Looking forward to the 2013 Annual Meeting

Williamsburg, Brooklyn: Capital of Cool

Sharon Zukin,
Brooklyn College and Graduate Center,
CUNY

Half a century ago, Brooklyn was the borough of New York City where tight-knit communities of second-generation Irish, Italian, Jewish, and Scandinavian immigrants hunkered down in waterfront neighborhoods against the forces of postwar change. They confronted the arrival of container shipping, which effectively closed down the port where so many had worked, and the removal of factories and outsourcing of manufacturing jobs, first to cheaper areas in New Jersey and then overseas. They also contended with the arrival of new African American migrants from southern states and Spanish-speaking families from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, who made the borough an even more multi-ethnic and multi-cultural living space, though not without arousing hostility and violence.

During the 1960s and 1970s, many Brooklynnites moved east to newly developed areas of Queens and the suburbs of Long Island, while others moved...
Social Sciences under Attack—Again and Worse

The federal budget debates of the past several months have placed the social sciences in policymakers’ crosshairs.

In late March of this year with the passage of HR 933, Senator Tom Colburn (R-OH) succeeded in his long-standing effort to defund Political Science at the National Science Foundation (NSF). H.R. 933 funds the federal government for the rest of FY 2013, but with the inclusion of an amendment introduced by Colburn, eliminates virtually all NSF funding for research in Political Science Division.

The attack on the social sciences continues with House Science Committee Chair Lamar Smith’s proposed bill that would reauthorize the America COMPETES Act, but would also prevent NSF from funding any social science research. Smith stated in a meeting with pro-business lobbyists and others that the country needs “good science,” and he highlighted the physical sciences and engineering, which, under his proposed plan, would receive the money saved by cutting social science research. In April, Smith circulated a draft bill, the “High Quality Research Act,” that would require the NSF director to certify that all grants being funded be “ground breaking,” “not duplicative,” and important to our national interest. In addition, on April 25, Smith sent a letter to NSF Acting Director Cora Marrett asking for the peer review notes for four social science research projects. Smith stated in a meeting with pro-business lobbyists and others that the country needs “good science.”

Legislators don’t recognize the positive consequences when they rely on our research in their policy making partly because we and others do not remind them.

Another reason for concern is recent remarks made by Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA). Cantor stated that medical research should be a priority but social science research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) should not be supported. Evidently, the new knowledge and societal benefits resulting from the investments cannot be assured in advance.

Why?

Why are the social sciences under political attack? Is it because we aren’t viewed as part of “real” science? Or is it because legislators view us as academic liberal elites? Is it because social scientists have not been effective at communicating the value of the contributions our research makes? Or because legislators don’t like our research results? Probably all of these. But it is also because legislators haven’t experienced sufficient negative consequences when they oppose social science funding! We need louder voices. Legislators don’t recognize the positive consequences when they rely on our research in their policy making partly because we and others do not remind them.

In addition to these funding and peer review issues, bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate to remove the mandatory status of the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) that replaced and vastly improved the Decennial Census long form. What happens if data collection for the nation’s most important baseline data source for states, counties, cities, and neighborhoods becomes a matter of individual choice? Will there be the reliable and timely data necessary to guide the effective distribution of public funding to states and localities for schools, roads and local transit, health care, rural development projects, services for people with disabilities and veterans, and other basic societal functions?

Census Bureau evidence as well as evidence from the social science research community has repeatedly shown that making the ACS voluntary will undermine the reliability of the data, but these concerns appear to fall on deaf ears in Congress.

What Can Be Done?

In addition to our support of the work of COSSA (Consortium of Social Science Associations) here in Washington under the able leadership of Howard Silver and Angela Sharpe, we are trying new things. In collaboration with other social science associations, the ASA is planning to test the effectiveness of visits to the local district offices of key congressional legislators during the spring and summer. This initiative (the “BSSR Champions Initiative”) (Behavioral and Social Science Research) strives to foster relationships between local social scientists, national scientific organizations, members of Congress, and their staff. We will also try to identify local business and industry leaders who understand and support the importance of social science to join us in these visits. Already sociologists have met with Chairman Lamar Smith and Representative Larry Bucshon (R-IN), and are scheduled to meet with Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA) on May 22.

Our hope is that stronger relationships will provide more engagement by social scientists with their own congressional representatives and improve political leaders’ understanding of the value of our work to their constituents.

If you are interested in participating in these meetings, contact Bradley Smith, ASA Director of Public Affairs, at bsmith@asanet.org. Even if you aren’t interested in face-to-face engagement, consider calling your representatives at their local offices, sending them letters or attending a town hall meeting.

We know from colleagues in the federal government that legislators do listen to what they hear from their constituents, especially when such communications remind them of the local consequences of failure to fund research, collect meaningful ACS data, or otherwise support science and science education. Tips on how to communicate with your legislators can be found on the ASA webpage at www.asanet.org/press/communicating_to_policymakers.cfm.

Sally T. Hillsman is the Executive Officer of ASA. She can be reached by email at executive.office@asanet.org.
Promoting Science in Public Policy

The Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE) recently released a report, Using Science as Evidence in Public Policy, which encourages scientists to think differently about the use of scientific evidence in policy-making. This report investigates why scientific evidence is important to policymakers and argues that an extensive body of research knowledge utilization has not led to any widely accepted explanation of what it means to use science in public policy. For social scientists, this report shows how to bring their expertise to bear on the study of using science to inform public policy. More generally, this report will offer guidance on what is required beyond producing quality research, beyond translating results into more understandable terms, and beyond brokering the results through intermediaries, such as think tanks, lobbyists, and advocacy groups. For more information and to download the report, visit <sites.nationalacademies.org/DBASSE/Evidence_in_Public_Policy/index.htm#UY1WAsrYHT>.

NSF-Funded Social Science Research Directly Benefits Americans

A National Science Foundation (NSF) summary brochure released in April highlights the fact that social, behavioral, and economic sciences have a proven track record of making the nation more secure. Titled “Bringing People Into Focus: How Social, Behavioral and Economic Research Addresses National Challenges,” the brochure provides examples of the ways in which NSF-funded, basic, social and behavioral science research contributes to national security and economic interests. The compilation of studies describes cutting-edge research from improving evacuation plans during natural disasters to expanding access to vital services, and from evaluating the experiences of returning veterans to understanding the value of good teachers.

The work featured in the brochure helps to provide understanding that the application of basic research endeavors, the impact of which often occurs years after the initial award, helps make us all healthier, safer, and more secure. This report can be accessed on the NSF website at <www.nsf.gov/about/congress/reports/sbe_research.pdf>.

Census Bureau: Three Decades of Decennial Data Available in API

Three decades of statistics about America’s people, places, and economy are now available for use on the U.S. Census Bureau’s application programming interface (API), which makes the information available for web and mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets. In addition, 2011 American Community Survey estimates for the new districts formed for the 113th Congress are available in the API. The statistics from the 1990 and 2000 censuses join the previously available data sets from the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey. By combining Census Bureau statistics with other data sets, developers can create tools for researchers to look at topics such as school quality. For more information, visit <www.census.gov/developers/>.

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Science Policy

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Summary of ASA Editorial Activity (January 1-December 31, 2012)

For the full 2012 Editors’ Reports, including decision data and review times, visit <www.asanet.org/journals/editors_report_2012.cfm>.

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1 Figures for Contemporary Sociology refer to books received and book reviews.
2 Other* items published are books in the Rose Series.
3 Information not applicable, not known, or not supplied by the editor.
New Department Affiliates Benefit

Professional Development Webinars for Sociology Faculty

Margaret Weigers Vitullo, ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program

Department chairs are frequently finding themselves looking for ways to reconcile the need to support faculty and student development with the reality of extremely limited department budgets. Over the past couple of months, the ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program has been pilot testing a free monthly webinar series for ASA Department Affiliates that is designed to respond to both sides of this equation. Webinar topics fall into three broad categories: professional development, teaching, and department management and leadership. Announcements and registration information for the monthly webinars are only sent to Department Affiliates, with a request that the announcements be forwarded to all department faculty.

Response to the 2012-2013 Webinar Series thus far has been strong and positive. In total, nearly 900 people have registered for webinars and post-webinar evaluations have been encouraging. One participant wrote “[the webinar] was well-prepared and offered a lot of useful information and resources. I also appreciate that the presenter invited follow-up emails. I may well take advantage of her generosity.” Other comments have included, “I’ve liked how smoothly the few ASA webinars I’ve participated in so far have run.” And, “Very helpful webinar! Thank you so much!”

The 2013-2014 Academic and Professional Affairs Webinar Series

The Department Affiliate year runs parallel to the academic year, starting on August 1 and ending on July 31 of the following year. Based on the success of the 2012-2013 Department Affiliate Webinar Series pilot, plans have begun for a full 2013-2014 Department Affiliate Webinar Series that will include 10 monthly webinars.

The working vision for the Department Affiliates Program is that it should provide a meaningful connection between every department of sociology in the country and the American Sociological Association. It is hoped that the new webinar series will help departments recognize the value of joining the program and bring that vision closer to reality. In addition to free priority access to the webinar series, Department Affiliates also receive a subscription to Footnotes for their department; discounts on ASA teaching, academic, and career publications; and discounts on events at the Annual Meeting such as the Department Alumni Night, the Chairs Conference, and the Director of Graduate Studies Conference. Department Affiliates also receive substantial discounts on postings in the ASA Job Bank and the ASA Guide to Graduate Departments. Faculty and students in Department Affiliates also receive a 20 percent discount on ASA member subscriptions to TRAILS (the Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology) and a 50 percent discount on non-member subscriptions to TRAILS. Early in the fall semester Department Affiliates also receive a renewal packet that includes bundles of free copies of the popular booklet “21st Century Careers with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology,” the equally popular brochure “Sociology: A 21st Century Major,” recently published by the American Sociological Association, and other new publications from ASA Research Department Briefs.

Starting on May 16, 2013, it will be possible for departments to join the Department Affiliates Program for 2013-2014 year and gain access to these benefits, including the last webinars in the 2012-2013 series. To make your department a Department Affiliate, or to learn more about the program, go to <www.asanet.org/teaching/department_affiliates.cfm>.

Renew Before Registering...

Renew your ASA membership online before you register for the Annual Meeting in order to qualify for the lower registration fees available to members. See <www.asanet.org/members/joinasa.cfm>.

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 2012</td>
<td>Using Assessment Data to Improve Student Learning</td>
<td>Rebecca Adams, University of North Carolina-Greensboro</td>
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<td>December 2012</td>
<td>Applying for a Non-Academic Job with a PhD in Sociology</td>
<td>Augusto Diana, National Institute on Drug Abuse, and Rachel Ivy, American Physical Society</td>
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<td>January 2013</td>
<td>Turning Your Dissertation Into a Book</td>
<td>Astrid Eich-Krohm, Southern Connecticut State, and University and Gayle Sulik, University at Albany</td>
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<td>February 2013</td>
<td>Teaching Statistics in the 21st Century: Regression for Undergraduates</td>
<td>Salvatore Babones, University of Sydney</td>
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<td>March 2013</td>
<td>Connecting the Sociology Major to Employment for Undergraduates: What Every Faculty Member Can Do</td>
<td>Daina Eglitis, George Washington University, Mary Senter, Central Michigan University, and Roberta Spalter-Roth, ASA</td>
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<td>May 2013</td>
<td>Teaching Theory Outside the Box: Bringing New Life to a Required Course</td>
<td>Morton Ender, U.S. Military Academy, and Cynthia Siemsen, California State University-Chico</td>
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Forthcoming May 2013

Teaching Theory Outside the Box: Bringing New Life to a Required Course

Morton Ender, U.S. Military Academy, and Cynthia Siemsen, California State University-Chico

Forthcoming June 2013

Alternative Tools for Qualitative Analysis: A Side By Side Comparison

Ricardo Contreras, ATLAS-ti, Paul Dupuis, HyperRESEARCH, and Eli Lieber, Dedoose.
Having spent two years as an Honours Coordinator myself, I am not so sure.

