. He replaces Jun Shao, the division director of Social and Economic Sciences (SES) at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Hackett’s term began in mid-July. He will replace another sociologist, Richard Lempert, the Eric Stein Distinguished University Professor of Law and Sociology at the University of Michigan. Hackett, a professor in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at ASU, previously served as an NSF program officer, panelist, and principal investigator of several research and training grants. As director of the SES division, Hackett will oversee the NSF unit that supports research in a range of social sciences, including economics, political science, sociology, law and social science, methods and statistics, and studies of science and technology. SES has an annual budget of approximately $100 million to fund basic research in these areas. Hackett’s own research and publications have been concerned with the social organization of science, research collaboration, peer review, academic organizations and careers, and environmental justice and stewardship.

University of Michigan to continue major survey on older adults’ health, retirement . . .

The National Institute on Aging (NIA), one of 27 research institutes at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has recently renewed its cooperative agreement with the University of Michigan to continue the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) for 10 more years. The HRS is a longitudinal study of people aged 50 and older, which began in 1992. It has been described as “front and center” at the NIH celebration’s opening plenary session, which included NIH director Elias Zerhouni and the current OBSSR director and both of the previous two directors. “Celebrating a Decade of Progress and Promise” was the theme of NIH’s official recognition of OBSSR’s formation 10 years ago.

The HRS paints a detailed portrait over time of older Americans’ physical and mental health, insurance coverage, financial well-being, labor market status, retirement planning, support systems, intergenerational transfers of money and time, and living arrangements. Visit <hsresonline.isr.umich.edu> for more information about the study as well as an online bibliography of publications using the HRS, user registration, and data links. Sociologist James Jackson, ISR’s director, visited Washington, DC, to participate in a public announcement of the award on Capitol Hill. U.S. Rep. John Dingell (MI), NIA Director, John Hodes, and the study’s co-directors were among those who made comments at the event.

Well-being of American children has improved generally, except in education . . .

According to the 2006 Child Well-Being Index (CWI), one of the nation’s most comprehensive measures of trends in the quality of life of children and youth, reading and math scores for U.S. high schoolers began to decline in the 1990s. Possible culprits include a nationwide shift from phonics to whole language instruction; the lack of resources for handling the influx of English language learners; and the influence of video games and other forms of high-tech entertainment. CWI developer and Duke University sociologist Christopher J. Jencks believes that small changes to the CWI’s 30-year flatline in education, because it appears that the quality of public education is impervious to the many reforms made over that time period. However, the CWI suggests several leading indicators that may predict higher academic performance among U.S. children, citing an increase in nine year olds’ math and reading performance, which corresponds with the dramatic expansion of pre-kindergarten since the mid-1990s. Groups of indicators show improvements in safety, family economic well-being, community connectedness and emotional/spiritual well-being, while there has been a decline in children’s health and social development. The full report is available at <www.soc.duke.edu/~cwi/>.

Report connects problems inside prison facilities to public health and safety . . .

Violence, poor health care, and inappropriate segregation inside correctional facilities can endanger correctional officers and the public, asserts a report from the Commission on Safety and Abuse in America’s Prisons. The report was released this week. Weak oversight, lack of political support for labor and management, and flawed data about intracorrectional violence and abuse were cited in Confronting Confusion. However, the 30-member commission concluded that there are promising practices and strong leadership that contradict the notion that violence and abuse are inevitable behind bars. Among the 30 recommendations are: changing federal law to extend Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement to correctional facilities and ending prisoner co-pays; reducing the use of high-security segregation; developing standardized forms for reporting violence and abuse nationwide on violence in correctional facilities, and creating an independent agency in every state to oversee prisons and jails. The bipartisan commission on visited jails and prisons consulted with current and former corrections officials and a wide range of experts working outside the profession, and reviewed available research and data. For more information, visit <www.prisoncommission.org/report>.

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moving the HRS, now in its 18th year, created by the nation’s aging population. The renewal will provide a minimum of $20 million in funding over the next six years to continue the study. The U.S. Social Security Administration also will provide funding for such activities as collecting and developing data on pensions and consumption. The HRS paints a detailed portrait over time of older Americans’ physical and mental health, insurance coverage, financial well-being, labor market status, retirement planning, support systems, intergenerational transfers of money and time, and living arrangements. Visit <hsresonline.isr.umich.edu> for more information about the study as well as an online bibliography of publications using the HRS, user registration, and data links. Sociologist James Jackson, ISR’s director, visited Washington, DC, to participate in a public announcement of the award on Capitol Hill. U.S. Rep. John Dingell (MI), NIA Director, John Hodes, and the study’s co-directors were among those who made comments at the event.

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From “Technology for Sociology” to “The Sociology of Technology:” A Short History of CITASA

As its computer-focused task force evolves with the times

By Barry Wellman, University of Toronto

The history of the Communication and Information Technologies Section of the American Sociological Association (CITASA) is emblematic of the way in which longstanding traditions among sociologists have engaged with computing and associated technologies— as user, developer, critic, and observer. It is rare that a journal publishes a history of an ASA section, but the May issue of Social Science Computing Review (SSCR) has done just that—with articles by Ronald Anderson, Grant Blank, George Dowdall and David Elesh, and me.

At the start of ASA's Microcomputers Section in 1988, its pioneers were the sociological equivalent of the homebrew computing club, mainly interested in building software for research and teaching. They saw the Section as a place to find community, professional legitimation, and good ideas. Early members were not very interested in using the big mainframes of computer hardware. They were more interested in using the big mainframes of analytic engines. As Ronald Anderson, University of Minnesota, noted, they were not interested in becoming creators discouraged three large sets of potential members from becoming programmers. "The relationship between computer hardware and more reliable software was in demand. The proliferation of commercial software in this era of the personal computer left this led mid-computing sociologists to turn away from doing their own programming, which was the original force behind the founding of the "Microcomputer Users Group," the Section's predecessor. More user-friendly and more reliable software was in demand. Moreover, the growing market for hardware and software led to an increase in the number of programmers. "The relationship of computing to sociology as a whole had changed to become more diversified and more accessible," says Blank in his SSCR article. In response, the Section changed its title to "Sociology and Computing" in 1994 but essentially continued in its ways.

Middle Years: Skilling/Deskilling

Grant Blank of American University, the author of the "middle years" article in the SSCR special issue, argues that the Section's emphasis on developing software and hardware skills was probably the cause of the 27 percent membership decline (331 in its second year (1990) to 243 in 1994 and an all-time low of 147 in 2002). The Section had two-thirds of sociologists of potential members from becoming software for research and teaching. They were more interested in using the big mainframes of analytic engines. As Ronald Anderson, University of Minnesota, noted, they were not interested in becoming creators discouraged three large sets of potential members from becoming programmers. "The relationship between computer hardware and more reliable software was in demand. The proliferation of commercial software in this era of the personal computer left this led mid-computing sociologists to turn away from doing their own programming, which was the original force behind the founding of the "Microcomputer Users Group," the Section's predecessor. More user-friendly and more reliable software was in demand. Moreover, the growing market for hardware and software led to an increase in the number of programmers. "The relationship of computing to sociology as a whole had changed to become more diversified and more accessible," says Blank in his SSCR article. In response, the Section changed its title to "Sociology and Computing" in 1994 but essentially continued in its ways.

