Greetings from the Chair, Nina Bandelj

Here comes the Summer 2014 issue of Accounts! We present the terrific program featuring economic sociology at the Annual Meeting in San Francisco (starting on p. 12). Marc Schneiberg, the regular economic sociology session organizer, received almost 130 papers, and persuaded the ASA to allocate seven sessions to the topic. We also have a line up of five section sessions on a variety of topics. Many thanks to all session organizers for their hard work!

Monday morning, August 18, will be buzzing with economic sociology in a large room that can accommodate a record 21 economic sociology roundtables. Thank you to organizers Simone Polillo and Hexuan Zhang, as well as many colleagues who agreed to serve as presiders. The roundtables include a few dedicated to Ph.D. students presenting their dissertation proposals with faculty discussants, a new section mentoring initiative coordinated by Lindsey Ibanez, with help of council member Tim Bartley, faculty-student liaison.

I would also like to thank many faculty members who agreed to spend an hour or so discussing economic sociology with graduate students during the ASA, in informal meetings, as part of another mentoring initiative started this year.

The following pages include an interview with Fred Block and Peggy Somers on their new book, and spotlights of new books by Debbie Becher, Emily Erikson, Patricia Fernandez-Kelly, Mary Gatta, Aaron Major, and Hung Cam Thai. We continue with the Meet our Council feature, this time introducing Emily Barman and Marc Ventresca, the newly elected Council members. With a view toward job market season, we profile several graduating students.

By now, I hope you already have it marked in your ASA schedule to come to the section business meeting where we will discuss the section plans for next year, amendments to section By-Laws, and present the awards. (Congratulations again to all the winners listed on p. 19). The business meeting takes place on Monday, August 18, from 9:30 to 10:10am, right after the roundtables.

In addition, I really hope you can make the Economic Sociology Section Reception, on Monday, August 18, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, at 50 Mason Social House (only a short distance from the ASA hotels, see p. 22 for the map). We'll offer a free drink to the first ten who arrive. (Come up to me to say hi and I'll get it to you.) Awards will be announced at 7:00 p.m. Bring friends who may or may not be section members (and are thirsty). The venue is reserved...
just for us, so let’s econsocialize!

This is the final newsletter for the 2013-14 year and time to extend a warm welcome to the newly elected officers of the section, Alya Guseva (chair-elect), Emily Barman (council) and Marc Ventresca (council) as we thank the outgoing council members Tim Bartley, Jens Beckert, Yuval Millo and Adam Goldstein, as well as webmaster Craig Tutterow, for their excellent service in the past three years.

It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with many section members, session organizers, committee members, students, and section council this past year. There is a lot of energy and initiative around economic sociology, which attests to the continued vitality of the field and bodes very well for the future.

Se vidimo!

Nina Bandelj

Q&A with Fred Block & Margaret Somers on The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi’s Critique (Harvard 2014).

By Dan Hirschman

For thirty years, Fred Block and Peggy Somers have been writing about the ideas of Karl Polanyi. In part because of their efforts, Polanyi has become a central theoretical touchstone for economic sociology. In their new book, The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi’s Critique, Block and Somers collect some of their most influential articles alongside several new chapters exploring Polanyi’s understanding of the political power of ideas, and the ethical importance of recognizing “the reality of society.” Below is an abbreviated email conversation with Fred and Peggy who jointly composed answers; the full version is available at http://asociologist.com/2014/06/03/block-somers-ga/

Q. Let’s start at the very beginning. How did you first come into contact with Polanyi’s work? What did it mean to you at the time?

A. We both read The Great Transformation initially in the 1960’s and we saw Polanyi’s overall political and intellectual sensibility fitting with the kind of humanistic Marxism that was embraced by our part of the New Left. The book made a deep impression and as the relentless rise of Thatcherism and Reaganism began to demean the image of New Deal and Great Society movements and social programs, and the 1960s more generally, we kept coming back to it as we sought to make sense of the political defeat of those earlier movements.

The Great Transformation also resonated as a critical counterpart to Marx’s story of England’s transition from a pre-industrial agrarian economy to the rise of factory production. In the 1970s and 80s, as interest in Marx retreated, many social scientists turned away from political economy altogether and focused instead on the state. In Polanyi we found a home that allowed us to retain the critique of what we call (adapting Polanyi) free-market utopianism,
but from a perspective that made the state and social relations the constitutive elements of all market economies. Polanyi thus provided us with the foundations of a political economy that foregrounded politics and culture without any retreat from the centrality of the economy.

Q. The first chapter of the book is a fantastic overview of Polanyi’s central theoretical ideas. Provocatively, you title this chapter “Karl Polanyi and the Power of Ideas.” I think for many readers, this might come as a bit of a surprise. Polanyi’s reputation is as a theorist of economics and politics of the formal and substantive economy, the double movement, the four economic modes (reciprocity, redistribution, householding, and exchange), and empirically his fame was made in terms of explaining reactions to economic crises in the 20th century. Why do you put ideas at the center of your explanation of Polanyi’s work? What does Polanyi have to teach sociologists and political scientists about “the power of ideas”?

A. Thank you for both the comment and the question. One of the least appreciated aspects of The Great Transformation is the pivotal status that Polanyi gives to Chapter 10, “Political Economy and the Discovery of Society.” He situates the chapter at the transition from the historical anthropology of the “Rise of Market Economy” (“Satanic Mill”), to the subsequent double movements for “Self-Protection of Society” and the sociological account of the global market’s subsequent descent into world conflagration. Polanyi demonstrates vividly how that dynamism was propelled by the utopian resolve to achieve a self-regulating market, something previously alien to the polity-centric mind. He reveals how the scheme to create a societal entity that could “self-activate” and “self-regulate” independently of the state depended entirely on a body of ideas—the revolutionary new social ontology of social naturalism—which began in earnest not with the liberalism of Hobbes, Locke or even Smith, but with the new political economy of Malthus, Ricardo, and the previously unknown Joseph Townsend. The political project was to liberate the economy from the state—and its damnable system of relief that hindered the delivery of a hungry labor force to demanding capitalists. Such a transformational aspiration would have been inconceivable without social naturalism, which turned tradition upside down by displacing rationality and morality as the essence of human agency, and imposed biology and biological instincts in their place. In tandem with this great micro achievement, at the macro level the new naturalistic imaginary collapsed the regularities of the social and political order into the brute realities of the “laws of nature,” making scarcity the virtuous disciplinary necessity upon which rested the very possibility of a willing self-initiating productive workforce. Polanyi’s great revelation here is that “economic society was founded on the grim realities of Nature… the laws of a competitive society were put under the sanction of the jungle” (GT, p. 131).

Polanyi gives us more than a few hints that he considers ideas to be driving forces in his analysis. Thus, for example, in his précis of The Great Transformation’s methodological logic, Polanyi writes “to comprehend German fascism, we must revert to Ricardian England” (p. 32). Note that while he is clearly going to address the rise of the market economy and the industrial revolution, it is the ideational system of Ricardo’s (and Malthus’) political economy that he implies is the dominant characteristic of the era and the force that catapulted history toward fascism. His equally memorable contrarianism that—pace conventional wisdom—the movement to protect society was spontaneous, while “laissez faire was planned,” is another clear instance of the pivotal role in driving forward the utopian venture that Polanyi gives to political economy’s intellectual apparatus, both its social naturalist self-representation and the mantle of spontaneity overlaying its actual
instrumentalism. Polanyi is thus unequivocal in attributing to the new political economy and its naturalistic social ontology the power to have propelled forward toward a market society. Of course we’re not suggesting that he believed all ideas could transform economic and social policies, but the significance he gives to those rare ideas with epistemic privilege justifies our concept of ideational embeddedness.

Polanyi is perhaps most famous for contending that throughout most of history before the 19th century the “economy was embedded in social relations,” including politics and law, communities and civil societies. The concept of ideational embeddedness, which gives ideational systems the same capacity to embed markets as those more familiar forms of government regulations and legal restraints, is our way of recognizing Polanyi as a great theorist of the power of ideas. Today, there are new theoretical paradigms that also foreground the causal powers of economic theories to “make markets,” especially the theory of “performativity” associated with the sociologists Michel Callon and Donald Mackenzie. Yet Polanyi was far ahead of his time in arguing that economic theories and social science models do not follow from and merely reflect already existing economic and social phenomena; rather, they can actually govern the shape of markets, economic practices, and indeed entire market societies: “Social not technical invention was the intellectual mainspring of the industrial revolution...The discovery of economics was an astounding revelation which hastened greatly the transformation of society and the establishment of a market system” (p. 124).

Q. What would you most like people to take away from the book? What should we economic sociologists do differently than we are now if we take Polanyi seriously?

A. It is hard to narrow it down to one thing, but we would highlight two themes. The first is the importance of what we’ve already discussed as social naturalism, which has infected the entire tradition of mainstream economics with a view of markets as quasi-natural pre-political entities that are self-equilibrating. We see the effects in Alan Greenspan’s famous confession that his ideology led him to imagine that giant financial institutions would regulate their own behavior and avoid taking on risks that could produce a global financial collapse. Economic sociologists have worked to challenge this view and to understand markets as social institutions that routinely generate perverse and dangerous incentives. But social naturalism is so deeply rooted in Anglo-American culture that even well-meaning analysts can slide back into this way of thinking, even though few if any would be willing or able to identify it as such. Sophisticated social scientists like to believe that old ideas are not taken seriously past a certain sell-by date and thus they underestimate the enduring influence of social naturalism on contemporary political sensibilities and debates over public policy. Yet the appeal of an efficient and unrestrained economy existing in its “natural” untampered with condition is what animates not only the Tea Party movement today but also a large proportion of young people attracted to the libertarianism. None of this would be possible without the ideational strength of social naturalism.