A PhD “Program”

Most people agree that it is wonderful for undergraduates to gain hands-on research experience, but Australian undergraduates do so in a high-stakes, sink-or-swim environment that determines their future eligibility for PhD study and government funding. Since they know no statistics, their projects are inevitably qualitative. Since they’ve typically had no formal qualitative training other than a large-format lecture course, their qualitative research is often of poor quality.

The Honours thesis is the proving ground for PhD admissions. A first-class Honours mark admits a student to PhD study. A high first class earns the student a government scholarship. Once admitted to a doctoral “program,” students are expected to start their theses immediately. That is to say, there is no program. Students arrive, meet with their supervisors, and off they go. No coursework, no training, no in-depth discussions of the contemporary relevance of classical theory, no comprehensive exams, and definitely no statistics.

Not surprisingly, Australian-trained PhDs tend to have relatively meager skill sets compared to their U.S. counterparts. In principle this deficit is made up during three-year post-doctoral fellowships. In fact, there are far more graduates than there are post-docs available.

My Australian colleagues all seem to be well-trained, highly accomplished sociologists. But as a sociologist, I worry that in observing them I am selecting them as the dependent variable. I wonder what happened to all the Honours students who didn’t swim in the sink-or-swim metaphor and all the PhDs who didn’t get post-docs. My fear is that much human talent and potential is lost to the discipline every year through aggressive winnowing out. I fear that I would not have ended up a sociologist had I been born an Australian.

On the other hand, for those who make it, conditions are excellent. There is no high-stakes tenure system. Permanent staff are permanent from the beginning, and if you are denied promotion this year you can simply reapply next year. Sociologists who are actively publishing can expect a sabbatical in every seventh semester (six on, one off) followed by “long-service leave” of an additional semester every 10 years. Australian Research Council grants are slightly more generous and slightly easier to get than NSF grants.

Greater Equality and Support

The intellectual atmosphere in Australia is extraordinarily vibrant. At the top research-focused institutions, university-sponsored intercontinental travel is commonplace. Australians are active in the British Sociological Association, the International Sociological Association, and (to a lesser extent) the American Sociological Association. Australians draw on theories and facts from all over the world without preference for any one region or country. Australian sociology is the most cosmopolitan sociology imaginable.

Best of all, the entire university sector in Australia is unionized—at least for now. This means that wage inequality is much lower in Australia than in the United States. Relatively high starting salaries combined with relative security of employment make it possible for junior academics to live reasonably comfortable lives. Of course, another implication of low inequality is that salaries for academic “stars” are comparatively low in Australia. This can make it difficult for Australian universities to retain top senior scholars, many of whom emigrate.

Many of the top scholars are attracted back to Australia—sometimes after “retiring” from their overseas universities—by generous research-only fellowships. The result is that many of the best-known academics in Australia are exempted from classroom teaching and leadership service. In effect, their research output has been “bought” by the university through a no-work salary. This illustrates just how difficult it is to run a highly equitable system in one small country when the rest of the world has moved to a winner-take-all system.

Nonetheless, it is an absolute pleasure to work in a (relatively) equitable system. Although every family has its fights, the fact that money and jobs are usually not at stake removes much of the viciousness from intra-departmental squabbles. Australian sociology is much less obviously political, and much more obviously intellectual, than its American counterpart.

Australian sociology is healthy and growing. The discipline faces some problems with student training, but these are generated by the national university system; the discipline itself has little control over the structure of degrees. For a discipline that is only 50 years old and serving a country of 23 million people, Australian sociology is incredibly robust. In this Pacific century, look for Australia to be a leading node in the global disciplinary network. In many respects it already is.
Human Resources track, titled “Overcoming Dualisms and Promoting Minority Inclusion in Science Networks and Pipelines.” This session, organized by ASAs Roberta Splatter-Roth, included participation by sociologists Eduardo Bonilla-Silva (Duke University), Denise Segura and Laura Romo (University of California-Santa Barbara), Crystal Bedley and Patricia Roos (Rutgers University), Shiri Noy (Indiana University), and Rashawn Ray (University of Maryland), Jean H. Shin (ASA), and Patricia E. White, Sociology Program Officer at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Collectively, the presentations suggested that without navigating a series of dualisms, minority scholars are often excluded from professional networks, holistic mentoring, and access to resources necessary for retention, productivity, and promotion.

According to presenters, there are three dualisms that minority scholars must navigate in order to succeed in white-dominated departments: navigating the normative structure of the department versus everyday practices that may reflect racism; the labeling of race/ethnic-based scholarship as subjective in contrast to the norm of objectivity; and resource distribution based on universalistic versus particularistic criteria.

Promoting Minorities

The work of a number of sociologists was displayed at a three-hour symposium within the AAAS Education and Human Resources track, titled “Overcoming Dualisms and Promoting Minority Inclusion in Science Networks and Pipelines.” This session, organized by ASAs Roberta Splatter-Roth, included participation by sociologists Eduardo Bonilla-Silva (Duke University), Denise Segura and Laura Romo (University of California-Santa Barbara), Crystal Bedley and Patricia Roos (Rutgers University), Shiri Noy (Indiana University), and Rashawn Ray (University of Maryland), Jean H. Shin (ASA), and Patricia E. White, Sociology Program Officer at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Collectively, the presentations suggested that without navigating a series of dualisms, minority scholars are often excluded from professional networks, holistic mentoring, and access to resources necessary for retention, productivity, and promotion.

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The Business Side of Things

Third, sociologists were represented at two important AAAS section and committee meetings. The business meeting of the AAAS Section K was led by sociologists Craig Calhoun (retiring chair) and Richard O. Lempert (secretary) and involved open discussions of several topics of special relevance to social science disciplines. The most notable discussion topics were the relative lack of Science editorial board members from the social sciences, the response by the wider social science community to U.S. Rep. Eric Cantor’s (R-VA) proposed end of federal funding for social science, the impact of upcoming restrictions on travel for federal employees, and a review of AAAS rules on human subjects concerns and the procedures of Institutional Review Boards.

At the business meeting of the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility, Margaret Weigers Vitullo, ASA, and Jessica Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition, presented their ongoing work on the relationship between human rights concerns and scientific research and discourse. Specifically, the work of the AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights, and Law Program (SHRP) focuses on Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. Article 15 requires states to 1) recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the benefits of scientific progress and its applications; 2) conserve, develop, and diffuse science; 3) respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research; and 4) recognize the benefits of international contacts and cooperation in the scientific field. As a program devoted to mobilizing science and scientists to advance human rights, SHRP is committed to promoting Article 15 and engaging scientists in that effort.

Sally T. Hillsman, ASA Executive Officer and 2011 AAAS Fellow, said “The visible and significant role of sociologists at the 2013 AAAS Annual Meeting is proof of the discipline’s position as a contributor to the STEM research community moving forward. I am optimistic that ASA will continue to partner with AAAS through its advancement of cutting-edge sociological research and that of the social and behavioral sciences more broadly.” By submitting ideas for paper sessions and symposia for future AAAS meetings, sociologists can contribute to a greater advancement of sociology as a scientific discipline.
Building a STEM – Literate Society Calls for Sociologists’ Expertise

Debbie Storrs and John Mihelich, University of Idaho

The changing global and local economies and other complex problems the world faces demand an increasingly STEM literate citizenry to make informed decisions. Much has been made of the waning U.S. student interest and performance in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Recent statistics demonstrate the magnitude of this problem on the STEM educational front:

- Thirty-five percent of the nation’s eighth graders perform at or above proficient in mathematics (2011 NAEP).
- Thirty-five percent of the nation’s eighth graders perform at or above proficient in science (2011 NAEP).
- Less than half (45%) of high school graduates in 2011 were prepared for college math and less than a third (30%) were prepared for college science (www.act.org/research/policymakers/cccr11/readiness1.html).

The alarm has been sounded and states have responded by forming STEM networks, developing STEM education roadmaps, adopting Common Core State Standards, and sponsoring various other initiatives (see Change the Equation’s Vital Sign which documents STEM educational actions and outcomes by state at vitalsigns.changethe-equation.org/).

The State of STEM Education in Idaho

Sociologists in Idaho have much to be alarmed about in terms of STEM education. Barely a third of Idaho’s eighth graders perform at or above proficient in math and science. While this is on par with the national average, it’s an abysmal figure that both Idaho and the nation must improve. While Idaho students graduate from high school at a higher rate than the national average, they are less likely to attend college (49% of high school graduates went to a two- or four-year college in 2008 compared with 63% of high school graduates in the nation) and of those who do attend, the retention of first-year students at four-year institutions is lower than the national average (67% vs. 78%). Additionally, they take longer to graduate compared with other high school students in our region (National Center for Higher Education Management Systems Information Center for Higher Education Posing and Analysis). A recent education quality counts report ranked Idaho third to last overall in K-12 educational performance and policy. Adding to these challenges, Idaho families must devote a larger share of family income for students to attend four-year colleges and universities as the amount of state-funded aid in Idaho is lower than it is in other states in the region (National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, “Measuring 2008: The National Report Card on Higher Education.”)

The Study and Implications

With a $1.2 million dollar gift from the Micron Foundation, sociologists at the University of Idaho are leading a five-year (currently in the third year) interdisciplinary research project to explore statewide and community level factors that contribute to these educational statistics, with the goal of shaping policy and practice toward improved K-12 STEM educational outcomes. Thus far, we have collected quantitative and qualitative data from 12 counties across the state of Idaho. Focus groups were conducted in each of these counties with teachers, parents and community members; and surveys were administered to teachers, community members, and students matched with their parents in grades 4, 7, and 10. In addition to contributing to the sociological understanding of educational challenges, our analyses will inform and shape place-based innovations designed to leverage community strengths and opportunities. This summer we have funded three such innovations in different communities, informed by our analysis. Next year, we will convene a statewide STEM education conference, bringing together multiple stakeholders from industry, K-12 and higher education, nonprofits, and the faith community, to share our findings and encourage innovations across the state that are data driven and informed by a sociological perspective.

Such multifaceted research projects and applied innovations assist in establishing sociology as a vital STEM discipline to be supported and cultivated. By extension, we hope to further the practice of incorporating sociologists into interdisciplinary research projects aimed at addressing complex problems ranging from cybersecurity to global climate change. We should embrace this opportunity to contribute to finding solutions to our global problems. After all, as ASA executive officer Sally Hillsman “reminds us,” sociology is a STEM discipline.

For more information on the University of Idaho-Micron STEM Education Research Initiative, see www.uidaho.edu/research/stem/micronstemmed.

Call for Nominations for ASA Offices

The ASA Committee on Nominations, elected by the membership, prepares the slates of nominees for the ASA offices. The Committee will undertake its work at the 2013 Annual Meeting (August 10-13) in New York. Members are encouraged to submit nominations of candidates they think would lead the Association effectively. In making a nomination, submit a one-page narrative supporting your nomination. Officers must be full members of the Association (not associate members) at the time they run for office.

