Annual Report for the Medical Sociology Section

For membership year 2016-17

Prepared by Deb Umberson, Past Chair of the Section.

October, 2017
Section Governance
This first section of the report details your section’s governance activity during the last year.

Business Meeting
This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting’s minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made at this meeting.

The annual business meeting of the Medical Sociology Section was held on August 12, 3:45-4:10pm. Approximately 60 people were in attendance. Copies of the agenda and minutes of this meeting are attached.

Section Council Meeting
In this portion of the report, please discuss your section’s deliberations at its Council Meeting. This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting’s minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made by the Section Council. Please include information on all other Council Meetings conducted during the previous year.

The annual section Council meeting of the Medical Sociology Section was held on August 12, 7:00-8:15am. 21 people were in attendance and are named in the attached minutes of the meeting. A copy of the agenda and minutes are attached.

State of the Section Budget
Did your section operate within its budget for this year? Please include a copy of last year’s projected budget and compare it with actual expenses.

The section continues to be financially healthy. A budget comparing proposed and actual costs for 2017 is attached.

An operating budget for the coming year approved by the Section Council.
A separate spreadsheet is provided to calculate the planning budget and track expenses. Please work with your Section’s Secretary Treasurer on this point. The budget is of critical importance to the Committee on Sections and must be included with the section’s annual report.

An operating budget for 2018 has been written by Secretary-Treasurer Shim and approved by the Council. This proposed 2018 budget is attached.

Statements, Notes, Observations
Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.
The Previous Year

This section discusses your section’s activities during your term as Section Chair.

As specified in the Medical Sociology Section By-Laws and the Functions and Activities of Council Members (2008)
I have completed the following in my capacity as the Chair of the Medical Sociology Section, 2016-2017:

- Monitored the Section membership throughout the year. We are below our goal of 1000 members as of July 15, 2017 (at 915 members on July 25). Corinne Reczek has been working on a membership drive. It is not unusual to fall short prior to ASA but very important to monitor. As of August 9, 2016 we had 973 members. Our goal is to be over 1000 members by the end of the 2017 meeting. [Update: As of Sept 30, 2017, the section had 986 members.]
- Forwarded announcements and postings to the ASA listserv on a weekly basis.
- Served as liaison with ASA (meeting services, Council on Sections).
- Provided “Notes from the Chair” to Medical Sociology Newsletter for four issues.
- Served as liaison with Section Council Committee chairs.
- Served as liaison with section website and listserv.
- Maintained documents for the Medical Sociology Section’s Manual of Operation (MOO). Many thanks to Kristin Barker and last year’s team for creating the MOO! Invited officers will make updates to the MOO (for their positions) immediately after ASA 2017. The MOO is stored on the section’s google drive.
- Planned joint reception with Mental Health for the 2017 ASA Annual Meeting in Montreal.
- Reserved a roundtable for grant writing advice at 2017 ASA Meeting. We should discuss reserving more roundtables for mentoring and professional development in 2018.
- Planned Section sessions for the 2017 ASA meeting:
  - Roundtables (Corinne Reczek) and Business Meeting/Awards Session (Debra Umberson)
  - Reeder Award Address - Debra Umberson
  - Reproductive Health Inequalities: Local, National, & Global (open submission) - Leticia Marteleto
  - Immigrant Status and Health Across the Globe (open submission) - Tod Hamilton
  - Health Disparities over the Life Course (open submission) - Hui Liu
  - Health Care through a Sociological Lens (open submission) – Deborah Carr
  - Gender, Social Ties, and Health—a Double-Edged Sword? (open Submission). Patricia Thomas
- Monitored number of paper submissions to 2016 Section sessions to inform planning of the 2018 meeting.
  - Roundtables: 123 submissions, 113 accepted, 7 dropped out
  - Session on health disparities received 64 submissions
  - Session on gender, social ties, health received 16 submissions
  - Still awaiting final report on submissions to other sessions
- Unfinished business:
  - Invite all 2017 officers to update MOO for their position
  - Update Conflict of Interest (COI) procedures for Awards to be voted on at Council meeting 2017 (Rene Almeling)
  - Proposed change to nominations procedures (Jane McLeod)
  - Coauthored papers policy (Kristin Barker, Janet Shim)
  - Solicit, recruit, choose new student Webmaster
  - Solicit, recruit, choose new Webmasters to replace Ann and Barret
  - Updates on endowment investment structure
Overview

Please provide an overview of your section’s programming for the last year. We also invite you to include information on the state of the section, sentiments of the members, important issues in the field.

Please see above.

Recruiting and Retention Efforts

What efforts did your section make to retain last year’s members and reach out to new members? What were the results of the section’s retention efforts?

The Medical Sociology Section elects a Membership Chair for two-year terms. Corinne Reczek (2015-2017) is responsible for organizing a committee to recruit and retain members. Corinne began the membership drive by placing announcements and calls for gift memberships on Twitter and in the Med Soc weekly announcements. However, a more concrete effort is needed from Council and Section members to recruit members. A key part of membership is gift memberships to incoming and continuing graduate students. ASA has made this relatively easy in the past, but this year, the gift membership portal was closed mid-summer, well before the membership deadline. As a result, it was more difficult to gift memberships (Note also that students must be ASA members in order to be gifted a membership.) The section has worked to create alternative mechanisms for faculty who do not have graduate students needing membership or who wish to be especially generous and promoted it vigorously on social media and in the weekly email. Unfortunately, we could not overcome these barriers to meet out 1,000-person goal.

