 Documentary Visions of Los Angeles  

By Barris Thorne, University of Southern California

Los Angeles, where else? On the day after the recent earthquake, Universal Studios temporarily closed down one of its major attractions — The Earthquake. But this attack of good taste may not have been appreciated by all the customers. In the week after the disaster, movie-going audiences in pursuit of a L.A. movie theater view of the world were... you guessed it, 'Earthquake.' Simulation becoming part of reality? In L.A. visual culture and social dynamics often intersect with surprising results.

First-generation documentary is a lively and diverse genre, used, among other things, to explore the many cultures and scenes that converge in Southern California. Participants in the 1994 A.S.A. meetings have an opportunity to experience and learn about this genre in a three-day ongoing event, "Documentary Visions of Los Angeles."

Michael Rovers, chair of the Critical Studies Department in the School of Cinema-Television at the University of Southern California and editor of Theorizing Documentary and Realism: Essays on Contemporary Video Practices, has organized a workshop featuring video artists and their innovative documentation of Los Angeles cultures. One of the participants, Wendy Clarke, will discuss how she uses excerpts from two major projects, "The Love Tapes" and "One on One." The Love Tapes," made over a 15-year period, chronicled video documentation in which everyday people, all over the world, talk for their love. "One on One" is a series of remarkable video letters exchanged between inmates at the men's prison in Chino and members of the Chervish business community and a church in Santa Monica. Contrary to expectations, in these tapes the positions of confessor/confidant prove to be surprisingly interchangeable. As Howard Rosenberg, for television critic of the Los Angeles Times, wrote, "the longer you watch these tapes, the more mesmerizing they become and the more they reveal."

Sarah Mekki, a performance artist and video maker, will show and discuss two videos that trace her relationship with her immediate social environment. "Prettyboy Roxo Street: A Summer Diary," is an ethnographic and autobiographical portrait of Mekki's Highland Park neighborhood, which is mostly Latino. "We Draw—You Video," is about a group of gifted young people in Los Angeles public school. The third workshop participant, Maxi Cohen, has documented a complex way of life told from a series of diverse "inside" perspectives. Ten people who live and/or work in South Central Los Angeles-Korean-Americans, Latins, African-Americans, and European Americans—recorded their perspectives on Hollywood videos. Cohen has created these video segments into a feature-length documentary, "South Central Los Angeles: Inside Voices," which addresses the ethnic diversity and cultural complexity of South Central, one of the most recent, through the eyes of those who live its contradictions daily.

These videos, and several other short and striking documentary films made by advanced USC cinema and visual anthropology students, will be shown in continuous screenings during the second, third, and fourth days of the meetings.

One of these films, "Chicks in White Satin," was recently nominated for an Academy Award. Directed by Eilene Hoffman, it is a humorous documentary of a lesbian couple planning their traditional Jewish wedding. Their story evolves around wedding gown fittings, witty lessons, and family expectations, and the event becomes transformational for the mother of one of the brides, who had been uncomfortable with her daughter's sexuality.

The experiences of Cambodian refugees in Los Angeles, who are trying to come to terms with their war-torn past while pursuing their version of the American dream, are explored in Charlin Davis's film, "Cambodian Dreams." Inspired by the success of friends and relatives, these immigrants have found their niche through acquiring discount department store franchises and selling a product that's alien to their culture.

"Do You Take This Man? Pakistanis Arranged Marriage," directed by Elise Fried, follows three young women in the Los Angeles Pakistani community who are facing this issue. Two women embrace the tradition of trusting their parents to select an appropriate husband, while the third, shown in intense conversations with her intransigent parents, resists the custom as outdated. The impact of growing up in America amplifies intergenerational issues and cultural differences. These videos and films were chosen, in part, for their relevance to sociological issues, and some of the names were used for use in teaching. A schedule for the continuous showings, and information about how to rent or buy each film or video, will be in the conference packet.

"Footnotes... Looking Ahead to... Los Angeles '94... Re-Inventing the Multi-Racial and Multi-Ethnic City of the 21st Century?" by Melvin L. Oliver, University of California-Los Angeles

When scenes of looting and violence rushed across television screens in the midst of the 1991 Los Angeles civil disorders, reporters consistently described the events through the prism of black/white relations. But what viewers now see are not only black faces, but the multilayered faces of people of color. This was the face of a multi-racial and multi-cultural Los Angeles.

Like other large port cities in the U.S., Los Angeles has been transformed into a First World Metropolis with a Third World population. The demographic changes that have occurred in Los Angeles during the past twenty years have been remarkable in both their scope and diversity. Los Angeles County has grown dramatically, from 7 million in 1970 to 8.6 million in 1990, while its ethnic composition has been remarkably altered. So much so, that demographer Kevin McCarthy has suggested that we are witnessing the transformation of the Los Angeles basin into the first continental, multi-ethnic and multi-racial metropolis in the U.S., in that where whites are no longer the predominant majority.

The demographic reality bolsters this claim. The non Hispanic white population has dramatically declined from its 71% share in 1970 to its present marginally plurality of 48% of the County's population. Meanwhile, the Latino and Asian Pacific population witnessed a doubling (from 19% to 36%) and near quadrupling (from 3% to 13%) of their population shares respectively. White Mexican are the fastest growing ethnicity in the Los Angeles basin, into the Los Angeles City basin.

Market on Olmora Street in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Chinese Immigrants.
The Executive Officer's Column

Academic Freedom and the Role of ASA

The American Sociological Association has had a long history of concern about academic freedom and the role of ASA. In 1968, the Association formally established the Committee on Freedom of Research and Teaching (COFRT) to deal with members' complaints relating to infringement of academic freedom by institutions. This Committee was charged with the responsibility of handling individual complaints about institutional procedures and practices.

As is well known to our long-term members, COFRT grew out of the political and social unrest of the 1960s, and the effect that these circumstances had on members of the profession. At the ASA Annual Meeting in Boston in 1968, a number of people expressed anxiety at the increasing number of sociologists within the profession who were being denied jobs and/or reappointments because of political opinions and behavior. There was a strong feeling at that time that the Association ought to deal with the repressive stimulation and reprisals for political activism and beliefs encountered by members. COFRT was formed as a result of this activity on August 30, 1968.

A New Look

Now, twenty-five years after COFRT's formation, the ASA Council is stepping back from our history of experience and from contemporary needs and circumstances to reassess the role of the American Sociological Association in addressing problems and issues of academic freedom. As part of our larger commitment to examine ASA goals and functions, this spring the Executive Office undertook an extensive study of the origins, mandates, and activities of COFRT and of the experiences of other learned societies. In December 1993, the present COFRT Committee considered a report of this study and discussed ASA's role on issues of academic freedom. At its January 1994 meeting, ASA Council also devoted substantial time to this topic, ultimately passing a resolution that a special Task Force should be appointed to address the role of ASA on issues of academic freedom.

President William Ganss is serving as Chair of this Task Force. As Executive Officer, I serve as a member; other members include ASA Vice President Barbara Starren (chair of the COFRT), Margaret Anderson (Council), Peter Melkiez (current co-chair of COFRT), John Kennedy (current co-chair of COFRT), John McCarthy (previous service as a COFRT chair). Especially after having taken an in-depth look at COFRT and ASA's role on issues of academic freedom, I applaud both the creation of this Task Force and the current COFRT and ASA Council for making this a priority subject.

