Editor's note: This article is the first in a series to be published on Pittsburgh and the opportunities of the western Pennsylvania region for sociologically relevant travel. It is a city whose own transformations tell a story well in keeping with the theme of the 1992 Annual Meeting, "Sociology and the Reconstruction of Society." The Program Committee, organizers, and speakers have been hard at work creating a meeting that is intellectually and interprofessionally rich. The program includes sessions across the breadth of topics and issues that challenge the discipline and the profession whether one's interests are local, national, or international. This year, special efforts were made to involve the international community in the program. Please do your best to attend and arrange your schedule to be in Pittsburgh in August. Regardless of age, stage, or size, or amount of travelling companions, there is something of the meetings and end in this area for you.

For further information on the 1992 Annual Meeting, please contact Janet L. Alten, Convention and Meeting Manager, at the ASA Executive Office.

by Tracy Medic

During the first half of this century, smog blackened the Pittsburgh skyline. Soot from the steel mills hovered over the city like a dense cloud, and the rivers gushed with industrial waste. But when the U.S. steel industry collapsed, Pittsburhghers found a new way of life. They united to clean up their city...and to create a cultural, scientific, recreational haven for families from all over the world.

Year after year, few scholars would have attended a convention held in Pittsburgh. The prospect of spending an entire weekend in the gritty Steel City was unwelcome at best. But today's Pittsburgh,site of the 1992 ASA Annual Meeting, is a far cry from the mill town of the past.

 transition to Democracy

by Seymour Martin Lipset, President-Elect

The most important set of recent events clearly pertain to the expansion of political democracy, first to Southern Europe, then to Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and most recently to much of Africa, including South Africa. No one in the social science or political worlds anticipated these developments. They present us with a host of issues, the ramifications of which are for the breakdown of different kinds of authoritarianism, the transition to democratic systems, and the conditions and prospects for institutionalization of the new regimes. The first topic should be dealt with by a set of papers analyzing the factors leading to breakdown, the new systems which destabilized totalitarian regimes, some of which have lasted for a century or more. The second involves analyses of the transition process, the emergence of mass movements, the extent to which new groups emerge to guarantee democratic rights, the organization of elections. The third is perhaps the most important, the ways and extent to which new economic and social structures, including political parties, have developed which affect the likelihood the democratic systems will continue. How do new societies emerge? Finally, we shall deal with legitimation. How do new regimes gain an accepted title-to-rule, independent of who controls the government, and respect for the law generally?

The clash of enthusiasms for the new democracies, for the revolutions of the eighties, many fail, that the great revolutions—the French in 1789, the Revolution of 1848, the Russian Revolutions in 1917...were failures, that they ended in a rebirth of tyranny and class oppression. Hopefully, the contemporary ones will do much better, perhaps because most have not been violent. But like their predecessors, most of them have initially made the conditions of life for the masses, as well as elites, worse than before. A look at the past may be as important as analyses of the present for understanding future prospects.

To what extent does democracy facilitate or inhibit economic growth? Can the predictions of previously repressed nationalism be contained within open political systems? Will the economic and social tensions inherent in rapid social transformation result in new waves of minority secessionist and extremist movements? These issues lend themselves to a variety of study. Hopefully, we can recruit scholars from many of the countries involved to present papers and discuss developments at home. The transition to democracy must be an international meeting.

U.S.S. Requin, a World War II submarine docked on the Ohio River, to gain a first-hand look at underwater communications, battle strategies and dining facilities.

Despite its impressive diversity and reputation, the Carnegie Institute is not Pittsburgh's only visitor. Its major exhibits include the "New World Indian Collection and an impressive display of birds, mammals, and vertebrate zoology.

Andrew Carnegie's desire to share his wealth and knowledge is also evident in the "Acoustically Perfect" Carnegie Music Hall, which housed the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra from 1896 until 1991. Today, this historic auditorium hosts the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society, the Mendelssohn Choir and the River City Brass Band.

Boasting more than 4.5 million books, periodicals and audiovisual items, the Library of Pittsburgh is the most impressive of more than 250 libraries built through Carnegie's generosity. This fourth branch of the Carnegie complex also holds the first department of science and technology in any American public library.

The Carnegie Science Center, located near Three Rivers Stadium on Pittsburgh's North Side, is the newest member of the Carnegie cultural family. Attractions such as the Science Neighborhood, Port of Discovery and Planetarium are designed to make science come alive for children of all ages.

In addition, visitors can tour the

...Look Ahead to Miami

1993 Annual Meeting Theme: Transition to Democracy

Published by The American Sociological Association
The Executive Officer's Column

One of the genuine pleasures of serving as your Executive Officer is to devote my full attention to the advancement of sociology and to benefit from your counsel and plain hard work. Almost every day I am reminded of the organizational goals of ASA and the responsibilities of the Executive Officer are accompanied by the encouraging energy of you—our member volunteers. My "thank you" list is already quite large, for the quality and integrity of your support. As I look out the Executive Office to our full Association, I am pleased to report that ASA is a collective effort in both substance and form.

That is the lesson from this collaboration became apparent once again when ASA recently participated in a public forum convened by the Commission on Environmental Research of the National Research Council (NRC). Created in response to the vast outpouring of environmental research and training in the United States, this NRC Committee is charged with studying the federal coordination, management, and support of environmental research and training in the United States. Quite appropriately, the Committee invited a number of social scientists, including the American Sociological Association, to provide testimony to inform its work. As often happens under such circumstances, there was little time between the invitation to participate (arrived mid-December) and the actual event (January 15, 1992). Our community in splendid fashion rose to the occasion, through a network of fax messages and phone calls to provide briefing statements that served as the base for ASA's testimony.

The technical advice provided to the Executive Office was essential to us in doing our work. Our strategy was to reach out to sociologists with specialized expertise on environmental issues and to gather them on critical issues. If we were operating under short notice, our colleagues were given even less time to offer their ideas. Almost everyone, however, whom we asked provided substantial assistance and with considerable dispatch. In particular, I want to thank Penelope Canan (University of Denver), William Feintuch (University of Minnesota), and Kathleen Lefebvre (University of Southwestern Louisiana). Linus Lutzelniker (Washington State University), Allan Schnaiberg (Northwestern University), and Camille Seyler (Minneapolis Institute of Science) were especially helpful. These individuals, all active participants in ASA's Environmental Research and Technology, exemplify the collective commitment that is evident across ASA.

In advancing our interests, ASA members, committees, and sections will continue to be of paramount importance. As the full-time "eyes, ears, and voice" for sociology, I and the other ASA staff sociologists have responsibility for adding a sociological perspective and enhancing our voice, but the pool of volunteer talent within our Association will always remain the key to what we do. To serve our discipline well, we seek and need your guidance and your engagement.

The NRC public forum was an important opportunity for ASA to explicate the importance of sociology in the advancement of social science in building a research agenda (in this case, the environmental one). Of the 47 social science societies, associations, and institutions which testified, six (six) reflected the interest and knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences. ASA appeared on the same panel with the American Anthropological Association, the Society for Human Ecology, and the Consortium of Social Science Associations. Time constraints (George Mason University, and an active member of the ASA Section on Environment and Technology) testified on behalf of the Society for Human Ecology. Therefore, despite limited social science participation, a sociological presence looked large.

What follows is the oral version of the formal testimony that was presented at the public forum. The full written edition can be obtained by contacting the ASA Executive Officer. We have an active Section on Environment and Technology and many of our members work in the area of environmental issues, science and technology, and community studies. In making this presentation today, I draw on the work of my colleagues whose contributions to environmental research and policy highlight the centrality of human behavior. One of the most pressing needs in environmental research is to focus attention on understanding the human and institutional factors that are root causes of environmental problems. Also, research must focus on understanding how human behavior shapes solutions to environmental damage.

In inviting this testimony, you essentially asked that we focus on (1) the important environmental problems requiring study; (2) problems in the infrastructure of funding; and (3) suggestions for change. Because of the importance of human factors and social dynamics relating to the environment, I will present my remarks through the lens of sociology and social science.

Research Needs

While more examples are contained in my written statement, let me proceed to give a few illustrations of environmental problems that need immediate attention by social, biological, and natural science collaboration.

A most pressing issue is the control of toxic wastes, both in landfills and storage facilities. Wastes have an impact on agricultural activities and human health. Social research science is needed on the impact of alternative regulatory regimes and the causes and consequences of different response strategies.

The diminishing water tables will have significant socioeconomic impact on our country. How limited water is claimed and distributed will shape our living patterns and quality of life. Social science research can advance our knowledge of how individuals, institutions, and even nations will press their claims and adapt to and deal with this reality.