As of September 30, the section had 986 members. (563 Full Members + 60 AM Members + 48 Emeritus Members + 1 ML Members + 314 Student Members)

Communications Strategy

How does your section communicate with its members? Did it begin using any new technologies or techniques, if so were they effective? Please include links to your section’s website, newsletter and other electronic media used.

The Medical Sociology Section Chair communicates directly with the membership using the ASA-sponsored support announcement listserv. This is generally a very active announcement listserv with 1-2 messages (usually a digested announcement created by the section chair) posted weekly. Lilla Pivnick served as listserv manager in 2016-2017 and has agreed to stay on for 2017-2018.

Simon Geletta, the Section’s webmaster and two associate webmasters, Natalie Ingraham and John Girdwood, are very effective in communicating in a variety of capacities. Ingraham is transitioning to a new position and is now in the process of training Mel Jeske (doctoral candidate at University of California, San Francisco) to assume social media duties for the Section.

They post materials such as the newsletter at the site:
http://www.asanet.org/communities/sections/sites/medical-sociology

The section also has a Facebook site at:
http://www.facebook.com/MedicalSociology/ASA/info with more than 2,008 “likes” as well as a twitter site at https://twitter.com/MedicalSocASA and a Linked-In account:
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4679223/profile.
Our Twitter currently has 947 followers (a gain of nearly 130 this year). We average 5 posts per week, with a bump before the ASA annual meeting. Our LinkedIn group has grown to nearly 400 members. This is a private group for Med Soc section members to network, created in 2012.

Finally, we also communicate with the membership through the publication and distribution of the Medical Sociology Section Newsletters, which is edited by Ann Bell and Barret Michalec. Below are key points included in their annual report to the Section Council:

“Since the last annual meeting, four issues of the Medical Sociology Newsletter (MSN) were published. These issues represented Volume 53, Issues 1-4. Our goals, as the editors of the MSN, have been to: a.) make the MSN more concise through streamlining articles/contributions, b.) develop a “focus topic” for each issue, c.) have articles/contributions oriented to the “focus topic”, and d.) increase the exposure of medical sociologists and offer practical advice through the “Guest Columnist” and “Interview with a Scholar” pieces as well as promotion of the twitter and Facebook page of the section. Each of these goals were reached, and we believe we continue to offer an enriching and engaging newsletter.”

With such a large section and a proliferation of new media, coordinator is needed to ensure regular, consistent, and up-to-date communication with the section’s membership. The combined strategy detailed above is viewed as effective.

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**Statements, Notes, Observations**

*Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.*
The Coming Year
This portion of the report discusses your section’s plans for next year.

Elections and Nominations
This section details who is on the section’s Nominations Committee and how they were appointed. If your section does not have a standing Nominations Committee, please discuss your process for nominating candidates for next year’s elections.

The Medical Sociology section has an elected Nominations Committee with well-established procedures for soliciting and sorting nominations for each of the elected Section officers. The Nominations Committee consisted of Jason Schnittker (chair), Andrew London (chair-elect), Elaine Hernandez, Emily Mann, and Catherine Tan. The committee solicited nominations during the 2016 Annual Meeting and subsequently via the section listserv. The committee also used the list of unused nominees from the previous year. From this list the committee created ranked lists of candidates for each position. Though, as with other years, there were some refusals as we moved through candidates, especially for the more labor-intense positions, we were able to recruit a full slate in about a month.

The final election results were as follows:
Katrina Kimport Career and Employment Committee Chair (2-year term)
Brea Perry Chair-Elect (1-year term, followed by Chair)
Hui (Cathy) Liu Council Members (2-year term)
Adam Lippert Nominations Committee (1-year term)
Reanne Frank Nominations Committee (1-year term)
Jen’nan Read Nominations Committee Chair-Elect (1-year term)
Lindsay Stevens Nominations Committee, Student Member (1-year term)
Claire Decoteau Publications Committee Chair (2-year term)
Julia Bandini Student Representative (2-year term)
Ophra Leyser-Whalen Teaching Committee Chair (2-year term)

Plans for the coming year.
What sort of programming will your section conduct for next year’s Annual Meeting. Will the section begin any new projects before then?

In keeping with the theme for the 2018 ASA meeting (Feeling Race: An Invitation to Explore Racialized Emotions), one of our sessions will focus on “Race, Racism, and Health: Patterns and Processes.” The full list of sessions for 2018 is as follows:

2018 ASA Medical Sociology section sessions
1. **Race, Racism, and Health: Patterns and Processes**
   This session addresses the program committee’s invitation to explore racialized experiences through presentations on patterns of racial inequalities in health and health care and the processes that produce them.
   Tyson Brown, Duke University, tyson.brown@duke.edu

2. **The Politics of Health**
   This session casts a wide net to encourage submissions on a range of topics centered on politics and health, including but not limited to health care reform, the role of political beliefs in provider decision-making, and the health consequences of political polarization.
   Celeste Campos-Castillo, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, camposca@uwm.edu
3. **Sociology of Medical Education**  
Recent years have seen a resurgence of interest in medical education. This session invites presentations having to do with all aspects of contemporary medical education, such as curriculum, culture, inclusion, and instruction.  
Sharon Preves, Hamline University, spreves@hamline.edu

