Social Inequality, Racial Isolation and the Windy City

Roberta Garner, Black Hawk Hancock and Bryan Sykes, DePaul University

When Unite Here Local 1 went on strike over wages, outsourcing, and working conditions in 2011, ASA moved the Annual Meeting from Chicago to Las Vegas. We are happy to welcome ASA back to Chicago in 2015. The labor strikes of 2011 afford us the opportunity to consider both persistent and emergent mechanisms of social inequality that define the topography of Chicago. Below, we review classic issues of inequality that have occurred in the city since 2011.

Race, Class, and Economic Inequality

Chicago’s emerging class structure is similar to those appearing in other global cities, but as in many U.S. cities, racial inequality carries over from the industrial period. While individuals in the upper professional tiers are disproportionately white or of various Asian national origins, individuals in working-class jobs are often African Americans or Latinos. Class locations among different racial groups have implications for how we understand economic inequality in the Windy City.

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Keister and Moody to Edit Socius

Mark S. Mizruchi, University of Michigan

As announced in the December 2014 issue of Footnotes, ASA has launched a new journal, Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World. The goal of this open-access journal will be to quickly disseminate important sociological research findings while condensing the often lengthy and laborious review process typical of other leading journals in the field. This is an important initiative, one that requires strong and able leadership. If I were to choose an editor for this venture, I would want someone who has an outstanding record of scholarship (including multiple publications in our leading journals), is theoretically broad as well as insightful, is methodologically sophisticated, and (perhaps most important of all) possesses wisdom and good judgment. We are fortunate to have two sociologists who exhibit all of these qualities—Lisa Keister and James (Jim) Moody—as the founding editors of the journal.

Lisa is the Gilhuly Family Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Duke University, where she is also affiliated with the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in the Social Sciences and the Duke Population Research Institute. Jim is the Robert O. Keohane Distinguished Professor of Sociology, also at Duke, where he is also a faculty associate of the Duke Population Research Institute as well as Founding Director of the Duke Network Analysis Center.

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Social Media Pre-Conference at the 2015 ASA Annual Meeting

Social media provides a set of great tools for helping your scholarship reach a variety of audiences including journalists, policymakers, citizens, and scholars from across the world (and across disciplines). Social media provides spaces for making our work as academics more public and helping our research to have greater influence. Social media also provides greater opportunities to engage our students.

If you are interested in taking a practical exploration into how social media can shape our work as researchers as well as instructors, join us for the ASA Social Media Pre-Conference, organized by Dustin Kidd, on Friday, August 21, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. It will consist
Who Provides the Access?

Open access can be provided by an author (“green open access archiving”) or a publisher (“gold open access publishing’s). Many universities have set up “green” open access archives for their scholars—such as the one established through the Harvard Open Access Mandate in 2008. One of the earliest and most successful green access archives is called “arXiv,” which currently includes more than 1 million preprints from physics and related disciplines. While up to 90 percent of scholarly journals now allow authors to self-archive some version of a peer-reviewed and published manuscript in this way, green access remains an incomplete solution. Only a small proportion of authors actually take the time to place their manuscripts in green access repositories and, from a user perspective, searching across these repositories to find relevant materials can be difficult.

Access to articles published in “gold open access” journals—such as Socius—are made freely available online by the publisher. “Hybrid” access models exist in some journals; they give free access to articles for which the author has paid a fee to defray publication costs so the article is “open access,” although all the other articles in the journal issue remain behind paywalls. “Delayed” open access is still another option, where free access is granted after an embargo period.

How Are Editorial, Production, and Distribution Costs Covered?

Online open access publishing is not cost-free publishing. While the cost of printing and mailing journals is eliminated with online-only delivery, these are only a fraction of the total cost of publishing any scholarly journal. Publishers (such as ASA) maintain editorial offices to accept and peer review nine times or more manuscripts than are published and pay for copy editing and the preparation of accepted manuscripts for digital and print production. Open access publishing also depends on expensive digital platforms to deliver manuscripts in perpetuity and link them to the body of related scholarly materials so that readers can find them. Such platforms require a nearly continuous process of construction and improvement to provide a Web 2.0 (or 3.0) level of interactivity and ease of use.

Open access publishing generally moves these costs from users (institutional libraries and individuals) to authors. While experimentation continues, the “author pays” model has come to dominate. There are exceptions. In some parts of Europe, governments may pay; in specific substantive areas foundations or other donors may pay; in a very few disciplines whose professional associations have significant income streams outside of their journals, associations may pay. In disciplines in which most published science comes from grant-based research (typically government grants), the grants cover the author’s costs of publication and the issue is not controversial. But this is more common in sciences in which research is covered by extremely large grants from federal science agencies (e.g., NSF and NIH) or mission agencies (e.g., DOD and NASA). With increasing federal mandates for open access, smaller federal grants are also beginning to include publication fees as a legitimate cost but we do not yet know whether the total grant amounts will increase to cover these new costs. Author pays remains controversial in the social sciences and humanities in which much research is not grant supported or the grants are small and are often from universities or foundations rather than federal agencies.

Colleges and universities are respondents in a variety of ways, including creating special funds to cover author publication fees. Many faculty, however, don’t yet know these funds exist, or worry that this system may generate institutional influence on what is, or is not, supported for publication. It will take time to see if these mechanisms work to the satisfaction of scholarly authors.

What Is the Impact of Articles Published in Open Access Journals?

This isn’t an easy question to answer. Impact factors, based on citations, have long been the coin of the realm when considering the importance and value of a scholarly journal. (This is another source of contention in our discipline, but we’ll save that for another Vantage Point!) So how does open access influence the number of citations an article receives? One cross-disciplinary study of articles published between 1992 and 2003 found that sociology articles placed by the authors in open repositories were cited more than 2.5 times as often as articles from the same journal and year of publication that were not placed in open access repositories (Harnad et al. 2008). However, the enormous proliferation of online open access journals—approximately 25,000 at this time—makes it difficult for scholars to review all the work of their discipline or peers. This may actually be reinforcing the role of traditional flagship journals as quality filters (Harley 2013).

We are hoping that the traditional high standards of ASA journals will make Socius attractive as a publishing source. Because articles published in Socius will be published on the HighWire platform along with the other ASA journals, as well as many other high quality social science journals, we believe the visibility of Socius articles and authors will be high, in addition to accessible.

How Best to Support the Production and Dissemination of Published Sociological Research?

If we are to find the best path forward for scholarly publishing in the 21st century, we have to broaden our questions beyond open access. We need think about what might be an “ideal” form of scholarly publishing in the internet age for the production and dissemination of sociological research. According to Marcia McNutt, Editor-in-Chief of SCIENCE, the ideal system of scholarly publishing is “widely accessible, filters the flood of information, and has indicators of quality” (National
NIH Names Eliseo Pérez-Stable Director of the NIMHD

In April, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis S. Collins announced the selection of Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD, as Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Pérez-Stable is expected to join NIH in September. As NIMHD Director, Pérez-Stable will oversee the Institute’s $270 million budget to conduct and support research, training, research capacity and infrastructure development, public education, and information dissemination programs to improve minority health and reduce health disparities. Pérez-Stable comes to NIH from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) where he is a professor of medicine, chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine and director of the Center for Aging in Diverse Communities, which works to alleviate health disparities. He is also director of the UCSF Medical Effectiveness Research Center for Diverse Populations, which is addressing issues for African Americans, Asians, and Latinos in the areas of cancer, cardiovascular disease, and reproductive health. It leads scientific research to improve minority health and eliminate health disparities by conducting and supporting research; planning, reviewing, coordinating, and evaluating all minority health and health disparities research at NIH; promoting and supporting the training of a diverse research workforce; translating and disseminating research information; and fostering collaborations and partnerships. For more information, visit www.nimhd.nih.gov.

The Census’s American Community Survey Will Keep Questions on Marriage and Major

The U.S. Census Bureau announced in late April that it will keep a question in the American Community Survey (ACS). In addition it has abandoned plans to delete a series of questions about marriage and divorce from ACS. Agency officials stated in a Federal Register notice that this decision came about, in part, due to the amount of criticism from researchers and others. The notice stated, “This volume of comments about the ACS is unprecedented in the history of the survey. … The Census Bureau was pleased to hear from such a large number of diverse organizations, agencies, and individuals” A total of 1,693 comments were received from many different organizations and individuals, including from the American Sociological Association. The majority of comments came from individuals who did not identify an affiliation with an organization, followed by commenters from academia, nonprofits, government, business, university administrators, Census stakeholders, and media. For the U.S. Census Bureau Supporting Statement, see www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/congress/2016_ACS_OMB_FINAL.pdf.

Federally Funded R&D Center Spending Declined Since One-time Infusion of Funds in 2009

The majority of the nation’s federally funded R&D centers (FFRDCs) reported spending less on research and development in fiscal year 2013 than they had the previous year, according to a new InfoBrief from the National Science Foundation’s National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES). The report details that the 40 federally-funded centers spent $16.9 billion on research and development in fiscal year 2013. Of those, 24 reported declines from fiscal year 2012, and 17 reported two straight years of decreased spending. Federal funding for the centers has been declining since a high of $18 billion in total spending was reported in fiscal year 2010. That peak corresponded with the one-time American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. FFRDCs are privately operated organizations that the government funds exclusively or substantially. See more on this report, Majority of Federally Funded R&D Centers Report Declines in R&D Spending in FY 2013, at www.nsf.gov/mobile/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=1348678&org=NSF.


February marked one full year since the launch of the first-ever Social and Behavioral Sciences Team (SBST), which was created in response to the President’s call to make government programs more effective and efficient. SBST, within the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. It comprises leading experts who have been recruited into government to harness behavioral science insights to help Federal government programs better serve the nation while saving taxpayer dollars. In its first year SBST launched a wide variety of evidence-based pilots with objectives ranging from connecting veterans with employment and educational counseling benefits to helping struggling student borrowers understand their loan repayment options. The Team encourages individuals to contact them with ideas for other issues SBST could address to help the government better serve the American people or let them know whether you’re interested in joining the effort. Send your thoughts to sbst@gsa.gov. For more information, see www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/02/09/using-behavioral-science-insights-make-government-more-effective-simpler-and-more-us.

Sociologists Present Policy-Relevant Research on Capitol Hill

The 21st Annual Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) Exhibition and Reception on Capitol Hill, titled “Investments in STEM Research and Education: Fueling American Innovation,” was held on April 29, 2015. Sociologists Laurel Smith-Doerr (University of Massachusetts-Amherst), Kathleen Tierney (University of Colorado-Boulder), and Nnenia Campbell (University of Colorado-Boulder, MFP cohort 41) presented their research at the event sponsored by ASA through the Spivack Fund.

Smith-Doerr’s research examined collaboration in the chemical sciences; how chemists work together to advance scientific discoveries. Tierney and Campbell presented their social science research on natural hazards like earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis. All three researchers spoke at length about their research with NSF Director France Córdova, NSF Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Directorate Assistant Director Fay Cook, SBE Division Director Jeryl Mumpower, and numerous congressional staff.

