There is one sociological aspect of the Back Bay story that was not recognized until the primary historical sources were examined in a new light. For many years, the motivations for filling the former tidal marsh were thought to have been only the extreme crowding of the city and the severe pollution after it was cut off from the Charles River in 1821 by a long dam designed to tap tidal power. Social class motivations, however, added to the sense of urgency and accounted for how the Back Bay was developed as an exclusive enclave for wealthy Protestant families.

Social Class Motivations for Planning

Understanding social class motivations in planning for the Back Bay project requires looking at the demographic and social changes of the 1850s. Census and examining the reactions of community leaders to that Census. The City of Boston was sufficiently concerned to commission a special report by a Dr. Chickerling on "some facts and considerations relating to the foreign population [his italics] among us, and especially in the City of Boston. The increase of foreigners among us of late has rendered this object of inquiry one of importance to the interest of the City." (Boston City Document 42, 1850). Although filling the Back Bay is not mentioned in Chickerling’s report, he clearly indicates the need to keep native-born residents in Boston so that the “foreign class” will not completely dominate the City.

While large numbers of poor Irish immigrants came to Boston, in 1855 an estimated 40,000 business and professional men were
Access to higher education for older adults

Americans aged 55–79 have a strong interest in college-level learning, but their needs for education vary greatly and many barriers exist, according to an American Council on Education (ACE) study. The report, Framing New Terrain: Older Adults and Higher Education, explores the changing demographics of this group, examines educational obstacles, and frames discussions designed to shape policies and practices that best serve older adults. It is the first report from the ACE research project, “Reinventing in the Third Age: Older Adults and Higher Education.” The report finds that older adults are “beginning to articulate new postsecondary education goals,” including career retooling and fulfilling unrealized dreams. The report raises a series of questions designed to help higher education and other sectors develop a broader vision to create greater postsecondary access and success in a rapidly aging nation. Copies of the report are available free at <www.acenet.edu/Content/NavigationMenu/ProgramsServices/CLLL/Reinventing/Reinventingfinal.pdf>.

UN, Google, Cisco collaborate to help higher education and other sectors

In November, the United Nations launched a new website powered by Google and Cisco, designed to help higher education and other sectors meet the eight goals of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for slashing poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, and other social ills by 2015. The creators of the website (www.mdgmonitor.org) said that a user-friendly monitoring portal should spur success. MDG Monitor is a web application that tracks real-time progress toward the Goals in a number of categories in nearly every country. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that the site would, for the first time, present all the information on the goals in one place, allowing closer monitoring and helping identify places in need of greater attention. The site gathers statistics to give a snapshot of how each country is doing in meeting the eight goals.

Leaks in academic pipeline lead to minority faculty candidates being overlooked

An increasing percentage of researchers from under-represented minority groups are receiving PhDs in science-related disciplines, but the increases are not leading to improved numbers on the faculties of the top U.S. universities, speakers said at an October Capitol Hill briefing organized by AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science) and the American Chemical Society. The speakers were reporting on the results from the survey, “A National Analysis of Minorities in Science and Engineering Faculties at Research Universities,” released at the briefing that showed critical leaks in the academic pipeline. The numbers demonstrate that many top-tier research universities are not hiring qualified underrepresented minorities. The results of the 2007 survey were presented by University of Oklahoma chemistry Professor Donna Nelson. The survey found that the low numbers of under-represented minority faculty members in science and engineering departments are not due simply to the low numbers of blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans pursuing those fields. Rather, it found that the academic path from BS degrees to tenured faculty members loses under-represented minorities at each step. Sociology fared best in retaining minority scholars, with 9.5% of sociology PhDs awarded to blacks between 1996 and 2005 and blacks holding 12% of assistant professorships in the field in 2007. However, most disciplines show drops in the percent- ages of minorities receiving PhDs versus obtaining tenure-track professor positions. For the full report, see <cheminfo.chem.ou.edu/faculty/djn/diversity/Faculty_Tables_FI0707Report.pdf>.

New senior advisor joins NIH

Helen Meissner has been named senior advisor in the National Institutes of Health’s Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), effective Sept. 30, 2006 (Footnotes 403). She will be responsible for social, public health, and population-based initiatives.

“Dr. Meissner brings a wealth of experience and expertise in social and population approaches to health promotion and disease prevention,” said OBSSR director David Abrams. “Her knowledge of the complex factors that influence health will be critical to achieving our vision of addressing the most pressing public health issues and improving our nation’s health and well-being.” She served as chief of National Cancer Institute’s Applied Cancer Screening Research Branch since 2000. Her research interests include social, socioeconomic and environmental influences on health care delivery, development of methods and refinement of measures to improve evaluation of interventions and eliminate health disparities. She received both her ScM in public health education and her PhD in social and behavioral sciences from Johns Hopkins University’s Bloomberg School of Public Health.
Members of the Republican Party have a history of publicly displaying their faith and integrating their religious beliefs into social policy to gain support among certain religious audiences. In contrast, the Democratic Party has been reluctant to embrace a similar campaign strategy. According to a June 2006 report by the Pew Research Center, “the Democratic Party is continuing to face a ‘God problem,’ with just 26% (of those polled) saying the party is friendly to religion.”

In the 2008 presidential election, John Kerry famously refused to discuss his relationship with religion and the role of faith in his policy decisions. His refusal was seen as a reason for his defeat in the election, with conservative New York Times columnist David Brooks arguing (June 24, 2004) that the average American feels that “Their President doesn’t have to be a saint, but he does have to be a pilgrim. He does have to be engaged, as they are, in a personal voyage toward God.” When asked about his reluctance to discuss religion in his campaign, Kerry stated “I probably should have.”

Kerry’s candidacy will probably be the last where a lack of integrating faith is an issue. On June 6, 2007, the first debate among leading Democratic candidates about religion and the role of faith in their public lives occurred. Sponsoring by Sojourners Call for Renewal (a liberal evangelical group headed by Jim Wallis), the forum was live on CNN’s Situation Room and included 15-minute segments with Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, and former Senator John Edwards. This was the first public discussion for Democrats on the role of faith in their lives and political decisions. It was historical for bringing Democratic candidates much closer to their Republican counterparts on their willingness to discuss the issues of God and politics. Candidates were asked tough and often very personal questions, such as “What is the greatest sin you ever committed?” Probably the most pivotal moment of the evening came when Senator Clinton was asked what role faith played in dealing with her husband’s infidelity. She answered, “I’m not sure I would have gotten through it without my faith. [I] had a growing-in-faith kind of thing that gave me the courage and the strength to do what I thought was right, regardless of what the world thought.” This discussion marked a public announcement of the new direction Democratic candidates will likely take in the future.

The sponsors of the event, while a non-partisan political group, have goals closely aligned with the Democratic Party. Sojourners and Walla represent a new and intra-party direction for the Party, one that looks at religion and religious believers, not with skepticism, but as an integral part to both the political base and as useful in advancing their policy agenda. This renewed interest in religion has been building since 2004.

Bringing Faith into the Picture

In 2004, Nancy Pelosi formed the Democratic “Faith Working Group.” Since becoming the majority leadership in 2007, the Democrats have had three meetings of the Faith Working Group, all of which I have attended. At the work- ing group meetings, a new emphasis on the importance of religion and religious voters to the Democratic Party has been present. The focus is on people’s faith and how that can be translated into political success for issues relating to poverty, health care, and education. Groups such as Sojourners have been part of this forum and advocate for a “moral” frame around specific policy measures, such as Children’s Health Insurance Program, arguing that true Christian goals are not giving tax cuts to the rich but helping “the least of these.”

Republicans have found success using a strategy of politics built on religious ideals, whether a similar strategy will have the same impact for Democrats remains to be seen. Evangelical leaders were quick to criticize the forum with some religious conservatives arguing that the “religious left” is a myth. However, according to the Pew Research Center, the religious left consists of about 7% of the public, which is comparable to the 11% who identify themselves as members of the “religious right” (see: <people-press.org/reports/display.php3?ReportID=287>). The importance of these numbers, and what they can mean for political races, is why the Democratic Party is banking on 2008.

By having an open discussion of religion, Democratic candidates can re-connect with their base and African-American political base, as well as religious conservatives previously unreachable. Unfortunately for the Democratic Party there is still much work to be done. Pew found that only about one in four (26%) voters say that the Democratic Party is friendly to religion, while 42% think it is neutral, and 20% say it is unfriendly. Overall, nearly seven in ten Americans (69%) say liberals have gone too far in trying to keep religion out of the schools and government. By arguing for social policies based on certain religious principles, such as helping the least of these, the Democratic Party can connect with religious voters and their base.

