The objectives of the Association shall be to stimulate and improve research, instruction, and discussion, and to encourage cooperative relations among persons engaged in the scientific study of society.

—ASA Constitution, Article II

MISSION

- Serving Sociologists in Their Work
- Advancing Sociology as a Science and Profession
- Promoting the Contributions and Use of Sociology to Society

The American Sociological Association (ASA), founded in 1905, is a non-profit membership association dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the public good. With over 14,000 members, ASA encompasses sociologists who are faculty members at colleges and universities, researchers, practitioners, and students. About 20 percent of the members work in government, business, or non-profit organizations.

As the national organization for sociologists, the American Sociological Association, through its Executive Office, is well positioned to provide a unique set of services to its members and to promote the vitality, visibility, and diversity of the discipline. Working at the national and international levels, the Association aims to articulate policy and implement programs likely to have the broadest possible impact for sociology now and in the future.

Much of the vitality of ASA flows from its diverse membership. With this in mind, it is the policy of the ASA to include people of color; women; gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons; persons with disabilities; sociologists from smaller institutions or who work in government, business, or other applied settings; and international scholars in all of its programmatic activities and in the business of the Association.
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The ASA differs from other organizations because we can take a sociological view on what is happening.

The 2010–11 presidential year had a lot of controversies. In December 2010 we were faced with the prospect of a hotel workers union action at the Chicago Annual Meeting hotels, and to avoid being caught at the last minute (because of ASA policy not to cross union picket lines) we decided to change the meeting venue for August 2011. Our best offer was Las Vegas. There was a certain amount of disgruntlement about the move—myself included, since Chicago is the birthplace of American sociology and probably its most heavily researched city. But we bit the bullet and moved to Las Vegas. No sociological surprise here; we (and other professional associations) have had to move meetings several times in the past 10 years, for the same reason. Labor unions in the United States have been fading, but one industry that has been growing is the leisure/convention industry, and Unite HERE is among the most militant unions today. We should be prepared for this as a recurring issue.

As sociologists, we need to exercise reflexive insight into what we receive over the Internet and, even more so, what we send out.

Once in Las Vegas, the meeting was an intellectual success. Attendance was quite high—below the very top big city venues, but way above the hit that ASA has taken in revenues from meetings in minor, regional cities. Controversy was about the atmosphere of Las Vegas itself. Informal questioning and unsolicited comments suggest that many people found the casinos and the city morally offensive, sexist, exploitative of poor people, and intrusively tasteless; these attitudes seem most widespread among ASA members who are older, white, and upper class. Many others found the atmosphere colorful and exciting; this was especially likely to be expressed by members who are younger, minorities, and more connected to working class people. An eminent ethnographer told me he would like to spend months here getting to know how the backstage of this city works.

After years of discussion, the ASA Council finally put forward a proposal to restructure dues. A succession of ASA secretaries had been warning that the dues were becoming less and less progressive because of bracket creep, and that the ASA was risking financial loss in the future. Since the economic meltdown of 2008, the Executive Office had cut expenditures and staff had gone without raises for several years. But Council kept putting off a proposal to the membership, fearing it would be voted down in these difficult years, or that we would lose high-paying members if it passed. Finally we bit the bullet again. (Credit especially the eloquent arguments of Erik Olin Wright.) Several months of public controversy ensued over the Internet. ASA members, often operating in e-mail groups, questioned expenses of the Executive Office, why we needed a full-time central office at all, and charged ASA officials with a lack of transparency. Picking up on the way that our internal controversies echo those of national politics, I replied to some of these critiques by questioning why sociologists—normally on the liberal side of politics—are having a Tea Party movement inside our own organization.

When the ballot results came in, a substantial majority of members who voted (58.3 percent to 27.5 percent, with 14.2 percent abstaining) ended up approving the dues referendum, and renewal rates among high paid members have not dropped. This was predictable on sociological grounds—the highly ranked members of the discipline tend to be the most committed to sociology and always have the highest renewal rates.

Why was there so much vehement controversy about the dues increase? One factor is that it
came on the heels of several other controversies that also generated flurries of mobilization over the Internet. These concerned very different issues, but names of activists in one controversy tended to reappear in one or another subsequent Internet mobilization. I’ll briefly list some of the major controversies:

In fall 2010, the National Research Council (NRC) released a report ranking sociology departments (along with other disciplines). Because their method relied on objective measures rather than on opinion surveys and because of the way multiple-author articles were counted and books were excluded, a number of leading departments found their usual rankings greatly upset. Department chairs mobilized among themselves and contacted the ASA President. In response, ASA Council set up an investigating committee (chaired by Mario Small), which produced an in-depth report, subsequently widely distributed and well-received. A job well done: sociologists put their expertise to use to show how ranking systems work. Department chairs now had professional backing they could use to show their deans; and the NRC got some useful instruction (perhaps not of practical relevance, however, since the departmental ranking project was done on soft money and is not likely to be repeated in the near future).

In late January 2011, a flurry of urgent e-mails circulated regarding death threats that had been made to a well-known sociologist, a researcher on social movement tactics; this person had been criticized by a right-wing radio commentator as stirring up violence. The e-mail cascade from sociologists demanded that we do something to stand by our colleague, chiefly to sign a petition denouncing the death threats and demanding the TV network fire the right-wing commentator. Since the mechanism of approval by ASA Council is not very speedy, it was decided that the three ASA Presidents (current, past, and elect) would put out a statement. This was done; for an exciting 48 hours we (the Presidents) personally, and the Executive Office, got a brief flurry of messages from conservative activists, mostly consisting of insults but including a very small number of threats. None of these threats were acted upon (including the original death threats); this is not surprising, since criminological data show that virtually no overt threats are carried out but are a disruptive and emotional tactic. An unforeseen sociological point is how rapidly the controversy died away, both on the side of the conservatives and the liberal activists. In the days while we were trying to get our statement together, the e-mail cascade took on extremely excited tones: “The ASA is a useless organization”; “People will die if we don’t do something!” What was to be done was a symbolic gesture; it turned out the death threats had been made over the past year, with no particular urgency at that moment. Once our symbolic gesture was made, the bubble in the public attention space burst and things went back to normal. As a sociologist, I found it a useful opportunity: to study how e-mail flurries operate in the time-dynamics of movement mobilization (this analysis can be found in my Presidential address, published in the February 2012 American Sociological Review), and to recognize that rapid circulation of excited emotions blurs our perspective on what is happening.

There were two other issues that took place during winter-spring 2011: whether ASA should take part in an amicus brief before the Supreme Court; and denouncing the award announced by one of the ASA award selection committees. Without going into their specifics, I suggest a common denominator, along with other controversies summarized above. One mobilization toward a particular target (the ASA Officers and Executive Office) facilitates further mobilizations; both the tactic and organization (using e-mail lists, recirculating past messages), and the emotional tone (urgency, vehemence, distrust of those who do not immediately join in our most excited activity) spread from one opportunity for controversy to another.

Given that the underlying commonality is the Internet and the specific networks sociologists are able to connect with very quickly using the Internet, it appears that we are in for more of the same. As sociologists, we need to exercise reflexive insight into what we receive over the Internet and, even more so, what we send out. The Internet on the whole is rather mundane for us now, mostly a massively intrusive, quick-disposal, clearing-up operation. But when the same topic keeps coming back, and the number of messages (both direct and appended) accelerates, it operates like an excited crowd, a new variant on a classic form of collective behavior. It is exciting; it is energizing, an electronic buzz of collective consciousness. We need to learn how to live with this in a sophisticated way.
I am pleased to report that the financial state of the association is strong. After running planned deficits in 2008 and 2009, the ASA ended 2011 with a small surplus for the second year in a row. This positive result was achieved through the Association staff’s ongoing efforts to restrain costs while receiving the expected income from our publications, getting our membership back above 14,000, and experiencing an increase in attendance at the Annual Meeting. The Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB) recommended and Council passed a balanced budget for 2012 that authorizes cost-of-living increases for the staff as well as a return to mailing members a print copy of Footnotes.

**Our Investments Have Also Weathered the Economic Upheavals of the Past Four Years in Remarkably Good Shape.**

Our investments have also weathered the economic upheavals of the past four years in remarkably good shape. Under the ASA Bylaws, EOB is delegated with “the authority and responsibility for the investment and reinvestment of funds owned and held by the Association.” As Secretary, I chair the EOB. It is composed of six other voting members—three elected (the current President, President-Elect and Past President) and three at-large members nominated by the Secretary and approved by Council. In 2011, the three Presidents were Evelyn Nakano Glenn (University of California–Berkeley), Randall Collins (University of Pennsylvania), and Erik Olin Wright (University of Wisconsin–Madison). The appointed members were Teresa A. Sullivan (University of Virginia), Glenn Firebaugh (Pennsylvania State University), and Margaret Andersen (University of Delaware). EOB hires an investment manager for the ASA’s long-term investments. He provides monthly statements and meets at least twice a year with the EOB.