4. **Sociological Research and the Reduction of Health Inequalities**  
Presentations in this session will focus on health inequalities broadly defined. Panelists are encouraged to give special attention to how sociological research can contribute to eliminating health inequalities by informing health policies and practices.  
Sirry Alang, Lehigh University, sma206@lehigh.edu

5. **Health, Health Care, and New Technologies**  
Presentations in this session will explore how new information and communication technologies are being used for health and health care - their positive and negative impact on patients and providers, their implications for provider-patient relationships and for access to health care, and related topics.  
Denise Anthony, Dartmouth University, Denise.L.Anthony@dartmouth.edu

6. **Roundtables + Business Meeting**  
Matt Grace, Hamilton College, mgrace@hamilton.edu

7. **Reeder Award + Award Ceremony**  
Jane McLeod, Indiana University, jmcleod@indiana.edu

We will also co-sponsor a session with the Sex and Gender Section in 2018 (to be drawn from Sex and Gender’s allotted sessions): **Gender, health, and medicine** – open submission session

From fitness trackers on wristwatches to diet apps on our mobile devices, we are surrounded by commercialized ways to monitor or improve our health. Corporations and public figures engage in a double-edged process of health morality and health activism by encouraging young people to “Play 60” or inviting us into healthier habits by suggesting, “Let’s Move!” We have become a health-conscious society but what does it mean to ‘be healthy?’ What does ‘health’ feel like? Which social factors determine who has the capacity to achieve ‘health’? Specifically – how does gender affect our definitions of health and our experiences of health care, resources, and outcomes? This panel welcomes submissions that reflect on the gendered definitions of health and illness, gendered experiences of health care, services, and resources, and the gendered dynamics inherent the development, implementation, and outcomes of health interventions. We especially encourage submissions that relate gender and health to the following: gender identity and/or trans and gender diverse experience; race and ethnicity; bodies and embodiment; emotions; patient/provider interaction and/or care experiences; power, medicalization, and/or social control; social support and/or interaction-based health resources; public sociology and/or activist oriented scholarship; alternative or non-normative pathways to health; and health activism and/or health social movements.  
Austin H. Johnson (Kenyon College) and Program Committee liaison: Emily Mann (University of South Carolina)

Our incoming chair is also overseeing plans for a special topics roundtable. A group who does research in medical education is looking into booking a tour at the National Board of Medical Examiners, which is based in Philadelphia.

**Statements, Notes, Observations**  
*Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.*
A link to an example report will be provided here.
The Association and the Executive Office
This is your opportunity to put items onto the agenda of the Committee on Sections and ASA Staff.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the ASA Council and Committee on Sections?
This is your opportunity to make policy suggestions or discuss any difficulties that your section encountered during your tenure as Section Chair.

________________________________________________________________________________

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to ASA Staff?
Please feel free to suggest improvements to sections procedures or services provided to sections.

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Statements, Notes, Observations
Please feel free to use this space for anything that doesn’t fit above.

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2017 MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Saturday, August 12, 2017
7:00 - 8:15 am

1. Welcome and introductions – Debra Umberson
2. Review of 2017 agenda – Debra Umberson
3. Approval of 2016 Council Meeting minutes – Janet Shim
4. Report from Chair – Debra Umberson
5. Report from Secretary/Treasurer – Janet Shim
6. Committee Reports
   a. Membership – Corinne Reczek
   b. Nominations Committee – Jason Schnittker
   c. Teaching and Learning – Laura Senier
   d. Health Policy Committee – Thomas Mackie
   e. Career and Employment – Miranda Waggoner
   f. Publications Committee & Eliot Freidson Outstanding Publication Award – Rene Almeling
7. Chair-Elect report / plans for 2018 meeting – Jane McLeod
8. Student representatives report – Taylor Hargrove and Estela Vasquez
9. 2018 Leo G. Reeder Award (process not outcome) – Jane McLeod
10. Roberta Simmons Award – Rich Carpiano
11. Donald W. Light Award for Applied or Public Practice of Medical Sociology – Kristin Barker
12. Howard B. Kaplan Memorial Award – Tony Brown
13. Louise Johnson Scholar – Tony Brown
14. Raffle report – Danielle Bessett
15. Newsletter Editor’s Report – Ann Bell and Barret Michalec
17. JHSB report: Rich Carpiano and Brian Kelly
18. Schedule of Section activities – Debra Umberson
19. Other business:
   a. Conflict of interest policy (next steps to place to by-laws and get on the ballot)– Rene Almeling
   b. IAHPS ties – Debra Umberson
   c. Roundtables idea – Debra Umberson
   d. Endowment funds update and plans – Janet Shim
20. Adjournment
2017 MEDICAL SOCIOLGY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, August 12, 2017
7:00 - 8:15 am

NOTE: Minutes not yet approved by Medical Sociology Council.

Present: Julia Bandini; Kristin Barker; Danielle Bessett; Tony Brown; Richard Carpiano; Clare Decoteau; Taylor Hargrove; Elaine Hernandez; Tania Jenkins; Adam Lippert; Andrew London; Emily Mann; Jane McLeod; Brea Perry; Sara Rubin; Jason Schnittker; Janet Shim; Lindsay Stevens; Catherine Tan; Debra Umberson; Miranda Waggoner.

Welcome and Introduction, Review of Agenda: Deb Umberson called the meeting to order at 7:03AM. All current and incoming members of the Council who were present introduced themselves. Deb reviewed the Agenda for the 2017 meeting and proposed that committee chairs report only on new items that had not been included in their final reports, so that as much time as possible could be spent discussing New Business.