Secularism in Politics

Unlike Republicans, whose base relies on people who are more religiously active, the Democratic Party, at least partially, relies on a base that feels religion and government should be separate. Among Democrats, 45% say religion has a greater impact on government today, but 28% say this is a bad thing rather than a good thing (14%). Additionally, Democrats are overwhelmingly secular, broadly defined as those who attend church seldom (favor- ing Democrats 60% to 38%) or never (67% to 30%), leaving Republicans with a “secular problem.” Even though Democrats were less favored by regular churchgoers, the secular vote is actually roughly equal to the regular churchgo- ing vote, and the trends among them are even more devoutly Democratic than the religious are Republicans (see: www.huffingtonpost.com/bill-scher/the-conservatives-secular-b_425359.html). This renewed focus on religion, especially in the public square, may lead many to question what role religion should play in politics and public life, as well as where the line between church and state should be drawn. While this has been a continual debate and feature of American political life since the republic began, this new focus on the religion by the party that once called itself “the party of the 19th century” led to renewed questions about religion’s role in government. These questions are especially important when examined in the larger context of global religious and political events currently impacting the world, and not necessarily for the best. The event from Max Weber’s prediction that religion and the sublime would be replaced by rationality and secularization. Instead, a new awaken- ing to the power of religion is making a difference, not only in our personal lives, but also in the public square.

Social Scientist Receives Presidential Medal of Freedom

President George W. Bush awarded the nation’s highest civilian award, to economist and Nobel Laureate Gary S. Becker. On November 5, 2007, “His pioneering analysis of the interaction between economics and such diverse topics as education, demography, and family organization has earned him worldwide respect and a Nobel Prize,” said the President. Becker, University of Chicago Professor of Economics and Sociology, also won the Nobel Prize in Economics, the National Medal of Science, as well as numerous other awards.

Social Scientist Awarded the 2008 Joseph W. Cullen Memorial Award

David Abrams, the Director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), National Institutes of Health, was elected to receive the prestigious 2008 Joseph W. Cullen Memorial Award from the American Society for Preventive Oncology (ASPO). Abrams will accept the award and give the Joseph W. Cullen Memorial Award Lecture on March 17, 2008, at the ASPO Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD. The award is given for his “outstanding contribution to the field of tobacco research.” It was created to memorialize Cullen’s contributions to national tobacco control, particularly in his capacity as the Program Coordinator for the National Cancer Institute’s Smoking, Tobacco, and Cancer Program from 1982-89. The award recognizes distinguished achievement in continued national tobacco control efforts throughout research, the development of prevention and cessation programs with wide ranging public health impact, and public policy and advocacy initiatives. Prior to joining OBSSR, Abrams was Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and Professor of Community Health at Brown University Medical School, and co-director of Transdisciplinary Research at Brown-affiliated Butler Hospital. He holds Masters and Doctoral degrees in Clinical Psychology from Rutgers University. Abrams was the founding Director of the Centers for Behavioral and Preventive Medicine at Brown, and leader for 16 years. He is a licensed clinical psychologist, specializ- ing in health psychology/behavioral and preventive medicine. “Abrams has served a unique role as an ‘ambassador of behavioral and social science’ in the nation’s science policy capital,” said ASPO Executive Officer Sally Hillman. “ Reasoned and scientifically informed voices such as his build valuable credibility and distinction for our disciplines’ scientific work.” Abrams is a past President of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, a fellow and a recipient of the Society’s distin- guished scientist award, a fellow of the American Psychological Association, and a member of the Board of Scientific Advisors of the National Cancer Institute.

Send 2009 Session Suggestions

Kalleberg Engages Campuses During His Presidential Year

A SA President Arne L. Kalleberg is honoring the country's visiting sociology departments and associations ascertaining the state of the discipline. In November, he delivered a public lecture and met with sociology faculty and students at Texas A&M University. When Kalleberg and Jean H. Shin, Director of the ASA Minority Affairs Program, visited Texas A&M they got a first-hand look at the growth of sociology as a program as well as overall diversity initiatives on campus. According to Kalleberg, what "many sociology departments are doing with regard to increasing diversity goes hand in hand with excellence in research and teaching, and it is clear that Texas A&M has struck a real and remarkable balance in this realm." Kalleberg and Shin learned about the relative strength of sociology within the liberal arts program through discussions with Texas A&M chair Mark Fossett who stated that there have been concerted efforts over the past decade to diversify both the faculty and student body, and that the sociology department has been recognized as a true university leader in this regard. Kalleberg and Shin had group discussions with a large cadre of senior and junior faculty members about strategies for achieving diversity goals in the graduate and undergraduate curriculum as well as in faculty hiring and retention. Shin conducted a workshop for undergraduate students on careers in sociology, which was sponsored by the department's Alpha Kappa Delta chapter, and was followed by one for graduate students about the academic job market as well as opportunities through the Minority Fellowship Program. The one-day visit was capped by Kalleberg's lecture, "‘Work’ and ‘Workers’ in the South: Challenges and Prospects," which was given to a full audience from across campus as well as invited visitors from other institutions. He described the uniqueness of the South with regard to issues facing a range of workers and workplaces, and outlined possible strategies for reducing the gap in the quality of jobs available to both urban and rural residents.

And on to Mississippi

In April, Kalleberg will deliver another public lecture at Jackson State University in Mississippi. The Jackson State lecture will focus on "The Role of Sociology in the 21st Century" and provide a backdrop on the possible contributions of sociology in various sectors—domestic and international. While visiting Jackson State, Kalleberg aims to tie together a significant interest by ASA in further engaging Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) overall, with recognition of Jackson State's particular role as a leading institution in the social sciences for the greater region. Thomas C. Calhoun, chair of the criminal justice and sociology department, will serve as host for the visit, which will include meetings with campus administrators, faculty in the department, and invited representatives from HBCU institutions in the surrounding area. Shin will accompany Kalleberg to Jackson State and offer workshops and MFP outreach to both graduate and undergraduate students.

Apply Now for the Sorokin Lecture Series

The Sorokin Lecture has been a long-standing opportunity for a distinguished ASA member to deliver a lecture at a regional sociological society meeting. Since 1967, each year the winner of the ASA Distinguished Scholarly Publication Award has traveled to a regional association to speak about the book that had been honored. A restricted fund, named for past ASA President Pitirim Sorokin, underwrote the costs for the visiting lecturer.

As part of the planning for ASAs centennial, ASA Council discussed ways in which the Association could extend sociological knowledge to new audiences, including students, faculty in other fields, and interested community members. After some discussion, the Council decided to modify the existing Sorokin Lectureship to achieve greater outreach potential in three ways.

First, the Sorokin Lectureship now includes more possible lecturers. Any of the winners of major ASA awards in the past seven years are eligible to be hosts for the lecture. Second, the list of organizations eligible to host a lecture has expanded from regional sociological societies to include any sociological society, and even college campuses. Third, ASA now funds up to four lectures per year instead of a single lecture as in past years. These changes should provide a vibrant road show in which to share the sociological message.

Applications Process

Any of the winners of major ASA awards in the past two calendar year are eligible to be hosts for a lecture at a state, regional, or aligned sociological association meeting, or on campus. ASA would cover the costs of travel and up to two days of hotel costs. The host would cover registration (if applicable) and meals. Contingent upon available funding, the ASA can support up to four such lecture trips each calendar year.

To apply, send a letter of inquiry with specific information about the event and the audience as well as the lecturer preferred. Executive officers or presidents of associations, or faculty (with chair's support) in departments may apply to host a lecturer. Submit these materials and any questions to:

Michael R. Murphy
Executive and Governance Sections
American Sociological Association
1307 New York Avenue, NW, #700
Washington, DC 20005
202-544-0050 x327
Murphy@asanet.org

Please plan early. Preference will be given as always to those who have not previously hosted a lecturer. Applications are due January 2008.
ASA Awards Small Grants in Sociology

The American Sociological Association is pleased to announce nine new grants from the June 2007 review cycle of the FAD Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD), a competitive small grants program co-funded by ASA and the National Science Foundation (NSF) and administered by the ASA. FAD awards provide seed money (up to $7,000) to PhD scholars for innovative research projects and for scientific conferences that advance the discipline through theoretical and methodological breakthroughs. Funding decisions are made by an Advisory Panel comprised of members of ASA’s Council and the ASA Director of Research and Development. In this round, the Advisory Panel decided to fund a higher number of proposals at smaller amounts. Below is a list of the latest FAD Principal Investigators (PIs) and a brief description of their projects.

Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Brown University, for Civic Participation, Civil Resistance, and Transition to Democracy in Brazil, Spain, and Mexico. This project focuses on the decline in the power and autonomy of national states and the growth of power and autonomy of local governments due to an expanded global economy and the growth of supranational organizations. The purpose of this project, the first step in a larger project, is to understand how local participatory democracy emerges and how it affects the quality of civic participation and the effectiveness of governance in three new democracies: Brazil, Spain, and Mexico. The grant will fund a workshop with lead investigators from each country who will discuss the state of the field, provide an overview of existing data sources, and suggest potential research sites. The outcome of the first stage of this project is the production of a full-scale research proposal to be pursued in 2008.

Kerry R. Burchfeld, Northern Illinois University, for Not in My Neighborhood: Assessing Displacement of Sex Offenders’ Experiences with Local Social Capital and Social Control. Prior research suggests that community regulation laws for sex offenders have little effect on offender’s recidivism or resident’s safety and might have negative consequences due to the shame, fear, and stigma they produce. This project will survey offenders residing in IL, a state in which intensive monitoring and house arrest prevent interaction with members of the local community; to analyze whether they were able to gain social capital, become involved in community networks, and their experiences with residential mobilization while on parole. The PI hypothesizes that the limitations on social capital formation will result in recidivism.

Mary E. Campbell, University of Iowa, for Stress and Ethnic Misclassification by Observers. The purpose of this project is to lay a foundation to study the effects of misclassification or mismatch between others “observed” ethnic identities and individual’s own perceived ethnic identities. Specifically, the project examines the stress white and Latina subjects experience when others perceive their race differently than they do. Individuals report stress and their physiological stress (that is, the level of cortisol present in the individual’s saliva) is measured when an interaction partner strictly conce- rectly classifies a subject’s identity. The PI hypothesizes that stress will be greater when ethnic identity is central to subject’s identity and when misclassification results in status loss.

William V. D’Antonio, Catholic University of America, and Steven A. Tuch, George Washington University, for Religion, Culture Wars, and Polarization in the U.S. Congress, 1973-2006. The purpose of this project is to investigate whether religion heightened polarization among members of Congress over the past four decades around issues such as gay rights, abortion, and separation of church and state. To determine whether an issue, such as abortion, is so divisive that polarization in Congress results, the PI will track all call-rolls on abortion-related legislation considered in the 92nd through the 109th congressional sessions by party and religious groups to assess the relative importance of each. They hypothesize that over time the strength of religion has declined and that of party has increased.

Stephen Lippmann, Miami University, for The Social and Cultural Origins of the Radio Broadcasting Industry in the United States. The purpose of this project is to examine the social and cultural dynamics that contributed to the emergence and evolution of the radio broadcasting industry in the United States from 1900-1934. The PI proposes to synthesize neo-institutional theory and social movement theory in his effort to explain the importance of factors such as social network connections, competing organizational master frames, and the alignment of those frames with those of industry leaders and policymakers. He will examine the importance of human agency in the processes of cultural framing and organizational development. The PI will use historical sources to examine all of these dynamics.

Andrew London, Syracuse University, for Military Service, Social (Dis)Advantage, and the Life Course. According to the PI, there are numerous unanswered questions concerning how military service directly and indirectly affects life-course trajectories including marriage, divorce, health, fertility, mortality, and socio-economic status. For example, does military service reshape early childhood disadvantage? There are numerous longitudinal data sets that can be used to answer these questions. The purpose of this project is to hold a conference to create new collaborative net- works that will stimulate new empirical and methodological studies concerning this understudied but significant social institution.

Leah Schmalzbauer, Montana State University, for Off the Migratory Map: Uncovering Unknown Family Survival Strategies. The purpose of this project is to study Latino incorporation and family survival in southwestern Montana, a non-gateway immigrant settlement area. Among the major questions to be addressed are how immigrant families survive without the benefit of ethnic enclaves. George Washington University, study survival strategies, and how the reception of these immigrants affects assimilation. According to the PI, the answers to these questions should lead to a new theoretical framework of immigrant incorporation in non-gateway areas.

Jane Sell, Texas A&M University, and Carla Goar, Northern Illinois University, for Exploring Experimental Investigations of Race/Ethnicity in Sociology. According to the PIs, experimental sociologists have not made a major contribution to the theoretical literature on race and ethnic- ity, especially in the study of groups rather than individuals. In order to increase the contribution of experimental research, the PIs propose a conference where partici- pants will identify incentives and barriers to experimental research in this area, map out topics that can be studied experimentally, and foster collaborations among established and new experimenters.

Steve Zavestoski, University of San Francisco, for Embodied Health Movements and Transnational Social Movements: Linking the Local and Transnational through the Spread of Environmental Hazards. According to the PI, because many embodied health movements organize around contestations over the discovery, definition, cause, treatment, and prevention of environmental causes of illness, the research contributes to environmental sociology. Research on transnational social movement organiza- tions makes important contributions to the understanding of new global institu- tions and their domination by NGOs in the North. The PI proposes to bridge these two areas by focusing on social movement organizations in the global South, their formations, and their domination by NGOs in the North.

ASA needs to increase member contri- butions to the FAD program to carry on at its current level. This ASA-NSF program rewards scholars at all levels and all types of institutions for cutting-edge research and conferences. Send contributions to FAD, c/o Business Office, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Ave., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005- 4701, or call Girma Efs at (202) 383- 9005, ext. 306. Additional information is available on the ASA homepage at <www.asanet.org> (click on “Funding”). The program director, Roberta Spalter Roth, can be reached at spalter-roth@asanet.org.

“[The love ballad] I’m about to sing will pose a list of uncomfortable questions about gender identity and class-based issues. I hope you can handle it.”

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This and other sociology-related cartoons are available in ASA: The Sociologist’s Book of Cartoons, available through the ASA online bookstore, <www.asanet.org/bookstore>.
Achieving the Dream: Helping Community Colleges Focus on Student Success

by Jamie Panzarella, ASA Publications Department

Community colleges today face the challenge of a recruiting and pleasurable environment for almost half of all undergraduate students in the United States. Within this large student population, resides a significant proportion of low-income, minority, and first generation college students. In 2002, 47% of African American students, 56% of Hispanic students, and 57% of Native American students were enrolled in community college programs, according to Achieve the Dream. Achieving the Dream is a multiyear project focused on the student, and it aims to help him or her reach individual goals. With a large and diverse student body, understanding students and meeting their individual needs is a daunting undertaking.

Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges, Learning, and Engaging are key words for improving the success of community college students in 2004. The initiative primarily focuses on minority and low-income students. It concentrates on enrollment, and takes a look at the larger picture, focusing on students and their academic success. Developing longitudinal data, Achieving the Dream tracks a cohort of students and compiles the data in a national database. Researchers use this database to analyze trends and students’ progress.

Norwalk Community College

In 2005, Norwalk Community College was one of the first community colleges to join the Achieving the Dream initiative. Norwalk President David Levinson has been a supporter of this initiative at his college and beyond. As a sociologist, Levinson praises the initiative’s work, calling it a “research-oriented initiative that really pushes institutions to be data driven when it comes to decision making.” He sees it as “taking the worlds of research methodology and scholarly analysis and applying it to the everyday concerns that we have in terms of providing access and hopefully suc-

A majority of the colleges that joined the initiative in 2004 found a need to improve educational development. Data showed . . . low rates of passing and retention in current courses.

... need to improve educational development. Data showed . . .

Sociologie Française

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research was inspired by social interaction, the reception of which increased at that time. Starting in the 1980s, the introduction of ethnomet hodology, social studies of science, and philosophical pragmatism led to a number of French sociologists to develop new notions. These included the multiplicity of the self (Pollak, Dubet, Lhaire), the reflexive capacities of individuals (Boltanski), the role played by objects and material equipment in the agency (Latour, Callon), or the importance of a situation’s constraints compared with the overestimated weight of socialization (Friedberg, Quérot, Thévenot). Simultaneously, French sociologists, even when they remained within one of the four original paradigms, became more open to interacting (mostly American) sociological innovations and to advancing in other social sciences.