EOB also functions as the Audit Committee. At my suggestion, EOB solicited proposals for new auditors in 2011. It is best practices to change auditors every five years. After reviewing the proposals, EOB selected Gelman, Rosenberg, and Freedman as our new auditors. I have been in communication with the auditors and look forward to receiving the audit this summer. EOB normally reviews the audit during its summer meeting and recommends that Council approve it at the Annual Meeting in August. After Council has approved the 2011 audit, it will be posted on the ASA website on the “Governance” page, which can be found under the “About ASA” tab on the homepage.

As Secretary of the ASA, I also serve as a voting member of the Committee on Publications and as its liaison to Council. Our portfolio of journals produce about a third of the Association’s revenues. The decisions of the Committee on Publications, such as the recent one approved by Council to increase page allocations for many of the journals, can have financial implications for the Association. I have asked the Committee on Publications to help me think about how

**Fortunately, Our Partnership with Sage Publications Guarantees That the Association Receives at Least as Much Income from Our Journals as We Received When We Were Publishing Them Ourselves. Perhaps More Importantly, It Has Extended the Reach of Our Journals, Especially in Other Countries.**
we fund editorial offices now that support from colleges and universities is declining given the budgetary pressures they are currently experiencing. Fortunately, our partnership with SAGE Publications guarantees that the Association receives at least as much income from our journals as we received when we were publishing them ourselves. Perhaps more importantly, it has extended the reach of our journals, especially in other countries.

My first year as ASA Secretary was more eventful than I had anticipated. First, Council voted to move the Annual Meeting from Chicago to Las Vegas because the hotels in Chicago lacked a labor contract. As Secretary, I was particularly concerned about the potential financial effects of this decision because the Annual Meeting accounts for just under one-fifth of our revenues (and the Secretary, therefore, serves on all three Program Committees during his or her term of office). My fears did not come to pass. Quite the contrary, as the Las Vegas meetings proved to be a very strong draw with well over 5,000 in attendance.

My second challenge and the one that took up more of my time occurred after EOB recommended and Council passed a proposal to restructure the membership dues income categories, which included an increase in the dues. The announcement that this proposal would be on the 2011 ballot for approval by the membership generated discussion about the merits of the proposal as well as calls for greater transparency regarding the ASA’s finances. The decision to produce an annual report arose as one of the responses to those calls. Please contact me, the Executive Officer, or one of the Presidents if you have any questions about the ASA or if you have any suggestions about how to improve the annual report. In fact, contact us if you have any concerns about how the ASA operates or suggestions about how to improve those operations.

In sum, 2011 was a good year both financially and intellectually for the ASA. The Annual Meeting was a success, membership increased, our journals thrived, and the dues restructuring proposal passed. The year 2012 is on track to be a good year as well.

THE LAS VEGAS MEETINGS PROVED TO BE A VERY STRONG DRAW WITH WELL OVER 5,000 IN ATTENDANCE.
Executive Officer’s Report

SALLY T. HILLSMAN

Thanks are due to the members and leaders of the ASA who gave us feedback on our first ASA Annual Report and encouraged us to continue with this means of providing comprehensive, meaningful but brief information annually on the activities of the Association. The concept of transparency cannot be merely symbolic in a membership association, especially one like the ASA whose members are engaged, turn out to vote in significant numbers, participate in leadership at all levels, and keep 51 sections lively and productive. Transparency must be reflected in the communication of detailed, accurate information on all aspects of the Association’s work.

Information overload—paper and electronic—does not make this an easy task. ASA is using member e-mails strategically rather than frequently (e.g., Member News and Notes); Facebook and Twitter for important, time sensitive notices; publication on handheld devices for key reference documents (e.g., ASA Style Guide); new search tools for the growing ASA website content (e.g., Google); and—at members’ request—a return to print for Footnotes. In these annual reports, we are trying to provide as much detailed information across as broad a spectrum of Association activities as possible without data excess and to supplement the information with occasional articles in Footnotes in which we can go into greater detail. ASA Secretary Catherine White Berheide’s several articles in the spring 2011 issues of Footnotes on the ASA finances and the proposed new dues structure and, more recently, the January 2012 article on “ASA’s Financial Support for Editorial Offices” are examples.

Nevertheless, we will always miss something that at least some members would like to know more about. When that happens, send me an e-mail (Hillsman@asanet.org). I’ll give you the information you want and, if it is something you think more members would like to see, I’ll put it in Footnotes, on the website, or in the next Annual Report.

The year 2011 was busy and challenging for the ASA Executive Office as President Randall Collins’ report indicates. Thank you for your support in approving Council’s new dues structure proposal. Council, the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB), and staff worked for several years to provide a fair and effective change to meet the Association’s needs over the coming decade.

All the staff did an amazing job in 2011 keeping the Association’s programs and activities ahead of the multiple, unexpected tsunamis that threatened programs (e.g., dislocation of the Annual Meeting venue) and the real and virtual earthquakes in D.C., damage from which still needs to be contained (e.g., continuing threats to NSF and Census/ACS funding). But over 40 years as a sociologist has taught me that the discipline will always be where the important action is and that sociologists are never bored. I and all the staff look forward to hearing from you.

OVER 40 YEARS AS A SOCIOLOGIST HAS TAUGHT ME THAT THE DISCIPLINE WILL ALWAYS BE WHERE THE IMPORTANT ACTION IS AND THAT SOCIOLOGISTS ARE NEVER BORED.
The Business of ASA
ASA Journals


Debra Umberson (Journal of Health and Social Behavior) and Karen Hegtvedt and Cathryn Johnson (Social Psychology Quarterly) began three-year terms as journal editors in 2011.

MORE THAN 750,000 ABSTRACTS WERE VIEWED, RESULTING IN MORE THAN 590,000 FULL-TEXT ARTICLE DOWNLOADS.

Through publishing partners SAGE and Wiley-Blackwell, ASA’s journals received more than 1.9 million online page views from 575,000 unique visitors in 193 countries. More than 750,000 abstracts were viewed, resulting in more than 590,000 full-text article downloads.

The most downloaded article published in 2011 from each ASA journal was:

- American Sociological Review: “Consequences of Parental Divorce for Child Development” by Hyun Sik Kim (June 2011)
- Contemporary Sociology: “Sells Like Teen Spirit: Music, Youth Culture, and Social Crisis” by Mimi Schippers (January 2011)
- Contexts: “What Gender Is Science?” by Maria Charles (May 2011)
- Journal of Health and Social Behavior: “Classroom Learning Environments and the Mental Health of First Grade Children” by Melissa A. Milkie and Catharine H. Warner (March 2011)

### 2011 JOURNAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

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<th>Non-members</th>
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ASA began publishing materials for handheld devices (e.g., the iPad) in 2011.


- *Sociological Methodology*: “Dynamic Networks and Behavior: Separating Selection from Influence” by Christian Steglich, Tom A.B. Snijders, and Michael Pearson (from 2010, due to publication schedule)

- *Sociological Theory*: “Toward a General Theory of Strategic Action Fields” by Neil Fligstein and Doug McAdam (March 2011)

- *Sociology of Education*: “Cross-national Differences in Educational Achievement Inequality” by Guillermo Montt (January 2011)


The most downloaded article published in 2011 from each ASA section journal was:


- *Society and Mental Health*: “Creating an Age of Depression: The Social Construction and Consequences of the Major Depression Diagnosis” by Allan V. Horwitz (March 2011)

- *Journal of World-Systems Research*: Download statistics for this open access journal are not available.

**E-Publications**

ASA began publishing materials for handheld devices (e.g., the iPad) in 2011. The *ASA Style Guide* (fourth edition), the 2010 Annual Report, the *ASA Code of Ethics*, and *Publishing Options* may now be downloaded from the iBookstore for the iPad and iPhone. Forthcoming are several research briefs. The *ASA Style Guide* will also be available in early 2012 for Kindle and nook devices.

**Rose Series in Sociology**

Three new volumes were published in 2011 in the ASA Rose Series in Sociology, in collaboration with the Russell Sage Foundation:

- *American Memories: Atrocities and the Law* by Joachim L. Savelsberg and Ryan D. King


- *They Say Cut Back, We Say Fight Back! The Politics of Activism in an Era of Retrenchment* by Ellen Reese
Each August the American Sociological Association proudly presents awards to individuals and groups deserving of recognition. Nominations from ASA members are considered by the nine award selection committees appointed by ASA Council based on the recommendations of the elected ASA Committee on Committees.

