Looking Forward to the 2008 ASA Annual Meeting in Boston

Race Relations and Immigration in Boston

by Silvia Dominguez, Northwestern University

Race relations and immigration are often considered as two distinct subjects and few scholars specialize in how they are intertwined, but events that have marked the perception of race relations in Boston derive from the city’s long history as a continuing immigration and melting-pot gateway. Waves of immigrants have fueled Boston’s growth and prosperity while simultaneously fueling episodes of ethnic and racial strife and violence. Two racially charged events have become emblematic of Boston’s struggle to accept the inclusion of minorities in Boston—a city that now finds itself a diverse population where immigrants primarily fuel the growth and whites are a minority.

Immigration and School Desegregation

Boston has a long history as a point of entry for millions of individuals and families moving to the United States. One of the most dramatic and best-known periods of growth occurred in the 19th and early 20th century with an influx of immigrants from Western Europe. By 1920, 31.9 percent of the Boston population was Irish, particularly in the neighborhood of South Boston where Irish immigrants had begun to concentrate in the late 1800s. With heavy discrimination from the Protestant establishment, the Irish in South Boston developed a defended neighborhood marked by bordering relations and bounded solidarity. Through these close-knitted, patronage based relations, the Irish had considerable success in establishing Catholic institutions and permeating the political channels in local, state, and federal politics.

The Irish took over the leadership positions in civil service professions and guarded these secure and well-paid jobs through to the 1970s when past-won civil rights began to be enforced. In 1974, after 10 years of litigation, the Federal District Court found the Boston School System guilty of deliberate segregation and ordered the busing of students in order to desegregate the schools. South Boston became the hub of protest and the neighborhoods defensive nature was evidenced through the televised images of racial violence that embroiled the city for the consequent two years of firebombs, shootings, and stoning.

During desegregation, as whites left for the suburbs, they took the social institutions and economic base, leaving blacks, Puerto Ricans, and Dominicans in neighborhoods with high concentrations of poverty. Conditions in inner cities worsened as national priorities supported the move of resources away from urban areas and as the accessibility to handcuffs increased. Like many other cities, Boston was left ripe for conditions that erupted in the 1980s with high levels of youth violence.

Stuart Incident, Boston Miracle

The second important event occurred in October 1989, when suburbanite Charles Stuart reported that a hooded black man shot him and his pregnant wife as they got into their car after a pre-natal visit at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in the Mission Hill neighborhood of Boston. Given the prevailing stereotypes at the time of the incident, the police were slow to respond, allowing the perpetrators to escape.

The police were able to apprehend two suspects, and their subsequent trial ended in 1992. The verdict was unusual in that the jury failed to reach a verdict on the capital charges, with 11 votes for acquittal and 11 for conviction on lesser charges. The judge instructed the jury to return with the verdicts on the lesser charges, and they did so in 1993.

The trial ended with 11 convictions on lesser charges. The judge sentenced the two convicted suspects to life in prison. The two sentences were commuted to life sentences after a second trial in 1995. The conviction and sentencing of the two defendants were widely seen as a turning point in race relations in Boston.

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The 2008 ASA Election Results Are In ...

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, University of California-Berkeley, has been elected to serve as the 101st President of the American Sociological Association (ASA) for 2009-2010. Glenn is the 2010 Program Committee chair and was elected President-Elect in 2009.

Members-at-Large

The four newly elected Council members-at-large are: Rosanna Hertz, Wellesley College; Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, University of Southern California; Omar Mckinff, University of Chicago, and Debra Minkoff, Barnard College. Also elected were two members to the Committee on Nominations, six members to the Committee on Nominations, and four members to the Committee on Committees.

Voting Records Broken, Again

Continuing a pattern of growth, members of the ASA community took part in the 2008 election in record numbers. Of the 11,077 members eligible to vote, 5,123 cast ballots in this election. This strong 46-percent participation rate surpasses the participation rates of similar scholarly societies. ASA sections also made a very strong showing, with 29 Sections recording more than 50-percent participation and 9 Sections exceeding 60-percent participation in their 2008 elections.

The 5,123 votes cast, 92 percent were cast online, with the remaining 8 percent of the votes cast via paper ballots. Below is the full slate of newly elected officers.

Report on the Executive Meeting of the International Sociological Association

Val Moghadam, Purdue University and member of the Executive Committee and North American Liaison Committee, Representing ASA

ROVANIESI, FINLAND, APRIL 1, 2009—Somewhere on the Arctic Circle would be an appropriate venue for a meeting of the executive committee of the International Sociological Association (ISA), whose members hail from Nigeria, Israel, the Philippines, and Brazil, among other warm climates. On the other hand, who would not want to see the home of Santa Claus? And so the executive committee met in Rovaniesi, Finland, between March 25 and 29, at the invitation of the Finnish associations of sociology and political science, which were holding a joint conference there. Interesting venues are typical of ISA meetings, like the World Congress, which is held every four years in July.

Durban, South Africa, was the site of the most recent World Congress (see November 2006 Footnotes, p. 5), and the next will convene in Gothenburg, Sweden, in 2010. The first ISA Forum of Sociology, a meeting of several thousand social scientists, will be held this September, in Barcelona, Spain. The council of the ISA research divisions will meet in Baltimore and the ISA council of national associations will take place in March 2009 in Taiwan. Among other business at its recent

See International Perspectives, page 8

President-Elect

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, University of California-Berkeley

Vice President-Elect

John Logan, Brown University

Council

Rosanna Hertz, Wellesley College

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, University of California-Berkeley

Omar Mckinff, University of Chicago

Debra Minkoff, Barnard College

Committee on Publications

Cecilia Ridgeway, Stanford University

Neil Fligstein, University of California-Berkeley

Committee on Nominations

Prudence Carter, Stanford University

Shelley Correll, Cornell University

James Jasper, City University of New York-Graduate Center

Ann Morning, New York University

Denise Segura, University of California-Santa Barbara

Kim Voss, University of California-Berkeley

Committee on Committees

Chloe Bird, RAND

Wendy Ng, San Jose State University

Irene Padavic, Florida State University

Francesca Polletta, University of California-Irvine.

Footnotes

1 From Mobile, Alabama, to Shanghai, China

ASA President spreads word about status of sociology and "worlds of work."

2 ASA Open House

Notable guests attend ASA’s open house, celebrating ASA’s new headquarters in DC.

3 Scientific Integrity at the Top

Diverse group of scientists and statisticians convene to discuss past and present "management" of science in the federal government.

4 The Art and Social Science of War

Sociologist is among witnesses testifying to House subcommittees on the importance of social science in national security and defense.

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Building Organizational Social Capital in Departments of Sociology

How can a department of sociology build its organizational capital? Over the past ten years, the distinction between personal social capital and organizational social capital has become a topic of considerable interest. Individual social capital is a well-understood and long-used concept in sociology. The related concept of organizational social capital suggests that an organization, distinct from the individuals within it, has resources and networks that predict outcomes. In organizations with strong social capital, there is better knowledge sharing, higher levels of trust in relationships (both within and between organizations), more common frames of reference, a larger proportion of shared goals, lower turnover rates, and greater organizational continuity (Cohen and Prusak 2001). Departments of sociology can build their organizational capital by becoming an ASA Department Affiliate. The Department Affiliate program is a central part of the ASA’s collaboration with departments. It provides a strategic way to strengthen ties among department sociologists through the ASA, while also supporting departments and their chairs in their teaching, research, and service roles. The number of Department Affiliate members has been growing steadily over the past 30 years, and both graduate and undergraduate programs are well represented among Department Affiliates.

The Department Affiliates program offers departments a wide range of benefits. A few of the benefits include department subscriptions to Footnotes and the online Job Bank, as well as access to membership in the ASA’s monthly electronic newsletter exclusively for Department Affiliates. Coauthors provide links to resources and publications directly relevant to the work of department chairs, and also include an early-release copy of all the announcements for meetings, calls for papers, and funding opportunities that will appear in the next month’s edition of Footnotes, providing members of those departments a few extra weeks of preparation time. Department Affiliates receive discounts on listings in the ASA online Job Bank, ASA teaching, academic, and career publications, as well as the Department Alumni Night (DAN) and the Chair Conference at the Annual Meeting. All Department Affiliates in 2008-2009 will receive the 2009 Guide to Graduate Departments, and four of the newest Teaching Resource Center publications as part of their membership.

Campaign to Expand the Network of Department Affiliate Members

To develop an even broader communication network among departments of sociology through the Department Affiliates program, the ASA Academic and Professional Affairs staff are developing an outreach campaign to increase participation in the program across the range of sociology departments in general, and among minority-serving institutions in particular. In an effort to increase representation among these schools, those Historically Black Colleges and Universities that have not been Department Affiliates in the past and that have a department with the word “sociology” in the title will be offered a first year free of membership in the Department Affiliates Program. In 2009 a similar campaign will target selected Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges.

Membership as Personal Social Capital; Membership as Organizational Capital

Recent findings from analysis of the National Science Foundation Survey of Doctoral Recipients, conducted by ASA Research Department staff, show that retention is a significant predictor of job satisfaction for non-academic sociologists. Membership in a professional organization is valuable for individual success, and joining the ASA and its meetings has been suggested as a way for individual sociologists to enhance “academic capital” (Buarwray 2008).

Suggestions for the National Children’s Study

At the request of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child and Human Development (NICHD), the National Academies of Science (NAS) reviewed the Research Plan of NICHD’s National Children’s Study (see April 2007 Footnotes, p. 31). Sociologist Barbara Entwisle, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is a Principal Investigator of one of the six original centers.\(^1\) The NAS report was released in May, offering a summary of the plan’s strengths and weaknesses as well as 24 recommendations. The review was conducted by the Committee on National Statistics, in collaboration with the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the National Research Council (NRC) and the Institute of Medicine Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice. The NCS is the largest long-term study of environmental and genetic effects on child health and development, as well as to explore the complex interactions between genes and environments. The review acknowledged several strengths but a number of conceptual, methodological, and administrative challenges. Nine “weaknesses and shortcomings” cited\(^2\) are: (1) The absence of an adequate pilot phase; (2) Decentralization of data collection; (3) Inadequacy of plans to maximize response and retention rates; (4) Weakness of conceptual model; (5) Weakness in data collection; (6) Insufficient attention to quality assurance; (7) Failure to adequately integrate data from medical records; (8) Failure to plan adequately for disclosure of risk to participants; and (9) Failure to plan for rapid dissemination of data. The Panel made 24 recommendations to address the goals of the study and other matters. Pleased with the review, NCS Study Director Peter Schenck commented, “We welcome these recommendations and where possible we will be incorporating them into the study.”\(^3\) View the NCS Research Plan at <www.national-childrensstudy.gov>. A free copy (PDF) of the report is at <www.nap.edu/catalog/123.html>. Student enrollment and diversity are up

The National Center for Education Statistics released a new report, Condition of Education 2008: Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity on the Rise, in the spring. A congressionally mandated report, the Condition of Education provides an annual description of the state of education in the United States. While the trends covered in the higher education sections of the report are not new, some data sets have been updated. The report is available at <nces.ed.gov/library/programs/coe>, or obtain a free printed copy by calling 877-4-EDPUBS.