Approval of 2016 Minutes: Janet Shim asked if there were any revisions to the 2016 minutes. There were no changes. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved with no opposed and no abstentions.

Report from Chair / Membership Committee: Deb Umberson presented the Council with her report, and had no new changes to add. Given the absence of our Membership Chair, Deb took the opportunity to highlight some membership issues; see below under Membership Committee for additional notes on the discussion.

Secretary / Treasurer Report: Janet Shim presented the Council with her report as well as the draft budget for 2018. The Section remains financially healthy. Some expenses from 2015 that had been charged to endowed funds rather than to the general Section account had been corrected. Additionally, charges for the 2016 reception were never received from the vendor due to an accounting error, and ASA indicated that they will not be forthcoming. After consulting with Chair Umberson, Janet contacted the two sponsors for the 2016 reception, Wiley Blackwell and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to ask if they wished to have their sponsorship contributions returned to them, or rolled over as contributions to future receptions. Wiley elected to roll over their contribution to the 2018 reception (they had already paid for sponsorship for the 2017 reception). RWJF had not yet responded.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee: Corinne Reczek was not able to attend the Council meeting. However Chair Umberson in her stead brought to the Council's attention our lagging membership numbers: at the time of the meeting, membership stood at approximately 935, lower than at the same time the previous year. The ASA portal for student gift memberships closed on July 31. Deb contacted ASA to obtain an explanation and request that the portal be re-opened; ASA indicated that this was a new rule change, and they had no plans to re-open the portal until October.

Suggestions from Council members to boost membership included the following:
- Making announcements at the reception and Business Meeting that we are in need of additional members;
- Doing a reciprocal “buddy system” with other sections who are need of additional members and/or cover topics related to health, inviting members to join the other's sections;
- Searching the online program for papers on health-related topics by authors who are not yet Med Soc section members and sending invitations (perhaps from the Chair) to join the section.

**Nominations Committee:** Outgoing chair Jason Schnittker thanked the members of the Nominations Committee who succeeded in compiling a great slate of candidates for the election. Incoming chair Andrew London indicated that he would be soliciting names of potential nominees at the meeting, per usual.

**Chair-Elect Report / Plans for 2017 Meeting:** Jane McLeod is soliciting ideas for sessions for next year's annual meeting. The theme of the meeting is “Feeling Race: An Invitation to Explore Racialized Emotions,” and there will be at least one thematic session as well as one on health inequalities. Jane noted that our section is a broad one, and while it is difficult to represent this breadth completely, it would be great to offer a slate of sessions that reflects the heterogeneity of interests and approaches that characterize our section.

**Student Representatives Report:** Taylor Hargrove had nothing to add to their report, but shared that 15 graduate students had RSVP'd to have lunch with Reeder Awardee Kathy Charmaz just before her Reeder address.

**Reeder Award Committee:** Jane McLeod asked Council to consider a potential change to the call for nominations. Currently, the call asks nominators to “submit letter of nomination, at least two other suggestions for nominators, and the nominee’s curriculum vitae …” Jane suggested that we amend the text of the call to either ask for additional letters of support specifically, or to eliminate mention of “other suggestions for nominators” since they have never been solicited. Council discussed the pros and cons of soliciting additional letters of support, a cap on such letters of support, or simply having one nomination letter that can have multiple signatories. A proposal was made to amend that sentence of the call as follows: “…Please submit letter of nomination, and the nominee’s curriculum vitae to [name and email address of Reeder Award Committee Chair] ...” This motion was seconded, and passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

**Simmons Award Committee:** Rich Carpiano thanked the committee for their effort and participation in reviewing the nominations. He reported that 5 nominations for the Simmons Award were received and considered. Tania Jenkins was selected as this year’s winner.

Rich also brought up the issue of varying conventions on co-authorship, particularly with advisors. This came up most frequently for dissertations where students were conducting analyses of data collected by their advisors, but could also apply to instances where students use data collected by others. Council discussed how to compare solo authorship of Simmons Award submissions, to those with multiple authors, particularly given changing practices around collaboration, secondary analyses, some advisors conventionally requiring co-authorship on students’ dissertation publications, and that these often reflected methodological differences as well (with qualitative/ethnographic dissertations tending to be solo-authored, while quantitative dissertation publications were more frequently co-authored).
Council agreed that in the interests of soliciting higher numbers of nominations, and providing clarity on co-authored submissions being accepted, the text of the call for nominations should be changed. Rich will propose some language that submissions that are co-authored with dissertation advisors are welcome, but that the submission should reflect primarily the student’s own work, and that nomination letters should indicate the role of co-authors for such submissions. This language will be circulated to Council by email for comment and vote.

**Light Award Committee:** Kristin Barker reported that six submissions were received, and they represented very high quality work and it was a robust pool. She thanked the committee for their service. Two rounds of voting were needed to decide on the winner; ultimately Helen Marrow and Tiffany Joseph’s paper was selected as this year’s Light Award.

Kristin pointed out that the ranked-choice voting system could, in theory, allow for voters to sink the chances of a particular nomination (this is a critique about ranked-choice voting systems more generally) and so future chairs might consider changing to a preference system.

**Kaplan Award:** Tony Brown reported that only two submissions were received for this award, which recognizes a graduate student working in mental health. There were some fit issues related to this award, and in the future Council may want to do some additional promotion to increase the number of nominations and to ensure that nominators are clear on the criteria for the award. See **Other Business** for additional discussion and follow-up item. This year’s winner is Suzan Walters, whose work is a great fit for this award.

