Dear Members:

I am very pleased and honored to serve as chair of the International Migration Section for the coming year. There is a tremendous amount of interest in both global migration and U.S. immigration issues currently, especially as economies falter worldwide. For those of us that focus on the United States, the weakening economy and the impact on various sectors where immigrants are overrepresented in the workforce is an area of increasing scrutiny among researchers and policymakers. As sociologists, we can contribute to the discussion of what the “next economy” means for immigrants and international migration in many ways. Much of our work addresses how flows into and out of the United States are affected by these conditions as well as the social, economic, familial, civic, and political impacts in U.S. immigrant communities stemming from these circumstances.

Thankfully then, the International Migration Section is going strong. We recently passed the 600 member mark and gained a fourth session for the 2010 ASA Meetings! This is the highest our membership has been in the history of the section. Thanks to everyone who strong-armed their students, colleagues and siblings to become members.

Turnout for sessions, the business meeting and the reception at the 2009 ASA meeting in San Francisco was terrific and thanks to everyone for participating. Organizing for next year’s meeting in Atlanta is well under way. See page 9 for more information. In addition to our regular sessions and the roundtables, we are planning a special evening panel and reception this year in Atlanta tentatively on the theme of “International Migration in a Recessionary Economy.” More details will be forthcoming as we develop
this idea further. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with ideas or questions.

This past ASA we tried something new and bold, a “mini-conference” that preceded the ASA by one day. The goal of the mini-conference was to make connections across several dimensions—scholarship across a wide range of international migration issues as well as researchers from all career stages. To call the event a mini-conference was a bit misleading—more than 120 people registered for the conference with a total of about 150 present in Lipman Room in UC Berkeley’s Barrows Hall during the course of the day (reaching the fire safety limits of the auditorium). Two sets of roundtable discussions were followed by two panel discussions for a full day of activities. Rapporteurs’ reports from the mini-conference can be accessed via the conference website http://www.irle.berkeley.edu/immigration/ (see page 7 for more details). An additional bonus was a contribution to the Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition from the proceeds of the book raffle held at the conclusion of the conference during the afternoon reception. Many thanks to the organizing committee, roundtable leaders, panel speakers, and all participants for contributing to a remarkable event. Special gratitude goes to Irene Bloemraad and colleagues at the University of California at Berkeley for organizing both the logistics and the substance of the day. And thanks goes to section members who raised funds from universities throughout California for the conference.

As we look toward next year’s ASA, we will have a lot to say as the theme that President Evelyn Nakano Glenn has chosen is “Toward a Sociology of Citizenship.” I look forward to working with all of you.

Audrey Singer

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED CHAIR, COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE!

CHAIR-ELECT: MONICA BOYD, University of Toronto

COUNCIL: TOMÁS R. JIMÉNEZ, Stanford University
            NAZLI KIBRIA, Boston University

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: LINDA GJOKAJ, Michigan State University
The Distinguished Career Award

**Douglas S. Massey** is the 2009 recipient of the Distinguished Scholarly Career Award from the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association. Presently located at Princeton University, and previously at the Universities of Pennsylvania and Chicago, Doug was widely acclaimed by multiple nominees for his outstanding intellectual, mentoring, professional, research development and administrative contributions to the study of international migration. His accomplishments are too many to enumerate and describe in a brief summary, but they fall in all of these areas and range from his having initiated and led pioneering and cutting-edge multi-method examinations of Mexican migration to the United States to his having trained a sizeable cadre of young migration scholars working throughout the country in academic and other research posts to his putting together and leading teams to develop and disseminate large innovative data bases on migration that have been quickly made publicly available to the research community. On behalf of the Section, I am proud to recognize his achievements with our Distinguished Scholarly Achievement Award.

~ Frank D. Bean, Chair, 
ASA Section on International Migration (2009).