Second, we’d like to impress upon readers the implication of social naturalism for the widespread conviction that the last three decades can be best understood as a period of “deregulation.” One of Polanyi’s most significant arguments is that market self-regulation is a “stark utopia” that can never be realized. It is institutions and government policies that are the constitutive elements of markets, and it is toward them that we need to look to understand prevailing economic realities. Today, many people mistakenly believe that markets actually threw off the constraints of government regulations, and that it is this that explains our current economic predicament.
—from grotesque inequality to seemingly permanently high levels of unemployment. Taking Polanyi seriously means accepting that there’s no such thing as a “free” market, rejecting the illusion of a “deregulated” economy, and instead recognizing that it has instead been “reregulated,” this time by rules and policies that are simply different from those that prevailed during the New Deal and Great Society decades. Although compromised by racism, those older regulations laid the groundwork for a flourishing middle class, mitigated a level of inequality that looks positively minimal compared to the present one, and established protections for the poor and for minorities that today exist only as shadows of themselves. It is reregulation that has made possible the massive redistribution of almost unimaginable wealth and public resources away from the poor and middle classes to tiny economic elite.

The implications for progressive politics are critically important: We need to focus resolutely on those upwardly redistributive government policies and not be distracted by talk of deregulation and the illusion of free markets.

Q. What’s next on the agenda for Polanyian economic sociology?

A. We envision two Polanyian projects, both of which speak to the importance of bringing the term political economy back into the vernacular as a way to reassert the politics and knowledge that is at the heart of all economic phenomena. One of these is to counter the tendency in economic sociology to imagine that empirical studies demonstrating the fallacies of economic orthodoxy will eventually convince mainstream economists, or even partisan public intellectuals for that matter, to think more sociologically. Polanyi teaches us that modern economic science, like its political economic ancestor, has always been something other than a normally falsifiable social science and more a metatheoretical ontology that can never be confirmed or disconfirmed. Economic sociologists need to develop an approach informed by this more Polanyian understanding of the epistemological challenge entailed in taking on such a self-evidential ontology.

Second, we need to bring fresh thinking to the complex relationship between the state and the economy. With a new commitment to a Polanyian political economy, economic sociologists will be able to call attention to the way that it is government policies, and not a return to a “pre-political” condition of unregulated markets, that is responsible for the upward distribution of wealth and income and the concomitant loss of public goods.

Greta Krippner is a historical sociologist with substantive interests in economic sociology, political sociology, the sociology of law, and social theory. Her work explores how the rise of the market intersects broader social, cultural, and political transformations in the “long” twentieth century. Her first book, Capitalizing on Crisis: The Political Origins of the Rise of Finance (Harvard University Press, 2012), examines the financialization of the U.S. economy in the period since the 1970s. Her current research traces the evolution of methods of risk-based pricing over the course of the twentieth century, asking how the notion that each individual should “pay the cost” of her own riskiness emerged as a widely accepted normative principle governing how risk is distributed in modern society. She is also working on a book project that explores the problem of market freedom in American historical development.
We asked the incoming Accounts editorial team – University of Michigan graduate students Mikell Hyman, Linroy Marshall, Richard Rodems, and Kelly Russell – to interview the incoming Chair of the Economic Sociology Section, Greta Krippner.

Q. First, let’s map the terrain. How do you understand the project of economic sociology? What do economic sociologists do?

A. That’s actually a very difficult question, as it’s challenging to specify the thing that unifies the entire field. But broadly I see economic sociologists as being interested in exploring processes that in some very loose sense belong to “the economy” without falling into the traps of economistic thinking by being too respectful of the boundaries between the economic and non-economic (and privileging the one over the other). In some ways this means that our object is in flux and not stable, but something we continually construct through our empirical investigations. The most exciting work in economic sociology, in my view, connects empirical domains that are conventionally seen as non-economic and shows that these too belong to the economy. Of course, this is accomplished not by reducing the “non-economic” into the “economic” and asserting that a simple calculus pervades all of social life, but rather by expanding the economy to encompass the full range of human social experience, with all of its messiness and complexity.

Q. Economic sociology first emerged and received early acclaim as a critique of neoclassical economics. Given the rise of more critical and reflexive approaches to economics in recent years—e.g., behavioral economics, a fusion of psychology and economics that is itself critical of homo economicus and the rational actor model—what is next for sociological critiques of economics? Should we engage with behavioral economics?

A. I am of two minds about this. One the one hand, I am eminently practical and feel that we should borrow tools wherever and whenever they are useful. This is true of neoclassical economics as much as its more sociologically palatable brethren, such as behavioral economics. As an economic sociologist, I want basic fluency in core concepts from economics so that I can deploy these concepts in my own work where it helps me to do so. These concepts do real work in the world (whether because they reflect some underlying reality or are merely performative) and therefore I need to have some grasp of them. On the other hand, borrowing tools from economics is very different from seeking to address either neoclassical or behavioral economics in developing sociological theory. This I think can be very constraining. Behavioral economics shares the methodological individualism of mainstream economics, even while offering a critique of the orthodox rational actor model. Its efforts to introduce social factors into what is fundamentally a psychological account is only thinly social—it places the individual in a context, but doesn’t speak to how social actors are constituted as subjects, as a sociological treatment would require. So I think we need to be very wary regarding what (anti-sociological) assumptions we may unwittingly take on even in engaging versions on economics that on the surface appear more amenable to sociology than the neoclassical view.

Q. Relatedly, has the field of economic sociology moved beyond a critique of neoclassical economics? Have we taken strides to develop a proactive and distinctly sociological economic sociology?

A. There’s been significant progress made here, but there’s still room for improvement. My view—which will come as no surprise since I’ve already committed it to print—is that the embeddedness perspective which for many years has represented (and arguably still represents) the core of the field places the individual in a context, but doesn’t speak to how social actors are constituted as subjects, as a sociological treatment would require. So I think we need to be very wary regarding what (anti-sociological) assumptions we may unwittingly take on even in engaging versions on economics that on the surface appear more amenable to sociology than the neoclassical view.
the pressing problems that we face as a society, I think we do much better. We may end up showing that economics is wrong along the way, but that should not be the primary objective of the exercise. Recently, I think we've seen a lot more work — some of it extremely ambitious — that attempts to use (and even build on) the tool kit of economic sociology in order to engage the critical questions that define this historical moment. That's a very promising development for economic sociology.

Q. The present historical moment is eminently sociological — academics and the public alike are deeply engaged in the politics of inequality and poverty. Much of this discussion runs parallel but does not interact directly with the economic sociology literature: few economic sociologists engage directly with questions of class. Should we strive to do more work in this area? What might this work look like?

A. These are important gaps to address. Some of these gaps are artifacts of the particular institutional history of the field — or at least the way that history is conventionally understood. The notion that the new economic sociology “begins” in the early 1980s, for example, treats as “pre-history” Marxian work in the 1970s on the labor process. That’s a pretty odd omission — what do Burawoy and Braverman represent if not economic sociology? It’s even harder to understand why there’s so little relationship between economic sociology and stratification research. As a result, economic sociology has not participated in disciplinary conversations about inequality, except on the margins.

As to what work in economic sociology that addresses inequality and social class should look like, I hope to devote some space in next year’s ASA program to this question. Stay tuned!

Q. This leads us to the relationship between economic sociology, the social sciences more broadly, and the public. Have economic sociologists been successful in speaking to the social sciences outside of sociology? To audiences outside of academia?

A. I’ve always been a bit wary of the notion that we need to get our work to an audience “out there” in order to be reaching a public. The most important audience for our work, and the most important public we need to address, are our students. This is something Wolfgang Streeck said in an essay he wrote on public sociology recently that I agree with completely. It’s not as glamorous as an op-ed in the New York Times, or testifying before Congress, but I really believe if the goal is affecting how we think about the critical choices that face us as a society, we should start in the classroom. And in this regard, teaching economic sociology provides a great opportunity to engage students about “big” questions. So for this reason, I’ve spent very little time fretting about the impact of my work (or that of my fellow economic sociologists) in the broader “public.” I do fret about my lecture slides.

Q. Before we conclude, we’d like to learn a little bit more about you. What are you working on right now? Tell us a little bit about your active research projects.

A. My main research focus at the moment is a project (with Dan Hirschman) on the social history of risk-based pricing in insurance, pensions, and credit markets. We ask how the notion that each individual should “pay the cost” of her own riskiness emerged as a widely accepted normative principle governing how risk is distributed in modern society. What is most striking about the notion of so-called “actuarial fairness” is not its strength but its weakness. The idea that each individual bears the cost of her own risk – so taken for granted in the current moment – has been vigorously contested over the course of the twentieth century, sometimes with quite surprising results.

What is exciting about this project as that it really allows us to ask questions about how new (and in some cases, old) pricing technologies shape notions of what constitutes discrimination in a market. It’s also exciting to be working on insurance – a neglected area of study in the field. Viviana Zelizer produced a classic study more than 30 years ago, and since then there have been a smattering of other pieces, but insurance has not received the attention it merits given that it is the central mechanism (alongside the welfare state) through which our society manages risks generated by the market.
Meet Your Council Member – Emily Barman, Boston University

How do you employ economy into your way of thinking about and analyzing the world?

My current work focuses on the growing intersection of the economy with other societal spheres, specifically the nonprofit sector. I’m interested in what happens when market actors take up the project of social welfare and/or when nonprofit actors employ market-based modes of exchange to finance and deliver social goods. To that end, my recent research examines the distinctions between a sociological view of the economy as a demarcated social space versus another perspective that theorizes the economy as a distinct set of relationships, institutions and discourses that are not place-specific. My work analyzes how actors work to extend and modify existing market practices in order to accommodate the pursuit of social good, through a comparison of those efforts across different social settings.

When and how did you come to be interested in economic sociology?