The Section’s new leaders knew that enthusiasm scholarship was abundantly present, and it needed to be tapped. They added to the Section the sociology of computing (and other communication and information) and added a task force to take into account all of the new media such as social webophones, PDAs (personal digital assistants), GPS (global positioning system), and so on.

Section leaders agreed that the basic need was to expand the Section’s membership. So its leaders set out to make sociologists (and fellow travelers) aware of the Section’s existence and orientation, aided by donations from Microsoft. CITASA was able to double its membership rapidly, with 363 members by September 2005, expanding its conference papers and holding a pre-conference at ASA’s Annual Meeting. There has been much collaboration activity, an active online discussion group, an informative website, and a vibrant newsletter, with young recent graduates (and graduate students) playing key roles, including Keith Handhavoon, Joel Nett, Esther Hanganui, and Nalini Kotamraju. Moreover, over the quality of papers presented has increased. The Section’s four to five papers has expanded to include the study of communities, and work, online and offline. However, there has still much more to do. There are still very few studies of other technologies, such as mobile phones. Where is the ethnography of the Internet? Where is the grappling with macro-sociological issues, such as the role of the Internet or the rise of the networked society? Huge areas await study.

Barry Wellman was 2004-05 Section Chair. I am co-editor of Blackwell Publishers’ 2002 book The Internet in Everyday Life. He can be reached at wellman@chass.utoronto.ca. 

Sociologists Named American Academy of Arts & Sciences Fellows

The American Academy of Arts & Sciences announced its 2006 Class of Fellows in the spring, honoring 195 scholars, scientists, and artists along with civic, corporate, and philanthropic leaders from across the U.S. and abroad. ASA is pleased to congratulate the Stanford University of Maryland and Waters of Harvard University—were among those honored with the fellowship. They are in a class with former Presidents George H. W. Bush and William Jefferson Clinton; Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts; Nobel Laureates: Inheriting the City: The Second Generation Comes of Age (with Howard Schuman, Charlotte Steeh, Maria Krysan) and a founding co-editor of the Du Bois Review: Social Science Computing and actor and director Martin Scorsese.

Mary C. Waters specializes in the study of immigration, inter-group relations, the formation of racial and ethnic identity among the children of immigrants, and the challenges of measuring race and ethnicity. She is the author of two forthcoming books, Inheriting the City: The Second Generation Comes of Age (with Jennifer Holdaway, Philip Kasinitz, and John Mollenkopf) and The New Americans: A Guide to Immigration Since 1965 (with Reed Ueda and Helen Marrow). She is also author of Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities (1999), which received the 1999 society for Research on the Asian Pacific American Section's award of the American Sociological Association. The Ott Dudley Duncan Award of ASA’s Population Section, and the Thomas and Znaniecki Award of ASA’s International Migration Section. She has also been a member of the research team of the New York City Health and Behavior Study, and a co-investigator of the Boston Area Longitudinal Study. Her research has focused on immigration, race, ethnicity and neighborhood context. She has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and book. She has received honors, funding, and awards, including the National Institute of Aging, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Institute of Justice.

Lawrence D. Bobo is the Martin Luther King Jr. Centennial Professor at Harvard University. His research focuses are on the study of immigration, inter-group relations, the formation of racial and ethnic identity among the children of immigrants, and the challenges of measuring race and ethnicity. He is the author of two forthcoming books, Inheriting the City: The Second Generation Comes of Age (with Jennifer Holdaway, Philip Kasinitz, and John Mollenkopf) and The New Americans: A Guide to Immigration Since 1965 (with Reed Ueda and Helen Marrow). She is also author of Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities (1999), which received the 1999 society for Research on the Asian Pacific American Section's award of the American Sociological Association. The Ott Dudley Duncan Award of ASA’s Population Section, and the Thomas and Znaniecki Award of ASA’s International Migration Section. She has also been a member of the research team of the New York City Health and Behavior Study, and a co-investigator of the Boston Area Longitudinal Study. Her research has focused on immigration, race, ethnicity and neighborhood context. She has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and book. She has received honors, funding, and awards, including the National Institute of Aging, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Institute of Justice.

Council Approves Establishment of Three New Task Forces

In August, the ASA Council established three new task forces and renewed an existing task force to give it more time to complete its assigned task. The Task Force now wants to hear from members interested in serving on one of these components.

Task Force on Sociology and Computing Programs

Working with members of the American Society of Criminology (ASC), this Task Force is charged with developing model curricula and sample courses for content for courses in criminology taught in sociology departments; the curricula and courses will cover the BA, MA, and PhD levels. The resulting report will provide guiding principles and recommendations as well as illustrations ("promising practices") for how departments of various types offer strong criminology programs within sociology departments. The report will include, as well, information on the optimal relationships between sociology and criminology programs that are separate departments.

Task Force on Teaching Ethics throughout the Sociology Curriculum

Working with members of the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics, this Task Force was established in 2004 to develop curriculum materials to teach students about professional ethics in sociology and their undergraduate careers through graduate school. The Task Force will develop case materials (some of which exist from earlier COPE workshops and course modules that faculty could include in a variety of courses. The materials will be available on the ASA website so they can be downloaded quickly and easily and can be adapted to fit different needs. The Task Force will also offer a series of workshops at the ASA and regional sociology meetings to illustrate how these materials can be used.

Task Force on Academic Freedom and Scientific Integrity

Issues of academic independence and scientific integrity arise regularly and the Association has always taken a strong stand to protect these values. In recent years, Council has been made aware of a number of sociologists and sociology departments that have come under attack in ways that challenge their aca- demic freedom in teaching or research. They are no longer able to defend themselves or the Section’s existence and orientation, aided by donations from Microsoft. CITASA was able to double its membership rapidly, with 363 members by September 2005, expanding its conference papers and holding a pre-conference at ASA’s Annual Meeting. There has been much collaboration activity, an active online discussion group, an informative website, and a vibrant newsletter, with young recent graduates (and graduate students) playing key roles, including Keith Handhavoon, Joel Nett, Esther Hanganui, and Nalini Kotamraju. Moreover, over the quality of papers presented has increased. The Section’s four to five papers has expanded to include the study of communities, and work, online and offline. However, there has still much more to do. There are still very few studies of other technologies, such as mobile phones. Where is the ethnography of the Internet? Where is the grappling with macro-sociological issues, such as the role of the Internet or the rise of the networked society? Huge areas await study.

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Contemporary Years: Expanding Scope, Membership

In 2002, the Section was in crisis because of the low membership. Many members were interested in computers was at an all-time high with governments, corporations, and the public eager to know the latest about the Internet and other communication and information media. In the relative absence of sociologists in this newly manufactured population was being filled by pundits making things up deductively; social psychologists and sociologists were being called to turn away from doing their own programming, which was the original force behind the founding of the "Microcomputer Users Group," the Section’s predecessor. More user-friendly and more reliable software was in demand. Moreover, the growing market for hardware and software led to an increase in the number of programmers. "The relationship of computing to sociology as a whole had changed to become more diversified and more accessible," says Blank in his SSCR article. In response, the Section changed its title to "Sociology and Computing" in 1994 but essentially continued in its ways.

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September/October 2006 Notes
2008 ASA Annual Meeting Program Theme Announced

Session Suggestions Are Invited

ASA President-Elect Arne Kalleberg (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and the 2008 Program Committee are pleased to announce the theme for the 2008 Annual Meeting and invite ASA members to submit proposals for complete invited sessions/panels for consideration.