The Committee on Nominations makes every effort to tap into the vitality of the organization that flows from the diversity of our membership. Send nominations via email to governance@asanet.org or by postal mail to American Sociological Association, ATTN: Governance Office, 1430 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005. All submissions must be received no later than August 1, 2013.
AS A Awa rds Seven Grants for the Advancement of Sociology

Member donations are needed to continue advancing the discipline

The American Sociological Association (ASA) announced seven awards from the June 2012 round of the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD). This program, co-funded by ASA and the National Science Foundation (NSF) and administered by the ASA, provides seed money (up to $7,000) to PhD scholars for innovative research projects and scientific conferences that advance the discipline through theoretical and methodological breakthroughs. Funding decisions are made by an advisory panel composed of members of ASA’s Council and the Director of Research and Development.

Without member donations, we cannot maintain FAD at its current funding level. Therefore, we are asking ASA members to provide the donations needed to allow us to continue to fund six or seven proposals per cycle (December 15 and June 15). FAD has funded a wide variety of projects—quantitative and qualitative, domestic and international, micro and macro. Individuals can send contributions to FAD, c/o Business Office, American Sociological Association, 1430 K St. NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005.

Below is a list of the latest FAD Principal Investigators (PIs) and a brief description of their projects.

Mikhail Balaev, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, $7,000 for Who Rules America Revisited.

This research focuses on the power elite in the 21st century and proposes to document, and analyze the corporate background and network ties of senior government employees before and after they hold their government appointment. The PI will examine the affiliations of the senior executive government officials (SEGOs), defined as presidential appointees from 2004 to 2012. SEGOs’ employment and board memberships prior to and after their executive political offices will be coded in a set of variables including the type, sector, and industry of the organizations. This data collection includes identifying and coding documents from a variety of sources such as Financial Disclosures and Ethics Agreements letters. According to the proposal, the most important aspect is that there was no previous analysis of the connection between corporations and the executive government through SEGOs. The project will use the collected information to develop a new database on the interlocking directorate ties for U.S. presidential appointees.

Carolyn Chen, Northwestern University, $7,000 for Zen and the Art of Modern Corporate Productivity: Asian Religions and Instrumental Spirituality.

This study focuses on how religious practices are secularized, transformed, and utilized in a different context—the American corporate workplace. Specifically, it will examine how corporations use Asian religious practices, such as meditation, mindfulness, and yoga, to attempt to improve the productivity of their employees. According to the PI, corporations tailor Asian religions for a secular audience. It also examines how these religious practices in the workplace extend into employees personal lives. Data will be collected through 150 in-depth interviews with professionals, managers, and spiritual practitioners, observations of corporate wellness programs, and content analysis of corporate literature. In short, this project offers an analysis of the relationship between work, self, and spirituality in a postindustrial economy. This project advances sociological theory on the notion that work influences religion rather than, as Weber would have it, that religion influences work.

Ashley Currier, University of Cincinnati, $7,000 for Diffusing LGBT Rights: U.S. Foreign Policy and LGBT Organizing in Côte d’Ivoire.

This pilot project will investigate whether and how U.S. foreign policy on LGBT rights has affected gender and sexual diversity organizing in Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia. Specifically, this project asks how interested groups in two African nations respond to a positive U.S. stance on LGBT rights. The project will compare responses in Côte d’Ivoire (a benign political climate) and Liberia (a hostile political climate) by pro- and anti-LGBT activists (via interviews) with responses by politicians and political leaders (presented in local newspapers). In addition, the study asks how different groups, such as LGBT activists, anti-LGBT activists, religious authorities, and political officials and parties, have responded to the policy. Finally, the PI hopes to gain an understanding of how gender and sexual diversity politics intersect with human rights norms.

Kim Ebert, North Carolina State University, $6,993 for The Role of Policy, Media, and Local Context in Shaping Symbolic Boundaries between Foreign- and Native-Born Groups.

According to the PI, the government plays a central role in defining the boundaries between immigrants and non-immigrants. These definitions have implications for the maintenance of racial and ethnic inequality. The author contends that in many cases, boundaries between native and foreign-born groups stemming from immigration policy only become meaningful when they are disseminated to the public by means of the media. Specifically, the research will investigate the relationship among immigration policymaking at different levels of government. The study examines three general areas: a 10-year analysis of trends regarding the purpose of the policies (revenue or exclusionary); an analysis of local newspapers’ framing of policymaking, and an analysis of whether these boundaries get translated into social boundaries between immigrants and non-immigrants. By focusing on different levels of policymaking, the author goes beyond established gateways and global cities.

Chunping Han, University of Texas-Arlington, $6,997 for Psychological Well-Being in Reform-Era China.

This project is a sociological study of psychological well-being in reform-era China. According to the author, the sociological research on subjective well-being is far less extensive and systematic than what has been done by psychologists and economists. Psychological well-being reflects the extent to which individuals feel their life is thriving or withering, indicates “the quality of the social system in which they live,” and serves as a predictor of many life outcomes such as longevity, health, income, and social skills. Specifically, the PI intends to explore the definition, description, and the explanation of social and psychological sources of life satisfaction and psychological distress in transitional China. The author suggests that the results (based on in-depth interviews) will also shed light on policies and practices conducive to subjective well-being during large-scale, dramatic social and economic shifts that have occurred in China, and ultimately can be used to compare “transitional societies” with “developed societies.”

John W. Mohr, University of California-Santa Barbara, $2,000 for Measuring Culture.

The grant is intended for a conference, titled “Measuring...” Continued on page 9
The Carla B Howery Teaching Enhancement Fund is a small grants program of the American Sociological Association. It supports projects that advance the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) within the discipline of sociology. The Carnegie Foundation defines SoTL as “problem posing about an issue of teaching or learning, study of the problem through methods appropriate to the disciplinary epistemologies, applications of results to practice, communication of results, self-reflection, and peer review” (Cambridge 2001). The 2013 selection committee has awarded $2,000 grants to four projects. With the help of this fund, the recipients can begin meaningful work that will help advance sociological pedagogy.

The ASA would like to congratulate the following recipients:

**Stephanie Medley-Rath**, Lake Land College for Reducing the Financial Burden of College: Are Open Education Resources a Viable Option?

Medley-Rath will conduct research on alternative options to the textbook rental system currently in use at her institution. Her quasi-experimental design will seek to discover whether using Open Education Resources (OER) results in comparable learning outcomes among students while keeping costs reasonably low. In the fall semester at Lake Land Community College, Open Education Resources will be employed in two sections of Introduction to Sociology and traditional textbooks will be used in the other two (one online and the other web-facilitated). The project is important both because Introduction to Sociology is the sociology course most frequently taken by college students, and because a significant portion, if not the majority, of those students are enrolled at a community college where a large majority of students receive financial aid.

**David Blouin**, Indiana University-South Bend, and **Allison Moss**, University of Illinois at Chicago for Formal and Informal Teacher Training in U.S. and Canadian Sociology Graduate Departments, Revisited 20 Years Later

Blouin and Moss will conduct a mixed-methods investigation of graduate teacher training. They will first determine the extent to which departments employ students as teachers, whether departments offer graduate student training or preparation, and, if so, what that training looks like. To understand the effect of training Blouin and Moss will then conduct qualitative interviews with sociology graduate students to investigate the differences among the various types of teacher trainings discovered in the first part of their study. With only 50 percent of graduate programs offering formal teacher training, their findings can have important implications for the discipline, higher education, and more specifically graduate teacher training.

**Tracy Ore**, St. Cloud State University for The Use of Peer Learning Assistants in the Large Introductory Sociology Classroom to Support Student Learning

In an effort to keep up with changes in resources and demographics at her university, Ore will incorporate undergraduate Peer Learning Assistants in her 200-student Introductory to Sociology course. The project seeks to facilitate teaching and learning activities and assistance not available directly from the instructor. Ore will identify with the student’s personal and professional goals and help them see how sociological knowledge can be applied to their future work. Her project will attempt to overcome the barriers to learning many of her students face. She will use her university’s resources, such as the Multicultural Student Services and the First Year and Transitions Program, to identity Peer Learning Assistants who represent the populations in her course as well those who initially struggled in her Introduction course but ultimately succeeded.

**Ashley Rondini**, Transylvania University for Health, Illness, and Community-Assessing Critical Consciousness and Learning Outcomes in a Multi-Site, Thematically Organized Service Learning Course

Rondini will use her funds to assess student learning outcomes of her service-learning course, “Health, Illness and Community.” She will evaluate the experiences of a multi-site, integrated learning approach. Additionally, she will be using qualitative interviews with her students to assess the development of “critical consciousness” in relation to the conceptual frame of health as a social justice issue. Service learning pedagogy encourages students to ask questions about the connections between social structures and societal problems. Her course, in particular, will help students cultivate their sociological imagination and use it to examine topics related to health and health care and their multi-dimensional aspects and sociological significance.

For more information about the Carla B. Howery Teaching Enhancement Fund, visit <www.asanet.org/funding/tef.cfm>.

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**Advancement**

*from Page 8*

Culture,” which will bring together quantitative and qualitative scholars to sit down together and discuss the problem of measuring culture in the discipline of sociology. The goal of the meeting will be to forge a new set of common understandings and basic orientations toward measurement practices and theories as they relate to cultural analysis. Citing findings from other fields, the PI argues that small conferences are indispensable for paradigm shifts to occur. Based on this view, the PI states that forging common understanding through a small-conference format will move the sociology of culture forward and help establish a coherent sub-field of scientific sociology. The proceedings of the conference, should result in a special issue of *Theory and Society* or an edited volume.


The purpose of this proposal is to compare welfare-to-work service delivery in rural counties in two states, with very different rural populations (North Carolina’s welfare population is predominantly black, while Ohio’s is predominantly white). The study allows an examination of race, place, and service in which rural poverty is particularly understudied. The focus will be on the challenges faced by agencies and organizations in both states and the place of race in how government employees implement TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). The project will combine rural marginalization and critical race theory on welfare stigma to understand how both race and location interact to play a role in the potential effectiveness of Welfare-to-Work programs.

The next deadline FAD Round is June 15, 2013. We encourage ASA members to submit. Potential applicants can reach the program director, Roberta Spalter-Roth, at spalter-roth@asanet.org, the co-director Nicole Van Vooren can be reached at vanvooren@asanet.org. For more information, visit <www.asanet.org/funding/fad.cfm>.</body>
across the water to Staten Island and the suburbs of New Jersey. The borough had always taken second place to Manhattan as the center of metropolitan commerce and celebrity. And the defection of the Brooklyn Dodgers to Los Angeles in 1957 symbolized a collective sense of departure and loss.

**Early Hipster Invasion**

Since the 1980s, however, Brooklyn residents have awakened to a stunning reversal. Neighborhoods like Brooklyn Heights and Park Slope, with their rich supply of distinctive brownstone townhouses, became highly desirable residential locations (see map on page 1). And neighborhoods like Williamsburg attracted visual artists, musicians, and creative communities (see photo, Bliss Bakery, Bedford Avenue).

**Artists and Young People**

While Galapagos Art Space on North 6th Street hosted performances by mixed-media artists, a growing number of alt-rock bands played in other nearby bars. This created a mutually-reinforcing reputation for DIYers (do it yourself) and alternative culture that brought visitors to the neighborhood and audiences to the bands.