I began my sociological career with an interest in the organized nature of altruistic, other-oriented behavior. My first book drew from organizational theory to account for how the United Way (as the largest fundraiser in the US) responded to changing conceptions of community over the last several decades and how they negotiated the transition of donors away from a place-based notion of community to one based on translocal identities around race/ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, etc.

Out of that study, I developed an interest in how nonprofit organizations seek to demonstrate the social, rather than the economic, value of their work. I noticed two things: first, the valuation methodologies they employ vary tremendously in terms of the meaning and measure of what I call ‘social value’ and, relatedly, they differ in their use of market-based measures of value, such as money and profit, to demonstrate their production of social good. In order to explain this variation, I became interested in economic sociology, which offers a particularly fruitful set of theoretical approaches to the question of value and valuation but which has largely been limited to the study of how the economic worth of goods gets set. And I would add that the growing intersections and linkages between organizational theory and economic sociology have facilitated my engagement with this field as well.

What is your current work focusing upon?

I am currently wrapping up a book manuscript, forthcoming with Cambridge University.

Q: Finally, any goals for your tenure as chair of the economic sociology section?

A. Over the years I’ve been involved with the section, it’s been extremely gratifying to see the conversation in economic sociology broaden and become more inclusive of a variety of approaches and topics. The work that 15 years ago defined the core of the subfield is still an ongoing concern, but alongside this work political economy and cultural approaches have really come into their own. In chairing the section, my goal is to highlight the theoretical and methodological diversity of contemporary economic sociology, and explore opportunities for a productive dialogue across these approaches.
Press, that examines the recent and much-heralded growth of market-based vehicles (e.g. for-profit investors and companies) to deliver social goods, both in the US and abroad. Historically, the US has had a large and vital nonprofit sector, which operates alongside government to deliver social goods. Over the last two decades – as one aspect of neoliberalism – various new kinds of social mission organizations (such as social enterprises, socially responsible companies, microfinance vehicles, and inclusive businesses) have emerged in the private sector that are based on a claim that these entities better able to produce social good than those in the nonprofit and public sectors.

My book project focuses on the effects of this shift on the meaning and measure of social value – of what gets to count as a social good. To do so, I compare the dominant valuation methodologies present across the nonprofit sector, the market, and new hybrid spaces. Drawing from interviews, document analysis, and field research, I account for how social good is gauged across these different social locations, with particular attention to whether social value is assigned a dollar figure and whether it is considered according to its production of economic value for the firm or shareholders.

While most theories of valuation stress that a measure or test constitutes the material embodiment of an underlying order of worth, I instead find that understanding the valuation of social good requires attention to both the meaning of social value in that field and attention to the work of value entrepreneurs who create the measuring device in question, with particular attention to their communicative goals and professional expertise. For example, often these value entrepreneurs hope to monetize social value and/or demonstrate the economic value of an organization's social impact but they end up not doing so based on their lack of the necessary knowledge or capability to do so.

Does your current work connect to what you’ve done prior, or is it going into any new directions?

I would say that my larger research agenda has remained the same but, like most sociologists, the precise empirical questions under investigation and the theoretical frameworks I engage with have changed over time. Broadly speaking, coming from Canada where the welfare state is central to understandings of a “good society,” I’ve always been interested in the social organization of private, other-oriented behavior in American society.

My dissertation analyzed the growth of donor control in philanthropy. I demonstrated that donors’ access to philanthropic choice is not determined by their own attributes or preferences; instead the composition of the organizational field structures the charitable choices donors have and the choices they make. In my 2006 book, Contesting Communities (winner of the best book award, National Association of Fundraising Professionals), I showed how society’s changing conceptions of community fundamentally transformed the goals and practices of workplace charity, as mediated by nonprofit fundraisers’ strategic actions.

My current focus, consisting of a book manuscript and other studies, is on the question of e/valuation for social mission organizations, always with an eye on explaining how social good, as an order of worth, gets assessed, both in terms of its meaning and its measure. To date, along with my forthcoming book, I have published on the determinants of nonprofits’ use of formal performance measurement systems with Heather MacIndoe (University of Massachusetts Boston), I have a recently published paper on the history of the dominant classification system for the nonprofit sector, and I have some co-authored papers in progress on the genealogy of a valuation methodology for social enterprises that was the first to assign a monetary value to social impact, with Matthew Hall (London School of Economics) and Yuval Millo (University of Leicester).
Meet Your Council Member – Mark Ventresca, University of Oxford

How do you employ economy into your way of thinking about and analyzing the world?

Words matter and these days the substantive term ‘economy’ speaks with many voices. I engage more venerable conceptions of economy, pre the Parsonian moment when modern disciplines acquired the research and policy rights to some life arenas. The usages from Polanyi to Ostrom are in mind these days for me, also the powerful Zelizer notion of ‘circuit’ which is still in the process of acquiring the analytic form of most impact. In my papers, I tend to talk about organizationally-rich accounts of market formation. ‘Economy’ in these ways acknowledges the commonplace resource allocation models, but embeds them more substantively in local and more distant institutional process. These inhabited institutions full of activity with many impacts, support both the work that stabilizes and also that can disrupt currently prominent organizational forms. I worry a lot about ‘scaffolding’, an imprecise term I am trying to think through that connects across well-structured activity fields and levels. I have yet to connect the ambitiously broad institutional agenda to these accounts of market building. This is part of my current agenda on ‘infrastructure, institutions, and innovation’.

When and how did you come to be interested in economic sociology?

I had the opportunity to be a grad student at Stanford in the mid-1980s, a world rich with a legacy Weberian tradition, the weekly SCOR seminars curated by Dick Scott; the weekly comparative institutional workshop convened by John Meyer and Francisco Ramirez, also ties in education, GSB, and engineering/WTO. These were wide-ranging conversations, with readings and debate that engaged a range of best/recent books and articles in organizational, comparative, historical, cultural and political sociology. For me, at that point, ‘economic sociology’ was only a nascent domain linked most closely to new approaches in social networks. At Kellogg and because of dear colleagues in the Department of Sociology at Northwestern and Kellogg, economic sociology came to have both intellectual moment for me and also proximate meaning through work and projects, including training students in a joint PhD program. I had a small presence in the early days of organizing the Section, mostly through close colleagues who were more directly active.

Since the move to Oxford 10 years ago, my own work has moved more directly to the dynamics of market-building in institutionally complex contexts – in part a critique of the concept of ‘institutional voids’, in part because of the insights from my early work on global stock markets and the diffusion of ‘second board’ markets, and in part because of remarkable data sources and colleagues. By virtue of teaching both a lot of executives and also content on innovation and strategy, I use more regularly a range of social network insights and concepts, though not as a producer of these ideas. The market building work is inspired by Hughes, Networks of Power, and also the apocryphal observation attributed to Gibson, author of Neuromancer, ‘The future is already here, it is just very unevenly distributed’.

What is your current work focusing upon?

This concern with information, in all its origins and variety, recognized by market theorists and practitioners alike, if diversely, organizes my current work: Focus on market building, but also more focus
on the work of system building, the Schumpeter-Hughes informed effort to develop durable infrastructures (material and cognitive) that give shape to novel forms of activity (e.g., ecosystem services in Amazon Peru, crowdfunding and invention capital). I have projects with current doctoral students and postdocs on ‘early moments’ in fields ‘mobile health’, so-called frugal innovation, and ‘electronic data base services’ where the technology is inextricably plural, with many interfaces. I will have sabbatical in the Fall 2014 to develop this work, and will also be finishing a book on global infrastructure that shaped contention among early nation-state production of information.

Does your current work connect to what you’ve done prior, or is it going into any new directions?

Well, see responses above. For my work with the Section, I am especially keen to encourage direct scholarly and practical engagement with policy. Today, as a Section and a field of inquiry that comprises many communities in Sociology and in partner disciplines, economic sociology has a powerful role in policy and public rhetoric to respecify and test central claims about efficiency, accountability, lean management, inequality, and inclusive growth models, among other elements – and then to render these insights in policy guidance.

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**New DebtAndSociety.org Seeks Contributors**

*by Charlie Eaton, UC Berkeley*

In June, economic sociologists at UC Berkeley launched DebtAndSociety.org as a new hub for disseminating and discussing research on debt and financialization. We have an open call for scholars who would like to contribute blog posts or submit papers they think we should feature on the site. Whether you have a working paper, a new journal article, or some short form thoughts on debt and financialization, we’d like to hear about it.

We launched DebtAndSociety.org with the publication of a report: Borrowing Against the Future: The Hidden Costs of Financing U.S. Higher Education. For the first time, the report estimates total spending of $45 billion a year for the three largest forms of higher education financing: student loans, colleges’ institutional debt, and equity capital investments in for-profit colleges.

While total U.S. higher education spending per student decreased slightly, these financing costs doubled from $21 billion to $45 billion between 2002 and 2012 and per student costs increased by 53%. As a result, these financing costs went from 5% of total U.S. higher education spending to almost 10% of total higher education spending. Another new finding in the report is that borrowing for amenities like recreation centers and stadiums accounted for the largest share of the $11 billion spent on interest for colleges’ institutional debts in 2012.

DebtAndSociety.org is sponsored by the Center for Culture, Organizations, and Politics at UC Berkeley. Our founding contributors from the Center have thus far shared other work on consumer debt and mortgage securitization. If you are interested in joining us as a contributor or submitting a piece, please email us at info@debtandsociety.org.
Program of Economic Sociology Section at ASA Meetings

Make sure to mark your calendars!