International poll: Equal rights for women consensus

A new poll found a consensus among 16 nations that it is important for “women to have full equality of rights,” with most respondents stating it is very important. This conclusion was found in Muslim countries as well as Western countries. Managed by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland, the poll of 14,896 respondents was conducted by World Public Opinion.\(^4\) The 16 nations in which the interviews were conducted represent 58 percent of the world population.

State-by-state cost of child poverty

In 2006, an estimated 13.3 million U.S. children were living in poverty. Research has shown that children who grow up in poverty tend to see negative health, social, and economic consequences that often continue into adulthood. Compared with other children, those living below the poverty line are less healthy, have lower educational achievement, and are more likely to become involved with the criminal justice system. Kelvin Pollard, senior demographer at the Population Reference Bureau, developed a report from the KIDS COUNT project in Washington State, which is affiliated with the University of Washington’s Human Services Poverty Center, providing a state-by-state account- ing of the costs of U.S. child poverty. For more information, visit <www.prb.org/Articles/2008/childpovertyestimates.aspx>.
From Mobile to Shanghai: Reflections on my ASA Presidential Year

The 2008 ASA Presidency has afforded me an unforgettable opportunity and ambassador-like privilege to travel around the United States, China, and other countries representing the American Sociological Association. This has provided an opening to introduce a wide-ranging audience to the 2008 ASA program theme of “Worlds of Work.” I’ve met a broad and diverse group of sociologists and observed firsthand the state of the discipline as it is practiced in a variety of academic departments and in numerous governmental, business, and other non-academic settings.

The January 2008 issue of Footnotes (p. 4) described my visits to the 2007 Mid-Michigan Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Mobile, AL, in October and to the sociology department at Texas A&M University in November. My traveling companion on these trips was Jean H. Shin, Director of the ASA Minority Affairs Program. Jean and I also attended the 2008 Southern Social Science Association Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, NV, in March and visited the sociology department at Jackson State University in April. These trips enabled us to interact with faculty, administrators and students from various schools (many of which are Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and to discuss with them strategies for achieving diversity goals among students and faculty. We were particularly impressed by the successes in achieving diversity among students and faculty at the historically black colleges and universities.

My discussions with colleagues in these various places explored ways in which we might re-envision the sociology of work, workers, and the workplace in light of recent changes in the nature of the employment relationship in the past three decades. These issues are central to the 2008 ASA program theme of “Worlds of Work,” which highlights the interconnections between work and other social institutions and phenomena such as social stratification and inequality, family, race, gender, age, immigration, political participation, religious behavior, among others. The State of Sociology

My travels also gave me ample opportunities to consider the role of sociology as a discipline in the 21st century. I’ve formed two main impressions about the state of our discipline. First, sociology is alive and well and is more vibrant and vital than ever. ASA membership is approaching an all-time high, nearing the record set in the early 1970s. The number of bachelor’s degrees awarded in sociology has increased by about two-thirds in the last 15 years; and the number of doctorates has increased steadily since 1990. The younger sociologists at the schools I visited seemed excited about sociology, were excited for me to meet, and were highly motivated to study social phenomena and the social problems of our times. About a hundred people came to Jackson State University in April from nearly a dozen schools in the Deep South to meet with Jean and me during our visit. And about three dozen students and faculty met with me at Fudan University in Shanghai, despite our visit falling on a holiday, the Dragon Boat festival. Sociology was re-established in China in 1980 and has grown rapidly since then, with about 50 departments now having sociology majors and about 200 universities having some form of sociology department.

My second impression is that a major reason why sociology is so healthy is that it is increasingly relevant and essential to explorations of a growing number of issues and problems faced by societies and nations around the world. We need sociology now more than ever because of the challenges facing us in the 21st century involving social forces, often in interaction with physical and biological factors.

Accordingly, students sense that they are at the center of social change. This seemed especially true in China, where we met a number of graduate students who engaged in practically oriented research that is helping to define strategies that might be effective in changing society. In both the United States and China, I met faculty and students working on important and timely sociological questions related to the increasing precariousness and uncertainty of work; these scholars are studying work in specific places, and linking to global events. In Las Vegas, we observed the operation of the vast service sector of the economy in hotels, casinos, restaurants, and on the streets. In China, we were struck by the importance of the issue of international migration, where “floating people” (i.e., not registered for the region/city in which they live and cannot receive government benefits) are forced to work in low-paying, insecure, and other dangerous jobs.

And, on to Boston

Experiences during the past year have underscored my confidence that the 2008 ASA program theme, “Worlds of Work,” is extremely timely. Work and employment relations have become increasingly precarious. Job loss is a constant threat, and greater insecurity among workers. Social, economic and political forces (such as globalization, technological innovation, and the end of welfare) are radically transforming the nature of work in our society, and have led to the growth of dual-earner families, 24/7 work schedules, assaults on unions, and low-wage and other “dead end” jobs. These changes in work and the workforce have, in turn, magnified social problems such as poverty, work-family conflicts, political polarization, religious discord, and racial, ethnic and gender inequality. Many of these issues will figure prominently in the 2008 U.S. presidential election and in the Republican and Democratic conventions that will occur shortly after the ASA meetings.

I will explore these and other related topics at the 2008 ASA meetings in Boston, August 1-4. These meetings should be intellectually stimulating and fun. I look forward to seeing you there!

Footnotes

ASA Honored for Real Estate Deal

ASA's Open House to Debut New Office

ASA rolled out the welcome mat and opened its doors to members and special guests on June 12 for an open house event at the Association’s new headquarters at 1430 K Street, NW, in Washington, DC.

More than 50 guests attended the official debut of ASA’s new permanent home, two floors in a newly constructed office condo in downtown DC (see February 2008 Footnotes, p. 1). ASA President Arne Kalleberg attended the event, as did President Elect Patricia Hill Collins, and other Council members.

In addition to ASA members and leaders, attenders included representatives from the District government, which provided tax-free, low-interest bond financi e; Nest T.E.A.C.H., the building developer; and GTI Associates, the law firm, Reed Smith LLP, general contractor, KJ Construction Group, and lender, PNC Bank.

The open house celebrated the culmination of ASA’s 2007 purchase of the 13,016-square-feet office space, the completion of the office build-out and staff move in mid-March 2008, and the recent honor of being named a runner-up in the Washington Business Journal’s Best Real Estate Deals of 2008 awards program in the financing category for securing tax-free, low-interest bond financing from the District of Columbia government in 2007. PNC Bank underwrote the bonds, and ASA was represented by Olivia Shay-Byrne of Reed Smith LLP. ASA faced stiff competition in this category. The financing winner and “Best Overall Deal” was National Harbor, a 309-acre waterfront destination including the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, residential housing, office space, parking and 1 million square feet of retail, dining, and entertainment space.

Sidney Harman Hall, the $150 million performing arts and office building owned by the Shakespeare Theatre Company and International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen, was also a winner in the category.

Executive Officer Sally Hillman with representatives from Reed Smith LLP and the District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General
Howard University Celebrates 50 Years of Doctoral Education with Sociology Focus

E. Franklin Frazier legacy comes full circle

N oted sociologist E. Franklin Frazier was the focus of the opening event in a lecture series to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the sociology department at Howard University. Howard, a top national research institution and the nation's leading on-campus producer of African American doctoral recipients, awarded its first doctoral degree in 1958 and this year graduated the largest PhD class in its history. The university began offering a doctoral program in sociology in 1974.

Walter Allen, Allen Murray-Cartter Professor of Higher Education and Professor of Sociology at the University of California-Los Angeles, delivered the special lecture, titled "E. Franklin Frazier’s Influential Contributions to the Study of Race in American Life: Social Theory, Research, and Praxis." A grandson of Frazier, Allen provided a provost of research and graduate school dean at Howard, set the stage for Allen’s lecture by discussing the history of social sciences at Howard and highlighting Frazier’s legacy.

Former ASA Secretary Florence Bonner, who was recently promoted from sociology department chair to associate vice president for Research and Compliance at Howard, addressed the event and introduced Allen, noting his many achievements in both sociology and education. Allen was recently named Social Behavior and Economic Policy Scholar in Residence at Howard. As Allen told his standing-room-only audience at Howard University’s Founders Library, he patterned his career after Frazier. Allen is a 2002 recipient of ASA’s DuBois-Johnson Frazier Award.

E. Franklin Frazier, who died in 1962, was America’s leading scholar on the black family in the mid-20th century. He completed his undergraduate studies at Howard and returned to the university later in his career to serve as chair of Howard’s department of sociology.

As an introduction to Frazier’s contributions, Allen cited a bible verse from Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." It was a fitting citation, as Frazier had committed himself to black education and advancement and believed that, according to Allen, "knowledge was, and could represent, salvation for people in an uphill battle for social justice.

Many attended the educational institution to educate black youth and disputed racist notions in the early 20th century. During his time as chair at Howard, Frazier published The Negro Family in the United States (1948) and Bourgeoisie Noire (1955, translated in 1957 as Black Bourgeoisie). Frazier’s first book brought the African American focus to the mainstream of social sciences, while his second criticized the black middle class.

According to Allen, Frazier ‘challenged the black public to examine the history of social sciences, while his second criticized the black middle class. However, according to Allen, Frazier was an “equal opportunity offender.” He did not spare white America from his scathing critique, criticizing the blind pursuit of profit by American capitalism.

Frazier, who patterned his career after that of W. E. B. DuBois, was outward looking and international in focus, conducting cross-cultural and cross-national research. His academic scholarship popularized black social science within the black community.

