Changes Made in Allocation Of Space at Annual Meeting

Several changes regarding space allocation at the ASA Annual Meeting were made by Council on an experimental basis in an attempt to accommodate a growing number of requests for sessions, meetings, and the distribution and sale of literature. The changes authorized during the January Council meeting pertain only to the 1979 meeting in Boston. The Executive Office will submit a report to Council after the meeting which will contain a complete listing of all groups that applied for space and which ones received Council will consider continuance of the changes at that point. Changes involve (1) session time for scholarly groups not accorded regular program sessions; (2) meeting time for groups wishing to meet in conjunction with the ASA; and (3) a hospitality room for graduate and undergraduate students.

In addition, Council endorsed the right of members, individually or in association, to distribute and sell literature at Annual Meetings on a space available basis.

MORNING SESSIONS
Council stipulated that "legitimate" groups whose interests are not otherwise represented on the program be allowed use of meeting rooms in the morning prior to the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions". These time slots are limited to substantive groups. To be eligible, groups must submit to the Executive Office a petition signed by ten or more members. Space will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Plenary Marks Symbolic Transfer of Responsibility

by Laurence J. Rhodees

It was an unusual conference in an unusual place at an unusual time on an unusual topic with an unusual objective.

It was an unusual conference because in the words of one participant: "There was a certain warmth and enthusiasm and spirit of cooperation that, at least in my experience, is not usually found at conferences, even where many of the participants have been working together for some time. I got the feeling that this was kind of academic conferences should be but mostly aren't."
The unusual place was Pittsburgh; the unusual time...February, the unusual topic...teaching, and the unusual objective..."to symbolize the transfer of responsibility for the support of teaching from a group of funded volunteers to the established structures of the discipline" of sociology.

Such, then, was the setting and the objective of the Plenary Conference on Teaching Undergraduate Sociology held in the Pittsburgh Marriott Inn, February 9-12, by the ASA Projects on Teaching Undergraduate Sociology.

Task Force on Certification/Accreditation Created

Task forces have been established by ASA Council to look at issues including certification, licensing and accreditation that may affect the further development of the profession and to review existing knowledge in the sociology of professionalism.

The task forces were authorized during the January Council meeting in response to a report from the Committee on the Profession and to a resolution passed at the 1977 Business Meeting in Chicago.

Acting on a resolution from the Business Meeting in San Francisco, Council passed a motion declining "the University of Maryland's decision in denying appointment to Professor Bertell Ollman to chair the department at College Park because those actions are in grave violation of academic freedom."

DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSION
Richard Hill, chair, Committee on the Profession, reported the receipt of several requests for advice or information on matters of certification and accreditation from members employed in non-academic settings.

Hill further reported that concerns within the ASA Projects on Teaching Undergraduate Sociology suggest the need to consider an accrediting program, particularly for community and junior colleges.

He reported that his Committee is recommending to Council that a task force be established to work on this issue. The task force is expected to include representatives from various groups involved in training sociology.

Committee recommendations concerning Section Day programs, expenditure of funds, establishment of publications and awards, and future relations between Sections and ASA concerning matters of common concern.

Both actions, taken during the January Council meeting, were based on recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee on Sections which was appointed last year to look into the concerns being expressed by Sections.

Committee on Sections Re-established

A Standing Committee on Sections has been re-established by ASA Council as the first step in its effort to more effectively coordinate Section activities with overall ASA issues.

As a second step, Council supported the formation of a Board of Section Chairs to facilitate communication among Sections on matters of common concern.

Both actions, taken during the January Council meeting, were based on recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee on Sections which was appointed last year to look into the concerns being expressed by Sections.

See Function, page 3

Opportunity To Form Research Groups

Often scholars who become interested in a research area find it difficult to develop contacts with others working on similar topics. The Association wishes to help make these contacts.

At the 1979 Annual Meeting in Boston, a new possibility will be introduced—Ad Hoc Working Groups. The opportunity will be available for members to get together to talk about common research problems and perhaps to initiate common or supportive research agendas. They will not be discussion groups or roundtables. The groups should continue beyond the Meeting and should be self-sustaining and motivating. The Association is interested in providing a location to initiate such groups.