Issues in Historical Perspective

Despite the very positive impulse to assure sociologists to be confronted with violations of academic freedom, there has always been ambiguity and uncertainty about ASA's role. As early as 1972, Council and COFRT expressed unease about the mission, scope, and activities of COFRT. While during the late 1970s and the early 1980s, COFRT took on some general projects (e.g., Guidelines for Initial Appointments), overall the history this Committee has primarily been engaged in fact-finding on individual complaints, rendering judgments, and making recommendations to Council on possible sanctions. In practice, COFRT at times also took on mediation and arbitration functions, but there is no indication that Councilever encouraged or officially endorsed these activities.

What about some information about COFRT procedures, there never evolved a detailed substantive COFRT Committee's broad definition. The initial suggestions to the ASA and COFRT were not well situated to have an "open door" policy. Yet, the substantive scope and procedures of COFRT were not fully delineated. In addition, over time there is evidence of disparate points of view and even some conflict between COFRT's mandate and the mandate of other bodies (especially the Committee on Professional Ethics).

Finally, the historical documents indicate that Council(s) sought not just to redress grievances but to take action with some "teeth" to what they did. Censure of an institution brought with it the possibility not only of public announcement and widespread dissemination (e.g., to foundations and funding agencies) but also of sanctions that could include recommendations to advertise the institution in the Employment Bulletin or Graduate Guide. With some cases, the possibility of censure was explicitly conveyed to institutions with the hope of engendering institutional compliance with ASA requests or decisions. Also, the record suggests that ASA would not be lifted until such time as an institution remedied the situation. While COFRT should recommend that Council censure or impose sanctions, Council always retained the authority to take such action and only rarely did so.

ASA's Unique Niche

Key to any determination of ASA's role is its unique niche vis-à-vis other agencies and organizations that can handle academic freedom cases. In actions of Council that originally established COFRT, emphasis was placed on COFRT referring cases out and complementing the functions of other agencies. The primary organizations that handle individual complaints of infringement of academic freedom by institutions are the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Both organizations have more resources than ASA directed to handling these types of complaints and are focusing on providing this type of service. The AAUP in particular is singularly dedicated to issues relating to academic life.

Throughout the 25-year history of COFRT, the notion of seeking a unique niche is a recurrent theme. Referral of cases out, not taking cases that were being handled elsewhere, and taking cases that raise special issues of sociological relevance defined official policy. In practice, however, it is not clear from the accepted cases why these particular cases could not be referred to the AAUP processes or other bodies (i.e., why they were particularly appropriate for ASA consideration).

Key Issues for Task Force Consideration

Even though the policies and actions of COFRT have varied over the past twenty-five years, the ASA has always viewed itself as having a limited role in handling complaints of individual members against institutions for due process violations. In reconstituting the history and analyzing the issues, I was struck with the need for ASA Council to address the threshold questions that plagued the founders of COFRT and continue to be at issue: What role can and should ASA play in addressing academic freedom violations? Should the Association respond to and handle individual complaints of violations of academic freedom? Should ASA play a role in monitoring the academic workplace at a systemic level? For example, issuing advisory opinions or reports?

Key for the Task Force and ultimately for Council to determine if it is appropriate for ASA to assume some responsibilities in this area include:

1. ASA could address individual complaints and focus only on serious breaches of policy. This would help to prevent ASA from becoming a forum for more mundane issues. However, it may also mean that ASA's experience in dealing with academic freedom complaints has been marked by its finitude and uncertainty. At many prior points in the past, the question of what role ASA and COFRT should play has been raised but never resolved. This year, Council and COFRT have thought constructively and creatively about the role ASA could play in this area. The Task Force will build upon the deliberations of these bodies to produce a set of recommendations that can serve as a basis for an action in the future.

President Ganss and I welcome your input as this Task Force moves ahead.—Felder J. Leiser

The Open Window

On the Well-Being of Graduate Departments

In March of 1992, an ASA Task Group on Graduate Education (TAGGE) issued a report to the Council. The TAGGE group, chaired by Joan Huser, was completing its work in what they perceived as a climate of hostility to sociology. Shortly after they began in 1988, the Sociology Department at Washington University in St. Louis had been closed. Just before they issued their report, Yale had announced its intention to reduce drastically the size of its Sociology Department and it seemed to inimical danger of being eliminated altogether. In the final year of the Reagan-Bush era in which they were operating, there seemed little sympathy or encouragement for the social sciences in general and for sociology in particular. The central issue that animated the TAGGE report was the sense of vulnerability of sociology and a concern with what we should do collectively to minimize any self-inflicted harm.

Two years later, the vulnerability seems less apparent. The Yale administrators who targeted sociology have resigned and the Sociology Department has hired several new faculty members. The closing of the Washington University department several years ago has not been followed by other closings and now seems more idiosyncratic than part of a national trend. Sociology undergraduate enrollments have been rising substantially for several years and a new administration in Washington is highly sympathetic and open to the contributions that sociologists can make. If there is a lesson to be drawn from this case, it is more than about the vulnerability of administrators than about sociology.

TAGGE defined its mandate broadly, addressing not simply graduate education but a whole series of issues related to the well-being of sociology departments: the quality of undergraduates, departmental governance, the status of sociology in the academic pantheon, the relationship of sociology to other disciplines, and the general retributions of sociologists. Though they may have overreacted to the political atmosphere at the time, they nevertheless raised and took positions on several important issues.

Many of the observations and recommendations of the TAGGE report were stimulated by controversy and disagreement among Council members. Rather than attempting to impose a consensus where none exists, Council sought to use the report and the dissenting views to create a forum for wider discussion of the issues raised. Readers are invited to provide their own views on these issues and future issues of Notes will carry selected responses. This article quotes extensively from the original TAGGE report and from a discussion by ASA President William Ganss at the 1993 Annual Meeting. I hope this will provide some insights into the deliberations and decisions that contributed to the report.
New Opportunities for Sociologists in HIV/AIDS Prevention Planning

Paula Trujillo, Special Assistant

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently announced that sociologists are needed in new fields to address related state, territorial, and local health department HIV Prevention Cooperative Agreements. The CDC notes that sociologists are important in implementing comprehensive planning for HIV prevention programs. A significant proportion of these funds are allocated to state and local public health agencies to provide financial assistance to local and state public health agencies for HIV prevention programs. This funding structure opens up new opportunities for sociologists and other social scientists to speak up and become involved.

One of the first sociologists to respond to the call was Tae Darnell, of the University of California, Los Angeles. Her work focuses on the need for applied sociologists to contact local state or city AIDS directors about getting involved. She emphasizes the importance of sociologists working with community-wide efforts to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS.

Darnell notes, "The most important thing for sociologists is to understand the dynamics of the epidemic and the need to apply sociology to make a difference. The CDC guidelines, "Supplemental Guidance on Social Determinants of Community Planning for Noncompeting Projects of Cooperative Agreements for HIV Prevention Projects", clearly state that "Community is visible in these guidelines. The benefits of sociological involvement are clear.

"Community-based involvement can lead to more effective policies, programs, and services. The need for sociologists to work with other disciplines, such as epidemiology, public health, and law, is evident in these guidelines. The benefits of sociological involvement are clear.

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Candidates for ASA President, Vice President, Secretary

In accordance with election policies adopted by ASA Council in 1989, only the biographical sketches for top office candidates will appear in the March 1994 Footnotes prior to the election sketches and pictures of all candidates will be printed as a supplement and mailed with the election ballot in April.

President-Elect

CYNTHIA FUCHS EPSTEIN

Present Position: Distinguished Professor, Graduate Center, City University of New York (1990-present). Former Positions: Held Chaired Professorship, CUNY Graduate School and University Center, New York (1984-90); Graduate School and University Center, CUNY (1979-84); Queens College, CUNY (1975-79); Assistant Professor, Queens College, CUNY (1971-74). Assistant Professor, Queens College, CUNY (1968-70). Residence: Schenectady, NY. Office: 24 College Road, Schenectady, NY 12308. Home: 2030 Zabriskie Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12305. Phone: (518) 374-0956. Fax: (518) 374-0957. E-mail: cynthia@ecosystem.ses.rpi.edu.