**Friday, August 15, 2014**

7:00 to 9:00pm

**Saturday, August 16, 2014**

8:30 to 10:10am
026 - Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Categories, Category Combination, and Evaluation in Markets

Author Meets Critics Session: A Theory of Fields (Oxford University Press, 2012) by Neil Fligstein and Doug McAdam

2:30 to 4:10pm

099 - Author Meets Critics Session. The Undeserving Rich: American Beliefs about Inequality, Opportunity, and Redistribution (Cambridge University Press, 2013) by Leslie McCall

4:30 to 6:10pm

140 - Author Meets Critics Session. The Land of Too Much: American Abundance and the Paradox of Poverty (Harvard University Press, 2012) by Monica Prasad

**Sunday, August 17, 2014**

10:30am to 12:10pm

214 - Author Meets Critics Session. Ain’t No Trust: How Bosses, Boyfriends, and Bureaucrats Fail Low-Income

12:30 to 2:10pm
264 - Regular Session. Economic Globalization

265 - Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Regulatory and Local Responses to Financial Crisis: Discursive, Cultural and Social Structural Foundations


2:30 to 4:10pm
Monday, August 18, 2014

8:30
Economic Sociology Roundtables

9:30
Economic Sociology Section Business Meeting

10:30 am to 12:10 pm
395 - Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Markets and Morals

374 - Author Meets Critics Session. *The Fracturing of the American Corporate Elite* (Harvard University, 2013) by Mark S. Mizruchi

2:30 pm to 4:10 pm


4:30 to 6:10 pm
478 - Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Getting a Job - 40 Years Later: Advances in Labor Markets and Networks Research (co-sponsored with Section on Organizations, Occupation and Work)

6:30
Section reception, 6:30 at Social House located at 50 Mason

8:00 to 9:30 pm
488 - Plenary Session. An Evening with Malcolm Gladwell

Tuesday, August 19, 2014

8:30 to 10:10 am
504 - Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Credit, Poverty and Inequality

10:30 am to 12:10 pm
534 - Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Money Advances: International Developments

12:30 to 2:10 pm
554 - Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Making New Markets, New Firms: Global, Local, Online

2:30 to 4:10 pm
**Laura R. Ford, Ph.D. May 2014 (Cornell University, Postdoctoral Fellow 2014-2015 Baldy Center for the Study of Law & Social Policy)**

**Dissertation:** "Intellectual Property: A Study in the Formulation and Effects of Legal Culture"

**Committee:** Richard Swedberg (Chair), Mabel Berezin, Stephen L. Morgan

Abstract: This historical and comparative dissertation shows that intellectual property – a legal category that encompasses patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets – emerged in the Eighteenth Century, in tandem with the emergence of the modern nation-state. The thesis of semantic legal ordering that I develop in the dissertation explicates the social process through which cultural understandings and practices rooted in legal traditions have contributed form and meaning to these quintessentially modern institutions. Drawing on contractual sources from the history of the telecommunications industry, and from diplomatic sources connected to intellectual property treaties, I also show how the process of semantic legal ordering has contributed form and meaning to the global expansion of intellectual property. Building on Robert Bellah's theory of cultural traditions, together with Max Weber's sociology of law and property, I argue that certain experiential characteristics of our modern, globalized economy – the mobilization of possessive love in the service of national economic growth – have been shaped, in very real ways, by legal traditions with deep historical roots, as seen in the case of intellectual property.

**Short Bio:** Prior to beginning my Ph.D. at Cornell, I studied Intellectual Property Law & Policy at University of Washington Law School, receiving an LL.M. in 2006. I hold a J.D. from Tulane University (2000), and practiced law from 2000-2004, working as a bond lawyer for The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.

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**Lauren Gaydosh (Princeton University, Department of Sociology, Office of Population Research)**

**Dissertation:** “Beyond Orphanhood: Tanzanian Children’s Experience of Parental Absence”

**Committee:** Sara McLanahan (Chair), Viviana Zelizer, Noreen Goldman, German Rodriguez

Abstract: Description of Dissertation Project: The families in which individuals are raised influence not only their immediate childhood well-being, but have enduring effects into adulthood. Parents in particular play an important role in the socialization, development and social control of children, and their absence has been the focus of a robust academic, policy, and popular debate on the importance of the nuclear family. My dissertation project examines children’s experience of parental absence in Tanzania using a combination of quantitative demographic surveillance data and qualitative interview data. While the literature documenting absence in the West is well-established, in a developing country context we know much less about how children experience absence and what effect it has on their well-
being. My dissertation is divided into three components designed to capture the process of absence: the first describes the cause composition and characteristics associated with the risk of absence, while the second examines the consequences of absence for child mortality, and the third investigates the mechanisms underlying these relationships. The findings of this dissertation are relevant for policymakers interested in improving the lives of children in countries experiencing tension between institutionalized family systems and contemporary economic and social realities.

**Short Bio:** Lauren received her B.A. in Sociology and Women's Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. At Princeton Lauren is pursuing a joint degree in Sociology and Social Policy, with a specialization in Demography. Her research interests include demography, family sociology, economic sociology, stratification and social policy. Lauren's research agenda investigates the role of the family in shaping childhood and adult outcomes, as well as contributing to broader social processes of mobility and inequality. Her dissertation project examines the health and social consequences of parental absence in rural Tanzania. Lauren is a recipient of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, the Fulbright US Student Fellowship, and the National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant. Prior to graduate study, Lauren worked for Poverty Action Lab implementing randomized health economics experiments in Zambia.

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**Jerome M. Hendricks (University of Illinois at Chicago)**

**Dissertation:** "Vinyl Revival: Evaluation and Change in Intermediate Markets."

**Committee:** Pamela Popielarz: UIC (chair), William T. Bielby: UIC, Paul-Brian McInerney: UIC, John Mohr: University of California Santa Barbara, Jennifer C. Lena: Columbia University

**Abstract:** My dissertation explores the actions of intermediary firms in periods of rapid technological change. By asking how new developments in listening to and owning music have changed the music retail industry, I offer the independent record store as a case of such an intermediary. Through a longitudinal multimethod content analysis of media and industry documents, I consider the massive decline of music retail from 1992 to 2012. I investigate patterns of composition and understandings in the field arguing that store survival suggests a complex of meaning not readily evident in general accounts of industry change. I find a refashioned approach to the role of independent record stores has become central in the resurgence of vinyl record consumption. Through localized, cooperative meaning-making, new perspectives on music consumption situate many stores as curators of music culture. This illustrates how reciprocity among invested local actors and consumers can collectively alter the meaning of goods and services to enable survival. This study contributes to both economic sociology as well as the sociology of culture due to its emphasis on evaluation processes central to a politics of consumption. Moreover, the production of meanings embedded in goods and services is critical to an analysis of markets and change.

**Short Bio:** Jerome Hendricks is a PhD candidate in sociology at UIC. He holds a Master of Arts in Sociology from UIC, and a BA in History from Northeastern Illinois University. His research interests include the construction and negotiation of value, organizations, organizing, movements, and field change. His current research explores the actions of intermediary firms in periods of rapid technological change. Utilizing the digital shift in the music retail industry, this study examines the curious survival of independent record stores in a market no longer dependent upon physical products or brick-and-mortar retailers. Similar to previous works on narratives of change, his current work looks at the
implementation and negotiation of symbolic resources and the extent to which these meaning-making processes produce differential material outcomes for invested actors. In addition to his dissertation and teaching responsibilities, he is currently developing a new project that applies similar questions regarding symbolic resources to issues of political consumption among young adults.

David Jancsics (Graduate Center of the City University of New York)


Committee: Paul Attewell (Chair), John Torpey, Philip Kasinitz

Abstract: Both petty and large-scale corruption are widespread in Central Europe. The granting of government contracts is frequently subject to political and monetary influence. Small-scale transactions, from avoiding a traffic ticket to obtaining a license, are sometimes the occasion for bribes. My dissertation examines corruption through several lenses. I present a set of empirical studies that depart from the dominant approach that uses reputational sample surveys of national populations. Instead, I undertook a multi-year interviewing project in Hungary, using a snowball technique to access individuals who had first-hand experiences with petty or larger scale corrupt transactions. Based on 50 interviews, I provide detailed empirical portraits of several types of corruption, reporting the motives of the parties involved, their social class and other demographic characteristics, and their organizational positions. I recount the voices and opinions of Hungarians at all levels of society about their involvement in these transactions. I develop separate analyses of corruption at the top, in the middle layers, and at the bottom of organizations, drawing out the distinctive purposes and dynamics of corruption in each setting. I also examine the importance of go-betweens or middlemen and the roles they play in some types of corruption, and the emergence of entire corrupt networks in certain contexts.

URL: http://gradworks.umi.com/36/01/3601878.html

Short Bio: David Jancsics’ major fields of interest are organization studies, corruption, white-collar crime, and studies of the social and economic transformations in the post-communist countries. He has authored and co-authored papers on corruption for International Public Management Journal, Crime, Law and Social Change, and Administration & Society. He is at the beginning of a new research project that seeks to examine the informal social system behind the formal blueprints of anonymous shell companies. He also studies public procurement tenders and state contracts, by analyzing the combination quantitative and qualitative data on bids and contracts using Data Mining techniques. He recently completed his PhD program in sociology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He previously received an M.Phil degree in sociology at CUNY and also received an MA in sociology in Hungary at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest.

Joshua McCabe (University at Albany, SUNY)


Committee: Elizabeth Popp Berman (chair), Richard Lachmann, Aaron Major, and Peter Brandon.
Social policy reforms in the 1990s create a paradox for sociologists studying the welfare state. While traditional welfare programs aimed at the poor, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, were subject to spending cuts, workfare requirements, and new time limits on benefits, policymakers also introduced or expanded functionally similar tax expenditures, such as the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit, aimed at “working work pay.” Rather than retrenchment, I argue that this represents the fiscalization of social policy. Furthermore, I argue that power resource and state-centered theories cannot fully explain this phenomenon. A full explanation requires that we account for the importance of “cultural categories of worth” tied to welfare and tax expenditures which draw boundaries between “deserving” and “undeserving” social groups. Specifically, we find that welfare and tax credits constitute what Viviana Zelizer calls “special monies” each with their own cultural boundaries. Tax expenditures flourished, in part, because they successfully redraw the boundaries between the deserving and underserving poor. This dissertation will explore this topic through an examination of relevant policymaking episodes in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. This project will rely on historical-comparative case studies based primarily on government documents from published primary and archival sources, newspaper and other media sources, and interviews with important policy actors when possible.