Persons interested in forming such Working Groups should communicate with Russell R. Dyles, American Sociological Association, 1722 N Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, who will indicate area of interest and their willingness to assume responsibility for continued coordination. Such groups would be most effective if their focus were delimited, rather than broad. Topics and organizers will be listed in FOOTNOTES and at the Annual Meeting with a time and place for the lead-off meeting to make plans for continued interaction. The interest of the Association is in providing initial space and publicity. If it proves to be useful, it could become a continuing feature of the Annual Program.
ADAMHA Raises Small Grant Limit

NSF Launches Program to Improve Management of Research Projects

3. Development of an appropriate monitoring system in relation to the criteria, and the receipt of annual Section reports.

4. Revision of the Section Manual to conform to changing needs.

5. Performance of an advisory function for new Sections, for officers of old Sections, and generally to be available to Sections as needed, to assist with problems and complaints, and otherwise to serve the interests of the Sections.

BOARD OF CHAIRS

In suggesting the formation of a Board of Chair Sections, Council expressed the desire to have the Board meet separately and jointly with the Committee on Sections during Annual Meetings. Council also hoped Board members would elect “tandem” to serve as a communications coordinator between meetings.

Council instructed the Executive Office to provide communication facilities to the Board as needed.

1979 ASA Directories Available Soon

**ADVERTISEMENT**

Section on Methodology Announces a Training Institute in connection with the ASA Annual Meeting

1. Data Analysis: Objectives and Tools (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)

R. Connershead, Head, Statistics and Data Analysis Research Department, Bell Laboratories

2. Robust Estimation and Data Analysis (1:30-5:30 p.m.)

David C. Hoaglin, Senior Analyst, AIB Associates Inc., and Research Associate in Statistics, Harvard University

Saturday, August 26, 1979
Sherraton Boston Hotel

Tickets are $5 and must be purchased in advance.

Professor Samuel Leibhardt
School of Urban and Public Affairs Carnegie-Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

(Checks should be made payable to ASA Section on Methodology)
Five General Sessions to Focus on Teaching at ASA Meeting

A series of five general sessions scheduled for the ASA Annual Meeting in Boston will give "Issues in Teaching," a prominent place in the annual program of the Association for the first time.

The 74th Annual Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Boston Hotel from August 22-27.

Recognizing that the Association and its members have a vested interest in the vitality of the teaching enterprise, the Program Committee developed major sessions on five critical issues related to teaching.

These included new comprehensive curriculum models, (2) the first course, (3) graduate training (in teaching sociology, (4) evaluating and rewarding teaching, and (5) institutional and disciplinary controls.

“These sessions are intended for a broad audience of sociologists concerned with the quality of the teaching enterprise,” Hubert F. Maynard, ASA President, said. “It is our hope that these ‘Issues in Teaching’ will become a permanent part of the annual program.”

Besides orienting the sessions to a broad audience of sociologists, the 1979 Program Committee also drew on the broad spectrum of institutions in which sociology is taught for session participants: universities, colleges, and community colleges.


SESSION PARTICIPANTS
Fred Campbell, University of Washington, will preside over the session on “Alternative Curricula Models.” David Riesman, Harvard University, will speak on “The Undergraduate Sociology Curriculum: The Liberal Arts Function.”

Penn State Elects Officers
Stanley S. Clawer, Rosemont College, was chosen President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society during its annual meeting at Cedar Crest College in Allentown.

Other officers elected were Joan Mandle, Penn State-Media, Secretary-Treasurer; and Padapadam, Penn State-Sharon, Newsletter Editor. The current President is William R.F. Phillips, Widener.

The theme of the annual meeting was “Making Sociology Work: Social Research and Social Policy in the 1980s.” The Society has more than 100 members.

A Spring interim meeting was held March 31 at Slippery Rock State College.

Youth Values Report
A final report on a 1977 inquiry conducted by teenagers into the attitudes and values experiences of 1,000 female and male teenagers in New York City regarding sex, contraception and life goals has been issued by the Youth Values Project.

Susan Ross, project director, said the study was conducted “to clarify the reasons teenagers do or don’t use birth control.”

The project sponsored by the Population Institute in Washington and the State Communities Aid Association in New York City.

Copies of the report are available for $1.50 from Susan Ross, Director, The Youth Values Project, The Experiment, Kipling Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

Texas Establishes Monetary Reward for Teaching

A new policy to reward good undergraduate teaching, especially of freshmen and sophomore course, has been established in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Texas, Austin by Dean Robert D. King.

Dean King announced that every year sufficient funds are available he will select 10 faculty members from the college and recommend each an additional merit salary increase of $1,000 based on a sustained record of outstanding undergraduate teaching, especially at the lower-division level. He emphasized that the $1,000 will be in addition to any merit raise recommended by the department.

The University values both good teachers and good researchers,” King said, “but undergraduate teaching hasn’t always been adequately rewarded in the past.”