### W.E.B. DuBois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award
**Harrison C. White**, Columbia University

### Distinguished Book Award
*Economists and Societies*
**By Marion Fourcade**, University of California–Berkeley

*Violence*
**By Randall Collins**, University of Pennsylvania

### Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award
**Maxine Atkinson**, North Carolina State University

### Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology

### Award for the Public Understanding of Sociology
**Barbara Risman**, University of Illinois–Chicago

### Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues Award
**David Brooks**, New York Times

### Jessie Bernard Award
**Verta Taylor**, University of California–Santa Barbara

### Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award
**Eduardo Bonilla-Silva**, Duke University

### Dissertation Award
**Alice Goffman**, University of Michigan, *“On the Run”*

Honorable Mention:
**Laura Hamilton**, “Strategies for Success: Parental Funding, College Achievement, and the Transition to Adulthood”

**Joanna Robinson**, “Contested Water: Anti-Water Privatization Movements in Canada and the United States”
New Scholarship and Scholarly Networks

The ASA Annual Meeting

Each year advanced scholars, new scholars and future scholars from around the world travel to the Association’s flagship event—the ASA Annual Meeting—to share their work and expand their networks. Held each August, the ASA Annual Meeting is the major opportunity for sociologists and their colleagues in related disciplines to learn, teach, deliberate, and network with peers, mentors, students, practitioners, publishers, and others interested in the scientific study of society.

The year 2011 began with relocating the Annual Meeting from Chicago to Las Vegas in response to a protracted labor dispute involving hotels in Chicago, including those scheduled to host the ASA meeting. ASA had never before met in Las Vegas, and theories abounded on the likely success or failure of the relocation. The new-to-ASA venue, Caesars Palace, offered the unique opportunity to have all components of the Annual Meeting—sessions, receptions, exhibits, services, and housing—under one roof for the first time since 1990. Member response to the relocation was mostly positive, and paper submissions in January hit an all-time high. The 3,691 submissions resulted in 4,642 participants listed in the Final Program, representing 89 percent of the 5,223 registrants.

Sharing new scholarship

Featuring three major plenary sessions and 61 thematic sessions, the 2011 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas focused on the theme “Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas.” ASA President Randall Collins (University of Pennsylvania) gave the Presidential Address titled “C-Escalation and D-escalation: A Theory of the Time-Dynamics of Conflict.” In addition to the 201 regular paper and roundtable sessions sponsored by the Program Committee to allow presentation opportunities for all fields of the discipline, the 51 ASA Sections bolstered the roster with 295 program sessions and meetings.

Keeping current

A strength of the educational component of the Annual Meeting is the breadth and variety of the courses, workshops, and seminars that are offered. Expert faculty led two pre-convention courses, which provided opportunities for attendees to get in-depth training in special subject areas: “Service Learning: Engaging Students and Community in Sociology and Social Change,” and “Working with Fuzzy Sets.” Didactic seminars on “Event History Analysis” and “Climate Change Denial: Organized Counter-Movement and Public Apathy” helped keep participants abreast of recent scholarly trends and developments. Nearly 40 workshops focused on topics such as careers and professional growth, issues in academic departments, teaching challenges, datasets and resources, and funding opportunities and grant-writing skills.

Supporting future research

The annual ASA Research Support Forum featured discussion of science policy issues, research funding information and guidance, and updates on data resources. The cornerstone of the 2011 forum was a special session focusing on new census data; program changes in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences division at the National Science Foundation (NSF); and plans to
keep these agencies robust, followed by informal poster exhibits on data resources and research funding opportunities organized by ASA’s Research and Development Department. Among the 2011 poster participants were the NSF Sociology Program, the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Academy of Education, the General Social Survey, the American Time Use Survey, the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, the New Immigrant Survey, the Association of Religion Data Archives, ARI’s Federal Statistical Program, and Social Explorer, Inc. Representatives from each organization talked with attendees about how to access these data sets and/or how to apply for funding.

Promoting sociology and sociological research


### Annual Meeting Registration and Participation, 2002–2011

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<th>Program Participation</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job Bank

The year-round online ASA Job Bank offers a convenient, targeted, and practical resource for employers to advertise directly to job candidates with strong backgrounds in sociology for positions in all sectors of the workforce. Universities, colleges, research organizations, corporations, and government agencies all use the ASA Job Bank to solicit candidates to fill positions within their organizations.

The ASA Research Department conducts an annual audit of jobs advertised through the ASA Job Bank. In 2009 there was a dramatic decline in the number of full-time assistant professor positions advertised in the ASA Job Bank, the major source of job listings for the discipline (although not all jobs available to sociologists are listed). By the following year (2010), there was a major increase in the number of positions advertised, from 214 assistant professor positions to 303 positions, an increase of 41.5 percent. These findings suggest that by 2010 the job market in sociology bottomed out and a recovery from the Great Recession appears to have begun. In 2011, the recovery continued, albeit at a slower rate, with an 16.8 percent increase in full-time positions advertised for assistant professors.

Between 2009 and 2011 there was a 65.4 percent increase in assistant professor positions advertised, showing a healthy increase since the downturn between 2008 and 2009. Although the number of open-rank positions advertised increased markedly from 2009 to 2010, it stabilized in 2011, suggesting that departments are more limited in the rank of the faculty member that they can hire or that there is a large enough pool of new PhDs from which they are able to hire. The small number of positions for which no rank was specified increased in 2011 but did not reach the 2009 count (see the chart below).

Although not shown in the accompanying chart, the number of overall academic positions advertised in the Job Bank increased by 14.3 percent from 482 jobs to 551 jobs. This number is very likely an undercount of all the positions available to new assistant professors, since many non-academic jobs are likely advertised elsewhere.

### POSITIONS ADVERTISED THROUGH THE ASA JOB BANK, 2009–2011, BY RANK*

*excludes foreign institutions
Employment Service

The summer Annual Meeting Employment Service assists sociologists and prospective employers by arranging for interviewers and job seekers to meet in a neutral, monitored environment for initial short interviews during the convention.

During the 2011 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, 36 employers listed 49 positions, including 8 openings outside academia. 412 candidates registered with the service and nearly 850 screening interviews were scheduled. It is interesting to note that more interviews were scheduled in 2011 than in 2010, even though there were fewer candidates. The employers using this service in Las Vegas were a dedicated, hard-working cadre.

Employment Service usage in 2011 remained stable and comparable to 2010. Even though job listings in the year-round Job Bank increased in 2011, there was no corresponding rise in usage of the Employment Service at the 2011 Annual Meeting. This was primarily due to the fact that the surges in Job Bank postings began late in the summer, after the Annual Meeting was held.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

The second academic year of the Postdoctoral Fellowship program was in full swing during 2011, with the six initial ASA/NSF Postdoctoral Fellows completing their first three semesters in residence. Funded by the National Science Foundation’s Sociology Program, headed by Dr. Patricia White, the program was initiated by departments at Cornell University, Harvard University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of California–Berkeley, and the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Each department is hosting one Fellow for 2010–12 and a second Fellow in 2012–14, for a total of 12 fellows.

All of the Postdoctoral Fellows have expressed satisfaction with the program at the end of their first year. All but one reported that the most valuable aspect of the program was getting their dissertation ready for publication. The six 2010–12 Fellows and their postdoctoral placements are:

Abby Larson—University of California–Berkeley
Joshua Pacewicz—Stanford University
Jeremy Schulz—Cornell University
Jennifer Silva—Harvard University
Sarah Thébaud—Princeton University
Stephen Viscelli—University of Wisconsin–Madison

The 2012–14 cohort of six Fellows will be selected in early 2012.

Each host university sets up a mentoring plan with its Postdoctoral Fellow, and all six university departments are collaborating to inform the training processes at their respective program sites. The NSF grant principal investigators, ASA staff members, the NSF program officer, and the six ASA Postdoctoral Fellows met during the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas to begin planning the two special research sessions that will feature the six Postdoctoral Fellow’s current research on the economic crisis at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver.
Department Affiliates

The Department Affiliates (DA) program is the core element of ASA’s collaboration with departments of sociology. The Association sees this program as a means both for strengthening ties among departments and with ASA and for supporting departments and chairs in their teaching, research, and service roles.

The DA membership year begins August 1 and ends July 31, unlike ASA membership which runs on a calendar year. When the 2010–11 DA program year ended on July 31, 2011, there were 353 departments of sociology from the United States, Canada, Colombia, and Spain listed as active Department Affiliates. While this was only a small increase (1 percent) when compared with the prior year, it was the first time since 2008 that DA membership did not decline.

Department Chairs Conference

The annual Department Chairs Conference provides support for new and current chairs in all types of academic institutions. Planned by the ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP) and held the day prior to the start of the Annual Meeting, topics change annually and include everything from budget management to conflict resolution to the PhD job market. The 2011 topic was “Social Conflict in Higher Education: Critical Implications and Effective Responses for Departments of Sociology,” which focused on handling conflict as a department chair. Participation in 2011 stayed stable with 52 sociology departments registering to attend the conference.