**Distinguished Career Award Committee:**

Frank Bean, Nancy Foner, Audrey Singer
Winning Book: *Inheriting the City*, by Philip Kasinitz, John Mollenkopf, Mary Waters, and Jennifer Holdaway, is a remarkable study of how the second generation youth of five immigrant groups are faring in New York City, focusing on the incorporation experiences of Dominicans, South Americans, West Indians, Chinese, and Russian Jews. The book’s strengths are many. Methodologically, it relies on both quantitative analyses of survey data and qualitative analyses of open-ended face-to-face interviews. It compares the experiences of the second generation with those of native-born whites and blacks. The book is theoretically strong and exceedingly well written. The authors convincingly show that while there is some variation across groups, the second generation is rapidly moving into the mainstream, such as through speaking English and working in jobs that resemble those held by native New Yorkers their age. This book offers a fascinating and vital contribution to the literature on immigrant incorporation in the United States.
Honorable Mention:
Mexico is changing. In *Metropolitan Migrants*, Rubén Hernández-León exposes the deteriorating economic conditions in Mexico’s industrial heartland that have impelled formerly secure urban workers to undertake international migration as their rural co-nationals have long done. Contradicting previous thinking, he also shows that settled urban workers can form migratory networks as effective as those deployed by rural Mexicans. Examining the Monterrey to Houston connection, Hernández-León provides the most advanced documentation anywhere of the contribution of emergent van and bus lines to the self-propagation of network-driven migration. Expanding and enhancing our understanding of Mexican migration generally, *Metropolitan Migrants* will prove especially valuable to those wishing to comprehend the migratory process south of the border.

And...

Honorable Mention:
In 1965, UCLA’s “Mexican American Study Project” produced a report of Mexican Americans in Los Angeles and San Antonio, at a time when many people in the US were only dimly aware of what “Mexican American” meant. The original interview forms for that study were gathering dust in a basement room at UCLA when Eddie Telles and Vilma Ortiz unearthed them. This book, Generations of Exclusion, represents a herculean effort to revisit those original families from the 1965 study and gives us an unprecedented picture of the processes and outcomes of Mexican-American inclusion and exclusion over the course of 35 years. They look at education, language usage, socio-economic status, intermarriage, residential segregation, ethnic identity, and political participation. The findings bring us both good news and bad news. On one hand, Telles and Ortiz tell us that significant upward mobility and integration have taken place for some. On the other hand, they find that the majority still experience significant levels of segregation and exclusion, and that financial and educational gains are significant from the first to second generation, but that after that economic advances often come to an end and poverty remains entrenched. They trace too the institutional forces implicated in this and argue that limited spending on public education and outright discrimination play central roles. The book is one of a kind. As a longitudinal study, it gives us unique data on changes and constancies over time. It raises important theoretical questions about immigrant incorporation and the dynamics of inclusion, and grounds these with careful, empirical analysis. It makes an enormous contribution to our field and is a must-read.
International Migration Section Graduate Student Paper Award
Committee:
Jennifer Glick, Associate Professor of Sociology, Arizona State University
Wendy Roth, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of British Columbia
David Fitzgerald, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of California- San Diego

We had many great submissions and enjoyed reading each and every one! The diversity of the papers reminds us not only of the global scope of international migration but also the multiple spheres impacted by migration from the nation-state down to the individual. Based on the quality and diversity represented by all of these submissions, we can forecast a robust future for the field.

Winner: Phillip Connor, Princeton University
"Do Immigrants Religiously Assimilate? Contextualizing Immigrant Religious Participation in Western Europe, the United States and Canada"

This paper uses data from the New Immigrant Survey in the United States, the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada and the European Social Survey to compare both the frequency of religious participation as well as consistency of religious affiliation among immigrants. Multilevel models demonstrate the persistent connection between the level of religious participation in the host community and the religious participation of immigrants in the presence of controls for education, duration of residence and even (when possible) visa category. The author finds that over time, religious participation among immigrants reflects the low or high levels of participation found in the receiving society.

This is an ambitious paper that also acknowledges the complexity of the topic and potential implications for the research. He does not just concentrate on where the statistical significance lies but also draws the readers’ attention to the outliers and poses questions for the next stages of inquiry: Are immigrants in less religious societies likely to lose out on the social capital available through frequent religious attendance? Are immigrants who settle in highly religious areas still maintaining their own separate practices and forms? The author notes the strengths of the empirical results but also leaves great food for thought and further study.

Honorable Mention: Asaf Levanon, Stanford University
"How to Succeed as an Immigrant: Effects of Group Resources and Labor Market Structure on Earnings Assimilation"
We very gratefully acknowledge the help from all of our volunteer rapporteurs, without whom this written record of our conference would not have been possible. It is our modest hope that these notes will provide section members who could not attend the mini-conference with the shared insights that these conversations generated and that they will stimulate further research.