Despite his ASA presidency, Allen asserts that racism in the academic community impeded Frazier’s career, noting that he was never given full-fledged academic appointment at the University of Chicago.

According to Allen, Frazier’s legacy includes scholarship and policy contributions in the areas of race and culture, inequality, family, social class, and African diaspora studies. Today, more than 40 years after Frazier’s death, his legacy continues. At the time of Frazier’s election to the ASA presidency, the association was the first major scholarly association to award the honor to a black woman in its presidential position. This year, University of Maryland’s Patricia Hill Collins will assume the role, becoming ASA’s 108th president, and the association’s first black woman in this position.

A Candid Examination of the Performance of Science in Government

Scientists and statisticians discuss integrity of science in government agencies and the contracts that underlie federal policies

by Roberta Spalter-Roth and Janene Scelza, ASA Research and Development Department

S cientific expertise, including the collection, analysis, and dissemination of data, can and should play a critical role in informing federal government policy. In a decision-making arena often dominated by partisans and interest groups, however, there is an ever-present potential for the misuses of social science by partisans and interest groups, however, can have widespread implications that can impact the lives of millions of Americans.

The American Sociological Association (ASA) convened a meeting of sociologists employed in federal scientific integrity, ASA convened a meeting of sociologists employed in federal research organizations who confidentially discussed their experiences with government contract research.

The meeting was part of an ASA Council initiative recommended by Past President Frances Fox Piven, who, like many sociologists, has been concerned about the possible misuses of social science measures, data, and expertise by policy-makers and government officials. Many of these concerns had been spawned by press reports on various incidents and congressional hearings on topics ranging from NASA and global warming research to the National Institutes of Health and cancer research.

In August 2007, Council established a Subcommittee on the Production and Uses of Federal Social Science Data that included Council members and Executive Office staff. Council requested that Executive Office staff gather relevant information from ASA members and sociologists conducting research within or on behalf of government agencies or who perform other government-funded research. Council also recommended ASA’s participation in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), an independent organization that monitors allegations of violations of scientific integrity in the federal government, and which primarily has focused on research in the natural sciences.

Challenges and Difficulties

Attendees at the May meeting spoke candidly about patterns of manage- ment that might either lead to abuses of scientific integrity or the suppression of research with the potential to inform government decision-making. A major discussion theme was how executive agency policy is often made without the benefit of research, even when such research is requested by the agency leadership. According to the meeting’s attendees, multiple layers of federal review at mission agencies and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as well as long delays in study approval, frequently make the conduct of relevant research too difficult, too expensive, or unattractive.

Attendees cited difficulties related to government processes, the qualifications of some OMB staff, and the political motivations of policymakers. Many attendees expressed considerable concern that governmental processes inhibited the contribution of research policy analysis to the federal process, or that those processes were or appeared to be deliberately manipulated by policymakers to achieve a desired outcome.

Several participants expressed concern, for example, for the qualifications of some OMB staff to review the proposed social science methodology or to determine reasonable standards of study design. Sociologists reported instances where OMB staff members insisted that the design meet standards beyond the scientific norms of the field (e.g., requiring unobtainable response rates on surveys).

Time Crunch

The challenges of timeliness were also a concerning roadblock by the participants. Policy-related research is often “held hostage” by the length of the mission agency review process. Policy decisions are often made before research can be made available.

Sociologists also reported that agency researchers are often not involved at the inception of programs to develop designs for evaluation. Instead, researchers are frequently called in too late in the process to effectively contribute to program design or evaluation. In cases where timing is not an issue, funding may be a challenge. Researchers are often told that there is insufficient funding within the agency for an appropriate evaluation to be conducted even though it is often critical to sound policy formation.

A Seat at the Table

Aside from timing, funding, and other challenges, participants lamented over the government’s frequent failure to give researchers a seat at the table to inform federal policy. Instead, sociologists cited a lack of agency capacity for policy perspective to predetermine policy outcomes, or with, and without research input. Attendees reported being told explicitly that research would not be conducted, while enthusiasm for a program or policy in question had generated researchable questions or concerns.

Even when federal research does produce findings, researchers reported that their reports are sometimes edited to support the directions of current federal policies or programs. Alternatively, research is left to gather dust on the shelf.

Independent publication of such findings is an excellent tool to encourage federal agencies to review ongoing research and potential risks for researchers in government agencies and risky for the researcher involved. Similar concerns were also raised in a recent UCS report on violations of scientific integ- rity at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Footnotes

Many of those participating in the ASA-convened discussion had many years of federal experience as research sociolo- gists. The issues they raised were endemic to the federal government, more acute under some administrations than oth- ers, but nonetheless, they reported, were ever-present.

This suggests that disciplinary societies such as the ASA and watchdog organiza- tions such as the UCS have potential contributions to make on two fronts: (1) considering how to improve research management and policy development within the federal structure to help strengthen the role that some social science research might contribute to effective decision making so that agencies are responsible stewards of U.S. taxpayer money, and (2) challenging specific instances of egregious violations of scientific integrity within that structure when they arise. The participants at the May meeting expressed enthusiasm about a series of future meetings to explore how ASA might take the next steps in this long-term effort. 
ASA Members Receive Guggenheim Fellowships

This past April, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation announced the winners for the 84th annual United States and Canadian Guggenheim Fellowship Awards. Among the more than 2,600 applications, 190 Fellows were awarded to artists, scientists, scholars, notables, and people totaling $8,200,000. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of outstanding achievement and exceptional promise in the following subjects:

- Art (due January 3)
- Classical Music (due March 15)
- Playwriting (due July 25, 2008) and full proposals (due October 3) are solicited to address the following subjects:
  1. (due March 15, 2009): "Women, War, and Peace"; "Science and the Stage"; "Beyond the Mediterranean"
  2. (due July 25, 2008): full proposals (due October 3) are solicited to address the following subjects:
    - "Humanities and Public Affairs"
    - "Expanding the Horizons of American Library Science"
    - "Art and Architecture in the Public Interest"

"Fittingly then, the focus of an April 24 Congressional hearing explores the role of social and behavioral sciences in national security. "Knowledge is power" commanded Sun Tzu in his 512 BC military treatise The Art of War. And he suggest, there is as much social science to war as there is art. Fittingly then, the focus of an April 24 congressional hearing was on "The Role of Social and Behavioral Sciences in National Security."

Sociologist David Segal was among the witnesses to testify at this year’s joint hearing of the House Armed Services Committee’s Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, and the House Science and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education. Segal, head of the University of Maryland’s Center for Research on Military Organization, spoke about the center’s status as the largest military sociological program in the world and its role in focusing research diversity: the military, military families, military operations, and the intersection of military and society. Segal has also referred ASA’s science policy staff to the congressional offices organizing the hearing, and his participation as a witness was coordinated by the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA). In his discussion of current and emerging areas of research that can contribute to national security, Segal noted Defense Secretary Robert Gates’ "Minerva Consortia" proposal that he described to the academic community in April. Specifically, he proposed to expand the Pentagon’s support for research in the social sciences and humanities.

Secretary Gates discussed this proposal in an April 14 speech to the Association of American Universities, where he also addressed the public controversy over so-called “human terrain teams.” These groups of social scientists in Iraq and Afghanistan were a popular topic at the congressional hearing, which, in addition to Segal’s participation, also included testimony from Colonel Martin Schwartz; Andre van Tilborg, the Department of Defense’s deputy undersecretary for science and technology; and the National Science Foundation’s Mark Weiss, the director of the division of behavioral and cognitively sciences in the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. "Knowledge is power," commanded Sun Tzu in his 512 BC military treatise The Art of War. And he suggests, there is as much social science to war as there is art. Fittingly then, the focus of an April 24 congressional hearing was on “The Role of Social and Behavioral Sciences in National Security.”

Sociologist David Segal was among the witnesses to testify at this year’s joint hearing of the House Armed Services Committee’s Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, and the House Science and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education. Segal, head of the University of Maryland’s Center for Research on Military Organization, spoke about the center’s status as the largest military sociological program in the world and its role in focusing research diversity: the military, military families, military operations, and the intersection of military and society. Segal has also referred ASA’s science policy staff to the congressional offices organizing the hearing, and his participation as a witness was coordinated by the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA). In his discussion of current and emerging areas of research that can contribute to national security, Segal noted Defense Secretary Robert Gates’ “Minerva Consortia” proposal that he described to the academic community in April. Specifically, he proposed to expand the Pentagon’s support for research in the social sciences and humanities.

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ASA 2008 Dissertation Award Recipient Announced

At reviewing a record number of applications, the ASA and the Dissertation Award Selection Committee are proud to announce that Heleen Beckler Morrow, Harvard University, has received the award for her dissertation, Southeast: Becoming Immigrant Incorporation and Racism in the Rural U.S. South. Morrow, with the other recipients of the 2008 ASA major awards, will receive her award at this year’s ceremony on Sunday, August 30 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. Come and share in this momentous occasion for your colleagues! 

Alba Delivers Huggins Lecture at Harvard

This spring, Richard Alba of the University of Albany-SUNY, a former Vice President of the ASA, became the first sociologist to deliver the prestigious Nathan I. Huggins Lectures at Harvard University. The Huggins Lectures are named after the first occupant of the W.E.B. Du Bois Professorship at Harvard. Nathan Huggins (1927-1988) was a distinguished historian, the author of the acclaimed Harlem Renaissance, among other works, and the Chair of Harvard’s Department of Afro-American Studies during a critical period. The lectures are sponsored by the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, and the Department of African and African American Studies. The purpose of this series is to bring distinguished scholars to deliver a series of lectures focusing on topics related to African American history. Alba’s lectures, delivered on three consecutive days, were titled, “Blurring the Color Line: Possibilities for Ethno-Racial Change in Early 21st Century America.” They represented a departure from the tradition of the lectures, which have usually focused on topics in African-American history. Previous lecturers have included historians David Brion Davis, Robin D.G. Kelley, LeNia Lightfoot, Gary Nash, and Darlene Clark Hine.