ARLE RUSSELL HOCHSCHILD

Present Position: Professor of Sociology, University of California, Berkeley (1983-present). Former Positions: Acting Chair, Sociology Department, University of California, Berkeley (1979-80); Assistant to Full Professor, University of California, Berkeley (1973-79); Associate Professor, University of California, Santa Cruz (1969-73); Eugene M. Lang Visiting Professor, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA (1968-69); Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkeley, CA (1962); Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkeley (1962-67). Professional Accomplishments: The Second Shift: Women and Men in the Home (1989); The Tiber River (1984); The Gender Gap (1984); The Gender Game (1982); The Gender Gap (1980). Honors and Awards: Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1989-90). Residence: Berkeley, CA. Office: 1716 Harvard Street, Berkeley, CA 94702. Phone: (415) 849-0133. Fax: (415) 849-1332. E-mail: arle@soc.berkeley.edu.

Vice President-Elect

IVAR BERG

Present Position: Professor of Sociology and Professor of Education, University of Pennsylvania (1979-present). Former Positions: Held Professor of Sociology and Professor of Economics, Vanderbilt University (1975-79); Assistant Professor to George Warren Professor of Sociology and Business, Columbia University (1979-75). Residence: 2120 Prospect Avenue, West New York, NJ 07093. Office: 314 W. 215th Street, New York, NY 10027. Phone: (212) 998-1631. Fax: (212) 998-1635. E-mail: iber@soc.gc.cuny.edu.

See Candidates, page 5
Candidates* from page 6

JUDITH LORBER


SECRETARY ELECT

JOANNE MILLER


MARCH 1994 FOOTNOTES

NSF Search

Sociology Program Director

The Sociology Program at the National Science Foundation is searching for a new Program Director. Candidates are expected to have a broad background in academic or research setting who is challenged by the opportunity to advance sociological research and to help shape future research policy and the organization of the Directorate for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences. The term would start in the summer of 1994. The responsibilities include evaluating research proposals, representing the discipline of sociology within the National Science Foundation, and representing NSF in the sociological research community. Broad knowledge of the field, at least six years of research experience, administrative skills, and the ability to communicate effectively are required. For more information, please contact Allan Kornberg, Director, Division of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research, (703) 306-1565. Send vitae and letter of interest to Allan Kornberg, Division of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 955, Arlington, VA 22230.
Russian Libraries and Archives Available by E-Mail

by Carol Erickson, Senior Program Officer, Policy and Infrastructure Division

IRIF is pleased to announce the first nodes of a Russian-American network of librarians and archives for international consultation and information exchange via electronic mail. During this initial phase, e-mail stations will be installed in approximately a dozen libraries and archives in Moscow and St. Petersburg. If the initial phase is successful, IRIF hopes to expand the project beyond Moscow and St. Petersburg.

The goals of the project: to improve direct communication between American libraries and their Russian counterparts to facilitate library exchanges and international acquisitions; to improve direct communication between American scholars and Russian libraries and archives to plan research visits, locate, and make available needed research materials, and pose reference questions; and to facilitate professional communication and collaboration among Russian librarians and archivists.

Several Russian libraries that have already been using e-mail for some time are included in the project, including:

- The Library of Foreign Literature, Moscow, e-mail: libl@libl.moc3.mcc.ru. Contacts: Ekaterina Gorokhova and Yuri Ponidorev.
- The State Library Publishing House, Moscow, e-mail: libl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contacts: Olga Sukhodrev and Vitaly Vovk.
- The State Archives of St. Petersburg, e-mail: stab@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Lyudmila Alekseyeva.
- The Institute for Economic Research, Siberia, e-mail: boksb@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Vladimir Gribulov.
- The National Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, e-mail: libn@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Yuri Pervozvansky.
- The State Research Institute of Fine Arts, Moscow, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Vladimir Shchelkin.
- The Russian State Library for Architecture, St. Petersburg, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Elena Sedova.
- The State Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Vasily Ivanovsky.
- The State Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Mikhail Savinov.
- The State Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Leonid Kiselev.
- The State Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, e-mail: sbibl@libl.moc2.mcc.ru. Contact: Aleksandr Kuznetsov.

The public relations and research center of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation jointly with the library Institute under the Russian Academy of Sciences conducted, in September through November, a sociological study of current problems of business development in Russia. The sample of respondents (86, 2 people) included managers and experts from state-owned and private enterprises and local government bodies. The people interviewed represent the whole spectrum of today's Russian business: they are well informed about business developments in the country.

The poll was taken in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Nizhni Novgorod, Volgograd, Perm, Ekaterinburg, Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, and Astrakhan. The results were that Russian business people on the whole support a democratic political system, which was based on the elections in Russia in 1991. Some 86.8 percent of the respondents voted for Gorbachev, 6.8 percent for Yeltsin, 1.2 percent for Khasbulatov, and 8.2 percent for other candidates. The public poll was conducted in October, and 7.2 percent of the respondents were not sure whom they would vote for. And how have the political leanings of businesspeople changed now, when the ratings of all Russian politicians have plummeted sharply?

Most of the businessmen who would cast their votes for anyone of these six candidates have jumped from 85.8 percent to 45.8 percent. Nevertheless, as in 1991, Yeltsin (56 percent) is well ahead of the others: Yusupov has 34 percent of the vote (which is not an appreciable loss); Rybakov, 4.4 percent; Belozerov, 3.9 percent; Zhirinovsky and Makharov, 2.1 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

The experts unanimously agree on the need for policies to develop the business sector. One out of every three respondents thinks that the existing market mechanism hampers the functioning of a free market.

The taxes now imposed rank second in this respect. In every four out of five cases the businessmen think that the government follows a wrong policy as regards tax reduction. Naturally, the private entrepreneurs are somewhat more concerned about the tax burden than the state-owned ones, but the form of ownership is not so important in this respect as the line of business. The manufacturing sector suffers more from taxation than other businesses: 41.5 percent of those polled who are occupied in the production sphere (be it state- or privately owned) point to the unjustified taxation as the principle factor that hinders the expansion of production. This figure is much smaller (29.5 percent) in the service sector, and it is only 16.1 percent in the financial-service sector. Almost 18 percent of the respondents indicated political instability as an important factor.

All these three negative phenomena that hinder the development of business give rise to financial risks, whose effect is strengthened by the increasing disregard of laws, the growing political instability, and the widening diversity of tax rates. Businessmen as the main thrust to the existence and development of businesses has been mentioned by 8.2 percent of the polled.

What causes deterrents to society in the transition period? This is a sharp decline in moral standards. Some 31 percent of the polled asserted that they have for the past year found themselves in a situation when their behavior had been allowed to act by giving valuables or presents in office to officials; another 20 percent declined to discuss it. In effect, more than half of those polled have been a party to this kind of crime.

About 22 percent of the respondents believe that bribing official whose remuneration is not bound to their specific work permits an organization to resolve working problems of new concern, practice, and more remote think that this is illegal activity. As 70 percent of the people polled hold this view, wouldn't it be proper to say that it has become a second official duty, or, naturally, is easier for a younger generation to adapt itself?

The poll shows that state-owned business people are somewhat less inclined to resist in bribery than private ones. Of 20 percent of the former and 76 percent of the latter believe bribery to be common practice nowadays and are prepared to give a bribe if no other way to solve a problem exists.