Patterns of migration, on an international scale, are shaped by environmental conditions (e.g., African drought, Kosovo of 1991, deforestation in the Amazon or Madagascar), Migrations for those or more voluntary reasons also puts pressure on new environments.

Sociological research can illuminate these phenomena.

For a last example, social science data can also help identify ways to make the economy environmentally sustainable. To reach such a goal, we will need alterations in our present industrial, distributive, transportation, and other systems. Community studies, for example, can provide insight into the planning process about the interface of political and economic dynamics in accomplishing change.

Suggestions for Change

Such pressing environmental problems call for collaborative research, interventions in the funding, structure, and organization of environmental research in the United States limit the full contributions of social scientists. Permit me to focus your attention on the following:

Social scientists are underrepresented, and so, too, social science resources in the mission agencies that are central to work on the environment, namely the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy. Social science receives inadequate support at the National Science Foundation, where several new funding opportunities (e.g., Human Impacts on Global Environmental Change) are steps in the right direction. But resources at NSF need to be augmented and alone are not sufficient to compensate for the absence of funding elsewhere.

An insufficient emphasis on international responses to environmental problems and solutions constrains progress toward cross-national solutions. There must be adequate resources to internationalize social science capacity on these problems to inform our understanding over time and across location. All of these factors face this challenge, and the need for quality data from multiple sites is especially salient when studying social and cultural differences.

Resources are needed not only for research but for training. We face a challenge within our discipline to nurture the field of environmental sociology, to fund and train graduate students, to spot light graduate programs, to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, and to have sufficient professional outlets for our colleagues to present their work. We know enough in social science about incentives to realize that career paths will be pursued only if resources are available for training and research.

In addition to the compelling case for research and training funds, let me make two concrete suggestions for the role of social science in policy implementation. The present environmental protection policy development grants should be the social science projection of likely patterns of social, economic, and political adaptation or resistance to proposed policies and means of dealing with them in the implementation phase.

Environmental research and protection programs should also devote some funds to documenting realities of implementing the policy outcomes, following legislation and executive implementation. In particular, impact and implementation across ethnic, racial, and economic subgroups needs to be systematically documented by social scientists through evaluation studies, and fed into the policy process.

Conclusion

To return to the point that started my presentation, there is a commonality that unites all of these examples. At their core, many if not most "environmental" problems lie in fact the interface between human beings and the rest of the ecosystem. Sociological work that takes into account attributes of cultural, social, and political dynamics, and the measurement of social change is making and can make a difference. Both in basic research and in the policy process, human behavior—of individuals, institutions, and groups—puts pressure on the environment and must be part of any solution to environmental problems. Thank you for your time and your interest.

ASA's Member-Friendly Policy

If you are receiving your ASA journals and newsletters for 1992, but don't remember renewing your ASA membership, you have encountered ASA's member-friendly policy. We continue to accept new journal subscriptions and newsletters to non-renewals through March 15. By doing this, we hope to avoid a delay in back issues to members renewing late, as well as to save the Association the higher cost of shipping single issues of journals and newsletters.

If you're not sure if you have renewed your ASA membership for 1992, check the mailing label on the back of this issue of Perspectives. If the top line says "12/92," you are up to date and in good standing for 1992. If the top line says "12/91," our records show that you have not renewed as of January 20. If you haven't renewed for 1992, return your renewal form and payment today. Once we process your renewal, you will receive a "benefit package," which includes publications price lists, the 1992 Coupon Listing, information on ASA products, the Directory of Member Services, and other benefits of membership in the ASA.

Your membership is important to us. If you have already renewed, please accept our thanks. But don't forget to serve our mutual interest.
Teachers for a Democratic Culture: Commentary and Apologies

It was delightfully amusing to read the fantastic founding statement of the self-styled Teachers for a Democratic Culture. Although it is not possible to analyze fully their claims, even a superficial examination shows them to be a mixture of airy assertions and shrewd political tactics.

To begin with, it is ludicrous to claim that higher education serves the American public "better than ever before." There is an entire literature which points to a decline in the vitality of the academic enterprise. And the denunciation of D'Souza's politically incorrect opinions is typical of PC postures in that it doesn't address the test of factual adequacy. If his claims appear to be wrong, they should be challenged, not dismissed because of his politics. Otherwise, one can only assume that these self-styled democrats approve of the defensible spotlights D'Souza so calmly and eloquently describes.

It is striking that the signers of the petition are, as far as I can determine, not sociologists or social scientists, and define their primary purpose as one of teaching literature. This insufficiency to genuine disciplinary differences is further indicated by their occasional cry of "anti-intellectual." Thus, they quote one Michael Berube as he is Robert K. Merton. They invoke standards generally associated with the sociological enterprise, for example, "artistic value" and "canon." They fail to mention concepts crucial to the work of sociologists, such as objectivity, research methodology, and validity.

The authors admit that there might be a problem when they accuse the National Association of Scholars, a group to which I belong, of "focusing on ideological differences between 'extremists' among their opposition and those who are raising legitimate questions." Let the signers of the statement show that they should be distinguished from the extremists. Are they against speech codes? Compulsory indoctrination programs? Do they reject the Jesse Jackson mantra, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Western culture's gotta go? Can they accept research findings that are, as Max Weber put it, counter to their party line? Until they answer these questions in the affirmative, until our self-styled democrats demonstrate a capacity to think critically as they do Cherven and D'Souza, dialogue is pointless.

It is not the use of the term "political correctness" that stops discussion; rather it is attempts to silence by administrative sanction those with non-PC views which threaten to halt politically unpopular discussion, much less research and teaching.

Ask Professor Reynolds' Faculty about political correctness. Ask Professor Linda Gottfried, of the University of Delaware, about political correctness. Ask the current president of the ASA, Professor James Coleman, about political correctness.

Yes, Virginia (and Gerald, Stanley et al) political correctness does exist and so long as it operates in an attempt to legitimate, and threaten those whose research and teaching discredits the hegemony of the left, it will be in danger. The real irony is that at the same time members of the former Soviet Bloc have abandoned the totalitarian temptation, portions of the academic left have willingly embraced it and far more have simply ignored both the issues and the consequences.

Dan McCarthy, Associate Professor and Co-director, Sociologists/Anthropologists of the National Association of Scholars

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Footnotes readers to become involved and contribute money. The timing coincided with a series of letters and articles to the editor of Berlin and the other German Republic, which was, in part the impetus for the formation of this new organization. As part of covering the PC debate, we asked sociologists involved in the issue on their campuses or in organizations like TCO and the National Association of Scholars, to submit short articles. Fortunately, we welcome opinion pieces in our "Open Forum" column.. The TDC was not commissioned, but came with a personalized cover letter referring the Footnotes stories. In re-cording the article after publication, I realized that in tone it read more like an "advertisement" than a news story or open letter and that none of the signatures were from sociologists. Our review process should have caught this beforehand. I regret this mistake and that I did not exercise sufficient editorial oversight.

Carla B. Hawley, Managing Editor

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Stanley Lieberson

Stanley Lieberson has been honored with the Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professorship at Harvard University. Lieberson is well known for his wide range of interests in sociology. Among his contributions are research and methodology, linguistics, and race and ethnic relations.

The Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professorship was established in 1956. The position is awarded to an outstanding Harvard professor who has made major contributions to the field of sociology. Lieberson is known for his research on the causes of social inequality, and his work has had a significant impact on the development of the discipline.

Lieberson's research has focused on a wide range of topics, including social stratification, social mobility, and the role of education in shaping opportunities. He has also made important contributions to the study of ethnicity and race, and has written extensively on the impact of social networks on individual behavior.

The Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professorship is one of the most prestigious awards given by Harvard University. Previous recipients include sociologists such as Robert Merton, Robert Park, and A. Wallerstein. Lieberson's appointment is a testament to his contributions to the field of sociology and to the University's commitment to excellence in research and teaching.
Sociologists in Business and Public Administration

by Louis F. Carter, Washington State University

The term "non-academic career," commonly used for sociologists working outside universities, is an awkward residual designation. Although those who work outside academia now prefer the term "practitioners," continued use of the former term obscures the occupational diversity open to professional sociologists.

That diversity is reflected by six doctoral graduates of Washington State University who have fashioned distinct career paths outside academia. These alumni returned to WSU to participate in a conference addressing how graduate education in sociology can be transferred successfully to business, industry, and public administration. Conference organizers were Professor of Sociology Lewis Carter and Donna M. Randall of WSU's College of Business and Economics.