The merging of the sociological mind- scape was amplified by institutional evolu-
ychanges, particularly in political sociology, have stimulated international research programs based on a comparison of “community colleges” in different countries. Consequently, the new generation of French sociologists adopts an international comparative approach on “community college” policies, and engages in debates about such issues as urban segregation, school perfor-
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The opening of the sociological mind...
Public Sociology

Sociology translates to public action

This occasional column highlights sociologists who successfully engage sociology in the civic arena in service to teaching about and communities. Over the years, members of ASA and sociologists as individual professionals and citizens have sought to make the knowledge we generate directly relevant to our communities, countries, and the world community. Many sociologists, within the academy and in other sectors, practice the translation of expert knowledge to numerous critical issues through consultation, advisement, testimony, commentary, writing, and participation in a variety of activities and venues. Readers are invited to submit contributions, but consult with Managing Editor Johanna Oleyx (olexy@asanet.org, 202-383-9005 x312) prior to submitting your draft (1,000 to 1,200 words maximum).

Genocide—It Is My Problem

by Ellen J. Kennedy,
Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, University of Minnesota

For several years I have taught a sociology course about the genocide in Rwanda. I am also fascinated—and appalled—by the fact that coffee is grown in some of the world’s poorest nations for consumption by people in the richest ones.

Two years ago I met Greg, a coffee importer in Minnesota, who mentioned that he was going to Rwanda. He had invested money in a small coffee cooperative in the Lake Kivu area, where death and destruction had been particularly horrific during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Prior to the genocide, Rwanda’s economy was almost entirely dependent on coffee and its economic decline in the early 1990s was an important factor contributing to the genocide.

Although I had been teaching about Rwanda for a while, I had never been there. My combined interests in the genocide and coffee were too much for me to resist. I asked Greg if I could join him on the trip. He said yes, so I spent two weeks in Rwanda in the summer of 2005, which changed my life.

A student from Rwanda’s national university accompanied us as our translator. Alice is the same age as my daughter Louisa. Alice and Louisa are a lot alike: they both love studying other languages, they like school, and they enjoy travel. That is where their similarities end.

Alice is Rwandan. One day in 1994, Alice’s mother sent her to the next village to carry water. When Alice returned, she discovered the mutilated bodies of her mother and father, her 12-year-old sister, and her 9-year-old brother. At the age of 14 she became, quite literally, all alone in the world.

One day Alice and I went to a memorial for those who had lost their lives in the genocide. Behind the memorial was a Quonset hut. I walked in and saw a single room with a large table. The table was covered with skulls with machete marks. These were victims’ remains that had been found in the nearby forest and had not yet been properly buried.

The rawness of the brutality that had occurred, and Alice’s presence as testament to that loss, completely engulled me and I broke down. Alice gently put her arms around me and quietly said, “You don’t have to look at this. This isn’t your problem. This is our problem.” Her words haunted me for months.

Alice asked me to tell her story when I came home. She said it was the only way she could feel that her family didn’t die in vain. I passed her story on through talks to undergraduate classes. Shortly after that, she confided in me that she could feel that her family didn’t die in vain. I passed her story on through talks to undergraduate classes. Shortly after that, she confided in me that she could feel that her family didn’t die in vain.

When I think back over my life, I was destined to head in this direction. Growing up as a Jew in a small northern Michigan mining town, I was keenly aware of my minority religious status. Growing up in the immediate post-World War II years, I had a fearful sense of the legacy of Nazism. More by coincidence than design, I have visited some of the sites of the world’s worst horrors: Cambodia’s killing fields, Auschwitz, Hiroshima, and Rwanda.

I believe that genocide is the most horrific of all crimes being perpetrated not on people but on a people, threatening them with extinction solely because of who they are—race, religion, ethnicity, or national identity.

I define what I do as public sociology. As Michael Burawoy said, sociology’s unique contribution to social science lies “in its defense of human interests against the encroachment of states and markets.”2 I am committed to raising awareness about mass atrocities and to empowering individuals and communities to prevent or stop genocide. I work to encourage divestment from companies that support genocide. We lobby our officials in Washington to pass laws that will enhance security and aid for those at risk. We urge our national and world leaders to support a United Nations resolution, enacted in 2005, for intervention when nations are unable or unwilling to protect their own citizens against mass atrocities.

The defense of human interests is up to each of us. ASA members have passed resolutions decrying war, discrimination, and other forms of injustice. We can also take a stand against genocide.

For more information, see the Genocide Intervention Network Minnesota (www.mng.org), the Genocide Intervention Network national site (www.genocideintervention.net), and Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, University of Minnesota.

Continué

(From page 6)

(e.g., “affirmative action” or “sexual harassment”) is another important issue (Sabbagh, Sapiro).

French sociology is in a state of transformation, yet some traits of the past still remain. Particularly, a style of research characterized by robust empirical studies. This style uses different methods: Quantitative ones of course (Chauvel, Vannelet) but with an overall preference for qualitative methods; conceptualization within a traditional philosophical discourse; and theory building, either at the intermediate or the general level. Such a combination is a distinctive feature that needs to be promoted in an international context and within the general standards of evaluation (sometimes seen as threatening), particularly the emphasis on quantitative methods and the priority given to the production of empirical data over analytical frameworks.

Beyond the often significant differences and mutual analytical incompatibilities between contemporary French sociologists, the emic-experiential concept of sociological research remains a unifying principle inherited from an author considered the founding father of the French (and beyond) sociological tradition: Emile Durkheim.

Editor’s Note: Complete bibliographical references are available on request to the authors; contact Cyril Lemieux at clemieux@msh-paris.fr.

New International Footnotes Column

Submit ideas for Footnotes’ International Perspectives

Footnotes invites contributions from knowledgeable non-North American sociologists on the state of the discipline and profession of sociology in countries outside North America for publication in a new occasional column, “International Perspectives.” Sociological analyses of significant national events in these countries that would be of interest to North American sociologists are welcome for publication. Original contributions must be in English and no more than 900-1,100 words. Published content will be the property of the American Sociological Association and available in both print and online editions of Footnotes. To discuss possible contributions or send material, contact: Lee Herring, Associate Editor (herring@asanet.org) or Johanna Oleyx, Managing Editor (olexy@asanet.org).

Footnotes \ January 2008

Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families. I had shown pictures from my trip and had talked about Alice. The class also had a service-learning partnership with a school for immigrants and refugees, many who had fled from similar atrocities in their own countries.

I asked her, “What are we going to do about this?” Her question troubled me greatly. I had no reply. I honestly thought I was doing something—teaching and educating about genocide—in my classes and in the broader community—and encouraging people to learn more about the world and to become better global citizens.

Ina’s question suggested two things. First, education alone was not enough. And second, she expected that I’d have an answer. I had no answer. At least not for a long time.

While reading a newsletter from the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota, I saw a small notice about the Genocide Intervention Network (GI-Net), an organization dedicated to raising awareness about the current genocide in Darfur. GI-Net was founded at Swarthmore College by Mark Hanis, the grandson of four Holocaust survivors.

I made a few calls and decided that perhaps the GI-Net might answer Ina’s question. I organized and distributed notices for a meeting of interested students who had no idea what to expect. At that first meeting we had 17 students, but GI-Net now operates at the state level and has more than 800 people involved and has raised more than $100,000 to improve security and safety for women and girls in Darfur.

A Life Dedicated to Human Rights

Two years later, I left academia to become the Minnesota state coordinator for the Genocide Intervention Network. We educate people throughout the state about genocide and the Darfur conflict, teach ordinary individuals how to advocate with their legislators at city, state, and national levels; and raise funds to support the African Union peace-keeping forces in Darfur.

In Minnesota, public schools are mandated to teach about the Holocaust and the Armenian genocide. I connect with teachers throughout the state to provide curricular materials and other support for their classroom activities. I’ve received an award from my city for contributions to human rights. Students who work with me have been honored by the state for their efforts.

When I think back over my life, I was destined to head in this direction. Growing up as a Jew in a small northern Michigan mining town, I was keenly aware of my minority religious status. Growing up in the immediate post-World War II years, I had a fearful sense of the legacy of Nazism. More by coincidence than design, I have visited some of the sites of the world’s worst horrors: Cambodia’s killing fields, Auschwitz, Hiroshima, and Rwanda.