Essentially, the Dean said, he has decided to “put our money where our priorities lie.”

Each department in the College of Liberal Arts has been instructed by the Dean to give him a list of not less than two names of persons who meet the following qualifications:

They must be faculty members who have taught at the University for at least three full years.

They must have a record of sustained teaching excellence, particularly at the lower-division level.

MEASURING EXCELLENCE
To measure “sustained teaching excellence,” the Dean has asked the department to consider:

◆ Peer evaluations, which might include judgments on the basis of evaluating each others’ classes.

◆ Evaluations of course materials used by faculty.

◆ Evaluations of the quality of work by students enrolled in the courses being considered for recommended for reward.

◆ Student evaluations of teachers.

Dean King said that all salary increases for faculty merit increases based on teaching, research and public service. To make sure that good teaching is rewarded at the University, however, he is going to focus on that aspect by recommending an additional merit increase over and above increases recommended by departments.

Continuing Effort to Improve Teaching Outlined

By acclamation, Conference participants endorsed the continued existence of the ASA Projects on the continuing further efforts to improve teaching in sociology.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
One hundred and eleven sociologists from all over the United States attended the first national conference on teaching in the discipline. They represented the institutions that are teaching educational institutions in which sociology is taught as well as the range of professional associations national, regional, state, and whose activities, functions for furthering the recognition of teaching and sociology.

Among the participants were six ASA Council members including two officers, two former and the current President, and officials from all regional associations, the National Council of State Sociological Associations, and state association. Program managers from the funding sources were also present.

Haveling traveled the ‘bumpy road’ to the Marriot, conference participants found themselves back in a demanding Program organized by Golf Brady, Project Associate, that kept them busy from morning until evening hearing, talking and thinking about teaching sociology.

Sociology conferences, session, discussion group after discussion group, demonstration after demonstration, idea exchanges after idea exchanges, and speaker after speaker followed.

PROCESS & OUTCOMES
This activity had an underlying logic. It moved from articulation of the problems to explorations of solutions to the testing of solutions.

In the process, some romantic notions about teaching were challenged (i.e., teachers are born, teaching cannot be evaluated; bad teaching does not affect the discipline or the profession); issues concerning courses and curriculum, teacher development, and structural supports for teaching were raised; the diverse institutional environments in which sociology is taught were examined, new resources, options and approaches to teaching were demonstrated; historical precedents expressing a concern for teaching in sociology were cited; solutions to the problems were explored; and recommendations for action were made.

What emerged from the process was a clearer understanding that the improvement of teaching in sociology would require a long-term, multidimensional, multi-level strategy. In fact, sociology may not be able to do it alone; it may require a coordinated effort from all stakeholders.

Sampling of suggestions and recommendations made at the Conference includes the range of activities encompassed by this larger strategy: (1) ASA should employ an overall staff member to support services to teachers and teaching; (2) Departments should be encouraged to include teacher training in graduate programs, to establish in-service training programs for faculty; and to give greater weight to teaching in hiring and rewarding practices; (3) Sociological theory and concepts should be incorporated into research and evaluation of teaching; (4) A student profile data bank should be created; (5) A concerted program emphasis on the first course should be given in state, regional, and national association meetings; (6) Model curriculum packages should be developed; (7) Curriculum should be on the agenda of all professional associations; (8) Networks based on teaching should be developed; administrative leaders should be approached about the development of support systems for teaching.

A complete report on the recommendations will appear in TQ/T2. A complete report on the recommendations was submitted to ASA Council.

Feeder System Developed at IWU

A “feeder system” to encourage research, writing and participation in professional activities at the undergraduate level has been developed by the Alpha Kappa Delta chapter at Illinois Wesleyan University.

The AKD chapter sponsors an on-campus student competition that includes all papers written for sociology courses. The competition identifies outstanding papers that are then submitted to undergraduate competitions held by the Illinois Sociological Society, the Midwest Sociological Society and the national AKD competition.

The student who writes the best paper for the year receives a one-year membership in the American Sociological Association.
NEH Offers Fellowships to Teachers

Three categories of fellowships, two of which are aimed primarily at undergraduate teachers, are being offered by the National Endowment for the Arts for the 1980-81 academic year.

Sociologists have received fellowships from these NEH programs. Social science are included under the humanities when the projects are philosophical and/or historical. Several seminars under Category C are offered by sociologists. For the Summer 1979 issue of February FONOTES.