In addition to Smith-Doerr, Tierney, and Campbell’s research, the exhibition highlighted 35 other research and education projects made possible through funding by the National Science Foundation. This year’s exhibit was attended by congressional staff, representatives from the science community, and members of Congress.

Prior to the exhibition Smith-Doerr and ASA’s Bradley Smith met with Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA) and Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA). During these meetings she discussed the importance of sociological research, the need for NSF’s SBE Directorate, and her concerns regarding the recently introduced America COMPETES Act of 2015 (H.R. 1806).
Social Media

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of nine sessions, divided into three groups of three concurrent sessions.

Topics

• The Integrative Use of Social Media to Reach Publics (Lester Andrist, The Sociological Cinema): This session will examine how to use multiple social media sites in a more integrated fashion. The session will include tips on how to encourage your audience to find and follow you on all your platforms.

• Sociological Blogs on WordPress (Nathan Palmer): This workshop takes academic attendees through the basic steps of establishing a blog.

• Facebook Groups and Pages for Research and Teaching (Tristan Bridges): In this session, we will explore the merits of using Facebook Groups for sharing research and teaching.

• Generating and Engaging an Audience (Dustin Kidd): This session explores the best methods for reaching a wide audience that includes journalists, social activists, and policy makers.

• Sharing Sociology with Pinterest (Lester Andrist & Valerie Chepp – The Sociological Cinema)

• Twitter for Academics (Jessie Daniels): In this hands-on workshop, we'll work with Twitter, taking the steps necessary to establish your academic brand presence.

• Collaborative Blogging (Tristan Bridges): In this session, Tristan Bridges will share his experiences blogging and answer: How do you set up and manage an online blogging community? Who is the audience?

• Social Media Practices in the Classroom (Dustin Kidd): This session focuses on the pedagogy of social media with a focus on the issue of digital literacy.

• Framing Sociological Research for Social Media (Nathan Palmer): This session explores the process of telling stories with sociological data that the public will want to read and be able to easily understand.

Speakers

Lester Andrist is a PhD candidate in sociology at the University of Maryland and has published on topics pertaining to gender. His current research examines the impact of indefinite detention on the racial formations of Arabs and Muslims in the United States. As co-creator of The Sociological Cinema (www.thesociologicalcinema.com/), a site designed to help sociology instructors incorporate videos into their classes, he has been involved in developing a pedagogy centered on video.

Tristan Bridges is Assistant Professor of Sociology at The College at Brockport (SUNY). He studies Gender, Sexuality, and Social Change and is specifically interested in the meanings, motivations, and consequences associated with contemporary transformations in masculinity. Most recently, he co-edited, with C.J. Pascoe, Exploring Masculinities: Identity, Inequality, Continuity, and Change (2016). Tristan has an active social media presence and, in addition to blogging on his own research, he regularly promotes the work of others in his field on scholarly blogs like Girl W/ Pen! and Feminist Reflections as well as in the popular media more generally.

Valerie Chepp is Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department at Hamline University. Her areas of specialization include the intersection of race/class/gender inequality, culture, social change, and qualitative research methods. Broadly speaking, she is interested in the ways marginalized groups use art as a form of political protest and engagement. She explores this phenomenon in her current research, which examines how young, urban communities of spoken word poets engage in political acts outside “official” political institutions, perceiving their poetry as a tool for transforming civil society and, more specifically, their local communities. She is a member of the Sociological Cinema team.

Jessie Daniels is Professor of Public Health, Sociology and Critical Psychology at the City University of New York. Daniels is the author of two books about race and media, White Lies (1997) and Cyber Racism (2009), as well as dozens of peer-reviewed articles. In 2013, Daniels received a grant from the Ford Foundation to launch JustPublics@365, a project to connect socially engaged communication and grassroots activism and make it available in the public sphere (http://justpublics365.commons.gc.cuny.edu/). She is currently at work on two books about being a public scholar in the digital era. Daniels writes regularly at RacismReview, a scholarly blog that she co-founded. Forbes named her one of “20 inspiring women to follow on Twitter,” and you can find her there as @JessieNYC.

Dustin Kidd is associate professor of sociology at Temple University and the author of Pop Culture Freaks. He tweets @PopCultureFreak and uses a variety of social media platforms. He is on the ASA Task Force on Engaging Sociology and the Subcommittee on Promoting Research Through Social Media. He is currently writing a book about social inequalities in social media.

Nathan Palmer is an educator, writer, speaker, and editor. He is the primary author of Sociology Source, the editor of SociologyInFocus.com, the creator of SociologySounds.com, and a lecturer of sociology at Georgia Southern University. His writing has been featured on numerous websites including SocImages, Scatterplot, Teaching the Social World, and The Sociological Cinema.

Follow ASA (@ASAnews) on Twitter

During the ASA Annual Meeting in Chicago, ASA will be live tweeting about activities and research presented using the hashtag #asa15. Meeting attendees are encouraged to do the same in order to highlight noteworthy presentations or to share and discuss ideas.

Dissertation Award Winner

ASA and the Dissertation Award Selection Committee are proud to announce that Christopher Michael Muller, Harvard University, has received the award for his dissertation, Historical Origins of Racial Inequality in Incarceration in the United States. Muller, with the other recipients of the 2015 ASA major awards, will receive his award at this year’s ceremony on August 23 at 4:30 p.m. at the 2015 ASA Annual Meeting in Chicago. For the full list of awardees, see February Footnotes.
Looking for a New Position? The ASA Can Help on the Job Hunt

The hunt for a new job, whether your first placement with your PhD or a transition to a new position, can be long and arduous. However, the ASA offers multiple services to assist job seekers in job-search process.

**ASA Job Bank**

The ASA year-round job-search service is the online ASA Job Bank. The Job Bank (jobbank.asanet.org/) is the definitive place to find sociology positions. Since 2005, thousands of academic, applied, and government positions have been listed in the Job Bank. In 2014 alone, 824 jobs were advertised. Post-doctoral positions and fellowships are also advertised on the site.

Beyond a description of the available position, employers are asked to include the date the position is available, region, position/rank, and special program areas of faculty expertise of the position. Job seekers can do an advanced search using these specifications to receive a filtered list of available positions.

In order to assist job seekers further, the ASA requires employers to indicate their hiring practices regarding gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons. Employers must specify whether they offer domestic partner benefits and whether they prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation/preference and gender identity/expression.

Job seekers can create a resume listing for employers with active job listings. Resume listings can include the candidate’s salary preference, region, position/rank, and specialty/expertise. Job seekers can also upload resumes, links to personal websites, or enter relevant information directly into a text field.

New jobs are added daily and job seekers should check often to view new listings. ASA members have full access to the Job Bank and can use the advanced search function to identify new positions. Non-members can subscribe to the Job Bank for a monthly fee or download the freely available digest of jobs posted the previous month. Questions? Email jobbank@asanet.org or visit jobbank.asanet.org/.

**ASA’s Partnership with Interfolio**

ASA knows that managing your job application materials can be stressful. To help, ASA has partnered with Interfolio to give individual ASA members a free, one-year subscription to Dossier, the leading online credential management service for higher education. Free ASA subscriptions may be renewed each year as long as users are current ASA members during the term of the partnership (see the December 2014 Footnotes).

Dossier allows ASA members to store and manage all their application materials together in one place. Users can store an unlimited amount of material, manage confidential letters of recommendation, and rely on a safe and secure service. Users can manage all applications in a single location and seamlessly send a completed submission packet electronically or via hard copy to its destination.

For more information, visit www.asanet.org/employment/interfolio.cfm.

**ASA Employment Service**

Each year during the Annual Meeting, the ASA hosts the Annual Meeting Employment Service. The Employment Service is designed to facilitate initial, 20-minute interviews between potential employers and job candidates. The interview is designed for both the interviewer and candidate to gain a general impression of the scholar and work environment respectively, and is intended to be a low-stress environment. This allows candidates to meet with multiple employers within a limited period of time avoiding the burden of travel for introductory interviews.

The Employment Service utilizes an online module where job seekers can upload their CV, access job listings, contact employers, and update an interactive calendar to schedule interview appointments during the Annual Meeting. All interview invitations are sent by employers based on the candidate’s availability indicated on their calendar.

While employers are responsible for issuing interview invitations, candidates are highly encouraged to contact any employer in which they have an interest directly through the online module. “With the Employment Service, I initiated conversations with every department I was interested in that had a job search in my area. Some departments contacted me first, but I wasn’t shy about indicating my interest when I saw postings that spoke to my strengths as a scholar,” says Angela Garcia of the University of Chicago, an Employment Service candidate in 2014 who accepted 13 interviews.

“I have no preference. I have contacted a number of candidates to request some time with them, and of course have been contacted by many,” says Rebecca Plante of Ithaca College, an Employment Service interviewer who was also once an Employment Service candidate. On what she looks for in a candidate’s profile: “I look for clarity about a candidate’s dissertation on the CV. I find the basic approach is helpful. I am also interested in the je ne sais quoi of a candidate. Can I get a sense of what drives her? Of why he or she wants to be a professor? Less abstractly, I am also looking for candidates with some teaching experience!”

The online module opens every spring to allow candidates time prior to the Annual Meeting to search job announcements and contact employers. Preparation before the meeting cannot be overstressed. The Employment Service interviews are designed to be short, informal meetings and preparation increases your ability to present your qualifications and goals as succinctly as possible in the time allowed.

Garcia offers this advice: “I prepared all the materials I’d be using on the market—my research and teaching statements, my cover letter, and my CV. I didn’t necessarily need these materials for the Annual Meeting, but taking the time to prepare them helped me better present myself and my work during initial conversations through the Employment Service. Once I arranged interviews, I read up on each department and school that I was meeting with. I made a document for each interview, with notes on the position advertised, people in the department doing work I’d want to be in conversation with, and points on how my research/teaching/service matched the position description. Finally, I spoke to people in my network about the departments that I would be meeting with to get their feedback and outside perspectives.”

Candidates are not alone in their preparation. “Prior to meetings, I have talked with colleagues about the department’s ideals and ideas for the position and for a new colleague,” said Plante. “I look for ways to connect within various networks and spread the word about our position and our hopes for a new colleague. When I am
The Arab Council for the Social Sciences: A Reflection of the Current Arab World

Mohammed A. Bamyeh, University of Pittsburgh

The Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS) has been many years in the making. ACSS was officially established in 2008, and in March 2015 it held its second biennial conference in Beirut, Lebanon, where it is also headquartered. Its mission is to promote and improve the quality of the social sciences in the Arab World, defined as the 22 member states of the Arab League, including Palestine.