The joint public opinion poll was conducted in production and commerce, the better. This conclusion can be drawn unexpectedly from responses to the question "What, in general, motivates authorities when they make decisions on business matters?" People named economic as well as subjective factors (45 percent and 46 percent) second. Economic considerations are thought to be much less significant by the representatives of state-owned enterprises (53 percent) and private enterprises (22 percent).

To protect business interests the government took a five-point plan. They believe Russia's President to be the closest to the business community interests." What do you consider as "a protector of the business community interests?"

The authors of the study add that the main economic interest is to keep on paying taxes to the government. The state also claims the right to protect the interests of the Russian economy. The study shows that businessmen are well aware of this aspect. Only 35.8 percent of the respondents believe that the government's economic interests should limit themselves entirely to economic activity. Most of those polled hold that business associations should primarily deal with economic matters, but they should also take part in political activities. About 10 percent think that political activity is very important for Russian business. More radical views in this respect are held by businessmen engaged in production (44 percent) as compared to those in the service sector and 31 percent in the finance sector.

Lobbying, which is widely practiced in countries with free market economies as an effective method used by business lobbying legislators and government officials, was definitely approved by 20.2 percent of the respondents, with 72.7 percent of them giving it a qualified approval.

How do public associations perform their functions as regards defending the interests of business? The answer to this question is partly based on the viewpoint that business is not so much an economic phenomenon as it is a social phenomenon with the emergence of a new class in the social structure.

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Professional Socialization for What?

by David Yamane, University of Wisconsin-Madison

As sociologists' attention turns to our upcoming annual meetings, I know the importance of professional socialization of our students would inevitably be stressed (cf. "Professional Socialization and ASA Manners," footnote, March 1993). From the first time I heard of "professional socialization" while an undergraduate student in 1980, I have been at- ease with the concept. It is only now, as a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, that the cause of my disease is becoming increasingly evident to me. Events have helped to clarify the issue for me.

This semester, my fellow graduate students and I attended a social event to celebrate our conversion to "the profession." The Editor of the ASA newsletter was there; so was a faculty member; a few ASA meetings were held during which students presented papers to赢得了 their own research, ASA meeting-standard. Such activities are an enaction of and contribution to professional socialization.

What troubles me about these "professional development" workshops and conferences, and about professional socialization generally--is how narrowly the "profession" to which we are socialized is defined: it is wholly limited to the creation of knowledge through research and the dissemination of that knowledge to other professional sociologists. This restricted view of the role of the scholar is not limited to sociology. As Ben David (1972) notes, all academic professionalism is institutionalized around the pursuit of research and the training of professional researchers.

Clearly, this narrow definition does not exhaust the possible roles sociologists can play, and will not exhaust the academy. It is nonetheless the case that this constrained concept of sociology as a profession, for whom we are trained, is being contested, is being co-opted by a new, and perhaps, more diverse group of people who are choosing to study sociology. While one cannot survive without the other, the balance between the two is far from certain. In fact, the direction of narrow professionalism, and negative outcomes are the result.

Sociological Professionalism and Its Consequences

There is no doubt that the professionalization of academic work has an enormous influence on aspiring and practicing sociologists. Professionalized sociology shifts the bulk of concern of practitioners toward that which brings prestige and status. Bruce Fein (1991), chairman of the sociology department at Purdue, is very open about this when he writes, "Prestige, both personal and institutional, is of course, the great currency of the academic profession today. ... We--personally and departmentally--live and die by professional prestige. Not only do we perceive our rewards and opportunities being structured by its possession or lack, we evaluate self-worth in the same way." Needless to say, prestige and status are allocated according to what one does and the resultant publications in professional journals.

Given this situation, professional sociology's attention is increasingly turned inward, and conversations are private. Sociologists are housed within the walls of academic institutions and directed toward other professionals. A major consequence of professional sociology is alienation of sociologists from a variety of potential audiences, notably undergraduates and the general public. This alienation is reproduced through professional socialization itself.

As an undergraduate at UC-Berkeley, it was obvious to me that for most faculty in the sociology department teaching undergraduates was a tertiary activity, at best. Pedagogy was virtually unheard of. It was only when I crossed the lines from undergraduate to graduate student (read: "future professional") that I came to see why. In today's research, academic is valued over teaching, and this value is transmitted to sociologists qua-applicants from sociologists qua-professors via professional socialization.

Students are taught implicitly and at times explicitly to devalue teaching. Case in point: a fellow student was considering taking a summer job as a trainer on "How to make a Sentence," which is offered every couple of years and decided to consult with her advisor. When she asked this professor's input to taking the course, his response was: "I'd prefer you to take a real seminar." This is a remarkable attitude to take in a field in which the vast majority of practitioners will work in college and university settings, and in which a sizeable minority will be sufficiently successful in selling their research services on the open market to constantly buy off their teaching time (Halvad, 1992:20).

Remarkable though it may be, it is nonetheless the case that the advancement of the individual faculty member's career, in other words, results in this alienation from its undergraduate student constituency (Baker and Rus, 1990:172). That the attitude of the individual professor above is endemic in the profession is reflected in Klig's (1991) finding that only 10% of graduate departments of sociology require a course or seminar on teaching as part of their training program. Another 27% of departments mention an optional "specific course, program, or orientation session designed to train students in teaching, whether offered by the department or another unit until the university" (Klig, 1991:439). That leaves over 63% of sociology departments with no explicit commitment to training its graduate students to teach, though this is something sociologists will have to do as professors.

The neglect of undergraduates is not just by commitment to other professional audiences. Professional sociologists are no less alienated from the general public than from students. In his ASA President-elect Address, Herbert Gans (1989:12) made an appeal to his professional colleagues to address the 240 million plus non-sociologists in America: "The public, educated and educated, cannot understand or even see the justification for much of what we produce, since in too many cases our work appears to have no benefit, direct or indirect, for people's understanding of society or for their lives.

Of course, this is a generalization, but it is one which is supported by many indicators. For example, I suspect most Americans probably could not name a professional sociologist. The fact that Footnotes has a column listing "Sociologists in The News" suggests how limited such activity is. Since the Lonely Crowd in the 1950s, among works by sociologists, only Habits of the Heart have become a national best-seller. Most telling for me, however, is an individual case that of Paul Starr. Shortly after becoming the first and still only sociologist to win the Pulitzer Prize for general Non-Fiction, Starr was denied tenure at Harvard (Jacoby, 1987). Though our readers will never know exactly what the grounds of that denial were, in a New York Times article of 2 April 1985 on the 20th case, the sociology department chair at Harvard was quoted as saying: "If I want to be a free journalist then I should quit Harvard and go be a free-lance journalist." This is indicative of the low regard in which "popularizers" are held in the profession.

Given Starr's experience, his views on the mission of professional sociologists from the public are not all that surprising. Starr (1986:7-8) has criticized "the effort by some to make disciplinary involvement the final test of value of a sociologist's work and, in particular, to drive out the more publicly involved from the field because they are not really sociologists.

But, Starr continues, "If to be a discipline you must create a desert, that will be no victory." No victory, indeed.

Sociology As A Calling

In contrast to the narrow professionalism which seems to be the fate of those currently socialized into the discipline, I would like to forward the notion that sociology can and should be seen as a calling.

Firstly, we should note that historically the German concept Beruf meaning "calling" or "vocation." By the 20th century, with the rise of an industrially organized economy, this concept had taken on the highly modern meaning of "profession." In contemporary German, the concept Berufung has taken on this older origin of calling or Beruf which I want to invoke here.

So, what is a calling? According to Robert Bellah and his colleagues (1985), in "the strongest sense of a calling, work constitutes a practical ideal of activity and character that makes a person's work morally inseparable from his or her life... The calling is a crucial link between the individual and the public world, being 'inseparable' in this context emphatically does not mean that one's life's goals should be coordinated by one's life's work, but that one's life work becomes part and parcel of fulfilling one's life's goals.