Two early artisanal start-ups, Brooklyn Brewery on North 11th Street (brooklynbrewery.com) and Brooklyn Industries on North 8th Street and Bedford Avenue. The Brewery, founded in 1987 by two Brooklynites, moved to a converted factory in Williamsburg in 1996. And Industries created a local, and gradually a global, market for their small-scale production of clothing and messenger bags, together making Williamsburg a “scene” and Brooklyn a “brand.”

These synergies became more intense with the rapid growth of social media. In the early 2000s, 1121 Magazine, The L Magazine, and the blog <www.freewilliamsburg.com> published news of interest to the local hipster community and promoted local bars, festivals, and cultural events. On weekend nights, the main commercial street of Bedford Avenue was filled with young men and women in their 20s, sporting piercings, tattoos, and porkpie hats.

**High Rises and Increasing Rent**

Two events in 2005 mark the high point of the area’s hipster gentrification era. On the one hand, summer rock concerts in the empty concrete shell of the swimming pool in McCarren Park drew enormous crowds of young people (www.mccarrenpark.com). In 2012, the pool reopened. On the other hand, abandoned and half-empty industrial buildings on the East River drew the interest of real estate developers and the city planning commission, which rezoned the waterfront for high-rise, residential development.

Alongside both legal and illegal conversions of “inland” factories to living lofts, new apartment houses on the waterfront soon made finding a home in Williamsburg a more expensive proposition (see photo, New Waterfront Construction). Under the onslaught of rising rents, most Hispanic and older Polish residents had already moved away.

After 2005, hipsters migrated out, many moving eastward along the L subway line to East Williamsburg and Bushwick. Other residents moved northward to Greenpoint, also a neighborhood where aging Polish residents owned homes. The Galapagos Art Space, which faced a rent increase of 30 percent, accepted a deal from the development firm which owns most of the properties in DUMBO (Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass), a bit to the south, and moved from Williamsburg in 2007 (<www.galapagosartspace.com/>).

**New vs. Old**

This brief account makes gentrification seem a tidier package than it really has been. Only with hindsight do Williamsburg’s high property values appear inevitable. For many years following the city’s fiscal crisis of 1975–76 the neighborhood was neglected by public authorities. Firehouses closed for lack of funds, small factories and metal-working shops lacked official support, unemployment and asthma rates rose.

Complex negotiations between community groups, the city government, and real estate developers created a system of inclusionary rezoning of the waterfront and resulting new development.
William Knox: A Positive Force in Greensboro

“My mentor invested a lot of time and energy in helping me. He helped me become a better writer and sociologist, but most importantly, he helped me become more confident.” This was former student MaryBe MacMillan’s description of William Knox, longtime professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Knox was born in 1930 in New York City. His father died in 1933. Subsequently, during a time when few women pursued scientific careers, his mother attained a PhD in microbiology from Columbia, where she had a career as a virologist and immunologist.

Knox explored pre-medical and humanities studies at Princeton in 1948-49, but he left near the end of his freshman year. He began anew at Colgate University where he received great support from a sociologist, Raymond Ries, who suggested a career in academe. During his college years, when he struggled with direction, he found his passion in the study of sociology and writing. In 1955, Knox earned a BA degree magna cum laude from Colgate. He recalled that “sociology was a life saver.”

At Colgate, Knox was in the Air Force ROTC. A photo-radar intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.” His secondary duty as an intelligence officer (1960-1963), his duties included making air target charts for bombing practice and evaluating U-2 flight paths. As a social scientist and a human being, Knox believed that the “work went against his conscience.”

In 1972 and in a longitudinal study that continued through the early 1980s with up to 20,000 cases. Presenting their paper, “Does College Make a Difference?” at the 1986 American Educational Research Association meeting placed the findings in the public domain. A book with the same paper title was published by Knox and Lindsay in 1994. Ernest Pascarella and Patrick Terenzini cited the research frequently in How College Affects Students, their prize-winning update of Theodore Newcomb’s synthesis of the effects of higher education.

Teaching

Teaching at Greensboro for more than four decades, Knox chaired UNCG’s Sociology Department from 1990-94. He enjoyed the challenge of administration and loved advising students: “This has always been a department serious about professional activities, and it has always been a good teaching department,” said Knox. Painfully shy when he was younger, Knox eventually blossomed into a confident and gregarious teacher. From the 1970s onward, he spearheaded computer use in teaching and writing-intensive instruction.

Knox left a positive mark on many of his students. Brian Fogarty, a former graduate student and professor at St. Catherine’s College said, “He fueled my interest in social psychology; but more importantly, he gave me permission, in an age of specialization, to think about connections between sociology and other areas of thought.”

Following his retirement in 1994, Knox has written many op-ed pieces and participates in the American Civil Liberties Union, environmental organizations, and fundraising for UNCG. An avid photographer, he has exhibited in juried and museum shows. He currently works intermittently on a memoir. He and his wife, Diana, a special education teacher, have been happily married for 58 years. The result of their marriage was three children and seven grandchildren.

Brooklyn

from previous page

zon- ing rules that mandates a fixed percentage of “affordable” apartments in new, multi-unit housing. But this system depends on the developers’ voluntary acceptance, and they exact concessions in return from the city government. Often concessions take the form of permission to build taller buildings, with more rentable units, than zoning allows. Moreover, the formula to calculate “affordable” rents is based on median household incomes in the metropolitan region, which are often higher than those in the city and in the neighborhood.

The financial crisis that began in 2006 halted construction on many sites. Yet by 2013, $2 and $3 million sales of palatial penthouse lofts in Williamsburg were not uncommon. For a price of $185 million, ownership of the former Domino Sugar refinery on the Southside waterfront passed from a firm specializing in “affordable” housing to the developer who owns most of DUMBO. Their plans now project tall buildings for both apartments and “creative” offices, cutting-edge architecture—literally since the design features a large cutout in the middle of the structure—and lots of green space for public access in a waterfront park.

Williamsburg is still a community in both ferment and formation. Restaurants feature locavore produce, artisanal production, and “nose-to-tail” carnivorous cuisine prepared by exciting young chefs. Summer brings open-air alt-rock concerts in the waterfront park at North 12th Street and walks along the waterfront esplanade. For now, the vacant lot at the Domino Sugar refinery will be an urban farm.

And for those who want a more “authentic” location…they can follow the hipsters eastward to the Morgan Avenue station of the L line in Bushwick, where art galleries and organic food shops have taken root amid a majority Latino and minority African American population.
How the Theme Plays Out

This was the thinking that motivated me and the 2013 Program committee as we put together the plenaries, presidential sessions, and thematic sessions for our Annual Meeting August 10–13 in New York. There will be three plenaries to set a broad frame on the problem of “Interrogating Inequality: Linking Micro and Macro.” The Opening Plenary, which takes place on Friday, will focus on “Inequality and Contemporary Protest.” The idea is to begin our collective conversation with analyses of dramatic examples of the social tensions surrounding current inequality such as the Occupy and Tea Party movements. Barbara Ehrenreich, a close observer of inequality and collective action, will join distinguished political sociologist Theda Skocpol, author of a recent book on the Tea Party, in a panel facilitated by prominent social movements scholar Douglas McAdam.

The second plenary, “Micro Processes as Mechanisms of Inequality,” is designed to highlight the importance of incorporating processes at the individual and interpersonal levels into our understandings of how inflexible patterns of inequality are actually made. Each of the speakers will look for key levers of inequality that occur at the micro level. Lawrence Bobo will discuss the production of racial inequality, Shelley Correll will take on micro mechanisms in gender inequality, and Annette Lareau will discuss class-based inequality. Then, Jane McLeod will look across the micro processes that operate in these diverse forms of inequality to give us a general analysis of the nature and significance of micro processes in the organization of society on unequal terms.

The final plenary, “How Is Inequality in the U.S. Changing?,” will take on the task of understanding exactly how broad patterns of inequality based on class, gender, and race are changing right now and discerning what is driving these changes. In what way are these changes related to one another? This session goes to the heart of our concerns to understand what contemporary inequality really is right now and what the implications of it are for the future of our society. David Grusky will discuss the issues with regard to socioeconomic and class inequality, Paula England will address changing gender inequality, and Tomás Jiménez will look at the shifting terrain of racial inequality. The last speaker, Robert Mare, will ask whether there are common patterns of change across different types of inequalities and, if so, how we should understand them.

Presidential Panels and Thematics

I am really looking forward to these plenaries myself and I hope you are too. But that is not all we have planned. There also are six Presidential Panels and a wide range of Thematic Sessions that delve more deeply and specifically into the issues I outline above. A Presidential Panel I organized is “Interrogating Inequality: Structural and Cultural Dimensions.” I invited four prominent scholars who will draw upon their own research to examine how material, structural, and cultural factors work together, and sometimes against one another, in the making and unmaking of inequality. I asked these scholars to discuss substantive considerations of these issues in the context of actual research than in abstract “culture vs. structure” theoretical debates. I’m pleased to say that Ann Swidler, Mario Small, Min Zhao, and Paul DiMaggio will share their insights into what it takes to understand and change durable inequalities like class, race, and gender, both structural and cultural aspects.

Another Presidential Panel, organized by Program Committee member Devah Pager, is “Grappling with Inequality: What Economics, Psychology, Political Science, and Sociology Have to Say about Rising Inequality in the U.S.” It addresses the serious need for multi-level perspectives to understand the problem of growing inequality. Her distinguished panelists include Susan Fiske of psychology, economist Lawrence Katz, political scientist Barry Barlett, and sociologist’s Erik Olin Wright. In addition, we have Presidential Panels on “Immigration and the Changing Racial Terrain, organized by Douglas Massey; one on “Organizational Dynamics and Inequality,” organized by Emilio Castilla; another on “Cultural Meanings of Gender and Inequality;” put together by Shelley Correll; and lastly, “Changing Beliefs about Inequality, Opportunity, and Mobility,” organized by Sandra Smith. I think you can see that these sessions were all motivated by our goals of looking at multidimensional inequality, taking into account cultural as well as structural mechanisms, and looking across levels of analysis to find mechanism of inequality.

There also are many enticing Thematic Sessions on a range of topics like crime and incarceration, status and change processes, statistical models for studying inequality, racial disparities in health, the micro politics of domination, changing work structures, changing families and households, sex and sexuality, “who are the one percent?,” legal rights and inequality, and so on. I want to point out two highlights. Bernice Pescosolido has put together a provocative and timely session on “When Sociological Research Matters: Sandy Hook, Aurora, Virginia Tech, and the Sociological Voice in Understanding and Preventing Mass Shootings.” And we also have a session reflecting on Wilson’s The Truly Disadvantaged, 25 years later. I hope you will come to New York and participate in our broad-ranging conversation about contemporary inequality—how to understand it and what to do about it.
Sociologist Honored for Research on Education and Immigrant Populations

In mid-February, Rubén G. Rumbaut, University of California-Irvine professor of sociology, was elected to the National Academy of Education (NAEd). He is one of 12 new members admitted in 2013 for outstanding contributions in educational research and policy development.

Rumbaut is internationally known and widely cited for his research on children and young adults raised in immigrant families of diverse nationalities and socioeconomic classes. He has authored, co-authored, or edited numerous publications on the topic, including 14 books—with two more forthcoming. He was awarded the 2002 ASA Distinguished Book Award for Legacies: The Story of the Immigrant Second Generation (co-authored with Alejandro Portes), which also received the Thomas and Znaniecki Award from the International Migration Section. In addition, as a National Academy of Sciences panel member, he has contributed to two authoritative volumes on the U.S. Hispanic population.