**Short Bio:** My research interests include fiscal and economic sociology, comparative welfare states and social policy, and the relationship between markets and morality. My goal is to teach at a liberal arts college with an emphasis on active learning and student-faculty interaction. I plan to complete my dissertation by May 2015.

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**Brian Sargent (Northwestern University)**

**Dissertation:** “Broken Promises and the Unraveling of Failure: A Study of the Community Reinvestment Act and the Politics of Policy Implementation”

**Committee:** Bruce Carruthers, Co-Chair; Celeste Watkins-Hayes, Co-Chair; Monica Prasad; Jeremy Freese

**Abstract:** Through an examination of the Federal Reserve's early efforts to implement the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, this project illuminates the bureaucratic character of the Federal Reserve's regulatory apparatus, explores the relationship between organizational identity and modes of governance, and unpacks a critical moment in the history of community development politics. I examine the dissonance that can develop between the organizational identity of a regulatory firm and the mode of governance that a given policy would require for implementation. The Federal Reserve, used to regulating through quantitative, technocratic and impersonal means, was not keen on implementing the CRA precisely because it required the Federal Reserve to directly adjudicate between conflicting groups across the nation. In short, the CRA was seen as an existential threat. Consequently, those analyzing the CRA must come to understand that its ultimate form and consequences had more to do with the survival of a particular organizational identity than with mortgage discrimination. As such, this project challenges the centrality of common theories of regulatory failure such as capture or ideological preferences for deregulation by focusing instead on the important role of the subjective experiences of bureaucratic governance in regulatory policy implementation.

**Short Bio:** My work tends to explore some notion of a broadly defined middle. From the arbitrage and gatekeeping roles of community development corporations to the remarkably important role of middle managers’ discretion in large bureaucratic regulatory firms, I find that those in the middle tend to have...
unique and sociologically illuminating stories. Questions are asked of those in the middle about which others need not worry. In order to explore different notions of middle-ness, I lean on the strengths of interdisciplinary work with an emphasis on economic sociology, political sociology, organizational studies, policy analysis, and critical race theory. I have used quantitative, ethnographic, and historical methods for various projects.

**Mahesh Somashekhar (Princeton University)**


_Committee:_ Douglas Massey (Chair), Paul DiMaggio, Martin Ruef (Duke University), Emilio Parrado (University of Pennsylvania)

_Abstract:_ International migration into suburban areas has given rise to ethnic economies, clusters of immigrant-owned businesses—such as those in a Chinatown or Little Italy—that have historically been important employment centers for immigrants in many urban centers. Compared to ethnic economies in urban centers, however, suburban ethnic economies have access to fewer public services, are dispersed across larger distances, and face uniquely hostile reactions from longtime residents. How are ethnic economies adapting to the American suburbs?

Using spatial statistics and a variety of regression-based methods, my dissertation finds that, first, ethnic economies have suburbanized rapidly in the past thirty years in large part due to the suburbanization of ethnic minority consumer markets. Second, the growth in the unemployment rate during the Great Recession was most severe in suburban areas in which ethnic economy employment was particularly notable. This was because many suburban ethnic economies were spatially dispersed and isolated from major ethnic population hubs, which traditionally provide economic and social support for co-ethnics during recessions. Third, using data on restaurant reviews as well as proprietary data on sales volume and employment, I find that the spatial segregation of chain-affiliated and independently-owned ethnic restaurants in the suburbs allow chain-affiliated ethnic restaurants to hold many advantages over independently-run ethnic restaurants, particularly proximity to the wealthiest consumers. This research contributes to economic sociology by examining how entrepreneurship reproduces social and economic stratification, demonstrating how under-capitalized business groups operate across large distances, and identifying why the growth of chain retailers can leave independent businesspeople at a severe disadvantage.

_Short Bio:_ Mahesh Somashekhar is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Princeton Department of Sociology and Student Affiliate of the University of Maryland Population Research Center. His core research agenda examines how migration flows and capital flows intersect across geographic space to shape the forms of community and economic activity that characterize social groups today. His research interests include economic sociology, international migration, the sociology of space, social networks, and entrepreneurship.
Congratulations! - 2014 Economic Sociology Section Award Winners

**Burt Graduate Student Paper Award**

*Winner*: Laura Doering (University of Chicago), "Rethinking Escalation of Commitment: Relational Lending in Microfinance"

*Honorable mention*: Lindsay Owens (Stanford University), "Should I Stay or Should I Go: A Sociological Analysis of Strategic Default"

**Granovetter Best Paper Award**


**Zelizer Best Book Award**


*Many thanks to the following committee members:*

*Burt Committee*: Jennifer Bair (chair), Hiroshi Ono, Michelle Hsieh, Todd Schifeling

*Granovetter Committee*: Ezra Zuckerman (chair), Lauren Rivera, Amy Singer, Steve McDonald

*Zelizer Committee*: Greta Krippner (chair), Pat Thornton, Josh Pacewicz and Cheris Chan

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**Book Spotlights!**

*All I Want Is a Job! Unemployed Women Navigating the Public Workforce System* (Stanford University Press, 2014)

Mary Gatta, (Senior Scholar at Wider Opportunities for Women and Adjunct Professor at Rutgers University)

In *All I Want Is a Job!*, Mary Gatta puts a human face on workforce development policy. An ethnographic sociologist, Gatta went undercover, posing as a client in a New Jersey One-Stop Career Center. One-Stop Centers, developed as part of the federal Workforce Investment Act, are supposed to be an unemployed worker's go-to resource on the way to re-employment. But, how well do these centers function? With swarms of new clients coming through their doors, are they fit for the task of pairing America's workforce with new jobs?
Between Monopoly and Free Trade: The English East India Company, 1600-1757
(Princeton University Press, 2014)

Emily Erikson (Yale University)

The English East India Company was one of the most powerful and enduring organizations in history. Between Monopoly and Free Trade locates the source of that success in the innovative policy by which the Company's Court of Directors granted employees the right to pursue their own commercial interests while in the firm's employ. Exploring trade network dynamics, decision-making processes, and ports and organizational context, Emily Erikson demonstrates why the English East India Company was a dominant force in the expansion of trade between Europe and Asia, and she sheds light on the related problems of why England experienced rapid economic development and how the relationship between Europe and Asia shifted in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Though the Company held a monopoly on English overseas trade to Asia, the Court of Directors extended the right to trade in Asia to their employees, creating an unusual situation in which employees worked both for themselves and for the Company as overseas merchants. Building on the organizational infrastructure of the Company and the sophisticated commercial institutions of the markets of the East, employees constructed a cohesive internal network of peer communications that directed English trading ships during their voyages. This network integrated Company operations, encouraged innovation, and increased the Company's flexibility, adaptability, and responsiveness to local circumstance.

Between Monopoly and Free Trade highlights the dynamic potential of social networks in the early modern era.

Insufficient Funds: The Culture of Money in Low-Wage Transnational Families
(Stanford University Press, 2014)

Hung Cam Thai (Pomona College)

Every year migrants across the globe send more than $500 billion to relatives in their home countries, and this circulation of money has important personal, cultural, and emotional implications for the immigrants and their family members alike. Insufficient Funds tells the story of how low-wage Vietnamese immigrants in the United States and their poor, non-migrant family members give, receive, and spend money.

Drawing on interviews and fieldwork with more than one hundred members of transnational families, Hung Cam Thai examines how and why immigrants, who largely earn low wages as hairdressers, cleaners, and other "invisible" workers, send home a substantial portion of their earnings, as well as spend lavishly on relatives during return trips. Extending beyond mere altruism, this spending is motivated by complex social obligations and the desire to gain self-worth despite their limited economic opportunities in the United States. At the same time, such remittances raise expectations for standards of living, producing a cascade effect that monetizes family relationships. Insufficient Funds powerfully illuminates these and other contradictions associated with money and its new meanings in an increasingly transnational world.

Aaron Major (University at Albany, SUNY)

Architects of Austerity argues that the seeds of neoliberal politics were sown in the 1950s and 1960s. Suggesting that the postwar era was less socially democratic than we think, Aaron Major presents a comparative-historical analysis of economic policy in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Italy during the early 1960s. In each of these cases, domestic politics shifted to the left and national governments repudiated the conservative economic policies of the past, promising a new way forward. Yet, these social democratic experiments were short-lived and deeply compromised. Why did the parties of change become the parties of austerity?

Studies of social welfare policy in these countries have emphasized domestic factors. However, Major reveals that international social forces profoundly shaped national decisions in these cases. The turn toward more conservative economic policies resulted from two critical shifts on the international stage. International monetary organizations converged around an orthodox set of ideas, and a set of institutional transformations within the Bretton Woods system made the monetary community more central to financial management. These changes gave central banks and treasuries the capacity to impose their ideas on national governments.

Architects of Austerity encourages us to critically consider the power that we vest in public financial authorities, which have taken on an ever larger role in international economic regulation.


Patricia Fernández-Kelly (Princeton University)

Baltimore was once a vibrant manufacturing town, but today, with factory closings and steady job loss since the 1970s, it is home to some of the most impoverished neighborhoods in America. The Hero's Fight provides an intimate look at the effects of deindustrialization on the lives of Baltimore's urban poor, and sheds critical light on the unintended consequences of welfare policy on our most vulnerable communities.

