Committee on Publications Minutes
January 23, 2019
Washington, DC

The meeting convened at 8:35 a.m. and introductions were made.

Participants: Elected members present were David Takeuchi (ASA Secretary and Acting Chair), Syed Ali, Philip Cohen, Jennifer Glick, Nancy Naples, Kristen Schilt, and Veronica Terriquez. Incoming Secretary-Elect Nancy López was present as an observer. Editors present were Matthew Brashears, Mustafa Emirbayer, Brian Kelly, Leslie Paik, Rashawn Ray, Linda Renzulli, Fabio Rojas, and Stephen Sweet. Present from the Executive Office were Nancy Kidd (Executive Director), Karen Gray Edwards (Director of Publications), and Jamie Panzarella (Publications Manager). Present for a portion of the meeting was Eric Moran from SAGE Publishing. (Note that votes were ultimately discussed and taken in executive session without editors present following full group discussion.)

Agenda. A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded. Motion carried.

August 2018 Action Items. Edwards updated the Committee on the ASA Council’s response to Committee recommendations from the August 2018 meeting.

August 2018 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 2018 Committee on Publications meeting with minor revision. Seconded. Motion carried.

Collaboration between City & Community and Rural Sociology. The committee discussed a proposal to publish a joint special issue of City & Community with Rural Sociology, a journal of the Rural Sociological Association.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. Seconded. Motion failed. The Committee indicated a willingness to revisit the proposal once the journal backlog and related concerns have been addressed.

City & Community Page Allocation. A proposal was submitted for a permanent page allocation increase of 300 pages per year for City & Community. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. Seconded. Motion failed.

Society and Mental Health Page Allocation. A request was made for a one-time 132-page increase for 2019 for Society and Mental Health. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. Seconded. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. Seconded. Motion failed.

Report of the Standing Committee on the ASA Publications Portfolio. Secretary Takeuchi, chair of the Standing Committee, gave a brief report.


A motion was made to approve editorial board nominations as presented. Seconded. Motion carried.

A motion was made to encourage future submissions of editorial boards nominations in August to precede the start of terms. Seconded. Motion carried.

TOP Guidelines and Open Science Badges. The Committee considered a proposal to adopt the Transparency and Openness Promotion (TOP) Guidelines and open science badges developed by the Center for Open Science. After lengthy discussion about the broad range of issues this raised, the Committee decided to table the proposal until an ad hoc committee could be established to evaluate the broader issues related to open data for ASA journals. Committee chair Saguy was charged with developing the committee which will be asked to report back to Committee on Publications in August.

ASA Policy on Preprints. Cohen asked for clarification of ASA’s policy on journal authors’ rights to post submitted and/or accepted versions of their manuscripts to websites and preprint repositories, which was provided.

“Plan S” European Open Access Journal Initiative. Eric Moran from SAGE Publishing briefed the Committee on Plan S, a European-based initiative for open access publishing. ASA will continue to update the Committee as the initiative develops.

Including Author Photographs in ASA Journal Articles. A proposal was submitted to include pictures of author(s) with ASA journal articles. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made to approve the proposal. Seconded. Motion failed.

A motion was made to ask ASA staff to work with SAGE to investigate options for collecting demographic data on journal article submitters and reviewers. Seconded. Motion carried.

A motion was made to recommend that ASA Council add a question on diversity and inclusion to the editor application guidelines. Seconded. Motion carried.

Routine Journal Reviews and Discussion of Editor Applications. Nancy Naples, chair of the Contemporary Sociology Editorial Selection Subcommittee, provided a short report on the current state of CS and the group’s recommendations for the next editorship. Jennifer Glick, chair of the Journal of
Health and Social Behavior Editorial Selection Subcommittee, provided a short report on the current state of the JHSB and the group’s recommendations for the next editorship. Veronica Terriquez, chair of the Sociological Methodology Editorial Selection Subcommittee, provided a short report on the current state of SM and the group’s recommendations for the next editorship. Syed Ali, chair of the Socius Editorial Selection Subcommittee, provided a short report on the current state of Socius and the group’s recommendations for the next editorship. Stephen Sweet, member of the Teaching Sociology Editorial Selection Subcommittee, provided a short report on the current state of TS and the group’s recommendations for the next editorship. Discussion ensued.

Motions were made to recommend to ASA Council ranked lists of editor candidates for Contemporary Sociology, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Sociological Methodology, Socius, and Teaching Sociology. Seconded. Motions carried.

Editorial Extensions. The Committee discussed offering term extensions to the editors of Contexts, the Rose Series in Sociology, and Social Psychology Quarterly.

A motion was made to approve the editorial extension. Seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.