Led by Seteney Shami, a former program director at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC), and by an elected board of trustees (to which I was recently elected), the ACSS has, in a short period, made its presence felt in a region where social scientists rarely meet across the region, and where there has been a perennial lack of a sense of “scientific community” that sets common standards for research.

Since its inception, the ACSS has sponsored a small grants program to bring together young researchers from the region, as well as Arab graduate students and junior faculty employed in the West, to work in collaborative environments on broadly defined themes of common interest. These include, most recently, the public sphere, inequalities, popular mobilization, as well as the “paradigm factory workshops,” where key terms relevant to the study of the region (for example “sovereignty” or “nationalism”) are redefined on the basis of empirical research and case studies. More recently, the ACSS has started a full-fledged postdoctoral fellowships program.

Building Community

One of the main accomplishments of the ACSS thus far is contributing to an emerging sense of community among Arab social scientists. The crucial nature of this goal is evident partially in the Council’s fundraising strategies. For example, both its major conferences were based on targeted fundraising, with a goal of helping all participants, who typically do not have travel funds from their institutions, attend the conference and mix with other social scientists they would otherwise never have an opportunity to meet. This strategy has allowed for a great variety of representation in the ACSS meetings, where one meets social scientists from the Sudan or Yemen, for example, or researchers based in rural areas in the Arab World who are often isolated from metropolitan research environments.

The ACSS defines social sciences in broad and flexible terms: they include traditional disciplines, such as sociology, political science, economics, psychology, anthropology and history, but also interdisciplinary areas such as women’s studies, urban studies, development studies, and other emerging areas of focus.

Report on the Presence of Social Science in the Arab World

One of the main projects currently undertaken by the ACSS is the first comprehensive report on the presence of social sciences in the Arab World (full disclosure, I am coordinating this). The report is intended to provide the foundation for a series of future biennial reports. The report measures and evaluates the presence of social sciences in universities, research centers and think tanks, scholarly and cultural periodicals as well as mass-cirulating magazines, regional newspapers, civil society, and the public sphere in general. It is scheduled to appear this summer in Arabic, English, and French; a draft summary was presented at the March ACSS meeting.

This report does in fact show the ACSS to be one aspect of a growing presence of the social sciences across the region, the magnitude of whose growth we did not know before. We found that there has been a tremendous increase in the number of institutions that house social sciences in the region, especially over the last two or three decades. For example, we found that 70 percent of the current universities in the Arab region did not exist at all in 1991; that research centers have experienced more than a sevenfold increase in their numbers since 1981; and that the number of Arab scholarly periodicals has more than quadrupled in the same period.

Surprisingly, this enormous growth seems to be independent of national wealth; we see it in both rich and poor countries alike. It appears that the ACSS itself is part of the phenomenon of the increasing institutional thickness of social sciences in the region. It is probably also part of another phenomenon—the growth of civil society in the same period. This is sometimes seen as part of the larger cluster of factors associated with the Arab Spring and its unfolding, complex, and not well-understood dynamics.

Within ACSS meetings and workshops, one finds a vibrant questioning environment that is not distant from the general mood in the region. While part of the ACSS constituency, particularly in the Maghreb region, (in Northwest Africa, west of Egypt) asserts the universality of the norms and practices of social sciences, there are those who think that the best social science generates its own problematic, theories, and methods in a local context or sustainable environment.

ACSS itself does not take a stand on these issues. In preparing the Report, we considered objections that saw it as inadvisable to include the public sphere and newspapers, for example, in our survey of social science content in the public sphere. Some have argued that social science exists only in research-oriented environments. However, many others have been inspired by Michael Burawoy’s call for “public sociology,” which, for them, seem to better a social environment characterized by popular mobilization, regional instability, civil wars, population displacements, authoritarian reactions, foreign occupation, and recent disasters that encourage social scientists to contribute to their public understanding.

In addition, one of the significant historical realities of Arab social sciences is that they have often been exposed to input from popular genres of knowledge, such as literature or public philosophy. It is not unusual, for example, to find a novelist who has a PhD in sociology. This has given a great deal of relevance when we realize that many Arab social scientists do not necessarily work at universities or see the universities as their natural home. Increasingly, it seems, civil society organizations and think tanks of all kinds have become important employment opportunities for Arab social scientists.

In sum, as a vehicle for coordinating common projects, fostering better quality social science, and providing a greatly needed sense of community among social scientists in a changing region, the ACSS is a very welcome addition.
The Comedy of Sociology

Nate Dern, Columbia University; Funny Or Die writer; author of In Case Of Fire, Use Stairs

My favorite sociologists always seem to end up having a good sense of humor, and my favorite comedians always seem to be pretty good amateur sociologists. I don’t think this is by chance. The Joan Rivers one-liner “No man will ever put his hand up your dress looking for a library card” could easily be an epigraph for a work on gender studies, and I have to imagine that Howie Becker had a grin on his face when he first handed in, “Becoming a Marihuana User” (1953).

Sociology lends itself to comedy, and, I believe, the reverse to be true as well. Given this, I feel lucky to be at the intersection of these modes of thought, as both a Columbia sociology doctoral student studying the New York City comedy scene as well as a writer for the comedy website “Funny Or Die.”

To see how comedy and sociology complement each other, let’s first start with the compliment “well observed.” Whether a remark about social life is a comedian’s punchline or a sociologist’s research conclusion, saying that it is “well observed” is one of the highest forms of praise in both fields. For something to feel “well observed,” it must say something that is simultaneously so true that everyone instantly recognizes it as such, yet somehow paradoxically still seems fresh and new. In many ways this is the ultimate goal of both sociologist and comedian alike.

It’s no accident that the genre of “observational” stand-up comedy (i.e., Seinfeld) is one of the most popular forms, and for many people the Platonic ideal of what a comedian does.

- Chris Rock on race and inequality: “Shaq is rich. The white man who signs his check is wealthy.”
- Amy Poehler on the recent trend of successful women rejecting feminism: “I don’t get it. That’s like someone being like, ‘I don’t really believe in cars, but I drive one every day and I love that it gets me places and makes life so much easier and faster and I don’t know what I would do without it.”
- Sarah Silverman combining identity, race, gender and religion into a single one-liner: “People are always introducing me as ‘Sarah Silverman, Jewish comedienne.’ I hate that! I wish people would see me for who I really am — I’m white!”

Nothing New

At the opposite end of the spectrum of the “well observed” compliment are the many criticisms that you can lay against a comedian. While the general public might think the worst insults they could levy against a comic are “offensive,” or “stupid,” or even “not funny,” among comics none of these sting as much as the criticism that you aren’t doing anything new, that you’re material is “hack.” From the word “hackneyed,” it is the one thing that all the working comics I know today want to avoid more than anything else. Even if your act gets laughs, if other comedians think your tired old joke about a nagging girlfriend is hack, then your professional reputation is sunk.

Something similar is true in sociology, as I learned last year during my dissertation proposal process. Early on, my committee gave me feedback along the lines of:

- “This isn’t a puzzling question.”
- “People will read this and say, ‘Yes, so what?’”
- “Will this add an original piece of knowledge to the field of sociology or are you just repeating something we already know to be true?”

In other words, original drafts of my proposal were hack. Perhaps future dissertation committees can take a note from comedian nomenclature and incorporate “hack” into their feedback. “So basically your argument is that social systems tend to reproduce themselves? Hmm, that’s a little hack, don’t you think?”

Societal Gadfly

Shows like The Daily Show and The Colbert Report have shown the important role that comedy can have in shaping discourse around important issues. More recently, John Oliver’s Last Week Tonight has taken this a step further by creating extensively researched pieces that even further demonstrate the fruitfulness of this union, by creating a sort of hybrid of investigative journalism, sociology, and comedy.

At their worst, comedy news hybrids were just preaching to the choir, such as calling Fox News dumb to an audience of people who already knew what they were putting together. But at their best, they made well observed remarks that showed us something about society that we nearly knew but needed someone to articulate.

Comedy sites like The Onion, CollegeHumor, and Funny Or Die are also at their best when they occupy a similar role of societal gadfly. It was in my capacity of writing for Funny Or Die that Footnotes Managing Editor Johanna Olxey relayed to me her suspicion that a sociologist might be behind the video, I felt honored and thought it was perhaps a sign that our video’s intention was at least aiming in the right direction.

I have a book of comedic essays and stories being published next year and hopefully my dissertation on the performance of gender in comedy is on the way (note to my adviser: it will definitely be coming out next year). Despite quite different intended audiences, I have the same lofty goal for each: that a reader accepts my writing as true. I will not achieve this goal. Not completely anyway. And, I might fail spectacularly. But as far as goals-to-fail-spectacularly-at go, it is one of the better ones that I have come across, and it’s my work in the intersection of sociology and comedy that has made this, for me, the ultimate (and enjoyable) goal to strive for.

If I haven’t convinced you how comedy contributes to sociology and vice-versa, I can at least leave you with this last observation about the connection. Here is a social fact based on personal experience, careful participant observation, and a log-linear analysis of categorical frequency: having a sense of humor about grad school and academia makes the whole endeavor of being a sociologist a lot more fun. \( \ast \)
Lisa Keister
Lisa, who received her degree from Cornell in 1997, made an early mark with her influential work on corporate networks in China. Studying the rise of the newly formed Chinese business groups, Lisa was able to demonstrate for the first time a finding that had eluded other Western network scholars: that network connections improved firm performance. She did this through a combination of sophisticated quantitative analysis as well as a series of interviews that allowed her to overcome the problem of endogeneity—the possibility that the networks were the consequence rather than the cause of high performance—that had plagued so many earlier studies. No sooner had Lisa established herself as a leading economic sociologist of China when she abruptly shifted gears, publishing her second book, Wealth in America, on the rising inequality of wealth in the United States, an innovative study that anticipated by several years the current focus on this topic. She subsequently moved to the study of the role of religion in wealth attainment—the results of which lead to a reconsideration of Max Weber's thesis—and more recently has returned to her original interest in China. In addition to five authored books with leading university presses, Lisa’s articles have appeared in every major sociological journal.

James Moody
Jim, who received his degree from North Carolina in 1999, quickly became one of the field’s leading network methodologists, while making major contributions to a broad range of substantive areas. He developed an innovative approach for identifying clusters in large-scale social networks; he showed that the timing of romantic attachments (and detachments) could have a major impact on estimating the diffusion of viruses in populations; and he developed, in an award-winning American Sociological Review article (with Doug White), an approach for measuring cohesion in a social structure that provided the most theoretically and methodologically elegant treatment of the concept that I have seen. Substantively, Jim distinguished himself in a highly influential American Journal of Sociology article on racial segregation among high school students, and he has made important contributions in studies of intellectual collaboration among sociologists, transmission of the HIV virus, and substance abuse among adolescents. Most recently, he developed a set of graphic techniques for social networks that have allowed us to observe substantive outcomes that were not visible based on more conventional analyses. He is currently completing a much-anticipated book on this topic.