Directors of Graduates Studies Conference

Directors of Graduate Studies (DGS) are important leaders in shaping department policies and opportunities for effective graduate programs. To assist sociologists in the DGS role, the APAP also plans a half-day conference prior to the start of the Annual Meeting each year. Participation in the 2011 DGS conference drew a modest 21 attendees. In conjunction with the overall Annual Meeting theme, the DGS program was “A Year in the Life of a DGS: Exploring Ways to Establish Effective Processes and Handle the Inevitable Conflicts.”

Department Resources Group

Under the auspices of ASA’s APAP, the Department Resources Group (DRG) is designed to empower department chairs and faculty during periods of self-reflection, external review, or general department revitalization. The DRG is composed of over 40 sociologists who serve as consultants to assist departments upon request with a wide variety of needs, including external reviews, curriculum development, assessment, department retreats, and teaching workshops.

In addition to DRG Site Visits and Off-Site Consultations, the DRG Mentors Program assists individual sociologists upon request who have taken on a leadership role in departments. The mentors program provides at no cost one-on-one support, feedback, advice, and coaching to sociologists who are serving as department chair, division coordinator, or graduate studies director.

Department Survey

The ASA Research and Development Department conducts a census of sociology departments every five years, collaborating with department chairs, standing committees, and task forces to develop the questions. The survey asks about an array of topics, including department size and structure, characteristics of the sociology major, enrollments, graduate programs, courses taught, teaching loads, faculty characteristics and salaries, hiring and retirement, department resources, and types of assessments used.

Research briefs from the most recent survey can be downloaded from http://www.asanet.org/research/briefs_and_articles.cfm. The next department survey will be done in 2012.
The ASA program of research on the discipline and profession is designed to provide information to support and inform the Association’s leadership, membership, task forces, and committees as well as sociology departments and the broader scientific community about trends in sociology and the context in which the discipline operates. This includes research-based information on enrollments, degrees, departments, career trajectories, networks, salaries, as well as the role of sociology in the greater science project.

The ASA Research and Development Department produces a steady stream of research briefs, PowerPoint slides, tables, and reports that are useful in recruiting students, enhancing curriculum, assessing programs, providing information about the job market, reviewing faculty salaries and work conditions, and planning for department futures. Most of these materials can be downloaded at no cost from the Research on Sociology home page (http://www.asanet.org/research/index.cfm). Highlights from some of the research briefs completed in 2011 appear below.

In addition, the Research Department maintains a database that goes back to 2009 with the characteristics of ASA members and sociology departments. This database is used for internal ASA projects as well as for approved efforts by other researchers.

The ASA Research Department also maintains a blog (http://asaresearch.wordpress.com/) where sociologists can discuss findings from current research projects, briefs, and reports. Insight, comments, and questions are welcome!

### Master’s Programs and Careers

Master’s-level education, especially as a vocational and professional degree, has become an increasingly important focus in higher education. An informal group of chairs of master’s-only sociology programs asked the ASA to work with them to develop strategies that ensure the sociology master’s is a meaningful professional degree. Approximately 1,600 students in 122 master’s programs were surveyed in 2008–09, in winter 2009–10, and again in spring 2010. The third wave of the survey asked additional questions about program satisfaction, job characteristics, and job satisfaction.

Results from the third wave of the master’s survey found that overall, terminal master’s programs of all kinds (professional, applied, clinical, or traditional) have done relatively well in producing graduates who report that they are working in somewhat or very satisfying jobs that are somewhat or closely related to what they learned in their sociology programs. Further, they experience improved status and conditions in jobs they already had. For more details, please see “Sociology Master’s Graduates Join the Workforce” posted under Research on Sociology on the ASA website.

When the original 122 participating departments were surveyed again in spring 2011, it was learned that 104 still had their master’s programs. Factors related to whether programs were very likely to stay open or very or somewhat likely to close included level of resources, number of students, level of degree, and type of program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOB SATISFACTION: TERMINAL MASTER’S GRADUATE VERSUS THOSE STILL PURSUITING THEIR MASTER’S DEGREE (IN PERCENTS)</th>
<th>Master’s Graduates</th>
<th>Still Pursuing Master’s Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Satisfied or Very Satisfied with Job</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job is Closely Related to Sociology</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The effort to create professional or applied master’s tracks appears to have been relatively successful, as these programs are somewhat more likely to stay open than traditional master’s programs that lead to a PhD (66.9 percent compared with 59 percent). Those traditional programs in master’s only departments with relatively few students may be the most likely programs to close. Resources are important for survival, and receiving fewer resources over time is a harbinger of programs’ likelihood of closing. For more details, go to the ASA website to see “Are Master’s Programs Closing? What Makes for Success in Staying Open?” posted under research on Sociology.

**Relationship Between Change in Resources and Program’s Likelihood of Closing, 2011**

Between Academic Year (AY) 2009–10 and AY 2010–11, faculty members lost purchasing power because average faculty salary increases were less than the rate of inflation. Overall, median faculty salaries climbed 1.1 percent while inflation increased 1.5 percent between December 2009 and December 2010.

For more information, including a yearly comparisons of changes in salary by rank, see the ASA research brief titled “Falling Behind: Sociology and Other Social Science Faculty Salaries, AY 2010–11” (posted at http://www.asanet.org/research/sociology_faculty_salaries_2010.pdf).

**Trends in the Discipline and Profession**

The ASA Research Department provides continuously updated tables and graphs on critical aspects of the sociology discipline and profession, including data on degrees, graduate enrollment, departments, and employment. When available, these data are presented by race, ethnicity, and gender. Excel versions of these data are available to download from the ASA website. Most of the data ASA uses come from surveys conducted by the National Science Foundation and the National Center for Educational Statistics. One widely used table presents data on sociology degrees awarded by level from 1966 through 2010.

**Faculty Conditions**

Each year the ASA Research Department produces a research brief on changes in annual average faculty salaries in sociology compared with other social science disciplines. Although a number of disciplines conduct salary surveys by gathering this information from departments, ASA has special runs done by the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources’ National Faculty Salary Survey (NFSS), which provides disciplinary data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Rank</th>
<th>Current Dollars AY09–10</th>
<th>% chg</th>
<th>Current Dollars AY 10–11</th>
<th>% chg</th>
<th>2010 Constant Dollars AY09–10</th>
<th>% chg</th>
<th>2010 Constant Dollars AY 10–11</th>
<th>% chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>$89,300</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>$89,055</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>$90,768</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>$89,055</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>$66,683</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>$67,398</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>$67,777</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>$67,398</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant</td>
<td>$54,500</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>$55,884</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>$55,394</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>$55,884</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Ranks</td>
<td>$70,161</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>$70,779</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>$71,313</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>$70,779</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


SOCIOLOGY DEGREES AWARDED SINCE 1966, BY DEGREES


* Data for PhDs earned between 2008 and 2010 are taken from the National Science Foundation’s Survey of Doctoral Recipients (https://webcaspar.nsf.gov).
ASA Small Grants Programs

FAD Grants

The ASA Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) program is funded jointly by the Sociology Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the ASA. Many individual ASA members make annual financial contributions to support this program and the ASA provides organizational funds through the American Sociological Fund. Since FAD’s inception, over 1,100 scholars (members and non-members of the ASA) have applied to the program, and more than 300 have received funding. The maximum award amount in 2011 was $7,000.

June 2011 Awardees

Erica Chito Childs (CUNY-Hunter College). “Mixed” Families in Australia: Exploring Race, Families, and Difference Research

Shannon N. Davis (George Mason University). Gender and Career Prioritization after the Recession Research

Heather Gautney (Fordham University). Beyond the Media Capital: Flexible Specialization and De-agglomeration in the U.S. Film Industry

Amy E. Traver (CUNY-Queensborough Community Colleges). The Social-Psychological Benefits of Volunteerism for Adolescent Girls: A Case Study of Believe Ballet Research

Steven P. Vallas (Northeastern University). Work and Inequality: Fostering New Perspectives in the Discipline Conference

December 2011 Awardees

Orit Avishai (Fordham University). Saving American Marriages: Marriage Education and the Politics of Morality

Mary Bernstein (University of Connecticut). Crossing Boundaries: Workshopping Sexualities Conference

Shannon M. Gleeson (University of California–Santa Cruz). Mobilizing Rights, Navigating Bureaucracies: Assessing the Legal Mobilization of Low Wage Workers

Amy Lubitow (Portland State University). Contesting Sustainability: Bicycles, Race, and Place

Hiroshi Ono (Texas A&M University). Globalization and Inequality in the Labor Market: The Study of Career Mobility in the Japanese Financial Sector

George Steinmetz (University of Michigan). Social Scientists and Imperial Politics: Britain, France, and Germany, 1930s–1960s


Bin Xu (Florida International University). Some Sufferings Are More Equal than Others: China’s Educated Youths and the Difficult Past

CARI Grants

The ASA Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy annually awards competitive grants as part of its Community Action Research Initiative (CARI) program to encourage and support sociologists bringing social science knowledge, methods, and expertise to community-identified issues and concerns. Applicants propose a project of pro bono work with a community organization or local public interest group, provide the group’s request for collaboration, and identify the intended outcomes. CARI provides up to $3,000 for each project to cover direct costs associated with the community action research. Four awards were made in 2010:
Beth Tarasawa (St. Norbert College) is working with The Giving Tree Pantry of Green Bay, WI, to help the Howard-Suamico School District assess how funded students perform compared with their non-funded peers. Established in 2008, The Giving Tree serves families facing economic challenges by offering food, personal care items, school supplies, and winter apparel, in addition to assisting families with summer school and transportation fees.