In his lectures, Alba argued that new possibilities for ethno-racial change are likely to emerge during the next quarter century as the massive baby boom retires, opening up the labor market in a way that has not happened for decades. He suggested that the resulting “non-zero-sum mobility” could be analogous to that which facilitated the assimilation of the white population, and which immediately followed World War II. The series is co-sponsored by the Harvard University Press, which publishes a book based on each Huggins lecture series. Alba expects the book based on his lectures to appear in 2009.
Universal Design: Creating Presentations That Speak to All

by Margaret Weigers Vitullo, ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program

More than 3,000 papers will be presented during the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting in Boston, and between 5,500 and 6,000 people will attend the meeting. Given the size of the anticipated turnout and the prevalence of disability in the general population, it's likely that some members of any audience at the Annual Meeting will have disabilities—whether those disabilities are visible or not. According to the 2006 American Community Survey, 12.6 percent of the civilian non-institutionalized population between the ages of 16 and 64 reported having a disability, and the rate was 43 percent for those over 65. If we apply these rates to Annual Meeting attendance, an estimated 700 people with disabilities will be attending.

ASA Strives for Access

To ensure that all attendees get the most out of the meeting, ASA encourages presenters to make their presentations accessible to those with disabilities. At a fundamental level, accessibility is a matter of law. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 applies to conference and meeting activities, and ASA requests that all presenters review the accessibility guidelines on its website at <www.asanet.org/ci/root/leffman/meetings/2008_accessibility >.

Effective Communication—For Everyone

Accessible presentations tend to be effective presentations, regardless of the characteristics of the audience. “Universal design” should be applied when developing accessible presentations. Universal design is an “approach to making facilities, information, and activities accessible to and usable by everyone,” according to Sheryl Burgstahler, Director of the DO-IT Project at the University of Washington. The DO-IT Project (“Disabilities, Opportunities, InterNetworking, and Technology”) aims to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities in challenging academic programs and careers. A presentation created with universal design principles considers the range of audience members, including those with varying native language, gender, racial and ethnic background, age, and disability status. Applying universal design principles can lead to a presentation that creates better comprehension, as well as better feedback and suggestions from audiences interested in promoting effective academic communication, the similarities are striking. For example, Columbia University offers suggestions for effective academic communication and the tips parallel those on the DO-IT program’s website. The university suggests that authors keep in mind four basic concepts when preparing a conference presentation: big, simple, clear, and consistent. Big refers to large fonts that are easy to read from any place in a room. Simple includes limiting text to six lines on a slide, with no more than seven words per line. Clear means choosing sans-serif fonts (such as Arial and Tahoma) in colors and sizes that produce high-contrast visuals. Consistent means creating a presentation with a logical sequence, with transitions that explain how the parts of the presentation are related to each other and the big picture. Similar tips are found on Western Washington University’s “Tips for Accessible Presentations” and the state of Michigan’s “Guidelines for Accessible PowerPoint Presentations.”

With the principles of universal design in mind, here are a few guidelines for creating effective presentations for both those with and without disabilities.

PowerPoint

• Use big, simple, clear, and consistent text.
• Use high-contrast templates. Check the contrast by printing in black and white without using the “grayscale” option.

Handout

• Provide handouts of overheads and PowerPoint slides.
• Bring a few copies of handouts in 16- to 18-point font size, as well as a digital copy on a disk.
If you refer to a handout, allow the audience time to read it before you begin talking about it.

Delivery

• Use the microphone and speak clearly at a pace slowly slower than normal conversation.
• Identify yourself clearly at the beginning of your talk.
• Do not turn away from the audience when speaking.
• Describe all non-text elements (e.g., images, tables) on each slide. Identify rows and columns and describe where figures are located in a table when you are discussing them.
• Since the lines of text on your PowerPoint slides will be brief phrases, repeat the phrase within the more extended narrative discussion of each point.
• Repeat all questions and comments from the audience into the microphone.

• If members of the audience are using interpreters or personal assistants, address all comments directly to the person and not their interpreter or assistant.
• If possible, give interpreters copies of presentation materials to review before the presentation.

If you have a physical disability and need special services, equipment, or accommodations at the ASA Annual Meeting, fill out the Accessibility Services portion of the meeting’s registration form, or call ASA Meetings & Expos (1-800-556-9005 ext. 2305) to arrange for services such as interpreters, CART, and motorized scooters in advance of the meeting.

References and Resources

Columbia University Department of Psychology. (See <www.columbia.edu/psychology/200bc/present.htm>.)
Do-IT: Disabilities, Opportunities, InterNetworking, and Technology. (See <www.washington.edu/doit/>.)

American Sociological Association

Race Relations

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violate minority youth, police felt justified to vigorously pursue the assailant, and, in the process, violated the civil rights of black youth. Prosecutions began against a suspect, but it turned out that Stuart had taken advantage of the racial climate with a manufactured minority youth. Police felt justified from the perspective of the population. This tragic event led to a more inclusive city that is reduced institutional discrimination. This situation requires that the city and state government capitalize on the richness and energy of its diverse population, dedicating more resources to education and training. They need to realize that this is no longer a low unemployment rate and constitute a large segment of the workforce, they remain a low unemployment rate and constitute a large segment of the workforce, they remain low unemployment rate and constitute a large segment of the workforce, they remain a low unemployment rate and constitute a large segment of the workforce, they remain a large proportion of blacks continue to live in poverty, and many Latin-Americans, Afro-Carribbeans, and Southeast Asians living in in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan neighborhoods join them. Despite the gains that have been made, a majority of the state’s residents rate the quality of race relations as “fair” or “poor” and 42 percent of blacks and 49 percent of Latin-Americans report having experienced discrimination in the past 12 months. The high housing costs continue to be a serious problem. They were not for immigrants, the city would be experiencing negative population growth. This challenging situation requires that the city and state government capitalize on the richness and energy of its diverse population, dedicating more resources to education and training. They need to realize that this is no longer a large proportion of blacks continue to live in poverty, and many Latin-Americans, Afro-Carribbeans, and Southeast Asians living in in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan neighborhoods join them. Despite the gains that have been made, a majority of the state’s residents rate the quality of race relations as “fair” or “poor” and 42 percent of blacks and 49 percent of Latin-Americans report having experienced discrimination in the past 12 months. The high housing costs continue to be a serious problem. They were not for immigrants, the city would be experiencing negative population growth. This challenging situation requires that the city and state government capitalize on the richness and energy of its diverse population, dedicating more resources to education and training. They need to realize that this is no longer
ASA Welcomes MFP Cohort 35

The American Sociological Association and the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) are pleased to introduce the four new fellows who have been selected for the ASA MFP Cohort 35. AsaMFP Advisory Panel met this spring in Washington, DC, to review the applications of a highly competitive pool of applicants. Cohort 35 consists of PhD candidates with strong research interests in the sociology of mental health and medical sociology, race and ethnicity, and the discipline in general. This introduction of MFP Cohort 35 kicks off a slate of activities celebrating the 35th anniversary of MFP. Activities start with a special session at the 2008 ASA Annual Meeting in Boston honoring the founding of MFP in 1974 and a series of forthcoming articles in Footnotes that will reflect the diverse voices and contributions by those connected to MFP through the past four decades.

The new MFP Fellows officially began their training on August 1. They will travel to the 2008 Annual Meeting, where they will attend the MFP orientation, starting with an attendance honoring the career of mental health researcher Leonard I. Pearlman. This will be followed by presentations of each of the history of the ASA and a series of presentations by sociologists (including several former MFP Fellows) with expertise in mental health, medical sociology, and race and ethnicity. During the remainder of their time in Boston, Fellows will participate in numerous regular sessions and workshops, attend MFP-sponsored events, and get to know sociologists with similar research interests.

The Minority Fellowship Program is funded primarily through a T-32 training grant provided by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), with recent co-funding by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). MFP is also supported by generous contributions from Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), Sociologists for Women in Society (SWWS), the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), the Southwestern Sociological Association (SWSSA), and ASA Council, as well as contributions from individual ASA members. Below are the lists of new MFP Fellows.

Louis Edgar Esperanza
Undergraduate Institution: Tufts University
Graduate Institution: Stony Brook University
Louis received his BA from Tufts University in 2003, where he was an Omnidry Scholar at the University College of Citizenship and Public Service and finished a double major in Sociology and Peace & Justice Studies. He received his MA at Stony Brook University in 2006, where he also a PhD candidate specializing in social movements and human rights. He is currently conducting fieldwork investigating the determinants of high-risk activism in the contemporary human rights movement in Bogota, Colombia. His previous work has appeared in Sociological Forum, and he has a forthcoming publication in Societies Without Borders. During his graduate tenure, Louis has received a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, a W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship, numerous grants to conduct fieldwork, and in 2006 secured funding from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science to co-organize a conference on "Globalization & Japan." Along with his advisor, Michael Schwartz, Louis has taught social movements at the graduate level and his syllabi appear in the ASA Teaching Resources Center materials on Peace, War & Social Conflict as well as the forthcoming Collective Behavior and Social Movements. He was a student editor of ASAs Contexts magazine and former chair of the ASA Student Forum Advisory Board. Louis currently sits on the executive boards of Sociologists Without Borders, U.S. Collection Humanitarian Corps, and the Tufts Progressive Alumni Network. He won the 2007 Campus Advocacy Award for his service to the university. Louis was born in Morningside Heights, NY, and was raised in Queens, NY, and Paterson, NJ.

Marcus Anthony Hunter
Undergraduate Institution: Columbia University
Graduate Institution: Northwestern University
Born in Newark, NJ, and raised in Philadelphia, PA, Marcus is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at Northwestern University. After receiving his BA in History-Sociology and African American Studies from Columbia University, Marcus spent two years in Philadelphia as an English teacher in the Philadelphia public school system. Currently, Marcus is in the early research stages of his dissertation project, which is a revisit of W. E. Du Bois’ sociological classic The Philadelphia Negro. In this project, he is examining the political, social, cultural, and economic factors that led to the racial, socio-economic, and demographic shifts over time in the 7th Ward neighborhood specifically and the city of Philadelphia more generally.