A Strong Team
Lisa and Jim have a strong and clearly-stated mission for Socius. As anyone who has experienced the review process at our major journals knows, many articles become bogged down in the details, as authors struggle to address a seemingly endless series of complaints by reviewers. Not only does this slow the process of disseminating findings to the field, but it also leaves much of the most interesting dialogue—between authors and reviewers—on the cutting room floor. It has also led to a decades-long inflation in the length of articles; the median length of an AJJS article is nearly double today what it was in the 1970s, a trend precisely the opposite of what a developing science should experience.

The online nature of Socius will allow quick and easy dissemination of sociologically important findings. To facilitate this, the journal, as envisioned by Lisa and Jim, will have a single round of reviews and a quick "up or out" decision. The editors also promise to take risks, by publishing interesting work without the often exaggerated obsession over the possibility of Type I errors, on the assumption, as they put it, that "the community of science is self-correcting in the long run." It is refreshing, and important for the field, to have a major journal whose editors believe that it is "fundamentally better to publish an interesting paper that will later be found incorrect than to publish a perfect empirical paper that is never cited because it is not interesting." Lisa and Jim also plan to encourage relatively brief (approximately 5,000-word) articles that present important findings, in line with the natural and physical sciences, in which short, clear papers make a single contribution in a clear way. To facilitate this, their goal is to review such papers within three weeks.

This is an ambitious plan, one that has great potential to improve the research and publication experience of authors as well as the accessibility of findings to the scholarly community. I have high hopes for this journal, and I have no doubt that under Lisa and Jim’s leadership these hopes will be more than realized.

References

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

Science Communication Institute (2014). I would add that an ideal system should also financially support the process by which science achieves these publishing goals, broadly defined. Within sociology, ASA and our sister regional and specialized sociological associations support many important disciplinary activities with the revenues from our publications, including academic meetings, the early training of scholars, support for faculty and departments, and science advocacy. I am delighted that with the launch of Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World, the ASA will be taking a major step forward in discerning how open access publication can help us achieve all our goals.

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Vantage Point
From Page 5
Job Search
reviewing CV’s in advance, I try to search broadly and with creative terms, looking for people whose work may fit well with our ad.”
Short briefings are provided to both candidates and interviewers before their first interview to familiarize each group with Employment Service activities on site. The Employment Service provides a separate, dedicated space for candidates and interviewers to use during the meeting for interview preparation. The areas include Wi-Fi and computer access to keep users connected to the online system.
“I would try to space out my interviews more if I went through the experience again, said Garcia. “The flipside of [convenient back-to-back interviews], was that it was difficult to move directly from one quick interview to another. It would have been beneficial to have more time to write down notes after one interview concluded and gather my thoughts for the one to come. Some of my Employment Service interviews turned into campus visits and some did not, but all of them helped me polish the way I presented myself and my work to different audiences.”
Candidates must be registered for the Annual Meeting to participate in the Employment Service. Potential candidates who miss the Annual Meeting preregistration deadline (July 8) may sign up for the Employment Service onsite at the Annual Meeting. Questions? Email employer@asanet.org or visit www.asanet.org/AM2015/employmentservices.cfm.
ASA Awards Six FAD Grants for the Advancement of Sociology

Member donations are needed to continue advancing the discipline

The American Sociological Association (ASA) is pleased to announce six awards from the December 2014 round of proposals to the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD). Co-funded by ASA and the National Science Foundation (NSF) and administered by the ASA, FAD provides seed money (up to $7,000, increasing to $8,000 with the June 2015 round) to PhD scholars for innovative research projects and scientific conferences that advance the discipline. Funding decisions are made by an advisory panel composed of members of ASAs Council and the Director of Research.

Member donations help continue the strong FAD tradition of supporting innovation and diversifying the discipline, a hallmark of the program since its inception more than 35 years ago. Therefore, we are asking ASA members to provide the donations needed to continue to fund proposals (December 15 and June 15). Individuals can contribute online (by logging into the ASA website and clicking “contribute”), by phone at (202) 383-9005, or by mail to FAD, c/o Business Office, American Sociological Association, 1430 K Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005.

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

Laura E. Enriquez, University of California-Irvine, Katharine Donato, Vanderbilt University, and Cheryl Llewellyn, State University of New York at Stony Brook, $7,000 for Gender and Migration: Building a Sociological Field though Interdisciplinary Conversation.

While participating in interdisciplinary working groups that have contributed to the growth of the field over the past decade, these three researchers observed that sociology has yet to fully incorporate gender within migration studies. One recent literature review indicates that most sociologists studying migration opt for a binary approach to gender and few use it as an explanatory variable. The FAD review panel recommended support for the project, both for its potential to develop an expanded perspective on studies of migration and its plan for a product to disseminate results. With support from FAD, the researchers will conduct an updated review of the sociology literature and convene a conference to address methodological and theoretical issues in the study of gender and migration. They will compile the products of these activities in a special journal issue that promises to benefit all sociologists working on migration.

Anne Esacove, Muhlenberg College, $7,000 for The Natural Death Movement: Re-Enchanting Death, Revitalizing Life, and Preserving the Planet.

Death is a highly ritualized social phenomenon characterized by multi-dimensional institutional structures, making it a rich subject for sociological inquiry. Yet, death in the contemporary United States remains understudied. Esacove’s research concerns the burgeoning natural death movement, which includes efforts to promote open conversations about death, facilitate family care for the dead, and offer options that do not impede natural decomposition. These practices contest the normative and commodified approaches to death care in the United States. They also disrupt the authority of science and medicine by challenging conventional wisdom that established mortuary practices—particularly embalming—protect the public health and support healthy grieving. It’s not entirely clear whether this movement represents a major shift in cultural practices and norms or a fringe phenomenon destined to remain on the margins. Esacove’s project will help us answer that question and learn more about this topic.

Carla Goar, Kent State University, and Jenny Davis, James Madison University, $7,000 for Moral Stigma: Race, Disability, and Body Size.

This FAD project will add to the investigators’ ongoing research on the processes underlying stigma, with a focus on its moral aspect. Their project includes participant observation and in-depth interviews with parents at specialized camps for children with stigmatizing attributes: culture camps for adoptive parents with children of a different race, most often white parents with children of color; disability camps for families of children with disabilities; and weight-loss camps for children with high body mass index (BMI). Parents of children with visible physical disabilities and children of color experience morally neutral stigma, while parents of children with non-visible mental or emotional disabilities or high BMI—often attributed to personal failure—experience morally fraught stigma. The study will contribute both to scholarship on stigmatization and socialization, and provide practical insights on how to manage stigma successfully in an institutional setting.

Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, University of South Florida, $6,950 for Second-Class Daughters: Informal Adoption as Neo-Slavery in Brazil.

Brazil has the largest number of domestic workers in the world at more than 7 million, most of them Afro-Brazilian women. In 2013, the Brazilian Congress approved sweeping labor reforms which some call the country’s “second abolishment of slavery.” However, many Afro-Brazilian women continue to suffer from labor exploitation in a form of neo-slavery that occurs in their “adoptive” families. This project is a sociological investigation into the structural and individual factors that contribute to the abuse and unpaid labor of Afro-Brazilian women in adoptive families in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. Using a qualitative methodology, the project will juxtapose interviews and ethnographic observations with “adopted” women to the data collected from their adoptive families. It makes use of the theoretical framing of “affective capital” to clarify the critical role that emotional manipulation plays in this form of contemporary labor exploitation.

Janice M. Irvine, University of Massachusetts, $6,987 for Nuts, Sluts, and Perverts: Sociology’s Rocky Romance with Deviance.

FAD projects are not always about new phenomena or “cutting-edge” methodologies. This project will advance the discipline by expanding our knowledge of its history. Irvine’s project is a history of the sociology of deviance from 1950–79. It situates the sociology of deviance in its Cold War historical moment, examining the field in both the United States and the United Kingdom. The study examines the connections between the production of knowledge about deviants, their emerging politicization, and new forms of cultural production—particularly television. In this time period, the emerging academic research, social movement mobilizations, and popular culture together brought new cultural visibility to particular deviant types, contributing in some cases to their normalization. Involving interviews with pioneering deviance scholars and scholar-activists, archival research, and content analysis of primary documents and literature, this study will explore the ways gender, race, sexuality, and class have shaped deviance research.

Eran Shor, McGill University, and Arnout van de Rijt, State University of New York-Stony Brook, $7,000 for The Determinants of Sex-Ratio Inbalance in Media Coverage.

To explain the persistent gap in media coverage of men and women, gender theorists often point to the male-dominated field of journalism and reporting focused on “men’s issues.” But how much of the persistent inequality in coverage can be attributed to the structure of media organizations? Do female names receive less coverage than male names, even when considering their lesser representation in political and economic positions?

Continued on Page10
In June 2009, Michael McQuarrie, Edward T. Walker, and I received Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) funding for a conference on “Democratizing Inequalities: Participation without Parity?” The “Democratizing Inequalities” Project is grounded in rich qualitative and quantitative research and has involved a collaborative, multi-year dialogue among multidisciplinary scholars on the relationship between contemporary participation and inequality. The FAD grant, sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the American Sociological Association, provided funding to collaborators Lee of Lafayette College, McQuarrie of the London School of Economics, and Walker of the University of California-Los Angeles, which helped to underway a public conference to launch the project and related website in October 2010 at the Institute for Public Knowledge at New York University.

Resisting an oversimplifie account of participation as “empowerment,” the Democratizing Inequalities Project brought together leading researchers of politics and organizations in order to understand the particular institutional configurations that undergird the “new public participation.” In so doing, the project provides insight into the means by which new participatory forms reflect the unequal context in which they operate; offers provocative evidence of how participatory projects may reinforce or generate new forms of inequality and examines in depth the particular conflicts involved in the production of participation and the reconfiguration of public advocacy.

Democratizing Inequalities: Dilemmas of the New Public Participation, published in January 2015 by NYU Press, is an edited volume that emerged from the FAD project. The volume seeks to provide a timely and provocative intervention in the literature on public participation, deliberation, and civic engagement. The co-editors argue that a systematic re-conceptualization of the relationship between public participation and inequality is long overdue. Participation is no longer simply about democratization and may even reinforce economic and social inequality. This does not mean that we should give up on the promise of participation, but it does require adopting new perspectives that link democratic quality to other social, political, and economic forces.

Prior to this point, participation has most commonly been envisioned as a promising remedy for constraining the excesses of bureaucracies, improving transparency in governance, and giving voice to the voiceless. While other recent works in the social sciences have called attention to the critical importance of public participation, most analyses have been celebratory and have seen new participatory projects and new technologies for participation mainly as a solution to inequalities. They have largely neglected the reality that participatory projects cannot be completely divorced from the unequal contexts in which they operate. Although there has been a considerable resurgence of interest in sociological and political science literatures on the importance of deliberation, most studies have insufficiently examined how deliberation and other forms of “thick” engagement have permeated a wide variety of institutional domains.