Session themes are due by November 30, 2007. Proposals for other sessions should be submitted by February 1, 2008. For instructions on submitting a session proposal for 2008, please visit the Future Meetings page on the ASA website.

Theme Statement

The 2008 ASA program will focus on the interconnections between work—broadly conceived—and society. Work is one of the most basic of social activities and institutions and has far-reaching correlates and consequences. The title, "Worlds of Work," points to two main sub-themes. First, it underscores the increasing diversity by which work is organized and experienced in societies. Work activities can take place in organizations or informally between individuals; be labeled as illegal or legal, be unpaid, well-paid, or poorly paid, and involve considerable uncertainty for the workers as well as for others. People may also regard their work activities as more or less important than other activities at various stages of their lives. Second, the program title emphasizes the cross-national and historical diversity in work patterns, work-related institutions, and the experience of work. Outsourcing of production, global human rights, immigration, and cultural differences all provide fertile ground for a comparative understanding of the many varieties of work.

The 2008 program will emphasize social change and the dynamic connections between changing patterns of work and social life. We will highlight how social, economic, and political forces are transforming the nature of work in society as well as the consequences—both intended and unintended—for social institutions and individuals. For example, we hope to learn how world's of work affect and are affected by social stratification and racial, ethnic, age, and gender inequality; immigration; migration; geographic mobility; crime; and the cultural meanings of work. We will assess the ramifications of these changes of work for diverse institutions such as families, schools, state policy, and communities.

We will also consider how changes in work influence outcomes for individuals (e.g., mental health, identity, problems of caring, experience in low-wage jobs, and other "dead end" jobs, and coping with job insecurity and unemployment). This wide-ranging focus on work and society is grounded in both classical and contemporary sociological concerns and draws upon many of our discipline’s theories and research traditions. Accordingly, the 2008 program theme embraces diverse sociological approaches, including: methodological perspectives, organizational and occupa
tional sociology, social psychology, and cultural and ethnographic studies. It also draws upon relevant insights from disciplines such as economics, psychology, history, and geography. The 2008 program is intentionally flexible in order to accommodate innovative proposals.

Proposals limited to a maximum of five pages should: (a) describe the project and the intended audience or beneficiaries, (b) locate the project in the literature on teaching and learning, (c) explain how the project will be evaluated and (d) describe the expected benefits of the project, including systemic impacts.

While ASA membership is not a criterion for applying or being selected for this grant, if and when a grant award is made, the recipient must be a current ASA member. ASA membership involves acceptance of and adherence to the ASA Code of Ethics, which requires: (a) the project be for the benefit of the profession; and (b) the project be for the benefit of the project, including systemic impacts.

Send applications to American Sociological Association, Academic and Professional Affairs Program, 1307 New York Ave., NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005. Notification of awards will be sent out by April 1. For more information, visit www.asanet.org or e-mail apap@email.asanet.org.

2008 Program Committee

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Task Force on Institutionalizing Public Sociology

In 2004 this task force was established by the ASA Council Committees and the ASA Section on Crime, Gender, and Society. The task force is charged with developing a comprehensive strategy to help inform policymakers’ decisions. Barbara E. Reskin received her PhD in 1973 from the University of Washington. After spending two decades in Big-Ten Universities—from Indiana University to Ohio State University—she moved to Harvard University and then returned to the University of Washington. She has written six books and several dozens of articles and chapters about gender and race inequality in the workplace, sex discrimination, affirmative action, and affirmative action including her latest, Women and Men at Work. She has served on the Board of Overseers of the Social and Personality Psychology and on several National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council Committees, and also as past ASA President. She has received the Cheryl Miller-Sociologist for Women in Society (SWS) Lectureship, the SWS Mentorship Award, and the Distinguished Scholar Award of the ASA Section on Sex and Gender.

Robert J. Sampson is Chair of the Department of Sociology and Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University, where he was appointed in 2003. Before that, he taught for 12 years at the University of Chicago. Sampson was also a Senior Research Associate at the American Bar Foundation (1994-2002), and in the 1997-98 and 2002-03 academic years he was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. Sampson has published extensively on crime, the life course, neighborhood processes, and the social structure of the city. Two of his books, Crime in the Making: Pathways and Turning Points through Life (Harvard, 1993) and Shared Beginnings, Divergent Lives: Delinquent Boys to Age 70 (Harvard, 2003), written with John Laub, received the distinguished book award from the ASA Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance. The 2008 election was held during the 144th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) is a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to the furtherance of science and its application for the general welfare. The Academy, established in 1863 by a congressional act of incorporation, acts as an official adviser to the federal government, upon request, in any matter of science or technology. Additional information on the Academy is available at <national-academies.org>. A full directory of NAS members can be found at <national-academies.org/nas>.
The American Sociological Association proudly announced the recipients of the 2006 major awards at this year’s Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 13, in Montréal. The Awards Ceremony, which was followed by the Presidential Address, was well attended by sociologists. These awards are given to sociologists for their outstanding publications, achievements in the scholarship, teaching, and practice of sociology, as well as for their overall advancement of the discipline. Award recipients are selected by committees appointed by the ASA Council, the APA Committees and the ASA Council.

Herbert Gans
Winner, Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award

In an age of specialization, Herbert Gans stands apart from his peers. His writings and contributions are known throughout the social sciences, but he would not be recognized for this because, like a previous generation of sociologists who worked in a more integrative mode, he sought directly to influence sociology in its totality, not because he has had an easy or well educated education—and written classic works—in a remarkable number of different fields. His influence on the discipline as a whole has come from his distinct sensibility, which combines scholarship satisfying to the most professional of sociologists with writing that speaks to much broader publics, rigorous application of ethnographic and other methods, and a methodological appreciation for good evidence whatever the source. He has deeply felt democratic egalitarianism with tough-minded, social-scientific analysis of explanations for, and policies proposed to remedy, poverty and inequality.

Gans early on made enormously influential contributions to urban sociology, through his studies of urban ethnic communities in The Urban Villagers and of new suburban ones in The Levittowners, books that are still widely read four decades after their publication. The Urban Villagers was among the first studies to recognize the importance of second-generation communities descended from an immigrant tradition, and then had disappeared for decades, and it thereby helped to found the study of ethnicity, its analysis of the linkage between urban ethnic and inner city one, and the social class status of the classic statement. His sociological output has been prodigious: he has written 17 books and published nearly 200 articles and book chapters. Many of his writings are intended for both sociologists and the general public. Not coincidentally, Gans has also been a trailblazer for the cause of “public sociology.” This was the subject of his presidential address to the ASA, where he was the first to call for “public sociologists.”

Edward Telles
Winner, Distinguished Book Award

Award for its insightful comparative analysis of race relations in Brazil and the United States. Breaking a number of social myths about race in Brazil, he provides a detailed analysis of how ideas about race emerged in Brazil and the resulting racial classification systems. In a detailed accounting of political stratification in Brazil, Telles has analyzed how the role of elite entrepreneurs in class development. Using the cases of India and Korea, the book shows the significant role of industrialists in resisting or facilitating state development. The argument, based on detailed comparative histories, shows the central role of capital in state formation while also revealing the structural forces that shape the state and society.

Vivek Chibber
Honorable Mention, Distinguished Book Award

Honorable mention is given to Vivek Chibber’s book, Locked in Place: State Building and Late Industrialization in India. The book examines the role of elite entrepreneurs in the political economy of state building in India and the implications for the future of the country.