The conference included sessions on careers in public administration, management in established research firms, and creating one's own firm. Participants discussed how career options are enhanced by cross-training in social sciences and business, grounding in technical research skills, and exposure to sociological journals and professional organizations and institutions. The workshop was useful in showing us some alternative career paths taken by graduates who compare favorably in terms of professional recognition and research accomplishment to those from their cohorts who are now full professors; they exceed most of their academic-bureaucrat peers in scope of responsibility and control of research resources.

The six alumni were educated in late 1960s when WSU's sociology department committed to training PhDs for sophisticated research in non-academic settings; all of then work with faculty members whose funded research was at least partly applied in nature. Their subsequent career paths are illustrative of the broad range of professional opportunities available to those with advanced sociological degrees (in these cases, the doctorate).

First up, Kenneth M. Keating is Program Evaluation Section Chief for Bonneville Power Administration. A national level program evaluation, Keating has received BPA's Distinguished Service Award for the innovative Haul River Project in which he established reliability parameters for conservation as an energy resource.

Steven D. McLaughlin is in the Department of Battelle's Health and Population Research Center, which conducts studies of demographic and health issues for both government and private-sector clients. A former faculty member at the University of Utah and Utah State University, McLaughlin is currently tracing racial, ethnic and gender differences in educational outcomes of successful (and unsuccessful) candidates pursuing MHS degrees.

David E. Myers is Senior Statistical Associate at Decision Resources Corporation, a firm that performs research for such clients as the Department of Education, Department of Defense, and National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. He has evaluated compensation education programs, educational components of variations in single-parent families, and labor market outcomes attributable to upward Board programs; he also directs a long term study of the consequences of teen-age child-bearing.

A founding partner of Freeman, Sullivan and Company (Berkley), a consulting firm, Michael J. Sullivan's specialty is managing interdisciplinary research involving physical scientists, engineers, and economists. He has also served as a lecturer at the University of California-Berkeley's School of Public Administration, Vice President of the Energy and Environment division of Kendall Associates, (San Francisco), and Program Coordinator in the Seattle Mayor's Office.

Kent D. Van Liere is a principal at HRIS, Inc., an Ann Arbor firm specializing in social research on energy and natural resources. He directs projects for electric and gas utility companies on energy conservation, service quality, and value-based planning. Prior to joining HRIS, he was an Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee, spent a year with the strategic planning staff of TVA, and taught "Energy and the Environment" at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Gregory C. Walters, on the other hand, has had a very different career. He has been a researcher at the University of Tennessee, spent a year with the strategic planning staff of TVA, and taught "Energy and the Environment" at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The label "applied" points more to the immediate intention of researcher or sponsor to inform policies or management. Applied research is found in most of our specializations and much research may have implications both for theory (basic) and for policy (applied). For mature researchers, applied or not, method follows question and not the reverse. Contemporary applied social science research utilizes a full range of methodologies, with data generated from surveys, ethnographies, experiments, or documents, and may employ the most formal of models.

Though researchers who are not employed full time in universities are commonly labeled "non-academic," this term greatly over-simplifies actual careers. There are in fact many hybrids working both inside and outside academia. Some sociologists work in both worlds, either simultaneously or sequentially, as the career paths of these six alumni suggest. A spectrum of stimuli involves ranges from those who are primarily employed in agency careers but also teach courses in universities and/or and regularly consult to and collaborate with academics, to persons primarily employed in universities who advise, consult for, or collaborate in

firms or agencies. Sequential hybrids move back and forth among primary employment in academia, agency, and firm. For some, this is a natural oscillation; for others, it is career sequencing.

Finally, application is not defined simply by where work is housed. To be sure, there are business and agency settings with scat support for work not directly applicable to a client's concerns—but the same may be said of public university research work.

Furthermore, there are agencies and clients that provide support for research questions unconnected to their own policy or management issues. Applied research questions are predictably from basic research in that it tends to be issue-driven rather than theory-driven. Theory is used in design and interpretation of applied research (including insights from competing theoretical traditions), but theory testing is not the primary goal of the research.

The fact that policy, evaluation, or management issues are the clients behind applied research merely reflects that the work is sponsored to inform an action. Academics sometimes imagine that our research choices are determined in a social vacuum (some are privileged to write on topics without regard to funding), but universities being enough pressure to bear on faculty to seek outside funds so that at least a few may be tempted to shape projects toward agency and foundation agendas.

Contrary to common belief, critical standards may be more stringent for applied research conducted external to academia. Applied findings are often subject to hostile critiques from others in the policy or program setting toward which the work is directed. In addition to the usual criteria of academia-based sociologists, research addressing important policies and programs must be crafted to withstand the scrutiny of practitioners, agency analysts, and legislative staffs.

Finally, researchers based outside universities are less likely to experience discipline-driven work. Although interdisciplinary work is conducted in universities, it is the norm outside academia. Impact assessment, policy analysis, program evaluation, etc. are likely to involve teams of physical and social scientists, engineers, and administrators, rather than single sociologists conducted from firms or universities without university-sponsored commitments to academic departments.

The WSU conference convinced us that more conversations between sociologists inside and outside of the academy would help to dispel impressions that our research domains are disjointed or our criteria for knowledge incompatible. Active preparation for professional research employment in firms and agencies could enhance the impact of our discipline on society. If sociological insights are to have much impact in "the real world," the model for that influence is not likely to be Comte's Philosopher Kings—it will be sociologists working as active analysts and policy participants (perhaps even university affiliated) in universities, agencies, and firms.
Some Reflections on Sociology's Future in California

by Charles Hohm, San Diego State University

As my term as President of the Californian Sociological Association was coming to an end, I would like to reflect a bit on the last couple of years, and also offer some suggestions to the ASA's leadership. It is worth mentioning that the ASA has a very diverse membership, including many sociologists who have contributed significantly to the field. I believe that it is important for us to continue to support and encourage these innovative thinkers and researchers.

The question is, how can we continue to support and encourage these innovative thinkers and researchers?

The answer to this question is complex, and involves a wide range of issues. Some suggestions that come to mind include:

1. Encouraging sociologists to continue to engage in interdisciplinary research. This will help to ensure that our field remains relevant and innovative.
2. Supporting the development of new partnerships and collaborations between sociologists and other disciplines.
3. Providing funding and resources to support sociologists who are working on important and innovative research projects.
4. Encouraging the development of new courses and departments in sociology.

In conclusion, I believe that we need to continue to support and encourage our innovative thinkers and researchers. I also believe that we need to work together to ensure that our field remains relevant and innovative. Thank you.
Open Forum

To the Editor

A pity. Which is to say that, rather to my surprise, I have not yet to make the full page in the OctoberFontes given over to uncorrected proofs of the reviewer's reviews intended for publication in the Chinese journal,Sociological Studies. For that reason, questions of which were both inspired to that audience, in the fairly strict sense of being adapted to a particular situation. The interviewers assured us that we could not assume the same explicit and tacit sociological knowledge among readers of that journal as among readers of Western journals of sociology.

Moreover, as you might suppose from the many palpable errors in the text as published in Fontes, I had agreed to have it appear in Sociological Studies only after I had thoroughly vetted the manuscript for the various misprints bound to turn up in the course of transcription. The highly visible need for such vetting appears in a few of the very same tacit and unexpressed passages. Thus, the erudite phrases "short-term cycles of dissolution, public dissolvi- gation and action," which are offered in one only can say: Heaven forbid—actually refer to occasional "public disillusion with sociology," while the economic allusions to "Bible, and Greece" are simply indecipherable versions of "Baltics in the [Soviet Republic of] Georgia." The printed phrase "from Brit- ish of German sociologists" probably requires no excuses.

From them and many other peculiarities in the text, you will gather that I did not grant permission to have this manuscript reviewed or published in the Chinese journal, and knew nothing at all about plans for its partial publication in Fontes.

Robert P. Martin, Columbia University

Needed: Better Hiring Practices

The employment market in sociology usually is viewed as operating in a smooth and orderly fashion. However, the process is far from perfect. There are numerous unfair or cumbersome practices which can disqualify potential candidates and make them cynical about the profession. Some practices, can be classified as deceptively and unethically employed by sociologists.

The ASA Code of Ethics does not cover hiring procedures. We need to define hiring practices that are fair and to the benefit of all parties involved.

The following are some suggestions as to how these procedures can be improved:

(1) Employers often mail a form letter or postcard acknowledging the receipt of a candidate's materials. Some institutions neglect this practice, possibly because of the obvious computer-generated applications.