Dawne M. Mouzon
Undergraduate Institution: Rutgers University
Graduate Institution: Rutgers-Washington University
Dawne Mouzon received her BA from Rutgers University, where she completed a double major in Psychology and African Studies and a minor in Spanish. After her sophomore year, she participated in Project L/EARN, an NIMH-funded research methods training program for minority undergraduates at the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research. Under the direction of an accomplished demography mentor, she completed a senior honors thesis examining racial differences in breast cancer screening knowledge, attitudes, and compliance, a paper that was eventually published in the Journal of the National Medical Association. After completing an MPH in epidemiology in 2004, Dawne worked full-time for three years as a research associate at an urban medical school, where she co-authored four peer-reviewed articles. She later returned to school at Rutgers University to study medical sociology and has also served as a course instructor for Project L/EARN for four years. Dawne maintains broad interests in race/gender, mental health, and the family. She recently finished her doctoral coursework and is working on projects assessing whether marriage provides similar mental and physical health benefits for African Americans and whites, the role of partner homogamy and perceived mate availability on mental health outcomes, and the determinants of support and gender ideology on marital quality.

Robert Peterson
Undergraduate Institution: Morehouse College
Graduate Institution: Case Western Reserve University
Robert is a PhD student in the Department of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University. As an undergraduate, Robert was a recipient of an NIMH Career Opportunities in Research Education and Training Program (NIMH-COR) grant that provided intensive sociological research experience focused on the impact of HIV/AIDS in the black community. In addition to subscribing field research in Cape Town, South Africa, the grant experience fueled his commitment to do research on marginalized groups. Robert’s current research focus includes: mental health and medi- cal sociology; HIV/AIDS; race, class, and gender inequalities; and health and social policy. His interest in medical sociology developed because he came cognizant of the deleterious health outcomes and inequities among disenfranchised groups such as the poor, as well as racial, ethnic, and sexual minorities. His dissertation topic will focus on the attitudes and actions of decision makers on HIV/AIDS mobilization efforts; societal sentiment; and experiences of persons liv- ing with the disease. Robert is engaged in culturally relative sociological inquiry with both academic and applied implications. In addition to receiving the 2007 Ruth Barber Moon Award for Academic Excellence and Promise at Case Western Reserve University, his article on HIV disclosure and the stress paradigm is currently part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services’ Sex and Power in America, under review at Rutgers University Press. Outside of his graduate studies, Robert enjoys serving as a volunteer mentor for poor black male youth in the Cleveland area and keeping up with news and current events while playing with his new German Shepherd Patrick.

Declines in Sociology Faculty Purchasing Power

by Roberta Sutter-Roth and Janene Scalia
ASA Research and Development Department

In Academic Year (AY) 2007-08, sociology faculty salaries increased 4.5 percent, from an average of $66,207 in AY 2006-07, to $68,857, but they remained 0.1 percent below the all-time high. This disparity is due to a declining purchasing power for items such as gasoline, health care, and college tuition, all of which have outpaced inflation. The purchasing power of each full-time faculty salary has decreased by 2.8 percent. In AY 2007-08, full professors earned an average of $87,938 (a 5.4 percent drop from last year) with an overall average of $56,878 (a 4.7 percent increase); assistant professors earned an average of $53,844 (a 5.4 percent drop from last year) with an overall average of $52,446 (a 5.4 percent increase); and instructors, whose salaries in constant dollars continue to decrease, earned an average of $40,523 (a 1.3 percent increase). These data are from the National Faculty Salary Survey (NFSS) conducted by the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR). CUPA-HR gathers data by faculty rank, type of institution, and discipline. The American Sociological Association’s Research and Development Department has published trend data on sociology faculty salaries for several years. Since AY 2000-01, salaries have increased 23 percent but were relatively stagnant when controlling for inflation (see Figure 1), losing buying power four out of the last seven academic years. Average faculty salaries across sociology have been lower than faculty salaries in sister social sciences, lagging only slightly behind average anthropology faculty salaries. In AY 2007-08, anthropology faculty earned an average of 872,410 (a 4.5 percent rise over this academic year). Anthropological science faculty earned an average of 73,102 (a 5.4 percent rise), and economics faculty, which includes a greater share of full professors compared to the other disciplines, averaged 90,064 (a 4.4 percent rise). Thus, when controlling for inflation, average political science and economics salaries were above inflation while anthropology, like sociology, was slightly below.

Where You Work Matters

When comparing earnings by type of institution, the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) reports that the gap between faculty salaries at private and public colleges and universities appears to have widened in recent years, with faculty at private institutions experiencing larger salary increases than those at public schools. This gap is noticeable in average sociology faculty earnings, according to the AAUP’s 2007-08 Faculty Compensation Survey. In AY 2007-08, the average faculty salary in private institutions increased 4.6 percent (0.5 percent above inflation) while increasing 3.3 percent (0.8 percent below inflation) at public institutions. If the gap between earnings at public and private institutions continues, entities within private institutions as well as non-academic sectors will probably appear more attractive to sociology PhDs.

Robert Peterson
Undergraduate Institution: Morehouse College
Graduate Institution: Case Western Reserve University
A full ASA research brief on AY 2007-08 sociology faculty salaries is available from download at the ASA website at www.asanet.org/research/education/research_and_studies/education/education_articles/briefs_and_articles.footnotes
American Sociological Association

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Sociologist Presents Research on Violent Crime at Congressional Briefing

Sociologist Rick Rosenfeld, University of Missouri-St. Louis, presented “What We Know and Don’t Know about Recent Crime Trends” during an April 4 briefing on Capitol Hill, which was sponsored by the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) and the National Consortium on Violence Research (NCVOR). Rosenfeld was joined on a panel by Dan Nagin (Carnegie Mellon University) and Alex Piquero (John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York). Alfred Blumstein, director of NCVOR and former COSSA president, moderated the panel and former Maryland Special Appeals Court Judge and Montgomery County (Maryland) State Attorney Andrew Sonner was the practitioner discussant.

Sociology: A Rare But Well-Paying Job?

 Forbes.com thinks so.

 Forbes magazine brings students and other would-be sociologists as well as law students in an April 17 online photo feature: It pays to study sociology.


 Rare! High-paying! The magazine loosely defines rare as “a relatively small employment total” and considers jobs with annual salaries higher than the national average of $42,535 to be high-paying. Forbes cites BLS data claiming only 3,440 sociologists with an annual salary of $60,000 or more.

 On a closer examination of BLS classifications, “sociologist” is categorized separately from “sociology teachers, post-secondary” (16,110 employed with average annual salary $62,800) and other “social sciences teachers, postsecondary, all other” (5,750 employed with average annual salary $59,500). For both, while the Forbes story may not have told readers the complete story, there’s no denying that, as the article claims, “this is the kind of information undergirding students should show their parents, the same parents who might need to be convinced that being a sociologist for a living could actually pay the bills.”

 For more on the Forbes feature, find out more about BLS classifications and see ASAs research on sociology salaries and careers at: <www.asanet.org/for/ftn/ research/schools/who_knew_sociology_career_is_rare_and_well_paying_just_asks_forbes.com>

Int’l Perspectives

from page 1

meeting in northern Finland, the executive committee decided on Yokahama, Japan, as the venue for the 2014 World Congress. At the Rovaniemi meeting, the ISA President Commission was discussing prepara-

tions for the 2010 World Congress (Gothenburg, Sweden). The theme is “Sociology: The ‘More’ in connection” to the following issues:

• Conflict and war
• Sustainability
• World of difference
• Action and imagination
• Religion and power

Five sessions are also planned on the specificities of Scandinavia and the Nordic welfare state model, as are five author—
critters sessions.

The ISA and the World-System

The ISA has a membership of nearly 4,000 across the globe. It is a bicameral orga-

nization of National Associations (approx-

imately 54 total) and Research Committees (55 total). Its administrative office is located at the University of Cincinnati, Ronald Payne (see <www.asa-sociology.org>). It publishes the International Sociology Review of Books, and its two main journals (Current Sociology and International Sociology) are the venue for serious research articles as well as debates about the possibilities and direction of sociology as an international/global field.

Geographic distribution of the ISA’s members reflects world-systemic dynam-

ics. Nearly half of the membership comes from the core countries of “Category A.” These countries, and the attendant individual and collective membership fees, are reflected in World Bank classifica-

tions of countries by national income.) For example, the United States has the largest number of ISA members (604 in 2008), according to a report from the ISA executive office, and the ISA is a longstanding member of the Council of National Associations. Other large groups of members are from the United Kingdom (232), Canada (200), Germany (159), Australia (141), Japan (137), Italy (116), and France (111).

In Category B (which includes middle-income-level countries), the total num-

ber of members is 797, with the largest concentrations from South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico. Other Category B countries are not well represented in the ISA, for example, Iran has 30 members and China 29. India, however, has 191 members. Iran and China are listed in Category C, along with countries such as Rwanda, Guinea Bissau, Mali, and Tunisia, even though the World Bank classifies them as lower-middle income. This and other issues, I believe, raise questions about whether it is time to revitalize the categories.

Other world-systemic issues that I see rep-

licating within the ISA include China’s appar-

ent reluctance to take an active role because

of the presence of Taiwan. Michael Burawoy, vice president for National Associations and chair of the National Associations Liaison (NALC), has taken on the task of trying to convince the Chinese to partici-

pate, though this will be difficult in the short term, given the fact that the assemblies of national associations will convene in Taipei (theme: “Challenges for Sociology in an Unequal World”).

National Associations and the ASA

In other business, the NALC discussed a consensus website for National Associations, a draft of which was presented by NALC chair Michael Burawoy. The idea is to create a structure that permits easy and decentralized updating. The project was unanimously approved, but it was noted how difficult it is to collect information and then to maintain it. Around half of all National Associations do not have their own websites. Nonetheless, uploading of files will begin over the next year. For example, a selection of 12 publications from world sociolo-

gies commissioned during Immanuel Wallerstein’s ISA presidency will be posted online for use by members and others.

In other news, the Executive Committee discussed the possibility of gathering data on the status of sociology in different countries, and also documenting differ-

ent national traditions of sociology. Both would be appropriate for the new website.

As mentioned, the United States has the largest numbers of ISA members, and

I personally know many U.S. sociolo-

gists who will be attending the forthcoming Forum in Barcelona—not only for the beauty of the city but also for the exciting program. But the national association (i.e., the ASA), in spite of its long-term support, is in need of an upgraded panel or highly invested in the ISA. At present, three Americans (Jan Marie Fritz of the University of Cincinnati, Vice President Michael Berzawow of the University of California—Berkeley, and myself) are on the ISA Executive Committee, but more needs to be done to increase U.S. participa-

tion and support.