With counterintuitive insights about participatory campaigning, new movement tactics, “astroturfing” (generating ersatz grassroots participation in support of a sponsor’s interests), and the changing nature of authority, the volume contributes historical context and in-depth analysis to contemporary public debates about the politics of expertise, the contradictions of professionalization, and the role of new industries. These cutting-edge topics are compared across a diverse range of domains, including public sector budgeting, international development, corporate politics, health policy, community organizing, and workplace engagement. The introductory essay by Walker, McQuarrie, and Lee, “Rising Participation and Declining Democracy,” summarizes the theoretical and practical agenda of the Democratizing Inequalities Project. The foreword by Craig Calhoun helps to underscore the significance of the project in broader historical terms.

The Democratizing Inequalities Project seeks to provide multiple perspectives and stimulate further discussion by focusing on analyses of actually existing participatory practices. Its goal is to examine the conditions under which democratic spaces may exist in the contemporary moment. As such, it helps to establish scope conditions for participatory projects and to remind practitioners and theorists that participation, democracy, and equality cannot be equated so easily. Given its pragmatic, global, and empirically diverse areas of investigation, it has broad relevance for future studies of democratic possibilities in sociology and other disciplines.
COSSA Hosts Annual Meeting and Inaugural Cross-Social Science Advocacy Day

Wendy Naus, Consortium of Social Science Associations

The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), of which ASA is a governing member (www.cossa.org), held its 2015 Annual Meeting on March 9-10. The meeting brought together more than 100 members of the social and behavioral science community for a day of discussion with federal policymakers and federal officials on topics that impact social and behavioral science research. Coupled with the annual meeting was COSSA’s first-ever “Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day,” in which 60 representatives from across COSSA’s membership (www.cossa.org/members) took to Capitol Hill to meet with their Congressional delegations to discuss the value and importance of our research.

Annual Meeting participants heard presentations on a range of topics and from a variety of speakers, including heads of federal research agencies and programs, colleagues in science policy and higher education communities, and fellow researchers. A full recap from the meeting can be found on the COSSA website (www.cossa.org/event/annual-meeting).

Social and Behavioral Science at NSF and NIH

National Science Foundation (NSF) Director France Córdova spoke about social, behavioral, and economic science supported by NSF. Observing that 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of Vannevar Bush’s landmark report, Science: The Endless Frontier, which became the impetus for NSF’s creation, she quoted from the famous report: “It would be folly to set up a program under which research in the natural sciences and medicine was expanded at the cost of the social sciences, humanities, and other studies so essential to national well-being.”

Córdova echoed this sentiment before the COSSA audience and spoke fondly of her experience as an undergraduate conducting research into the sociology of bilingualism in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Attendees also heard about social and behavioral science research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Acting director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) William Riley discussed several NIH initiatives, including President Obama’s new Precision Medicine Initiative. Riley also spoke about some of the mischaracterizations that can occur regarding specific areas of research that NIH funds, such as in the area of sex research. As Riley explained, those mischaracterizing research (whether policymakers or the public) often only have access to publicly available grant titles and abstracts and are basing their actions and beliefs on a predetermined narrative of the research’s worthiness of taxpayer support. In reality, NIH employs a complex and sophisticated method of peer review to ensure taxpayer dollars are going to the best science.

Defending Sound Science: Politics and Peer Review

One of the panels of greatest interest to attendees was the final panel on “Defending Sound Science: When Politics and Peer Review Collide.” For this timely panel, the researchers were asked to discuss their personal experiences of having their research unflatteringly caricatured by policy makers. David Schonnick, professor of biology at Pacific University, had his research into the physiological impacts of pollution and warming oceans on marine life receive national attention after his video of a “shrimp on a treadmill” went viral. Schonnick tried to take advantage of his newfound notoriety to bring positive attention to his research, but was frustrated by the experience and concerned about the impact on the many undergraduate researchers who worked in his lab.

Megan Tracy, assistant professor of sociology at James Madison University, found out her research on the food safety regulation system in China had been called into question during a 2013 hearing of the House of Representatives’ Committee on Science, Space and Technology, when she was contacted by a reporter for comment. She was up for tenure at the time and was concerned that the scrutiny would hurt her chances. In addition, Tracy noted that the sheer amount of time she had to spend responding was a distraction from her research.

Filippo Menczer, professor of informatics and computer science at Indiana University, saw his “Truthy Project,” which investigates the spread of misinformation on social media, misrepresented by his conservative media as an attempt to limit free speech. Noting the irony of the situation, Menczer attempted to correct the misinformation about his research in media interviews and by putting up a website to explain the science, but ultimately was not able to prevent the mischaracterization of his work. Inspired by his experiences, he has begun work on automated fact-checking, although he expressed skepticism that it would do much good in a world where the media is increasingly polarized.

The final speaker, Joanna Kempner, assistant professor of sociology at Rutgers University, shared the findings of her research on the lasting impacts of controversy on scientists. Kempner’s work focused on the grants targeted by then-Representative Pat Toomey and a “family values” group in 2003, most of which explored sexuality or HIV. Kempner found that the unwanted attention was actually motivating for some researchers, reinforcing their commitment to the work they were doing. However, for others, it led to self-censorship; researchers chose to seek grants on less controversial topics or to reframe their work to leave out easily politicized buzzwords.

Save the Date

The 2016 COSSA Annual Meeting and 2nd Annual Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day have been scheduled for March 15-16, 2016, in Washington, DC. All ASA members are welcome and encouraged to attend to be part of the effort to promote social and behavioral science research.
the industrial city, the new working class is not so different in lifestyle and aspirations from the creative class but their lower incomes constrain their mobility in similar ways. Chicago retains a traditional working class in manufacturing and in a myriad manual and service occupations, fast food employees who have led the movement for a higher minimum wage and better working conditions. At the bottom are the least economically secure workers, who are disproportionately people of color subject to persistent unemployment and low wages. Overall, Chicago has a high level of income inequality. It is eighth on a list of the most unequal U.S. cities (Berube 2014). "Plutocratization" and an hourglass structure are certainly visible in Chicago. The gap between African Americans and whites is very large. In 2010, the median household income was $29,000 for African Americans and $64,000 for non–Hispanic whites, a proportional widening of racial inequality in income, compared to 50 years ago (Bogira 2013). Unemployment rates among blacks are twice as high as those of whites, foreclosure rates are three times higher, and the poverty rate among African-Americans is over 30 percent (compared to 10 percent among whites). The large gap in economic position and well-being between whites and blacks persists and by some measures has widened since the 1960s (Klinesenberg 2003; Massey and Denton 1998). Latinos (immigrant and native-born) are characterized by economic indicators placing them "between" whites and African-Americans. But this "in-between" status may not be a permanent feature of stratification in Chicago, only a moment in a complicated trajectory of immigrant upward and downward mobility. Racial differences in earnings are matched by sustained racial isolation. In 2011, two-thirds of the city’s African-American population lived in neighborhoods that were at least 94 percent black (Bogira 2013). The demolition of many public housing projects displaced former residents farther from the gentrifying city (Venkatesh 2002). Residential segregation has consequences for access to key services such as pharmacies, grocery stores, and community centers (Small 2014) in addition to social support, reifying the "concentrated disadvantage" of a community, particularly in areas predominately inhabited by blacks (Sampson 2012).

Crime, Health, and Education

The murder of Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old honor student who performed at President Obama’s 2013 inauguration a week before her death, spotlighted Chicago’s persistent gun violence and notoriously high homicide rate. At the close of 2014, the city recorded its lowest number of homicides (432) since the mid-1960s, paralleling trends throughout the nation. A controversial expose by Chicago Magazine suggests that declining crime rates in the Windy City are an artifact of statistical and coding manipulations by the Chicago Police Department (Bernstein and Isackson, 2014), and rates of violent crime remain considerably higher in several west and south-side neighborhoods than on the north side. Racial disparities in health and well-being abound. African-American and Latino high school students are more likely to be overweight and obese than white students; a disproportionate rate of HIV diagnosis exists among blacks (who constituted 60 percent of individuals diagnosed in 2008); and breast cancer mortality rates are three-fifths greater for black women than white women, a disturbing divergence from the early 1980s when the rates were essentially similar (Yonek and Hasnain-Wynia 2011). Health resources such as bike paths, mammogram accessibility, HIV clinics, and trauma centers are comparatively scarce on the south and west sides, which are predominately black and Latino.

The Chicago Teachers Union Strike during September 2012 drew international attention to political and professional differences in how best to educate the city’s youth. Union President Karen Lewis led a 30,000-teacher, 10-day walkout in protest of teacher compensation, evaluations being tied to student performance, and the proposed closure of 129 public schools. In 2013 Mayor Rahm Emanuel closed 49 public schools in primarily low-income black and Latino neighborhoods, leading to a 7,000-person protest by teachers, parents, and students over three days. The February 2015 mayoral and city council election saw the emergence of challenges to the neoliberal policies of the Emanuel Administration. The mayor and 12 of the city council incumbents failed to win absolute majorities and were forced into a run-off election on April 7, 2015, with Emanuel facing Cook County Commissioner Jesus “Chuy” Garcia who had strong support from the Chicago Teachers Union and the SEIU. Emanuel won the run-off (55.7% to 44.3%) and Garcia garnered majorities essentially only in Latino-plurality wards on the northwest and southwest sides. Garcia was not able to win a majority in any ward with a plurality of African American voters despite dissatisfaction with school closings, crime and policing, and high unemployment. But the fact that Emanuel and a number of his city council supporters were forced into a run-off election reveals a considerable level of discontent with neoliberal policies.

Conclusions

Chicago has long been our epicenter for testing and generating sociological theory, uncovering neighborhood processes of inequality, and for developing rich ethnographic and quantitative literatures on crime, health, education, residential mobility, and political participation. As the 110th ASA Annual Meeting convenes, let us reflect on the changing and enduring patterns of inequality within and beyond Chicago.

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Do you have an announcement for Footnotes? Send it to footnotes@asanet.org.
Tracing the Trajectory of Federal Initiatives Addressing Campus Sexual Violence

This article is the second in a two-part series on campus sexual assault by a former ASA Congressional Fellow. The first, “The Shifting Landscape,” appeared in the January 2015 issue of Footnotes.

Ashley C. Rondini, Franklin and Marshall College

Since the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights (OCR) first issued the April 2011 “Dear Colleague” letter (www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-201104.html) addressing the responsibilities of educational institutions in relation to sexual violence, a steady stream of federal efforts and initiatives have continued to highlight the issue of campus sexual assault.

