1997 Annual Meeting
Immigration and Toronto's "Stylish New Personality"

by Jeffrey G. Reitz, University of Toronto, and Janet M. D. Lloyd, Polytechnic University

One of Toronto's most striking characteristics today is the sheer ethnic diversity of its population. And because of Canada's historically open immigration policy, this diversity has increased. No longer often the city's main tourist destinations, the North American's most vibrant cities.

Toronto's population—grown to four million and now larger than all but seven U.S. urban centers—is 38 percent foreign born, more than New York, Los Angeles, or San Francisco. The founding British-origin population has been reduced to the status of one minority among many. Ethnic diversity was heralded as Toronto's major attraction in the June 1996 National Geographic, which observed that "With its striking cultural mix and a stylish new personality, this once island metropolis breaks into the urban major leagues."

Expansive immigration has been changing Toronto for many decades. In the early post-World War II years, huge numbers of Italians, Poles, Greeks, Hungarians, and others swelled the population. Even today, most of the European-origin groups in Toronto still have majorities of immigrants. When immigration policies changed in the 1960s to eliminate European preferences, Canada shifted its expansionary policy under which it became an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development leader in overall population growth. The impact on Toronto has been drastic, because as many as half of all immigrants to Canada find their way to Toronto.

About 70 percent of these recent immigrants have come from Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Africa. Toronto is now home to more than 100 different ethnic-racial groups. Toronto is likely to become even more diverse as immigration continues. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's Liberal government promised to boost immigration to one percent of the population per year, about 350,000 persons, as an economic stimulus. Current immigration levels of about two-thirds of 1% are still roughly triple the U.S. immigration rate on a per capita basis. The previous Conservative government of Brian Mulroney had maintained somewhat higher levels, for similar economic reasons.

The cultural polyphony is visible everywhere in the city, and is everywhere growing and changing. Visitors marvel at the vitality of ethnic neighborhoods layered throughout the city, with congestion and expanding suburbs. A flavor of this cultural landscape can be found in Jan Caudle's article.

See Toronto, page 9

ASdA Members to Vote on Revised Ethics Code

ASA members will have an opportunity to vote on a revised Code of Ethics as part of the Spring ballot. The revised Code presents principles and ethical standards that underlie sociologists' responsibilities and conduct and provides guidance on how to handle issues related to professional activities. The current ASA Code was revised and adopted in 1989. The Code sets a standard for all sociologists and is binding on all members.

"The revision does more than 'update' the current Code," said John Kennedy, co-chair of ASA's Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), which undertook the revised Code's drafting. "It seeks to provide more specific guidelines on ethical issues, but it primarily seeks to educate. That is, the new Code explains ethical issues more fully and clearly."

The proposed Code will be mailed to ASA members by May 15 along with the Spring ballot. It can be also viewed on ASA's homepage at http://www.asanet.org.

The proposed Code includes an introduction, a preamble, five general principles, and specific ethical standards. The Code is accompanied by COPE's Rules and Procedures, which were prepared by ASA's Committee on Professional Ethics.

1997-98 Candidates Announced for ASA Officers

In accordance with election policies adopted by Council in 1989, only the biographical sketches for top office candidates for 1997-98 will appear in Footnotes. The sketches and pictures of all candidates will be printed as a supplement and mailed with the election ballot. The biographical sketches appear below in alphabetical order by office.

President-Elect

Walter R. Allen


Alejandro Portes

Present Position: Professor, Princeton University (1997-present); Former Position: John Dewey Professor of Sociology and International Relations (1997-98). The Johns Hopkins University: Professor, Duke University (1978-80); Associate Professor of Sociology and Latin American Studies, University of Texas-Austin (1974-78); Educational: PhD (1979) and MA (1975), University of California-Los Angeles, MA (1975); University of Wisconsin, MA (1970). Office Hold in Other Organizations: Academic Advisory Board, Latin American Studies (1980--present); Editor, Latin American Social Science Review (1994-present); Sociology Panel, National Science Foundation (1994-present). See Candidates, page 6

See Candidates, page 6

Published By The American Sociological Association

Strolling through Toronto’s Caribbean Festival

See Ethics, page 7
The Executive Officer’s Column

ASA’s Sections: The Vitality of Its Parts

Sections are such a vital part of the life of the Association that we assume they have been part of ASA for a long time, and indeed, that is the case. As stated by Lawrence J. Rhoads in "A History of the American Sociological Association 1965-1980, "The formation of Sections began in 1921 (sixteen years after the formation of ASA) when Dwight Sanderson, Cornell University, Chair of the Rural Sociology Group, informed the Executive Committee that his group wanted to become a Section of the Society. The Secretary of the Social Research Group also requested Section status (page 15)." Both requests were approved. The original purpose of sections was to cooperate with the Program Committee in planning the Annual Meeting. By 1930, the program for the Annual Meeting listed the following Sections: Rural Sociology, Social Statistics, Educational Sociology, Teaching of Sociology, Community Sociology, Sociology of Religion, Family Sociology and Social Work, and Sociology and Psychiatry.

Over the years, sections have grown in number, richness of function, and quality of activities. Twenty years ago, ASA included 16 sections, growing to 27 a decade ago, and today, there are 56 sections and two sections in formation with a total of 15,545 members. In 1996, 8,187 ASA members (or 62 percent) belonged to at least one section. The topics of 1930 have expanded to include Sociology of Children, Sociology and Computers, Rational Choice, International Migration, Race, Gender and Class, and Sociology of Sexualities, and others.

It is precisely the fluidity and vitality of sections that reveal their value to our membership and our common enterprise. While sections continue to play an important part in substantive planning for Annual Meetings, over the years sections have broadened their role in enriching the discipline and specialty areas. For example, in 1996, the Section on Medical Sociology undertook a vigorous reexamination of the challenges and opportunities faced by medical sociology. With a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, section members recently won a report based on an agenda-setting focus group meeting of medical sociologists, a conference held immediately before the 1996 Annual Meeting, and discussions at the session business meeting. Another example is the education policy conferences organized by the Section on Sociology of Education which resulted in broad participation among sociologists, educators, and policy makers. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the section held these conferences and prepared a special issue of Sociology of Education (1996) on Sociology and Educational Policy: Bringing Scholarship and Practice Together. These are just two examples of the innovative activities undertaken by sections in recent years.

I have often marveled at and appreciated the ways that sections work within and for the good of the Association, and the discipline as a whole. As our associations have struggled with subgroups "splitting off," or operate as a federation of smaller units, sociologists have managed to express their commitment to the whole discipline, as well as their specialized interests. The result is that scholarship, teaching, and quality mentoring in sociology are being enriched.

In early 1996, the ASA leadership decided to revisit how to nurture the functioning of sections and their health within the Association—a decision welcomed by section officers and members, the Section Board, the Committee on Sections, the Committee on Executive Office and Budget (EOB), and Council. The purpose of this effort was to: (1) enhance the financial, administrative, and governance operations of sections in ways that are beneficial to sections, to the Association, and to the discipline; (2) advance the discipline by nurturing subfields of sociology through sections in ASA; (3) promote communication and coordination within the ASA. The Committee on Sections, EOB, and the Executive Office took the lead, and a year-long period of open and collaborative process unfolded with input from section members and officers. Over many months, followed by periods of discussions and comment, the Committee on Sections and EOB prepared a report for Council’s review. In January, Council approved a set of recommended guidelines which will be distributed to section officers and integrated into a revised Section Manual. Interested members may obtain a copy from the Executive Office.

The following provides just a few of the illustrations of how much attention has been directed to strengthening sections:

- Sections will be given a discretionary budget previously earmarked for newsletters. Section officers will be responsible for managing the budget and use the resources consistent with the goals of the sections and guidelines of ASA.
- ASA will conduct the first integrated election for all sections as part of the ASA general election this May to enhance confidence and reflect timely reporting, and reduce work for sections.
- The Section Manual will be revised and made more comprehensive and "user-friendly" to better serve the discipline and all of its constituent parts.
- Sections will be encouraged to make recommendations to Council regarding policy positions so the Association can speak as a single organization in matters of public policy in accordance with ASA procedures and guidelines. Council will examine its current process to ensure that it can act on sections’ recommendations in a timely manner.
- The formation and continuation of sections will be determined by the same criteria (that is, the number of section members) and qualitative consideration of the strength and vitality of a section and the subfield, and its relationship to others (ongoing or emergent areas) and to the Association as a whole.