It should be obvious that in this conception, one's life's goals are not formed as a lone individual, but in and through a community which is a "cosmos of calling" (Bellah, et al., 1985:288). Ideally, the university should approximate this type of community, and provide a model for all of society.

Those called to sociology are, in Jenson's (1983:303) words, driven by a "sense of moral responsibility for the collective well-being"--not the collective well-being of sociology, but the collective well-being of society. This purpose can only be realized once our attention is given to the alternative audiences noted above: students and the general public. The calling of sociology involves responsible tooll of its various audiences—ones of which targets to be other professional sociologists, but only one.

As we see from the list Latin roots - apostate (to promise) - the responsibility of sociology is inestimably intertwined with a promise. None has spoken more persuasively about that promise than C. Wright Mills. In the opening chapter of his classic treatise, Mills (1959:7) lays out what he calls "The Promise of Sociology" as follows:

"It is by means of this imaginative idea that [people] now hope to grasp what is going on in the world, and to understand what is happening in themselves as minute points of the interactions of biography and history within society."

In laying out The Promise, Mills takes great care to note that the sociological imagination is a "quality of mind," not restricted to sociologists, nor even to scholars. It should be carried forth by a variety of people. This, to me, is the calling of sociology.

For purposes of institutional survival, our discipline needs to be professionalized, and graduate students must therefore be professionally socialized. But socialization into sociology as a discipline as opposed to professionalization discussed above makes us feel uncomfortable. The creation and dissemination of knowledge is research but a part of what we as sociologists should be about. And when that part is mistaken for the whole, the calling of sociology is stillborn (Halvad, 1992:32).

Notes

1. Wolfgang Streeck raised this possible distinction with me in a personal conversation in 1990. He has not endorsed the usage of the distinction. Thus, he deserves any credit which this distinction merits; however, a number of sociologists have endorsed it. Harvey Goldman (1980) has argued that it is the Weberian contrast that has become the one most discussed in the literature on the sociology of the professions.

References


ASA's Candidate Slate

Our professional associations have a curious ambiguity of power: putting together slates of nominations. The nominating committee identifies a list of suitable candidates, names them, and gender-biaises the list, offering the opportunity to run for the positions the candidates. The first two who agree then run.

Such a process does not create an opportunity to "balance" a slate, not for geographic areas, research areas, qualitative/quantitative methodologists, race, ethnicity or gender. It has created years—and years and years—of all males nominees for the top offices. And now we have a slate where the four top nominees, for president and vice-president, are all women, and all noted and respected feminists.

We have, as an organization, found this system to be too often not good for all, the nominees do represent the leadership of the organization with a balance of gender over a period of years, and change occurring equally slowly.

It would seem that we are now going to have a feminist leadership for the coming year. Unless the rumors I've been hearing are without foundation, it is clear that this slate is an "unbailed" and "unrepresentative slate", and we need petition candidates to right the situation.

Petition candidates brought in to honor the unjustly neglected are one thing. Petition candidates brought in to subvert the process are something else altogether.

Let us not resort to those kinds of politi- cal ploys. Let us trust the members and our processes as well as our chosen candidates.

Barbara Katz Rothman, City University of New York

Some Questions About Confidentiality

We should question whether our professional associations have the power to require members' adherence to near-absolute confidentiality. Ethics. When the ASA Codified Ethics as Amicus Curiae on its "Limited" and "Unfair" privilege to protect confidentiality. Yet, our Code of Ethics says, without qualification, "members of organizations are entitled to rights of "confidentiality" and to the right to non-disclosure of information." (Section 1.3.3.) And, "Confidential information provided by research participants, including but not limited to such as sociologists, even when this infor- mation is not subject to legal privilege or legal protection in other contexts, is privileged and confidential." (Section 1.4.7.) The Code thus claims an absolute right to control confidential data and an absolute responsibility to respondents who provide such data. In fact, however, when the ASA Code, ASA Council, and I tell oth- ers the obligation to protect respondents at all costs to respondents we are disgraced or, more likely, overwriting the bounds of legitimate claim. We have rights to publish (responsibly) what we wish, but we have no obligation to keep everything we wish.

Abbot, in The System of Professions (Univer- sity of Chicago, 1988), makes the point that there is no natural right to any obvious rights inhered in any profession. Only through social arrangement, institutional agreements and legal legitimation do professions exist at all. Only through such arrangements, agreements, and legitima- tions can professions claim whatever rights they claim.

Sociologists, particularly, claim near-absolute protection rights. We claim we know how best to protect respondents, that we should be able to knowledge about any respondents that interests us (as long as, by some standards, the probability of harm is nearly zero), and that we are uniquely positioned to know that whatever we learn in our quest for knowledge is more valu- able to society than others' claims. I wish these things were true. But just as I'm suspecting conventions of law and the use of social science for nefarious purposes I can't help but look at a bit of evidence at our own offices, making claims on behalf of our members, asserting, basically, that it knows the public interest. Perhaps our confidentiality rights should be conferred through a democratic process of deliberation, and not that it's true. Presently, we try to establish these rights through lob- bying courts, trying to get the judiciary to buy into the argument that 100 Lit. Journi- nists, covered by the Constitution. Filing legal briefs is fine, but I'd also like to see the ASAs involved with other, civically. In pro- fessional associations, for sure, and we might propose new legislation that could be debated sought out, and hopefully pass.

My own story illustrates the contradic- tions in our claims. In the early 1980s I researched organizational and political reactions to a case of toxic chemical con- tamination in upstate New York (Acceptable Risk, Univ. of CA Press, 1988). Once, I was told of activities that might have illu- minated the activity could vary in this prob- lem, recently discussed in The Chronicle of Higher Education, of funding higher educa- tion at a national level. The article by Joyce Mercer and El- Lively on "Higher Education and the States" (Chronicle, January 5, 1996) raise the very significant national issue of higher education becoming a quickly shrinking part of state budgets because it is not pro- tected through legislative mandate, are several other parts of state budgets. In Cali- fornia, it is subject to Proposition 98 which guar- antees 40 percent of the state budget to grades K-12. (Kindergarteners through Com- munity College), but not the University of California and University of California State System of higher education. UC and CSU are part of the rapidly evaporating unprotected 15 percent of the budget, which have recently left these two systems of higher education unfunded by the 21st century.

Since other states have a similar prob- lem, I suggest a two-fold approach to a needed solution. First, all states should push for a constitutional amendment similar to the Constitution of California which amends all of public higher education— that is, the UC and CSU systems—in the guaranteed funding of Proposition 98, without taking money away from grades K-14. Those who are in favor of ACA 25—similar legislation—should write and call their representatives in the state Assembly, Senate, and Gover- nor's office. This will be useful for states outside in this approach.

In addition, there should be a national focus, as in the Senate of American University of California, in the education. In particular, a portion of the U.S. federal budget should be guar- anteed for higher education nationally. This is an ACA 25 approach at the national level. In American higher education is a world- renown public resource that is essential to the national well-being, and it should be funded as such. Sociology would do well to take the lead in organizing this funding, especially since the current Codification of Footnotes points to a renewed influence of sociology in the Clinton White House.

James L. Wood, Chair, San Diego State Uni- versity

Full Papers in Advance? No.

Barry Wellman's article, "Blame Raps: Daydreams of a Weary Conference," in the May, Footnotes was superb. As a soci- ologist who has worked in non-academic settings for 23 years, I found his advice refreshing. After attending the ASA Annual Meeting every year from 1969 to 1984, I now rarely attend. In large part, it is not going forward at the meeting. Professor Wellman, i.e., poorly focused, directly read papers by four or five presenters who take every minute of the session allowing no time for discussion.