To a unique extent, much of what has happened in regards to federal initiatives concerning campus sexual violence has been developed and disseminated through the executive branch of the federal government. In 2012, President Obama issued a presidential proclamation declaring that April would be officially recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention month. In January of 2014, he signed the Campus Sexual Assault Presidential Memorandum during a meeting of the White House Council on Women and Girls. In April of 2014, the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault (co-chaired by the Office of the Vice President and the White House Council on Women and Girls) issued its first official report, titled “Not Alone.” The release of this report coincided with a more detailed, 53-page guidance document from OCR, which comprehensively outlined specific issues and obligations under Title IX and provided CDC-endorsed, evidence-based best practices. The CDC recommendations are notable in the clear and consistent emphasis that they place on ongoing efforts to shape the ethos of campus environments concerning sexual respect, rather than limiting the scope of institutional initiatives to reactive protocols triggered “after the fact” of an incident.

Social Media and Sociological Framing

In the same vein, the White House and the Office of the Vice President have utilized social media to disseminate public service announcement videos over the course of this past year, featuring notable public figures endorsing conceptualizations of affirmative consent and framing sexual violence prevention as community-level issues. In the first video, “I is 2 Many,” President Obama and Vice President Biden appear along with a swath of male celebrities, advocating bystander intervention and voicing support for victims of sexual violence. Initial distribution of this video in April of 2014 coincided with the release of the “Not Alone” report. In September of 2014, a second PSA video was distributed, featuring a diverse group of male and female celebrities stating their commitments to sexual assault prevention and conveying, vis-à-vis the tagline “It’s On Us,” a broader sense of collective responsibility surrounding the issue. The “It’s On Us” campaign (itsonus.org/) invites college students and other concerned citizens to sign a four-part pledge on its website, making a personal commitment “(1) to recognize that non-consensual sex is sexual assault; (2) to identify situations in which sexual assault may occur; (3) to intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given; and (4) to create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.”

The Federal “It’s On Us” Campaign Pledge
- Recognize that non-consensual sex is sexual assault
- Identify situations in which sexual assault may occur
- Intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given
- Create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

None of this is to say, however, that federal efforts to address this issue have been without problematic limitations. In what seems to be in direct conflict with the aforementioned expanded goals and requirements, the 2013 VAWA reauthorization cut total annual funding for the Campus Grants Program from $15 million to $12 million and decreased the maximum award available to any institution from $500,000 to $300,000. While the substantive content of recent legislative measures addressing campus sexual violence is conceptually well matched to the executive branch’s evidence-based initiatives and guidance, the resources with which to structurally support the implementation of these measures have significantly decreased.

As the story of federal involvement in campus sexual violence issues continues to unfold, however, new initiatives continue to emerge. In July of 2014, a bipartisan group of legislators led by Claire McCaskill (D-MO) introduced the “Campus Accountability and Safety Act” to the Senate. Met with significant resistance, the bill addresses issues including, but not limited to, the availability of confidential advisors, campus climate survey requirements, mandatory reporting, mandatory agreements between educational institutions and local law enforcement agencies, and increased financial penalties for violations of either Title IX (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688) or Clery Act (20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)) compliance standards. Hearings on aspects of the proposed bill related to law enforcement were convened before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism in December of 2014; it is anticipated that a revised version of the bill may be reintroduced in the 114th Congress. In the meantime, it remains to be seen how the federal agencies and offices of the executive branch may continue to define their own roles in setting the federal agenda for preventing, and raising awareness around, campus sexual violence.
Sociologists Elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences

Five U.S.-based sociologists were among some of the world’s most accomplished leaders from academia, business, public affairs, the humanities, and the arts who were elected members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In late April, the Academy announced its selection of 197 members, including five sociologists as part of its 2015 Class of Fellows. One of the nation’s most prestigious honorary societies, the Academy is also a leading center for independent policy research. Members contribute to Academy publications and studies of science and technology policy, global security and international affairs, social policy and American institutions, and the humanities, arts, and education.

Sociologists among the new class include:

David W. Garland, Arthur T. Vanderbilt Professor of Law; Professor of Sociology, New York University;

David B. Grusky, Barbara Kimball Browning Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences; Director, Center on Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University;

Michael Mann, Distinguished Professor of Sociology, University of California–Los Angeles;

Rubén G. Rumbaut, Distinguished Professor of Sociology, University of California–Irvine; and

Teresa A. Sullivan, President, University of Virginia

The Academy will welcome this year’s new class at its annual Induction Ceremony on October 10, 2015, at its headquarters in Cambridge, MA. For more information, visit www.amacad.org.

Three Sociologists Named Carnegie Fellows

Carnegie Corporation of New York has named two sociologists among the 32 Andrew Carnegie Fellows. This is the inaugural class of a major annual fellowship program that provides support for scholars in the social sciences and humanities. The Fellows receive awards of up to $200,000 each, which enables them to take sabbaticals in order to devote their time to research and writing.

The Andrew Carnegie Fellows are an exceptional group of established and emerging scholars, journalists, and authors whose work distills knowledge, enriches our culture, and equips leaders in the realms of science, law, business, public policy, and the arts. The fellowships aim to provide new perspectives on the program’s overarching theme for 2015: Current and Future Challenges to U.S. Democracy and International Order.

The 2015 sociologist Fellows are:

Louise I. Shelley, is the Omer L. and Nancy Hirst Professor of Public Policy, University Professor and the Director of the Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center, George Mason University;

Zeynep Tufekci, Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill at the School of Information and Library Science (SILS), with an affiliate appointment in the Department of Sociology. She was previously a fellow at the Center for Information Technology Policy at Princeton University.

Read more about the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program and the work of the 2015 inaugural class by visiting acfellows.carnegie.org.

There Are at Least 52 Reasons to Join a Section, Here Are a Few

Why join a section? There are at least as many reasons to join as there are sections. To start, there’s the dialogue, participation in section sessions, and even section journals. Sections account for half of all programming at the Annual Meeting and produce four ASA journals. They’re a vibrant and vital source of intellectual ferment within the discipline of sociology.

Sociologists certainly understand the value of joining a section. Sections are small, tight-knit communities where members can easily get to know one another. Sections also build community throughout the year through their e-mail, listservs, newsletters, and social media.

ASA has a rich diversity of sections that there’s a home for nearly every scholar, whether they study one of sociology’s core interests like Gender or a focused subfield like “Animals and Society”. Many members refer to sections as intellectual homes.

Another excellent reason to join a section is the services it provides to students and junior scholars. Many sections offer programming directed at junior scholars in the form of mentorships, membership subsidies and round tables dedicated to students and facilitated by high profile scholars. In addition they provide opportunities to grow careers by providing service to the discipline. Serving on a section committee is a great way to add accomplishments to one’s vita. Most sections even have opportunities for students to serve on committees, elected office or in other roles like newsletter or website editors. Thanks to ASA’s decentralized structure, service in a section is easy to enter and still offers opportunities for significant accomplishments. These offices are excellent ways to demonstrate one’s dedication to the discipline and to stand out in amongst the competition in the academic job market.

25 years ago what was going on at the ASA?

• Minority Opportunity Summer Training (MOST) program began. The eight-year effort, supported by the Ford Foundation, sought to alter “business as usual” practices through systemic changes in academic departments and to enhance the pipeline of students of color in sociology.

• Bill D’Antonio stepped down as ASA Executive Officer and Felice Levine took over. William Julius Wilson was ASA President, presiding over the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. The Annual Meeting hotel rates (in DC!) were $75 and $88. You received the preliminary program and registration material in the mail and then mailed it back to the Executive Office.

• ASA installed an automated phone system. This phone system—the kind where you are asked to press the number corresponding to the program you are trying to reach—was so innovative that it evoked two Footnotes articles. This system allowed you to leave a message on a staff “voice box recorder! It was the August 1989 Footnotes that reported, “ASA Goes Electronic: ASA’s New Fax Number and Bitnet Address” so the phone was still an important mode of communication at that time when the Internet was fledgling.
Three Sociologists Receive 2015 Guggenheim Fellowships

In April, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation announced the winners for the 91st annual United States and Canadian Guggenheim Fellowship Awards. Among the almost 3,100 applications, 173 fellowships were awarded to a diverse group of artists, scientists, and scholars. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of prior achievement and exceptional promise. One of the hallmarks of the Guggenheim Fellowship program is the diversity of its Fellows. Fifty-six disciplines and 83 academic institutions are represented by this year’s Fellows. Sociologists Susan Eva Eckstein, Monica Prasad, and Mark R. Warren are among the 2015 Guggenheim Fellows.

Susan Eva Eckstein, Professor of International Relations and Sociology at Boston University, focuses her research on Latin America. She has written most extensively on Mexico, Cuba, and Bolivia. Eckstein is the author of four books, most recently of The Immigrant Divide: How Cuban Americans Changed the U.S. and Their Homeland, and editor/co-editor of another four books in English. Currently, she is working on immigration and its impact across borders. Her Guggenheim Fellowship project is “Cuban Immigration Exceptionalism: The Long Cold War.”

Monica Prasad, Professor of Sociology at Northwestern University, received the 2014 ASA Distinguished Scholarly Book Award for The Land of Too Much: American Abundance and the Paradox of Poverty. With a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, she and project manager Elisabeth Anderson are conducting a cross-national and longitudinal study of the relationship between income tax progressivity and welfare state spending. Her Guggenheim project is “Starving the Beast: The Origins of the American Antitax Movement.”

Mark R. Warren, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Public Affairs at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, studies efforts to strengthen institutions that anchor low-income communities—schools, congregations and other community-based organizations—and to build broad-based alliances among these institutions and across race and social class. Warren penned several books, including Fire in the Heart: How White Activists Embrace Racial Justice and Dry Bones Rattling: Community Building to Revitalize American Democracy. His Guggenheim project is “Building an Educational Justice Movement: Organizing against the School to Prison Pipeline.”

Sociologists Appointed Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholars

Four sociologists are among the 16 leading social scientists recently appointed 2015-2016 Visiting Scholars at the Russell Sage Foundation. During their tenure at the Foundation, Visiting Scholars will pursue research and writing projects that will promote the Foundation’s commitment to strengthening the social sciences. All Visiting Scholars undertake timely social science research and apply their research to significant social problems. The Visiting Scholars program, now in its thirtieth year, provides an opportunity for scholars to pursue their research and writing while in residence at the Foundation, and it is an important part of the Foundation’s effort to analyze and understand the complex and shifting nature of social, political, and economic life in the United States.

Prudence L. Carter (Stanford University, Education) will examine belief systems that shape educational policy-making. She will investigate how student success is framed in public discourse by the mainstream media and how policy-makers use research to shape policies designed to enhance student and school success and will present her findings in a series of journal articles and a book manuscript.

Victor Nee (Cornell University) will analyze data on the emergence of a new tech industry in lower Manhattan following the Great Recession. He will investigate how the high level of immigrant involvement—both as tech workers and as entrepreneurs—has shaped the rapid expansion of this industry. He will also examine the ways in which political and economic institutions have aided the growth.