If an institution wants to hire national and travel the best candidate, then it should be willing to invest a few hundred dollars to preserve the dignity of applicants and to create a positive image of the process. A postcard on which the candidate is informed of the arrival of his/her materials and of the anticipated procedures would be appropriate. The postcard could also give the address of the telephone number that is to be used for the candidate, or it may give the number of telephone calls that can be expected to receive from the institution.

(2) Candidates often are asked to send letters of recommendations, official transripts, student evaluations, reprints of publications, and other supporting mate- rials. In a high demand and low supply market, the employers should understand that candidates, particularly recent graduates, apply for numerous positions. It is erroneous to have a substantial investment of time, money, and resources. Why not ask for a comprehensive vita first and then, after an initial screening, request more materials from those candidates whose qualifications are most relevant to the employer's need? Since these mate- rials are not returned, it would not be fair to ask them from candidates who have a realistic chance of being interviewed.

In many cases, these letters are computerized and even sometimes, for good reason, signed by secretaries. Why not just ask for the name and phone numbers of references and contact them directly if necessary? If this is too costly or time-consuming, then, a note to candidates on the mailing list, informing them of their status and the need for a letter, will take care of this problem. If the search operates on a timely fashion, the amount of time is required for informing the candidate and receiving the letters should not be more than three to four weeks.

Experience shows that the employer's direct contact with referees produces a more accurate and relevant assessment of the candidate than a letter drafted "To whom it may concern." Direct contact with referees can generate specific information which may not be acquired otherwise.

(3) When a final decision is reached, all applicants should be informed. Applicants have a right to know what has happened to their applications. They deserve a timely answer. It is not fair to keep the applicant in the dark forever. Temporary uncertainty (pending funding) does not justify permanent uncertainty for the applicant. If a candidate is not selected for the position, a letter should be mailed to the home address, if available. This is particularly important for those candidates who are employed and do not wish to jeopardize their current employment. A form letter is not adequate, but nothing is more saddening for a candidate than receiving a rejection in the form of a postcard at home or at the workplace. Rejection notices should be sent in a sealed envelope.

(4) It is inappropriate for any institution to advertise a position at the national level, if it intends to hire locally. By advertising nationally, the employer attracts applications from all over the country. Financial factors which force an employer to consider only local candidates should be taken into account before advertising a position and not after it. Budgetary uncertainties in institutions of higher education are real, but appreciate the uncertainties and constraints faced by candidates, particularly recent graduates and the unemployed. Departments should demand a firm budgetary commitment from their administrations before they begin to advertise for a position.

(5) Finally, and most important for the growing number of women and minority group candidates, jobs are advertised nationally while there is an internal can- didate. Some employers inform the candidates about this situation and assure them that they will have a fair chance, but no one has a lock on the position. But there are many employers who do not inform their applicants of such situations. I am even engineer the process simply to satisfy institutional requirements for affirmative action. In some cases, candi- dates are invited to campus and maneuvered around, simply to give the appearance of the due process. This practice is unethical and violates the candidate's trust and dignity. This arrangement makes a mockery of the affirmative action policy and undermines due process. Many candidates develop hopes for the positions advertised and invest a great deal of emo- tion and resources in preparation of application materials. It is not ethical to put these individuals through such a long process, when they have no realistic chance for selection.

Ahlbah Macht, Central State University

Ohio

To President James S. Coleman

I have before me a ASA membership survey application. Because of my interest in the discipline, I am tempted to immediately process the application. On the other hand, because of recent ASA actions I feel inclined to simply ignore it. I only recently had an opportunity to read my copy of the September 1991 issue of Fontes and, in my opinion, the action taken against the Right to Life (RTL) organization's exhibit booth at the recent Annual Meeting was disgraceful. The RTL people resisted their exhibit space from ASA in good faith. If there was a problem with their request for exhibit space, it should have been resolved before, not after, they had set up their exhibit. The fault here is with ASA's inability to determine the appropriateness of the RTL exhibit.

Because of ASA's action (or inaction), the RTL people were subjected to what appears to be a shameful display of intolerance and harassment in the form of a demonstration in front of their booth. To add insult to injury, the ASA's Council, in deference to the resolutions demands of the group called Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), has authorized the use of RTL's exhibit fee for abortion research.

The ASA has apparently justified the action taken against the RTL by maintaining the use of the material at the RTL's exhibit booth "was not geared to classroom use or any particular connection to sociology." This claim by ASA must, on the face of it, be considered suspect.

If an organization like RTL (which represents thousands of people who pray, demonstrate, block entrances to abortion clinics, and are arrested and go to jail for their actions and beliefs) has no connection or relevancy to sociology, then what does?

What took place at the Annual Meeting causes me to wonder. What would the reaction have been if instead of a Right to Life booth suddenly appearing on the exhibit floor it had been a Pro-Choice booth? Would its presence have precipi- tated a demonstration and an "outraged" SWS demand that the Pro-Choice exhibit fee be given to further anti-abortion interests?

Or would the ASA have determined that unlike the Right to Life booth the Pro-Choice booth did have materials that were "granted to classroom use" and "did have little particular connection to sociology."

One final word. According to Fontes, the Executive Office of ASA continues to receive letters from individuals and from groups such as the Gay and Lesbian Caucus and the SWS on the issue of the RTL booth. I, therefore, am sending a copy of this letter to the Executive Office so that my views may be included along with those being expressed by the aforementioned groups.

Donald F. Gates

Sociology of Aging Distinguished Scholar Award

The 1991 Distinguished Scholar Award was presented to John Myers for his contributions to the development of macro- institutional and political economy perspectives for the study of the elderly in contemporary societies. Myers is the author of the Welfare State: The Political Economy of Public Pensions, a work that blends historical, comparative, and quantitative approaches to analyze the economic and political foundations of old age in Western Europe and North America in the 20th century. He has published numerous articles on the politics of pension security in both Canada and the United States. His most recent book is a volume edited with Jill Quadagno, State, Labor Markets and the Welfare State (Temple University Press, 1991). Myers' other scholarly contributions include studies of comparative class structure and politics, and numerous articles related to economic and labor market restructuring in Canada. As Visiting Scholar at Statistics Canada between 1986 and 1988, he conducted the first studies documenting Canada's "declining middle class."

John Myers received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin in 1977 and is currently Professor of Sociology at Carleton University in Ottawa. He is a member of the Statistics Canada Advisory Committee on Labor Statistics and has served on numerous editorial boards, including American Journal of Sociology, Canadian Journal of Sociology, Studies in Political Economy, and Journal of Aging Studies. He is currently chair of the Advisory Committee to the Canadian Household Panel Study on Labor and Income Dynamics.

Give a Gift of Student Membership

Do you have a student who was elected president of the sociology club or is working as a staff member at your university? Give a gift of student membership in the ASA. For only $50, student members receive a subscription to a journal, and other membership benefits. Student members also receive discounts to ASA's professional association. Send a check for $50 for each gift, with each student's name and address, to the ASA at the address listed above. All gifts will be acknowledged.
Teaching

Aging Course Promises and Delivers Time for Contemplation

by Donna Phillips, Morehead State University

Students rarely get opportunities to practice the subject matter of a course. Many students have good intentions of reading and digesting all the material covered, but interruptions and distractions make it hard for them to do so. One solution to these problems is for the students and professor to conduct the course away from campus.

Women and Aging, a seminar on the aging female, is taught in a cabin located five hours from campus in a state park in east central Tennessee. The group lives at the cabin for two weeks. The location provides quiet nooks for reading, note taking, reflection about and comprehension of course material, and group discussion. The park itself is wooded, peaceful, and lends itself well to the concept of personal growth.

The course is taught during interruptions so students can have time to live on campus while other courses are in session. Nontraditional students have shown the most interest in taking the course. However, enrollment is limited to seniors and graduate students.

Following is a more detailed discussion of problems encountered and solutions found. One problem which some potential students have encountered is taking two weeks off from other responsibilities. Some are employed and cannot take two weeks away from work. Some have children and cannot secure full-time care for two weeks while they are away. While it is possible to accommodate children in an experience of this type, each group needs to make its own decision as to whether students with small children should bring them. This year, students were concerned that smaller children may not sleep well away from their own beds, require much attention, and could potentially disrupt classes, sleep, and friendships.

We shared the cost of the cabin rental. Our group was small this year so the expense per person was higher than I would have liked. In order to decrease living costs at the time of the course, one might consider collecting monthly payments through the year.

Free time was not a problem. Each of us made and froze one large casserole dish prior to the trip. In addition, we took various salads, breakfast foods, drinks, snacks, staples, etc. Beyond that, we only needed about $25 each to cover additional food.