While I heartily embrace Pro- fessor Wellman's critique, there is one point with which I strongly disagree. His first point is that presenters should demand papers in advance. This reflects an academic model that ultimately comprises all presentations and excludes sociologists whose work is not so directly linked to publica- tion. It seems to assume that one or two annual meetings per year whose presentations are refined for subsequent publica- tion. I made approximately 20 presentations a year at professional meet- ings, agency briefings, writing group meetings, and the like. I accept almost no invitations, if they require a paper be writ- ten. I want to spend my time doing research, planning my pre- sentation and creating a set of overheads that facilitate communicating my findings and implications. I do not want to spend my time writing a paper. Why should I if I am not going to publish most of the presentations I deliver. I want my presentation to be as current as possible, not ideas and data written six months previously.

I firmly believe that if presenters fol- low the other 13 suggestions Professor Wellman's, the need for pre-conference written papers would be fully obviated. The demand for pre-conference papers is anachronistic reflecting a tradi- tional mode of operation counterproduc- tive for optimum communication in today's world.

Henry J. Stein, President, Policy Research Associates

Contemporary Sociology, New Editor & New Orientation?

On the editorial page of the July issue of the CS we read the somewhat melano- cholic sentence "that the half-time is over and Ken Edwards is waiting pro- posals for the nomination for the next edi- tor.

See Open Forum, page 9
TAGGE, from page 2

Senator William Garmsen, "Reactions to the TAGGE Report" (August, 1990). Both documents are available by writing to GAYA Report, ASA Executive Office, 1722 N Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20036.

1. Sociologists as producers of unpopular causes

"Our image among legislators and trustees," the TAGGE Report observes, "is that of producers of unpopular causes." Administrators, the report suggests, offers see sociology departments as centers of political radicalism and this antagonizes more conservative administrators. The TAGGE Report suggests that "Deans too often ask, 'What is I am going to do with sociology?'" The answer they fear is to excise the source of pain. "Do we mean to imply," gamers asks, "that those among us who are critical should sit down and shut up?" If there are some sociologists who define part of their role as "comforting the afflicted and affecting the comfortable," is this not a proper and even desirable role for sociologists to play? Deans are sometimes appointed who have their own ideological conservative agendas. "Do we mean to imply," he asks, "that sociologists should adapt to the political line of administrators?"

2. Sociology's legitimating claim as a science

The TAGGE Report suggests that the emergence of postivist views within sociology has undermined the methods and research strategies that the discipline needs for its legitimization as a science. One result, they argue, is "the emergence of an anti-sociology coalition within some of the older humanist fields, which helps to account for some of sociology's weakness in the Ivy League."

"Disenters observe that hostility to sociology among humanists, especially among the Ivy League, predates the recent emergence of criticism of the dominant research methods and the arrogance related to sociology's claims (the humanists would say 'pretensions') to being a science. The spread and growth of these alternative traditions in sociology has helped to build bridges to the humanities rather than anti-sociology coalitions."

3. Departmental governance

The TAGGE Report raises concerns about "an extreme ideology of democracy that permits generalizations about decision-making on faculty recruitment and administrative needs." Although they report that 90 percent of graduate programs require comprehensive exams and more than three-quarters require research methods, they are concerned that graduate student pressure will or already has eroded standards. "Given the choice," they write, "a sizable majority of the sociological community would opt for a less structured program with fewer courses in quantitative methods, notwithstanding that most students who reluctantly go through a tough program later endorse it." The TAGGE Report recommends the elimination of graduate student membership on curriculum committees or other committees that establish, oversee, or significantly affect graduate programs.

Garmsen, in his dissent, questions the extent of student participation in governance, the characterization of student demands, and the relevance of this issue for departmental vulernability. "My experiences," he argues, "is that students are generally motivated to learn what they think will be helpful to them in their undergraduate careers and want a high-demand environment rather than a laissez faire one." To point to the modes of student participation in departmental governance that present itself as a source of vulnerability, "is shaming and the reflection of a conservative backlash that has nothing to do with the problems we face."

4. Joint appointments

The TAGGE Report, while granting the intellectual merit of interdisciplinarity, worries about the vulnerability of a department with many joint appointments. Since faculty with joint appointments can be shifted to other units, this makes it easier to "fire" such a unit. Joint appointments, however, can be double-edged. While they make it easier to dismiss a department administratively, they also make it more difficult politically. Joint appointments help to build alliances and achieve a department more vulnerable than political isolation.

5. Defining a core

Sociology's central core, the TAGGE Report suggests, is social organization, demography, and social stratification. The fragmentation of the field and the lack of a clearly specified core contribute to sociology's vulnerability. Hence, the importance of recognizing and specifying what it is. In short, there is no consensus on this, or any other substantive core and one cannot establish it by exhortation or by deploying its absence. Furthermore, there are alternative ways of thinking about the substantive core of the field. The 90 percent of departments that require comprehensive exams are likely to have a high agreement on the inclusion of basic theoretical traditions, especially those flowing from Marx, Durkheim, Weber, and the utilitarians. We underscore the consensus in our field when we define it in terms of the more traditional fields such as stratification and demography.

The TAGGE Report includes many insightful observations and recommendations on which there is substantial consensus. We have singled out the points of controversy that we feel our purpose here is to stimulate discussion and dialogue where no consensus exists. Agree or disagree, we all owe a vote of thanks to TAGGE for raising these issues.

Editor's note: The ASA Council accepted the TAGGE Report with appreciation, but without approving it as an official document of the Association. The Council has concluded to discuss the state of graduate education and ask faculty and departmental leaders to consider making revisions to the program in a timely way, preparing students for teaching roles. As these examples are identified and written up, so that other departments might learn from this, the committee will announce their availability.

Thank You!

The ASA recognizes the following colleagues who provided contributions to the American Sociological Foundation, the Minority Fellowship Program, the Teaching Endowment Fund, and COSSA:

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Gladys D. Spitzer
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Elie You
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Can Sociologists Study Personality?

A problem for the field of sociology is the issue of personality. Personality can be defined as relatively stable individual differences within the same person. Sociologists have defined their field as involving social structural, and the like. For example, in a non-white family, one kid becomes a criminal and one kid does not. A personality explanation seems more appropriate than the sociological explanations. I suggest that sociologists be out front in embracing personality as an explanatory variable. Otherwise, sociologists will be either missing out on what is going on in the real world or missing personality explanations altogether.

Russell Eisenman, McMinn State University

The proliferation of symposia and features of personality is certainly not what the editor moves the author's responses from the first section of the journal to the end and instead republish it by a new rubric, the Editor's editorial.

The proliferation of symposia and features of personality is certainly not what the editor moves the author's responses from the first section of the journal to the end and instead republish it by a new rubric, the Editor's editorial.
Mass Media, continued

for a January 15 Marketplace (American Public Affairs) study on the emerging information superhighway. Rebecca Black, Criminal justice, and Richard R. Sakwa, Pennsylvania University, had the findings on their study on gangs, drugs, violence, and bias in the Washington Post; November 29, 1992.

Alvin Rosoff, Emory University and Douglas B. Sexton, University of Georgia, were quoted on the culture shock that accompanies immigration from urban to rural areas in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution; May 16.

Muriel G. Cantor, American University, was quoted in the Boston Globe on the Trial trial.

Louis Corwin, Cornell University-River Firest, was the subject of a Chicago Tribune article on teaching and practicing sociology.

Francis T. Cullen, University of Cincinnati, was quoted in the Cincinnati Enquirer in a story on a program to exchange toys for guns.