**Johnson Scholar:** For this travel award (for students to present a paper), Tony Brown reported that seven nominations were received, and the scope and purpose of the award seemed to be better understood than the Kaplan Award. This year’s winner is Alex Barnard.

Tony noted that some individuals were nominated for multiple awards; Kristin Barker also mentioned that some publication award winners were then nominated for other publication awards. See **Other Business** below for additional discussion and follow-up item.

**Teaching and Learning Committee:** Laura Senier was unable to attend ASA this year but sent the update that she thoroughly enjoyed writing this column over the past two years. In July she received a lovely email from a University of California, San Diego grad student who followed up on one of her ideas for using graphic novels in the classroom. The grad student shared PDFs of the comics the students drew, and they were amazing. So clearly the column has had a very positive impact!

**Publications Committee & Eliot Freidson Outstanding Publication Award:** Rene Almeling sent an email update as she was not able to attend the Council meeting. The Freidson award committee had 33 articles nominated, and Brea Perry’s on “Gendering Genetics” was the clear winner. Honorable mention to Reczek et al on “Family Structure and Child Health.” Thanks to Jason Houle, Renee Anspach, and Joanna Kempner for serving on the committee this year.

**Career and Employment Committee:** Miranda Waggoner was not in attendance.

**Health Policy Committee:** Thomas Mackie was not in attendance.

**Raffle:** Danielle Bessett reported that she was able to find someone to take over organization of the raffle, Sara Rubin (currently a doctoral candidate at University of California, San Francisco).
Danielle wanted to try boosting raffle ticket sales by finding a way to take credit card payments for raffle tickets, but was not able to identify a way to do this, as it required linkage to a personal account. Danielle will ask about this at the new ASA Officers’ orientation. One idea to expand raffle donations was to offer gift cards from publishers: Danielle did soft solicitations from publishers but they raised some questions, which could not be fully addressed by the time of ASA. Sara Rubin may look into this further if she deems it necessary to maintain proceeds. A total of 30 books were offered for donation, including pledges of books to be donated on-site at ASA. However, with the ASA being located in Montreal, several boxes of books and T-shirts were turned back by Canadian customs. Those books will be shipped to raffle winners, while T-shirts will be used for next year’s raffle.

Newsletter Editors’ Report: Ann Bell and Barret Michalec were not able to attend ASA but sent an update that they had several volunteers for the new student editor, and that they would be making a final decision for that position soon.

Webmaster & Social Media Report: Natalie Ingraham and Simon Galetta were not able to attend ASA. Natalie asked for help identifying a new student member who could take over social media for her as she was transitioning to a new position at California State University-East Bay. After ASA, we asked Ann Bell and Barret Michalec to forward any additional names of student volunteers they had identified. Natalie is now in the process of training Mel Jeske (doctoral candidate at University of California, San Francisco) to assume social media duties for the Section.

JHSB Editor’s Report: Rich Carpiano reported that the full transition of the JHSB editorship from Gil Gee to himself and Brian Kelly took place on September 1, 2017. The transition went smoothly. The number of submissions remains robust and, as a result, they inherited from Gil’s tenure a significant number of already-accepted papers — a good position for new editors to be in. However, to ensure that the time from acceptance to publication for any paper is as short as possible, they have undertaken efforts with Sage to ensure faster “online first” publication. This will ensure that any paper is accessible to be read — and cited — well ahead of appearing in its scheduled issue.

As part of their broad efforts to ensure a diverse editorial board, they have actively sought nominations (including self-nominations) for the editorial board membership, as well as recruited international scholars.

Brian and Rich are strongly committed to the success of the Policy Brief section available in each issue. They have been working to ensure that these Briefs reach policy stakeholders, including state and federal governments and non-governmental organizations. Purdue University has generously provided the funds to help with resources and personnel to develop a database of policy stakeholders and encourage authors to create white papers based off of their publications. In addition to the Policy Brief section, the co-editors have also created a new “Commentary” feature. These are peer-reviewed, short essays covering “big picture” issues of significance to medical sociology, with the goal of stimulating debate.

Lastly, Brian and Rich have also focused on increasing JHSB’s social media exposure on Twitter — increasing their followers in general and especially among sociologists in other areas of study, non-sociologists, journalists, practitioners, policy think tanks, and organizations. In regard to promoting JHSB research, there had been some turnover in the ASA Media Relations office last year. However, this only presented some initial, very minor challenges in JHSB coordinating with ASA to promote featured articles. As always, ASA’s staff has been very helpful with handling this pursuit — as they have with all other tasks related to supporting the journal.
Other business / items for follow-up:

**New Google Drive for Section officers:** Outgoing Council officers were requested to revise and update their positions’ Manual of Operations (MOO). All MOO materials will then be relocated from Kristin Barker’s Dropbox account to a Google Drive ‘owned’ by a new ASA Medical Sociology gmail account.

**Change to Reeder Award call for nominations:** As detailed above, the call for Reeder nominees will be amended, with the sentence regarding nominations materials to be changed to read: "…Please submit letter of nomination, and the nominee’s curriculum vitae to [name and email address of Reeder Award Committee Chair] …”

**Change to Simmons Award call for nominations to be proposed:** As detailed above, Rich Carpiano will propose some language that submissions that are co-authored with dissertation advisors are welcome, but that the submission should reflect primarily the student’s own work, and that nomination letters should indicate the role of co-authors for such submissions. This language will be circulated to Council by email for comment and vote.