Since 1991, Rumbaut has co-led (with Alejandro Portes) the landmark Children of Immigrants Longitudinal Study, following subjects from dozens of nationalities in South Florida and Southern California as they become adults. From 2002 to 2008, he co-directed the Immigration & Intergenerational Mobility in Metropolitan Los Angeles study, which focused on 1.5- and second-generation young adults of Mexican, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, Filipino, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and other ethnic origins, compared with third-generation peers. Numerous follow-ups by Rumbaut and others have been based on this research. He's currently conducting a longitudinal study of youth populations with roots in Ameaca, Mexico, to see how they differ in educational status and transition to adulthood.

Sociologists Well Represented

In addition to Rumbaut, other sociologists to be elected to the NAEd include: Gary S. Becker, Dan Lortie, and Stephen Raudenbush, all at University of Chicago; Anthony S. Bryk, The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; Adam Gamoran and Robert M. Hauser, both of University of Wisconsin-Madison; Valerie Lee, University of Michigan; and Judith Warren Little, University of California-Berkeley; Hugh Mehan, University of California-San Diego; John W. Meyer, Stanford University. The NAEd emeritus sociologist members include Charles Bidwell, Robert Dreeben, Nathan Glazer, and Maureen Hallinan.

Since its establishment in 1965, the National Academy of Education has undertaken research studies that address pressing issues in education and that typically include both NAEd members and other scholars with an expertise in a particular area of inquiry. In addition, members are deeply engaged in NAEd’s professional development fellowship programs focused on the rigorous preparation of the next generation of scholars.

ASALeague

for public discussion and debate

The recent oral arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court on same-sex marriage have brought some attention to the sociological community. The primary reason for this unexpected consideration came from Justice Scalia, who commented during the hearing that “there’s considerable disagreement among sociologists” as to the consequences of same-sex parenting on children’s well-being. Justice Scalia was mistaken in making this claim, because there is no such measure of disagreement among sociologists. Scalia’s comment was also without foundation in the evidence presented to him as a member of the Court for the one item that was submitted in the case concerning California’s Proposition 8 on behalf of sociologists came in the form of an *amicus curiae* brief filed by the ASA, which argued that there is a “clear and consistent consensus” that children raised by same-sex parents fare just as well as others. And, in a letter in the *Washington Post*, the ASA Executive Officer similarly maintained that social science research “consistently and incontrovertibly” has shown that sexual orientation has no bearing on children’s well-being. (See: <www.washingtonpost.com/2013-03-30/opinions/38140171_1_social-science-research-gay-parents-gay-marriage>.)

Both the statements in the ASA *amicus curiae* brief and in the *Washington Post* letter are false for the straightforward fact that there is no such thing as undisputable evidence on any issue sociologists discuss. If there is one legitimate consensus about sociologists it is that dissent is the rule rather than the exception. The basis of the relative degree of agreement that exists among contemporary sociologists on same-sex relationships is a matter of convenience.

The inconsistencies in sociological research fueled the uproar over the research conducted by Mark Regnerus. Without taking up a position on the validity of this research, it is telling that the ASA *amicus curiae* brief devotes a large section to debunking the Regnerus research despite the fact that Regnerus himself wrote that his study was not intended to contribute to the legal debate on same-sex marriage. If anything, the ASA ought to have come to Regnerus’ defense to argue forcefully against those who misrepresented his work.

Sociologists who attempt to pervert the academic quest for truth by adhering ideologically to a position of justice are not just political; they also, and more importantly, violate the central principle of academic work to not say anything unless we know what we are talking about. Sociologists cannot, by virtue of their expertise, take up any position on a non-academic matter and must remain cautious and modest about the validity and value of their research, not to mention that of others. In my own position that same-sex marriage should be allowed by developing appropriate legal norms, for example, I remain wholly unaffected by any factual evidence as well as the values others may hold. Rights are to be respected over and above facts and values alike.

The American Sociological Association has again revealed itself for what it primarily has become: an advocacy group interested in publicity rather than a professional group in pursuit of the search for truth. It is also primarily for this reason that I and a fair number of other sociologists are no longer members.

Mathieu Deflem, University of South Carolina, deflem@sc.edu
Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) invites its members to The Encyclopedia of Family Studies, which will be published (in print and online) by Wiley-Blackwell in 2015. The five-volume project takes an international and interdisciplinary approach to the large and growing field of Family Studies. “The” family (or families) will be viewed from both an institutional or structural (i.e., macro) level as well as an interpersonal (i.e., micro) level. This project will be more than a compendium of knowledge about white, upper-middle class US families written by American scholars. Diversity across topics/issues, authors, and intended audiences will be reflected throughout the volumes. Deadline: October 5, 2013. Contact: Melanie L. Duncan at melaniel.duncan@ufl.edu; or Dr. Shenan at cshehan@ufl.edu; <www.lists.southernct.edu/mailman/listinfo/sws>.

Meetings
MidSouth Sociological Association's (MSSA) 39th Annual Conference, October 23-26, 2013, Atlanta, GA. Theme: “Action Sociology: Opportunities in a (Post) Modern World.” The MSSA invites professionals and students to present their sociological scholarship at the 39th Annual MSSA Conference. The MSSA is one of the few sociology associations to hold their meeting in the fall each year, and it is an excellent opportunity to explore outcomes of the year’s work or prepare for next year’s activities. The blend of sessions provides many outlets for presentations and, when combined with proposed panels and workshops, will make for a stimulating conference. To be considered for inclusion in the program, authors should submit their name, affiliation, contact information, working paper title and abstract directly to one of the session organizers listed in the Call for Papers and Participation. Deadline for submissions to session organizers is June 7, 2013. Contact: midsouthsoc@gmail.com; <www.midsouthsoc.org>.

Sociology of Development Conference. The Department of Sociology at the University of Utah, with assistance from the Department of Sociology at Brigham Young University, will host the 3rd annual conference of the Sociology of Development section of the American Sociological Association, October 24-25, 2013, on the University of Utah campus in Salt Lake City, Utah. The organizers plan to give awards for the best papers authored by faculty and graduate students. Authors will be expected to submit electronic copies of completed manuscripts to the organizing committee. Submit extended abstracts (3 page maximum). Deadline: October 1, 2013. Contact: socodevelopment@soc.utah.edu; or Dr. Shenan at cshehan@ufl.edu; <www.lists.southernct.edu/mailman/listinfo/sws>.

Meetings


Funding
The Peter F. McManus Trust is an organization that gives grants for research into the causes of alcoholism and substance abuse. The Peter F. McManus Trust.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research Program is a national fellowship program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Each year, it provides up to nine talented social scientists with a unique and challenging two-year post-doctoral research and training experience at one of three participating universities: The University of California at Berkeley and San Francisco; The University of Michigan; and Harvard University. For information about the program, visit the website www.healthpolicyfellows.org.
McManus Charitable Trust will make grants of up to $50,000 for research into the causes of alcohol and other drug addiction. A total of $150,000 to $200,000 in grants will be awarded this year to support basic medical and social-environmental research. Only nonprofits may apply, and no more than 10 percent of the grant amount may be used for indirect costs. Applicants should submit a two- to three-page summary proposal and a proposed budget along with a copy of their institution’s 501(c)3 letter and a biosketch of the investigator. Deadline: August 30, 2013. Contact: Katherine G. Lidz (610) 647-4794.

Early Career Work and Family Scholars Program The Work and Family Researchers Network is currently seeking applicants for the 2013-2014 Early Career Work and Family Scholars Program. Fifteen scholars will be selected for the program. To be eligible, candidates must have received their doctorate in 2010 or later, and have yet to progress into tenure or secure senior level positions. Those anticipating receipt of their doctoral degree by June 2013 are eligible to apply. Application is not restricted on the basis of location. Recipients of the award will be expected to become members of the WFRN. The goal of the Early Career Work and Family Scholars Program is to provide support for recent doctoral recipients to facilitate their teaching and research scholarship. By offering resources and consultation, the program is designed to help promising young scholars move into tenured appointments and secure senior level positions, as well as connect them to the broad work and family community by enhancing their professional networks. Deadline: June 1, 2013. Contact: Stephen Sweet (sweet@ithaca.edu; workfamily.sas.upenn.edu/content/early-career-scholars-program).

Wilson Center’s European Studies Research Grants EES research scholarships are available to American citizens, with a special emphasis on scholars in the early stages of their academic careers (generally before tenure but after Ph.D.). For non-academics, an equivalent degree of professional achievement is expected. Research scholarships will be awarded for 2-4 months of research in Washington, DC, and the stipend amount is $3,200 per month. Office space at the Wilson Center and a research assistant will be provided whenever possible. This is a residential program requiring visiting scholars to remain in the Washington, DC area and to forego other academic and professional obligations for the duration of the grant. Deadline: December 1, 2013. Contact: EuropeanStudies@WilsonCenter.org. (<http://wilsoncenter.org/collection/grant-opportunities>.

Fellowships The Penn Social Science and Policy Forum is pleased to announce its initial Summer Institute for Predissertation Students to be held in June of 2013. Under the leadership of SSPF Director Thomas Sugrue of the University of Pennsylvania and Professor John Skrentny of the University of California-San Diego, this program will provide opportunities for talented doctoral students in the social sciences to visit the University of Pennsylvania campus to explore research topics and scholarship related to the theme of Inequality. Deadline: April 12, 2013. Contact: penn-ssp@sc.upenn.edu. (<http://www.sas.upenn.edu/sssp/summer-institute-and-predissertation-fellowship-inequality-june-17-26-2013>.

Competition 2013 Social Issues Dissertation Award: The Society for the Psychologi- cal Study of Social Issues Research Grants invites applications for the Social Issues Dissertation Award, established to encourage excellence in socially relevant research. Any doctoral dissertation in psychology (or in a social science with a psychological subject matter) accepted between March 1st of the previous year and up to the deadline of the current year is eligible. Applicants must have successfully defended their dissertation prior to the current year’s award deadline. Please note that in the award year an individual or group may only submit one paper to one SSPSI award (from amongst the Allport, Klineberg, and Dissertation Awards). Deadline: May 10, 2013. Contact: spssi@spssi.org. (<http://www.psychsoc.org/index.html?section=page; viewpage&pagessid=724>.