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American Sociological Association
Garfinkel Recognized for a Lifetime of Achievement

by Doug Maynard, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Harold Garfinkel, Emeritus Professor at the University of California-Los Angeles, was the first recipient of the ASA Section on Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis award for lifetime achievement. He was given this award for his ground-breaking contributions to the fields of sociology and ethnomethodology more specifically.

Garfinkel’s 1967 book, *Studies in Ethnomethodology*, went through nine printings by Prentice Hall, and after 40 years is still in print at Paradigm Press. A recent Web of Knowledge search on this monograph turned up an astonishing 3,000 references. Since the Studies publication, Garfinkel continued to publish in various journals—Ethnomethodology Quarterly, Sociological Theory, Philosophy of the Social Sciences among them—and in edited collections. He has recently published two additional monographs—*Ethnomethodological Psychology* (2002) and *Seeing Sociologically* (2005). His publications continue to spur secondary accounts in textbooks of many kinds as well as citations in ongoing primary research.

It is an understatement to say that the field of ethnomethodology, and Garfinkel’s work in particular, have profoundly inspired all areas of discipline. The includes theory, sociology of science and technology, social psychology (Garfinkel was the recipient of the 1996 Corder Mead award), sociology of social problems, sociology of gender (Garfinkel’s classic study of a transsexual and his influence on standpoint epistemology), and many other areas.

There are few, if any, contemporary sociologists whose theoretical perspectives on our discipline compare to those of Garfinkel. Gazuing into the crystal ball, it is safe to say that his work will continue to be recognized and used in a variety of domains for years to come. Simply put, he is one of the leading sociologists of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. In the view of the Section, Garfinkel was more than deserving of the Lifetime Achievement Award, which was created in recognition of the Section’s award ceremony last August.

Boston’s Back Bay

from page 1

commuting daily by train from the growing suburbs. Boston’s population was 53% foreign-born people and their children (Boston City Document 69, 1855). The Protestant leaders of Boston and Massachusetts feared that the city might soon be taken over by Catholic immigrants.

The protestant element was related to the dominance of the American Party (the “Know-Nothing”) in Massachusetts when the Back Bay plans were finalized. The American Party governor from 1854-57, Henry J. Gardner, warned of dangers from the “hordes of foreign-born” (John Muller 1999).

After a struggle with the City of Boston for control over the project, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts appointed three commissioners in 1852 to plan and carry out the filling of the Back Bay. Boston lost its right to develop any of the area, but the boundary line with Roxbury was moved westward to put most of the new neighborhood in Boston. The commissioners rejected two imaginative plans for the Back Bay that called for retaining bodies of water. In 1856, the commissioners divided the landfill project and determined that the 100 most valuable acres would be filled by the Commonwealth.

Social Class Motivations for Development

Social class motivations are clear in the commissioners’ descriptions of how they developed the final plan. “We listened with attention to the suggestions of several gentlemen of taste and judgment who appeared before us. Some of these gentlemen were among those who design purchasing lots in the territory when it is filled” (Massachusetts Senate Document 17, 1857).

As a result of this process, Commonwealth Avenue was made more than 50% wider than originally planned. The Commission set aside about one-third of the area for public parks and clearly stated the social motive of attracting appropriate residents: “It is obviously a matter of the utmost moment that a good system of streets, avenues, and public squares shall be adopted, in order to make the territory as attractive as possible, and induce people about to build houses to select lots in this locality” (Massachusetts Senate Document 17, 1857).

Evidence of social class motivations in the selecting process is also seen in the selection of appropriate churches and other institutions for the Back Bay and the reservation of key pieces of land for them. For example, no Catholic church was allowed in the Back Bay proper, but one was built west of today’s Iberaton Hotel, close enough for house servants to attend Mass nearby.

The Commission took care throughout the project to bring only the highest quality buyers and residents into the new Back Bay development. When and how hourse lots were sold was carefully calculated to restrict the district to wealthy Protestant families. At first, the commissioners paid the contractors with land and sold the remaining lots at auction or in regular land sales. This kept the prices high enough to attract only wealthy buyers. In the first three years of the project, the commissioners sold 340,463 square feet, but then the market softened and no land was sold in 1861. After the State portion was filled, the large amount of unsold land was held off the market from 1874 through 1878 (Massachusetts Public Document 11, 1884).

It is important to note that the landfill process continued unabated through the Civil War.

The commissioners also used tight zoning regulations and strict enforcement to ensure that the Back Bay would be a wealthy neighborhood. Commercial establishments were only allowed on two streets, industries and commercial stables were prohibited, and houses had to be built of brick or stone and of consistent heights on streets. Zoning enforcement required the owners of two buildings to remove bay windows too close to sidewalks and alleys. Efforts to High-Status Population

The Commission succeeded at attracting the wealthiest Protestant families. Zoning and sales practices resulted in a uniformly high-status population, and a prime area was set aside and donated for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Museum of Natural History Copley Square, the most important public space after the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, was planned to establish its importance with the Museum of Fine Arts and two high-status Protestant churches, the massive Boston Public Library was built facing Copley Square in the early 1890s. Other churches and institutions linked with wealthy Protestant society built new facilities in the Back Bay, firmly establishing its place in “Proper Boston.”

When you walk the Back Bay’s leafy streets and window shop on Newbury Street, remember that this neighborhood did not “just happen.” Social class tensions and anti-immigrant politics shaped the plans more than 150 years ago. Steam power transformed hundreds of acres of polluted former tidal marsh. A Paris-inspired grand avenue and French architectural styles of the day set the elegant tone that survives in 2008. Enjoy the Back Bay with a richer understanding of its social history.

GO RED SOX!!
**ASA Forum for public discussion and debate**

On the Interpretation of Polls

Sociologists can do a major public service by helping our fellow citizens to understand the findings of public opinion polls. An example follows, in the hope of triggering a dialogue whether or not this is a public service sociologists should perform more often.

To those of us for whom the claim that the Israel lobby is all-powerful is not already established truisms or an ugly piece of anti-Semitism, the evidence presented in support of this claim matters a great deal. The lobby has more lobbies than a derelict dog has fleas. And, lobbying is a constitutionally protected activity. Hence, a pivotal question is whether the Israel lobby is significantly more powerful than the others.

A new book making this case has been written by two highly regarded scholars; John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt of the University of Chicago and Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, respectively. The authors write:

_In 1997, Fortune magazine asked members of Congress and their staffs to list the most powerful lobbies in Washington. AIPAC [American Israel Public Affairs Committee] was ranked second by the American Association of Retired Persons, but ahead of the AFL-CIO and the National Rifle Association. A National Journal study in March of 2005 reached a similar conclusion, placing AIPAC in second place (tied with AARP) in the Washington ‘muzzle rankings.’ In fact, Fortune’s survey was not made of Congress members and their staffs, but of 2,126 ‘Washington insiders,’ chosen by two panels whose membership has not been disclosed, which includes an unknown number of congressional mem-

bers and staffers, among an unknown number of others. In both surveys roughly six out of every seven people asked did not respond. The authors’ claim that members of Congress and their staffs ranked the Israel lobby more powerful than many others is based on the responses of 15% of those who were surveyed. I wonder if most of my colleagues would agree that this is not a proper generalization. (Also note that none of the numerous social science procedures for correcting for such a deficit of responses were employed)._  

The number of people who responded is so small that an additional vote or two, or a change of mind by one or two respondents, would have significantly altered the findings. The editorial remark of the National Journal responses—which surveyed only law makers—is 73. The National Federation of Independent Business was ranked first and the National Rifle Association second—with nine and eight votes, respectively. In third place was ranked a lobby not powerful by seven members, was the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The AARP and AIPAC were each given the nod by five members. The oil companies and the arms manufacturers were not on the list of those to be ranked.

What role should sociologists play in clarifying statistical procedures for those without social science training? What are the political and policy implications? Ami Etzioni is University Professor at The George Washington University and author of Security First: For a Muscular, Moral Foreign Policy (Yale University Press, 2007).

Another Take on AP or Not AP

In the December 2007 issue of _Footnotes_, Michael Mann wrote an article cataloging his findings on the inadequacy of regular sociology courses in high schools nation-

wide. He urgently recommends that high schools obtain local boards’ authorization for a regular sociology course taught by competent teachers in all high schools.

This first step would contribute to increasing the number of students taking sociology in high schools and, to the ben-

efit of sociology departments at many col-

leges and universities, it increases the number of students majoring in sociol-

ogy. To provide all high school students a regular sociology course, departments must interest students and get well trained teachers a worthy goal. Not only is the ASA vision of sociology for high school realizable, it would promote the relevance of sociology. The job market for sociology major-

wide will be welcoming a larger pool of sociology majors.