As these examples signal, the primary objective of these new guidelines is directed to encouraging sections to continue their innovative and important work. While the guidelines provide a framework within which sections operate, the policies are meant to be enabling. Sections are integral parts of ASA. The Association wants its sections to bloom and prosper in order to stimulate leadership, enhance teaching, support its next generations, offer a smaller "home" for members of a large organization, and ensure a vital Annual Meeting program. While the number and names of sections have changed since 1921, we hope the new guidelines for sections will usher in their full maturity—Felice J. Levine
At NSF…

“Cold Spots” Offer Sociologists Some “Warm Opportunities”

Carole Seyfried sits behind a desk at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Arlington, Virginia, but spends everyday further north. Much further.

Seyfried is program director of NSF's Arctic Social Sciences Program (ASSP), and as far as she is concerned, the polar region is a gold mine of sociological opportunity. So where are they, Seyfried wonders. Where are her colleagues from sociology?

Read Seyfried’s body language, and it is readily apparent that the question causes more than an occasional bout of frustration.

During an interview, Seyfried pulls from the shell the NSF booklet that describes the ASSP’s mission statement. She begins reading in an excised, expanded form:

“Interdisciplinary research themes of particular concern are rapid social change, community viability, and human-environment interactions.” Seyfried looks up from the booklet. “That’s us! That’s sociology!”

In July, Seyfried expects to finish her one-year service as program director and return to her position as Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology/Criminology at Old Dominion University.

With a PhD in Sociology from the University of Maryland, Seyfried is an active member of the ASA and its Section on Environment and Technology.

Seyfried views her current assignment as yet another opportunity of the diverse opportunities that the Arctic Social Sciences Program affords to sociologists. In 1991 and as an assistant professor at Mississippi State University, she received a $300,000 NSF grant for her research on the effects of social change on the aspirations of rural youth in Alaska.

In line with those interests, Seyfried was awarded a larger grant—$453,366—by NSF in 1994 for a five-year longitudinal study comparing adolescent aspirations and young adult outcomes in three rural Alaska Native communities. It was in the course of that research that the program director of ASSP (an archaeologist) asked her to fill his position while he took a sabbatical leave at the University of Umea in Sweden.

The problem, says Seyfried, is that she is among the very few sociologists to have benefited from the program. In the six years of the program’s existence, only a small handful of sociologists have applied for funding. While the program—one of three arctic science programs located in NSF’s Office of Polar Programs—maintains a budget of slightly more than $1.5 million, nearly 80 percent of grants go to archaeologists and anthropologists. That reflects the number of proposals we get from those disciplines, she adds.

Other sociological projects funded by the program include Steve Picou’s (University of South Alabama) study on the social impacts of the Exxon Valdez oil spill and Larry Hamilton’s (University of New Hampshire) comparative study on human adaptation to large-scale ecological change in North Atlantic fisheries.

Why do not more sociologists apply for funding? For one thing, unlike NSF’s Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, most sociologists are unaware of the program’s existence.

Another problem, Seyfried speculates, is the association sociologists might make with the “Arctic” as being a desolate world of frozen tundra, unrelated to their fields of interests. In fact, the ASSP supports research for the entire arctic region, including Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Russia, and Scandinavia. The program, moreover, encourages research in native cultures and such sociologically-rich areas as demography, ethnology, community, and family.

“Opportunities abound for examining all sorts of social processes and organizations—issues such as land use, indigenous rights, economic transition, and political action. More sociologists need to be aware of these opportunities.”

Apply by April 15

1997 ASA-AAAS Media Fellowship

The American Sociological Association (ASA) in collaboration with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is sponsoring a summer fellowship designed to provide the extension of sociology in the mass media. One fellowship will be awarded in 1997. This is an excellent opportunity for a sociologist to learn the skills of public communication directly for a newspaper or in television or radio broadcasting.

The ASA-AAAS Fellow must be an advanced graduate student (ABD) or a PhD sociologist. There is a $5000 stipend for the summer and additional funding to cover travel and the orientation and debriefing seminar.

The application period is from April 15 to June 15, 1997. Applications must be postmarked on or before this date. Application forms may be obtained from the ASA’s Sprinck program office, 1930 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036. (202) 333-3410 x315, executive@asaaa.org, or through the ASA’s homepage (http://www.asanet.org) or via fax-on-demand, (888) 395-1037. Applications are due April 15, 1997.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS UPDATE

✓ Plan Gates Recut to NIH and NSF. . . . Under the Administration’s proposed budget for fiscal year 1998, the National Institutes of Health would receive a 2.6 percent increase from fiscal year 1997 while the National Science Foundation budget would be boosted 3 percent. The Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate at NSF would receive a 6.5 percent or $7.8 million increase. Congressional appropriators have been quoted publicly as saying they will seek to increase NIH and NSF budgets from the levels sought by the Administration. Senator Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), who chairs the Senate subcommittee that writes the NIH appropriation, has announced that he plans to pursue a 7.5 percent increase for NIH. Meanwhile, the Coalition for National Science Funding, of which ASA is a member, is seeking a 7.1 percent increase for NSF.

✓ Science Chairman Indicates NSF Directorate Will Be Left Alone. . . . The new Chairman of the House Science Committee, U.S. Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), has indicated that he will not seek to eliminate NSF’s Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate—a goal pursued by his predecessor. Sensenbrenner told a Capitol Hill press conference that it is in his role of the Science Committee to tell agency heads how to structure their agencies. He added, however, that the Committee “will be aggressive in its oversight of federally-funded programs.”

✓ NIH Still Alike Under President's Plan. . . . The President’s request for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is for $136 million, which, if enacted, would provide for an increase of $26 million from fiscal year 1997. While the Administration requested $136 million for NEH last year as well, Congress provided the agency with level funding. Many NEH supporters are hopeful that Congress will be less hostile to the agency this year. John Hammer, executive officer of the National Arts Theater Alliance, said that the President’s support of NEH in the State of the Union combined with his proposal for more than a twenty percent increase add up to an environment more conducive to rebuilding the agency.

✓ Sociologist Gets White House Post. . . . Sociologist Daryl Chubin, director of the Research, Evaluation and Communication Division of the Education and Human Resources Science Directorate at the National Endowment for the Humanities, was named to six months to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he will be Assistant Director for Social and Behavioral Sciences. One of his tasks will be to write the report for the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) on the government-higher education relationship.

Sociologists Command Panel Report on AIDS Interventions

An independent, consensus panel report, critiquing government restrictions on preventive behavioral interventions programs designed to combat the spread of AIDS is drawing a generally positive response from sociologists.

On February 13, the independent panel, convened by the National Institutes of Health, released a statement urging that government leaders remove policies that restrict programs for needle exchange, drug abuse treatment, and youth education on safer sex. According to the panel, government leaders at all levels “should take the lead in implementing proven, lifesaving public health strategies.”

The behavior placing the public health at greatest risk may be occurring in legislative and other decision making bodies,” the panel concluded.

The 15-member panel made its recommendation after a three-day conference that included an extensive review of the scientific literature covering hundreds of studies, presentations by 13 research experts, and public testimony.

Sociologist Wayne Webel, Director of Community Outreach Intervention Projects at the University of Illinois-Chicago, and the report "seemed to reflect a frustration in recognizing the disparities between scientific findings and public policy.”

Despite evidence as to the effectiveness of these strategies in preventing HIV risk behaviors, there is a federal ban on funding of needle exchange programs, a legislative mandate to support only abstinence and monogamy curricula, and a reduction in appropriations for substance abuse treatment.”

Robert Booth, an associate professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, echoed those sentiments, noting that “the recommendations were based on clear, convincing scientific evidence that, heretofore, have fallen on deaf ears in the administration and Congress.”

“This is in spite of similar recommendations from five federally sponsored evaluations of needle exchange programs, including studies by the General Accounting Office and the National Academy of Sciences. Perhaps, because of the panel’s neutrality, these recommendations will at least be heard. We can only hope.”

ASA executive officer Felice J. Levine agreed that the report “sends the correct signal that policymakers should pay closer attention to what the science is telling us.”

In testimony before the consensus panel delivered on behalf of the Consor-
NIH Self-Report Conference Important to Sociology

by Lois M. Verbrugge
University of Michigan and Ventura, Inc., and Jack Faider
University of Massachusetts-Boston

NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) sponsored a conference in March 1997 designed to inform clinical researchers and practitioners about the quality of patients' and study volunteers' self-reports on health topics. Accuracy and reliability were central issues in many presentations. But the conference, entitled 'The Science of the Self-Report,' held much for sociologists interested in the nature of memory and for survey researchers interested in novel modes of data collection.

In the first presentation, Wendy Baldwin, chief of the OBSSR Extramural Research at NIH, noted the technical advantages of self-report items—they are portable and low cost. It is the sensory advantages that sometimes get called into question. Stated baldly: Are the reports true? Are they stable? Do respondents lie? Baldwin noted that memory and reactivity can stem from ambiguity in question wording as well as from respondent-based factors. Survey researchers can reduce error by attentive design and piloting. She also noted that self-reports are sensitive to the context for obtaining data about a topic, such as attitudes or emotions. It is not just the mode of choice; it is the only option for many studies.