The class met four hours each day. The students chose the time. Each student was responsible for leading a discussion in the remaining sessions the instructor led group discussions. Unlike the usual classroom on campus, in this course everyone was well prepared and ready to discuss the assigned readings.

We used audiovisual equipment and a variety of video tapes about women and aging, as well as audio tape of potpourri, music and a tape player. I have a fair collection of women's aging, health, economic wellbeing, poetry and prose book club articles which I also shared.

The students found the course in three main categories: social history, life experiences, and social services. These differences provided opportunities for insights into the worlds of others.

Students reported that they learned a lot from the assignments and from each other. They felt that they could spend contemplative time walking in the woods and reading in the cabin. All of us felt more confident about aging as a natural process. All of us at least remarked at how much we could learn and were impressed with the other's hobbies. All of us felt more confident about aging as a natural process. All of us at least remarked at how much we could learn and were impressed with the other's hobbies.

A Studious Retirement

by Nancy Wick, renovated from University of Kansas

Law students have been known to finance their educations in all sorts of ways, but Ed Gross may be the first one to do it on his Social Security. Gross is a law student at the University of Washington Law School in Seattle.

What would induce a man in his "golden years" to hit the books for three grueling years instead of, say, lying about in Hawaii? Gross says it all started when he was contemplating retirement from the Sociology Department. A professor here for 20 years, he says he was always interested in law.

"In fact, one of my research areas is corporate crime. As I got closer to retirement, I found myself spending more and more time in the Law Library."

Gross talked to former Law Dean John Price about the possibility of taking a just a few courses, but John said that really didn't work very well—why didn't you just go ahead and plunge in. That's when I decided to retire and go to law school full time, and believe me, it was a deep plunge."

Gross said his emeritus faculty status brought him no favors, "I have some friends on the faculty over there, and they didn't see me as the Faculty Lounge type. The only law professor I always said no," Gross said. "My fellow students tended to think that I was loopy and probably wouldn't do all the work. I needed more to make a clear separation between myself and the fact that I was a professor."

Ultimately, Gross made a lot of friends among his fellow students who said he wasn't the only one in the "older" category. Among the caucuses formed by law students based on interest was one called the "Geriatric Caucus." "Of course," Gross was more concerned about the age than I was. I was in law school as a great intellectual adventure; they were looking for something more than that."

Gross was totally unacquainted with practicing law. He plans to take the bar exam in January and would like to do some work helping the elderly with their legal problems. But his immediate plans are to teach a course in the Sociology of Law next year.

Overall, Gross says law school was a "wonderful experience" for him. He says the subject matter intrinsically interesting and feels he learned a great deal. But he doesn't claim any real expertise. "I'm now in a state of private ignorance," he says. "I know exactly what I don't know."

One thing he did learn more about was organizations. Gross has been studying organizations for years as sociology, but says his legal training has enabled him to view them from a different angle. He says, for example, that most people think of corporations want fewer laws so they can do as they please. "Not true," says Gross. "They want a lot of laws so their world won't happen as a result of their actions. So much of running an organization is knowing how to steer a path and stay on the right side of the law."

A noteworthy result of the law school experience was Gross's increased sympathy for students. After a 36-year career as a teacher, it was a job for him to see things from the students' point of view. "They professionals get together," he said. "They say 'What are we going to do with these students?' When students get together, they say 'What are we going to do about these professors!' At the law school, some of the students called the faculty the 'd렛ters' because they moved in schools and the students never knew quite what to expect from them."

Throughout his experience, Gross says his family was supportive. When he was asked to speak at graduation, Gross says his father never understood what sociology was. "If we were alive today, he'd be really proud of me. My son the law student could understand. He'd only wonder why I took so long."
New Graduate Program at Humboldt State University

By Betty Watson

A new sense of mission has led the Sociology Department at Humboldt State University to revise its graduate program, after a ten-year hiatus during which no students were accepted. Two new areas of specialization have been created, in juxtaposition to other programs: one in urban and regional sociology, and the other in international sociology. These programs have opened up new possibilities for research, and have attracted a number of students from all over the world.

The program offers students the opportunity to pursue a Ph.D. in either field, or to combine their studies in a way that is unique to Humboldt State. Students are encouraged to work closely with faculty members who are experts in their fields, and to develop a research project that is both theoretically and methodologically sound.

The department is also expanding its outreach efforts, with new partnerships with local and national organizations. Students will have the opportunity to engage in community-based research projects, to gain practical experience in the field, and to contribute to the community's understanding of important social issues.

Overall, the new graduate program at Humboldt State University is a exciting and dynamic addition to the academic landscape, and is sure to attract students from around the world.

The Invisibility of Sociology: The State of Our Discipline

by William A. Parmenter, Campus Executive Officer, Pennsylvania State University-Williamsport Campus

As we complete 95 years as a discipline, we are finding ourselves, rather than more visible. This is evident when we look at the number of people involved in sociology, and at the number of students majoring in the discipline. The growth in sociology appears to be losing its foothold in the academy.

Part of the problem, I believe, is that sociologists have not done a very good job in explaining to our academic colleagues what the sociological perspective is all about. My personal experience has been that my colleagues often identify problems to me that they think are sociologically oriented.

In a similar vein, we have not done a very good job in explaining what it is that sociologists do. Many undergraduate students find it difficult to identify the skills unique to a sociologist. Since undergraduates are increasingly exhibiting a lack of interest in sociology, this puts sociology at a disadvantage. We must identify a matrix of skills that students can acquire as a result of majoring in sociology. We must then work to establish and to enhance the ability of these skills to various tasks and in multiple settings.

Ironically, sociology is better represented in the academy than one assumes, but our presence is often "invisible." For example, sociologists in departments of management and schools of business are involved in many of the same concerns and theories that their peers in sociology departments teach in courses on complex and multicultural organizations. Many sociologists teach social policy or research methodological courses in schools of social work or human services; they teach criminology, delinquency, and penology in the separate departments of criminal justice, gerontology, law and society, public policy, or industrial and labor relations. One aspect of these appointments is that the individuals do not present themselves as sociologists. They do research and publish in the journals of other disciplines, but are not identified as sociologists per se.

Another reason for sociology's increased visibility within the academy is the emergence of new interdisciplinary fields such as women's studies and black studies which were created in large part by sociologists. These fields cover content that is based on sociological theory and was previously integrated across the sociological curriculum. They provide another opportunity outside sociology departments for sociologists to access the academy, increased emphasis on cultural diversity and the introduction of crosscultural components into the undergraduate curriculum, sociologists will find increased opportunities.

Unlike many other social science fields, sociology is not the first choice of a major for a very large number of entering freshmen. Many come to sociology through exposure in an elective course or choose sociology as a second major. Today, there is a trend to increase the number of credits required in major courses of study for business and the arts. This in turn begins to defeat the purpose of general education and cuts down on the number of students who can collect sociology as a second major. Sociology departments are increasingly becoming service departments.

Encouraging sociology students to think of the entire discipline to design an undergraduate program in applied sociology and/or sociological practice. Such a curriculum should develop marketable skills in students, have a strong research component, and be responsive to the needs of potential employers in a variety of public and private sector settings; it must retain sociological rigor while demonstrating the applicability of sociology to real life experience.

Sociologists need to be reminded that our discipline prepares us well for administrative careers in higher education and government. Understanding and interpreting demographic and the external environment assists administrators in strategic planning. Understanding formal organizations, small group processes, and stratification allows us to understand the internal environment of the academy and other bureaucracies. We need to work steadfastly in the next decade to redefine sociology as a useful enterprise and to ensure our visibility both inside and outside the academy.

Admit new students only in the fall semester; and the deadline for applications for admission is April 1. For more detailed information on the program, please write to the Department of Sociology, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California 95521. For admissions application and general information about the University, please write to Office of Admissions and Records at the same address.

Environment and Technology Award Winner—Kai Erikson

Masonic chairs in the Section on Environment and Technology hit an unfortunate sour note in the October Footnotes. It was actually Kai T. Erikson who received the 1991 Award for Distinguished Contribution by the Section at the Cincinnati meeting. David Sills will in fact be given his just rewards at the 1992 meetings; he was not the 1991 award recipient, as I had reported as incoming Section Chair.
Scientists Keep an Eye on ADAMHA Reshuffle

Original version from The American Psychological Association Monitor, September 1991 by T.仪式

A reorganization of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration is almost guaranteed, ADAMHA insiders report. Yet more than just the essential behavioral science will be better off after the move. The Senate has introduced legislation that would move ADAMHA's three research institutes to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a separate agency. Some researchers are concerned that behavioral science would be set in the biomedical world of NIH. And the Senate is concerned that the House, refusing to pass legislation, has slowed its fast-paced change that President Bush's administration and the Senate were trying to effect.