Monica Prasad (Northwestern University) will write a book on the origins of the tax-cut movement, looking at how the decline of progressive taxation in the United States contributed to the revitalization of the Republican Party following Watergate. Using recently released archival sources, she will focus on the importance of tax cuts to the conservative resurgence, an issue that has been understudied in previous literature.

Viviana A. Zelizer (Princeton University) will research how colleges and college students respond to everyday economic inequality on their campuses. She will study the interactions among students of different socioeconomic backgrounds in order to observe how students negotiate money, campus work, and class differences. She will investigate how the histories of student monetary transactions and labor practices at Princeton have helped shape the present-day campus economy.

The Russell Sage Foundation was established by Margaret Olivia Sibley in 1917 for “the improvement of social and living conditions in the United States.” In its early years the Foundation undertook major projects in low-income housing, urban planning, social work, and labor reform. The Foundation now dedicates itself exclusively to strengthening the methods, data, and theoretical core of the social sciences as a means of diagnosing social problems and improving social policies. The Foundation is the current publisher of volumes in the ASA Rose Series in Sociology. For additional information on the Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholars Program, visit www.sagefoundation.org/visiting-scholars.

Call for Nominations for ASA Offices

The ASA Committee on Nominations, elected by the membership, prepares the slates of nominees for the ASA office. The Committee will undertake its work at the 2015 Annual Meeting (August 22-25) in Chicago. 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 or student 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 e-mail to governance@asanet.org or by postal mail to American Sociological Association, ATTN: Governance Office, 1430 K St. NW, #600 Washington, DC 20005. All submissions must be received no later than July 1, 2015.
Summary of Editorial Activity
(January 1-December 31, 2014)
For the full 2014 Editors’ Reports, including decision data and review times, visit www.asanet.org/journals/ST/DOCS-%232378516-v1-2014_Editors_Report_Table.pdf. This information is posted online each year.

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*Figures for Contemporary Sociology refer to books received and book reviews.
"Other" items published are books in the Rose Series.
*Information not applicable, not known, or not supplied by the editor.

Book Your ASA Annual Meeting Hotel Now
Blocks of sleeping rooms for ASA meeting attendees have been arranged at the Hilton Chicago and the Palmer House Hilton hotels. Booking a room in the ASA room blocks is an important way to support the Association and ultimately keep overall meeting costs as low as possible. Staying “within the block” is more convenient and helps you stay connected. See www.asanet.org/AM2015/housing-2.cfm
announcements

American Sociological Association

Call for Papers

Publications

Contexts invites submissions for a forthcoming special issue. When reading sociology, it’s hard not to get down. It’s usually so critical, so focused on what’s wrong. Contexts Magazine is putting out the call for articles related to positive news. An upcoming issue will be dedicated to “Good News.” Are there good news stories coming out of your research or activism? Have you used research to help change a public policy? Is social science changing the world? We want to know! Start thinking and start pitching soon. Deadline: June 1, 2015. Contact: editors@contexts.org. For more information, visit www.contexts.org/blog/4889/.

Humboldt Journal of Social Relations (HJSR) invites submissions for a special issue: “Sexuality in the Post-Marriage Equality Era” This issue will examine U.S. culture and politics after the marriage equality tipping point. As of February 2015, 71 percent of the U.S. is living in a state where same-sex marriage is now legal. Deadline: September 11, 2015. Contact: hjsr@humboldt.edu. For more information, visit www2.humboldt.edu/hjsr/currentcall.html.

Teaching Sociology invites submissions for a special issue on “Sociology Instruction in the Community College Context.” Community Colleges present unique opportunities for teaching sociology as well as numerous challenges. Teaching Sociology seeks articles and notes that address issues relating to effective engagement of sociology with the community college settings. Deadline: February 1, 2016. Contact: Stephen Sweet at teachingsociology@ithaca.edu. For more information, visit www.sagepub.com/journals/Journals201974.

Urban Roaming Animals: Global Problem, Global Solutions, invites submissions for its Global Urban Studies Series. Specifically, contributions to book chapters that focus on the environmental, health, safety, ethical, and cultural implications of roaming animals in global cities with a particular emphasis on best practice policies to address these concerns. Authors are encouraged to submit chapter proposals from 5 to 10 pages in length to the editors. Deadline: August 1, 2015. Contact: Laura A. Reese at reeseela@msu.edu. For more information, visit www.globalurbanbookseries.org.

Conferences

Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS), October 8-10, 2015, Montgomery, AL. Theme: “Social Justice from the Local to the Global: Sociology on the Move.” AACS will celebrate, acknowledge, educate, and broaden the intellectual horizons during its annual conference as the city commemorates the Selma to Montgomery March and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Deadline: August 15, 2015. Contact: Karen Albright at AACSsubmissions@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.aacsnet.net.

Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS) 2015 Annual Meetings, October 21-25, 2015, Portland, OR. Theme: “Locavore Sociology: Challenging Globalization, Embracing the Local” Interested participants can submit their abstracts, related to the conferences or to the AHS mission of social justice and activism, through our online portal. Deadline: May 31, 2015. Contact: Anthony E. Ladd at alad@loyo.edu and Kathleen J. Fitzgerald at fitz68Bio@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.humanist-sociology.org/#/Portland/2015/1c3k.

New Data Linkages 2016 Conference, March 2016, Washington, DC. The Social Observatories Coordinating Network is planning a conference to highlight research programs that demonstrate novel linkages between at least two distinct data sources, types, or modalities and that answer important social scientific questions. Submissions must relate empirical results from a study that addresses a specific research question. Deadline: August 20, 2015. Contact: Sandra Hofferth at hofferth@umd.edu. For more information, visit www.socialobservatories.org.

Meetings

June 8-11, 2015. International Conference on Computational Social Science, Helsinki, Finland. For more information, visit www.iccss2015.eu/.


June 10-13, 2015. 6th Annual Expanding the Circle Summer Institute, San Francisco, CA. Theme: “Advancing LGBTQ Initiatives in Higher Education, from the Classroom to the Campus Quad.” Contact: expandingthecircle@circus.edu. For more information, visit www.ciris.edu/ExpandingTheCircle.


June 28-July 1, 2015. Clinical Sociology division (RC46) of the International Sociological Association, Johannesburg, South Africa. Theme: “Countours of Violence: Manifestations, Interventions and Social Justice.” Contact: Mariam Seed at Khan at Seedatm@ukzn.ac.za or Tina Uys at tuys@uj.ac.za.


October 23-24, 2015. A Critical Moment: Sex/Gender Research at the Intersection of Culture, Brain, & Behavior, 6th Interdisciplinary Conference of The Foundation for Psychocultural Research, Los Angeles, CA. Theme: “Issues at the Intersection of Sex/Gender, Culture, Brain, and Behavior.” Contact: Constance Cummings at cummings86@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.thejpr.org/conference2015/registration.php.


Funding

Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is a National Science Foundation (NSF) wide activity that offers the Foundation’s most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education, and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations. NSF encourages submission of CAREER proposals from junior faculty members at all CAREER-eligible organizations and especially encourages women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and persons with disabilities to apply. Deadline: July 23, 2015. For more information, visit www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15555/nsf15555.htm.

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Graduate Student Research Grant Program invites research proposals within the general topic areas of student-athlete well-being and college athletics participation. Available only for graduate students. Awards for these one-time research grants are set at a maximum of $7,500. Recipients will be expected to culminate their project in an article suitable for publication in a scholarly journal, or in a completed master’s thesis or dissertation. Deadline: August 10, 2015. Contact: Tiese Roxbury at troxbury@ncaa.org. For more information, visit www.ncaa.org/about/resources/research/ncaa-graduate-student-research-grant-program.

NIMH Research Education Mentoring Program for HIV/AIDS Researchers The over-arching goal of this NIMH R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation’s biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs. HIV behavioral science research priorities include, but are not limited to, integrated behavioral/biomedical approaches to prevention, linkage to care, and adherence to treatment strategies; health disparities; and implementation science/operations research to enhance dissemination of effective interventions. Deadline: September 7, 2015. For more information, visit www.grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-145.html.

Peter F McManus Charitable Trust offers grants to non-profit organizations, for research into the causes of alcoholism or substance abuse. Basic, clinical, and social-environmental proposals will be considered. The Trust expects to grant approximately $200,000 this year and will consider requests up to $50,000. Submit a brief 2 to 3 pages proposed budget along with copy of your institution’s 501 c 3 letter and investigator bio-sketch. Deadline: August 31, 2015. Contact: Katherine G. Lidz at 31 Independence Court; Wayne, PA 19087; (610) 647-4974; fax (610) 647-8316.

Fellowships

Visiting Scholar Program at the Russell Sage Foundation provides a unique opportunity for select scholars in the social, economic, and behavioral sciences to pursue their research and writing at the Foundation’s New York office. For more information, visit www.russellsage.org/fellowships/.
headquarters. The Foundation annually awards up to 17 residential fellowships to select scholars in the social sciences who are at least several years beyond the PhD. Scholars are provided with an office at the Foundation and supplemental salary support of up to 50 percent of their academic year salary (up to a maximum of $110,000). Scholars who reside outside the greater New York City area are also provided with a partially-subsidized apartment near the Foundation. Deadline: June 30, 2015. Contact: James Wilson at james@rsage.org. For more information, visit www.russellsage.org/how-to-apply#scholars.

Competitions

2015 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Human Rights Coalition Student Competition Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to participate in the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition Student Poster Competition and Student Essay Competition. Both are designed to inspire students to explore connections between human rights and science, engineering, and health and are supported by the AAAS-Andrew M. Sessler Fund for Science, Education and Human Rights. Prizes include a AAAS membership, Science subscription and cash. Contact Theresa Harris at tharris@aaas.org. For more information, visit www.aaas.org.

In the News

Andrew Beveridge, Queens College, City University of New York, was interviewed in a March 26 NY1 news segment about new Census data, which show that New York City’s population continues to grow, while upstate New York’s population continues to shrink.

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Duke University, was quoted in an April 13 Diverse: Issues in Higher Education article, “Experts: Campuses Need to Be All In on Diversity.”

Chad Broughton, University of Chicago, and his book, Boom, Bust, Exodus: The Rust Belt, The Maquilas, and a Tale of Two Cities, which looks at what happened when Maytag left Galesburg, IL, and reopened in Mexico, were featured in both a January 28 “Marketplace” article and radio segment.

David Brunsma, Virginia Tech, was quoted in an April 5 Politifact Florida article, “Politifact Florida: Do Uniform Policies Improve School Safety and Truancy?”

James Burk, Texas A&M University, and David R. Segal, University of Maryland, were quoted in an April 6 Military Times article on Defense Secretary Ash Carter’s plans to make major changes in the military personnel system, including mid-career lateral entry, retirement, and sabbaticals.

Marianne Cooper, Stanford University, was interviewed about the negative consequences of the sharing economy for workers in a January 26 Influence magazine article and about her book, Cut Adrift: Families in Insecure Times, on January 26 on Minnesota Public Radio.