Cognitive Processes

Cognitive processes involved in answering questions about "events" were discussed in three papers by Norman Bradburn, Roger Tourangeau, and Geeta Menon. They reviewed what we have learned over the past three decades about which kinds of events are more or less likely to be recalled, how respondents access memories, how they place events in time, and strategies for helping them recall and date past events. The papers demonstrated that sophisticated research has occurred on these topics, and provided a more refined list of strategies (e.g., using a bounded recall period, asking multiple questions, encouraging efforts at association).

Presentations by Saul Stiffman and Cynthia Rand compared self-reports of "health behaviors" (smoking, pill-taking) with equipment-based tallies and also diaries. For smoking, the lack of obvious correspondence between the reports planned from a palm-top computer and the overall ratings was striking. In one study, subjects' reports of their cigarette-smoking quitting experience better matched people's naive stories about "how people usually quit smoking" than it matched their own self-reported experience. For pill-taking, people generally thought they complied with regimens, when in fact they usually did not. Stiffman finally added with a meta-graphic measurement, while Rand sided finally with self-report. This represents the tradeoff between accuracy and economy, and each person had a different preference about what matters most for the research question at hand.

The arena shifted to self-reports about "emotions related to an event." Moment-by-moment reactions to an extreme event are intimately integrated with memory of one's feelings. Daniel Kahneman provided an empirical example by locating the moments that figure strongly in the overall evaluation of a painful medical procedure. Figure out what people are telling you when they provide summaries, and designing questions about an experience to capture accurately its significance, is a valuable research issue for social scientists.

"Ethical" issues arise when researchers are unwilling to take self-reports as is, but instead want to compare them to a "true" bottom that must be derived up.

Motivational aspects ("should I tell what I know, or not?") come strongly into play with socially sensitive topics such as drug use, sexual practices, infection with certain diseases, and illegal migration. Self-reported "underreporting" occurs when people choose to give an answer other than the literal, most accurate answer as they see it, as shown in papers by Nica Cate Schell, Charles Turner, Joseph Catania, and Dean Massey. In formal terms, how can this aspect of measurement error be reduced? Stated another way, how can survey procedures give anonymity or confidence to respondents so they tell their literal truth? One presentation highlighted the potential value of taking advantage of audio question administration and computers to augment the already well-documented advantage of self-administration. Another showed that trust and friendship with the research team can facilitate reporting of illegal migration.

An especially sensitive topic now is childhood sexual abuse. Here, "overreporting" is as much an issue as "underreporting." On overreporting, Elizabeth Lofthus presented experimental data showing that fabricated information introduced by researchers readily works its way into memory, so that respondents soon report it as genuine experience. Hence, ideas and procedures can be taught, then recalled, as if they had been actually experienced. Reconstruction becomes recall, without any conscious motivation to tell the lie. The implications of this research for "false memories" about sexual abuse are sobering. On underreporting, Linda Williams studied adulthood recollections of officially documented childhood sexual abuse; she studied the factors that differentiated those who remembered the abuse, and those who did not. The social, legal, and clinical ramifications of false positive and false negative reports in this topic are immense. Sociologists might take this contemporary issue as a challenge to develop research strategies that can detect false memories and lost memories. More generally, scientists doing case studies on past exposures in childhood and youth as explanations for current adult health status should proceed cautiously as a result of these presentations.

Two sessions were devoted to reporting of "psychiatric symptoms and physical illness." For psychiatric illness, methods of assessing psychiatric disorders in community samples and patient samples. In community samples, good distinctions can be made between distressed and non-distressed persons, but specific diagnoses are not feasible. By contrast, in clinical samples, batteries of items can indeed detect clinically meaningful diagnostic categories. John Kihlstrom discussed the impact of mood on memory. The genuine value of self-reports by children was discussed by Wendy Reich and Johnny Blaut. In the importance of close inter- nal understanding for interview of cultural minorities was discussed by Spero Merson. Personal factors and situational factors were reviewed. Overall these presentations buttress the value of both subject (patient) reports and clinician diagnosis for fashioning therapeutic care. Both sides must be heard, without a bias about which side is more truthful or better.

"Ethical" issues arise when researchers are unwilling to take self-reports as is, but instead want to compare them to a "true" bottom that must be derived up.

The conference has both substantive and technical messages for sociologists. It revealed in sophisticated ways the complexity by which people's memories and stated experiences are shaped. They can be embellished or diminished at any point in the memory storage, retrieval, and telling process. People have difficulty sorting out what they "really" experienced from what they made it. Facts and behavior, which are more central in memory. People seldom consciously lie; they generally tell the truth as they know it. If this is the truth that guides health behavior, social relationships, and goals, then it is the more important truth for sociologists to know about some far back, objective piece of it. The technical imperatives is to develop questions that capture subjects' current states of mind very well, in ways that permit an individual's own experience to be recorded, and the heterogeneity among individuals to be encompassed.

In conclusion, if one's goal is to ferret out objective social facts about events or behaviors, then the conference gives much to be nervous about. So many motivational and perceptual aspects figure into self-reports, and those aspects can shift reports systematically away from what an outside observer (subject or equipment) might indicate occurred. On the other hand, if one's goal is to understand the sources of reporting about past behaviors and experiences, which is of course what these conferences are, then the conference gives much to be nervous and inspiration. At least, the science of memory and memory is joining the design of health surveys and questionnaires. For sociologists, a main message is to pilot instruments well with help from a cognitive psychology colleague.

Footnotes

1. The conference planning committee was Arthur J. Strow (Chair), Brian S. Cain, Josef John, Howard Kantrowitz, and Jeylan Turkmen. The American Sociological Association was the main sponsor of the conference, with funds for and help in the development of the conference coming from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For more information, contact CASR Associates, 1201 Lee Street, Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90020, 213/688-5453, fax 703-309-2104.

2. This helped us understand the conference atmosphere, which entailed an engrossing entering at the back of the hall, and other shapes emerging from the crowd.

3. We thank J. M. Turner, M. J. Stine-Morrow, and D. M. S. Turner for comments on earlier drafts.

4. Sociologists might take this contemporary issue as a challenge to develop research strategies that can detect false memories and lost memories. More generally, scientists doing case studies on past exposures in childhood and youth as explanations for current adult health status should proceed cautiously as a result of these presentations.

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The Case of the Sociologist Who Untangled Himself from the Web

by Richard C. Rockwell
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

This article is about how to find on the World Wide Web data sets that are of interest to sociologists. It reports on how the author dealt with the Web, beginning with a generalized search for information on specific topics and concluding with a search on particular data sets. Each user of the Web soon encounters one of its confusions: the most sophisticated of information resources was designed without much attention to retrieval of its information. Some examples will illustrate what this means (as the researcher and the student).

Using one of the best free search services on the Web (Infoseek), I set out to find the home page of the American Sociological Association. The first site returned was an individual's home page, complete with a movie of the Cardina Tetras in his aquarium. The second site took me off to the University of Chicago. Among the first ten sites were some pages actually located at the ASA Web, but the ASA home page was not included. Next I looked for resources about an old sociological concept, "peer group," most of the results concerned "ATM Intermittent," in which computers act as peers in a high-speed network--an intriguing application of the idea, but not precisely what I wanted. Finally, I sought information on "confabulation" and was a bit better there, each site among the first ten identified confabulation to the topic in question, but not at the ASA. The main problem was that the service identified 420,451 relevant sites, and I have not yet completed checking them all for relevancy. I thought of making my search more restrictive so as to reduce the number of hits, but I knew that such restrictions could also cause me to miss some highly relevant material.

I then made my search more specific by looking for data sets of interest to sociologists. Thinking I knew the name of an interesting data set, I searched for the Health and Retirement Survey (HRS). The excellent HRS Web site was not among the first ten sites identified. Instead, I got the Canadian NewsWire, the Pro-Life Activist's Encyclopaedia, and an advertisement for a freelance writer for hire. Discouraged, I then looked for the General Social Survey. Again, the Web site that I expected to find was not among the first ten, which this time included sites concerning the 1935 Alberta Social Credit Party platform, materials about G. K. Chesterton, a discussion of the U.S. embargo against Cuba, and a piece about the Church of Scientology.