The Department of Health and Human Services, of which ADAMHA is a part, formally announced an ADAMHA reorganization plan in mid-June. HHS supports the mate legislation. Its plan is very similar to legislation introduced in June. According to Assistant Secretary for Health James Manuso. He spoke in late June at a Senate Labor and Human Resources Subcommittee hearing on ADAMHA reorganization, chaired by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass). Kennedy and Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), the other co-sponsors of the Senate bill, also want ADAMHA reorganization legislation. A reorganization would also mean more in leadership. HHS Secretary Otis Sullivan has said he would name a psychiatrist and current ADAMHA Administrator Frederick Goodwin head of the National Institute of Mental Health. ADAMHA's deputy administrator, Robert Rabinovich, would become the acting administrator.

Both men are known as strong supporters of biomedical research, at times at the expense of behavioral science, psychologists said.

In the legislation ADAMHA is renamed NIMHSA—the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, though the administration proposal would not change the name. ADAMHA's three research institutes—Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Service would be merged into one with what constitutes good behavioral science as surgical research, said Andrea Sileo, a psychiatrist, who is a general counsel for the American Psychological Association's research sections.

The research institutes are the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and NIMH. They now receive about billion of ADAMHA's $29 billion budget. The new ADAMHA would have a 9 billion budget, Manuso said.

The service-oriented agencies, which sold stay at ADAMHA, are the Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (OSAP) and a Office for Treatment Improvement (OT). ADAMMA would receive a 5% share of the block grants that go to states to provide treatment services. An Office of Rural Health Services would be created part of the reorganization.

"Goodwin is 100 percent a researcher of "harm to the general public,"" said an informal senior staff member. According to the legislation, the reorganization would reflect on the reorganization that the agency and research and service enterprises are so concerned they cannot be effectively managed. The new ADAMHA would expand the scope of subtle behavioral science policy experts see strong opinions—are pro or con—on reorganization.

An informal poll of many APA members who are involved in the drug policy issue recently conducted by the Science and Public Interest Committee in June turned up a lot of ambivalence about the move. Most of the 100 or so members who responded said they believe reorganization may not be necessary to achieve APA's goals. APA's most concerned was that behavioral science would be ignored at NIH, because NIH has traditionally focused on biochemical research and disease.

However, some psychologists involved in ADAMHA believe the move will boost the status of health and substance abuse research. The bill states that the intention of the legislation for too long, researchers specializing in these areas have been second-class citizens in the medical research community because their disciplines have not been represented at NIH, the proposed legislation states.

Another behavior that behavioral science has struggled at NIH, said Brian Wexler, director of legislative and public affairs for APA's Public Interest Directory. However, "it could turn out to be a good place to be eventually if NIH can see the overall credibility of the field and fund it."

"It's hard to believe that NIH would be interested in research that would be interested in research that is more interested in behavioral science. But it is an ideal place for a reorganization that will help the behavioral science at NIH in his position at the hose. He spoke about the advantages the research would have for "biobehavioral" or "neurobehavioral" science.

"It is an ideal place for a reorganization that will particularly benefit the neurobehavioral sciences... Behavioral medicine and mental health research can no longer be considered as separate from molecular medicine," he said. Both Mason's response and the legislation appear to support "medicalizing" behavioral science, said Judith Anshutz, government liaison for the Coalition for Social Sciences, "I think what we're seeing is a movement of behavioral science into a cognitive science, she said. What the administration and Congress are "really excited about is the intersection of behavior and biomedicine, instead of social and behavioral science."

However, Healy sounds fairly supportive of behavioral science, psychologist said. "Behavioral science will thrive in NIH... Healy in all of her talk has been very supportive of behavioral science," said Alan Leininger, acting director of NIMH. Leininger is expected to return his former position as deputy director of NIMH under Goodwin.

The ultimate shape the reorganization will take is still up for grabs. One of the big questions being debated is where to draw the line between NIH-funded programs and those that will stay home at ADAMHA. The administration proposal has prevented services and research stay at ADAMHA, agency officials said. But the administration states that services research, most of which would be characterized as behavioral research, would go to NIH. Some service experts that research services providers have come to rely on to stay at ADAMHA, however, the bill states. Leininger said services research, including prevention research, will go to NIH.

APA outlined its concerns about the moves, and the list was protection for the full range of behavioral and social science research. The new ADAMHA should be allowed to conduct service research, the testimony stated, and the ADAMHA institutes that go to NIH would each have a deputy director for prevention research. APA would also want to make sure that ADAMHA spent its evaluation of service delivery programs. The agency must focus on mental health, and not just mental illness, and it should look at the needs of special groups, such as gay men and lesbians, children, adolescents, the elderly and women, APA said.

Representatives from the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and the National Mental Health Association expressed strong support for the legislation in the Senate. Some ADAMHA experts and members of the House, including Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif), chair of the subcommittee that oversees ADAMHA, were worried that the proposed reorganization may be moving slowly and quietly. House members are questioning the need for a reorganization. A Waxman staffer said in June that Waxman does not see how a reorganization would fit ADAMHA's administrative lines.

"There's a problem in the way ADAMHA is administered—there's hostility about the development of new programs, but that does not necessarily require a reorganization," the staffer said. Waxman supports an expansion of mental health and substance abuse within NIH may raise the prestige of these fields.

What do you think? Contact Senators Kennedy and Hatch, or Representatives Waxman and Dingell to express your opinion.

Footnotes Identify Concerns for Sociologists

- NIH's biomedical and behavioral science programs lag the sociological perspective.
- New leadership of ADAMHA is slanted toward biomedical models.
- Sociologists, now underrepresented in ADAMHA's research institutes, may be even less represented under the reorganization.
- ADAMHA peer review processes may be changed under new management, brought into conformity with biomedical research review procedures.
- However, placement of mental health and substance abuse within NIH may raise the prestige of these fields.

by Thomas Lyon

The Committee on Employment had its origins in the late 1970s when Ezra Benach organized a Caucus on Employment and Underemployment in Sociology. The Caucus was formed, in part, to address the job problems facing new PhDs in the late 1970s. Its mission was to bring to the attention of the ASA numerous issues surrounding the employment of sociologists both within and outside of academia. The Caucus was receptive to the concerns of its members and provided funds for a newsletter, which was published for several years beginning in the early 1980s. ASAFootnote also published several pieces about the activities of the Caucus, for example, in Ezra Benach, "Task force to study employment and other issues," 1982, vol. 16, G6, Steven and Thomas, "ASA should do more with job hunting," 1983, vol. 11, no. 4, and Elisa Bonacich, Sam Friedman, Thomas Lyon, and Gregory Squires, "Caucus seeks assistance for unemployed/underemployed sociologists," 1984, vol. 12, no. 2.

Based on the recommendation of the Caucus in 1987, ASA formed an Ad hoc Committee on Unemployment and Idle Employment in the Profession. This committee, chaired by Irwin Dienes, wrote a report for the ASA Council that contained several recommendations, including the formation of a standing committee on employment issues. Council responded by organizing a report that formed a standing committee on employment issues. Council responded to the Deutscher report by forming a second ad hoc committee in 1988, chaired by Glen Elder, to review the recommendations of the first committee. The Elder committee reaffirmed the Deutscher committee's recommendation to establish a standing committee. At the 1988 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Council voted to establish a standing committee on employment. I was the first chair of that committee.

The first meeting of the Committee on Employment was held in San Francisco in 1989. With the broad mandate to address all issues related to the employment of sociologists within and outside of academia, the committee started the first year gathering baseline information on the employment situation among sociologists. Based on the expertise of the various committee members, work was also begun on specific employment issues including the problems faced by independent scholars, integrating sociologists into the private sector, and identifying employment problems faced by minorities and women.

At the second meeting of the Committee in 1989 in Washington, plans were made to survey the "Lost Generation" of sociologists—those who received their PhDs in the mid- to late 1970s and early 1980s. The committee was asking if the graduate schools was turning sociology doctorates at a rate while the number of academic job openings was shrinking. While some individuals were able to secure academic or government jobs, many others moved into the private marketplaces, and many appeared to have simply given up trying to put their degrees to use and turned to other endeavors.

The "Lost Generation" survey is an attempt to track the career experiences of a sample of individuals who received their PhDs in sociology from US universities between 1974 and 1984. Questionnaires were mailed to about 11,000 persons during 1990 and 1991 to determine about the different jobs held since receiving the PhD, job satisfaction, the importance of sociology in these jobs, plans for the future, and basic background information.