Kathleen McKinney
Winner, Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

Kathleen McKinney, Cross Endowed Chair in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning at Illinois State University and former Cross Scholar on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, is the 2006 recipient of the ASA’s Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award. Her career aptly illustrates her dedication to all aspects of teaching. She has enhanced teaching at all levels through her teaching, research, and course development.
HONORED IN MONTRÉAL

Major ASA Award Recipients Honored in Montréal

Kathy’s energy level and ability to engage not only the students in the front row, but also those who sat furthest from her. Her lecture style was enthusiastic, warm and she used a diverse array of imaginative pedagogical techniques, which incorporated active learning. Whether it was the use of collaborative learning groups, dyadic techniques, or individual small group activities, Dr. McKinney strove to accommodate students at multiple comprehension levels.

Her colleagues highlight McKinney’s enthusiasm for improving the teaching of sociology at all levels. “I have been continually impressed with the quality of Kathleen’s work, and her enthusiasm to volunteer to work on projects that improve the teaching of sociology, and research on teaching and learning.” Another writes, “Kathleen uses her classes as laboratories to study how to enhance student learning. She reads widely on the current and knowledgeable of the most recent theories and methods used to enhance student learning. She continually asks what she learns from the scholarship in her classrooms and simultaneously collects data on her classroom experiences for book chapters, articles, and presentations. Her commitment to the dialectical relationship between scholarship and teaching demonstrates Kathleen’s dedication to teaching and learning.” Finally, McKinney’s time as editor and on the editorial board of Teaching Sociology as well as her active participation with the teaching resources project further exemplify her contributions as a mentor to us all.

Arthur Shostak Winner, Distinguished Career for the Practice of Sociology

The Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology is presented each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the sociological practice. The award recognizes individuals who have facilitated or served as a model for the work of others, work that has significant, broad-reaching, and unique contributions to societal good. In her career, Shostak has made important contributions to our understanding of the central role of the sociology of work. As an applied sociologist, Shostak has pioneered the study of Labor’s use of sociological research to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of workplace practices. As well, she has used her research to advocate for the rights of workers, including women and minorities, to participate in the workplace.

Shostak’s work has been recognized with numerous awards and distinctions. She is a member of the American Sociological Association, the American Sociological Association, the Eastern Sociological Society, and the Society for the Study of Organizations and Networks. She has also served as chair of the American Sociological Association’s Section on Social Problems and Public Policy.

Shostak has written extensively on the sociology of work, with a particular focus on the role of sociological research in improving workplace practices. She has also written on the sociology of organizations, the sociology of health and illness, and the sociology of deviance.

Shostak’s contributions to the sociology of work have been widely recognized. In 1990, she received the Distinguished Contribution Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2001, she was awarded the Distinguished Career Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to Social Problems and Public Policy Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2006, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Work Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of organizations. In 2003, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Organizations Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2005, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Organizations Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Organizations Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of health and illness. In 1995, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health and Illness Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2000, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health and Illness Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health and Illness Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of deviance. In 1997, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Deviance Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2002, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Deviance Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Deviance Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of crime and justice. In 1999, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Crime and Justice Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2004, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Crime and Justice Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Crime and Justice Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of education. In 2007, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Education Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2012, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Education Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Education Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of technology. In 2014, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Technology Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2019, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Technology Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Technology Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of religion. In 2016, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Religion Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2021, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Religion Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Religion Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of family. In 2018, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Family Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2023, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Family Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Family Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of health. In 2019, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2024, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Health Award from the American Sociological Association.

Shostak has also been recognized for her contributions to the sociology of social movements. In 2020, she received the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Social Movements Award from the American Sociological Association. In 2025, she was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Social Movements Award from the American Sociological Association. Shostak has also been awarded the Distinguished Contributions to the Sociology of Social Movements Award from the American Sociological Association.
Awards, from page 3

framed the nature and scope of his community activism. For more than 30 years, Dennis’s provocations have contributed to the pedagogical and curricular engagement of scholars and students in the field. His work has contributed to the development of a more critical and intersectional understanding of race, gender, and social justice. His writings have been instrumental in shaping the field of sociology, and his research has had a significant impact on the advancement of social justice and equality.

Andersen is a leading figure in the field of sociology, known for his groundbreaking research on gender and inequality. His work has contributed to a deeper understanding of the ways in which gender, race, and class intersect to shape social outcomes. Andersen has made significant contributions to the study of gender in the workplace, family, and society, and his research has been widely cited and influential.

Beckfield is a leading sociologist in the field of regional integration and welfare states. His work has contributed to a deeper understanding of the political, economic, and social dimensions of regional integration and welfare state development. Beckfield's research has been influential in shaping the field of regional studies, and his work has been widely cited and influential.

Rutledge Dennis has made significant contributions to the field of sociology, particularly in the areas of race, gender, and class. His research has been instrumental in shaping the field of sociology, and his work has been widely cited and influential.

Andersen has contributed to several books, articles, and book chapters. His work is widely cited and influential in the field of sociology. Andersen has received numerous awards and honors for his outstanding contributions to the field of sociology, including the ASA Presidential Address.
dimensions of regional integration and demonstrates empirically how convergent inequality in Europe in the last half-century have been shaped as much by political integration as they have by economic integration.

The results are truly remarkable and are a showcase for what sociology contributes to the broader discussion of transnational processes and their consequences. They lend dramatic support to some of the conclusions of recent examinations of economic and political sociology, and clearly demonstrate the centrality of sociological insights for the processes within the exclusive purview of economics or political science. Jason Beckfield’s dissertation is thus richly deserving of this honor.

Amy Hanser
Co-winner, Dissertation Award

This year’s ASA Dissertation Awards Committee selected the two nominees. Amy Elizabeth Hanser, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California Berkeley, received the award for her dissertation submitted to the Committee. Amy’s dissertation is a rich, well-researched, and well-written piece of work. It draws on the work of Bourdieu, including his concept of capital, and their power relationships. The dissertation is a valuable contribution to the field of sociology and is a worthy recipient of this award.

In her dissertation, “Women’s Work and the Production of Distinction in Urban China,” Amy demonstrates a deep understanding of the relationship between gender and economic status in contemporary China. She shows how economic policies in China have impacted the lives of women and how these policies have contributed to the creation of new social inequalities. Her findings are important for understanding the role of gender in economic development and for informing policies aimed at reducing gender inequality.

The dissertation is particularly noteworthy for its innovative use of ethnographic methods. Amy conducted extensive fieldwork in urban China, including observations of retail service and interviews with retail workers. This qualitative data provides a rich source of insights into the experiences of women working in retail and highlights the ways in which economic policies have impacted gender roles.