**Description of awards in Newsletter:** To address some of the issues with lack of fit between nominee backgrounds/work and the awards they were nominated for, Council decided that award committee chairs should write fuller descriptions of the scope of the awards, and the kinds of work/individuals they are intended to recognize, to be published in the Newsletter prior to nomination submission dates.

**Policy on multiple awards:** Council discussed whether students and/or publications should be considered for multiple awards, against the broader context of a desire to expand the pool of nominees/nominations for many of the awards and to “spread” the recognition afforded by the awards across as many individuals and kinds of work as possible. Council decided that students could be nominated for multiple awards, as long as the student’s work fit the terms of the award. However, Council agreed that the same paper/publication could not receive more than one Section award. Rather than explicitly prohibiting nominations of previous award winning papers/publications or to more than one Section award, Council empowered award committee chairs to notify nominators informally should and when this becomes an issue. To ensure that award committee chairs are aware of multiple nominations for the same work, Council decided to set up a Google spreadsheet to track nominations and award winners. Separate tabs will be created for each year, and award committee chairs will take responsibility to record their nominations, be aware if nominations under consideration are also being considered for another award that year, and to coordinate and ensure that one paper/publication does not win multiple awards either in the same year or across years.

**Conflict of interest policy:** Last year Rene Almeling proposed crafting a policy regarding conflicts of interest on award committees. Language was drafted and approved by Council, and will be placed on the Section ballot to be included in the Section by-laws.

**IAHPS ties:** Debra Umberson announced a new organization, the Interdisciplinary Association for Health Population Sciences, is hosting their third conference in Austin, TX in October 2017. IAHPS was originally founded with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The next annual meeting will be in Washington, DC in October 2018.
International Conference on Social Stress Research: Deb also announced that this conference would be in June 2018 in Athens, Greece.

Roundtables: Debra Umberson asked for Council input on a proposal for roundtables on professional development. Given the very large constraints on hosting additional sessions or meetings at ASA, the roundtable venue is one of our only options for new kinds of offerings, that is readily under Section control. Reserving perhaps 1-2 tables per year to professional development topics such as discussions of mentoring, grantwriting, and reviewing for journals, could be helpful for graduate students and junior faculty. Senior members of the Section and/or Council members could facilitate those roundtables, which would additionally offer opportunities for others to interact with Council and Section leadership.

There was some concern about such roundtables being big draws for audience and therefore reducing attendees at the other roundtables. One suggestion to prevent this is to split the 100-minute roundtable session into two parts that would run sequentially, not concurrently: one for the regular paper-oriented roundtables, and another for the professional development topics. However, this would have implications for the scheduling of sessions. Below is how the various sessions allotted to our Section were distributed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reeder Session</th>
<th>Roundtables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reeder Address (80 min, incl intro)  + Award Ceremony (20 min)</td>
<td>Roundtables (60 min) + <strong>Business Meeting</strong> (40 min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2017</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reeder Address (60 min, incl intro)  + Award Ceremony (15 min)  + <strong>Business Meeting</strong> (25 min)</td>
<td>Roundtables only (100 min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notes</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 2017 change resulted in both the Reeder Address and the Business Meeting feeling rushed.</td>
<td>While in 2016 some complained that the time for roundtable presentations was too short, in 2017 most of the roundtables ended quite early.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Another issue related to roundtables that was raised is that last year, acceptance to roundtables was handled differently with the process being much more selective, which meant fewer roundtables and many more papers that were rejected. While the roundtables had great presentations, there were also many complaints about the high number of paper rejections.

Endowment funds update and plans: Janet Shim highlighted from her Secretary-Treasurer’s report Don Light’s offer to place the endowed/restricted accounts (Simmons, Johnson, Kaplan, Reeder) into investment accounts that earns income, moving them from the very low-yield funds that they are currently in under ASA’s management. Don has done this with his Light endowment, and the income earned has greatly exceeded the award expenses. Under Kristin Barker’s term as Chair, Council explored whether moving the endowed funds/investing them differently was permissible; according to Les Briggs at ASA, it is more of a courtesy than requirement that donor families’ consent be solicited, as the Section has the authority to manage the endowment (unless terms have been stipulated otherwise, which for our endowments, they have not). If we were to proceed with this, Don’s offer included his personal guarantee that he will cover award expenses if the investment income generated from an endowed account does not cover the costs associated with that award.

Council discussion included raising multiple questions:
Committee chairs were either not in attendance or had no updates to their submitted reports to add.

Jason Schnittker thanked everyone who submitted nominations for positions, and to all those who ran for elections. Jason introduced incoming Nominations Committee Chair Andrew London, who announced that nominations sheets were being distributed throughout the room, and that he would also be accepting nominations by email. He also informed attendees that previous nominees would also be considered, as the Nominations Committee tracked and regularly considered those who had been nominated previously.

Jane Mcleod thanked Deb Umberson on program planning for the 2016 sessions. Assuming that the Section reaches the 1000 member mark, she reported that we would again be planning for six sessions for the 2018 meeting in Philadelphia. She reminded attendees that the theme for the 2018 meeting was “Feeling Race: An Invitation to Explore Racialized Emotions,” and there will be at least one thematic session. Additional sessions will include one on health inequalities, the roundtables, the Reeder Award Address and Business Meeting, leaving two other sessions to be determined. Jane encouraged members to contact her with ideas for sessions they would like to see. She also mentioned that some creative ways to incorporate mentoring and professional development might be explored with the roundtable format and sessions, and she welcomed ideas for content and ways to do this.