Because of the tight high school cur-

riculum, it is not guaranteed that a high school student will choose sociology. Additionally, in a society inspired by Protestant Ethics and the liberty and indi-

vidualism, a larger number of students prefer psychology to sociology in both high schools and college. The stake is too high for students and society to not pro-

vide opportunities for students to develop their sociological imagination, to see the structures behind the facade or beneath the surface in their social world. Believing in equality and valuing fairness and social justice are very much contingent on developing one’s sociological imagination and one’s critical thinking, which is one of the main purposes of an introductory sociology course. From this perspective, professionals should be helping students to become sociologists in all high schools.

The ability to attract not only a larger number students, but high-achieving high school students is a worthy goal too. One significant reason to institute a sociology AP in high school is to attract high-achieving students to the discipline and thus increase the probability that more high school students would major in sociology when they go to college. Not only would our sociology departments benefit from a large pool of majors, but they would also benefit from high-achieving students who may be motivated to pursue graduate studies in sociology.

Having a regular sociology course in all high schools would prepare a solid base for establishing a sociology AP. The latter would promote the relevance of sociology in today’s society in the eyes of high school students, their teachers, and parents. Having both a regular sociology and a sociology AP in high schools would enhance the effectiveness of developing the sociological imagina-

tion in high school students and ensure the greater probability of an increase in sociology majors.

TrVi Nguyen, La Salle University

More on the Sociology of Human Rights

While it is admirable to see the topic of sociology and human rights discussed in _Footnotes_, the article “The Sociology of Human Rights” (November 2007, 4) presents a rather truncated and ideologi-

cally tendentious cartography of this emer-

gent profession. In the first place, sociologists have been extremely active in _The Journal of Human Rights_, which I founded in 2001 and is published by Routledge.

In addition to being the first major journal in the field edited by a sociolo-

gist, fully one-fourth of the editorial staff are sociologists, which is remarkable in a field usually dominated by legal scholars and political scientists. Interdisciplinary research by sociologists, philosophers, anthropologists, political scientists, and others have built a broad new field with a distinctly sociological thrust, and it has been growing by leaps and bounds.

Moreover, the article implies the explicit dangers of linking the emer-

gent sociology of human rights to the ideological programs of “public sociol-

ogy.” Obviously, most scholars who study human rights would like to expand universal human rights. Yet, I see a drift in this emergent sociology of human rights and one that I assume to be (1) The preferred concep-

tion of universal human rights is social and economic rights, and (2) Somehow the United States is lagging behind other countries in regard to human rights or is “against” human rights. In the first case, in a Weberian sense, there is no possibility of generating a value preference for social and economic rights (the positive rights of welfare state democ-

racies) over individual rights (the negative rights of the American Bill of Rights). Such rights might lead to more social stability, less crime, etc., but it cannot be argued that they are somehow “better” than other kinds of rights or lead to more “freedom.” In the second case, many assume that the United States is not interested in human rights. There would be good reason to assume this, given some past relation-

ships with American administrations toward dictators and tyrants. Yet, to give one counterexample to this assumption, there are millions of Iraqis who have been at war for several years now with awoken enemies of human rights, with the United States as their ally. The United States is supporting the nascent Iraqi democracy, which has had free and fair elections and whose parliament is 25% female, among other accomplishments. The U.S. Congress is clearly not an American left— and American sociologists, in par-

cular—are prepared to abandon those in Iraq who have suffered to claim the human rights that they are entitled to. So who is, “for” or “against” human rights depends to a great extent on how human rights are defined. And who is considered worthy or unworthy of them. Why, for instance, are Darfuris entitled to our moral solidarity, while the Iraqis are to be abandoned? Like any other moral politics, we need to dig deep into the under-

standing of why we sociologists have the right to determine not only what rights are, but who should have them and who should not._

Michael DeCesare

**Concerning the W.E.B. DuBois Award for Distinguished Scholarship**

In 2007, the ASA made history. It awarded the first W.E.B. DuBois Career Award for Distinguished Scholarship to Joseph Berger of Stanford University, thus associating him with one of the towering intellectuals in world history. The award was a consequence of a two-year campaign culminating in a petition signed by over 600 members (including two-thirds of the ASA Council and 13 former ASA presi-
dents) urging an overwhelming vote of the ASA members.

The awards ceremony at the 2007 ASA Annual Meeting, however, degraded this historic moment by failing to acknowl-

edge it.

The name change reflected the mem-

bership’s view that DuBois is the exemplar that sociologists hope to emulate, not only because he was a founder of American sociology who developed new-standard methods, published many landmark stud-

ies, offered a distinct sociological perspectives that guide our thought today; but also because he was a public intellectual who successfully applied the best sociological thought to the cause of human progress and social justice.

The fact that DuBois was black is not irrelevant to his achievements or to the long delay in his acknowledgment as a founding intelligentsia in sociology. Because of his race, he was sensitized to the major challenges facing our discipline, and strongly motivated to address them. Because of racism within the discipline, he was largely unrecognised even as more and more sociologists worked with meth-

ods he pioneered and built upon his great insights. While his work imparts intellectual cur-

rents around the world, DuBois was an invisible man within sociology, exiled from an intellectual house that he did so much to build. Beginning in the 1980s there was a renaissance of explicitly DuBoisian scholar-

ship. In 2003 there was a plenary session devoted to his work. All this culminated when the membership voted to place his name on the career achievement award. The new award set an inspiring standard for our work, by linking it to DuBois’ ideas, as it had been before.

As Robert Newby pointed out in the November 2007 Footnotes Public Forum article, a curious anomaly marked the award at the 2007 ASA award ceremony. DuBois was rendered invisible once again. The award ceremony neglected to acknowledge that the recipients of the first W.E.B. DuBois Career Award were indeed honoring W.E.B. DuBois.
Thank You, ASA Members!

The American Sociological Association wishes to acknowledge the generous support of the following individuals, whose financial contributions to the Association during the 2007 membership year (October 16, 2006, through October 15, 2007) greatly aided in the success of its programs and initiatives. The donations given by these individuals to the ASA help support the Minority Fellowship Program, the Teaching Enhancement Fund, the Congressional Fellowship, the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline, the Social Science Merit Award, and ASA in General. These donations to ASA’s restricted funds have a significant impact on our discipline and profession. We encourage ASA members to continue making tax-deductible contributions to worthwhile causes.

(Consult your tax advisor for specifics on allowable deductions.)

Thank You, ASA Members!
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 22030; totborkman@gmu.edu. 

Sociological Forum invites papers for a special issue titled “Globalization of Crime with a Focus on East Asia.” This special issue focuses on the globalization of crime and its impact on East Asia. It may include, but are not limited to, testing of criminological theories with comparative data, crime control in East Asian cultures, human and drug trafficking, and various forms of emerging crimes, such as Internet crime in East Asia. Send your manuscript to Sociological Forum, Department of Sociology, Box 201578, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0378. Deadline: March 15, 2008. Submit two printed copies of your manuscript (in .asaf format), accompanied by a word-compatible electronic version, and a $5 submission fee. Contact: Mohammad Cao, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197; email: cao@emich.edu; phone: (734) 487-5829. Specific submission requirements may be found on the Forum’s issue of the ASA website. http://www.asanet.org.sociological_forum/PubIndex.html.

Meetings

ASA Communication & Information Technologes (CITASA) Pre-Conference and Graduate Student Workshop, July 31, 2009, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA. Theme: “Publics, Publics, and Publics: Student Reflections on Communication and Information Technologies.” This one-day event combines a pre-conference on communication and information technology and a graduate student workshop, with a workshop for 20 selected graduate students researching the impact of the Internet, telephone, telecommu- nications or information technologies. Pre-Conference Call for Participation: Submissions are accepted for 500 word papers or fewer of no more than 7,000 words. Any research that ties at the intersection of sociology of work and ICT is welcome. Submissions should be received by February 1, 2009. For more information on the CITASA pre-conference and workshop can simul-
Global Awareness Societies

International 17th Annual International
Conferences, May 22-25, 2008, Sheraton
Fisherman's Wharf Hotel, San Francisco.
Theme: One Global Many Voices, Many
Challenges.” The central focus of the
conference is how globalization impacts
casualties, unique people and systems.
The Society has issued a call for contrib-
tuted papers on a wide variety of topics
including international development,
global technology, global social and
human issues, international social work,
global education, and a variety of other
multidisciplinary themes. Submit a title
and brief abstract to Lewis Mennerick,
GASI, visit <orgs.bloomu.edu/gasi>.

