CONTENTS

Minutes for Business Meeting, New York
Awards Reception
Job Announcements
Book Announcements
Chairman Herb Smith called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

Herb welcomed Secretary-Treasurer Nan Johnson back after her absence due to a medical leave-of-absence from her job at Michigan State University. Herb announced two goals for the year. (1) Emails should put “Sociology” back into the name of our section (“Section on the Sociology of Population.”) (2) We should standardize our rules and practices. A one-year term is too short for a chairman to get work done (the learning curve is too high). For example, awards have been multiplying. The chair has the power to abrogate bylaws: Herb could not figure out old committees and so abrogated them.

New Chair Larry Wu reported on the work of his ad-hoc committee to study the contradictions within the bylaws arising from our new number of Section awards (three) and how to constitute the award committees. Larry’s ad-hoc committee (hereafter, Committee) consisted of Judith Seltzer (UCLA), Mary Kritz (Cornell), Benoit Laplante (Quebec), Jennifer Lundquist (UMass – Amherst), and Herb Smith (Penn, ex-officio).

Wu’s committee had to determine the following:
   a. New awards: The section currently gives three awards: for the best paper by a graduate student, for the best paper published by a career scientist, and for the best book. Committee recommends to Council that all three awards be continued.
   b. Periodicity of awards: Committee recommends to Council that the graduate student paper award be given annually. That will help junior Social Demographers in getting jobs. Committee recommends to Council that the Otis Dudley Duncan Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Social Demography (that is, outstanding book) and the Best Paper Award be given every other year on alternating years. If these recommendations are enacted into the bylaws, it will be important to define the length of time after publication that it will be eligible for the Duncan Award or Best Paper Awards. Committee did not make a recommendation on duration of eligibility.
   c. How to constitute the memberships of the Awards Committees and their rotations: Committee made 3 recommendations to Council, but Council did not meet before this Business Meeting.

Discussion of these issues followed. Debate centered on the merits of giving both the Duncan Award and Best Paper Award in the same year. In the opinion of some of those present, there are enough worthy books and publications to justify annual awards in both categories. However, this will burden the Awards Committees. The view was expressed that the Best Paper Award needs stricter nomination criteria.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.
Awards Reception

Following the Business Meeting at the New York Sheraton, our section held a reception jointly with the Section on the Sociology of the Family at the Penn Club on W. 44th Street, near Times Square. The two sections presented their annual awards at this convivial event.

On behalf of the Awards Committee (the other members being Lynne Casper and Joel Smith), Chairman Charles B. Nam announced a tie for the Otis Dudley Duncan Award for Outstanding Scholarship in Social Demography. The two books sharing the 2007 Duncan Award are:


The Student Paper Award Committee (Kelly Musick, Chair; Ted Mouw; and Michel Guillot) selected the manuscript by Jui-Chung Allen Li, Rand Corporation: “The Kids Are OK: Divorce and Children’s Behavior Problems.” Allen Li is now employed at RAND Corporation, where his paper is online: www.rand.org/pubs/working_papers/WR489.
Michigan State University seeks three faculty members in the areas of environmental policy, land use, population and environment and coupled human and natural systems. One of these positions will emphasize environmental policy, one land use, and one population and environment or environmental policy. We are especially interested in researchers who apply modeling to understanding human-environment interactions. Appointments will be joint between the Environmental Science and Policy Program and the Departments of Geography (land use), Political Science (environmental policy position), and Sociology (population and environment or environmental policy position). The appointments will be tenure system at the assistant professor level on an academic year basis. Ph.D. or equivalent is required at the time of appointment. Candidates should have strong methodological skills and rigorous theoretical focus. International experience or demonstrated interest in international issues is an advantage. The positions will be structured to allow development of internationally renowned research programs with extramural support. Preference will be given to candidates who could engage in an initiative to introduce computational and other formal modeling techniques into the undergraduate social science curriculum. Letters of application should be accompanied by curriculum vitae, short statement of professional goals, three letters of reference and examples of published work. Applications will be reviewed starting October 1, 2007, and will be accepted until the positions are filled. Applications can be mailed or sent electronically. Mailed applications should be addressed to: ESPP CHANS Search
Assistant Professor in African Diaspora & Migration: The Department of Sociology at Michigan State University is seeking applications for two tenure-stream faculty positions as Assistant Professors in the study of African diaspora. These positions will study diasporic groups (African origin) and their identities, cultural forms, economic and political ties, social organization and post-national and transnational processes/movements. We seek sociologists with secondary areas of expertise in race, ethnicity, gender and/or urban studies. These positions will play a critical role in developing the department theme, Global Transformations, and the focus area of urban, race, and migration. These are academic year appointments. Successful candidates will be expected to establish a strong, externally recognized and supported program of scholarship; to develop excellence in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in race and ethnicity and migration; and to establish a recognized program of outreach and professional service appropriate to their scholarship. Preference will be given to candidates who can teach social theory or sociology of globalization. Relevant language skills are desirable. Candidates with regional areas of interest in Africa, Asia, and/or Latin America are preferred. Michigan State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. Candidates should submit a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae and names of four references to: African Diaspora Search committee, 316 Berkey Hall, Department of Sociology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1111. Further information on the department and the position announcement are also available on the department website: http://www.sociology.msu.edu/. Initial review of applications will begin October 1, 2007 and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Position available August 15, 2008.

Assistant Professor in Quantitative Methods: The Department of Sociology at Michigan State University is seeking applications for a tenure-stream assistant professor faculty position, specializing in quantitative methods. We seek a sociologist with research experience who can establish a research program in quantitative methods. The faculty member’s research and teaching is expected to engage with one or more of the Department’s focus areas: Family and Gender; Food, Environment, Agriculture, Science and Technology; Health and Well Being; or Urban, Race, and Migration. Successful candidates will be expected to establish a strong, externally recognized and supported program of scholarship; to develop excellence in teaching; and to establish a recognized program of outreach and professional service appropriate to their scholarship. This is an academic year appointment. The PhD is required for appointment as an assistant professor. Preference will be given to a scholar who will contribute to the overall department theme, Global Transformations, and/or for a person with international research experience or demonstrated interest in international issues. Michigan State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Candidates should submit a letter of interest that includes a description of teaching philosophy and research statement, curriculum vitae, and names of four references to Dr. Tom Dietz, Search Committee Chair, 316 Berkey Hall, Department of Sociology, Michigan State University,
East Lansing, MI 48824-1111. Further information on the department and the position announcement are also available on the department website: http://www.sociology.msu.edu/. Initial review of applications will begin October 1, 2007 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Position available August 15, 2008.

Book Announcements