In the News Amy Adamiczky, and Britanny Hayes, both of John Jay College of Criminal Justice-CUNY, were mentioned in a March 3 Boston Globe article, “Which Religions Have the Most Premarital Sex?” Catherine Albiston, University of California-Berkeley, and Shelley Correll, Stanford University, wrote a March 13 CNN.com op-ed, “Benefit of Office Face Time a Myth.” Vida Bajc, Methodist University, was featured October 31 on the radio show, “Action Speaks,” about underappreciated dates that changed America, where he discussed surveillance, security, and the invention of the body scanner. Dawn Michelle Baunach, Georgia State University, was quoted in an April 8 Study of Social Issues article, “Have America Got Past the Anti-Gay Politics of the ’90s?” Robert Bellah, University of California-Berkeley, was mentioned in a February 21 post, “Church and State in France and the United States” on the Washington Post blog, “Guest Voices.” Andrew A. Beveridge, Queens College and Graduate Center-CUNY, and Tamara Mose Brown, Brooklyn College-CUNY, were quoted in a February 24 New York Times article about how there is a waiting list for almost everything from activities and classes to sports teams and local schools for parents of children in New York City. Suzanne Bianchi, University of California-Los Angeles, and Jerry Jacobs, University of Pennsylvania, were quoted in a March 1 USA Today article, “More Wives Earning More Than Their Spouse.” Chloe E. Bird, RAND Corporation, was a March 20 post, “Making Heart Disease a Women’s Issue,” on the Ms. Magazine blog. Charles Bosk, University of Pennsylvania, was quoted in a February 26 Daily Beast article, “Can the Cleveland Clinic Save American Health Care?” Hana Brown, Wake Forest University, was quoted in a March 29 Voice of America article, which mentions her recent American Sociological Review study, “Race, Legality, and the Social Policy Consequences of Anti-Immigra- tion Mobilization.” Susan Brown, Bowling Green State University, and Corinne Recez, University of Cincinnati, were quoted in an April 4 MyHealthNewsDaily.com article about how more couples are choosing to live together before they get married. The article also appeared in Yahoo!News on April 4. Robert Brulle, Drexel University, was quoted in an April 9 post, “The Well-Funded and Organized Campaigns That Influence Climate Change Science Online,” on The Scientific American blog, “Plugged In” and was mentioned in an April post, “Climate Campaigins Try Flooding the (Comment) Zone,” on The New York Times blog, “Dot Earth.” Christine Carter, University of California-Berkeley, was quoted in a February 28 St. Louis Post-Dispatch article, “Can Social Networks Improve Real-Life Rela- tionships?” Mark Chaves, Duke University, was quoted in a March 9 Herald-Sun article, “U.S. Religious Activity Not Going Up.” Karen A. Cerulo, Rutgers University, was quoted in an April 32 The Wall Street Journal article, “Study Finds Gene That May Raise Alzheimer’s Risk in Blacks.” The article also appeared in other media outlets including, NBCNews.com, the Chicago Tribune, and the Huffington Post on April 9. Joanna Drobey, University at Albany-SUNY, was quoted in a March 1 post, “Deportation Fears Among Children of Undocumented Immigrants,” on the Boston Globe blog, “Brainiac.” Thomas J. Espenshade, Princeton University, was mentioned in a March 10 New York Times article, “The Liberals Against Affirmative Action.” Amatit Ettizoni, George Washington University, was mentioned in an April 4 New York Times article, “Police Surveillance May Earn Money for City.” Robert Faris, University of California-Davis, was quoted in a February 26 CNN.com article about bullying and mentioned in a March 10 Globe and Mail article, “The 6 Biggest Myths About Bullying that Parents and Teach- ers Should Know.” Mary L. Gautier and Jose Casanova, both of Georgetown University, were quoted in a March 9 Washington Post article, “Has the Time Come for a Pope of Color?” Jennifer Glass, University of Texas-Austin, wrote a March 8 New York Times op-ed on the benefits of telecommuting. Justin Goodman, Marymount University/People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, was quoted in a February 25 Washington Post article about the use of animals in military training drills. The article also cited research he co-authored on military training standards in NATO nations. David Greenberg, New York University, was quoted in a March 3 Washing-
Green State University, was quoted in an April 9 "Inside Higher Ed" article about his new book, Why Are Professors Liberal and Why Do Conservatives Care?

Karen Benjamin Guzzo, Bowling Green State University, was quoted in a March 5 TODAY.com article, "Reverse Guilt: Moms Feel Guilty For... Not Feeling Guilty."

Laura Hamilton, University of California-Merced, and Elizabeth Armstrong, University of Michigan, were mentioned in a March 5 Atlantic column, "Women in Their 20s Shouldn't Feel Bad About Wanting a Boyfriend."

Kevan Harris, Princeton University, was interviewed or featured regarding his recent book, Of Virgins and Martyrs: Women and Sexuality in Global Conflict, in media outlets including Salon.com, Süddeutsche Zeitung (Germany), Tages Anzeiger (Switzerland), France 2 television, Le Monde, Courrier International, Hispanic Multinational Press, and numerous others in the United States, Europe, India, and Africa.

Guillermina Jasso, New York University, was mentioned in an April 8 Wall Street Journal article, "Many Here Illegally Overstayed Their Visas."

Carole Joffe, University of California-San Francisco, was quoted in an April 4 New York Times article about the surge in restrictions on abortion imposed by various state legislatures.

Arne L. Kalleberg, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was quoted in a February 1 Boston Globe article on the need to continue to make investments in infrastructure to close the gap between good and bad jobs.

Rachel Kalish and Michael Kimmel, both of Stony Brook University, and Maria Charles, University of California-Santa Barbara, were mentioned in an April 1 post, "The Future of the Gender Bend," on the New York Times blog, "Economix."

Philip Kasinitz, Graduate Center, CUNY, and Robert Sampson, Harvard University, and Ramiro Martinez, Northeastern University, were interviewed March 8 on NPR’s "All Things Considered" for a story about whether crime drops when immigrants move into neighborhoods. They were also quoted in a March 8 NPR.org article on the same topic.

Katherine King, Duke University, is quoted in a March 8 Atlantic Cities article, "Jane Jacobs Was Right: Gradual Redevelopment Does Promote Community."

Stephen Klineberg, Rice University, was quoted in a March 5 post, "Texas 288 Work Indicative of Growing Inter-County Commuting," on the Houston Chronicle blog, "The Highwayman." He was mentioned in an April 2 Houston Chronicle article, "Fort Bend County is Nation’s Most Ethnically Diverse, Leading Houston Region’s Most Diverse Status."

Kieran Healy, Duke University, is mentioned in a March 11 NPR.org blog post, "Is Having a Child a Rational Decision?"

Sally T. Hillsman, American Sociological Association, wrote a March 31 Washington Post letter to the editor about how social science research has consistently and incontrovertibly has shown that parents’ sexual orientation has no bearing on children’s well-being. The letter mentions the amicus brief ASA filled with the U.S. Supreme Court in the same-sex marriage cases.

Eric Klinenberg, New York University, was quoted in a February 23 Deseret News article, "Post-Familialism Debate Heats Up."

Jerry Krause, Humboldt State University, was quoted in an April 5 Press Democrat article about his house, which used to be a school.

Aaron Kupchik, University of Delaware, was mentioned in a March 3 Arizona Daily Sun article about school safety.

Liana Christin Landivar, U.S. Census Bureau, was quoted in a February 26 USA Today article about her study, which found that more men are becoming nurses. Her study was also the subject of articles of other media outlets including the Wall Street Journal and FoxNews.com on February 25 and CBSNews.com and the Star-Tribune on February 26.

Jennifer Lena, Barnard College, was quoted in an April 8 Pacific Standard article, "It Gets Better, Y’all."

Rachel Levinthal-Weiner, University of Connecticut, wrote a March 11 Inside Higher Ed column, "Building Your E-Village."

Bruce Link, Columbia University, was quoted in a March 12 Los Angeles Times article, "Losers Revenge: Presidents and Hall of Famers Don’t Live Longer," about the American Sociological Review study he co-authored with Richard M. Carpiano, University of British Columbia, and Margaret M. Weden, RAND Corporation.

Thomas Linneman, College of William and Mary, was mentioned in a February 26 post, "Uptalk: How Men and Women Use it Differently," on the Boston Globe blog, "Brainiac."

Hui Liu, Michigan State University, was quoted in a February 27 TIME.com article, "Same-Sex Couples Not As Healthy As Heterosexual Married Couples," about a Journal of Health and Social Behavior study she co-authored with Corinne Reczek, University of Cincinnati, and Dustin Brown, University of Texas at Austin. The study was also the subject of articles in other media outlets including the Los Angeles Times, Reuters.com, the Atlantic, LiveScience.com, and U.S. News and World Report on February 27.

James Loewen, Catholic University, was quoted in a February 26 ESPN.com article, "SEC Leads Way in Coaching Diversity."

John Logan, Brown University, was mentioned an April 7 New York Times commentary, "Suburban Disequilibrium."

Michael Walton Macy, Cornell University, was quoted in a March 12 Los Angeles Times article, "Is a Facebook Like Too Much Information?"

Cora Marrett, National Science Foundation, was mentioned in a March 11 Science Insider article about how she will become acting director of the National Science Foundation when Subra Suresh steps down.

Angela Mertig, Middle Tennessee State University, was quoted in a March 7 Christian Science Monitor article, "Lion Mauling Death: How Dangerous are Private Zoos?"

Jennifer Karas Montez, Harvard University, was interviewed February 26 on CNN’s “The Situation Room” about growing inequalities in U.S. women’s life expectancy. She was also quoted about the same topic in an Associated Press article, which appeared in the Miami Herald, Salon.com, and The Guardian on March 4, the Daily Mail on March 5, and the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Las Vegas Sun on March 6.

Samuel Oliner, Humboldt State University, was quoted in an April 8 San Francisco Chronicle article, "Holocaust Remembered as Attacks Rise."

Eileen Otis, University of Oregon, was quoted in a January 11 Atlantic article, "China’s Uneven Labor Revolution."

Robert Pettit, Manchester University, was quoted in a March 22 CNN.com article, “To Disney or Not to Disney?”

Robert Putnam, Harvard University, was quoted in a March 12 Washington Times article, “Sheet Music’s Last Note: Magazine Puts Out Last Issue as Number of Piano Players Plunges.”

Sean F. Reardon, Stanford University, was mentioned in a February 17 New York Times opinion piece, “Equal Opportunity, Our National Myth.”

George Ritzer, University of Maryland-College Park, was quoted in an April 10 Deseret News article, “Hyper Consumption: Consumer Mindset Leaves U.S. and Individuals Vulnerable.”

Michael Rosenfeld, Stanford University, was mentioned in a February 15 Atlantic article, “The Unotherwise: Why College-Educated Women Trying to Find a Decent Date.”

Michael Rosenfeld, Stanford University, was quoted and Jennifer Bratter, Rice University, and Adam Isaiah Green, University of Toronto, were mentioned in an April 3 post, “The Science on Same-Sex Marriage,” on the Wall Street Journal blog, “Ideas Market.”

Abigail Saguy, University of California-Los Angeles, was quoted in a February 26 New York Times review of her book, “What’s Wrong with Fat?”

Robert Sampson, Harvard University, was quoted in a March 3 Toronto Star op-ed, “The Deadly Mixture of Guns and Class in Toronto.”

Saska Sassen, Columbia University, was quoted in a March 4 Crain’s Chicago Business article on the resurgence of downtown Chicago. She was also mentioned in an April 8 Montreal Gazette column, “Cooper: Can Montreal Become a Future City?”
announcements

Scott Schieman, University of Toronto, was quoted in a March 4 PsychCentral.com article, “Job Autonomy Helps but High Status Jobs = Stress and Pressure.”

Eran Shor, McGill University, and Arnout van de Rijt, Stony Brook University, were quoted in a March 28 NBCNews.com article about their American Sociological Review study, which found that trust isn’t fleeting. The study was also the subject of articles in a number of other media outlets including the Los Angeles Times, U.S. News and World Report, LiveScience.com, Yahoo!News, Smithsonian.com, and The Globe and Mail on March 28.

Gwen Sharp, Nevada State College, was mentioned in a February 26 MSNBC article, “Brought: The Latest in Nonsensical Product Gendering.”

David Smilde, University of Georgia, was mentioned in a March 8 post, “GetGetReligion: the Ghost of Hugo Chavez” on the Religion News Service blog, “Spiritual Politics.”