Category A and B offer fellowships for independent study and research in the humanities and carry stipends of $10,000 for six months of tenure, and $30,000 for twelve months. Application deadline for both categories is June 1.

Category A is open to all scholars, teachers, and other interpret- ers of the humanities. Category B is intended for persons engaged primarily in teaching under- graduates in colleges and universities.

Fellowships in Category C provide teachers in undergraduate and two-year colleges opportunities to participate in seminars directed by distinguished scholars at designated universities and to undertake study and research of their own choosing beyond the scope of the seminar. Applications are due on November 12. The directors, topics and locations of the seminars are available from NEH.

Funded Projects

The program currently funds the following programs being conducted by sociologists:

Magnet Schools in Their Organizational Environment: Mary Taylor, Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, 1/79-8/81, $81,080.


Education Decision-Making in Students' Careers: Hugh Mehan, Director, Teacher Education Program, UC-San Diego, 9/78-9/81, $190,753.


For further information contact:

Grants for Research on Organizational Processes in Education:
National Institute of Education, 1200 19th Street, NW (Mail Stop 101), Washington, D.C. 20020. Phone: (202) 358-5000.

Planning Survey of PhD Nurses

A national survey of doctoral-prepared nurses will be conducted by the American Nurses Association with support from HEW to determine the number of nurses with doctorates, their career patterns and factors in their working environment. One outcome of the study will be the publication of a national directory of doctorally-prepared nurses.

Nurses who have received a doctorate since 1972 are asked to send their name (maiden and married), address and date of birth to the American Nurses Association, Department of Research, Grants and Contracts, 2420 Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108, so that they can be included in the survey.
Spivack Fellowship Application Deadline Set for June 1

Three Sydney Spivack Fellowships in intergroup relations will be awarded to ASA members during 1979 through a grant to the Association from the Cornerstone Fund.

The grants of about $5,000 each are intended (1) to recognize major contributions to interracial, interethnic, and inreligious relations and (2) to support continuing research and action programs in intergroup relations.

A Fund spokesman said the Fellowships are to serve simultaneously as recognition for past accomplishments and as stimulus for future productivity.

Competition for the 1979 Spivack Fellowships will be limited to the following areas:

(1) For recognition of significant applications of sociological knowledge to actual prevailing social conditions and to encourage future applications.

(2) For recognition of sustained scholarly contributions throughout the recipient's sociological career and to encourage further contributions.

(3) For recognition of a significant sociological work that has appeared during the previous five year period and to encourage future contributions.

Nominations for the fellowships must be received by June 1, 1979 in the ASA Executive Office. Winners will be announced and formal presentations will be made during the ASA Annual Meeting in Boston.

In submitting a nomination, a nominator should specify the category for which a person is being nominated. Nominators are also asked to provide information concerning one or more of the following when appropriate: (1) nominee's publications; (2) practical applications of sociological knowledge in action programs, e.g., housing, health, employment; (3) service to local communities, organizations, and government agencies; and (4) current activities.

The ASA has established the following eligibility requirements for the Fellowships: (1) No person may receive more than one such Fellowship. (2) No one who has prepared manuscripts on commission from the Cornerstone Fund or received substantial support from the Fund shall be eligible. (3) Fellowships are made only to ASA members.

Census Experts Wanted for Project

Experts with census processing or use skills are needed to participate for short periods in technical support to developing countries for the 1980 worldwide census program.

The project is being developed by DUALabs and Delta Systems Consultants, Inc., with funding from AID.

One component of the project requires using census data to analyze the status of women in selected countries.

Assignments will be on a short-term basis, usually six weeks, and may be available in the U.S., Asia, Africa and Latin America.

For more information, contact J.C. Beresford, President, Data Use and Access Laboratories, Inc., 1601 North Kent State, Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22209. Phone: (703) 525-1490.

Med Soc Program At Boston Univ.

A summer program in medical sociology will be offered by the Department of Sociology at Boston University that includes two courses in Boston and a London Study Tour.

For further information, contact Dr. Mark G. Field, Program Director, Boston University, Department of Sociology, 100 Cummings Street, Boston, MA 02155. Phone: (617) 353-2591.

Task Force on Homosexuality

Continued from page 1

knowledge in the sociology of homosexuality and identity topics in this field which demand research.

The task force will be composed of three members of the Sociologists Gay Caucus and three non-members. A non-member is to serve as task force chair and the task force is to submit its report to Council.

Responding to other provisions of the resolution, Council authorized the ASA Executive Office to send press releases to all major press services announcing the Association's recommendation that "sexual orientation" be included as an anti-discrimination provision in civil rights legislation and regulatory codes.