Many thanks to the “Making Connections” organizing committee:
Chair: Irene Bloemraad
Committee Members: Wendy Roth, Helen Marrow, Melissa Barnett, Jody Agius Vallejo, Natasha Kumar Warikoo, Tomas Jimenez, Sara Curran, Audrey Singer, David Cook-Martin, Dina Okamoto, Dalia Abdelhady, Lisa Martinez, Sofya Aptekar, Norma Fuentes-Mayorga, Maria Medvedeva, Weishan Huang, Dalia Abdelhady, Leah Muse-Orlinoff, Silvia Pedraza, Anna Korteweg, Van Tran, Nancy Foner, Frank Bean

See page 8 for link to summary report!

IM Section members will be pleased to know that we raised $336 from the book raffle in support of the Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition (BAIRC).
On behalf of the BAIRC Leadership Council:

"Please thank the members of the American Sociological Association "International Migration" section for their generous contribution of $336.00 to BAIRC. Your support goes a long way to advance the work of local community groups that organize for and advocate for the rights of immigrant and refugee members of our communities."
Mini-Conference “Making Connections” Summary Report
50 page summary report!
Available here:
http://www.irle.berkeley.edu/immigration/conference/Making_Connections_Summary_Notes_Aug09.pdf

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Special thanks to Steve Gold for Mini-Conference Photos!

Frank Bean

Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo and Peggy Levitt
Immigration and Intergroup Conflict and Cooperation
Organizer: Steve Gold

Immigration to the "New" South
Organizer: Helen Marrow

Immigration and Organizations
Organizer: David Kyle

Immigrant Entry, Citizenship and Integration
Organizer: Frank Bean

Roundtables
Margaret Chin and Tomás Jiménez

Please begin thinking about and preparing your submissions. 2010 will be a stimulating annual meeting—the theme chosen by President Evelyn Nakano Glenn is, “The Sociology of Citizenship: Inclusion, Participation and Rights,” right up our alley.
DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD NOMINATIONS

The International Migration Section invites nominations for the 2010 Distinguished Career Award. The award recognizes a lifetime of contribution to the field of the sociology of international migration. The first award was given to Alejandro Portes in 1998; recent award winners include: Doug Massey (2009), Richard D. Alba (2008), Edna Bonacich (2005) and Lydio F. Tomasi (2005). The letter of nomination should include a statement of the lasting significance of the research conducted by the nominated scholar over the course of her or his career. The nomination should also include a copy of the scholar’s curriculum vitae, and an assurance that the nominee has given her or his permission for the nomination of the award. To be eligible for the Distinguished Career Award, scholars must be members of the American Sociological Association and the Section on International Migration at the time of the receipt of the award (not required at the time of nominations). Officers and members of the Section Council are not eligible to be nominated while they are in office. All nominated candidates will remain active for at least two rounds of the award.

THE 2010 THOMAS & ZNANIECKI AWARD

The Thomas & Znaniecki Award is given annually for outstanding social science scholarship in the field of international migration to a book published within the two years prior to the year of the award. This year’s Thomas & Znaniecki Award committee invites nominations of books published in 2008 and 2009 that would be suitable candidates for this award. Recent winners have included: Philip Kasinitz, John Mollenkopf, Mary Waters and Jennifer Holdaway, Inheriting the City (Harvard University Press, 2008), Ivan Light, Deflecting Immigration: Networks, Markets and Regulation in Los Angeles (Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), and Robert Smith, Mexican New York: Transnational Lives of New Immigrants (University of California Press, 2005).

THE GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The International Migration Section’s Graduate Student Paper Award Committee invites nominations and submissions for its annual graduate student paper competition. Students from any discipline may submit papers about any topic related to international migration broadly conceived. Papers must not yet be published at the time of submission and should be written during the 2009-2010 academic year. Papers must be single authored and no more than 10,000 words including abstract and references.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED SOON

UPDATES VIA THE IMS LISTSERV!
AWARDS

Chien-Juh Gu received a Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award ($10,000) from Western Michigan University and a Junior Scholar Grant ($20,000) from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for her new project, “Gendered transition and gendered struggles in the process of settlement.”

Helen B. Marrow is completing a Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship in Health Policy at the Universities of California at Berkeley and San Francisco in 2008-10.

Mihaela Robila (Associate Professor, Queens College, City University of New York) was awarded a Title VIII Research Scholar Fellowship from the American Councils for International Education to conduct research on “Parental Economic Migration and Children Outcomes in Moldova”. This quantitative study examines the impact of parental migration on children’s psychosocial function.