There is a difficulty to this solution, involving a very old technology: use of the informed and trained human mind. Knowledgeable people have already done much of the screening and structuring that is required to locate resources on the Web reliably and efficiently. I looked for professionally-constructed sites, starting with one of the granddaddies of Web search services, Yahoo. Yahoo organizes the Web into a structure that includes the entry "Social Science: Sociology." This was a good starting place for many searches, except that Yahoo's conception of "sociology" is broader. For example, it included a Web site on gambling in its major entries about sociology. Next I visited the WWW Virtual Library, which is a "distributed subject catalogue." It clearly has potential as a starting place for a Web search, but its list of resources is very long and undifferentiated.

So I visited other professional sites maintained by and for sociologists. I was able to find a Web site on sociologists by people accustomed to searching for their information needs. Research Engines for the Social Sciences provided links to a wide variety of resources, including data, it is a site to which I shall return. The Social Sciences Information Gateway in the United Kingdom seemed to be helpful but to contain an odd mix of resources--a few journals, some mailing lists, a few university departments, and so forth--all in one long and undifferentiated list. Staying within the United Kingdom, I found the Blackwell Guide to Sociology Resources, which provided a highly selective, short, and thus useful list of "launching pads." It seemed that I was getting closer to what I wanted, and I had done so by relying on a bookstore and publisher whose Oxford shop I had visited before there was an Internet. Their Web site employed some of the same discriminating standards that they had used to select books for their shelves, and they were clearly adept at organizing information.

However, I had not yet found any data sets of interest to sociologists. The Health and Retirement Survey and the General Social Survey still eluded me. Blackwell's site was not detailed enough to get me to specific data sets, but it got me to the right places on the Web by giving its as first pointer the excellent Web site maintained by the Council of European Social Science Data Archives. Through Blackwell's links, I found my way to "North American Social Science Data" and then to my own organization, ICPSR. ICPSR's home page had a banner that included a link to something called "Sociology." Being somewhat familiar by now with the jargon of the Web, I followed that link. It immediately got me to an entry for the Health and Retirement Survey, under the heading "Other Web Sites of Interest." But where was the General Social Survey? I went to the Table of Contents at ICPSR's site and found there a "General Social Survey Site." That site turned out to be part of the complex of Web pages at ICPSR itself. While visiting ICPSR, I followed links to other data sets, such as the National Election Studies and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, and to other archives, such as the Henry A. Murray Research Center at Radcliffe and the Roper Center. The Internet Crossroads of the Data and Program Library Service at the University of Wisconsin proved to be a particularly helpful launching pad for worldwide data searches. I also searched the entire collection of abstracts in the ICPSR archive for studies relevant to health and retirement, finding 34 other studies of interest. ICPSR used to print a Guide to Resources and Services, which has become so enormous a volume that it represented a threat to users' sacral - nities. That entire volume is now available online to anyone anywhere, with moderately useful search tools available. In cooperation with the CESSDA archives, ICPSR is working to introduce further structure into the Guide online, with the aim of permitting more focused searches without incurring restrictions that cause the loss of relevant information.

The lesson of my hour pretending to be a somewhat naive user of the World Wide Web was that data sets of interest to sociologists could indeed be found on the Web but that my best bet for finding them was to rely upon institutions such as publishers and archives that have long been in the business of organizing information. To be sure, there are any number of alternative pathways that I might have taken to get the same information, but I would bet that the other ones that I would find useful and reliable would also be associated with established professional institutions staffed by social scientists, archivists, and librarians.
Vice President-Elect

Nan Lin

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Julia Wigley

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Walter R. Allen (continued)

Alexandro Portes (continued)

Patricia A. Roos

Florence B. Bonner

Julia Wigley
From Grad School to "Senator Kennedy's Office: Can I Help You?"

by Nora Jacobson
ASA Congressional Fellow

The distance from Baltimore to Washington, DC is longer than the 30-minute train journey I make each morning. It is the distance between graduate school and the professional world. I must keep my legs pegged and eyes on the line, between autonomy and responsibility, between theory and practice.

I applied for the ASA Congressional Fellowship last spring, amidst the flurry of finishing my dissertation and the rising panic of "what next?" The list of previous recipients—well established social psychologists—surprised me. I argued that I would have little chance of winning the fellowship. Besides coming from a school of public health, I would be a brand-new PhD who had done a qualitative dissertation (an analysis of the history of silicone breast implants using a social construction of public problems framework). I applied anyway, thinking—as best I can recall—that it was rather silly to have spent two years analyzing policy without having any clear idea how I would be able to do it. That my prospects in academia looked bleak, and that it would be wise to investigate other types of employment. Now I am five weeks into my placement on the Hill. I am a health policy fellow on the minority staff of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. Senator Kennedy is the ranking minority member, as well as the minority chairman of the subcommittee on health. I make telephone calls, I identify myself as coming from his office. Through a combination of choice and assignment, I find myself responsible for a number of issues, including HIV/AIDS, vaccines and immunization, privacy and confidentiality of medical information, and sub-stance abuse. Perhaps the best way to describe the first month of my fellowship is to say that it has been a matter of managing the glimmering of what it means to be "responsible" for an issue. That is, the first four weeks were like: jumping aboard a train hurtling through a dark tunnel. I didn't know what I was doing or where I was going, and every day was moving very fast. Despite my helplessness—ever I tried to think of where to use the telephone—I found myself with an automatic authority: Lobbyists began calling my first week on the job. I noticed that people are very happy to talk to you when the words "Senator Kennedy" are part of the first sentence you utter. This was the biggest adjustment in the transition from graduate school: I had gone from an environment where I felt fairly competent, but in which I was accorded little respect, to one in which I was treated with deference, but where I knew myself to be incompetent.

So what is this matter of responsibility? It means that among the flood of paper that comes to the office every day, the pieces with the slightest relevance to any of my issues land on my desk. Included are newsletters from advocacy groups, invitations (for me or for the Senate) to meetings and briefings, reports of studies, and letters from citizens concerned—yes, in some cases, obsessed—with an issue. I read, attend meetings, answer letters (or, better, punt them when I can). I write memos in which I try to synthesize what I have learned.

Responsibility also means that I try to figure out what is going to happen when legislation. For example, enabling legislation for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration was due to be reintroduced last Congress. Although the Labor Committee put an enormous amount of work into the reauthorisation, it never passed. (Congress appropriated funds without reauthorization.) The reauthorization should come up again some time this session. I need to know when, who is working on it, which issues are likely to arise, and what position the Senator wishes to take on those issues. At some point, if it happens during my tenure in the office, I will work with other staff to hash out what the legislation should accomplish. Until then, I keep in touch with staffers on the majority side and listen to lobbyists' concerns. The office where I work is atypical in that it is staffed almost entirely by fellows. This has advantages and disadvantages. It is great for camaraderie (I use it to complete the incomplete work of writing a dissertation), but less so for monitoring. Everyone is very friendly and helpful, but there is no continuity. I have to call people who worked there a year ago or more to be briefed about an issue, or even to find out where files are. In the room where I sit, everyone is job-hunting. Instead of learning the system from experienced insiders, I am reminded every day that this is only temporary. Despite this, the intensity of the experience makes what was strange familiar very quickly. As new fellows join the staff, suddenly I'm an old timer. And on the train, I now recognize most of the faces.

AIDS from page 3

AIDS, from page 3

40,000 to 80,000 Americans become infected with the AIDS virus, mostly through behaviors that are preventable. AIDS is the leading cause of death among men and women between the ages of 25 and 44. In the United States, unsafe sexual behaviors among men who have sex with men and unsafe injection practices among drug users still account for the largest number of cases of HIV infection. However, the rate of increase is greater for women than men, and there has been a large increase in heterosexual HIV transmission among men who have sex with men.

In their statement, the panel said that just as the Food and Drug Administration conditionally approves experimental drugs in emergency situations, the urgency of the AIDS epidemic justifies the need for implementing those behavioral intervention programs proven by rigorous scientific study to be the most successful.

The consensus report is part of the NIH Consensus Development Program established in 1977 to review an evaluative, impartial manner controversial topics in medicine and public health. In the past 20 years, the NIH Consensus Development Program has reviewed more than 120 such conferences addressing a wide range of controversial medical issues important to health care providers, patients, and the general public. The NIH holds an average of six consensus conferences each year.

The full NIH Consensus Statement on Interventions to Prevent HIV Risk Behaviors is available by calling toll-free 1-888-NIH-Consensus (1-888-644-6627) or by visiting the NIH Consensus Program web site at http://consensus.nih.gov.
Toronto, from page 1

"Walking and Looking in Inner Toronto: Elimination of the Chinese" (February 1997 Footnotes); more encyclopedic cover-age is available in Robert Kashim's Ethnic Toronto: Social and Cultural Distinctions in the Inner Toronto Neighbourhoods. For example, Italians settled on College Street, in several west and northwest Toronto neighbourhoods, and in suburban Mississauga and Woodbridge (the latter of which is 75% Italian). There are four separate Chinatown communities including the northern suburbs of Richmond Hill and Markham, which support enormous Hong Kong Chinese shopping malls. West Indians are concentrated near St. Clair West, in the Jane-Finch corridor in North York, and near Warden Avenue in Scarborough. South Asians have a busy commercial centre of curry houses and other businesses along Gerard Street, and also in the Tandridge Court complex at Markham and highway 401 in Scarborough.