To this effect, I propose a few ideas for consideration. ASA could include more international proposals on thematic or presidential sessions at the annual ASA meetings. ASA might extend financial support for the ISA’s PhD candidate laboratories, which are not in various loca-

tions around the world. Jan Fritz helped lead one (with the theme: “Globalization, Science, and Society”) last November in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Yet another idea is to continue to invite international sociologists to write for this newsletter. There are so many societies which are in various locations around the world. Mike Blumstein, who was one of several speakers at the last November in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Yet another idea is to continue to invite international sociologists to write for this newsletter. There are so many societies which are in various locations around the world. Mike Blumstein, who was one of several speakers at the
They are a standing ovation to honor good parents and families. In My Dad Is Better than Your Dad, fathers go through extraordinary lengths to prove themselves to their children. They are given "exacting larger-than-life challenges testing dad’s strength, smartness, and their ability to work as a team (abably)." The woman's son begs all the viewers at home that "my dad is better than your dad." In another poignant example, Annemarie, contestants acquire money by correctly answering a series of questions about their personal and family history. The interrogations are an ultimate test of devotion to family, as the underlying assumption is that a good parent will get the right question. The wrong answer to a recent question (What was the song that your daughter’s boyfriend wrote for her?) brought disappointing head shaking from the family and audience. Deal or No Deal also uses the focus on the family as means for exciting their crowds. Recently a contestant sent one of her family members home every time she rejected a deal. What would be more important to her? Money or family? These shows represent more than just "bad" or "good" TV. They strategically dissect us from the aliment of our society, and they symbolically deny the families with the least resources. Moreover, they are a reimagining of past shows aired during times of war: Father Knows Best, Make Room for Daddy, Hazel, and The Partridge Family. All of these shows give shining examples and friendly reminders of what our families should look like, what our focus should be, and how to cater to our lovely, even if zany, children. Just as those shows focused on family as the epicenter of comfort, safety, and solidarity during WWII and the Vietnam War, we are returning to this safety zone during the fifth year of the Iraq War. It is paradoxical that in the midst of a war, slow economy, high rates of impoverished children, and two parents working overtime to make ends meet, that we�� rstimate a fantastically amount of money and time required for families health and happiness. At the time when we have the least to give, we demand the most. It is trendy to reflect on the family shows of the 1950s and 1960s as nostalgic, realistic, and unrealistic, but have we come far yet? What pressures are we putting on struggling families attempting to maintain a job and food on the table? Reality television? These shows promote the attainment of an unrealistic middle-class ethic of an intense family while families are socially, economically, politically, and physically struggling.

Footnotes

1. Vrnic-Panl, Ph.D candidate, University of Virginia.
violence and children in urban communities for more than 20 years. Julia Wisgrill, City University of New York, was quoted in an April 13 article about online child care reports in The Washington Post. Wisgrill has studied child care fatalities.

Collective Behavior and Social Movements
Rachel Einhorn, Purdue University, was quoted in a May 13 Associated Press article about protest gestures and other behaviors spurred by higher gas prices. The article was published on ABCNews.com, CNN.com, and other news outlets including The Chicago Sun-Times.

Mary Griggsby, University of Missouri, and Juliette B. Schur, Boston College, were quoted in a May 17 New York Times article about the modern simplicity movement. Griggsby is the author of Buying Time: How Americans Lost Their Bank Accounts over Home Foreclosures. The article was republished on ABCNews.com.

David Grusky, Northwestern University, was quoted in an April 7 news report, also on NPR, Manning, the author of Credit Card Nation, was interviewed for a March 27 segment about consumer credit on ABC’s Good Morning America on April 2 to discuss her “compatibility index” for predicting winners on the network’s Dancing with the Stars program.

Economic Sociology
Jeanne Fleming, Aloney magazine, had her research cited in an April 27 New York Times story about gender differences in willingness to discuss salary information.

Community and Urban Sociology
Ray Oldenburger, University of West Florida, had his book, The Great, Good Place, referenced in a May 16 Chicago Sun-Times article on the sense of community created on social networking website Facebook.

Communication and Information Technologies
Easter Hargittai, Northwestern University, was quoted in a May 2 article in The Washington Post about online social networking profiles.

Mark Thomas Kennedy, University of Southern California, was quoted in a May 2 Newsweek article on the sense of community created on social networking website Facebook.

Lisa Slattier Radvicke, University of North Carolina Charlotte, was quoted in a May 23 LivScience.com article on the origins and popularity of the thumbs-up gesture. The article appeared on the AOL News website on May 23.

Richard Sennett, London School of Economics and Political Science, was the subject of a May 23 Chronicle of Higher Education article in which Sennett’s research and writing is discussed. Mark Granovetter, Stanford University, was also mentioned in the article for his research on social networks.

Crime, Law and Deviance
Tedd Gilin, Columbia University, was quoted in a May 7 Associated Press story about police infiltration into the drug culture at San Diego State University.

Jon Hussey, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, was cited in an April 16 editorial in The Charlotte Observer and The Raleigh News & Observer on campus gun violence co-written by UNC Chancellor James MOezer and Duke University President Richard Brodhead. The cited research, which examined the link between child neglect and future aggression, was also featured in an April 25 article in The Washington Post.

David Jacobs, Ohio State University, had his research on death row and race included in a May 8 segment on The Tom Joyner Morning Show, airing on radio stations nationwide.

Aldi Kokayi Khallani, Essex County College, was interviewed about prisoner re-entry in New Jersey on WBAL News April 9.

Jack Levin, Northeastern University, was quoted in an April 29 Associated Press article about the Smiley Face Killer, and appeared on the May 1 episode of CHN’s Anderson Cooper 360 on the same topic. He discussed celebratory rioting in the May 3 Montreal Gazette and was quoted in the May 4 Wall Street Journal about the causes of the growing rate of violent crime in some cities. He was quoted in the MetroWest Daily News on May 7 about a ‘person of interest’ being investigated in a string of prostitute slayings, and in the May 11 Wisconsin State Journal about canceling information from the public during police investigations. He appeared on a May 9 episode of TVT’s In Session to discuss anti-Semitic hate crime in Seattle, and a May 11 program on the BBC about the Charles Manson murders.

Michael Norris, Wright State University, commented on the tension relationship between crime and the economy in articles from April 21 in The Columbus Dispatch, The Akron Beacon Journal, and Associated Press.

Geraint Osborne, University of Alberta, had his research on marijuana use in Canada detailed in a Census News Service article on May 13. The article was published in a number of Canadian newspapers.

Greg Scott, DePaul University, was quoted in an April 25 Chicago Tribune article about forecasted spikes in violence and the city’s gangs.

Sociology of Culture
Nicholas Christakis, Harvard University, and Sherry Turkle, MIT, were quoted in an April 27 article about friendship in the Facebook and MySpace era in The Washington Post.

Jean Elson, University of New Hampshire, and Steven Martin, University of Maryland College Park, were quoted in the June issue of Women’s Health magazine in an article about modern relationships in comparison with those of previous generations.

David Guskys, Stanford University, was quoted in an April 29 Associated Press story about “Yennies” (Young and Wealthy but Normal), a subset of young people who are socially aware and interested in more in charity than consumption. The article was published in USA Today on May 3 and in a number of regional newspapers around the country.

Karen Bettas Halman, Penn State University, was quoted about the mainstream acceptance of tattoos in a May 25 article from The Economist.

Pepper Schwartz, University of Washington, quoted in a June 1 USA Today article about Internet dating and older singles. Schwartz also appeared on ABC’s Good Morning America on April 2 to discuss her “compatibility index” for predicting winners on the network’s Dancing with the Stars program.

Economic Sociology
Jeanne Fleming, Aloney magazine, had her research cited in an April 27 New York Times story about gender differences in willingness to discuss salary information.

Gary Green, University of Wisconsin-Madison, was quoted in a June 3 Associated Press story about the impact of General Motors plant closures on communities. The article was published in The Chicago Tribune, Akron Beacon Journal, The Orlando Sentinel, as well as in other media outlets around the country.

Robert Manning, Rochester Institute of Technology, was interviewed on National Public Radio’s To the Point program on May 27. He spoke about credit cards during a May 30 Marketplace report, also on NPR. Manning, the author of Credit Card Nation, was interviewed for a March 27 segment about consumer credit on ABC’s Good Morning America and appeared on Fox Morning News on March 10 and Lou Dobbs Tonight on February 23.

John Walton, University of California-Davis, was quoted in an April 7 news report from the United Nation’s Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN).

Sociology of Education
Cornelius Riordan, Providence College, was included in a May 16 article about...
 announcements

single-sex schools in The Sacramento Bee. Riordan cited growth in single-sex educa-
tion since about 1990.

Joseph Soares, Wake Forest University, was quoted in an May 21 Inside HigherEd.com article about his university’s decision to end its SAT requirement. Soares is the author of The Power of Privilege: Yale and America’s Elite College, which argues that the SAT was used to keep certain socioeconomic and minority groups out of colleges.

Environment and Technology
Nicholas Christakis, Harvard University, was quoted in an April 29 Columbia News Service article about Facebook, the social networking site, and young people who chose to remove themselves from the site.

Damon Conley, New York University, had his research cited in an April 24 in the New York Times article about the growth of the Hispanic population in North Carolina within the News & Observer.

Jennifer Holdaway, Occidental College, was quoted in an April 23 article in the Los Angeles Times about the impact of social networks on smoking among high school students.

Political Sociology
Patricia H. Collins, University of Maryland, College Park, was quoted in a June 2 Jane 2008 English Language newspaper article about the Damascus, Syria: 2008 presidential candidates and race and gender.

Larry Diamond, Stanford University, was cited for his piece about a democratic recession in a May 9 article about democracy around the world in The Christian Science Monitor.


Ho-fungHung,IndianaUniversity-
Bloomington,wasinterviewedandquotedinanarticleonApril15aboutthenewgenerationofstudentsatYaleUniversityconcerningwhattheyregardasthecurrentunrestandsuppressioninTibetthatcouldeasilybecomeaninternationalboycottofthecomingBeijingOlympics.

JeromeKarabel,UniversityofCalfor-
nia at Berkeley, authored an op-ed piece in the Los Angeles Daily News about concerns regarding the recent unrest and suppression in Tibet that could easily become an international boycott of the upcoming Beijing Olympics.