Drawing on her own uniquely immersive brand of fieldwork, conducted over the course of a decade in the neighborhoods of West Baltimore, Patricia Fernández-Kelly tells the stories of people like D. B. Wilson, Big Floyd, Towanda, and others whom the American welfare state treats with a mixture of contempt and pity—which Fernández-Kelly calls "ambivalent benevolence." She shows how growing up poor in the richest nation in the world involves daily interactions with agents of the state, an experience that differs significantly from that of more affluent populations. While ordinary Americans are treated as citizens and consumers, deprived and racially segregated populations are seen as objects of surveillance, containment, and punishment. Fernández-Kelly provides new insights into such topics as globalization and its effects on industrial decline and employment, the changing meanings of masculinity and femininity among the poor, social and cultural capital in poor neighborhoods, and the unique roles played by religion and entrepreneurship in destitute communities.

Blending compelling portraits with in-depth scholarly analysis, The Hero's Fight explores how the welfare state contributes to the perpetuation of urban poverty in America.
News media reports on eminent domain often highlight outrage and heated protest. But these accounts, Debbie Becher finds, obscure a much more complex reality of how Americans understand property. Private Property and Public Power presents the first comprehensive study of a city's acquisitions, exploring how and why Philadelphia took properties between 1992 and 2007 for private redevelopment. Becher uses original data—collected from city offices and interviews with over a hundred residents, business owners, community leaders, government representatives, attorneys, and appraisers—to explore how eminent domain really works. Surprisingly, the city took over 4,000 private properties, and these takings rarely provoked opposition. When conflicts did arise, community residents, businesses, and politicians all appealed to a shared notion of investment to justify their arguments about policy. It is this social conception of property as an investment of value, committed over time, that government is responsible for protecting. Becher's findings stand in stark contrast to the views of libertarian and left-leaning activists and academics, but recognizing property as investment, she argues, may offer a solid foundation for more progressive urban policies.

You are invited!
And bring your friends!

Economic Sociology Section Reception

Monday, August 18, 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

50 Mason Social House, San Francisco
http://50masonsocialhouse.com/
SAVE OUR ARCHIVAL RECORDS

HELP CONCERNED SCHOLARS PRESERVE THE RECORDS OF ASA JOURNALS

AT RISK

The American Sociological Association currently holds the Editorial Records of Association’s journals for the period 1991-2009. The destruction of these unique records is imminent unless sociologists take immediate action to save them.

IMPORTANCE OF THESE RECORDS

The endangered records consist of hundreds of boxes of paper documents relating to the manuscript submission process and editorial operations at the American Sociological Review, Contemporary Sociology, Contexts, the Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Social Psychological Quarterly, Sociological Methodology, Sociological Theory, Sociology of Education, and Teaching Sociology.

These documents cover an era of major change in the intellectual, organizational, and social-demographic composition of the discipline of sociology. Sociologists in a variety of fields have recently attested to the significance of the data contained in these records for studying the development of all subfields of the discipline, as well as for research in the areas of science/knowledge, social networks, race/gender/class, higher education, the history of sociology, sociological theory, political sociology, and public sociology.

At the current time, the records exist only as 5-10 tons of paper. For this reason, the ASA Council has decided to digitize the boxed materials in searchable pdf. files. With careful confidentiality protections in place for the identity of authors and researchers, these files could then be made available to researchers after an appropriate moratorium.

Faced with competing demands for its finite financial resources, however, the Council determined that the ASA lacks the funds necessary for digitizing the documents (although the ASA Executive Office has lent other forms of support to the project.)

Council has recently passed a resolution to allow concerned researchers to raise the $120,000 required to digitize the archival records. Council voted further, however, that if sufficient funds are not raised in time, it will digitize only those records for which funds are on hand and shred all remaining documents. This irreversible step would permanently preclude the use of these materials in any form by sociological researchers.

ACTION REQUIRED

The Council’s resolution leaves only one course for scholars seeking to avert the imminent destruction of these irreplaceable archival records. They must raise the needed $120,000 by June 15, 2015. Meeting this urgent objective is wholly dependent on the financial contributions of concerned researchers.

DONATE NOW!

Help digitize ASA Archival Records. We welcome contributions of all sizes. For more information and to donate, visit:

www.SaveOurArchivalRecords.org

STEERING COMMITTEE

Coordinators: Alan Sica (ams10@psu.edu) and Charles Camic (c-camic@northwestern.edu). Members: Craig Calhoun, Director, London School of Economics and Political Science; Michèle Lamont, Harvard University; Erin Leahey, University of Arizona; Daniel Kleinman, Graduate School Dean for Social Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison; James Moody, Duke University; Aldon Morris, Northwestern University; Zandria Robinson, University of Memphis; Richard Swedberg, Cornell University; Franklin Wilson, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Julie N. Zimmerman, University of Kentucky
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Yuval Millo, Leicester University
Frederick Wherry, Yale

Institutional History Committee
Chair, Sarah Quinn, University of Washington
Alya Guseva, Boston University
Brian Sargent, Northwestern
ASA San Francisco, sessions of interest to economic sociologists

Friday, August 15 – 7:00 to 9:00pm

Opening Plenary Session. Hard Times: The Concentrations of Income and Wealth
Session Organizer: Annette Lareau, University of Pennsylvania
Presider: Annette Lareau, University of Pennsylvania
  • *Inequality and Opportunity in the United States* - Emmanuel Saez, University of California-Berkeley
  • *Black Wealth/White Wealth Revisited* - Thomas M. Shapiro, Brandeis University; Melvin L. Oliver, University of California-Santa Barbara
  • *How Americans Think about Economic Inequality* - Leslie McCall, Northwestern University
Discussant: Thomas A. DiPrete, Columbia University

Saturday, August 16 – 8:30 to 10:10am

Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Categories, Category Combination, and Evaluation in Markets
Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Brandon H. Lee, University of Melbourne
  • *Niche Width and Audience Evaluation in Complex Settings: The Case of International Corporate Legal Market* - Lionel Paolella, University of Cambridge; Rodolphe Durand, Hautes Estudes Commerciales-Paris
  • *Stay True to Your Roots? The Effect of Audience-distance on the Penalty to Spanning* – Keyvan Kashkooli, University of California-Los Angeles; Peter Younkin, McGill University
  • *The Impact of Organizational Field Position on Recombinant Innovation* - Jo-Ellen Pozner, University of California-Berkeley; Emily S. Block, University of Notre Dame; Karen W. Patterson, University of New Mexico
  • *Setting Executive Pay: Bias in the Change of Compensation Peer Groups* - Mathijs de Vaan, Columbia University
  • *The Evaluator’s Option: Identity, Performance, and Endogenous Reference Group Selection* - Edward Bishop Smith, Northwestern University; Heewon Chae, University of Michigan

Saturday, August 16 – 8:30 to 10:10am

Session Organizer: Elliot Weininger, State University of New York-Brockport
Authors: Neil Fligstein, University of California-Berkeley; Doug McAdam, Stanford University
Presider: Paul-Brian McInerney, University of Illinois-Chicago
Critics:
  • David L. Swartz, Boston University
  • Fabio Rojas, Indiana University
  • Hayagreeva Rao, Stanford University
Saturday, August 16 -- 2:30 to 4:10pm

Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Robert F. Freeland, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- China’s Economic Transition and the Value of Firms’ Political Connections: A Longitudinal Study - Heather A. Haveman, University of California-Berkeley; Nan Jia, University of Southern California; Jing Shi, Australian National University; Yongxiang Wang, University of Southern California
- Public-Private Hybrid Strategy and Entrepreneurial Investment: Evidence from China’s Transition Economy - Wubiao Zhou, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Performance Consequence of Manager Transfer: A Case of Korean Business Groups - Young-Choon Kim, National University of Singapore
- The Joint Use of Formal and Informal Channels and Job Search Success - Jing Shen, University of Lethbridge
Discussant: Robert F. Freeland, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Saturday, August 16 -- 2:30 to 4:10pm

Author Meets Critics Session. The Undeserving Rich: American Beliefs about Inequality, Opportunity, and Redistribution (Cambridge University Press, 2013) by Leslie McCall
Session Organizer: Michael Hout, New York University
Author: Leslie McCall, Northwestern University
Presider: Ruth Milkman, City University of New York-Graduate Center
Critics:
- Henry E. Brady, University of California-Berkeley
- Arne L. Kalleberg, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Michele Lamont, Harvard University

Saturday, August 16 -- 2:30 to 4:10pm

Presidential Panel. Elites and the Power They Wield
Session Organizer: Annette Lareau, University of Pennsylvania
Presider: Shamus Rahman Khan, Columbia University
- The American Business Elite: From Classwide Coherence to Company-focused Management -- and Global Engagement - Michael Useem, University of Pennsylvania
- Individual Power, Collective Weakness: The Fragmentation of the American Corporate Elite - Mark S. Mizruchi, University of Michigan
- The Haves and the Have-A-Lots: Who Counts as Upper Class in America? - Lauren Rivera, Northwestern University
- Leading Lives: An Inside Look at the People in Power - D. Michael Lindsay, Gordon College
Discussant: Rachel Sherman, New School for Social Research
Saturday, August 16 – 4:30 to 6:10pm

Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Charles B. Perrow, Yale University
- Experimental Study of Crowdfunding Cascades: When Nothing is Better than Something - Rembrand Michael Koning, Stanford University; Jacob Model, Stanford University
- Smart Money in Dumb Money: A Survey on Beijing Real Estate Market Bubble - Jiayin Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- State-Market Interactions at the Height of the Eurozone Sovereign Debt Crisis - Jason O. Jensen, McGill University
- Failing the Test of Time: The 2008 Mortgage Crisis as a Case of Analogical Lock-In - Natalya Vinokurova, The Wharton School
Discussant: Charles B. Perrow, Yale University

Saturday, August 16 – 4:30 to 6:10pm

Author Meets Critics Session. The Land of Too Much: American Abundance and the Paradox of Poverty (Harvard University Press, 2012) by Monica Prasad
Session Organizer: Michael Hout, New York University
Author: Monica Prasad, Northwestern University
Critics:
- Elisabeth S. Clemens, University of Chicago
- Greta R. Krippner, University of Michigan