Institutions display increasing cultural diversity in many forms. CHIN radio broadcasts to the region, and CHIME multicultural television transmits alongside the mainstream English (and French) offerings. Toronto has a board of having numerous ethnic theatres, foreign-language books, magazines, newspapers, video outlets, museums, music, radio and television programs. There are community-based foreign language educational programs, community and religious institutions, as well as the myriad of ethnic restaurants, specialty grocery stores, and much more. The highlight festival undoubtedly is Caribbean, with the biggest Carribee parade outside the Caribbean. Carribee, a traditional weekly-long cultural network of ethnic organizations converted to showhouses, displays the traditions and cultures of many of Toronto's cultural communities.

The Accidental Immigration City

How should one characterize intergroup relations in Toronto? The local discussions on race and ethnicity are, for the most part, upbeat. As elsewhere in Canada, government at all levels promotes diversity, particularly "multicultural." Local councils work to maintain positive race relations. At the same time, immigration remains an issue for what are often called "visible minorities" of non-European origins, and conflicts with racial overtones clearly have increased in Toronto. Police shootings and perceptions of a biased justice system in Toronto's black community have provoked both violence and government intervention in the form of a commission of inquiry. The sudden Chinese population growths disturbed some local officials, whose complaints about their negative impact caused an erosion of controversy. And in 1996 for the first time in Ontario, race became an election issue; the resulting Progressive Conservative government of Mike Harris unceremoniously scrapped the previous New Democratic government's equal job opportunities legislation. In Toronto really what some have called a racial "time-bomb," a place where ethnic and racial conflicts have not spun out of control sometime in the future?

From a comparative perspective it does appear that Toronto has maintained an explicit acceptance of immigrants and rapid population change with considerable "乡土性". While no public opinion polls show Canadians nearly as concerned about controlling immigration levels as Americans, given the sheer magnitude of immigration and rapid population change particularly in Toronto, the comparative theme would have to be of acceptance. Educational institutions, for example, have incorporated minority groups with surprisingly little conflict or controversy. A majority of students at the University of Toronto's three campuses now have non-European backgrounds, while York University's main north campus has an even larger non-European majority, and Ryerson Polytechnic University has experienced unusual change, all with a response which is largely positive and sometimes even enthusiastic. The Reform Party's proposals to limit local social services to immigrants have received little attention; no one expresses the kind hereof being "swamped." This despite a persistent unemployment rate near 10 percent, major government spending cuts, and reductions in social services. Why have race and ethnic relations in Toronto been relatively calm? Are they likely to stay that way?

Some have pointed to Canada's management of its immigration program to explain the positive impact of immigration. The important lesson is that Canada claims American economist George Borjas' among others, is that Canada has tried to be more skill-selective; the nation picks and chooses its immigrants more wisely than its southern neighbour. But according to immigration statistics, Canada is not really more skill-selective. The U.S. actually out-competes Canada for highly skilled immigrants from every major source except Mexico. So screening for the best cannot be trumpeted as the reason for less racial tension here. Perhaps the selection of a great diversity of groups has had the consequence—probably unintended— that no one group is large enough to emerge as a focal point for conflict. More important, the impact that the scale of immigration has been on Toronto has been largely unplanned. No urban planners or government policy-makers have considered what it would make Toronto a huge immigration city, let alone craft its cultural landscape. None decided that Toronto's diversity should continue to increase rapidly, but it is happening anyway. In some ways, rather than being carefully planned, a haphazard development has made much more accurate to say the mushrooming impact of massive immigration on the city is something of an historical accident.

Still, says that Canada's multi-culturalism policy is a key to inter-cultural relations. Along with gun control and universal health insurance, official "multiculturalism" seems to be distinctively Canadian. Canadians understand multiculturalism to mean a "live and let live" cultural tolerance. This brand of multiculturalism emerged out of the debate over French language rights, the statute of Quebec, and the political reluctance of federal Liberals under Trudeau to antagonize their support among immigrant voters. The government's official multiculturalism policy was officially launched in 1971, immediately endorsed by mothers by all political sides, and later endorsed in Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The race issue was not present at the birth of Canadian multiculturalism, and as with any uninvented guest, there has been an awkwardness about its arrival. Multi-cultural programs originally focused on the cultural identities of European minorities. When new groups talked about equity, access and discrimination, it became clear that these issues did not quite fit into the rubric of culture. Multi-cultural programs have shifted to anti-racism activity, but the policy discourse around discrimination continues to play down the significance of race. Canada's federal 'employment equity' legislation is a good example. The law covers only a small fraction of the workforce and includes only minimal monitoring or enforcement mechanisms.

Despite evidence that actual racial discrimination is no less a problem for Canadian minorities than for Americans, the issue is much further from the public agenda. Whether or not multicultural policies are the glue binding ethnic and racial groups in Toronto (there is virtually no research evaluation of its impact), its permanence probably reflects the relative lack of conflict here. As racial issues have grown, some racial minorities have begun to oppose multiculturalism on the grounds that it marginalizes minorities. This has given renewed voice to a variety of older criticisms of the policy, ranging across a spectrum from those based on opposition to minority recognition, and those based on a view of multiculturalism as an attempt to sustain traditional ethnic hierarchies -- The Virgilic Mission as John Foster once called it. This criticism has encouraged governments to look hard at cutting the already small multicultural budgets, or abandoning the program altogether while still being politically correct.

Toronto Beyond the "Global City"

Saskia Sassen's concept of "global city,"12 suggesting that economic structures in cities are increasingly "worldwide". Toronto has been largely unplanned. No urban planners or government policy-makers have considered what it would make Toronto a huge immigration city, let alone craft its cultural landscape. None decided that Toronto's diversity should continue to increase rapidly, but it is happening anyway. In some ways, rather than being carefully planned, a haphazard development has made much more accurate to say the mushrooming impact of massive immigration on the city is something of an historical accident. Still, says that Canada's multi-culturalism policy is a key to inter-cultural relations. Along with gun control and universal health insurance, official "multiculturalism" seems to be distinctively Canadian. Canadians understand multiculturalism to mean a "live and let live" cultural tolerance. This brand of multiculturalism emerged out of the debate over French language rights, the statute of Quebec, and the political reluctance of federal Liberals under Trudeau to antagonize their support among immigrant voters. The government's official multiculturalism policy was officially launched in 1971, immediately endorsed by mothers by all political sides, and later endorsed in Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The race issue was not present at the birth of Canadian multiculturalism, and as with any uninvented guest, there has been an awkwardness about its arrival. Multi-cultural programs originally focused on the cultural identities of European minorities. When new groups talked about equity, access and discrimination, it became clear that these issues did not quite fit into the rubric of culture. Multi-cultural programs have shifted to anti-racism activity, but the policy discourse around discrimination continues to play down the significance of race. Canada's federal 'employment equity' legislation is a good example. The law covers only a small fraction of the workforce and includes only minimal monitoring or enforcement mechanisms. Despite evidence that actual racial discrimination is no less a problem for Canadian minorities than for Americans, the issue is much further from the public agenda. Whether or not multicultural policies are the key binding ethnic and racial groups in Toronto (there is virtually no research evaluation of its impact), its permanence probably reflects the relative lack of conflict here. As racial issues have grown, some racial minorities have begun to oppose multiculturalism on the grounds that it marginalizes minorities. This has given renewed voice to a variety of older criticisms of the policy, ranging across a spectrum from those based on opposition to minority recognition, and those based on a view of multiculturalism as an attempt to sustain traditional ethnic hierarchies -- The Virgilic Mission as John Foster once called it. This criticism has encouraged governments to look hard at cutting the already small multicultural budgets, or abandoning the program altogether while still being politically correct.


ASA and ISA to Cosponsor Conference on Future Directions

The American Sociological Association and the International Sociological Association (ISA) will co-sponsor a two-day North American conference entitled "Millenials: Charting New Directions for Sociology" immediately prior to the ASA Annual Meeting in Toronto.

The invitational conference will feature a working group of about 30 scholars and was made possible by a $25,000 grant to ASA from the Russell Sage Foundation. "As a result of Russell Sage's generosity, prominent sociologists will have the opportunity to engage in an intensive dialogue on future directions of sociology in the coming century," said ASA executive officer Felice J. Levine. "This is an exciting opportunity to clarify unresolved dilemmas and to set new directions for the field."