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Easter Haqgittai, Northwestern Uni-
ersity, was interviewed in a question and answer column about her research on the technology skills of young adults in the April 25 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Bob Leighninger, Arizona State Uni-
ersity, was quoted in an April 27 Associated Press story about the legacy of the New Deal. Leighninger is the author of two books on New Deal buildings. The article appeared in The Jackson Clarion-Ledger on May 5.


Sociology of Family
Deborah Carr, Rutgers University, had her research included as the subject of a Dotspace Free Press article on May 6. Carr investigated the relationships between mothers and daughters and co-authored Making Up with 80 mothers and Daughters: Disagreement about Kids, Money, and Casseroles and What to Do About It. The book was also cited in Newsweek, USA Today, The Miami Herald, and various local newspapers and radio stations.

Douglas Downey, Ohio State University, was quoted in the June 2 issue of Newsweek regarding his research on only-children.

Paula England and Elizabeth Mc-
Clelont, both of Stanford University, had their research on older men and marriage profiled in a syndicated San Jose Mercury News story on May 7 that ran in newspapers across the country. The study found that the older a man is when he marries after age 40, the more likely his wife will be significantly younger.

Lingxue Hao, Johns Hopkins University, was quoted in an April 23 Baltimore Examiner article about her research on parental disciplinary action and its effects on sibling behavior.

Pepper Schwartz, University of Washing-
ton, was quoted in a LifeWire story about women who “mother” their husbands, published in CNN.com on April 30. Schwartz also was quoted in a May 4 Los Angeles Times Magazine article about the romantic relationships of politicians.

Pamela Smook, Michigan University-
Ann Arbor, was quoted in an April 15 Associated Press story about the cost of divorce and out-of-wedlock childbearing to United States taxpayers. The article ap-
ppears in news outlets around the country, including TIME, magazine’s website, AOL.
com, and CNN.com.

Stephen Sweet, Ithaca College, was quoted in an April 16 article on Thestreet.com about the financial impact of marriage.

International Migration
Stephen Kleinberg, Rice University, and Robert Sampson, Harvard University, were quoted in an article in the April 28 edition of the Houston Chroni-

The article cited work from Kleinberg’s “Houston Area Survey” and Sampson’s research on crime and immigration.

Mary Waters, Harvard University, was quoted in a May 18 New York Times article about the study, “Inheriting the City: The Children of Immigrants Come of Age,” which looked at adult children of immigrants to the New York region. Waters co-authored the study with Philip Kasinitz, City University of New York Graduate Center, and Sidney David Heldmann, Social Science Research Council, and John Mollenkopf, a political scientist.

Latino/Latina Sociology
Stephen C. Liebey, North Carolina State University, had his research cited in an April 1 article about the growth of the Hispanic population in North Carolina within the News & Observer.

Enrico Marcelli, San Diego State Uni-
ersity, had his research linking money transfers and sports clubs cited in The San Diego Union-Tribune on May 18.

Mary Waters, Harvard University, had her article on the testimony of notes: July/August 2008
American Sociological Association

Political Sociology
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Larry Diamond, Stanford University, was cited for his piece about a democratic recession in a May 9 article about democracy around the world in The Christian Science Monitor.


Ho-fung Hung, Indiana University-
Bloomington, was interviewed and quoted in an article on May 15 about the new generation of students at Yale University concerning what they regard as the current unrest and suppression in Tibet that could easily become an international boycott of the upcoming Beijing Olympics.

Jerome Karabel, University of Califor-
nia at Berkeley, authored an op-ed piece in the Los Angeles Daily News about concerns regarding the recent unrest and suppression in Tibet that could easily become an international boycott of the upcoming Beijing Olympics.

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announcements

Lisa Keister, Duke University, had her research on a multi-site study of the Religious News Service article that appeared in USA Today (April 23). The Salt Lake Tribune (April 26 in a wire item April 23) among others, Keister’s article, “Conservatism and Health: Religious Perpetuates Asset Poverty,” was published in the American Journal of Sociology.

Paula Krier, The Catholic League for Religious Freedom, was quoted in an April 25 article on the decline of Catholic education in Rhode Island, RI in the weekly Catholic News and Chronicle newspaper. She was also quoted in the Rhode Island Journal on the increase in older men entering the priesthood.

Jonathan Turner, University of California Riverside; Mark Leone, University of Maryland; and Martha Bradley, University of Utah, were quoted in an ABC News segment on April 23 about genetic issues surfacing in the polygamy within the West Texas Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Sociological Practice

Shelley Clark and Jody Heymann, both of McGill University, were quoted about the contributions of social research on health to decisions made by children in homes with children in adolescence in the spring issue of McGill National.

Sheryl Boggs, Montgomery College, Alabama, and Ronald Kessler, Harvard University, were quoted in a February 28 article in the Boston Sun about applying lessons learned from the Exon Violence study to the further study of the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

Race, Gender and Class

Jason Kaufman, Harvard University, was quoted in an article in the May 25 New York Times about the presidential candidates and their efforts to escape the elitist label. Aki Kohki Khallani, Essex County College, was interviewed about his book The Hidden Debate and the state of black New Jersey by Comcast Cable for broadcast on April 21 and 25.

Zine Magubane, Boston College, was interviewed on a June 3 National Public Radio News & Notes segment about racial tension at the University of the Free State in South Africa.

Michael J. Rosenfeld, Stanford University, was cited in a May 7 Tribune column about Mildred and Richard Lowery, authors of the landmark Supreme Court case, Loving v. Virginia. The syndicated column also appeared in The Detroit News May 7, The Baltimore Sun May 8, and The New York Times May 9. Wendy Roth, University of British Columbia, was interviewed on April 2 about the release of ethnic diversity data from the 2006 Canadian census. Interviews appeared on CBC Radio One and CHIN radio, Global National TV, CTV, and Farichild TV.

Darron Smith, Utah Valley State College, was interviewed on June 11 Utah Review Post article about race relations in Utah. Smith is the co-editor of Black and Mormon.

Rationality and Society

The chair of the Sociology Department of California Davis, was quoted in a June 3 Wall Street Journal article about the California fires and took issue with the popular claim about the “assumption of optimism” mindset that many California homeowners adopt to convince themselves that they will not be affected by a fire.

Sociology of Sexualities

Kathleen Bogle, LaSalle University, was quoted in an article about the “hook-up culture” on college campuses for the University of Missouri-Columbia. The article appeared in Up: Sex, Dating, and Relationships on Campus. The article was published in campus newspapers including The Review (University of Delaware) and The Sentinel (University of Alabama Tuscaloosa).

Becky Ross, British University of Columbia, was a featured guest on CBC Radio One on April 10 about the impact of the strippage industry in Vancouver.

Martha Shockley-Eckles, Saint Louis University, and Wetzler, George Washington University, were quoted in a May 23 CBS 4 affiliate report, “Poststup Violence in the Workplace.”

Sally Ward, University of New Hampshire, was quoted in an article from the International Herald Tribune.com about the report Ward co-authored with other UMR researchers, “The Contest of Unwanted Sexual Experiences.”

Awards

Pattd Adler, University of Colorado, was honored with the 2008 Teacher Recognition Award at the University of Colorado-Boulder; the only faculty award given since 1985.

Paul Almeida, Texas A&M University, received a Fulbright Faculty Fellowship for his project, “Globalization, Democracy, and Civil Society in Central America” which will be completed in the 2009-2010 academic year as a visiting professor at the University of Costa Rica.

Wayne Brekhus, University of Maryland-College Park, and Sally Hillman, American Sociological Association; received the Stuart A. Rice Award for Career Achievement Award from the District of Columbia Branch of the ASA.

Clifton Bryant, Arizona State University, has been awarded the Harvard Alumni Association Fellowship in Teaching Excellence.

Noelle Chesley, University of Rhode Island, has accepted a position in a May 23 Rutgers University (p. 15) about the research.

Ashley Vandal, Beloit College, received second place in the undergraduate division of the Annual Midwest Sociological Society Student Paper Competition in Criminology.

Kathy Ward, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, received the Second Annual Jaw Adsams Outstanding Service Award for the Midwest Sociological Society Women’s Women in the Profession Committee.

Gregory Weiss, Rowan College, received the Fifth Annual Distinguished Service Award to the Southern Sociological Society.

Scott Elason, 2008 recipient of the John D. McCarthy Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Scholarship of Social Movements and the Political Economy of the State.

Jennifer Dunn, Stanford University, was honored with the 2008 Teacher Recognition Award. The prize is awarded annually to scholars who have made outstanding contributions to international interdisciplinary social science research, theory, and public communication in the tradition of Albert O. Hirschman. (See obituary in May 2008 News & Notes, p. 10.)


J. David Labaree, University of California-Santa Barbara, is the 2008 recipient of the John D. McCarthy Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Scholarship of Social Movements and the Political Economy of the State.

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New Publications

Footnotes for Difference: An Interdisciplinary Journal announces the publication of its inaugural issue. Spaces

Transitions

Scott Elason has accepted a position as Professor of Sociology at the University of Arizona at Tucson. Robert Gato has accepted a position in Education at the University at Buffalo.

Kristy Holtfreter will join the faculty of the School of Criminology & Criminal Justice at Arizona State University in August of 2008.

Robyn Stryker has accepted a position as Professor of Sociology and Law at the University of Arizona at Tucson.

Mike Taylor has joined the sociology faculty at Franciscan University.

Catherine (Kay) Valentine, Nazareth College, has been named Professor Emeritus.

Steve Vallis has accepted the position of Chair in the Sociology Department at Northeastern University.

People


Amital Ettzioni, George Washington University Press,” was awarded the George Washington University Press, on April 14, titled “Isalat 60: Borders, Identity, and the Search for Security.” The event featured Aarum David Miller and Ambrose Samuel Lewis.

Herbert Gans was honored at the Center for Urban Research and Policy, Columbia University, with a one day conference on March 13, titled “Urban Kalopedescope: New Directions in Sociology in Honor of Herbert J. Gans.

Michael Jinda, Spring Arbor University, was quoted several times in the book Famine by Johnson and J. Lately, which is related to a conversation about religion and popular culture.

Members New Books

David C. Bell, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Constructing Social Theory (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008).

David L. Brown, and Nina Glasgow, both of Cornell University, Rural Retirement Migration (Springer, 2008).

Steven M. Buechler, Minnesota State University-Mankato, Critical Sociology (Paradigm Publishers, 2008).


George Washington University Press.