Christopher Stapel (University of Kentucky) is collaborating with the Chicago-based Illinois Safe Schools Alliance in the “Rural LGBTQ Youth Project”, which aims to assist youth and their advocates in creating safe environments for rural gay youth. Stapel is updating a previous manual he had written, No Longer Alone, which will provide rural-specific information and practices, as well as establishing a website that will serve as an additional resource to a larger LGBTQ youth population.

Lillian Brislen (University of Kentucky) is working with the Community Farm Alliance and a team of graduate students in Rural Sociology and undergraduate students in Sustainable Agriculture programs. The team will be conducting a needs assessment project for young and beginning farmers in Kentucky.

Stephanie Hartwell (University of Massachusetts–Boston) is working with the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute (LDBPI), a community-based organization in Boston largely staffed by family members of homicide victims and dedicated to peaceful restorative justice and building sustainable peace in the community. Hartwell’s project involves the dissemination of the LDBPI’s “Burial and Resource Guide” and a corresponding evaluation.

Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grants

The Teaching Enhancement Grants Program makes awards to individuals, departments, programs, or committees of a state/regional association that advance the scholarship of teaching and learning within the discipline of sociology, serve as seed projects that are likely to continue to have an impact, and have the potential to be systemic in their impact. A grant of up to $2,000 may be given. In 2011 two outstanding projects received Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Grants.

Natalie Byfield (St. Johns University) for “The Efficacy of Personal Writing as a Tool for Teaching Sociology.” Byfield is continuing her study of the effectiveness of using memoir writing as a tool for teaching sociology. Using a teaching method based on Erika Duncan’s Herstory pedagogy, her study will examine the ways in which people use language or other communicative actions to build the social structures in our world.

Elizabeth Lyman and Carla Corroto (Radford University) for “Faculty and the Application of Service Learning.” Lyman and Corroto are looking at the distribution of service learning components among faculty and its implications. Their study is focusing on two questions: “Who is doing the work of service learning?” and “Are faculty who use service learning in their classes any more or less satisfied with their jobs than those who do not use it?” Higher Education Research Institute on Faculty Performance and Educational Equity data from 2008 are being analyzed, as well as qualitative data collected from the heads of service-learning departments in Virginia public universities.

This grant program is supported entirely by ASA member donations and the proceeds of the “Just Desserts” benefit reception held during each Annual Meeting.
TRAILS

With the close of 2011, TRAILS (Teaching Resources and Innovation Library for Sociology) completed its first full calendar year, and it was a year full of learning, growth, and considerable success.

As ASA’s subscription-based, online, interactive, peer-reviewed library of teaching and learning materials, TRAILS includes the entire corpus of the ASA Teaching Resources Center syllabi sets and a growing number of newly published teaching resources (see trails.asanet.org). Subscribers can access 2,876 sociological teaching resources, each with an automatically generated cover page and suggested citation.

In addition to searching TRAILS for syllabi, lectures, class activities, or assignments available for download, sociologists can also submit their own teaching resources for peer review by trained area editors and possible publication. TRAILS subscribers sign an agreement stating that any resource they use, either in its original or modified form, will contain a clear citation with the author’s name. In this way, TRAILS is working to establish a cultural norm in citing teaching scholarship (even if it is online), just as researchers cite other research scholarship.

Although Ernest Boyer called for the recognition of teaching as a central scholarly activity two decades ago, much work remains in this area. In an Inside Higher Ed article discussing the launch of TRAILS, Mary Taylor Huber, senior scholar emerita and consulting scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, was quoted saying “I think there is a long way to go before there is a wide enough understanding and acceptance of this kind of pedagogical work as a serious intellectual enterprise, and I think this is a step forward….There is power in having the discipline take it on.”

Because TRAILS subscriptions run 12 months from the date of purchase, subscription totals vary from month to month. At the end of 2010, there were 607 TRAILS subscribers; at the end of 2011 there were 781 TRAILS subscribers, a 29 percent increase. In addition, nearly 100 new submissions to TRAILS were accepted in 2011.

Teaching Ethics

Looking for help in teaching students about professional ethics? Visit Teaching Ethics Throughout the Curriculum (http://www.asanet.org/ethics/index.cfm), a special ASA website developed by the ASA Task Force on Teaching Ethics throughout the Sociology Curriculum. Sponsored by the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), this site contains resources designed to help sociology faculty with teaching students about professional ethics from early in the undergraduate career through graduate school. Cases, discussion questions, an annotated bibliography, and web links can be quickly downloaded or printed for use in sociology classes or by department chairs.

“I THINK THERE IS A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE THERE IS A WIDE ENOUGH UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF THIS KIND OF PEDAGOGICAL WORK AS A SERIOUS INTELLECTUAL ENTERPRISE, AND I THINK THIS IS A STEP FORWARD….THERE IS POWER IN HAVING THE DISCIPLINE TAKE IT ON.”

Mary Taylor Huber
ASA Student Forum

There were 4,679 ASA student members in 2011, representing about one-third of the ASA membership. ASA supports student activities through the ASA Student Forum, a multi-faceted program to engage students in the discipline and profession. The Forum elects officers, sponsors sessions, administers ASA-funded student travel grants, sponsors online discussion forums, and offers many opportunities for student participation in ASA. Individuals who join ASA as Student Members automatically become members of the Student Forum at no additional cost, receive all mailings and electronic communications, and have access to special Student Forum programming at the Annual Meeting and throughout the academic year. The Student Sociologist, the Student Forum’s bimonthly newsletter, is disseminated via the student e-mail list service. Past issues can be found on the ASA website under “Teaching and Learning” (http://www.asanet.org/students/forum.cfm).

The Student Forum Advisory Board (SFAB) organized five sessions for the 2011 Annual Meeting, and awarded 30 students with ASA-funded small travel awards ($225) to attend the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. There were 149 students who applied for the award in 2011 (a decrease of 81 applications from 2010). One of the travel awards was given to the 2011 SFAB Best Paper Award winner, Matthew Thompson (University of Wyoming), who was recognized at the 2011 Student Reception for his award.

TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE, STUDENTS WERE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A MINIMUM OF EIGHT SESSIONS OVER THE COURSE OF THE MEETING AND OBTAIN A SIGNATURE FROM EACH SESSION PRESIDER TO CONFIRM THEIR ATTENDANCE.

In 2011, the SFAB inaugurated a Student Forum Professional Development Certificate. The SFAB chair, Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl, worked with the ASA Executive Office to compile a list of 32 sessions and workshops that most benefited students. To qualify for a certificate, students were required to attend a minimum of eight sessions over the course of the meeting and obtain a signature from each session presider to confirm their attendance. Upon the conclusion of the Las Vegas meeting, the participants submitted their attendance verifications and each received an electronic certificate of participation. Based on the success of the 2011 certificate program, the SFAB board passed a motion to create and maintain a committee for the Professional Development Certificate.

ASA Honors Program

The ASA-sponsored Honors Program (HP) introduces exceptional undergraduate sociology students from across the United States and

The Future of the Discipline
other countries to the rich professional and intellectual life of the discipline through participation in a special HP program at each ASA Annual Meeting. Guided by the HP Director, Dennis M. Rome (University of Wisconsin–Parkside), they experience all facets of the ASA Annual Meeting and develop often long-lasting networks with other aspiring sociologists. At the same time, their sponsoring sociology departments have an opportunity to “showcase” their programs and their most outstanding students. Participation requires nomination by a sociology faculty member at the student’s home institution.

During the 2011 meeting in Las Vegas, there were 33 HP participants from 31 different institutions, including all three recipients of the Alpha Kappa Delta Undergraduate Paper Award.

**High School Sociology Planning Program**

A restructuring of the High School Affiliates Program was undertaken in 2011. These efforts involved discussions about high school sociology curricula, ASA ties with the Chicago Area Sociology Teachers (CAST) group, the development of a larger and more inclusive network of both current high school sociology teachers as well as those interested in doing research on trends in high school sociology, the TRAILS digital library of teaching and learning materials, and the inclusion of high school sociology activities on the programs of the 2011 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas and the 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver. By the end of 2011, a new ASA High School Sociology Planning Program was well underway.