Jeremy Vechter, Baylor University, was quoted in a March 7 Huffington Post article, “Divorce Research: Baylor University Study Finds Divorce-Religion Link.”

Linda Waite, University of Chicago, and Pepper Schwartz, University of Washington, were quoted in an April 2 Times Union column, “To Our (Mutual) Health.”

Ronald Weitzer, George Washington University, was quoted in a February 26 Christian Science Monitor article, “Legacy of Christopher Dorner Case: Rekindled Distrust, Remsentment of Police.”

Bruce Western, Harvard University, Megan Comfort, RTI International, and Raymond V. Liedka, Oakland University, were quoted and Christopher Wildeman, Yale University, Becky Pettit, University of Washington, and Robert DeFina and Lance Hannon, both of Villanova University, were mentioned in a February 19 New York Times article, “Prison and the Poverty Trap.”

Brad Wilcox, University of Virginia, and Andrew Cherlin, Johns Hopkins University, were quoted in an April 4 post, “People Who Marry Young are Happier, But Those Who Marry Later Earn More,” on the Washington Post “Wonkblog.”

Patricia Wittberg, Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis, was quoted in a March 12 Reuters article, “Special Report: The Impossible Job—God’s CEO on Earth.” She was also quoted in a February 24 Boston Globe article, “What American Nuns Built.”

Jonathan Wynn, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, was quoted in an April 1 NBCNews.com article about why people get pleasure from playing pranks.

Hui Zheng, Ohio State University, was quoted and Patricia Thomas, University of Texas-Austin, was mentioned in a March 14 TIME.com article about their Journal of Health and Social Behavior study, which suggests that marriage may not always be as beneficial to health as experts have led us to believe. The study was also the subject of other news articles including U.S. News and World Report and Health.com on March 8.

Tukufu Zuberi, University of Pennsylvania, was quoted in an April 2 USA Today op-ed, “Wickham: Africa Needs to Pave its Own Road.” The op-ed also appeared in the Statesman Journal on April 7.

Awards

Javier Auyero, The University of Texas-Austin, received a Harry Frank Guggenheim fellowship to study violence in urban communities in Argentina.

Sally Bould, University of Delaware, has been awarded a Senior Fellowship from the European Institutes for Advanced Study (EUIRAS) for the academic year 2013-2014.

Karen A. Cerulo, Rutgers University, was awarded the 2013 Eastern Sociological Merit Award, an honor given to distinguished scholars who have made outstanding contributions to the discipline, the profession, and the ESS.

Nancy Davis, DePaul University, and Robert Robinson, Indiana University, received the 2013 Scholarly Achievement Award of the North Central Sociological Association for Claiming Society for God: Religious Movements and Social Welfare in Egypt, Israel, Italy, and the United States (Indiana University Press, 2012).

Alma Garcia, Santa Clara University, has been awarded the Susan Koppelman Award for the Best Anthology in Feminist Studies for her book: ContestEd Images: Women of Color and Popular Culture (AltaMira Press, 2012).

Peter Kivisto, Augustana College, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Turku, Finland.

William Julius Wilson, Harvard University, received the 2013 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Prize. He will deliver the Inaugural Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lecture on Social Science and Public Policy on May 9, 2013, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Rachael A. Woldoff, West Virginia University, has been recognized by the Urban Affairs Association (UAA) with the 2013 Best Book in Urban Affairs Award. The award is given every other year for the best book in the field of urban affairs/urban studies.

Transitions

Alma Garcia, Santa Clara University, has recently been appointed the Director of Latin American Studies Program at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA.

Justin Farrell, University of Notre Dame, has accepted an offer from Yale University as Assistant Professor of Sociology in the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, with a Joint Appointment, Department of Sociology.

Michael Micklin, National Institutes of Health (NIH), has assumed a new position at NIH in the Division of AIDS, Behavioral and Population Sciences (DABP). He will serve both DABP and the Center for Scientific Review as a Senior Advisor.

People

Karen A. Cerulo, Rutgers University, was named the 2013-2014 Robin Williams Lecturer by the Eastern Sociological Society.

Scott Desmond, IUPUI, was elected Council Member at Large for the North Central Sociological Association.

Leslie Elrod, University of Cincinnati, was elected Treasurer of the North Central Sociological Association.

EC Ejiohu, Centre for Africa Studies, University of the Free State, South Africa gave a Distinguished Lecture entitled, “The Roots of Political Instability in Nigeria” March 26 to mark Africa Awareness Week at Bridgewater State University.

Alan Griggsby, University of Cincinnati, was elected Student Section Chair of the North Central Sociological Association.

Matthew Lee, University of Akron, was elected President-Elect of the North Central Sociological Association.

Annulla Linders, University of Cincinnation, was elected Vice-President-Elect of the North Central Sociological Association.

Stephen J. Morewitz, California State University-East Bay (CSUEB), was profiled about his books, in the Winter 2013 issue of the CSUEB Alumni Magazine.

Yu Xie, University of Michigan gave the 2013 Henry and Bryna David lecture on April 30, 2013, at the National Academries’ Keck Center, in Washington, DC. Dr. Xie discussed claims and counter-claims concerning the current state of American science.

New Books


Brunsma, David L., Virginia Tech University, Brian Gran, Case Western Reserve University, and Keri Iyall Smith, eds. The Handbook of Sociology and Human Rights (Paradigm Publishers, 2012).

Tom R. Burns, Upsala University (Sweden) and Peter M. Hall, Colorado State University, eds. The Meta-Power Paradigm: Impacts and Transformations of Agents, Institutions, and Social Systems (Peter Lang, 2013).


William Feigelman, Nassau Community College, co-authored with Beverly Yu Xie, University of Michigan gave the 2013 Henry and Bryna David lecture on April 30, 2013, at the National Academries’ Keck Center, in Washington, DC. Dr. Xie discussed claims and counter-claims concerning the current state of American science.

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William Feigelman, Nassau Community College, co-authored with
announcements

Feiglman, J. Jordan and J. McIntosh, Devastating Losses: How Parents Cope With the Death of a Child to Suicide or Drugs (Springer Publishing Company, 2012).

Jaber F. Gubrium, University of Missouri, and Margaretha Järvinen, University of Copenhagen, Eds., Turn- ing Troubles into Problems: Clientization in Human Services (Routledge, 2013).


Peter Kivisto, Augustana University, and Osten Wahlbeck, University of Helsinki, eds., Debating Multiculturalism in the Nordic Welfare States (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).


Other Organizations

The Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) and the University of Maryland School of Public Policy (UMD) invite proposals to host an international conference on public policy analysis and management in calendar year 2014. The conference can be held in any part of the world to which travel is reasonably convenient and reasonably priced. The conference may focus on a specific topic in public policy and management, or span multiple topics. We especially welcome proposals that offer to address policy analysis and management generally, and that cut across all areas of interest of policy analysts—within academic settings, think tanks, advocacy and service organizations, and government. These include: program planning, program design, program implementation, performance measurement/management, and evaluation design (developmental, process, and summative evaluations).

Contact: Tara Sheehan, tsheehan@appam.org or Douglas J. Besharov, besharov@umd.edu; <www.umdcspe.org>.

Caught in the Web

NORC at the University of Chicago. The initial release of the General Social Survey (GSS), cumulative file for 1972-2012 is now on our website. Codebooks and copies of questionnaires will be posted shortly. Later additional files including the GSS re-interview panels will be added. For more information, visit: <www3.norc.org/GSS+WebSite>.

Sociology.com This site is new to the scene, and it offers a place for sociolo- gy students, graduates, and professors to write about current events, concepts and collegiate programs as they relate to sociology. This site is looking for new contributors. Our writers receive full credit for their work. For more information, visit: <www.sociology.com>.

New Program

Goethe-University, Frankfurt, Germa- ny. Since April 1, 2013, Sociology is now organized into a single Department of Sociology, where before it had been divided into two departments. With 24 professors and 50 assistants, sociology in Frankfurt is now the largest Sociol- ogy Department in Germany, together with Bielefeld. The new program has elected five sociologists to get them started with Heather Hofmeister as chair, Markus Gangl is the Director of Finance, Kira Kosnick is Director of Personnel, Birgit Becker is Director of Research, and Phil C. Langer is Director for Teaching. Contact: Thomas Meiemitz, thomas_meiemitz@stud.uni-frankfurt.de; <www.fbo3.uni-frankfurt/sozioologie>.

Summer Programs

American Evaluation Association announces its 2013 Summer Evalu- ations Institute from June 2-5 in Atlanta Georgia. For evaluators, applied researchers, grant makers, foundation program officers, nonprofit administra- tors, social science students. Topics range from Qualitative and Quantita- tive Analyses; to Project Management, Logic Modeling, Reporting, Theory to Practice, Cultural Competence, etc. Contact: Helen Nye at info@eval.org; <www.americanevaluation.org/Sum- merInstitute13/>.

Contact

Social science books and journal collection available. Patricia Sampson, wife of the late Samuel F. Sampson, is seeking to donate her husband’s social science publications collection. The collection consists of about 8,600 books and complete journal volumes. Samuel Sampson’s wish was that these publications remain together at an institution of higher education and that they are in a supervised setting. Contact: Patricia Sampson can be reached at (802) 338-2737.

Deaths

Carol H. Weiss, Harvard Graduate School of Education, died January 8, 2013, in Boston, MA.

Raymond Boudon, Paris-Sorbonne University, passed away on April 10 at the age of 79.

Obituaries

Gerald R. Garrett 1940-2013

Emeritus Professor of Sociology Ger- ald R. Garrett passed away unexpect- edly in Hoosick Falls, NY, on January 14, 2013. Professor Garrett received his MA and PhD degrees from Washing- ton State University and his BA from Whittman College. His 1971 disserta- tion, “Drinking Behavior of Homeless Women,” anticipated his lifelong interest in disfiliated populations. He worked initially in alcoholism research at Columbia University with sociologist Howard M. Bahr. Garrett joined the Department of So- ciology at the University of Massachu- setts-Boston in 1970 and played many important roles in the department and the larger University community until his retirement in 2002, after which he was named professor emeritus. He was a founder of the Department of Sociol- ogy’s Criminal Justice major, director of the University’s Alcohol and Substance Abuse Studies program, and acting chair for one year of the Department of Sociology. He taught key courses in the sociology and criminal justice curricula, including Criminology, Corrections, and an internship in Alcohol and Drugs. His students rated his teaching as outstanding and he was a popular and beloved adviser to many.

Gerald R. Garrett was a nationally recognized expert in criminal justice, substance abuse studies, and home- lessness. He was coauthor, with Richard Pettig and Manuel Torres, of Mannny: A Criminal Addict’s Story (Houghton Mifflin), with Howard Bahr, of Women Alone: The Disenfranchisement of Urban Females, with Calvin J. Larson, of Crime, Justice, and Society (Rowman and Littlefield), and, with Russell Schutt, of Responding to the Homeless: Policy and Practice (Plenum). He also published many articles and book chapters on these and related topics. He served as President of the Northeastern As- sociation of Criminal Justice Sciences, President of the International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education, was a member of the Higher Education Cen- ter for Alcohol & Substance Abuse Pre- vention, was senior consultant for the Addiction Technology Transfer Center of New England (with the goal of infusing alcohol and substance abuse knowledge into college curricula), and more recently, served as an adviser to the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counseling Program at Middlesex Community College. He helped build a strong legacy of applied sociology at UMass Boston.