CEI Announces Two Applied Statistical Modeling Short Courses

Applied Regression Analysis 2 1/2 days June 18-20
Applied Multivariate Analysis 2 1/2 days June 20-22

CEI offers a fast, easy way for the social science researcher to learn about statistical modeling. Applied research journals are filled with applications of regression and multivariate analysis, and you need to understand these techniques to be effective in your own research. These two courses will not only enable you to read statistical articles with understanding, but you also will learn to apply these powerful techniques in your own research.

You will learn by example - sociological research case studies will be presented. You will learn how to interpret output from both the SPSS and the SAS computer packages and during the informal evening consulting sessions the instructors will show you how to apply the computer packages and modeling procedures to your own research problems. In short, these two CEI courses will bring you up-to-date in the statistical modeling techniques which are currently being applied in your field.

COURSE OUTLINES

Applied Regression Analysis
- Review of basic statistical concepts
- Linear models and the method of least squares
- Poisson product-moment correlation
- Multiple regression analysis
- Multiple and partial correlation
- Standardized regression coefficients
- Model building
- Interactions and dummy variables

Applied Multivariate Analysis
- Hotelling's T
- Discriminant Analysis
- Cluster Analysis
- Principal Components
- Factor Analysis
- Repeated Measures
- Profile Analysis
- Interpreting computer printouts (SPSS and SAS)

COURSE INSTRUCTORS
Dr. Alan Agresti, Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Florida. Dr. Agresti is a leading authority in the field of categorical data analysis and has published extensively on this subject.

Dr. Robert Smidt, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Statistics, Cal. Poly, State University. Dr. Smidt is a leading authority in the field of multivariate analysis and has published extensively on this subject.

COURSE CONSULTANT
Dr. William Mendenhall, Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Florida. Dr. Mendenhall has served as an instructor and consultant for numerous similar short courses.

COURSE LOCATION
Holiday Inn--Telegraph Road, 2660 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, Virginia. (202) 960-1600

COURSE TUTION
$955 for both courses, $325 for one course. Includes all lunches, course materials and informal evening consulting sessions.

To register or for more information call or send name, address, business affiliation and telephone number to:

Continuing Education Institute
2835 NW 32nd Street, Gainesville, FL 32605 (305) 375-7624
CEI also presents in-house courses in applied statistics. Call or write for more information.
MINUTES OF THE 1979 COUNCIL MEETING

1. Annual meeting of the 1979 Council convened at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, January 19, 1979, at the Dupont Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C. The President of the Conference, Dr. L. Blakely, Jr., presided.

Present were: L. Blakely, Jr., Helen M. Hughes, Helen A. Lopata, Joanne Michaelson, Barbara D. Selby, J. Robert Stock, George Stéphenson, William E. Collin, Andrew Z. Elsberg, and Margaret L. Dwyer.

Agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda. With the addition of a Committee on the Profession report and three specific topics added to the Council committee reports, the agenda was approved.

2. Report of the President. Blakely reported a request from an MIT professor for endorsement by ASA of a letter-writing campaign to HED Secretary Chair, providing the professor with the opportunity for an endorsement. The correspondence to HED Secretary Chair was forwarded to Blakely, who, in turn, forwarded it to the President of the Council.

3. Report of the Program Committee. The Program Committee reported that the 1979 Annual Meeting has been negotiated with all groups and that the first day of the Annual Meeting will be devoted to special sessions on social science and policy.

4. Motion: That legitimate groups with grievances against the ASA who present the group on the program will be allowed use of the program for the purpose of lodging a protest against the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions.

The motion passed, with one abstention and one vote for no quorum. The President appointed a petition signed by ten or more members of a legitimate group that is not on the program to be placed on a first-class, first-time basis, one meeting per group. The petition is due at the President’s office by September 1, 1979.

5. Motion: That legitimate groups with grievances against the ASA who present the group on the program will be allowed use of the program for the purpose of lodging a protest against the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions. The motion passed, with one abstention and one vote for no quorum. The President appointed a petition signed by ten or more members of a legitimate group that is not on the program to be placed on a first-class, first-time basis, one meeting per group. The petition is due at the President’s office by September 1, 1979.

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12. Motion: That legitimate groups with grievances against the ASA who present the group on the program will be allowed use of the program for the purpose of lodging a protest against the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions. The motion passed, with one abstention and one vote for no quorum. The President appointed a petition signed by ten or more members of a legitimate group that is not on the program to be placed on a first-class, first-time basis, one meeting per group. The petition is due at the President’s office by September 1, 1979.