The High School Sociology Planning Program (HSSPP) offers benefits directly to individual high school teachers, a distinct change from the former affiliates program, which viewed the school as the recipient of benefits. HSSPP benefits include a subscription to TRAILS, a subscription to Contexts, discounts on publications in the ASA Teaching Resources Center, access to a high school sociology e-mail list service, a quarterly newsletter (edited by the planning program director), and access to a one-day High School Conference held during the ASA Annual Meeting. The conference is open to any high school teacher in the United States and abroad, and participation is free for any high school teacher registered for the Annual Meeting.

The founder of the CAST group, Hayley Lotspeich at Wheaton North High School in Wheaton, Illinois, was invited by ASA to serve a two-year term as the planning director of the new ASA High School Sociology (HSS) Planning Program. She is ably assisted by Chris Salituro at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Illinois. Ms. Lotspeich also currently serves as the high school area editor for TRAILS, a natural role for the planning director.

High school sociology resources can now be found on the ASA website. Look under the “teaching and learning” tab for the High School Sociology page with information on how to join ASA under the new High School Sociology membership promotion, access NYU Sociology Professor Caroline Persell’s site on introductory sociology curriculum guidelines, sign up for a high school sociology e-mail list service, and receive more information about the upcoming 2012 High School Teachers of Sociology Conference in Denver.

**THE CONFERENCE IS OPEN TO ANY HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD, AND PARTICIPATION IS FREE FOR ANY HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER REGISTERED FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.**
Minority Affairs Program

For nearly four decades, ASA has had an active Minority Affairs Program (MAP), which:

- Houses initiatives centered on race and ethnicity issues in the profession;
- Advocates for the continued development of the pipeline of minority students and faculty in the discipline; and
- Serves as liaison to efforts both within and outside of ASA with regard to higher education opportunities, science policy concerns, and federal funding.

In 2011, MAP staff participated in events and meetings at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and in seminars sponsored by other organizations related to health, mental health, race and ethnicity, higher education, and science policy issues. These include those sponsored by Research!America (a global health alliance of which ASA is an institutional member).

Throughout the year, MAP staff supported ASA connections with departments at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) through partnerships with regional sociology societies such as the Mid-South Sociological Association, outreach via individual site visits, and producing various types of resources and materials.

Minority Fellowship Program

The longstanding ASA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) awarded five one-year MFP Fellowships for 2011–12. The MFP is now generously supported in full by Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD), the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), the Association of Black Sociologists (ABS), and the ASA Council, as well as through the significant contributions made by individual ASA members and organizations, particularly in response to the 2009–10 MFP Leadership Campaign.

Research Collaborations

As a Co-principal Investigator on three NSF-funded research projects, along with the ASA Research Director and ASA Senior Research Associate, the MFP Director and other ASA staff members constitute a research team to expand the Association’s knowledge about the impact of the MFP. One project, funded through the NSF EAGER mechanism, is an examination of networks, mentoring, and scientific productivity among recent cohorts of MFP Fellows (1997–2006), in comparison with two other groups of PhD recipients who received their PhDs in sociology between 1997 and 2009. Two research briefs on findings in the first phase of the EAGER-funded project were posted on the ASA website in 2011.

### Expected Probability of Holding a Faculty Position at a Research 1 University in 2010 for 1997–2009 Sociology PhD Graduates in Academic Positions, by Group (N=353)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Expected Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFP Fellow, white male mentor</td>
<td>0.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFP Fellow, other mentor</td>
<td>0.15*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control Group</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF Awardee</td>
<td>0.64*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on results from the logistic regression with robust standard errors. Control variables are set to sample means in these calculations and controls for missing data are set to zero. *Statistically significant different from the control group (0.05 level, 2-tailed test).
The first, “Homosociality or Crossing Race/Ethnicity/Gender Boundaries? Pipeline Interventions and the Production of Scholarly Careers,” offers four conclusions:

- More than 20 percent of MFP Fellows have minority mentors (homophilious relations) compared with 7 percent of NSF Fellows (heterogeneous relations).
- High status white male mentors (heterogeneous relations) are instrumental to MFP Fellows in securing academic positions in high-status research-extensive universities. This is because there are proportionally fewer minority faculty members in high-status positions.
- All MFP Fellows teaching at Research I schools received tenure if they had minority faculty advisors (homophilious relations). This finding may indicate the importance of cultural competency for learning to navigate the tenure track.
- Participation in MFP gives minority students a leg-up compared with minority students who are not part of the program; MFP Fellows are more likely to receive NSF grants when in academic positions and they also publish more, but it is not clear if mentoring is the reason.

The second research brief, “The Impact of Cross-Mentoring for Ideal and Alternative PhD Careers in Sociology,” reports that, compared with the NSF awardees, MFP fellows are more likely to write dissertations that expand sociological knowledge in the areas of race and ethnicity. This is not surprising given the purpose of the MFP. Additional research briefs on this EAGER-supported project are forthcoming.

**Status Committees**

ASA Council supports standing committees to advise and guide the Association on the status in the discipline and profession of those groups that have experienced a pattern of discrimination in society.

- Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology (CSEMS)
- Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology (CSWS)
- Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Persons in Sociology
- Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology

The CSREMS analyzed findings from its Graduate Student Survey, conducted by past committee chair Denise A. Segura (University of California–Santa Barbara), and submitted its latest five-year report to Council in August 2011. A qualitative component of the survey, headed by current Committee member Scott Brooks (University of California–Riverside) is now underway as the committee disseminates its report to universities and departments. The full text of the 2011 CSREMS report may be found at http://www.asanet.org/about/statuscommittees/minorities.cfm.

In 2011, CSWS began developing a survey to compare time in rank for male and female sociology faculty. It will be sent out in fall 2012 to a sample of 1,000 faculty who received their PhDs at least 8 years ago.

The Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology sent its five-year report containing 15 recommendations to ASA Council in August 2011 (see http://www.asanet.org/about/statuscommittees/disabilities.cfm). Council accepted all the recommendations.

The Disabilities Committee’s future focus will be on additional data collection with ASA members who indicated an interest in receiving information about accessibility services, increasing accessibility in Annual Meeting presentations, and raising awareness about matters related to electronic information and accessibility.
Engaging the Public

The ASA Public Affairs and Public Information (PAPI) staff work to facilitate communication for the Association and its members to advance sociology and promote its value to policymakers, the media, and the public. Use of social media plays an increasingly important role in getting news out to interested parties.

At the end of 2010, the ASA Facebook profile had 1,823 people who liked the page and by the end of 2011, that number has more than doubled with 3,717 likes.

The ASA Twitter profile (@ASAnews) has grown at an even greater pace. At the end of 2010, the account had a little more than 1,000 followers and by the end of 2011, there were 3,668 followers. According to Tweetgrader.com, which measures is the power, reach, and authority of a Twitter account, the ASA Twitter account scores a 100 (out of 100).

Starting in August 2011, PAPI staff started the Speak4sociology blog to share news and information on sociology and social science policy issues in a timely manner. Currently the blog receives approximately 450 unique visitors and 150 returning visitors a month.

ASA launched a Sociology in Wikipedia Initiative in fall 2011 at the urging of 2012 ASA President Erik Olin Wright. This project has two main purposes: first, to improve the sociology entries in Wikipedia by making it easier for sociologists to become involved in writing and editing them; and second, to facilitate professors giving Wikipedia-writing assignments to students in their courses. While the ASA Wikipedia Initiative is an experiment, there is hope it will raise the quality of sociology entries on this widely used website and help teach students to evaluate all Internet information for its accuracy (http://www.asanet.org/about/wiki_Initiative.cfm).

Media Coverage

During 2011, the PAPI department oversaw the production and distribution of 49 press releases and responded to hundreds of media inquiries. As a result of these and other efforts, ASA, its journals, and its members received coverage in hundreds of media outlets.

Perhaps the greatest success during 2011 came in December, when ASA issued a press release on an American Sociological Review study...
by Shira Offer (Bar-Ilan University) and Barbara Schneider (Michigan State University), which examined the gender gap in multitasking and well-being. According to Google, more than 200 articles were written about this study alone, and the study received significant coverage both in the United States and abroad.

Also in December, PAPI staff connected Kris Marsh, a University of Maryland sociologist, with an Associated Press reporter for an article and TV clip about a sociology class at Georgetown University on the rapper Jay-Z. Marsh was quoted in the print article and she appeared and TV clip about a sociology class at Georgetown University on the


ASA federal science advocacy and educational efforts subscribe to the philosophy that public policy should be informed by available scientific knowledge, and that sociological research can contribute to the formulation of sound public policy to address specific social problems.