Russel K. Schutt, University of Massachusetts-Boston

David E. Lavin

Emeritus Professor of Sociology David E. Lavin, who died on March 14, 2013, had a 40-year career at the City Univer- sity of New York. In the early 1970s, he moved from a tenured position at the University of Pennsylvania to CUNY’s Lehman College to study the historic shift in access to CUNY known as “Open Admissions.” Under that new policy, any graduate of a New York City high school had a right to admission into one of CUNY’s community colleges and those with a high enough GPA could enter a four-year CUNY college. Over a period of five years, the socio-demo- graphic makeup of CUNY’s undergrad- uate population shifted dramatically, enrolling far more black and Latino students than previously, although numerically the largest beneficiaries of the new policy, as Lavin and colleagues documented, were ethnic whites. Through the decades, Lavin and his co-authors followed the lives of this cohort, resulting in a series of books including Right Versus Privilege (with Richard Alba and Richard Silberstein) and Changing the Odds (with David G. Hylengard) and other studies of student progress undertaken with the collabora- tion of CUNY’s Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. The most recent of those books, Passing the Torch, co-authored with Paul Attewell, Tania Levey, and Thurston Domina, focused on women in the Open Admissions cohort and traced them some 30 years after they entered CUNY. They found that much higher proportions of these women had com- pleted degrees in the long run than anyone had previously realized. The benefits of a CUNY education could also be discerned in the educational progress of their children, who outper- formed counterparts whose mothers had not had a CUNY education. That book won the prestigious Grawemeyer Prize in Education and the outstanding book award from the American Educa- tional Research Association.

Lavin was an active member of the doctoral faculty in sociology at the CUNY Graduate Center where he taught courses on the sociology of education and supervised disserta- tions. He was a delightful colleague, known for his wry sense of humor, his passion for sports and music, and his appreciation for fine food.
Gerald Marwell
1937-2013
Gerald Marwell, a social scientist internationally renowned for his pioneering research on social cooperation and social movements, died in New York City on March 24, 2013. He was 76.

Marwell’s productive career spanned the last half-century and was distinguished by far-sighted contributions that ranged across the social sciences. He was one among a highly select group of American scholars during this era to publish articles in the top professional journals of sociology, economics, political science, and psychology. All told, Marwell published more than 60 articles and book chapters. He also coauthored five influential books.

A creative theorist and researcher, Marwell conducted studies on topics as varied as conflict in the U.S. House of Representatives, adolescent delinquency, parental child-rearing practices, geographical obstacles to women’s academic careers, and processes of religious secularization.

He cemented his stature with an audacious series of studies on different facets of the “problem of collective action.” These studies culminated in two landmark co-authored books, Cooperation: An Experimental Analysis (1973) and The Critical Mass in Collective Action (1993).

Motivating these studies were some of the central conditions of cooperative social life: under what conditions will individuals in a social group forgo self-interest in favor of cooperation and other potentially costly courses of action that benefit other members of the group? When will individuals who could obtain publically available benefits at no personal expense abstain from free-riding and act to increase the general supply of public goods?

In the 1970s when Marwell first began tackling these questions, scholars in social psychology assumed that individuals were fundamentally non-cooperative, while economists insisted that individuals exhibited a natural cooperative, while economists insisted that individuals were fundamentally non-cooperative, while economists insisted that individuals were fundamentally non-cooperative.

Still further, Marwell demonstrated how the presence of a “critical mass” of individuals, able to devote substantial resources to collective undertakings, deterred free-riding and induced other individuals to join and contribute to those undertakings. These findings, as well as a range of complementary results from additional experimental work that he carried out, have had worldwide impact on altering the direction of research on collective action.

Marwell’s concern with this subject led him also to conduct one of the earliest systematic studies of the American Civil Rights movement. Reported in his seminal 1971 book, Dynamics of Idealism: White Activists in a Black Movement (co-authored with N.J. Demerath and Michael Aiken), the study analyzed the experiences of Northern college students who worked as volunteers for the 1965 voter registration drives of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Using evidence from a novel blend of interviews, questionnaires, diaries, and other documentary sources, Marwell examined what happened when the high idealism that originally inspired the student activists collided with the cold realities of local community power in the South. He documented the ways in which this collision pushed activists to adopt more radical views about community organization and American politics.

Marwell was born in Brooklyn on February 12, 1937, the only child of Henry Hilton Marwell, who ran a local business, and Pearl Berman Marwell, a history teacher. He earned a BA in engineering and business from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1957. In 1959 he received his MA and in 1961 his PhD in sociology from New York University. His first teaching position was as an instructor at NYU, followed by a year as an instructor at Bard College.

In 1962, Marwell joined the sociology faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he remained until his retirement in 2000. During his Wisconsin years, he combined his path-breaking program of research with unstinting work as a teacher, mentor, and citizen of his university and his profession.

A skillful and benevolent academic administrator, Marwell served as Chairman of the Wisconsin Sociology Department from 1982 to 1985 and helped to spearhead its rise to the first-ranked department of sociology in the United States. In 1989, the American Sociological Association chose Marwell as Editor of its flagship journal, the American Sociological Review.

In recognition of his career of outstanding scholarship, bold leadership, and dedicated teaching, in 1991 the University of Wisconsin awarded Marwell the prestigious Richard T. Ely endowed chair of sociology.

Following his retirement from the University of Wisconsin, Marwell was appointed Professor of Sociology at New York University, where he taught courses on the sociology of religion and the sociology of methods and continued his innovative research on American religious practices. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, psychologist Barbara Marwell, their children Nicole and Evan, and four grandchildren.

For a press release issued by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, see <www.news.wisc.edu/releases/17854>.

Carol H. Weiss
1926-2013
Carol Hirschon Weiss died on January 8, 2013. She was professor emerita at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education and a long-time Research Associate at the Bureau of Applied Social Research at Columbia. There she earned her PhD in 1977, submitting in lieu of the usual dissertation her best-selling book, Evaluation Research: Methods for Assessing Program Effectiveness (1972), which generations of evaluation researchers have learned from. The latest version, at over 300 pages, is Evaluation: Methods for Studying Programs and Policies (1998).

After getting her BA at Cornell in 1947 and an MA in political science at Columbia in 1949, she and her husband began raising three children. By the 1960s she was serving as a consultant for a federal program on juvenile delinquency, an early part of the War on Poverty, and was research director for ACT, one of Harlem’s community action programs. This brought her into contact with poverty researchers at the Bureau of Applied Social Research at Columbia, which she joined and carried out research for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare regarding problems of data collection from largecombe populations and methods of research on community action agencies. Out of this came her brief but influential 1972 book on evaluation research, in which she developed the idea that social action programs have an explicit or implicit set of theories about the causes and interventions of problems, which need to be tested in evaluation research to determine the simple question “Did the program work?”

She joined Paul Lazarsfeld’s last major project, a study of the influence of social research on policy, and carried out with Michael Bucovelas an ingenious survey experiment with a sample of policymakers in the mental health field. They were asked to rate actual research papers, presented as two-page abstracts, as to their possible usefulness to their programs as well as rate a set of features of the research presented in the abstract. This brought out the dimensions of policymakers’ concerns with research, summarized as “truth tests” and “utility tests.” She also worked on the Bureau’s survey of more than 500 leaders of major governmental bodies and private institutions (big corporations, big unions, ethnic rights organizations, leading national media) on their perceptions of social problems and their policy ideologies. Based on this research, her Public Opinion Quarterly paper, “What America’s Leaders Read,” was the Bureau’s most-requested reprint of that period, especially by the New York Times. This article demonstrated different ways in which policy administrators used research and eventually led to her book on Social Science Research and Decision-Making (1980).

Moving to the Harvard Graduate School of Education, she brought her skills of evaluation research and studying how research influenced (or failed to influence) policy to America’s biggest and oldest “social program,” public education. Teaching educational researchers both the techniques of “effects research” and how to make the results relevant to policy makers. In 1992 she published Organizations for Policy Analysis: Helping Governments Think, which summed up what she had learned from her research and practice.

She held several prestigious fellowships, including the first ASA Congressional Fellowship in 1983. the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, and the Brookings Institution. She retired in 2006 but continued writing. Her daughter Janet, who had collaborated with her as a Columbia student, continues her work as Professor of Public Policy at University of Michigan.

She was a great colleague and a great teacher, but could easily joke about herself. She once told me about her trip to Paris as a student, on which she noticed on the subway map the Place de la Bastille. So she decided she had to see the famous prison and took the train there. Coming up in the Place, she immediately recalled that the whole building had been torn down stone by stone by the revolutionaries.

Allen Barton, Director of the Bureau of Applied Social Research, 1962-1975

Send Us Your News
Were you recently promoted? Have a book published? Or were you quoted in the news? Did you win an award? Or maybe you know about a funding opportunity or want to promote your meeting to other sociologists? Send your announcements to Footnotes at footnotes@asanet.org.
Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline

Application Deadline: June 15 & December 15

The ASA invites submissions for the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) awards. FAD is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation with matching monies from ASA. The goal of this award is to nurture the development of scientific knowledge by funding small, groundbreaking research initiatives that will advance the discipline. FAD awards provide scholars with “seed money” for innovative research that provides opportunities for substantive and methodological breakthroughs, broadens the dissemination of scientific knowledge, and provides leverage for acquisition of additional research funds.

Proposals are reviewed for scientific merit and the importance of the proposed research project or a conference for sociology as a discipline. Specific evaluation criteria include the following:

- Innovativeness and promise of the research idea;
- Originality and significance of research goals;
- The potential of the study as a building block in the development of future research;
- Appropriateness and significance of the research hypothesis;
- Feasibility and adequacy of project design;
- Plans for dissemination of results; and
- Appropriateness of requested budget.

Principal investigators (PI) and co-PI(s) must have a PhD or equivalent. Awards shall not exceed $7,000. Award money may not be used for ASA convention expenses, honoraria, or PI’s salary, which includes buying out of courses. Awardees must agree to meet the reporting requirements of the award and must be ASA members when they receive the award. Proposals must be submitted online at www.asanet.org/funding/fad.cfm.

Contact: For more information, see the “Funding” page at www.asanet.org. For questions, contact project director Roberta Spalter-Roth, (202) 383-9005 x317, spalter-roth@asanet.org or Nicole Van Vooren, (202) 383-9005 x313, vanvooren@asanet.org. For examples of recent FAD awards see the July/August 2012 issue of Footnotes.

For Members Only

Health Proponent: Help for Health Care and Insurance Problems

This affinity program provides professional assistance regarding medical bills, health insurance benefits, and medical bill dispute resolution. Health Proponent also searches for qualified physicians, specialists, and services in your area. Members can take the private Health Risk Assessment online for an immediate summary of risks for major conditions and diseases. For more information about Health Proponent, visit <www.healthproponent.com/>.

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ASA members are able to find significant savings for vacation and business travel through Members on Vacation. Visit <www.membersvacation.com> and enter “American Sociological Association” to see special offers available only to ASA members.

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ASA Online Bookstore

ASA members save up to 70 percent on publications and merchandise through the ASA online bookstore at <www.asanet.org>. Order the ASA Style Guide, save $5 on the hilarious Sociologist’s Book of Cartoons, or improve your teaching with access to ASA’s TRAILS. Use your ASA ID and password to order and be sure to visit the “On Sale” and “New Items” sections.

For complete information on these and other ASA member benefits, visit <www.asanet.org/members/benefits.cfm>.

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