13. Motion: That legitimate groups with grievances against the ASA who present the group on the program will be allowed use of the program for the purpose of lodging a protest against the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions. The motion passed, with one abstention and one vote for no quorum. The President appointed a petition signed by ten or more members of a legitimate group that is not on the program to be placed on a first-class, first-time basis, one meeting per group. The petition is due at the President’s office by September 1, 1979.

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16. Motion: That legitimate groups with grievances against the ASA who present the group on the program will be allowed use of the program for the purpose of lodging a protest against the opening of ASA regularly scheduled sessions. The motion passed, with one abstention and one vote for no quorum. The President appointed a petition signed by ten or more members of a legitimate group that is not on the program to be placed on a first-class, first-time basis, one meeting per group. The petition is due at the President’s office by September 1, 1979.
MEDICAL SOCIETY

The Section carried out a number of activities this year.

1. Nominating Committee. Ronald And-

son, chairman, reported that the names of those nomina-

tions were discussed to fill vacant executive posi-

tions. The list has been reviewed by the Execu-

tive Committee, and it is recommended that the names be accept-

ed.

2. Secretary-Treasurer. John Carpen-

ter, secretary-treasurer, reported that the Society has had a

net gain in assets of $5,000. The financial status of the Society is excellent.

3. Journal. The Journal of the Medical Society was issued bi-monthly.

4. Council. The Council met at least once a month to discuss the activities of the Society.

5. Officers. The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President: Charles N. Carpenter
Vice-President: J. Edward Hahn
Secretary-Treasurer: John Carpenter

6. Other Business. Several items of business were discussed, including the purchase of a new building for the Society.

SOICAL POLITICS

The Society is located in the heart of the community and serves as a focal point for cultural and social activities. The Society offers a variety of programs and events to promote the well-being of its members and the community.

METHODOLOGY

This past year the Section on Methodology has continued its tradition of promoting high-quality research in the field of psychology. The Section has held several conferences and workshops, and has published several articles in its newsletter. The Section has also provided a platform for researchers to present their work and receive feedback from their peers.

THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Theological Society is a group of scholars who study the nature of God and the universe. The Society has a monthly newsletter that contains articles and discussions on various topics related to theology.

THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Theological Society's activities this year included the following:

- A conference on the nature of God and the universe, which was attended by over 200 people.
- A seminar on the role of religion in society, which was attended by over 100 people.
- A workshop on the history of theology, which was attended by over 50 people.
- A lecture series on the nature of God, which was attended by over 70 people.
- A panel discussion on the role of religion in society, which was attended by over 30 people.

The Theological Society continues to be an active and influential group in the study of theology.
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

This annual report covers the major decisions and activities of the Section on the Council and the Officers during the 1979-1980 academic year. The Officers and Council Members are:

PREVIOUS AND CURRENT MEMBERS

Section on Undergraduate Education

R. K. Rhoades, Chairperson

The report includes details on the selection process for the Section on Undergraduate Education, as well as the role of the Officers and Council Members in overseeing and guiding the activities of the section.

JAMES TAMPLIN LAING

Dr. James T. Laing died on January 9, 1979, near his beloved hometown in West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Lorilia, his son, James Thomas of Ponchatoula, Mich., and two grandchildren.

Dr. Laing was born in Montgomery, West Virginia, in 1901, and was proudly associated with himself and his sons and daughters of his native state. He was graduated from West Virginia University in 1924, his MA at Ohio State University in 1929, and his PhD at Ohio State University in 1935. Postdoctoral studies were conducted at the Institute of Race Relations, Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania, in 1936-1938.

His concern for others was evident throughout his career. His master’s thesis was a study of the Literature of “Negro” economic conditions between 1880 and 1929. His dissertation was entitled, “The Negro Miner in West Virginia.”

First and foremost, Dr. Laing was an able, highly respected professor. In 1933-1934, he served as Chairperson of the Department of Economics and Sociology at West Virginia University. In 1934-1935, he was Chairperson of the Department of Sociology at what is now West Virginia Institute of Technology. But his real leadership began in 1935 when he came to Kent State University, where he was the first professor of sociology. From 1937 to 1967, 30 full years, Dr. Laing led the department of sociology at Kent State University.