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February 24-26, 2008.


February 12-14, 2008.


March 24-29, 2008—Organization of
American Historians (OAH) Annual
Meeting, Seattle, WA. For more informa-
tion, visit <www.oah.org>

Building effective Cape Verdean
Civil Society Organizations
and Networks
February 16-18, 2008. Recognizing Knowl-
dge and Experience: Globalization,
Stockholm, Sweden: “Experiences in
Crime Prevention, Reforming the
Prison System, and Innovative Policing”
For more information, visit <www.criminology-
research.com>

July 21-24, 2008. The International
Society for the Study of Literacy and
Media (SILM) 11th International
Conference, July 8-11, 2008, FedEx
Institute of Technology at the
University of Memphis. SELM is aimed
at the advancement of empirical literary
research through international and inter-
disciplinary cooperation. Presentations

Review of Literature and Media
bloomu.edu/gasi>

and brief abstract to Lewis Mennerick,
GASI, visit <orgs.bloomu.edu/gasi>.

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Competition

Council on Contemporary Families 2007 Media Awards for Outstanding Coverage of Family Issues. The Council on Contemporary Families, a coalition of family scholars who have written about AIDs status by September 1, 2008, are invited to apply for the $9,200 Social Ethics Graduate Scholarship. Applications are due by January 15, 2008. Priority will be given to students studying the United States or permanent resident when applying. For more information, visit <www.sloan.org/programs/Work_Family>

STPP Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. The Science, Technology, and Public Policy (STPP) Program in the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan seeks to fill two postdoctoral fellow positions (each for two years in starting January 2008). Phase 2008 Fellowships will begin in Fall 2008. Fellows will be expected to contribute to some aspect of science and technology policy in the STPP at the University of Michigan. Policy-relevant projects that are being supported by grants awarded to the STPP program. Applications should be recent graduates of the doctoral degree, have some experience in science and/or technology policy, to help organize a seminar seminar, and be interested in the fellowship program. Applicants should include a C.V.and a letter describing research and teaching interests, along with a statement of proposed project, teaching evaluations, and three letters of reference. For more information, visit <www.stpp.slohanews.org/programs/Work_Family>

The United States Institute of Peace invites applications for its Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship, an advanced graduate student research award for the 2008-2009 Program for International Peace. The United States Institute of Peace is an independent research institution established by Congress to strengthen the nation’s capacity to anticipate, prevent, and resolve international conflict. The Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship is awarded to advanced graduate students that explore the sources and nature of international conflict and strategies for peacemaking. Fellows will conduct dissertation research in Washington, D.C. or Los Angeles, and will receive up to $16,000. Applications are due by February 1, 2008. For more information, visit <www.usip.org>

sustained peace. Scholars work at their research sites and return to the Peace Institute twice a year. Site visits will be prioritized to projects that contribute knowledge relevant to new and emerging issues in the prevention and conflict resolution. Citizens of all countries are eligible to apply, and all project sites must be enrolled in an accredited U.S. graduate program. Applicants must have completed all requirements for the degree except the dissertation by September 1, 2008. The fellowship application, received in offices by January 10, 2008, can be downloaded from the IP website. For more information, visit <www.usip.org>

In the news

Ronald L. Akers, University of Florida, was quoted in the Associated Press on November 27, 2007, in an article on how God and faith influence people’s decision to be a mother or a adopt a child. The report he co-authored with his colleagues, Shopping for a Market: Evaluating Foreign-Aid Contributions to drug abuse research on HIV/AIDS research. Applications for the program are due by January 15, 2008, and will be accepted until March 26, 2008. For further information, visit <www.nida.nih.gov/avsg.htm>

Mary Kosut, State University of New York at Geneseo, was quoted in the New York Times on November 22, 2007 on an article about the growing trend of mothers getting tattoos. John R. Rennie, Science editor, University of California, was quoted in the Dallas Morning News on November 16, 2007 on an article on the trend in Dallas, TX of men getting tattoos to cover up prison tattoos. Donald B. Krappel, Elizabethtown Col- lege, was quoted in The Columbus Dispatch on December 19, 2007 in an article about the University of Iowa’s attempt to start accepting federal money to help preserve trees.

Paul Lasley, Iowa State University, was quoted in The Des Moines Register on December 20, 2007 on an article about how farmland families in Iowa are struggling to preserve their family homes as the number of farms in the state continues to drop.

Edward O. Laumann, University of Chi- cago, was quoted in The National Review on December 5, 2007, in an article on a New York Times article that shows a rise in sexually transmitted diseases.

Jerr L. Lambke, Holy Cross College, was quoted in The New York Times on November 25, 2007, in an article about veterans from the Iraq war are turning to the military as they return to the United States.

D. Michael Lindsey, Rice University, was quoted in The Houston Post on December 4, 2007, in an article about Pat Robertson’s plan to launch the Christian Broadcasting Network to his son.

Judith Lorch, City University of New York, was quoted in a letter to the editor that was published in The New York Times on November 27, 2007, on an opinion piece called “Taking Science on Faith.”

Stephanie R. M. Quan, a professor at the University of California, was quoted in an article by NYT on how DNA tests do not necessarily offer answers to those searching for answers to who they are and where they came from on November 6, 2007.

Kathleen M. Joseph, Monmouth College, was interviewed by Bill Meyer on PBS on November 2, 2007; about her new book, “American Enterprise: The Entrepreneurial Tradition.”

Timothy J. Oates, Purdue University, was cited in a November 4 Fox WNGO Channel piece on the identity, silence and claims.

Joshua Aaron Page, University of Min- nesota, was quoted in the Minneapolis Star-Tribune on November 27, 2007, in an article on a New York Times article that shows a rise in sexually transmitted diseases.

Mary Jo White, Bynr Maier College, was mentioned in Inside Higher Ed on December 3, 2007, in an article on Senator Joseph Biden’s comments to a sociology student at Bynr Maier College during a speech there.

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Bryden G. King, Brigham Young University, study on how protests directed against the WTO, top officials, and how protests have destructively priced the rice that comes from the WTO, ·

Stephen L. Klineberg, Rice University, had his survey showing that most white residents believe that illegal immigrants are the primary employers who hire undocumented workers were covered by The Houston Chronicle on November 17, 2007.

Mary Kosut, State University of New York at Geneseo, was quoted in the New York Times on November 22, 2007 on an article about the growing trend of mothers getting tattoos. John R. Rennie, Science editor, University of California, was quoted in the Dallas Morning News on November 16, 2007 on an article on the trend in Dallas, TX of men getting tattoos to cover up prison tattoos. Donald B. Krappel, Elizabethtown Col- lege, was quoted in The Columbus Dispatch on December 19, 2007 in an article about the University of Iowa’s attempt to start accepting federal money to help preserve trees.

Paul Lasley, Iowa State University, was quoted in The Des Moines Register on December 20, 2007 on an article about how farmland families in Iowa are struggling to preserve their family homes as the number of farms in the state continues to drop.

Edward O. Laumann, University of Chi- cago, was quoted in The National Review on December 5, 2007, in an article on a New York Times article that shows a rise in sexually transmitted diseases.

Jerr L. Lambke, Holy Cross College, was quoted in The New York Times on November 25, 2007, in an article about veterans from the Iraq war are turning to the military as they return to the United States.

D. Michael Lindsey, Rice University, was quoted in The Houston Post on December 4, 2007, in an article about Pat Robertson’s plan to launch the Christian Broadcasting Network to his son.

Judith Lorch, City University of New York, was quoted in a letter to the editor that was published in The New York Times on November 27, 2007, on an opinion piece called “Taking Science on Faith.”

Stephanie R. M. Quan, a professor at the University of California, was quoted in an article by NYT on how DNA tests do not necessarily offer answers to those searching for answers to who they are and where they came from on November 6, 2007.

Kathleen M. Joseph, Monmouth College, was interviewed by Bill Meyer on PBS on November 2, 2007; about her new book, “American Enterprise: The Entrepreneurial Tradition.”

Timothy J. Oates, Purdue University, was cited in a November 4 Fox WNGO Channel piece on the identity, silence and claims.