F. James Davis appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show on February 8, 1994, in connection with his book, ‘Who’s Black?, published in 1991 by The Free Press. This show dealt with personal experiences of race and ethnicity, as defined by the U.S. one-drop rule.

Paule J. Dabrowicz, University of Cincinnati, was quoted in a story on race and employment opportunities.

David K. Duncan, a research fellow at Brown University’s Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies, debuted Rhode Island’s state “drug card,” Adm. Paul Healey over the legalization of the currently illegal drugs. The debate was broadcast January 25 as part of the series “On” on Public Television station WJAR. A post-debate poll of listeners showed that 90 percent of the respondents agreed with Dabrowicz’s argument for legalization.

Samia El-Bady, international Demographic and Economic Associates, had a
cover story on “The Arab American Habitat” in American Demographics. Following the interviews with the Detroit News and a broadcast to the Middle East on the Voice of America.

The late Alphonse Davis, University of Chicago, will be pictured on a commemorative stamp to be issued in the Black Heritage series, on sale February 2, as reported in the Chicago Sun-Times, January 10.

Kleenex Brand, Luxco, a company, was interviewed January 18 on WRIR

Rachel G. Freeman, University of Chicago in Chicago’s Rogers Park neighborhood.

Pierrette Huguenot-Soto, University of Southern California, was quoted in the Los Angeles Times in August, September, and November, 1993, about reports on racial violence, hatred for Latino immigrant workers, and about the ignored backwash in California.

Mary Jo Kane, University of Minnesota, was quoted in the Princeton Post in an article about violence in sports.

Ronald Kaslow, University of Michigan, was quoted by the Christian Science Monitor in the Sunday, September 19, 1993, issue on health care.

Stephen Klineberg, Rice University; Gary Klein, and Eilijah Anderson, University of Pennsylvania, were quoted on the link between guns and violence in the “Up in Arms” Time magazine, December 20, 1993.

Mauro Kniel, sociologist, was quoted in a December 29, 1993, story in the New York Times.

Robert H. Lauer and Jannetje C. Loos, United States International University, have recently been interviewed on a panel in Chicago, on diversity throughout the U.S. about their new book, “How Much Haney is Good for Your Marriage?”

Penry Long Marler, Samford University; Ethel West, University of Oregon; in go, and William McKisic, Hartford Seminary, were quoted in the Washington Post, January 9, 1994, on their views on the loosening of religious ties in the younger generations.

Susan McDonald, University of Alberta, and Roderic Beaniot, University of Western Ontario, were quoted in a January 17 Maclean’s magazine story on the increasing number of people living alone.

Richard Menon, Mount Holyoke, was interviewed on NNBF about voices over the radio.

Nancy Osgood, Medical College of Virginia, was interviewed on All Things Considered about a depressed and suicidal patient.

Maureen Pelizzar, McGill University, was interviewed in the National Post about the success of the Blue Quelletes in Canada.

Ali Reza, Yale University, was quoted in the Washington Post, January 3, 1994, about the increase in fear of violence from the general public.

Jane E. Salk, Duke University, was interviewed for a feature article in the January 1994 edition of World’s Asiatics International on reasons for the failure of the Yakuza-Martells merger.


Barbara Streisand, Auburn University, was quoted in the December 18 Alumni Review about the national All-Pro Football Team by The Chicago Tribune.

William Wilson and Douglas Masse, University of Chicago, and Allen Moses, Northeastern University, were quoted in the January 30, 1994, story, as being speakers at a symposium in Chicago on the economic and social progress among blacks.

William Julius Wilson, University of Chicago, was featured in People magazine, January 17, in an interview.

People

Keren Belse has been appointed to the editorial Board of the Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences. The Board is now selecting key sociological texts to be translated into Russian with funding from the Soros Foundation, Kevin is only non-Russian on the Editorial Board.

Judith K. Baer is the new Director of Medical Economics and Data Analysis at the Health Insurance Plan (HIP) of Greater New York.

E.M. Beck has been appointed as head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Phillip Besserer, Salisbury University, has accepted a position in a
women’s university in Himitoma to introduce the discipline of sociology and also work with the President to set up a college of intercultural studies.

Muriel G. Cantor, American University, is the President-elect of the Sociologists for Women in Society.

Peter Conklin, Adelphi University, is now Assistant Professor there.

Rogier Driedh, CLS, spoke on the University of Chicago, October 28 on “The Crisis in Bosnia,” sponsored by the University of Chicago chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America.

Denise A. Donnelly, formerly with the Family Research Laboratory at the University of New Hampshire, joined the Department of Sociology at Georgia State University.

James Hanson has joined the Department of Sociology at Wellesley College.

Choshik Saha Boum Kamara, human rights activist and promoter of sociology at the University of Yarmouk Museum, was unconditionally released from prison on January 24, 1994. He was questioned about his activities as a human rights activist, and therefore, considereed by Amnesty International a prisoner of conscience.

Julian Kirschenschon has joined the Department of Sociology at the University of Georgia.

Charles Kramer joined the Department of Sociology at Georgia State University.

John Miesvsky and Catherine Ross joined the Department of Sociology at Ohio State University.

Patricia Yacov Martin is a Yelling Scholar in the Department of Sociology, at Ohio State University for the 1993-1994 academic year.

Rachel A. Rosenfeld became the first Anne H. Haggard Professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. This is a chair recognizing outstanding mid-career faculty.

Bury Schwartz has returned to the University of Georgia after spending the academic year at the National Humanities Center at Research Triangle, NC.

Earl Smith, Pacific Lutheran University, has been appointed Dean, Division of Social Sciences at PLU.

Frank J. Whittington returned to the Department of Sociology at Georgia State University in September from a two-year assignment with the National Institute on Aging where he managed the Federal Task Force on Aging research.

“Glasser provides us with a vivid and compelling portrait of the ways in which people manage the problems brought by the economic uncertainties of our time, the impact of these realties on family life, and of the changing work ethic.” — Lillian R. Rubin

Event History Analysis
July 25 - 29, 1994 Philadelphia

A comprehensive course on applied regression analysis of longitudinal event data. Topics include censoring, accelerated failure time models, proportional hazards models, time-varying explanatory variables, competing risks, repeated events, discrete-time methods, unobserved heterogeneity, and consequences of events. Participants get hands-on practice with the SAS procedures LIFEREG and 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," in 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.

For Further Information
Contact Paul D. Allison, 3718 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6299; 215-899-6717, ALLISON@J@JU.EDU, POP.UPENN.EDU. Fees are $250, $225, $200 for students, and faculty.

“While this is the first conference of its kind, we hope it will serve as a model for future conferences in the field." — Susan M. Kittinger

Continued on next page.
Obituaries, continued

in 1946 and continued there until 1953, when she moved to the Brooklyn Civic Center, a spot she had
bricked an automobile on Beach Street.
Aunt Edna's daughter, Eile of Berlin, is a brother of Bessie Baldwin, 20, and a cousin of Evan New-
Minutes, continued

amended. Carried. 

Mr. Friedlander announced August 15, 1985 at 4:40 a.m. by President William granddaughter

Meeting Council - Joan Arne, Walter Alton, Margaret Anderson, Earl Ballard, Janet Barnhill, John Barnhill, Peter Barnes, Nancy Barnett, Richard B 19R. Sun, Sara McLaughlin, Alejandro Portes, Bill Quinlan, Rose Marie Ramirez, Michael Reasoner, Allen Reasoner, ASA Staff - Jerri Lee, Curtis Hower, Howard Hower, AASWANA Staff - Michael Nunn, John Nunn, Michael Nunn. Council recommended the meeting by considering business carried over from the previous day’s meeting to be continued, to the beginning of the next meeting.