Overall, Amy’s dissertation is a valuable contribution to the field of sociology and is a worthy recipient of this award. It is a model of thorough research and rigorous analysis and provides a valuable contribution to our understanding of the complex relationship between gender and economic development in contemporary China.
Robin Williams was a man for all seasons. Born and reared in the farming country of the North Carolina piedmont, he graduated from North Carolina State at age 19 in the depth of the Great Depression. In the next quarter century, Williams earned a Harvard doctorate, attained eminence as a Cornell University professor, and was elected president of the American Sociological Association (during his tenure, the ASA became the ASA). Possessed of a brilliant mind and a zest for life, Williams was a captivating lecturer, a delightful and fascinating conversationalist. He usually outlined his students and colleagues and students, and an ability to write clear and meaningful prose. Williams was a sociological super sleuth for decades. He published his first sociological classic, The Reduction of Intergroup Tensions (reprinted in 1999 a book honoring his work) as is relevant today as it was almost 60 years ago. Next came his study (with Margaret Ryan) of school desegregation published in Schools in Transition in 1954 and then What College Students Think in 1960. His famous study of racial and ethnic relations in Elmira, N.Y., as well as other studies culminated in a book (with John Dew and Edward Suchman) called Strangers Next Door (1964). Another important book on racial issues, Mutual Accommodation, was published in 1977. But, my personal favorites are The Sociology Program at the National Science Foundation, he encouraged me to "keep your back to the wall and your hands in both pockets." He was right. Robin also led by example. I recall when he went to administrators across the Cornell campus with, as he called it, his "tin cup," seeking additional funds for the Sociological Forum (the journal he founded for the Eastern Sociological Society). One dean confronted him with his own words: "You said, Robin, that last time would be the LAST time!" Robin simply responded, "I lied." His was always a vision transcending departmental, college, and other administrative boundaries. It is no accident that when we held a symposium at Cornell in his honor in 1996, two deans and the provost contributed generously and Cornell University Press published the resulting papers. In addition to the American Philosophical Society and the National Academy of Sciences, Robin M. Williams, Jr., was also a member of the National Research Council, the Pacific Sociological Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, among others. He was a President of the American Sociological Association, the Eastern Sociological Association, Founding Editor of Sociological Forum, and winner of the Commonwealth Award for Distinguished Service, the ASA’s Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award, and the Robin M. Williams, Jr., Distinguished Lectureship Award estab- lished in his honor by the Eastern Sociological Association. A wonderful blend of the professional and the personal Robin can be found in Robin’s chapter for the 2006 Annual Review of Sociology: "The Long Twentieth Century in American Sociology: A Semi-autobiographical Survey." My favorite mental picture is of a picnic my husband Dick Shores and I shared with Margarette and Robin on their "farm" (land purchased for their daughter Susan’s horses long ago). With the impending permanent move to Irvine in 2003 came the need to deal with loose ends in Ithaca. Right before this piece of their past was sold, Margarette, Dick, and I walked to a beautiful spot where she laid out a wonderful spread. Emphysema had by then taken its toll, so it was impossible for Robin to walk even half the necessary distance. Uncoached, he drove up on his well-worn 1966 Simplicity lawn tractor. This is Robin and Margarette’s gift to all of us touched by their public and private lives: lessons about making a contribution to knowledge and understanding, but also about how to “move on” and to “manage,” and to do so with grace, humor, and good sense. Phyllis M. Moen is available, with Donna Dempster-McClain and Henry J. Walker, of A Nation Divided: Diversity, Inequality, and Community in Ameri- can Society, a book compiled and published in 1999 in honor of Robin M. Williams, Jr.

Charles Hirschman, University of Wash-ington

Colleagues Pay Tribute to a Man for All Seasons

Draw a regular professional salary, Robin Williams never really needed one. At age 70, he became founding editor of Sociological Forum, the official journal of the Eastern Sociological Society. As his deputy editor, I was obligated to try (to keep pace with his expectations for a good editorial team. This meant screening every submission, writing detailed reviews (typically anonymous) to supplement thoughtful editorials, and to edit every accepted manuscript for redundancy, logic, and clarity of expression. Every submission to the journal, in his author would complement us for having such great copy-editing. Robin Williams was a much beloved mentor of graduate students as well as an award-winning teacher of undergraduate courses. On Homecoming Weekends at Cornell, there was always a line of students or alumni who would come by his office to tell him how much his teaching had influenced their lives. For the first 15 years, he taught under-graduate courses at the University of California-Irvine, including during the winter 2006 term. Among the many stories Robin loved to tell was one of a colloquy at the elevator with a colleague who was not seen to him in a few years. The colleague was surprised to hear that Robin was rushing off to teach class and asked, "Williams, don’t you have anything better to do at your age than to continue to teach undergraduates?" With his characteristic understatement and sly smile, Robin replied, "Nope."

Charles Hirschman, University of Wash-ington

Robin Williams, Jr.

Robin M. Williams, Jr., who as a young man in 1948 was already the star of the Cornell sociol- ogy department after winning a teaching assistantship in 1948. I want to speak briefly about both.

There are two sides to the Robin Williams who has been my friend, men- tor, and ego-ideal ever since I became his teaching assistant and graduate student in 1948. In two words...
be president of the American Sociological Association and the Eastern Sociological Society, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the American Philosophical Society, a winner of the ASA Award for a Career of Distinguished Scholarship, even becoming an officer among whom the Eastern Sociological Society named a prestigious lecturership. In short, he was a scholar who received nearly every honor that could be given to an American sociologist.

This is also the Robin Williams whose presidential address to ASA (in my appraisal, as a close officemate of the genre) was equaled only by that of his friend, Bob Merton. Both used their presiden- tial addresses to do superbly what few sociologists ever attempt—what Merton termed “theories of the middle run” in sociology. Robby did so masterfully. In this instance, it was a distillation at a very high theoretical level of what sociological research had taught us about social conflict, both the intra-racial ethnic conflicts he studied in the 1950s and 1960s and his advanced career and the international ethnic con- flicts he so inclusively analyzed in his book, The Wars Within: Peasants and States in Conflict, which was published when he was nearly 90.

Although, though, was a little remote, a little formal. One thinks of him more as a consummate writer and lecturer, even living with his perform- ance, than as a participant in informal discussion. The other Robin Williams is the one who when I knew him was writing American Societies: A Sociological Interpretation, the very model of socio- logical analysis of an entire society. This is the man who was developing the ideas he expressed so well in his final, polished book. Working for him while he was developing those ideas provided me the most wonderful graduate appren- ticeship that I can imagine. It also gave me insight into something that many generations of his students learned in different ways. Robin taught us the great academic virtues: hard thinking; careful, detailed work; taking ideas seriously, seeking answers for questions rather than the value of using other people’s research and data. He showed us that when he taught us how to write, to think, to explain; he showed us how to write, to think, to explain;

For all of his extraordinary accom- plishments, humanity, and intelligence, what impressed me up close about Robin M. Williams, Jr., was the passion he expressed for sociology as a sci- ence that could ultimately solve many of the world’s problems. During his 16 years on the Irvine campus, Robin took every opportunity to discuss the relevance and insights of sociology, whether in meetings with deans and provosts, as he did in the general editorship of the Irvine Sociology in the early 1990s or in cross-disciplinary conversations with economists, political scientists, philos- phers, and other members of the eclectic discussion groups that he formed and vigorously participated in.

Like so many sociologists, I had the great fortune of experiencing Robin’s passion for sociology and teaching, as well as the opportunity of follow- ing my career, when I published my first scholarly article in the journal he co-founded at Cornell, Sociological Forum. I experienced it in a more sustained fash- ion as I interacted with Robin over the past five years at Cornell, when he wrote his last book, The Wars Within. In 2004, Robin approached me in my capacity as department chair to check in about my teaching assignment for the department. I recall, as he returned my office, he said he had an unusual request, but one that he felt strongly about. He said he had been teaching his popular course on the sociology of war and conflict for so long that he reasoned he should, as he put it, “flip it over,” and develop a course on the sociology of altruism and coopera- tion. In an era beset by warfare, greed, and hatred, was it possible that the sociology of cooperation could yield important insights about how people could peacefully coexist. He and I worked together on this last project, which he planned eventually to turn into a book. (Imagine for a moment embarking on the area of research that is in 89, with serious plans to publish a book on that area in the future. I was in awe.) Robin taught the course at Irvine in 2005 and was in midst of teaching it a sec- ond time when he fell ill during the 2006 spring quarter. I can tell you the course is opened up and lays out a new way to think about the issues. It also bore a trademark of much of Robin’s research and teaching in that it set forth a rigorous sociological analysis of the issues, as well as outlin- ing substantive knowledge does accumu- late. Accordingly, there is hope for better solutions to seemingly intractable social problems.