The Conference, scheduled for August 7 and 8, is one of a series of regional conferences being undertaken by the ISA in preparation for the XIV World Congress of Sociology that will be held in July, 1998 in Montreal, Canada. Each of the regional conferences relates to the theme of the future of sociology but as seen from the perspective of the region. The North American Conference will bring together 25 leading sociologists from the United States and Canada as well as five sociologists outside of North America who are linked to other regional conferences. The conference is being convened and organized by ASA Council member Janet Alba-Lughod of the New School for Social Research. She is being advised by a committee that includes Levine, Anaianzo Fornes, Princeton University; Martia Teder-Segal, Indiana University-South Bend; Charles Hilly, Columbia University; and ISA President Iunneman Willeritter, SUNY-Binghampton.

The Lughod said the conference will focus on five core issues: the growing gaps in sociological theory and practice; the disjuncture between data and methods; incongruities between national contexts and global environments; interdisciplinarity of space and social life; and the role of sociology and sociological knowledge.

"Rather than speak abstractly, we intended to delineate a few concrete problems within each of these domains," said Abad-Rajah. "We want to explore how alternate paths from the past might still be taken to restructure sociology in its second century."

She said that the conference will include a presentation of papers, intensive discussion, and a monograph report to be published in 1998.

By: Terry Rypner
Anne Arundel Community College

On November 15, 1996, approximately 50 students from three local high schools visited Anne Arundel Community College (AACC), in Arnold, Maryland, to participate in the second annual Sociology Exposition. The SACC showcases faculty, students, courses, and facilities of the Sociology, Anthropology, and Human Services Department at AACC. This half-day series of presentations gives students the opportunity to learn about the discipline of sociology, while participating in hands-on activities. This year's presentations featured discussions with the faculty, a cross-cultural anthropologic exhibit, an introduction to the computer as the sciences, and the use of popular film in the sociology classroom.

Following a meet-the-faculty session, the visiting students were divided into three groups. They rotated around the campus through presentation sessions, in which they participated in experiential learning activities. One session, held in the campus Interactive IV Lab, enabled face interaction with a high school group located in another county. Another session demonstrated the use of the computer in conjunction with criminology studies. The students were able to access the MicroCase program in the Social Science computer lab to do some basic data analysis on age and interest appropriate items. In the Innovations in the Classroom Session, students viewed a video presentation of a new interdisciplinary pedagogical tool slated for future use in the Sociology and English departments. This tool uses an interactive computer software program and popular video clips to demonstrate sociological concepts.

SACC II culminated in an interactive presentation by guest speaker Elizabeth Hewitt-Apell, a counselor from the Hamden Youth and Family Service Center. She discussed youth and sexuality issues, focusing on the issue of teenage gay and lesbian and their relations with heterosexual youth. She was joined by an equally dynamic guest speaker who spoke openly to the audience about his experience as a 19-year-old gay male. He provided the opportunity for the students to think about their attitudes and reactions, and the sociological effect of these attitudes and reactions. Both speakers were very well received, and the discussion was mature and insightful. SACC is co-sponsored by the Sociological Department and the Sociology Club of the AACC, and is organized by the Sociology Club of the AACC.

Public Forum

Thinking Sociologically

I share Felice Levine's concern for the lack of public interest in what sociologists do (Features, December 1996, p.2). But I do not think we will solve the problem by convincing journalists that our methods are sound and rigorous. The problem goes much deeper than that to the fact that most people have no idea what sociology is about and why we do sociology. While that is true, we must still take some steps to bring sociology to the people.

A major interest of mine is to articulate to the public the intellectual and to apply that in both classrooms and in nonacademic settings such as diversity training in corporations. Out of that work I have seen over and over again how receptive people are to alternatives to psychological reductionism, especially around issues of oppression. Our culture is so wedded to individualistic models that it is difficult to look at problems like racism and sexism without invoking personal guilt and blame, attack and defense. If racism is evil, then whites must be evil; if sexism is evil, then men must be evil; and so on until the conversation stops and along with it any possibility of change.

The sociological response to this paralysis is to find a basis on which our social institutions are based in what we are doing, rather than in how we are thinking about it. It is a simple idea that opens doors to everything, and even provides a way to think about the social world in relation to what is happening. As they begin to see, for example, that they can be involved in racism and sexism without being personally to blame, there is a palpable sense of relief and empowerment to become part of the solution rather than merely part of the problem.

Most people outside of sociology have little idea of how to think about social systems and the complex way that we are connected to them, how they shape our lives, and how our identity happens. Arguments between liberals and conservatives go back and forth between one individualistic solution to another, with government programs to change individuals being the closest we get to systemic thinking or change. Public debate about social problems is raised in false dichotomies between society and individuals. Poverty, for example, is either viewed as society's "fault" and beyond individual responsibility, or as the individual's "fault" and of no concern to social institutions or people who are not living in poverty. Add to this the common perception that society is a sum of individuals, and in it is easy to see why there is little interest in sociology.

What do we have to offer that psychology does not? Or economics? Or, for that matter, biology?

It is possible to answer such questions in ways that excite and engage people to shift how they see the world and themselves in it. Our credibility is not about the scientific method; it is not about matters of fresh data; and it is not about defensive demonstrations that sociology is more than common sense or vague references to some unique form of "imagination." Rather, it depends on being able to articulate a systematic way of thinking, a framework of core concepts and ideas that is powerful, simple, and coherent.

But this is not how most people see sociology. Most people see it as mush (interesting mush, perhaps) but mush nonetheless. And if they do, it is because we are the only discipline I know of with so many practitioners who refuse to define what they do, who even brag that it can not be defined. Most introductory texts offer nothing that resembles a definition that points to a systematic and coherent framework. And this is as close as we get to articulating the essence of sociology and in ways that nonsociologists can understand.

It is that essence that the world has to grasp if it is to take seriously what we do. If we continue to elide that work in favor of research and sophisticated theory, then the best we will do is to compromise the world that our work may be much, but at least it is serious, rigorous, scientific.

The promise of sociology is not simply to inform, but to revolutionize how people think. It is a promise that the discipline stubbornly refuses to embrace, much less achieve.

Allan G. Johnson, Hartford College for Women
The following tables from the 1995 audit of the Association provide a picture of current assets, liabilities, and fund balance, as well as income and expenditures. ASA's financial picture remains stable.

As indicated in the Auditor's report, ASA accounted for the implementation of functional budgeting in 1995, enhancing the Association's ability to budget and track revenues and expenditures by function (department or program). As a result of the change, comparable information from 1994 is not available for comparison.

Overall in 1995, ASA produced an excess of revenue over expenditures. A favorable financial position is a direct result of special efforts made by the Executive Office to spend conservatively and to look for new and cost-effective alternatives to operating the Association. The record turnout at the 1995 Annual Meeting contributed to the increase in revenue.

Members interested in the full audit report may receive a copy from the Executive Office. The Committee on the Executive Office and Budget and the Council have reviewed the full audit—see J. Leneis, Executive Officer.

Note 5, Organization and Significant Accounting Policies:

Organizations:
The American Sociological Association (Association) is a national nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia in August 1899. The Association is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The principal purpose of the Association is to stimulate and improve research, instruction, and discussion, and to encourage cooperative relations among persons engaged in the scientific study of society.

Significant Accounting Policies:

Significant accounting policies not discussed elsewhere in the financial statements are as follows:

Credit Risks:
The Association has a deposit in a financial institution in excess of amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Statement of Cash Flows:

Year ended December 31, 1995

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES
Change in net assets provided by operating activities
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to cash
Depreciation
Loss on sale of investments
Decrease in accounts receivable
Increase in prepaid expenses and other assets
Gain on sale of investments
Increase in accounts payable
Decrease in accounts receivable
Compensations restricted for permanent enforcement
Net cash provided by operating activities

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES
Proceeds from sale of investments
Purchases of investments
Purchases of property and equipment
Net cash used in investing activities

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES
Proceeds from note payable
Proceeds from enlargement contribution
Net cash used in financing activities

Net increase in cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year

SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION
Cash paid for interest
Cash paid for income taxes
Audit, from page 10

Property and Equipment:

Depreciation is provided on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets which ranges from 3 to 25 years.

Deferred Revenue:

Deferred revenue represents amounts received in advance for membership dues, section dues and subscriptions to periodicals which are applicable to subsequent periods.

Net Assets:

Unrestricted net assets represent the following:

- Operating-Required resources available for support of operations
- Capital Designated-Required resources of unrestricted funds that have been internally designated
- Temporarily unrestricted net assets represent resources on which the donor has placed certain conditions.
- Once these conditions have been met, these assets are reclassified as unrestricted net assets.