Motion: To accept the 1983-1984 budget for the Society for the Seization of Children as presented. 

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Committee on Publications

The Committee on Publications received the report of the liaison to the Executive Office and discussed the distribution of publications. The Committee on Publications recommended the following changes to the budget: (a) to increase the number of pages in the journal, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

2. Membership Committee

William Johannson reported on the Membership Committee's work in the past year. The Committee on Membership received the report with little discussion. The Committee on Membership recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of student members, (b) to increase the number of international members, and (c) to decrease the number of life members.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

3. Committee on Nominations

The Committee on Nominations recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

4. Committee on Awards

The Committee on Awards recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of awards, (b) to increase the number of nominees for each award, and (c) to decrease the number of committees.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

5. Committee on Budget

The Committee on Budget recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of pages in the budget, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

6. Committee on Student Affairs

The Committee on Student Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

7. Committee on Professional Affairs

The Committee on Professional Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

8. Committee on Administrative Affairs

The Committee on Administrative Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

9. Committee on Education

The Committee on Education recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

10. Committee on Public Affairs

The Committee on Public Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

11. Committee on Publications

The Committee on Publications recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of pages in the journal, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

12. Committee on Awards

The Committee on Awards recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of awards, (b) to increase the number of nominees for each award, and (c) to decrease the number of committees.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

13. Committee on Budget

The Committee on Budget recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of pages in the budget, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

14. Committee on Student Affairs

The Committee on Student Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

15. Committee on Professional Affairs

The Committee on Professional Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

16. Committee on Administrative Affairs

The Committee on Administrative Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

17. Committee on Education

The Committee on Education recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

18. Committee on Public Affairs

The Committee on Public Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

19. Committee on Publications

The Committee on Publications recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of pages in the journal, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

20. Committee on Awards

The Committee on Awards recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of awards, (b) to increase the number of nominees for each award, and (c) to decrease the number of committees.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

21. Committee on Budget

The Committee on Budget recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of pages in the budget, (b) to increase the number of issues per year, and (c) to decrease the number of subscriptions.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

22. Committee on Student Affairs

The Committee on Student Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

23. Committee on Professional Affairs

The Committee on Professional Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

24. Committee on Administrative Affairs

The Committee on Administrative Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

25. Committee on Education

The Committee on Education recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

26. Committee on Public Affairs

The Committee on Public Affairs recommended the following changes: (a) to increase the number of positions on the Council, (b) to increase the number of nominations for each position, and (c) to decrease the number of elections.

Motion: To approve the budget. Carried.

Classified Ads

Edited. Specializing in social sciences in total, having 10,000 articles for purchase. Magazine, newsletter, and print ads. Particularly strong in anthropology and sociology. Published three times a year. Per year. Contact: Mr. John Doe, 123 Main Street, P.O. Box 999, Anytown, USA 12345, Phone: (123) 456-7890, Fax: (123) 456-7891, Email: anytown@anytown.com.

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1. A used textbook on the Sociological Imagination by C. Wright Mills. The book is in excellent condition and includes all case studies. Price: $25. Contact: Mr. John Smith, 456 Main Street, Anytown, USA 12345, Phone: (123) 456-7890, Fax: (123) 456-7891, Email: johnsmith@anytown.com.

2. A research paper on the impact of social media on interpersonal relationships. The paper is 30 pages long and includes a comprehensive literature review. Price: $50. Contact: Ms. Jane Doe, 789 Main Street, Anytown, USA 12345, Phone: (123) 456-7890, Fax: (123) 456-7891, Email: janedoe@anytown.com.

3. A personal ad for a sociologist looking for a position in the field of social policy. The ad includes a brief summary of qualifications and experience. Price: $20. Contact: Mr. Henry Brown, 908 Main Street, Anytown, USA 12345, Phone: (123) 456-7890, Fax: (123) 456-7891, Email: henrybrown@anytown.com.
ASA to Offer Role of the Chair Workshops at Spring 1994 Regional Meetings

Please join us for one of the new "Role of the Chair Workshops" to be held in conjunction with regional sociological society meetings this spring. These interactive workshops provide an excellent opportunity for current chairs or chairs-elect to meet with each other and share ideas, as well as to take advantage of resources available through the national association. Spring 1994 workshops are scheduled for:

- **Southern Sociological Society (SSS), Raleigh, North Carolina**
  - Thursday, April 7, 1:00-4:30 p.m.

- **North Central Sociological Association (NCSA), Columbus, Ohio**
  - Friday, April 15, 10:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m.

**Fees—Sliding scale:**
- Graduate Departments, $45
- Undergraduate Departments, $35
- Two-Year Colleges, $25
- Fees include a breakfast or light lunch, mid-morning coffee, and materials.
- 10% discount for ASA Department Affiliates
- Registration fees are due at the time of registration.

**Regional Roles of the Chair Workshops**

The role of the chair of a department is critical. The traditional one-day workshop held by the ASA Annual Meeting, the NCSA workshop will be conducted by ASA Executive Officer Felice J. Levine and Director of the Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP) Janet Mancini Billson. Dr. Levine will conduct the SSS workshop.


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**New Employment Bulletin Information Line**

Call (202) 833-8569

24 hours a day for recorded information on placing listings in the ASA Employment Bulletin

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**ASA Advantage**

**ChairLink**

ChairLink is a new ASA service that facilitates communication between ASA and over 2,000 sociology departments, divisions, and related organizations in the United States and Canada. Department Affiliates are automatically entered as subscribers to ChairLink, which functions to communicate: information on fellowships, grants, and research funding opportunities; public affairs actions that merit a timely response; information on issues that affect all departments including updates on status of departments and strategies for strengthening departments; information on curriculum development; information and calls for support in cases involving protection of academic freedom and research subjects; and other information of a timely nature.

For further information about ChairLink or the Department Affiliate Program, contact Janet Mancini Billson at the ASA Executive Office, (202) 833-3410, x317 or x318.

Membership in ASA benefits you!

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**ASA Teaching Workshop on Outcomes Assessment for Undergraduate Sociology**

**Date:** June 11-15, 1994

**Location:** Washington, DC

**Staff:**
- William Johnson, Arizona State University
- Carla Howrey, ASA; Steven Shanks, Alverno College

**Participants Will:**
- Review aspects of the national assessment movement as a context for improving undergraduate sociology teaching and curriculum development
- Explore various approaches to defining and implementing outcomes assessment in individual courses and across the department
- Discus some successful assessment experiences in sociology from around the country
- Work on specific assessment plans or instruments for their own settings
- Discuss the role sociologists can play in outcomes assessment work locally and nationally
- Attend a national meeting to learn about trends in other disciplines, in institutions similar to yours

**Contact:** Dr. Jeanne Ballantine, Department of Sociology, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435; (513) 873-2667

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**If you haven’t renewed your ASA membership for 1994, do so today to receive the election ballot!**

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**Footnotes**

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Managing Editor: Carla R. Howrey
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Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words and must have journalistic value (i.e., timeliness, significa ce, general interest) rather than be research-oriented or wholly in nature. Submissions will be reviewed by the editors based on positive publication. "Open Forum" contributions are limited to 800 words; "Letters to the Editor" 400 words; "Departments" announcements, 200 words. Accepted material will appear one time only on a space basis. ASA reserves the right to edit for style and length; material published. The deadline for all material is the first month preceding publication (i.e., April 1 for May issue).

Send communications on materials, subscriptions, and advertising to: American Sociological Association, 777 South Tenth Street, Washington, DC 20001; (202) 833-5103, 2027471; APASONLINE

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