His ability to sense the potential talents of faculty and students was phenomenal. Dr. Laing drew around him a circle of students, including research specialists, theorists, authors, and social service-oriented personnel who would contribute, to the fields of sociology, anthropology, and social work. A partial list includes the distinguished names of John F. Cuber, Leonard Bloom, Edwin M. Lemert, Delbert C. Hiebert, Richard S. Herrnstein, Ernest From, John A. Given, James Fleming, Glenn T. Nyeberg, Morris Sunshine, Charlie A. Merrill, Martin K. Morris, Richard Kerrho, David Dager, Paul Horton, and Herman L. Langer.

Perhaps one of Dr. Laing’s most gratifying experiences was his choice and support of the late (and revered) Oscar W. Ritchie of 87 Ritchie, thanks to Laing’s initiative, became the first black sociologist to teach in any of the state universities of Ohio. He had moved steadily through the ranks holding every possible status from graduate assistant to full professor, including Acting Chairperson upon Dr. Laing’s retirement.

There were other honors for Dr. Laing such as the presidency of the Ohio Valley Sociological Society in 1945-1946 (now North Central Sociological Association), the publication of over a dozen books and scholarly articles in various journals, the special interest in a series of studies dealing with the black experience between the years of 1930 and 1960, and his work with the Rotary Club of Kent and Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity. But perhaps the most important was to have been a quiet, unassuming, and friendly person everywhere he went.

The department that Dr. Laing founded, sheltered, and inspired grew from a small group of students to introducing a relatively new discipline to the university community to a multi- disciplinary department of sociology, anthropology, social workers, and correction specialists. By his retirement, the department had grown to a staff of over 100 and had moved to the threshold of the state’s first joint program in sociology and psychology.

There remains one vital ingredient aside from his sustained leadership and that was word, gently, modestly, self-effacing, accepting person. He saw only good people in the world, a view of his personality was taken for granted. Whatever defects, flaws, or errors existed in others were overlooked in judgment, constructive, creative, effective efforts.

He was my teacher, counselor, and a great friend. He was a man of deep, deep faith and a friend of man. He was a man of his word and had a sense of humor. He was a great sport. He was a friend to all, and we shall miss him when he is gone. We have lost a true human being who will be missed on this earth. Most of all, we have witnessed the passing of a sweet and wholesome human being who graced this world.

Marcus R. Miller
Kent State University

SWEN HENRIK RIERM (1905-1977)

Professor of Sociology at UCLA senior faculty member died on March 15, 1977, in Berkeley, California. He is survived by a son, Berl, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, and a body to the University medical school. At his request no services were held, but donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Cancer Research Institute, Berkeley, and the University of The Modesto City (Pierce-Hall, 1952), an influential textbook in urban sociology.

Sven Henrik Riemer had an influence on the course of cancer of May 15, 1977, in Fullerton, California. He is survived by a son, Berl, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, and a body to the University medical school. At his request no services were held, but donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Cancer Research Institute, Berkeley, and the University of The Modesto City (Pierce-Hall, 1952), an influential textbook in urban sociology.

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Problems of Discipline Funds 3 Projects; Proposals Sought

Three proposals were funded by the ASA Problems of the Discipline Grant Program during 1978 which, for the second year in a row, has not obligated all of its available funds.

The funded proposals will allow 25 sociologists and other social scientists to pursue their work in areas in a collaborative manner. In 1978, the fund had $7,200 available for grants, including $2,200 left over from 1977. Of the $4,978 granted in 1978 on ten grants were in 1978 on five grants were in 1978.

Applications for 1979 grants are being solicited by the Committee on the Problems of the Discipline. Guidelines and further details on the program are presented below.

FUNDED PROPOSALS

A grant of $1,500 was made to Natalie J. Sokoloff, CUNY-John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Christine Bone, SUNY-Albany; and Roslyn L. Feldberg, Boston University, to support the work of a group of ten scholars from several social science disciplines that is investigating problems related to the search for and retention in women and work. The group hopes to develop an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the problem of the membership of women to work in American society.

Other sociologists in the group are Nona Clark, Portland State University; Myra Marx Ferree, University of Connecticut; and Carol Brown, University of Lowell.

Other social scientists in the group are Heidi Hartmann, National Academy of Sciences, Commission on Occupational Classification and Analysis, economics; Alice Kessler-Harris, Director of the Center for Women and Work, Hofstra University, history; Peggy Crull, Research Director of Working Women University Institute, Yeshiva University, human development; and Dorothy Senn, University of the District of Columbia, anthropology.

Another $1,300 grant was made to a group of eight sociologists and an historian that is coordinated by Theda Skocpol, Harvard University. The grant will support the group's work on methods of historical social analysis.