Permanently restricted net assets consist of an endowment which is to be used for providing an outstanding dissertation award in Medical Sociology.

Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Note 2. Unconditional Promise to Give

The Association has an outstanding contribution of $115,000 to support a program for encouraging minority students to pursue teaching careers and is included in temporarily restricted net assets. This contribution is expected to be collected within one year.

Note 3. Investments

At December 31, 1995, cost and fair values of investments are as follows:

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<th>Type of Investment</th>
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<th>Fair Value</th>
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STATEDAMNT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended December 31, 1995

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<th>Item</th>
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<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
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<tr>
<td>Realization of unrealized income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets realized from investments</td>
<td>78,000.00</td>
<td>5,051.00</td>
<td>72,949.00</td>
<td>80,051.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES</td>
<td>$141,742.00</td>
<td>$5,051.00</td>
<td>$136,691.00</td>
<td>$141,742.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENSES                             |              |                        |                        |       |
| Publications                        |              |                        |                        |       |
| Programs                            | $705,376.00  | $0                     | $705,376.00            |       |
| Editorial costs                     | 12,413.00    | 0                      | 12,413.00              |       |
| Membership and Section expenses     | 30,090.00    | 0                      | 30,090.00              |       |
| Meeting expenses                    | 40,784.00    | 0                      | 40,784.00              |       |
| Membership and governance expenses  | 10,011.00    | 0                      | 10,011.00              |       |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                       | $412,368.00  | $0                     | $412,368.00            |       |

| Change in net assets                |              |                        |                        |       |
|                                    | $2,784.00    | $0                     | $2,784.00              |       |

| Net assets, beginning of year       |              |                        |                        |       |
| (Note 10)                           | $1,057,488   | 0                      | 1,057,488              |       |
| Cumulative effect of change in      |              |                        |                        |       |
| accounting principle (Note 9)       |              |                        |                        |       |
| Prior year (Note 11)                | $1,057,488   | 0                      | 1,057,488              |       |
| Net assets, beginning of year, as   |              |                        |                        |       |
| reported                          | $1,057,488   | 0                      | 1,057,488              |       |
| Net assets, end of year             | $1,057,488   | 0                      | 1,057,488              |       |

Note 8. Income Taxes

The Association is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) not to be a private foundation. However, the Association is required to report its unrelated business income to the IRS and the District of Columbia.

The Association pays income taxes on activities not related to their exempt purpose. Total income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 1995 was $9,958.

Note 9. Financial Statement Presentation and Accounting Changes

In 1995, the Association adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 116, Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations. Under SFAS No. 117, the Association is required to report information regarding financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

The Association also adopted in 1995 SFAS No. 118, Accounting for Contributions Received and Contributions Made. In accordance with SFAS No. 116, contributions received are reclassified as temporarily restricted, permanently restricted, or not restricted based on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. Under SFAS No. 116, such contributions are required to be reported as temporarily restricted support and are then reclassified as unrestricted net assets upon expiration of the restrictions. The Association has retroactively applied the provisions of this statement by reclassifying net assets as of December 31, 1995.

In conjunction with Statements 110 and 117, as of January 1, 1995, the previously reported fund balance of the Association is reclassified into three categories as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets at January 1, 1995, as</td>
<td>$1,057,488</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,057,488</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reported</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restatement resulting from</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>implementation of SFAS 116 and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117 and beginning net</td>
<td>$365,346</td>
<td>1,485,766</td>
<td>$1,851,112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price period adjustment (Note 10)</td>
<td>$(3,054)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$(3,054)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHEDULE OF RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 1, 95</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>December 31, 95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>5,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C.W. Atwood & Company
Baltimore, Maryland
March 20, 1996
Call for Papers

The African Studies Association has issued a call for papers for its 40th Annual Meeting, to be held November 15-18, 1990, at the University of California, Berkeley. The deadline for submission is October 1, 1990. For additional information, contact: Professor Robert A. Cassard, Department of African Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The Conference on African Literatures and Visual Arts will be held October 14-16, 1990, at the University of California, Berkeley. The deadline for submission is October 1, 1990. For additional information, contact: Professor Robert A. Cassard, Department of African Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The Southern African Diaspora Association, which meets every two years, has issued a call for papers for its Conference to be held November 15-18, 1990, at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. The deadline for submission is October 1, 1990. For additional information, contact: Professor Robert A. Cassard, Department of African Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

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Meetings, continued

Contact: Joseph Vetrano, 11418 Edgefield Drive, Carrollton Heights, OH 44125; (216) 387-6373; fax (216) 663-1307.
May 27-31, 1998. International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. Contact: Sandy Rob- erson, ISRM, Co-Chair, University of Missouri-Columbia, Rural Sociology, Sociology Building 108, Columbia, MO 65211; (573) 882-0686; fax (573) 882-1473; e-mail: srobinson@missouri.edu.

Funding

The Radcliffe Research Support Program offers small grants of up to $5,000 to post-doctoral investigators for research drawing on the Center's data resources. Deadline: April 15, 1997 and October 15, 1997. For additional information, contact: The Murray Research Center, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden Street, Cam- bridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-8410; e-mail: cscott@radcliffe.edu; http://www.radc.lib.harvard.edu.

Yale University is offering Postdoc- toral Fellowships in Agrarian Studies tenable from September 1998-May 1999. The Program is designed to maximize the intellectual links between Western and non-Western Studies, contemporary work in his- torical work, the social sciences, and the humanities in the context of research on rural life and society. There is a $50,000 stipend. Deadline: January 2, 1998. For additional infor- mation, contact: James C. Scott, Pro- gram in Agrarian Studies, Yale University, Box 289358, New Haven, CT 06520-5006; fax (203) 432-5006.

Competitions

The American Sociological Associa- tion Section on Environment and Technology is offering two awards: (1) The Marvin E. Olien Graduate Student Paper Award recognizes outstanding papers written by a graduate student at the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. The deadline for submission is April 30, 1997. For additional infor- mation, contact: Ken Gould, Marvin E. Olien Award Committee, St. Lawrence University, Department of Sociology, Fisher Hall, Canton, NY 13617. (2) The Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Human- ity is conferred annually to a doc- toral student or young investigator (PhD within last five years) whose paper or article investigates the rela- tionship between technology and humanity. Candidates may either submit their work or be nominated by someone else. The deadline for submission is May 13, 1997. For additional information, contact: Allan Schurr, Institute for Policy Research, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University, 2033 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201- 1120; (847) 491-3202; fax (847) 491- 9901; home page http://www.norwu. edu/sociology/schurr.html.

The American Sociological Associa- tion Section on the Family invites nominations for the Distinguished Scholarship or Service Award, designed to recognize the collective careers of major service contributions of a sociologist's work in the field of soci- ology of the family. Nominations for the award should be members of ASA. A one paragraph description of bio- graphical facts and major works should be sent by April 15, 1997 to Gary R. Lee, Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403-0303; (419) 372-2592; e-mail: gllee@bgnet.BGSU.EDU.

The American Sociological Associa- tion Section on the Sociology of Law invites submissions for its annual Student Paper Competition. Awards will be given for the best undergraduate and graduate submissions on any topic in the sociology of law. Papers must have been written while the author was a graduate or undergradu- ate student. Deadline for submission is May 15, 1997. For additional information, contact: Christopher Yngvesson, U- niversity of Minnesota, Department of Sociology, 909 Social Sciences Building, St. Paul, MN 55455; (612) 624-4016; e-mail yngvesson@dass.umn.edu.

The American Sociological Associa- tion Section on Medical Sociology is seeking nominations for the 1997 Ethel Fischel Award for a paper on a topic related to any aspect of Medical Sociology. The article must have been published between January 1, 1995 and December 31, 1996. The deadline for submission is April 30, 1997. For additional information, contact: Ronald Angel, Chair, Publications Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712; e-mail: rangel@sser.ucr.edu.

The American Sociological Associa- tion Section on Peace and War seeks nominations for its annual Distin- guished Career Award. Nominees should have made significant contribu- tions to the understanding of social processes of peace, conflict, conflict resolution, and/ or military institutions. Deadline for submission is June 1, 1997. For additional information, contact: Jennifer Turpin, Chair, Distin- guished Career Award Committee, Department of Sociology, University of San Francisco, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117-1085; (415) 422-6496; fax (415) 388-2651; e-mail: turpin@sfusd.edu.

The Anthony Leeds Prize in Urban Anthropology established by the Society for Urban Anthropology invites nominations for their 1997 award. The award honors a monograph published since 1995 which advances the anthropological understanding of urban life. The monograph must have been peer reviewed or have passed a dissertation defense in an accredited doctoral program. The award includes a commemorative plaque and $250. Deadline for submission is May 13, 1997. For addi- tional information, contact: Leonard Pisoni, Chair, Leeds Award Committee, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; fax (412) 648- 6758; e-mail: lponisi@pitt.edu.