A compliment was taken from the floor commending Ann Bell and Barret Michalec for their superb editorship of the Section newsletter. This led to an enthusiastic round of applause for them, and for the outgoing student editor Kellie Owens (Northwestern) for her multiple contributions to the newsletter. Deb Umberson then announced that Ann and Barret were seeking a new student editor for the newsletter, and that interested individuals could contact them.

Catherine Moran announced the 16th International Conference on Social Stress Research, taking place in Athens, Greece in June 2018. The CFP would come out in October, with deadline for submissions by the end of 2017. She distributed flyers and said that this information would also be sent to the newsletter for inclusion there.

Chris Bachrach announced the Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science conference, that would be meeting in October 2017 in Austin, TX, and in October 2018 in Washington DC.

Finally, Don Light announced that Mike Saks and Mike Dent are editing a monograph series on the sociology of health professions, by Policy Press. Flyers were distributed.

Chair Deb Umberson again thanked outgoing Council members for their hard work all year, and welcomed incoming Council members. She then passed the chairship to Jane McLeod.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12pm.
1. Welcome – Debra Umberson

2. Transitions: Outgoing and incoming Council members – Debra Umberson

3. Review of 2017 Agenda and Report from the Chair – Debra Umberson

4. Approval of 2016 Business Meeting Minutes – Janet Shim

5. Secretary/Treasurer Report – Janet Shim

6. Committee Reports:
   a. Membership – Corinne Reczek
   b. Teaching & Learning – Laura Senier
   c. Health Policy & Research – Thomas Mackie
   d. Publications Committee – Rene Almeling
   e. Career and Employment – Miranda Waggoner
   f. Nominations Committee – Jason Schnittker

7. Call for Nominations – Jason Schnittker and Andrew London

8. New Business


10. Adjournment and Passing of the Gavel – Deb Umberson to Jane McLeod

*Raffle tickets will be sold during the Awards Ceremony and Business Meeting on August 12, 2017. Drawings will occur during the joint Medical Sociology-Mental Health reception.*
Participants: Approximately 60 people were present for the Section Business Meeting.

Welcome and Review of 2017 Agenda and Report from the Chair: Debra Umberson called the meeting to order by welcoming members and guests of the section. She first thanked outgoing members of Council officers, and welcomed newly elected incoming members of Council.

Because of the truncated time for the Business Meeting (due to the combined Reeder Award Address, Award Ceremony, and Business Meeting being combined in one session), Deb referred attendees to already submitted committee reports, and asked committee chairs to only provide updates to those reports.

Deb thanked all the donors of books and shirts that were contributed to the raffle, and pointed those in attendance to the sale of raffle tickets.

She also announced that Council had passed a conflict of interest policy for award committees, and alerted attendees that this would be appearing on the ballot for a vote on inclusion in the Section by-laws.

Approval of 2016 Minutes: Janet Shim reported that Council had approved the minutes to the 2016 Council and Business meeting.

Secretary / Treasurer Report: Janet Shim summarized the report on the 2016-17 budget, including actual expenses. The Section remains very financially healthy, with general expenses exceeding income by a relatively wide margin, due to the error by the Seattle Convention Center which resulted in no charges for the 2016 joint reception with the Section on Mental Health. She thanked the Sociology of Health and Illness/Wiley Blackwell’s continued sponsorship of the reception.

Membership Committee: In Corinne Reczek’s absence, Deb Umberson gave a quick report on our relatively low (for this time of year) membership numbers, and encouraged members to seek other members as we are still under the 1000 member mark. She reported on the problems with the ASA student gift membership portal being closed at the end of July without much notice, and in contrast to previous years when it remained open through the end of September. A comment was taken from the floor that ASA also eliminated the emeritus member status; however, a subsequent check on the ASA website indicates that the emeritus membership category still exists. Another comment taken from the floor about the lack of transparency on the part of ASA, and that having ASA Council meetings was “undemocratic,” given that is where such issues like the early closure of the student gift membership portal could be raised.

Teaching Committee: Outgoing chair Laura Senier and incoming chair Ophra Leyser-Whalen could not be in attendance, but Ophra’s solicitation of ideas for future teaching columns was relayed to attendees.
Health Policy / Publications / Career and Employment Committees: Committee chairs were either not in attendance or had no updates to their submitted reports to add.

Nominations Committee & Call for Nominations: Jason Schnittker thanked everyone who submitted nominations for positions, and to all those who ran for elections. Jason the introduced incoming Nominations Committee Chair Andrew London, who announced that nominations sheets were being distributed throughout the room, and that he would also be accepting nominations by email. He also informed attendees that previous nominees would also be considered, as the Nominations Committee tracked and regularly considered those who had been nominated previously.

Chair-Elect Report / Plans for 2018 Meeting: Jane Mcleod thanked Deb Umberson on program planning for the 2016 sessions. Assuming that the Section reaches the 1000 member mark, she reported that we would again be planning for six sessions for the 2018 meeting in Philadelphia. She reminded attendees that the theme for the 2018 meeting was “Feeling Race: An Invitation to Explore Racialized Emotions,” and there will be at least one thematic session. Additional sessions will include one on health inequalities, the roundtables, the Reeder Award Address and Business Meeting, leaving two other sessions to be determined. Jane encouraged members to contact her with ideas for sessions they would like to see. She also mentioned that some creative ways to incorporate mentoring and professional development might be explored with the roundtable format and sessions, and she welcomed ideas for content and ways to do this.