Other sociologists in the group are Daniel Cloward and Michael Hechter, University of Washington; Walter Goldfrank, UC-Santa Cruz; Gary Hamilton, UC-Davis; Jeffrey Page, University of Michigan; Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Brown University; Ellen Kay Trubner, California State University-Sonoma. The historian is Lynn Hunt, UC-Berkeley.

A grant of $1,222 was jointly awarded to Zelma F. Cameron, University of Michigan, and Joyce Whitehead, University of California, to support the work of six scholars who are looking at the implications of research on collective self-management in the workplace.

Other scholars in the group are Paul Bernstein, UC-Irvine; Robert Kahn and Mayer Zald, University of Michigan; and Jan Mambus, University of Chicago.

PURPOSE AND GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Program is to make grants to small groups of social scientists to facilitate intellectual exchanges and to move their efforts into a more productive future. Proposals may be brief but they should set forth an objective, a modus operandi, the implications of the project for the development of a methodology or discipline, plans for disseminating results, and a budget.

The Committee does not wish to suggest theoretical or methodological, or substantive priorities or specific modes of operation, but applicants may be guided by the following considerations. Preferences will be given to:

- Proposals that involve theoretical or methodological issues that promise to have implications of general interest to the entire profession and beyond a narrowly defined substantive field.
- Proposals that indicate a concern for drawing together several theoretical and methodological approaches, as for example those that cut across several different social scientific disciplines.
- Proposals that are of a stocktaking, integrative, synthesizing, and/or evaluative nature, with respect to a given area of sociological knowledge.
- Groups of scholars who have established a record of effective communication and have a shared focus on the problems they wish to address.

Groups that can specify mechanisms for preparing for the proposed conferences by the exchange of materials prior to their meetings.

Groups that can describe procedures to follow-up their meetings and present their results to appropriate audiences.

Groups that can find ways to economize on travel and other expenses.

Grants will generally not exceed $1,500. Grants will not be given for travel to related expenses involved in attending the ASA Annual Meeting or for travel outside of North America.

Applicants must send five copies of their proposals to the ASA Executive Office, 1722 N Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Applications should come from small groups or small scientists at least three of whom must be ASA members.

Submission deadlines are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Proposals will be reviewed four times per year, and under normal conditions, decisions will be announced within three months following receipt of the submission.

Under unusual circumstances, grants will be made to previous recipients and previous grants will be awarded additional support; however, priority will be given to new proposals from those who have not received support under this program. Proposals and groups receiving support will be required to submit a report of progress one year following the date of their award.

Space Allocation Provisions Detailed

The membership and mission of the Committee on Problems of the Discipline is assumed by ASA Council during its January meeting.

The Committee has authorized the Committee to take a more active role in addressing the problems of the discipline including the task of fund raising and supporting work in the discipline.

The Committee has been expanded from prior to five to five members. The Committee is now comprised of the Past President, three Council members, and the Executive Office serving ex officio.

The Committee will continue to review proposals submitted to the Problems of the Discipline Grant Program.

Committee members are Richard J. Hill, Chair; Amas Hawley, Morris Rosenberg, and Patrick Wallerstein, and Russell R. Dynes, ex officio.

Humans Report Due in Early 1980

The Commission on the Humanities expects to issue a final report by early 1980 that will critically assess the role of the humanities in American society in the last 15 years and make some recommendations for strengthening the humanities in American education and public life over the next decade.

Preparation for the report, the Commission, sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, is examining three major topics: (1) formal and informal humanistic knowledge and skills; (2) non-formal modes of humanities learning; and (3) public and private support for the humanities.

The Commission is chaired by Richard W. Lyman, President, Stanford University. The Humanities Commission of 1969-64 recommended the establishment of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

ASA Award

Sonokin Award and Lectureship

This award is given for any work which, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, has made a contribution to the progress of sociological knowledge. The book length monographs published within the past two years or series of articles published within the last five years, if the last article was published within the last two years. The Award will be announced at the Annual Meeting in Boston.

The Award will be given to travel expenses for the recipient to deliver a public lecture at a regional association, interdisciplinary association or appropriate scholarly audience.

Any member can send nominations to the Sonokin Award Selection Committee, 1722 N Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Deadline is May 1, 1979.

Faux Pas

The institutional affiliations of two participants in the conference were not included in the listings of the ASA Annual Meeting in Boston that were incorporated into the February FOOTNOTES. Rosabeth M. Kanter is at Yale University, not Brandeis University.

Gary T. Marx is at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, not Harvard University.