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The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars announces the opening of its 2009–2010 Fellowship competition. The Center awards academic-year residencies for faculty and graduate students from any country with outstanding research proposals on national and/or international issues. Topics and scholarships should relate to key public policy challenges or provide the historical and/or cultural framework to illuminate policy issues of contemporary importance.

Fellows are provided private offices, access to the Library of Congress, Windows-based computers, and research.

The application deadline is October 1, 2009. Full residency, fellowship requirements and application guidelines, please contact the Center. If you wish to download the application, please visit our website at www.wilsoncenter.org.
Caught in the Web
Children, Youth and Environments
Special Issue on Children and Disasters

A special issue of the journal Children, Youth, and Environments explores the vulnerability and resilience of children in disasters. The issue contains a unique collection of 20 papers from around the world, which examine children’s reactions to drought, tsunamis, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, climate change, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Some of the contributors also consider the experiences of children who live in a constant state of disaster as a result of chronic poverty, violence, or unsafe living conditions. With disaster risk on the rise worldwide, this special issue highlights the critical importance of focusing scholarly and applied attention on the special vulnerabilities of children, while also working to understand how children can contribute to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives.

Children, Youth and Environments is an online journal published by the University of Colorado-Boulder. Visit <www.colorado.edu/journals/cye/> for a full listing of papers and other resources that appear in the special issue. Contact Lori Peek, Children, Youth and Environments Special Issue Guest Editor, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1784; (970) 491-6777; Lori.Peek@colostate.edu; <lmar.colorado.edu/~loriepeek/1>. “Cognitive Strategies to Justify or Accommodate Torture” by Ken Pope is now available free online at <clio.pop.com/horst/torture-abst.php>. This chapter looks at the nature and scope of torture, defines some of the most common forms of torture, and discusses the growing recognition of the ways in which the torture directed at women has tended to be minimized or overlooked. Contact: Ken Pope at ken@ripop.com.


The Immanent Frame: In just six months, The Immanent Frame, the online journal published by the University of Colorado-Boulder, has published 175 articles freely available at <repositories.colorado.edu/journals/cye/> for a full listing of papers and other resources that appear in the special issue. Contact: Lori Peek, Children, Youth and Environments Special Issue Guest Editor, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1784; (970) 491-6777; Lori.Peek@colostate.edu; <lmar.colorado.edu/~loriepeek/>. “Cognitive Strategies to Justify or Accommodate Torture” by Ken Pope is now available free online at <clio.pop.com/horst/torture-abst.php>. This chapter looks at the nature and scope of torture, defines some of the most common forms of torture, and discusses the growing recognition of the ways in which the torture directed at women has tended to be minimized or overlooked. Contact: Ken Pope at ken@ripop.com.

The Conference Board has published two reports based on a survey conducted on workforce readiness. Both of these reports are downloadable for no fee from our website. The first report, “Are They Really Ready to Work?” is available at <www.conference-board.org/publications/abstract.cfm?id=11464>. The second report, “New Graduates’ Workforce Readiness: The Mid-Market Perspective,” is available at <www.conference-board.org/publications/abstract.cfm?id=11433>. The Immanent Frame: In just six months, The Immanent Frame, the online journal published by the University of Colorado-Boulder, has published 175 articles freely available at <repositories.colorado.edu/journals/cye/> for a full listing of papers and other resources that appear in the special issue. Contact: Lori Peek, Children, Youth and Environments Special Issue Guest Editor, Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1784; (970) 491-6777; Lori.Peek@colostate.edu; <lmar.colorado.edu/~loriepeek/>. “Cognitive Strategies to Justify or Accommodate Torture” by Ken Pope is now available free online at <clio.pop.com/horst/torture-abst.php>. This chapter looks at the nature and scope of torture, defines some of the most common forms of torture, and discusses the growing recognition of the ways in which the torture directed at women has tended to be minimized or overlooked. Contact: Ken Pope at ken@ripop.com.

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announcements

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research Program

Scholars in Health Policy Research Program

Monique Lyle (Scholar Program at the University of Michigan)
2008 PhD, Duke University

Eric McDaniel (Scholar Program at the University of California, Berkeley/San Francisco)
Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Austin (on leave)

Hans Noel (Scholar Program at the University of Michigan)
Assistant Professor, Georgetown University (on leave)

Patricia Strach (Scholar Program at Harvard University)
Assistant Professor, Georgetown University at Albany, SUNY (on leave)

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research Program is a national fellowship program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Each year, the program selects 10 to 15 scholars for support in the development of health policy analysis and translation expertise at one of three participating universities: The University of California at Berkeley and San Francisco; The University of Michigan; and Harvard University. For information about the Program, visit the web site at http://healthpolicy scholar.org.

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Herman W. Smith, III 1943-2008

Herman Smith, professor emeritus of sociology at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, died April 5, 2008, from esophageal cancer. He was 65.

Smith received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in 1965, and worked as a statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau while completing his master's degree in 1967 at the American University in Washington, DC. In 1971, he received his doctorate from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He spent the next 12 years at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, rising through the ranks in the Department of Sociology. He served two terms as president of the Faculty Council. He retired in 2002, but continued researching and mentoring as professor emeritus.


Smith’s books include textbooks on social psychology and methodology, plus a research monograph on Japanese homosexuality.

He was proud of becoming the first self-taught member of the Affect Control Theory research group. The group hired him as an expert in mathematics, sociologist, and psychologist and sociologist interested in the cross-cultural study of human emotions. He earned his PhD at the University of Kyoto in Japan, as a research visiting professor, where he started his studies of affect and emotion. Over the next 20 years, he became fluent in Japanese; his second area of pride was being awarded two Fulbright Teaching Scholarships to Japan. The first was in 1989 at Tohoku University and the second in 1995 in Tokyo, at both Kyoto/Fujiwara Women’s University and Japan Women’s University. Additionally, he was Distinguished Visiting Professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, in 2000.

Smith was an avid canoer, kayaker, and paddle-sport instructor for over 40 years. He was a founding member of Stanleycreek, Inc., a nonprofit business with the goal of preserving and whitewater park in St. Louis for economic development and community revitalization of north St. Louis. This was his passionate passion, apart from running whitewater rapids all over the world.

Smith is survived by his wife of 30 years, Mary Burrows; sons Craig (Mary) and Erik (Reutel); granddaughters Chloe, Sophie, and Mira; sister Carol; stepmother Rosemary; and cousins Sheila and Karen.

He will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and fellow paddlers.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Stanleycreek Inc., PO Box 9150, St. Louis, MO 63119, or to the Siteman Cancer Center, 666 S. Euclid Ave., Box 8100, St. Louis, MO 63110.

Jim gave generously of his time and resources to a wide variety of worthy organizations. The most important of all his efforts were devoted to helping children in need irrespective of geographical location. He was also a strong supporter of and contributor to the Cleveland Museum of Art and had a strong interest in collecting original opera recordings and CDs. He was careful, however, to spare others the occasional times when he would launch a heartfelt attempt to sing along, using those was his lifelong desire to reveal his distinctive voice not to become a profession singer, but to gain the satisfaction of making music and especially American presidential history. To learn some aspect of this subject, you just asked Jim, who not only would be very likely to have the correct answer but could also explain in succinct detail why that information was important for the context in which it was used. As a person, Jim was compassionate, thoughtful, considerate, amiable, extremely witty and one of the best storytellers anyone has ever known. He also had a heart of gold and always put others first. Joining his loving father to his children, Shirley, Dean, Roy, and Karl. They survived his mother, Alice, grandparents and a great-granddaughter in keeping his friendship, and his other long-mentioned, at least three of his grandchildren: Candice and Karl, Anthony, and Thomas and sister-in-law, Vander Arend (his mother, Sophie, and Mira, sister Carol, stepmother Rosemary; and cousins Sheila and Karen.

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Jim Smith, Indiana University; Neil MacKinnon, University of Georgia; Gary Schmidle, Texas Tech University,

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Smith received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland in 1965, and worked as a statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau while completing his master's degree in 1967 at the American University in Washington, DC. In 1971, he received his doctorate from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. He spent the next 12 years at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, rising through the ranks in the Department of Sociology. He served two terms as president of the Faculty Council. He retired in 2002, but continued researching and mentoring as professor emeritus.


Smith’s books include textbooks on social psychology and methodology, plus a research monograph on Japanese homosexuality.

He was proud of becoming the first self-taught member of the Affect Control Theory research group. The group hired him as an expert in mathematics, sociologist, and psychologist and sociologist interested in the cross-cultural study of human emotions. He earned his PhD at the University of Kyoto in Japan, as a research visiting professor, where he started his studies of affect and emotion. Over the next 20 years, he became fluent in Japanese; his second area of pride was being awarded two Fulbright Teaching Scholarships to Japan. The first was in 1989 at Tohoku University and the second in 1995 in Tokyo, at both Kyoto/Fujiwara Women’s University and Japan Women’s University. Additionally, he was Distinguished Visiting Professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, in 2000.

Smith was an avid canoer, kayaker, and paddle-sport instructor for over 40 years. He was a founding member of Stanleycreek, Inc., a nonprofit business with the goal of preserving and whitewater park in St. Louis for economic development and community revitalization of north St. Louis. This was his passionate passion, apart from running whitewater rapids all over the world.

Smith is survived by his wife of 30 years, Mary Burrows; sons Craig (Mary) and Erik (Reutel); granddaughters Chloe, Sophie, and Mira; sister Carol, stepmother Rosemary; and cousins Sheila and Karen.

He will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and fellow paddlers.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Stanleycreek Inc., PO Box 9150, St. Louis, MO 63119, or to the Siteman Cancer Center, 666 S. Euclid Ave., Box 8100, St. Louis, MO 63110.
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ASA’s Boston Regional Spotlight Committee, with the gracious assistance of many fellow ASA members with Boston cuisine experience, have produced the Restaurant Guide, which will be included in each registrant’s program materials at the 2008 meeting.

In the meantime, ASA provides a sampling of restaurants included in the guide and other resources in our online dining guide (see www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/meetings/2008_boston_dining_guide). The guide is organized by section/neighborhoods of Boston. A pricing guide helps with selections.

Restaurant reservations fill up quickly over weekends, so we recommend you make advance reservations. To facilitate this, ASA provides a link to the online restaurant reservation system called Opentable.com, a reputable source for making dining reservations and accruing credits for doing so.