Sunday, August 17 – 10:30 to 12:10pm

Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Alya Guseva, Boston University
- Attentional Integration in Financial Markets - Karin D. Knorr Cetina, University of Chicago
- Here’s an Idea: Information Inefficiencies Leading to Know-How Sharing among Competitors to Create a Market - Tristan L. Botelho, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Murabaha: Form, Substance, and the Battle for the Soul of Islamic Finance - Ryan Matsuura Calder, University of California-Berkeley
- Preludes to the Principal-Agent Relationship: The Infrastructural Origins of Incentivized Salespeople in Banks - Zsuzsanna Vargha, University of Leicester
Sunday, August 17 -- 10:30 to 12:10pm

Author Meets Critics Session. Ain't No Trust: How Bosses, Boyfriends, and Bureaucrats Fail Low-Income Mothers and Why It Matters (University of California, 2013) by Judith Levine
Session Organizer: Margaret L. Andersen, University of Delaware
Author: Judith A. Levine, Temple University
Presider: Margaret L. Andersen, University of Delaware
Critics:
- Karen S. Cook, Stanford University
- Kathryn J. Edin, Harvard University
- Sandra S. Smith, University of California-Berkeley
- Alford A. Young, University of Michigan

Sunday, August 17 -- 12:30 to 2:10pm

Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Regulatory and Local Responses to Financial Crisis: Discursive, Cultural and Social Structural Foundations
Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Bruce G. Carruthers, Northwestern University
- Why the Federal Reserve Missed the Financial Crisis: The Role of Sensemaking and Cultural Frames - Neil Fligstein, University of California-Berkeley; Jonah Stuart Brundage, University of California-Berkeley; Michael Schultz, University of California-Berkeley
- A Tale of Two Crises: The Competing Institutional Logics of the Financial Crisis - Alicia Eads, Cornell University
- Institutional Heterogeneity and Financial Market Performance: Two Case Studies - Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
- Elite-Driven Community Collective Action and the Issues of Currency Substitutes During the Panic of 1907 - Lori Qingyuan Yue, University of Southern California

Sunday, August 17 -- 12:30 to 2:10pm

Regular Session. Economic Globalization
Session Organizer: Nina Bandelj, University of California, Irvine
Presider: Elizabeth Sowers, California State University-Channel Islands
- Going Global: The Transnational Diffusion of Professional Work, Brooke Harrington, Copenhagen Business School
- How to Tether an Investment Banker: Theorizing Innovation and Control in Islamic Finance, Aaron Z. Pitluck, Illinois State University
- Trading on the Shadow Commodity Chain: Brazilian Feminists and International Aid Regimes, Millie Thayer, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- From Nation Building to Nation Branding: Economic Restructuring through Soft Power in South Korea post 1997, Jinwon Kim, City University of New York-Graduate Center
- Socialist Globalization: Decolonization, Non-Aligned Economic Institutions, and the Debt Crisis, Johanna K. Bockman, George Mason University
Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Wendy Nelson Espeland, Northwestern University
• Between Contestation and Convergence: The Proto-Institutionalization of Nonprofit Performance Metrics - Walter W. Powell, Stanford University
• Mainstreaming and Its Discontents: Fair Trade, Socially Responsible Investing, and Industry Trajectories - Curtis D. Child, Brigham Young University
• Market Mediators and the Tradeoffs of Legitimacy-seeking Behaviors in a Nascent Category - Brandon H. Lee, University of Melbourne; Shon Hiatt, University of Southern California; Michael D. Lounsbury, University of Alberta
• Money Talk, Moral Talk: The Actualization of Hostile Worlds - Lindsay Jean DePalma, University of California- San Diego
• Movement-Market Interactions: The Mixed Influences of Environmental Activists and Marketers over Green Products - Todd Schifeling, University of Michigan

Economic Sociology Roundtables
Organizer: Simone Polillo

Table 1. Networks of Credit and Trust
Presider: Monica Lee, University of Chicago
• Assessing the Social Significance of the Circulation of Interpersonal Credit in Renaissance Florence, Paul McLean, SUNY Rutgers, Neha Gondal, Ohio State University
• The Rise of Financial Thinking in the Chinese Economic Bureaucracy: Career Trajectories and Organizational Networks, Yingyao Wang, Yale University

Table 2. Varieties of Institutional Logics
Presider: Marissa King, Yale University
• A Paradox of Bureaucratic Autonomy: Central Bank Legitimacy, Autonomy and Commitment, Tod Stewart Van Gunten, Juan March Institute
• Prioritizing Mission or Market? How Social Ventures Navigate Coexisting Institutional Logics, Sarah Woodside, Boston College

Table 3. Welfare and Social Policy
Presider: David Brady, WZB Berlin Social Research Center
• Actors in the Distribution of Welfare: Politics, Economy, and Culture, Osman Furkan Aydin, Istanbul Sehir University
• Using Social Institutions to Promote Social Welfare: A Multi-Sectoral Approach to Social Problems and Solutions, Kelsey Meagher, UC Davis, Nicole Woolsey Biggart, UC Davis
• Who is Deserving? How Special Monies Create Categories of Worth in Tax and Welfare Policy, Joshua McCabe, SUNY Albany
Table 4. Labor Market Processes
Presider: Ming De Leung, UC Berkeley
- Displacement in New Economy Labor Markets: How High-Tech Cities Influence Post-Displacement Wage Loss, Daniel Davis, UNC-Charlotte, Beth Rubin, UNC-Charlotte
- Opportunism and Social Ties in the Informal Labor Market: Evidence from Freelance Contracting on the Internet, Denis Strebkov, National Research University; Andrey Shevchuk, National Research University Higher School of Economics
- Tell Me About it: Job Contacts and Information-sharing in Urban Nicaragua, Lindsey Ibanez, Ohio State University

Table 5. Gender and the Economy
Presider: Rae Lesser Blumberg, University of Virginia
- Can Women’s Social Capital Mitigate the Gendered Disadvantage in Firm Growth? Tina Ching-Tien Lee, Princeton University
- How Doulas Keep the Care in Women’s Healthcare, Amy Moffat, UC Merced
- Maternal Occupations, Social Reproduction, Self-Sufficiency, Olga Taylor, University of Texas, Dallas

Table 6. Trust in Uncertain Markets
Presider: Ozan Aksoy, University of Oxford
- Cryptocurrencies: Information and Secrecy in the Conflict Over Authority and Trust, Alex Tham, Princeton University
- Relationships of Collapse: Structural Holes, Opportunism and Fraud in Financial Markets, Bryce Hannibal, Texas A&M University; Hiroshi Ono, Texas A&M University
- Structural Authority and Market Distortion: A Comparison of Mediated Markets Represented as Network Structures, Craig Tutterow, University of Chicago

Table 7. Inequality: Structure and Mechanisms
- Panhandling as a Redistributive Institution, Brian C. Bartholomew, Independent Scholar
- The Unexpected End of the Slave Trading Business, Timo Bohm, University of Mannheim; Henning Hillmann, University of Mannheim
- Unpaid Work, Coercion and the Fear Economy, Ann Duffy, Brock University; Norene Pupo, York University
- Wealth Inequality at Death: Gender and Location, Sandra Burke, Iowa State University; Mark Edelman, Iowa State University

Table 8. Ideas, Morality, and Social Organization
Presider: Simone Polillo, University of Virginia
- Moral Technologies of Market Construction: How Wal-Mart is Displacing the Indian Bazaar, Jason Jackson, MIT
- Pricing the Priceless Scientific Originality: How Institutions Shape Morals of Authorship in Chinese Universities, Xirong Subrina Shen, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Table 9. From Niche to Market
Presider: Giacomo Fabrizio Negro, Emory University
• Disease Mongering in DTCA and the Expansion of the Antidepressant Market, Jennifer Arney, University of Houston Clear Lake
• The Matthew Effect in Philanthropy: Foundation Grantmaking to Human Service Nonprofits, Heather MacIndoe, University of Massachusetts-Boston
• Vinyl Revival: Processes of Qualification and Change in Intermediary Markets, Jerome Hendricks, University of Illinois, Chicago

Table 10. State and Markets in China
• Bringing Politics Back In: The Changing Developmental-ness of the Chinese State, Rebecca S.K. Li, The College of New Jersey
• Double Rejections of the State and Market: Chinese State-owned Publishing Houses in Institutional Transition, Dan Xu, SUNY Albany
• State Banks as Amphibians: How Administrative and Commercial Principles Collaborate in China’s State Banks? Ningzi Li, Cornell University

Table 11. Neoliberalism and Finance
Presider: Daniel Hirschman, University of Michigan
• Financialization and Deunionization, Paul Peterson, UC Riverside
• Mechanism of Color-Blind Racism and Sweden’s Neo-Liberal School System, Andrea Yoyer, Pace University
• Risky Business: Organizations, Gender and Risk-Taking in the Finance Industry, Megan Tobias Neely, University of Texas, Austin
• Shareholder Values: Financial Market Expansion and “Popular Neoliberalism” in the Contemporary United States, Jonah Brundage, UC Berkeley; Katherine Hood, UC Berkeley

Table 12. Inequality and Development
Presider: Christopher Gibson, Simon Fraser University
• Regulatory Law, Markets, and the Constitution of a Field: Going Public in Fiji, Erik W. Larson, Macalester College

Table 13. Varieties of Moral Markets
Presider: Adam Slez, University of Virginia
• Enchanted Exchanges: Evidence from Media Coverage of the Market Movement, Andreea Gorbatai, UC Berkeley; Cyrus Dioun, UC Berkeley
• Social Movements and the Creation of Moral Markets, Paul-Brian McInerney, University of Illinois-Chicago
• The Dark Side of the Global Securities Markets Consolidation, Pooya Tavakoly, University of Lugano
• Uncooperative Carbon: Examining the Material Foundation of Global Carbon Market, John Liu, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Table 14. Law, Consent, Corruption
Presider: Nicholas Wilson, Yale University
• Endogenizing Change: Power and Taxes in the Development of American Corporate Law, Alexander Jerneck, University of Pennsylvania
• *Illegal Resource Exchange through Social Networks: A Relational Approach to Corruption*, David Jancsics, CUNY Graduate Center
• *It Wouldn’t Affect Me, But I Could be Outraged: Influence of Consumption on Taxpayers Consent*, Michele Darling, University of Virginia