The Committee's new co-chairs, William D. Lawson of Alabama State University and Daniel J. Corcoran of Vanderbilt University, will be working with Greg Dienes, Committee members, and ASA Executive Office liaison Janet Bilson to bring this survey to completion. Data are being processed and a report will be presented at the next meeting of the Committee in 1992. We hope the survey will shed light on employment issues facing sociologists in the 1990s.

1. The "Lost Generation" and Other Concerns: The ASA Committee on Employment

2. ASA Council.

3. ASA Council.

4. ASA Council.
Call for Papers

CONFERENCES

18th Alcohol Epidemiology Symposium, June 1-3, 1992, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Submit written abstracts, by March 1, 1992, and a informative abstract of a paper to be considered for presentation. Send to the Societies' Toronto meetings to Norman Graham, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, 35 Russell Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2J4. The full paper will be due to the Program Chair, 15 March, 1992. Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies Annual Conference, May 31 June 2, 1992, Charlottesville, Prince Edward Island. Deadline for papers the proposed presentation is February 15, 1992. Contact: Jeffrey Janes at 108 University of Lethbridge, Alberta, T1K 3M4.

Chicago Linguistic Society 28th Regional Meeting, April 25-26, 1992 (Plenary Session). April 26-27, 1992 (Paralegals). Submit for the abstracts of a one-page, 500-word, anonymous abstract (2 samples pages), along with a 3x5 card with your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, title of paper, and affiliation. A copy of the information must be submitted to the Program Chair. The author must indicate the dates and times of the presentations. Submit abstracts to Chicago Lingusitic Society, 1010 East 58th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. Deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 15, 1992. For more information, contact CHICAGOCOLE. EDD, (312) 702-8529.

Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements, American Society for Cultural and Social Movements, June 22-27, 1992, University of California, San Diego, CA. This is open workshop. All members of the Section, interested scholars in related fields, and guests are invited. Registration materials will be mailed out in 1 to 2 weeks. For further information contact: Gerdieh, Department of Sociology, University of California, La Jolla, CA 92038, (619) 534-4369; FAX: (619) 534-4745; or Bel Kallan, Department of Sociology, Vrije Universiteit, de Boelelaan, 1081 BV Amsterdam, The Netherlands, (31-20) 522-1756; or contact Chuck Schreiber, Program Chair, P.O. Box 445, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064. (408) 425-2103.

National Labor History Conference, October 15-17, 1992, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. Theme: "Revolutionizing the Workplace: The Composition of the Labor Force and Its Implications for the Labor Movement in Historical Perspective." Proposals should include a 1-2 page title pages of the paper, a cover letter for paper submissions, and curriculum vitae for conference participants. Proposals due March 1, 1992. For more information, or to submit a proposal, contact Tim Andem, P.O. Box 125, 94th and 10th Street, Detroit, MI 48201. (313) 999-6801.

Society for Human Ecology's Sixth Meeting, October 2-4, 1992, Snowbird, Utah. Theme: "Human Ecology: Crossing Boundaries." The deadline for submission of papers is January 15, 1992, with submissions received after that will also be considered. Please submit proposals for papers, session chairs, or other forms of participation to: Scott D. Wright, P.O. Box 1092, Salt Lake City, UT 84112, (801) 581-0750. FAX: (801) 581-3027. Marked: Attention Scott Wright.


Q: What is the last time you could read an interview's writing, followed the learning skip pattern, or got an out-of-range answer?
A: "That's what we're doing, isn't it?"

Pam Clayton
American Medical Association

Q: What was the last time you had to wait for data?
A: "It's a problem I've never had to deal with."

Ellis Galloway
Galloway Research Service

Q: When was the last time you went over budget because you didn't know the interview length or the study incidence until the study was over?
A: "It's a lot more often than not."

Liza Hammer
Applied Management Sciences

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Liza Hammer
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FEBRUARY 1992 FOOTNOTES
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Funding

Chateaubriand Fellowships are offered by the French Government to graduate, doctoral, and post-doctoral students having received their PhDs in the past three years. Applicants must be American citizens and registered at an American University. Research topics should be related to France, and pertain to the following fields of study: Social Sciences and Humanities. Applicants must prove sufficient proficiency in written and spoken French to be able to carry out the proposed research. Scholarships are available for a maximum of 10 months with a stipend of 9,000 French francs per month. In addition, health insurance and round-trip airfare are provided. Applications must be submitted to and handled by the Chateaubriand Fellowship Committee of the U.S. Department of State. Completed applications must be received by November 15, 1992. For further information about opportunities, please write to the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Office of Grants Administration, Washington, D.C. 20004.
Funding, continued... 

...resources, organization of service systems, programs, family interaction and coping, and macro-aspects of health care delivery systems. Focus is on improving research skills. Strong research record preferred. Must have PhD or equivalent. Stipend from $13,600 to $27,000, depending on experience. Send vita, description of research interests, and three letters of recommendation to: R. Greenbery, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

Young Center for the Study of Asian 

...traps and Pictet Groups, Elbahtcett College welcomes applications for Center Fellows, Spring 1990 and 92. Fellowships typically extend no more than one year. At the Young Center pursuing research related to Asian or Pictet Groups. Fellows are responsible for their own salary, public policy, and social services. Applications and inquiries to: Dorothy Karpby, Director, The Young Center, Elbahtcett College, Elbahtcett, PA 17202-2997, (717) 367-423, extention 470.

Competitions

Association for the Sociology of Religion announces competition for the sixth annual Robert R. McManners Award for the best student paper in the sociology of religion. Students who have not received the dissertation by March 1, 1992 may submit unpublished papers on any aspect of the sociological study of religion for consideration. Papers should be no longer than 30 pages double-spaced and submitted by the student's advisor at the Association’s annual meeting. The author of the winning paper will receive a $300 check and will present the paper at the 1992 AAR Meeting in Pittsburgh, October 19-20. To enter, submit four copies of a completed manuscript to Wes Perkins, AAR Program Chair, Dep. of Sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60616 no later than March 1, 1992.

Political Sociology Section Distinct 

...trations in Political Sociology Section Distinct Graduate Student Article Award. Eligible works must have been published in the previous calendar years. The deadline for submission of nomination materials is March 1, 1992. Members of the Awards Committee, to whom copies of the article should be sent are: Hal Berenson, Sociology, McGill University, Montreal, PQ H3A 2B7, and Kelly Moore, Sociology, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, M5S 1B8. The deadline for submission of nominations for the 1992 award is March 31, 1992. Members of the Awards Committee, to whom copies of the article should be sent are: Hal Berenson, Sociology, McGill University, Montreal, PQ H3A 2B7, and Kelly Moore, Sociology, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, M5S 1B8. A minimum of 15,000 words is required for the submission.

FORGING AHEAD IN 

SOCIOLGY

Environmental, Death, Development, and Public Policy: Public Policy and Social Services Series Editor: Gary Marx

AMERICANS ABROAD

A Comparative Study of Emigrants from the United States by Arnold Datshefsky, John DeAngelo, Bernard Lazerfeld, and Ephraim Teich

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People

Wendell Bell, Yale University, gave a sociology seminar and a public lecture, "Bringing the Good Back In: Yahweh, Objectivity and the Future," at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Debby Bokem has been elected as a new Member Fellow and will be spending 1991-1992 at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, working on a new book on the media and the Gulf War.

Asa Briggs has joined the faculty of the University of Delaware as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology.

April Bayfield has joined the Department of Sociology at Univecrsity of Nebraska.

Pendree Cantly was appointed as an expert witness on SLAPP suits in Hamama Hospital, Inc. versus George M. Haun.

Mass Media

Donald Adams, Kansas State University, was cited in an article in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on August 18, 1991, on his research on AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Ken Chew and Dick Mcleary, University of California-Irvine, interviewed concerning their research on AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Al Godie, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, was cited for his research on the denialism in his article "AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Jeffrey A. Halleys, University of Texas, San Antonio, was quoted in a newspaper article about AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Thomas A. Hines, Cornell University, and Mark S. Rank, Washington University, were cited for their research on AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Harry Levin and Lyne Zimmerman, Queens College, were interviewed concerning their research on AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

J. Robert Lilly was quoted in the newspaper article about AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Joy Rodham, Nnamdi I. A. Nnamdi, and Nnamdi I. A. Nnamdi, have been cited in the newspaper article about AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

Luther B. Ott, North Carolina State University, was a featured presenter and respondent at telephone call-in questions following the recent satellite teleconference on cancer development.

Jack Susan Porter, The Spencer Group, appeared on several Boston TV stations on different occasions regarding his research on AIDS denialism and practices and conclusions among men.