Marianne Cooper, Stanford University, and Tetyana Pudrovskia, University of Texas-Austin, were quoted in a January 15 Fast Company magazine article, “The Discouraging Link Between Depression and Women in Power.”

Kathryn Edin, Johns Hopkins University, was mentioned in a March 25 New York Times op-ed, “How Poor Are the Poor?”

Bethany Everett, University of Illinois-Chicago, was quoted in an April 2 PsychCentral article about her recent Journal of Health and Social Behavior study, “Sexual Orientation Identity Change and Depressive Symptoms: A Longitudinal Analysis.” Her study was also featured in April 1 Economic Times and Business Standard articles.

Jeanne Flavin, Fordham University, was mentioned in an April 1 New York Times Magazine article, “Purvi Patel Could Be Just the Beginning.”

Frank F. Furstenberg, University of Pennsylvania, was quoted in an April 9 Philadelphia article, “A Classic Prep for Parenthood, But Is the Egg All It’s Crackled Up To Be?”

Charles A. Gallagher, La Salle University, was interviewed on Tuesday March 17 on “Dr. Phil” concerning the racist incident at University of Oklahoma, where he attempted to talk to a KKK member about racist ideology. He was also interviewed on March 15 on the “Fresh Outlook” television show and was quoted in a March 12 Christian Science Monitor article about institutional racism in Ferguson.

William Gamson, Boston College, was quoted in a March 23 Detroit Free Press article, “U-M to Celebrate 1965 Teach-In Protest.”

Amin Ghaziani, University of British Columbia, had his essay, “Lesbian Geography,” which appears in the Winter 2015 issue of Contexts, covered by several media outlets, including Pacific Standard, Metro Vancouver, The Langara Voice, Autostraddle, and CBC radio.

Jennifer Glass, University of Texas-Austin, was quoted in an April 5 Christian Science Monitor article, “How Parents Cope With America’s Child-Care Crisis.”

Barry Glassner, Lewis & Clark College, was quoted in a March 30 Reuters article, “Republicans See Obama as More Imminent Threat Than Putin: Reuters/Ipsos Poll.”

Laura Hamilton, University of California-Merced, and Rashawn Ray, University of Maryland, were quoted in a recent Agence France-Presse article about how U.S. fraternities are at a crossroads. The article appeared in a number of media outlets, including YahooNews and the Daily Mail on March 28 and the Hindustan Times on March 29.

Thomas Hirschli, Cornell University, was quoted in an April 11 New York Times article, “Middle Class, or So They Think.”

Karen Hossfeld, San Francisco State University, was a guest on March 9 on San Francisco’s KALW radio show It’s Your Call where she talked about gender discrimination in Silicon Valley in the aftermath of the Ellen Pao case.

Anthony Abraham Jack, Harvard University, was quoted and William Julius Wilson, Harvard University, and Gregory G. Elliot, Brown University, were mentioned in an April 12 New York Times article, “First Gens Unite.”

Carole Joffe, Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health, University of California-San Francisco, had a letter to the editor published April 13 in The New York Times critiquing the effort underway in some states to ban the most common and safest method of second-trimester abortions.

Stephen Klimeberg, Rice University, was quoted in a March 26 Houston Chronicle article, “Houston Metro Area Continues Torrid Growth.”

Ellen Lamont, Appalachian State University, was quoted in an April 8 Vox article, “The Rules, 20 Years Later: Why Are Men and Women Still Following the Same Old Dating Script?”

James Loewen, Catholic University of America, was quoted in an April 2 Atlantic article, “The Petty Etiquette of Discrimination.”

Theo Majka, University of Dayton, was quoted in an April 2 Huffington Post article, “This Nonprofit CEO Drives a Taxi in His Spare Time and Donates Money to Refugees.”

Angela Mertig, Middle Tennessee State University, was quoted in a March 12 Christian Science Monitor article, “From Ringling Bros. to Sea World, Americans Stand Up for Animals.”

Melissa Milkie, University of Toronto, and Kei Nomaguchi, Bowling Green State University, were quoted in a March 28 Washington Post article, “Making Time for Kids? Study Says Quality Trumps Quantity.” They were also quoted in a March 30 Telegraph article, “Six Hours a Week Family Time ‘To Tame a Teenager.”

Ruth Milkman, the Graduate Center-CUNY, was quoted in a March 26 New York Times article, “Microsoft Tells Its Partners to Provide Paid Sick Leave.”

Jeylan T. Mortimer, University of Minnesota, was quoted in a March 30 New York Times article, “As Jobs Become Scarce, Teenagers Drive Farther to Find Work.”

Alondra Nelson, Columbia University, was interviewed in February about her research on science, technology, and inequality on JSTOR Daily. She was quoted in a March 9 CBS News story about new developments in genetic science and the impact on our understanding of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, and was featured in the March 2015 issue of Diverse: Issues in Higher Education.

Tetyana Pudrovskia, University of Texas-Austin, was quoted in a Febru-
announcements

ary 5 Chicago Tribune article, “Family Duties Make Women Executives Prone to Depression: Study.” The article also appeared in The Dallas Morning News on April 6.

Robert Putnam, Harvard University, was mentioned in an April 9 Huffington Post article, “Game of Thrones, Common Worship, and Community: Singing Together Against the Dark,” and in a March 20 Washington Post article, “Hillary Clinton’s ‘Fun Deficit’ Is a Real Problem for Poor Kids.”

Robert Putnam, Harvard University, Omar McRoberts, University of Chicago, and Claude Fischer, University of California-Berkeley, were quoted in a March 20 NBCNews.com article, “Class in America: Want to Get Ahead? Try Church.”

Rashawn Ray, University of Maryland, was interviewed March 19 on HLN about race and child socialization.

Laurie Scheuble, Pennsylvania State University, was quoted and David Johnson, Pennsylvania State University, was mentioned in a March 13 Chicago Tribune article, “A Bride-to-Be Asks About Keeping Maiden Name.”

Robert Stebbins, University of Calgary, was mentioned in an April 13 Washington Post article, “How Charles Darwin Used Rest to Be More Productive — and How You Can, Too.”

Karen Sternheimer, University of Southern California, and Joshua Gamson, University of San Francisco, were quoted in an April 13 Chronicle of Higher Education article, “The Celebrity Illusion.”

Jessi Streib, Duke University, was the subject of a February 19 New York magazine Q&A interview centered around her book, The Power of the Past: Understanding Cross-Class Marriages and was interviewed April 2 on 89.3 KJZZ Southern California Public Radio’s AirTalk about her book. She also wrote a March 26 Washington Post op-ed, “For Richer or Poorer: The Challenges of Marrying Outside Your Class.”

Zeynep Tufekci, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, was quoted in a March 23 Washington Post article, “What You Don’t Know About Internet Algorithms Is Hurting You. (And You Probably Don’t Know Very Much!).”

Lisa Wade, Occidental College, wrote an April 2 Pacific Standard article, “Are People Who Major in Economics More Anti-Social Than the Rest of Us?,” which quotes Amitai Etzioni, George Washington University. She also wrote a March 19 Pacific Standard article, “Why Lesbians and Gay Men Don’t Live in the Same Areas,” which quotes Amin Ghaziani, University of British Columbia, and mentions Emily Kazay, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

David Warner and Julia McQuillan, both of University of Nebraska-Lincoln, were quoted in an April 6 Omaha World-Herald article on the declining marriage rate.

Fenggang Yang, Purdue University, and Michael Hout, New York University, were quoted in an April 2 Deseret News article, “Muslim Population to Pull Close to Christians Worldwide by 2050: Survey Says.”

Awards

Paul Almeida, University of California-Merced, received the 2015 Distinguished Scholarship Award from the Pacific Sociological Association for his book, Mobilizing Democracy: Globalization and Citizen Protest (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014). He also received a Fulbright Scholar Fellowship from 2015 to 2017 in Honduras for his project titled, “Nongovernmental Organizations and Community Well-Being.”

Elaine Howard Ecklund, Rice University, was awarded a Rice University Faculty Initiatives Fund grant for $38,000 to examine Religion, Race, and Science Inequality.

Carole Joffe, University of California-San Francisco, received the David Gunn Lifetime Achievement Award from the Abortion Care Network, an organization of abortion providers.

Karen D. Pyke, University of California-Riverside, received the 2015 Dean S. Dorn Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award from the Pacific Sociological Association.

W. Richard (Dick) Scott, Stanford University, received the Eminent Scholar of the Year Award from the Academy of International Business in Bangalore, India June 2015.

Transitions

Victor Agadjanian and Cecilia Menjivar, both distinguished professors at Arizona State University, will start in Kansas University’s Department of Sociology in fall 2015.

People

Kevin B. Anderson, University of California-Santa Barbara, just published two translations of his Marx at the Margins (Chicago University Press, 2010) in French, Marx aux Antipodes (Éditions Sylèpsè, 2015), and Japanese (Shakai Hyouron Sha, 2015).

Michelle Madsen Camacho, University of San Diego, is a member of the 2015-16 American Council on Education (ACE) Fellows Program.

Ginetta E.B. Candelario, Smith College, was elected to the position of Vice President of the Latino/a Studies Association Founding Executive Council.

David B. Grusky, Stanford University, was named a Phi Beta Kappa 2015-2016 Visiting Scholar.

Mauro F. Guillén, University of Pennsylvania, was appointed a trustee of the Royal Foundation of Spain, known as Fundación Princesa de Asturias.

Valerie Leiter, Simmons College, was elected Vice President-Elect to the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP).

Donileen R. Loseke, University of South Florida, was elected President-Elect to the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP).

New Books


Marianne Cooper, Stanford University, Cut Adrift: Families in Insecure Times (University of California Press, 2014).


Edith W. King, Worldmindedness Institute, Encounters with Social Thought, 3rd edition (Amazon Kindle, 2015).


Other Organizations

Nineteenth Century Studies Association’s Journal is seeking a co-editor to join its editorial team. Duties may include soliciting and corresponding with readers from the NCSA and NCS boards as well as from the broader scholarly community for vetting submissions to the journal; editing accepted submissions for substance and fact-checking as needed (not copyediting); and participating in other decisions about journal business with the editorial team. The position is unpaid and voluntary but will enable the right candidate to gain further editorial experience and expertise along with the pleasure of seeing exceptional scholarship into print. Contact: ncs@selu.edu.

Deaths

Jan Hullum, University of Texas-Austin, died on March 2, 2015. She spent most of her career as a professor of sociology at Randolph Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, Virginia, where she was a strong advocate of single-sex education. In 2008 she retired, moved back to Texas, and taught several years as a lecturer at her alma mater, the University of Texas-Austin.

Donald N. Levine, the Peter B. Ritzma Professor Emeritus of Sociology and former Dean at the University of Chicago, died April on 4, 2015, after a long illness. He was 83.

Richard Suzman, long-time director of the National Institute of Aging, passed away on April 16, 2015.
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