New Business:
A compliment was taken from the floor commending Ann Bell and Barret Michalec for their superb editorship of the Section newsletter. This led to an enthusiastic round of applause for them, and for the outgoing student editor Kellie Owens (Northwestern) for her multiple contributions to the newsletter. Deb Umberson then announced that Ann and Barret were seeking a new student editor for the newsletter, and that interested individuals could contact them.

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Finally, Don Light announced that Mike Saks and Mike Dent are editing a monograph series on the sociology of health professions, by Policy Press. Flyers were distributed.

Adjournment and Passing of the Gavel: Chair Deb Umberson again thanked outgoing Council members for their hard work all year, and welcomed incoming Council members. She then passed the chairship to Jane McLeod.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12pm.
## Budget 2017 RECONCILIATION
Medical Sociology Section (03)

### REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
<th>Actual*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section Budget Allocation</td>
<td>$3,140.00</td>
<td>$3,048.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues Income (estimated 1010 members, act)</td>
<td>$3,020.00</td>
<td>$2,033.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income (Wiley Blackwell)</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**TOTAL REVENUES** $8,160.00 $7,081.00

### EXPENSES

#### Annual Meeting
- Reception $4,900.00 $4,436.00

#### Awards
- Simmons Award ($750 + dinner) $800.00 $778.00
- Freidson Award (dinner) $100.00 $28.00
- Reeder Award (dinner) $50.00 $28.00
- Kaplan Award** ($500 + dinner) $550.00 $528.00
- Johnson Scholar ($500 + dinner) $550.00 $500.00
- Light Award† -
- Plaques (7) & shipping $500.00 $364.11

#### Other Section Activities
- Student Council Member Travel (2) $500.00 $250.00
- Student Council Member dinners (2) $100.00 $28.00
- Incoming student Council member dinner† - $28.00
- Student Lunch $400.00 $382.29
- US-UK Conference (June 2015, Iceland) $600.00 $600.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $9,050.00 $7,950.40

### INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

$ (890.00) $ (869.40)

*These amounts require confirmation after expenses are fully registered on ASA statements.

**Kaplan Award amount of $500 budgeted from General Section Budget but is actually drawn from Kaplan Fund.

†All expenses for the Light Award come from a separate fund.
## Draft Budget 2018
### Medical Sociology Section (03)

### REVENUES

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<tr>
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<td>Other Income (Wiley Blackwell)</td>
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**TOTAL REVENUES** $8,070

### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Meeting</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>$4,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Awards**
- Simmons Award ($750 + dinner)                 | $800   |
- Freidson Award (dinner x 2)                    | $100   |
- Reeder Award (dinner)                          | $50    |
- Kaplan Award* (dinner)                         | $50    |
- Johnson Scholar ($500 + dinner)                | $550   |
- Light Award†                                    | $0     |
- Plaques (6⁰) & shipping                        | $500   |

**Other Section Activities**
- Student Council Member Travel (2)              | $500   |
- Student Council Member dinners (2)             | $100   |
- Incoming student Council member dinner         | $50    |
- Student Lunch                                  | $400   |
- US-UK Conference (June 2015, Iceland)          | $600   |

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $8,600

### INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

**($530)**

* Kaplan Award amount of $500 drawn from Kaplan endowed account.
† All Light Award expenses (incl dinner and plaque) to be drawn from Light endowed account.
⁰ Number of plaques to be paid by Section includes 2 possible Freidson winners but no Light winner (see above note).
### MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY SECTION COUNCIL LIST

#### SECTION OFFICERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debra Umberson</td>
<td>Chair (Chair Elect 2015-16; Chair 2016-17; Past Chair 2017-18)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Umberson@prc.utexas.edu">Umberson@prc.utexas.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane McLeod</td>
<td>Chair Elect (Chair Elect 2016-17, Chair 2017-18, Past Chair 2018-19)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jmcleod@indiana.edu">jmcleod@indiana.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Barker</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbarker@unm.edu">kbarker@unm.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet K. Shim</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer (2015-17)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Janet.Shim@ucsf.edu">Janet.Shim@ucsf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Bessett</td>
<td>Secretary-Treasurer Elect (Secretary-Treasurer Elect 2016-17, Secretary-Treasurer 2017-19)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:danielle.bessett@uc.edu">danielle.bessett@uc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brea Perry</td>
<td>(Chair Elect 2017-2018)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blperry@indiana.edu">blperry@indiana.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SECTION COUNCIL:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tony N. Brown</td>
<td>Council Member-At-Large (2015-17)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tony.n.brown@rice.edu">tony.n.brown@rice.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Carpiano</td>
<td>Council Member-At-Large (2016-18)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Richard.carpiano@ucr.edu">Richard.carpiano@ucr.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Hargrove</td>
<td>Student Council Member-At-Large (2015-17)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thargrov@email.unc.edu">thargrov@email.unc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirila Estela Vasquez Guzman</td>
<td>Student Council Member-At-Large (2016-18)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vasquez@unm.edu">vasquez@unm.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nominations Committee:

Jason Schnittker
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jschnitt@ssc.upenn.edu

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Teaching Committee:

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Lindsay Stevens
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Lindsay.stevens@rutgers.edu

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Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
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Sara.Rubin@ucsf.edu