The ASA PAPi Department actively works with partners in and around Washington, DC, to advance social science priorities by bringing sociologists to Capitol Hill to discuss their research, participate in letter writing campaigns, and meet with federal agency and Capitol Hill leaders.

Consortium of Social Science Associations

As a founding member, ASA works closely with the 30-year-old Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA). The ASA Executive Officer currently chairs the COSSA Executive Committee. COSSA serves as the advocacy organization in Washington, D.C., that promotes attention to and Federal funding of the social and behavioral sciences. A recent assessment of COSSA reaffirmed that it is viewed as the “go-to” organization by Washington leaders when seeking information about or from the social science community. It serves as a bridge between the scholarly research community and the Washington policymaking community. The COSSA membership is over 100 professional associations, scientific societies, universities, research centers, and institutes.

Legislative efforts receiving close attention during 2011 included the Grant Reform and New Transparency Act of 2011, budgets for the agencies that affect social and behavioral science research, and the U.S. Census Bureau’s budget and proposed changes to the American Community Survey.

Congressional Briefings

Two Capitol Hill briefings were sponsored during 2011 in conjunction with the Population Association of America (PAA).

The first briefing was on the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS). Speakers included business official Patrick Jankowski, Greater Houston Partnership; David Crowe, National Association of Home Builders; and Joseph Salvo, City of New York. Terri Ann Lowenthal, a consultant to The Census Project, moderated the session and provided an ACS overview and examples of how congressional staff may use the ACS.

The briefing was supported through a grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation to the Population Reference Bureau and was done twice on March 7, 2011, for U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate audiences. Briefing co-sponsors included Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Senator Joseph Lieberman (ID-CT), Population Resource Center, PAA, and the National Association of Home Builders.

On July 18, 2011, the ASA co-sponsored a congressional briefing titled “The Demographics of Disasters: Improving Recovery Decisions.” Speakers included Russell Paulsen (Executive Director, Hurricane Recovery Program and Program Management at the Red Cross), Dr. Elizabeth Frankenberg (Duke University), and Dr. Mark VanLandingham (Tulane University). Mr. Paulsen served as moderator. Dr. Frankenberg discussed her findings on the short-term impacts and longer-term recovery trajectory of the population impacted by the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004. Dr. VanLandingham presented his research on the size and characteristics of New Orleans’ population post-Katrina, and the importance of accurate and timely post-disaster information.
Coalition for National Science Funding

ASA sponsored another successful exhibit at the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) 17th Annual Exhibition and Reception on Capitol Hill, titled STEM Research and Education: Underpinning American Innovation, on May 11, 2011. ASA is a member of CNSF, which is an alliance of more than 125 organizations united by a concern for the future vitality of the national science, technology, engineering, and mathematics research enterprise as well as the related kindergarten through graduate educational pipeline.

The annual CNSF Exhibition specifically highlights National Science Foundation-supported research so that members of Congress, their staff, Committee staff, and other policymakers are exposed directly to the researchers and science that NSF funds. This year, Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of ASA’s Research and Development Department, presented research on “Technology, Networks, and the Diffusion of New Knowledge” at the poster session, which included 35 research and education projects funded by NSF.


Congressional Fellowship Program

The Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy supports the ASA Congressional Fellowship that brings a PhD-level sociologist to Washington, D.C., to work as a staff member on a congressional committee or in a congressional office or as a member of a federal agency (e.g., the General Accounting Office). This intensive experience exposes sociologists to the intricacies of the policymaking process in action and demonstrates the usefulness of sociological data and concepts in developing policies and laws.

In 2011, ASA partnered with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to bring the ASA fellowship under the auspices of the AAAS Congressional Fellowship training program. This program provides a robust experience for Fellows, both in terms of managing the fellowship experience and lengthening the term of the fellowship (from six months to one year). This partnership with AAAS results in an increased ability to give high-quality training to Fellows before they go into positions on the Hill or in executive agencies, better access by ASA Fellows to good positions, and increased prestige for the ASA Fellows and the ASA Fellowship program.
The Spivack Committee named Dennis Bogusz as the 2011–12 ASA Congressional Fellow. Prior to obtaining his doctorate, Bogusz spent seven years working in the financial industry. He is the first ASA fellow to participate in the AAAS Congressional Fellowship training program and is now officially part of the AAAS Fellowship cohort. His training ended in September 2011 when he accepted a position with the Office of Al Franken (D-MN); he is now working with the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Reforms Subcommittee on Permanent Investigations. Bogusz is the first AAAS Congressional Fellow to work with this important subcommittee. He is examining the social consequences of the international finance crisis for the subcommittee.

Collaborations within and across Disciplines

ASA intersects with a wide variety of scholarly associations as part of its mission to advance sociology and promote the contributions and uses of sociology.

Close ties are maintained with nine regional sociological associations, and Executive Office staff sociologists attend each regional annual meeting every year. Officers of sociological and aligned associations are invited to a meeting held for them during the ASA Annual Meeting to enable them to meet face-to-face, discuss common concerns, and interact with the ASA.

ASA INTERSECTS WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF SCHOLARLY ASSOCIATIONS AS PART OF ITS MISSION TO ADVANCE SOCIOLOGY AND PROMOTE THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND USES OF SOCIOLOGY.

The ASA President appoints ASA members as official representatives to five aligned organizations of which ASA is an institutional member—American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Council of Learned Societies, Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, Consortium of Social Science Associations, and International Sociological Association—and provides nominations to the Social Science Research Council.

Contact information for aligned associations may be found at http://www.asanet.org/about/Aligned_Associations.cfm.

What Can ASA Members Do?

While ASA works in Washington to advance the social and behavioral sciences, individual members can make their views known to elected federal officials on issues important to sociology. This is essential to the future of social science funding and sound federal science policy. Most members of Congress do not have the scientific or social science background or relevant scientific data that are vital to inform many complex decisions. But many do want to be more informed, and they all want to know their constituents’ opinions.

ASA members can send letters, make phone calls, and/or meet with elected officials at their local offices. The ASA Director of Public Affairs and Public Information can provide assistance (Brad Smith at bsmith@asanet.org). Many of the major science policy issues are reported in the ASA newsletter Footnotes, under “Science Policy” or the Executive Officer’s column “Vantage Point.”
The ASA Council has stood firm in its support of sociologists worldwide who are endangered as a result of their sociological scholarship, research, and writings. The freedom to conduct research, write, and share ideas without fear of violence is fundamental to American democracy.

In February 2011, ASA joined other major scholarly associations to express collective outrage at repeated media attacks on Professor Frances Fox Piven. The attacks were based on rhetoric, rather than substance, and incited threats of violence, rather than encouraging open debate. Dr. Piven, Professor of Political Science and Sociology at the City University of New York Graduate Center, holds a PhD from the University of Chicago and is one of the nation’s most thoughtful commentators on the country’s social welfare system. She has been elected to high office in several scholarly scientific societies: President of the American Sociological Association, Vice President of the American Political Science Association, and President of the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

The joint statement called on public officials, political commentators, and others in the media to help discourage the rhetoric of hate and violence and vigorously support serious, honest, and passionate public debate. This difficult time in the nation’s economy deserves serious engagement on the research of Dr. Piven and of others who study controversial issues such as unemployment, the economic crisis, the rights of welfare recipients, and the place of government intervention. Both scholars and commentators, regardless of political orientation, were urged to strive to serve the public good.
Participation in the governance of the ASA is through the annual election of the Association’s leadership by the voting membership. ASA depends on the volunteer participation of its members to govern the Association, to conduct the business of its committees and task forces, and to guide its programs through advisory bodies.

In 2011, 972 members serving in 1,261 roles contributed their time and expertise to the health and strength of the Association and through it to the discipline. This volunteer participation is the backbone of every ASA component—Council, committees (elected and appointed), task forces, advisory panels, resource groups, section leadership, and editorial boards.

The ASA Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Association provide a democratic framework in which the voting members directly elect those who serve in all major leadership roles and represent the membership in the appointment of members to serve in key appointive positions. Only the membership as a voting body may change the rules governing the Association as laid out in the ASA Constitution and Bylaws, including that the voting membership may take any action otherwise within the power of the Council.

Election Participation by ASA Members

Reflecting its demographic governance structure, ASA has an extraordinarily high level of participation in the Association’s contested elections. In accordance with ASA Bylaws, an annual election is conducted every spring to select new officers and members of several Bylaws committees. Of the 10,037 members who were eligible to vote in the 2011 ASA-wide election, 4,527 members cast votes. This 45.17 percent participation rate is slightly lower than in 2010, despite the debates in the spring about proposed changes in the dues structure.

Electronic voting continues to contribute to ASA’s high turnout rate, with participation rates ranging 10–18 percent higher than in the era of mail-in ballots (pre-2004).