The Association for Anthropology and Genocide seeks submissions from graduate and undergraduate students for the Margaret Clark Award given annually to the best unpublished genocidal or medieval anthro- pology paper. The winner will receive $500 and consideration for publication of an extended summary in the quarterly AAGAE Newsletter. Deadline for submission is May 30, 1997. For addi- tional information, contact: Mark R. Lubashe, Margarete Clark Award Chair, Polish Research Institute, Phil- adelphia Center, Center 200 Old York Road, Philadelphia, PA 19145; (215) 456-2807; e-mail: MSL@SUMER.U. THUNDERLOC.TEMPLE.EDU.

The Southern Demographic Associa- tion invites submissions for its Stu- dent Paper Award, which honors the best paper presented at its September 25-27, 1997 meeting. The winner will receive $100. Deadline for submission is August 15, 1997. For additional information, contact: Rick Stevens, Population Programs, Campus Box 144, University of Georgia, Athens, CO 30605. (303) 422-2147; fax (203) 422-6404; e-mail: Richard.Rogers@ Colorado.edu.

Awards

Wendell Bell, Yale University, has had his book, Foundations of Future Studies: Human Science for a New Era (Volume 1: History, Philosophy, and Knowledge) selected as one of the top ten futures books published in 1996 by the World Future Society.

Don Dillon, Washington State Uni- versity, was elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association.

Frank Furnisbent, Jr., University of Pennsylvania, has been selected to the rank of full professor.

Sully K. Gallagher, Oregon State University, received the Kappa Pi Emerging Scholar Award and the Researcher of the Year Award from the College of Liberal Arts.

Halle J. Kimmo, General Motors Research and Development Center, was awarded the NSF Lifetime Profes- sorialship for Mathematics and is completing the 1996-97 academic year at the University of Texas at Austin.

Police J. Levine, American Sociologi- cal Association, was elected Fellow of the American Psychological Society.

Luther B. Otto and Ronald C. Win- nesley, North Carolina State Univer- sity, received the William Naal Reynolds Professorship in Sociology.

Allen Steaftan, Augustana State Uni- versity, was named the first Board of Regents' Distinguished Pro- fessor of Teaching and Learning.


Rebecca L. Werner, Carnegie State Uni- versity, won the 1996 Thomas R. Neve- haan Excellence in Teaching Award.

Wayne S. Wooden, California State University-Pomona, has been nomi- nated for the Western Writers of America Spur Award, the National Cowboy Hall of Fame Western Heri- tage Award, and the Commonwealth Club California Authors Book Award for his book, Radio Cowboy: Winners, Losers, and Renegades.

People

Samuel B. Brown, Semin Hall Universi- ty, has accepted a position at Alber- ton Magnus College as Director of Library and Information Services starting in June.

Harvey Chudin, University of Illi- nois-Urbana, is retiring in April and a symposium on Sociology and the New City will be held in his honor.

Kats A. Mark, Mississippi State University has accepted a position as a Behavioral Scientist in the Survelliance Division at National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Dis- ease Control starting in May.

Susan McCoa, University of North Florida, was selected by C-SPAN from college faculty members of C- SPAN in the Classroom, a member- ship service for educators, to attend a

Continued on next page
Sociologists in the News

Wendell Bell, Yale University, was invited on a Q&A interview in the February 1997, issue of George magazine, one of the hottest of the future.

Dean Conley, Maximus Inc., was quoted in the Journal of the Milwaukee Historic Association (Volume 36, Number 4, 1996) on a private individual, regarded as loughering at the age of 65.

Larry Herbst, Worcester State University, was selected for the 2017-2019 service and degrees in the University of Massachusetts, one of the best in the country.

New Books


David W. Rebak, Wayne State University, was selected for a private book, Reaching Out to the World, published by the University of California Press (1996).

Wayne Chaplin, University of Southern California, was invited on the book, Reaching Out to the World, published by the University of California Press (1996).

Nancy Brown, University of Texas-Arlington, was selected for the book, Reaching Out to the World, published by the University of California Press (1996).

Christopher G. Ellis, University of Texas at Austin, was selected for the book, Reaching Out to the World, published by the University of California Press (1996).

David W. Rebak, Wayne State University, was selected for the book, Reaching Out to the World, published by the University of California Press (1996).

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New Publications

Self-Agency and Society a new journal by the American Sociological Association, focuses on the relationship between self-agency and society. It aims to reflect the ways in which different theories contribute to the understanding of self-agency. The journal will cover various topics, such as social networks, identity, and social inequality.

Theoretical Sociology is a new interdisciplinary and international journal for the advancement of the coherent aspects of sociological theory. The journal is interested in theories, concepts, and social phenomena, with a particular focus on economic and social relations. Additional information can be found at the publisher's website.

Deaths

Kingsley Davis, past ASA President and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow, died February 27, 47 years old. Hugh Maxwell, University of Georgia, died December 28, 96 years old.

Obituaries

James J. Goodnow (1845-1945) was a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he served as a professor of political science from 1879 to 1920. His work in political science and public administration is considered a cornerstone of the field.

Professor Goodnow's contributions have been recognized in the form of numerous awards and fellowships, including the prestigious American Political Science Association Award for Distinguished Scholarship in 1979. He is remembered as a tireless advocate for the study of government and politics, and his legacy continues to influence the field today.
American Sociological Association
1997 Annual Meeting
August 9-13, 1997
Sheraton Centre/Toronto Marriott/Toronto Hilton, Toronto

1997 ASA Combined Book Exhibit Reservation

The American Sociological Association invites publishers and authors to join the ASA-sponsored Combined Book Exhibit, to be held during the 1997 Annual Meeting in Toronto. For only $60 per book, we will display each book face out and include information on the book in our Combined Book Catalog. The Catalog will include special order forms for attendees to use following the Annual Meeting. The ASA Combined Book Exhibit will be located in a prominent booth in the Exhibit Hall.

To include your book(s), please fill out the forms below (you may use photocopies if necessary) and return it with two copies of each book and prepayment by July 1, 1997, to: Nancy Sylvester, ASA, 1722 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Publisher: ____________________________
Order Address: ________________________

(1) Book Title: ________________________
General Topic (e.g., Gender, Ethnicity): ____________________________
Author(s)/Editor(s): ____________________________
List Price: $ __________ ASA Meeting Price: $ __________
Copyright date: _______ Number of pages: _______
Brief description (up to 50 words): ____________________________

(2) Book Title: ________________________
General Topic (e.g., Gender, Ethnicity): ____________________________
Author(s)/Editor(s): ____________________________
List Price: $ __________ ASA Meeting Price: $ __________
Copyright date: _______ Number of pages: _______
Brief description (up to 50 words): ____________________________

American Sociological Association
1722 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2981

Chair: Mark your calendars now for the...
ASA Annual Chair Conference
ASA Annual Meeting
August 8-9, 1997
Toronto, Canada

Theme: “Working Together for Positive Department Climates”

The fourth Annual ASA Chair Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, August 8 and 9, 1997, in Toronto, Canada. The conference will begin at 1:00 p.m. on August 8 and conclude by 2:15 p.m. on August 9, which is the first day of ASA Annual Meeting sessions.

The conference will include a presentation of national data on sociology departments, including enrollments, faculty positions, student characteristics, salaries, and so forth. Following that discussion, we will go into breakout groups for different types of institutions to discuss the implications of the data, and other topics of interest.

Register for this exciting and informative conference when you pre-register for the Annual Meeting!

Do You Use The Internet In Your Classroom?
If So, Please Share Your Teaching Materials

The ASA Teaching Resources Center has commissioned a manual on Teaching on the Internet. This is an area that is growing rapidly. The Internet can serve as an excellent teaching tool, and as a new form of class instruction. If you have pertinent materials, please contact the editor listed below:

Jose M. Morillo
Department of Sociology & Anthropology
University of Central Florida
Orlando, FL 32816

The above product is sole distribution during 1997. Please direct all inquiries regarding the product. As materials are completed, they will be announced in Footnotes and distributed through the Teaching Resources Center.

Footnotes
Published monthly with combined issues in May/June, July/August, and September/October. Subscription: $25.00 single copies, $30.

Editor: Pilar Lavin
Managing Editor: Ed Hinter
Production Editor: Carl B. Hauser
Production Manager: Greg Hanford
Secretary: Teresa A. Sullivan

Article abstracts are limited to 1,500 words and must have prescriptive value (i.e., significance, impact, general interest). Journal articles must be received in printed form or on disk within 2 weeks of the deadline for the month's publication (e.g., April 1 for May issue).

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