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more income than men and how the salary gap changes over time.”

John P. Robinson, University of Mary-
land, was quoted in The Philadelphia Inquirer on December 18, 2007, in an article on a new law that will further limit drivers’ use of hand held phones.

Mary R. Rose, University of Texas, was
quoted in The Pittsburgh Post Gazette on December 3, 2007, in an article on a proposed terrorist attack in Pittsburgh that was an anonymous jury.

Ruben G. Bumbart, University of Cali-
osnia-Irvine, was quoted in The Los
Angeles Times On November 30, 2007, in an article on a new Pew Research Center report that shows fluency in English within immigrant families increases across generations.

Paul G. Schervish, Schwartz University, was quoted on November 16, 2007, in an article on how more drivers are being charged with two biological parents, the risk of overlooking other potential parents may rise as well. The story was reprinted in hundreds of media outlets, including The Washington Post, The Miami Herald, MSNBC, and The New York Post.

Vinicia A. Zelizer, Princeton University, had her book, Pricing the Precious Child, mentioned in a MINIPOST report on how overwhelming the financial burdens of parenting can be on November 14, 2007.

Sharon Zakin, City University of New York, was quoted in The Wall Street Jour-
nal on November 16, 2007, in an article on wine and wealth.

awards
Peter Bearman received one of 10 NH PAUSE awards for his book, “The Heartland” that went to a sociologist.
Sarah Bowen, Wisconsin-Madison, received the Midwest Sociological Society Best Graduate Student Paper award. 
Kwameh Farrer and Tatyana P. Ship-
purse, Purdue University, received the 2007 Best Paper Award for Theoretical Developments in Social Gerontology from the Gerontological Society of America.
Aaron Kupchik, University of Delaware, received the American Society of Crimi-
Karon LeComte, University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, received the College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence.
Sarah Bowman, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, received the Web Guide by content area, age group, disorder, and intervention on the Web.

new books
James B. Jack, University of Illinois at Conjuncting the Human and the NonHuman (University of Arizona, 2007).

people
Sharon Collins, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will be the first woman to serve as publisher of a U.S. academic society’s journal.
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Mary Ann Dowling, University of North California, will be the first woman to serve as publisher of a U.S. academic society’s journal.

transitions
Michael Allen, Washington State University, was named to the professorship at the University of Newcastle in New South Wales, Australia, during the first week of January 2008.
Robert Anderson joined the University of Toronto as a Professor in Social Work Education.
Candace Krutich is joining the fac-
ulty at the University of Toronto as a Full Professor of Sociology in January 2008.
Jean-Anne Sutherland started as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of British Columbia in January 2008.
Kris De Welde accepted a position in the Behavioral Sciences department at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers this fall.

members’ new books
James A. Beckford, University of Mary-
land, D.J. Nemerblad, WI, Uni-
cials, received the inaugural 2007 Prize for Excellen-
ence in Advancement Award from the American Society of Criminology.
W. Jean Yeang and Caroline Per-
nell, New York University, received an award for their book Stigmatization and Children’s Emotional Development from the National Science Foundation.

Viviana Zelizer, Princeton Univer-
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new programs

PhD in Gender Studies at Arizona State University. The PhD in Gender Studies is the first program of its kind in the region, focusing on the interdisciplinary training in theory and research on gender and on gender research and scholarship about gender. At the core of the program are four major components: Critical Theory of Gender; Mapping the Intersections of Gender, Race, and Class; Feminist Research and Design Research. There are three areas of specialization: social justice, social change and sustainability, and digital humanities.

Summer programs

2008 Visiting Professor Program. The Academy is excited to announce that starting this summer, we will be offering a fellowship for professors of advertising, marketing, communications and the like to spend one to two days per week inondating projects to the day-to-day operations of an advertising agency or a marketing firm and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between professorial and industry. The program gives professor a greater understanding of the industry while the industry has an opportunity to develop closer ties to academia.

July 14 – August 2nd. Professors chosen by the VPP Selection Committee will be placed with host companies in New York City and Chicago. For more information, visit the “on-campus” section at <www.aef.edu/summerprograms>

The National Institute on Drug Abuse Summer Internship Opportunities. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), announced the application period for the 2008 Summer Internship Opportunity. Internships at NIDA’s Intramural Research Program (IRP) facility in Baltimore, MD. The internship program is a competitive program designed to introduce the drug abuse and addiction research community to the scientific and professional opportunities of the NIH.

Catalog for Summer Internship Opportunities at <www.aef.edu/summerprograms>

Obituaries

Gangadhara Nannajudappa

Gangadhara Nannajudappa, a 35-year faculty member at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), died on November 2, 2007, at the age of 88. His death was unexpected, after a brief illness. Nannajudappa was born in India and was educated there and in the United States. He came to the United States with his family when he was 12 years old. He received his PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1966, where he worked with prominent scholars as David Riesman and Melvin Kohn.

Nannajudappa taught courses on the sociology of education, social theory, and political economy. He was a founding member of the Asian Studies Association and a member of the CFA/Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society. He was the first person to head the Sociology Department at CSUF. He was a revered faculty member known for his teaching and mentoring. He was particularly proud of his students and their accomplishments.

Announcements

Professor Wayne Wheeler, who was 78, died on August 26, 2007, from heart failure. Dr. Wheeler is survived by his sister, Shirley, and many nieces and nephews.

Wayne's ability to create puns was well known among his friends and family. As a student at the University of Western Ontario—where he received his PhD in sociology—he was known for his wit and humor. He was also known for his love of travel and adventure. He traveled extensively in the United States and in Europe, and he was a collector of family history and with his sister, Shirley, they established the Family History Research Center at the University of Western Ontario.

Wayne was deeply involved in the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) over many years. He was central to the 1986 meetings in Omaha. He felt it was important to have a place for students to explore their interests and to connect with other scholars. He often invited students to join him for dinner and to discuss their research. He was a mentor to many students and provided them with guidance and support.

Wayne was a trusted colleague and friend to many. He was known for his intellectual curiosity and his passion for teaching and research. He was a true mentor, always willing to help others achieve their goals. He was a true home. It was in this department that he introduced thousands of students to the field of sociology, and many of them went on to become successful scholars and leaders in their own right.

Wayne was an accomplished athlete, on the a water polo team, and a skilled musician. He played the piano and the guitar, and he was considered to be a master of the accordion. He was a true artist, and he loved music, from opera to jazz. He knew of Nettler's doctoral dissertation, and he graduated from Harvard with a PhD in sociology in 1952. He also served as president of the California Faculty Association (CFA) and member of the California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) chapter of the California Faculty Association (CFA). Wayne was an accomplished athlete, on the water polo team, and a skilled musician. He played the piano and the guitar, and he was considered to be a master of the accordion. He was a true artist, and he loved music, from opera to jazz.

He once remarked that he could imagine himself as a Cary Grant, or perhaps Clint Eastwood, in a water polo team, and a skilled musician. He played the piano and the guitar, and he was considered to be a master of the accordion. He was a true artist, and he loved music, from opera to jazz.

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Upcoming ASA Funding Opportunities

Community Action Research Initiative
Deadline: February 1, 2008
Sponsored by the ASA Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy, these small grants encourage sociologists to undertake community action projects that bring to bear social science knowledge, methods, and expertise in addressing community-identified issues and concerns.

ASA Congressional Fellowship
Deadline: February 1, 2008
Sponsored by the ASA Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy, the Congressional Fellow serves for six months as a member of a staff office in the U.S. House or Senate. The Fellow will learn the workings of Congress and will share the uses and contributions of sociology with the placement site.

Minority Fellowship Program
Deadline: January 31, 2008
Supported by a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, this longstanding American Sociological Association training grant supports pre-doctoral graduate education for sociology students.

ASA Teaching Enhancement Fund—Small Grants Program
Deadline: February 1, 2008
The ASA Teaching Enhancement Fund Small Grants Program provides support to an individual, department, program, or committee of a state/regional sociology association to enhance the teaching of sociology that will have systemic and enduring impact on the teaching and learning of sociology.

For more information on each of these Funding Opportunities, visit <www.asanet.org> and click on “Funding.”

This is your last issue...

...unless you have renewed your membership for 2008. As part of our "member- ship-friendly" approach, ASA is sending the January 2008 issue of Footnotes to 2007 and 2008 members. In order to continue to receive your newsletters, journals, and other ASA correspondence, renew today online at <www.asanet.org>.