As department chair, I learn a lot about how students regard their instructors’ teaching. I have never heard any student speak with as much enthusiasm, respect, or gratitude as they have for Robin. His courses affected students to their core. He inspired them with his sociologi- cal imagination and insight, and he offered his students a wealth of sociolog- ical tools they can use in their own lives. But more than that, he taught his students a humanity, a grace, and a very strong sense of humor, that packaged together, are all too uncommon in this or any era.

For his students, for me, and for many others, Robin M. Williams, Jr., will always be an inspiration. When I think of Robin, I will try to emulate the rest of my life.

Carrin Mollison, University of California, Irvine

“Mild-mannered, courtly, jet-black hair with a fine mustache and a soft-southern voice…. While his teaching is informal, and avuncular, his sociological discussions and meeting are precise, even clipped.”

I said these very words (or some- thing similar) to a European colleague at an ASA meeting on the development of the discipline.

For all of his extraordinary accom- plishments, humanity, and intelligence, what impressed me up close about Robin M. Williams, Jr., was the passion he expressed for sociology as a sci- ence that could ultimately solve many of the world’s problems. During his 16 years on the Irvine campus, Robin took every opportunity to discuss the relevance and insights of sociology, whether in meetings with deans and provosts, as he did in the general editorship of the Irvine Sociology in the early 1990s or in cross-disciplinary conversations with economists, political scientists, philos- phers, and other members of the eclectic discussion groups that he formed and vigorously participated in.

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Applications Invited for Editorial Board of Contexts, JHSB

Applications are invited for the editorial boards of Contexts and the Journal of Health and Social Behavior. The official term for the new editor (or co-editor) will commence in January 2008 (the current editorial team will actually start in summer 2007) and for a minimum of three years (until December 2010) with a possibility of renewal up to an additional three years.

Contexts

Contexts, ASA's award-winning magazine (first published in 2002) is devoted to bringing sociology to a wide audience while presenting the findings and ideas of sociology in an engaging, plain-speaking form. To do so, it currently uses a variety of approaches, including 3,500-word feature articles, research notes, photo essays, book reviews, culture reviews, field reports, and first-person essays. To sustain its success, the new editor(s) should be committed to addressing the lay public through the magazine's choice of topics, style of presentation, and an editorial focus on bringing non-academics in sociology and social work.

Eligibility

Eligible candidates are ASA members who focus on book editors, the larger editorial group could consist of editors from one single department or institution (or from several institutions). In addition a team of editors, the larger editorial group could also include a deputy editor or editorial board members who focus on book reviews, the Discovery research notes, the other non-feature items, and other innovations the new team might develop.

Applications

Applications will be reviewed by the Committee on Publications in December 2006. It is possible that prospective editors may be contacted to clarify any issues raised in the initial application packet (which may be rank-ordered or unranked) will be forwarded to ASA Council for review in early 2007. The Council appoints the editors. The editors are contacted by the ASA in writing.

Eligibility

(1) An established record of scholarship;
(2) Evidence of understanding the mission of the journal/series, its strengths and challenges, and a vision for the journal/series’ future;
(3) Openness to the different methods, theories, and approaches to sociology; and
(4) A record of responsible service to scholarly publishing and evidence of organizational skill and intellectual leadership.

The time demanded with these responsibilities vary from week to week, but in general, require one full day per week.

ASA encourages applications for both sole editorial board and co-editorships.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by the Committee on Publications in December 2006. It is possible that prospective editors may be contacted to clarify any issues raised in the initial application packet (which may be rank-ordered or unranked) will be forwarded to ASA Council for review in early 2007. The Council appoints the editors. The editors are contacted by the ASA in writing.

Eligibility

(1) An established record of scholarship;
(2) Evidence of understanding the mission of the journal/series, its strengths and challenges, and a vision for the journal/series’ future;
(3) Openness to the different methods, theories, and approaches to sociology; and
(4) A record of responsible service to scholarly publishing and evidence of organizational skill and intellectual leadership.

The time demanded with these responsibilities vary from week to week, but in general, require one full day per week.

ASA encourages applications for both sole editorial board and co-editorships.

Fine, from page 1

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Program Announcement

Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline

Please read this notification before applying—Deadline: December 15, 2006

The American Sociological Association (ASA) invites submissions for the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) awards. Supported by ASA through a matching grant from the National Science Foundation, the goal of this award is to nurture the development of scientific knowledge by funding small, groundbreaking research initiatives and other important scientific research activities.

FAD awards provide scholars with ‘seed money’ for innovative research that has the potential for challenging the discipline, stimulating new lines of research, and creating new networks of scientific collaboration. The award is intended to provide opportunities for substantive and methodological breakthroughs, broaden the dissemination of scientific knowledge, and provide leverage for acquisition of additional research funds.

Selection Criteria

Proposals are reviewed for scientific merit and the importance of the proposed research project or a conference for sociology as a discipline. Specific evaluation criteria include the following:

- Innovativeness and importance of the research idea;
- Originality and significance of research goals;
- The potential of the study as a building block in the development of future research;
- Appropriateness and significance of the research hypothesis, feasibility, and adequacy of project design;
- Plans for dissemination of results; and
- Appropriateness of requested budget.

Proposals are limited to individuals with a PhD or equivalent. Preference is given to applicants who have not previously received a FAD award.

Funding

The amount of each award shall not exceed $7,000. Payment goes directly to the principal investigator (PI). Grant money may not be used for convention expenses, honoraria, or PI’s salary. No overhead expenses are provided, if institutions assist in administering the award for applicants. Awards are encouraged to continue the tradition of donating to FAD any royalty income derived from projects supported by the grant.

Application Process

Applications must be postmarked by December 15. Applications should include eight (8) copies of the following:

- A cover sheet with the title, name of lead author, additional name(s) of author(s),
- A 100- to 200-word abstract of the research/conference topic,
- A maximum of five (5) single-spaced pages describing the project (excluding appendices),
- A detailed budget and time schedule,
- A bibliography,
- A statement of other pending support, and
- A vita of the PI.

Contact Information

Send complete application packets to: FAD awards, ASA/NSF Small Grant Program, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-4107. Prior to submitting proposals, call or email project director Robert A. Spaulding at 383-9005, ext. 317, spaul@asausenet.org. Applicants are required to notify ASA if other funding is received for the project. Consult www2.asausenet.org/members/fad.html for more information.

Corrections

Annual Meeting Program

In the In the News section of the July/August 2006 Footnotes, John R. Taylor’s research on boys and drug use was mistakenly attributed to Patricia Y. Martin. It should have read, John R. Taylor, Florida State University, had his research on feelings of self-degradation in boys at age 11, relative to drug dependency nine years later, cited in the April 25, 2006, edition of the London Times. It was cited also in a number of health newsletters around the United States.