Section voting also continues to be very high. In 2011, all 47 sections eligible to hold elections did so as part of the annual ASA election of ASA-wide officers. Overall, sections had a 54.2 percent turnout rate. Thirty-seven sections had turnout rates higher than 50 percent, and five had rates exceeding 60 percent.

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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>29.25%</td>
<td>30.83%</td>
<td>29.23%</td>
<td>40.41%</td>
<td>40.39%</td>
<td>43.18%</td>
<td>46.21%</td>
<td>41.77%</td>
<td>48.47%</td>
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GOVERNANCE UNDER THE ASA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Professional Ethics

Since 1971 the ASA Code of Ethics approved by the membership has provided guidance on professional ethics to ASA members and the discipline. The Code sets forth the principles and ethical standards that underlie sociologists professional responsibilities and conduct. These principles and standards are designed to be used as guidelines when examining everyday professional activities. They constitute normative statements for sociologists and provide guidance on issues that sociologists may encounter in their professional work.

Membership in the ASA commits members to adhere to the ASA Code of Ethics and to the Policies and Procedures of the ASA Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE). Members are advised of this obligation upon joining the Association and that violations of the Code may lead to the imposition of sanctions, including termination of membership. In 2011 the ASA received approximately two or three COPE inquiries each month. Some involve interpretations of the Code or allegations about persons who are not currently members of the Association. Of the remainder, most are about alleged infractions that the Executive Officer, as liaison to COPE, or the COPE chair can help resolve informally or provide an outside mediator to seek a resolution. Informal resolution is preferred by the COPE policies and procedures.

These principles and standards are designed to be used as guidelines when examining everyday professional activities. They constitute normative statements for sociologists and provide guidance on issues that sociologists may encounter in their professional work.
The Association’s most important resource is its members: the thousands of scholars, researchers, and students participating from the United States and around the globe. Membership increased in 2011 to 14,053; this is 355 higher than in 2010, but well below recent highs in 2007 (14,757) and 2009 (14,699).

Regular members (who pay dues by self-reported income level) are still the largest category of members (52 percent). A third of the members are students; just under one out of ten are Associate members who may not vote for ASA-wide offices but who may vote in section elections. Students and Emeritus members are full voting members.

As part of the 2011 ASA election, members approved a revised dues structure as proposed by ASA Council. The new dues structure will go into effect in 2013, although a new unemployed category will be instituted for 2012, as will an expansion of eligibility and benefits for Emeritus/Retired members.

In April 2011, the ASA Research Department released a new research brief, *A Decade of Change: ASA Membership from 2000–2010*, examining changes in race, ethnicity, gender, and institutional type.

**Sections**

The ASA Sections reflect specialty fields within the discipline and foster scholarly and professional connections among researchers, teachers, and students. They provide ASA members who share a common interest in a particular subfield of the discipline with the ability to organize meetings and coordinate communications with the assistance of the Association.

**ASA OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP COUNTS, 2001–2011**
The total number of active sections rose to 51. All but six sections finished 2011 with higher membership counts than in 2010. Sections that lost members were Disability and Society; Ethnomethodology; Evolution, Biology and Society; History of Sociology; Peace, War and Social Conflict; and Sociology of Religion. With the exception of Disability and Society, all these sections lost members in 2010 as well.

The following table summarizes the participation of ASA members in sections during 2003–2011. Section memberships nearly doubled during this nine-year period. Section growth continues to accelerate in both breadth of interests and in the scope of members involved.

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<td>Average Section Memberships Per Member</td>
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<td>% of ASA Members who Participate in Sections</td>
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<td>65.85</td>
<td>68.07</td>
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Financials and Support
The economic downturn and the difficult financial situation of many institutions of higher education have been a challenge for many individuals and scholarly associations. The ASA has weathered this storm through prudent management of the Association’s operating budget under the overall direction of the ASA Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB) and Council.

Operating Budget

While revenues in 2010 and 2011 dropped somewhat, significant reductions in ASA expenses, including a two-year salary freeze for staff in 2009 and 2010, compensated for that decline. The 2011 fiscal year ended with a small surplus, as did most years in this decade. Deficits in 2008 and 2009 were anticipated in 2007 as part of the Association’s decision to return to owning rather than renting ASA headquarters space. They were exacerbated, however, by the steep downturn of the overall economy.

Operating Revenues

Revenue from the institutional sales of journals is the largest source of ASA income (35 percent) followed by revenue from membership (34 percent). An additional 6 percent comes from the sale of other ASA publications, 16 percent from the Annual Meeting, and 9 percent from “other revenues,” which includes the rental of some ASA office space. Total revenue in ASA’s last audited year was $5,545,995.

The Association’s most recent audited financial statement, for the year ending December 31, 2010, can be found at http://www.asanet.org/about/audit.cfm. The 2011 audit will be available after ASA Council review in August 2012.

Operating Expenses

Operating Expenses in ASA’s last audited year were $5,363,295. The chart on the next page shows more detail about how revenues were used to support various areas of Association activity.

The largest expense is staffing the Association, including salaries, group medical, retirement, professional development, unemployment taxes, and temporary help (41 percent), followed by facilities (22 percent including annual depreciation on property and equipment, bond cost amortization, interest, real estate taxes as well as utilities) and journal and other publication expenses (9 percent and 2 percent respectively). In 2010, ASA moved from self-publishing most ASA journals to a publishing agreement with SAGE Publications. As a result, major journal expenses for printing and mailing of printed journals are no longer in the ASA Operating Budget.
The ASA ended 2011 with just over $5.9 million invested conservatively in a low-cost portfolio of bonds and equities that reflect the broad marketplace and are passively managed to limit risk. While the value of these investments declined during the national financial meltdown, ASA portfolio losses have been mostly regained and the investments are now modestly growing, despite a very volatile 2011 market.

About 35 percent of this portfolio was donated to the Association for specific purposes (e.g., the Sydney S. Spivack Fund that supports applied research and public policy activities of the Association, such as the CARI grants and the Congressional Fellowship, and the Arnold and Caroline Rose Fund that supports the Rose Series in Sociology books published by ASA in collaboration with the Russell Sage Foundation). The remaining 65 percent of the portfolio is the ASA reserve fund. Standard fiscal accountability standards suggest a nonprofit organization should have the equivalent of between 50 and 70 percent of its annual expense budget in reserve, a policy that is followed by the EOB, which is charged by the ASA Bylaws to manage ASA investments.

ASA also owns its own headquarters space. The 2006 drop in the value of ASA’s investments is because ASA liquidated the assets it invested from the sale of its former DC headquarters building in the mid-1990s and used them as the cash down payment to purchase the current DC headquarters in 2007. The remainder of the purchase was financed by the sale of low-cost tax-free DC revenue bonds. The Association’s real property has retained its value despite the national real estate “bubble bust” because the District of Columbia has long had a strong commercial real estate market and ASA invested in a prime area to preserve the value of its investment. In 2011, the property value continued to rise.

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

![Investment Portfolio Chart]

End Quarterly
Member Financial Support of ASA Programs

ASA acknowledges the generous support of individual members whose financial contributions to the Association during 2011 greatly aided in the success of ASA programs and initiatives. Annual member donations to six ASA funds have a significant impact on the work of the Association:

**American Sociological Fund (ASF)** supports ASA efforts to respond to unusual opportunities to advance the discipline and improve and promote scholarship, teaching, and public service on a long-term basis.

**Congressional Fellowship Fund (CFF)** provides support for ASA Congressional Fellows to work with a member of Congress to learn about the legislative process and the relevance of their sociological expertise.

**Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD)** supports innovative research and research-related activities.

**Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)** provides pre-doctoral training support for minority students who are in graduate programs in sociology.

**Soft Currency Fund (SCF)** is used to aid individuals who cannot fund ASA membership and subscriptions without access to U.S. dollars.

**Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Fund (TEF)** supports projects that enhance the teaching of sociology.

In 2011, 5.5 percent of the total membership made charitable contributions to these funds. Almost 11 percent of those Regular members selecting the $70,000 and above income category and 20 percent of Emeritus Members contributed. Students and low-income members (<$20,000) were also generous, with 2.1 percent and 4.2 percent respectively contributing, many to MFP and ASF.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

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2011 Annual Meeting Support

Since 1984, social science departments and regional societies have joined the American Sociological Association in co-sponsoring the annual Honorary Reception at the Annual Meeting. The Association is pleased to acknowledge the following co-hosts of the 2011 Honorary Reception.

Columbia University • Duke University • University of Pennsylvania

Special sponsorship for several Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) events at the 2011 Annual Meeting was provided by New Connections, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) with technical assistance and direction provided by OMG Center for Collaborative Learning located in Philadelphia. The 2011 MFP events included the MFP Benefit Reception, the All MFP Fellows’ Breakfast, and the MFP Professional Workshop.

ASA also wishes to thank the sponsors who provided special financial support to the 2011 Annual Meeting.
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