For Further Information


Electronic mail: ALISON@EINHORNS.LJUPENN.EDU. Registration fee is $700.


A comprehensive course on applied regression analysis of longitudinal event data. Topics include censored, accelerated failure time models, proportional hazards models, time-varying explanatory variables, competing risks, and discrete time methods. Takes this year using panel data to study the effects of events. Participants get hands-on practice with the new SAS procedure PHREG, and individual consultation.

Instructor

Paul D. Allison, Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, is the author of Event History Analysis (Sage 1984) and Discrete time methods for the analysis of event histories; Sociological Methodology 1982.

Who Should Attend

Researchers with a knowledge of basic statistical inference and substantial experience with multiple regression who want to apply EHA. No previous knowledge of EHA is assumed.

Funds:

Continued...
New Books, continued

David J. Pittman and Helen E. White, Aesthetics, Society, Culture, and Drinking Patterns: Panamanian Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies.

Paul Rottman (editor), Alcohol: The Development of the Person and the Use and Abuse Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies, 1991.


Please submit harmonious material and a complete description of the book material to the publisher in which you are interested in the following area for consideration: for the Research and/or Study of Religion, Sociological Analysis, or Social Research. Your request would be considered. Primary audience will be the people interested in this country. The Modern World (Downes Press, University of Kentucky, 1991). To subscribe, send your message to Ben-Sira: 127777.VAXXIY@VAXXIN. Internet LISTSER/VERUM.UKENE. Message will be processed automatically and stored on the following: SUBSCRIBE SUBSCRIBE. Your Name your name can have spaces. g. D. Pluck. Once you have subscribed, you can send messages to the list for Ben-Sira: LISTSER@LISTSER.UKENE. Internet: SUBSCRIBE@SUBSCRIBE.UKENE. This service is supported by the University of Tennessee Publishers.

Richard P. Allard, The Sociology of Authorship, Reading and Publishing, and a new scholarly organization devoted to the study of book history. It promotes research on the history of books, writing, editing, and literary criticism, and the history of copyright, censorship, and underground publishing, the spread of literacy, book circulation and literary usage. The history of reading and written literature and the spread of literacy is aimed at bringing together these areas of study through a range of scholarly, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary perspectives. Aims of the Society: The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing is a new scholarly organization devoted to the study of book history. It promotes research on the history of books, writing, editing, and literary criticism, and the history of copyright, censorship, and underground publishing, the spread of literacy, book circulation and literary usage. The history of reading and written literature and the spread of literacy is aimed at bringing together these areas of study through a range of scholarly, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary perspectives. Aims of the Society: The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing is a new scholarly organization devoted to the study of book history. It promotes research on the history of books, writing, editing, and literary criticism, and the history of copyright, censorship, and underground publishing, the spread of literacy, book circulation and literary usage. The history of reading and written literature and the spread of literacy is aimed at bringing together these areas of study through a range of scholarly, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary perspectives. Aims of the Society: The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing is a new scholarly organization devoted to the study of book history. It promotes research on the history of books, writing, editing, and literary criticism, and the history of copyright, censorship, and underground publishing, the spread of literacy, book circulation and literary usage.

New Publications

Guide to the Data Resource is a newly issued study by the Henry A. M. Murray Research Center of Radcliffe College. For each data set in the collection, a comprehensive description is provided, together with information about the study's purpose, methodology, the sample characteristics, and the data format. For more information, please contact: The Henry A. M. Murray Research Center of Radcliffe College, 310 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-1918.

Invertic to Human Potential: Science and Engineering at the Grassroots, a new American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) report, addresses the lack of a coordinated effort among the nation's colleges and universities to attract and retain female, minority, and disadvantaged students in science and engineering programs. The report is based on surveys of 30 colleges and 17,000 students and is available for $6.00 plus $2.00 for shipping and handling. Order from: E 457/0, AAAS, 1725 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Social & Legal Studies is a new journal published by Sage Publications. If you would like to contribute to this new publication or would like information about the journal, please contact: Jane Malinak, Senior Editor, Sage Publications, 255 Bush Street, London, EC4A 4PS, U.K. Inquiries, subscriptions, and advertising orders should be sent to: Sage Publications, PO Box 9069, Newbury Park, CA 91327.

Other Organizations

Sociological Theory has a new editor. Please direct all books and correspondence to the new editor, Larry B. Alder, Sociology Department, Sociology, UC Berkeley, 2172 North Alameda St., Berkeley, CA 94704.

Deaths

Larry (Lucky) Rabin, Goldie Burson Colledge, died on Tuesday, October 25, 1991, in Washington, DC.

Norman Stoll, University of Wisconsin-Madison, died in Madison, WI on September 27.

Contact

Call for Harmonious Material Useful in Teaching: Teaching Methods in Teaching Science. (For publication) by the ASA Teaching Resources Committee. Deadline for submission is January 15, 1992. The ASASSH is interested in receiving harmonious material which teaching science, physics, anthropology, computer science, art, music, psychology, computer science, math, and history. Submissions should be in general format, approximately 20-30 pages, limited to a classroom summary, cartoons, one-liners, routines, videos, etc. are appropriate.

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To join the MicroCase Curriculum Plan there is a one-time initiation fee of $1,200. Each year schools then pay a $400 registration fee, plus a graduated fee determined by total student enrollment (part time students to be converted to full-time equivalency). The annual enrollment fee is $300 per 100 students. **However, if your school has an annual enrollment of 2,000 students, your annual fee would be only $300 per 100 students, or $30,000 per 1,000 students.**

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I'll bring the best in your book or project: Expert, express, for style, clarity, meaning. Twenty years' experience, including several book, journal, and association projects. Independently. Donna Kay Houston, 5736 Chilton, New York, NY 10033 (212) 740-1540.

Opportunities and Proceedings

Minutes of the First Meeting of the 1991-92 Board of Directors. The first meeting of the 1991-92 Council was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27, 1991, in the 1st Session of the Council, at the Annual Meeting, held at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana. Representative of the Board of Directors present were: James Ball, Robert P. Kennedy, and W. James Ensor. The meeting was called to order by President Hallock, who addressed the assembled members of the Board and the Annual Meeting.

Continuous on next page
Minutes, continued

ASA Bulletin Board

ASA Executive Office
1722 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036
(202) 833-3400; FAX: (202) 785-1046; BITNET: ASA@GWU4M

Curriculum Evaluation and Revision in Sociology: Applications of the Association of American Colleges and ASA Reports

Date: April 9-12, 1992, 9:00-4:00 p.m.
Location: New Orleans, LA
(see cooperation with SSS Meetings)
Staff: Robert Davis, North Carolina A & T University; Carla Howery; ASA; William S. Johnson, Arizona State University
Objectives: Participants will:
• develop skills in curriculum design
• review ways to prepare for a curriculum review
• apply the recommendations of the AAC report on the undergraduate major
• share examples of curricula and "minimalists" one's own major

Cost: ASA members, $45.00; nonmembers, $95.00
Deadline: Letter of intent and deposit of $25.00 for each participant to be received by March 30, 1992. Balance payable at workshop.
Registration limited to first 20 applicants. No refunds will be made after April 1, 1992.

Lodging: Participants are responsible for their own transportation and lodging as needed. No non-refundable amounts should be expended until participant receives confirmation that the workshop will take place as scheduled.

Students — The Importance of ASA Membership to Career Building

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• take advantage of the Professional Development Program
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• locate the syllabi and bits you need from Teaching Resources
• volunteer for committee service to become visible
• run for office

Advantage

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Future ASA Annual Meetings

1992 — August 20-24
David L. Lawrence Convention/Exposition Center
Pittsburgh, PA
1993 — August 13-17
Fontainebleau Hilton
Miami Beach, FL
1994 — August 5-9
Westin Bonaventure and Los Angeles Hilton
Los Angeles, CA

Footnotes

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Managing Editor Carla Howery
Assistant Editors: William Martinez, Janet Marcuse Bilans, Tod L. McNeil
Production: Karen Gray Edwards, Michele Wolowick
Secretary: Beth B. Rice

Article subscriptions are limited to 100 words and must have substantive value (i.e., significant, major impact, general interest) rather than be research-oriented or scholarly. Manuscripts will be reviewed by the editorial board for possible publication. "Open Forum" contributions are limited to 400 words. "Obituaries," 300 words, and "Letters to the Editor," 200 words. "Departments" announcements, 20 words. Acceptable material will appear once only as space allows. ASA reserves the right to edit for style and length all material submitted. The deadline for all material is the first of the month preceding publication (e.g., April 1 for May issue).

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