The awards program incorrectly stated that there was no Dullweber- Johnson-Frazier award given in 2004. The award was given to the Sociology Department at Washington State University.

In the Call for Papers section of the July/August 2006 Footnotes, John R. Taylor’s research on boys and drug use was mistakenly attributed to Patricia Y. Martin. It should have read, John R. Taylor, Florida State University, had his research on feelings of self-degradation in boys at age 11, relative to drug dependency nine years later, cited in the April 25, 2006, edition of the London Times. It was cited also in a number of health newsletters around the United States.

Meetings

29th Annual North American Labor History Conference, October 18-20, 2006, Wayne State University, Department of History, 5019 University Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202; (313) 577-2525; fax (313) 577-6997; chair: Joseph Williams.

Call for Papers

Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS), October 26-28, 2006, Croton-on-Hudson, NY, “Society for What Building Our World.” The AACS is seeking original manuscripts to present from undergraduate students. Submissions from undergraduate students in any field (including students who have graduated in 2006) should meet the following criteria:

- Original research new or existing data,
- Hypothesis driven approach with conclusions and findings,
- Applied focus in research process.

Contact: Jay Weinstein, Eastern Michigan University, 7121 Dyer Harrell, Ypsilanti, MI 48197; (734) 487-0012; email jay.weinstein@ emich.edu; www.aacsnet.org.

Southwestern Sociological Association 87th Annual Meetings, March 14-17, 2007, Albuquerque, NM. Submissions for paper proposals are invited. Paper proposals may be submitted to the program chair at Robyn Driskell@Baylor.edu or directly to session chairs available on the SRCD website at www.srcd.org. Deadline: October 15, 2006.

Publications

American Academic, an annual publication from the American Federation of Teachers, announces a call for proposals to be included in the 2007 issue, “Diversity and Higher Education.” We will also be considering articles not related to diversity, yet still of interest to the higher education community. Proposals should include a cover page with title of the proposed paper, author and affiliation, and telephone/e-mail contact information. Proposals should be no longer than three double-spaced pages plus references. Please submit proposals to AFT Higher Education at aac@american.edu.

For more information, contact the AFT Higher Education staff at (202) 879-4426 or (800) 238-1133 x4426.

Applied Social Science is requesting submissions for future issues. Applied Social Science is the official, peer-reviewed journal of the American Association for Applied Social Scientists. The recent creation of AACS through a merger between the Society for Applied Social Science and the Sociological Practice Association, Applied Social Science supersedes the journals of the two organizations: The Journal of Applied Social Science and Sociological Practice, respectively. Applied Social Science publishes original research articles, essays, research reports, teaching notes, and book reviews on a wide range of topics of interest to the sociological practitioner.

All submissions are processed electronically. Send your submission as an email attachment. The attachment should be a word-processed document (not a PDF file) in ASCII style for references, notes, headings, etc. Along with the manuscript, include an abstract of no more than 150 words and a brief biographical statement. Tables and figures must be camera-ready. Editors’ decisions are provided, if institutions assist in administering the award for applicants. Award money may not be used for convention expenses, honoraria, or PI’s salary. No overhead expenses are provided, if institutions assist in administering the award for applicants. Awards are encouraged to continue the tradition of donating to FAD any royalty income derived from projects supported by the grant.

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• A cover sheet with the title, name of lead author, additional name(s) of author(s),
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Changing Rhythms of American Family Life

by Suzanne M. Bianchi, John P. Robinson, and Melissa A. Milkie


Over the last 40 years, the number of American households with a stay-at-home parent has dwindled as women have increasingly joined the paid workforce and more women raise children alone. Many policy makers feared these changes would come at the expense of time mothers spend with their children. In Changing Rhythms of American Family Life, sociologists Suzanne M. Bianchi, John P. Robinson, and Melissa Milkie analyze the way families spend their time and uncover surprising new findings about how Americans are balancing the demands of work and family.

Using time diary data from surveys of American parents over the last four decades, Changing Rhythms of American Family Life finds that—despite increased workloads outside of the home—mothers today spend at least as much time interacting with their children as mothers did decades ago—and perhaps even more. Unfortunately, the authors find mothers’ time at work has not resulted in an overall decline in sleep or leisure time. Rather, mothers have made time for both work and family by sacrificing time spent doing housework and by increased “multitasking.” Though the iconic image of the American mother has changed from a docile homemaker to a frenzied, sleepless working mom, Changing Rhythms of American Family Life demonstrates that the time mothers spend with their families has remained steady throughout the decades.

Suzanne M. Bianchi and John P. Robinson are professors of sociology and Melissa A. Milkie is associate professor of sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park.

ASA members receive a 20% discount on Rose Series volumes when ordering by telephone and mentioning code RASAI.

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September/October 2006 Footnotes 13

Ov
The American Journal of Sociology

Vol. 110 (March 2005): 1284-1325

A Critique of Exchange Theory in Mate Selection

Michael J. Rosenfeld
Stanford University

This paper argues that the exchange theory of mate selection, as represented in the work of G. H. W. Becker and others, is based on an unrealistic assumption that individuals in the market for a mate are perfect economic agents who make utility-maximizing decisions. Rather, individuals select mates based on a variety of criteria that may have nothing to do with maximizing utility. The author argues that exchange theory is better understood as a metaphor for mate selection rather than as a scientific theory.
Competition

The ACLS announces the opening of the 2006–2007 competitions for fellowships and grants. The Andrew W. Mellon Foun-
dation/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships. These year-long fellowships in support of dissertation completion in the humanistic disciplines are the first part of the Mellon/ACLS Early Career Fellowships Program. Fellows carry a stipend and benefits up to $33,000. Under this program, ACLS will award 65 fellowships in a single competition. Recipients will be expected to complete their dissertation before February 1, 2007, whose travel, with the possibility of funding for an additional summer, if justified. The fellowships support tenure-track Assist-
tant Professors and untenured Associate Professors who have completed all but the dissertation. The completion date of the doctorate with a stipend to support a year of research, within the center of an academic position (as new hires), in affilia-
tion with a humanities research center, or independent institutional affiliation. These fellowships are fewer in number and longer term than the existing ACLS New Member Fellowships. An applicant pool that includes Fellows in the first part of the program, other highly ranked applicants from that earlier round, and winners of other similar awards such as the Whiting Foundation Fellowships. The Central ACLS Fellowships. Maximum stipends of $18,000 for full professors, $14,000 for Associate Professors, and $10,000 for Asso-
ociate Professors. Stipends are paid for up to two years of support, with at least one year of full-time support. The requirements for application are as follows: the proposal must be supported by a university or college administration, the applicant must have completed the dissertation, and the applicant must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident of the U.S. in good standing. A total of 95 fellowships will be awarded in the 2006–2007 competition. The implementation/training, research, or writing related to the project. The deadline for the proposal is May 15 on the Cornell/Ono website, about four months before the selection process, intended to develop an anti-poverty policy agenda as part of a multi-faceted research agenda. He coauthored an op-ed column in the Pasadena Star-News on June 24 calling on U.S. policy makers to pay closer attention and money on the public schools. The location of the Emerging Scholar Award is this topic on July 18, 2006.

Kathryn Eden, University of Pennsyl-
vania, was quoted in a July 31 New York Times feature article about the steadily increasing number of men ages 30 to 39 who are dropping out of the U.S. workforce.

Jean Elsa, University of New Hamp-
shire, was quoted in a July 6, 2006, issue of Newstimes about Senator Biden’s 20-year retrospective of his 1966, 1980 report on the odds of women getting married in relation to their age and educational and career choices.