**Table 15. Imperfect Information, Market Conflict**
Presider: Joseph Nathan Cohen, CUNY Queens College
• *Another Triumph of Personal Responsibility: Creditor-Debtor Conflict, Morality, and the Crafting of U.S. Bankruptcy Law*, Michelle Lee Maroto, University of Alberta
• *Breaking Up the Cash Nexus: The Social Stratification of American Post-War Spending*, Ivaylo Dimitrov Petev, National School of Statistics and Economic Administration
• *Socially Just Labor Arrangements in Agrifood Values-Based Supply Chains?* Larry Burmeister, Ohio University; Grace Curran, Ohio University; Keiko Tanaka, University of Kentucky

**Table 16. Cognition and the Economy**
Presider: Sanaz Mobasseri, UC Berkeley
• *From Cognition to Convention: Assessing the Causal Effect of Taxonomic Shocks on Candidate Evaluation*, Brian Reschke, UC Berkeley
• *Managing Uncertainty: Parental Desire and the Economy of International Adoption*, Sarah Macdonald, UC Berkeley

**Table 17. Dissertation Proposal Roundtable**
Discussant: Brandy Lee Aven, Carnegie Mellon University
Doctoral Proposal: Tristan Botelho, MIT

**Table 18. Dissertation Proposal Roundtable**
Discussant: Nina Bandelj, UC Irvine
Doctoral Proposal: Lindsay DePalma, UC San Diego
Doctoral Proposal: Eliza Benites Gambirazio, University of Arizona

**Table 19. Dissertation Proposal Roundtable**
Discussant: Matthew C. Mahutga, UC Riverside
Doctoral Proposal: Kathryn Anderson, University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Table 20. Inequality and Justice**
Presider: Ethan D. Schoolman, University of Michigan
• *Food Justice in Detroit the Urban Farming Movement*, Michelle Proctor, Madonna University
• *Transformation of Trust Structure: Goal Displacement of Microfinance Institutions in Rural China*, Ran Liu, University of Pennsylvania

**Table 21. Production as Collective Behavior**
• *Between Social Cause and Industrial Commodity: The Market for Biodiesel in the United States*, Daisy Chung, Stanford University
• Contention and Contribution: How Divergence Encourages Discourse in the Collective Production of Movie Reviews, Ming De Leung, UC Berkeley, Jue Kate Wang, Renmin University, China
• The Paradox of Novice Contributions in Collective Production: Evidence from Wikipedia, Andreea Gorbatai, UC Berkeley

Monday, August 18 – 9:30 to 10:10am

Economic Sociology Section Business Meeting – ALL WELCOME

Monday, August 18 – 10:30 to 12:10pm

Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Markets and Morals
Session Organizers: Olivia Nicol, Columbia University; David Stark, Columbia University
Presider: David Stark, Columbia University
• Suspicious Transactions: Managing Donations in a Police Department and the Distinction between Gifts and Bribes - Daniel G. Fridman, University of Texas-Austin; Alexander Luscombe, Carleton University
• The Blame Game for the Great Recession - Olivia Nicol, Columbia University
• The Women Effect: Transforming Finance by Re-valuing Gender - Sarah Kaplan, University of Toronto
Discussant: Olivia Nicol, Columbia University

Monday, August 18 – 10:30 to 12:10pm

Author Meets Critics Session. The Fracturing of the American Corporate Elite (Harvard University, 2013) by Mark S. Mizruchi
Session Organizer: Bruce G. Carruthers, Northwestern University
Author: Mark S. Mizruchi, University of Michigan
Presider: Bruce G. Carruthers, Northwestern University
Critics:
• William G. Roy, University of California-Los Angeles
• Bruce G. Carruthers, Northwestern University
• Anthony S. Chen, Northwestern University
• Judith Stepan-Norris, University of California-Irvine

Monday, August 18 – 2:30 to 4:10pm

The Great Transformation (1944) Turns Seventy: Looking Backward and Looking Forward
Session Organizer: Stephanie Lee Mudge, University of California-Davis
Presider: Fred Block, University of California-Davis
• From the Great Transformation to the Great Financialization - Kari Polanyi Levitt, McGill University
• The Power of Market Fundamentalism: Karl Polanyi's Critique - Margaret R. Somers, University of Michigan; Fred Block, University of California-Davis
• The Great Japanese Transformation: Submerged Commerce, Mercantilism and the Transition to Capitalism - Mark Cohen, New York University
• The Politics of Market Destruction: Fields, Courts, and the Survival of Sao Paulo’s Street Vendors - Jacinto Cuvi, University of Texas-Austin

Monday, August 18 – 2:30 to 4:10pm


Session Organizer: Jeff Manza, New York University
Author: Cybelle Fox, University of California-Berkeley
Presider: Jeff Manza, New York University
Critics:
• Edward E. Telles, Princeton University
• Jeff Manza, New York University

Monday, August 18 – 4:30 to 6:10pm

Getting a Job - 40 Years Later: Advances in Labor Markets and Networks Research (co-sponsored with Section on Organizations, Occupation and Work)
Session Organizers: Emilio J. Castilla, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Nina Bandelj, University of California-Irvine
Presider: Emilio J. Castilla, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
• What’s the Value of Social Capital? A Within-Person Job Offer and Choice Test - Jason Greenberg, New York University-Stern; Roberto M. Fernandez, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
• Do Workplace Referrals Moderate Employer Discrimination? A Survey Experiment - Fabiana Silva, University of California-Berkeley
• Is There a Closure Penalty? Networks, Diversity and Gender Inequality in a Project-based Labor Market, 1929-2010 - Mark Lutter, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
• Race, Place, and Job Leads Received through Networks: The Role of Diversity in Urban Contexts - Lindsay Hamm, North Carolina State University; Steve McDonald, North Carolina State University; James R. Elliott, University of Oregon
• How Institutional Contexts Shape the Use of Weak Ties and Online Social Networks - Ofir Sharone, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Discussant: Mark Granovetter, Stanford University

Monday, August 18 – 6:30 to 8:00pm

Economic Sociology Section Reception, Social House located at 50 Mason, ALL WELCOME

Monday, August 18 – 8:00 to 9:30pm
Plenary Session. An Evening with Malcolm Gladwell
Session Organizer: Annette Lareau, University of Pennsylvania
Panelist: Malcolm Gladwell, The New Yorker

Tuesday, August 19 -- 8:30 to 10:10am

Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Credit, Poverty and Inequality
Session Organizers: Paromita Sanyal, Cornell University & Alya Guseva, Boston University
Presider: Richard Swedberg, Cornell University
  • Borrowing to Buy is No Disgrace: The Social Marketing of Mortgages in 1920s America - Jane R. Zavisca, University of Arizona; Hannah E. Clarke, University of Arizona
  • Credit as Coping: Rethinking Microcredit in the Cambodian Context - Maryann Bylander, University of London
  • What's Lost in the Fringe: Understanding the Economic and Social Processes of an Urban Pawnshop - Anya Degenshein, Northwestern University
  • Through the Valley and Shadow of Death: Microcredit, Neoliberal Agriculture and Peasant Dispossession in Bangladesh - Manoj Misra, University of Alberta

Tuesday, August 19 -- 10:30 to 12:10pm

Section on Economic Sociology Paper Session. Money Advances: International Developments
Session Organizers: Viviana A. Zelizer, Princeton University & Frederick F. Wherry, Yale University
Presider: Frederick F. Wherry, Yale University
  • Making MXN: Reticulated Contrasts in the Peso/Dollar Exchange Market - Leslie Salzinger, University of California-Berkeley
  • Microcredit Money: Converting Loans to Leverage - Paromita Sanyal, Cornell University
  • Suspicious Money. Morality and Politics in the Buenos Aires’s Slums - Ariel Wilks, San Martin University
  • Co-existence of Informal Finance Institutions with Divergent Logics: Evidence from Industrial Districts in Rural China - Yueran Zhang, Duke University
Discussant: Viviana A. Zelizer, Princeton University

Tuesday, August 19 -- 12:30 to 2:10pm

Regular Session. Economic Sociology: Making New Markets, New Firms: Global, Local, Online
Session Organizer: Marc Schneiberg, Reed College
Presider: Greta R. Krippner, University of Michigan
  • Can You Create a Community through Economic Means? The Case of EU - Richard Swedberg, Cornell University
  • The Legal and Judicial Architectures of Regional Trade Agreements Worldwide: A Sociological-Institutionalist Perspective - Francesco Giovanni Duina, University of British Columbia
  • Entrepreneurial Imagination in Detroit: Creating an Alternative through Anti-Isomorphic Divergence - Suntae Kim, University of Michigan
  • Performativity and Market Change: San Francisco’s Street Food Boom - Sang-hyoun Pahk, University of Hawaii-Manoa
• The Labor of Markets: Reproducing, Reworking, and Repairing an Online Marketplace - Benjamin James Shestakofsky, University of California-Berkeley

**Tuesday, August 19 -- 2:30 to 4:10pm**

Author Meets Critics Session. The Emergence of Organizations and Markets (Princeton University Press, 2012) by John Padgett and Woody Powell
Session Organizer: Bruce G. Carruthers, Northwestern University
Authors: John F. Padgett, University of Chicago & Walter W. Powell, Stanford University
Presider: Christopher B. Yenkey, University of Chicago
Critics:
  • James Mahoney, Northwestern University
  • Katherine Stovel, University of Washington