Morten Ender, United States Military Academy-West Point, appeared on Na-
tionally syndicated radio program hosted by Christopher Lydon on June 6. The topic discussed was war films with the Argentine military, mad for democracy and award-winning documentary, “The War of the Endless.” Kay Erickson, Yale University was quoted in the July 6, 2006, issue of the University of Chicago Magazine on the changing na-
ture and severity of disasters that impact human society.

Kerry Ferns, Northern Illinois University, was quoted in a July 5 Detroit News feature article on the decreasing power of individual state representatives to guarantee box-office succes-
success.

William H. Frisch, University of Mary-
land, was profiled in the July 27 Washington Post feature article on weather predictions for the United States.

Alice Feighlin, University of Vermont, presented an invited paper at the University of Vermont’s “Pandora’s Box: The New North American” program on working women balance the demands of home and work. According to McDonald, “It’s Women’s Day.” She was featured a guest on Vermont Public Radio’s “VPR Morning Edition,” in a segment that aired on the topic of how Hurricane Katrina victims are coping with the beginning of a new hurricane season.

Frank Fustenberg, University of Penn-
sylvania, was quoted in a July 6, 2006, New York Times feature article on the reemerging sociology Jean Elson in her

In the News

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Juan Battle, Hunter College & Graduate Center, appeared on WNV in New York to discuss his research for the National Institute of Justice on June 3. He also appeared on CNN June 27 discussing race relations in the United States.

Peter Beaman, Columbia University, was mentioned for his research on abstinence education in a July 19 New York Times op-
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Jonathan B. Imber, InsideHigherEd.com about University of Wisconsin-Madison, was quoted in the July 7, 2006, invited article in the New York Times about the ritual of the prom as a social rite of passage.

Jonathan B. Imber, Wellesley College, was cited in an opinion piece in the July 19 leadinghighered.com about University of Pennsylvania psychologist Philip Blumberg and his moralistic writings and speculation that a new character, that he called “psychological man,” had arrived on the scene in Western culture.

Colin Jermack, The Graduate Center, City University of New York, was quoted in a June 20 New York Times article on the ritual of the prom as a social rite of passage.

Robert Putnam, Harvard University, was quoted in an article in the June 30 2006 Washington Post about a program aimed at fighting poverty through family building.

Selling Women Short is a powerful new indictment of how America’s financial capital has swept away the country’s enduring discriminatory practices under the rug. Comparing the experiences of men and women, who have historically been the bottom rung on Wall Street in the late 1990s, Louise Roth finds that not only do women earn an average of 25% less, but that they are shunted into less lucrative career paths, are not promoted, and are denied the best clients. Selling Women Short illustrates why it is so important to be able to tackle the problem.

Contact Lee Herring, (202) 383-9005 x320, herring@asanet.org.

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nons, with a BA in sociology, in 1944, he returned completed his MA at the University of Hawai'i in 1950 and a PhD at the University of Minnesota in 1954. Terry Boswell wrote 14 years of scholarship. Ball made a significant contribution to our knowledge on law and society and to teaching and research in these areas. His work was directed and indirectly in matters of race and the law in employment, the com- munity, and the workplace. Terry was a role model for students, who desired or desired equality and equity and leadership in the workplace and in the workplace, of race and gender and women's rights. In the summer of 1948, Ball served as Chief Field investigator for the National Commission on Railroad Rat Race Riot. At Washington University, he served as Research Assistant to Arnold M. Rose. He continued his PhD under Arnold M. Rose, "A Sociological Study of Rent Control during the New Deal." He spent the years 1940-1954.

Deaths

Mary Starks Harper, a primary force in organizing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Environmental Health Sciences Program, died July 27 at the age of 86. She was a professor of environmental health sciences and of public health sciences at Johns Hopkins University for improving health care for minorities, the elderly, the mentally ill.

Obituaries

Harry V. Ball (1927-2006)

Harry V. Ball, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, died on May 16, 2006. He was 79 and is survived by his wife, Carol. Ball was born in Wellston, Missouri. Beginning his undergraduate studies at Caltech College in Pasadena, California, he decided to pursue a career in sociology. He received a BA in sociology from the University of Hawaii in 1950 and a PhD at the University of Minnesota in 1954. Terry Boswell wrote 14 years of scholarship. Ball made a significant contribution to our knowledge on law and society and to teaching and research in these areas. His work was directed and indirectly in matters of race and the law in employment, the com- munity, and the workplace. Terry was a role model for students, who desired or desired equality and equity and leadership in the workplace and in the workplace, of race and gender and women's rights. In the summer of 1948, Ball served as Chief Field investigator for the National Commission on Railroad Rat Race Riot. At Washington University, he served as Research Assistant to Arnold M. Rose. He continued his PhD under Arnold M. Rose, "A Sociological Study of Rent Control during the New Deal." He spent the years 1940-1954.

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Philip Rieff (1922-2001)

Philip Rieff, a brilliant and well-known sociologist and cultural critic, was born in 1922 in Vienna, Austria. He was the son of a prominent Austrian physician and was educated at the University of Vienna, where he earned his doctorate in sociology in 1949. Rieff's work was characterized by a deep, profound wit that often reflected his own philosophical and existential views. His work was widely read and influential, and he was considered one of the leading figures in contemporary thought. He passed away in 2001. His legacy continues to be felt in the academic and intellectual communities.
The ASA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) has existed since 1974 and is funded primarily by annual contributions from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The MFP is also generously supported by annual contributions from Alpha Kappa Delta, the Midwest Sociological Society, Sociologists for Women in Society, the Association of Black Sociologists, the Southwestern Sociological Association, and numerous individual ASA members.

Who Can Apply?

• Applicants can be new or continuing graduate students in sociology, who are enrolled in a program that grants the PhD. NIMH Fellows must be enrolled in departments with a strong background in mental health research. There are a number of General Fellowships as well.

• Applicants must be members of an underrepresented minority group in the United States (e.g., Blacks/African-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, or American Indians or Alaska Natives).

• Applicants must also be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals of the U.S., or have been lawfully admitted to the U.S. for permanent residence.

What is the Process?

• Application deadline is January 31; notifications are made by April 30.

• Fellowship is awarded for 12 months and typically renewable for up to 3 years in total. Tuition and fees are arranged with the home department.

• Fellows are selected each year by the MFP Advisory Panel, a rotating appointed group of scholars in sociology, especially in mental health.

For more information, please visit www.asanet.org and click on “Funding.”

Contact the ASA Minority Affairs Program at minority.affairs@asanet.org or (202) 383-9005 x322 for 2007 application materials or to ask a question.

ASA Member-Get-A-Member Campaign a Success

The 2006 ASA Member-Get-A-Member campaign concluded on July 15. Current ASA members sponsored 102 new members for 2006, moving the Association closer to its goal of 14,000 members by September 30. (As of September 15, 2006, ASA membership stands at 14,109.)

For every new non-student member sponsored during the campaign, sponsors will receive a $10 discount on their 2007 member dues. In addition, every member who sponsored a new member (student or non-student) was entered into a drawing to win a $500 Amazon.com gift certificate. Congratulations to the winner, Manolo Guzman (Marymount Manhattan College).

The ASA extends its gratitude to all participating sponsors in the 2006 Member-Get-A-Member campaign and throughout the year.

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