Mihaela Robila (Associate Professor, Queens College, City University of New York) was awarded a Faculty Research Grant from the Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation to examine “Eastern European immigrant families” in the United States.

MIGRATIONS

Helen B. Marrow is completing a Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship in Health Policy at the Universities of California at Berkeley and San Francisco in 2008-10 and has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Sociology at Tufts University to begin in September 2010.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Tomás Jiménez published an op-ed in the San Jose Mercury News on the effectiveness of border enforcement:
http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_12925133

Helen B. Marrow was recently interviewed and cited in:


Zulema Valdez was recently interviewed and cited in:


Dhinga, Pawan. guest edited a 2009 special issue of the Journal of Asian American Studies, on the Midwest.


(Cont’d pg. 10)


Announce your recent articles and book chapters in our Spring 2010 Issue!

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**RECENT BOOKS**

**Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience**

Carolyn Chen

What does becoming American have to do with becoming religious? Many immigrants become more religious after coming to the United States. Taiwanese are no different. Like many Asian immigrants to the United States, Taiwanese frequently convert to Christianity after immigrating. But Americanization is more than simply a process of Christianization. Most Taiwanese American Buddhists also say they converted only after arriving in the United States even though Buddhism is a part of Taiwan’s dominant religion. By examining the experiences of Christian and Buddhist Taiwanese Americans, *Getting Saved in America* tells "a story of how people become religious by becoming American, and how people become American by becoming religious." Carolyn Chen argues that many Taiwanese immigrants deal with the challenges of becoming American by becoming religious. Based on in-depth interviews with Taiwanese American Christians and Buddhists, and extensive ethnographic fieldwork at a Taiwanese Buddhist temple and a Taiwanese Christian church in Southern California, *Getting Saved in America* is the first book to compare how two religions influence the experiences of one immigrant group. By showing how religion transforms many immigrants into Americans, it sheds new light on the question of how immigrants become American.

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**Across Generations: Immigrant Families in America**
NYU Press (2009)

Nancy Foner, Editor

Immigrants and their American-born children represent about one quarter of the United States population. Drawing on rich, in-depth ethnographic research, the fascinating case studies in *Across Generations* examine the intricacies of relations between the generations in a broad range of immigrant groups—from Latin America, Asia, the Caribbean, and Africa—and give a sense of what everyday life is like in immigrant families.

Moving beyond the cliché of the children of immigrants engaging in pitched battles against tradition-bound parents from the old country, these vivid essays offer a nuanced view that brings out the ties that bind the generations as well as the tensions that divide them. Tackling key issues like parental discipline, marriage choices, educational and occupational expectations, legal status, and transnational family ties, *Across Generations* brings crucial insights to our understanding of the United States as a nation of immigrants.

**Contributors:** Leisy Abrego, JoAnn D’Alisera, Joanna Dreby, Yen Le Espiritu, Greta Gilbertson, Nazli Kibria, Cecilia Menjívar, Jennifer E. Sykes, Mary C. Waters, and Min Zhou.
Metropolitan Migrants
The Migration of Urban Mexicans to the United States
University of California Press (2008)

Rubén Hernández-León

Challenging many common perceptions, this is the first book fully dedicated to understanding a major new phenomenon—the large numbers of skilled urban workers who are now coming across the border from Mexico's cities. Based on a ten-year, on-the-ground study of one working-class neighborhood in Monterrey, Mexico's industrial powerhouse and third-largest city, Metropolitan Migrants explores the ways in which Mexico's economic restructuring and the industrial modernization of the past three decades have pushed a new flow of migrants toward cities such as Houston, Texas, the global capital of the oil industry. Weaving together rich details of everyday life with a lucid analysis of Mexico's political economy, Rubén Hernández-León deftly traces the effects of restructuring on the lives of the working class, from the national level to the kitchen table.

Racing Romance: Love, Power, and Desire among Asian American/White Couples
Rutgers University Press (2009)

Kumiko Nemoto

Despite being far from the norm, interracial relationships are more popular than ever.

Racing Romance sheds special light on the bonds between whites and Asian Americans, an important topic that has not garnered well-deserved attention until now. Incorporating life-history narratives and interviews with those currently or previously involved with an interracial partner, Kumiko Nemoto addresses the contradictions and tensions—a result of race, class, and gender—that Asian Americans and whites experience.

Similar to black/white relationships, stereotypes have long played crucial roles in AsianAmerican/white encounters. Partners grapple with media representations of Asian women as submissive or hypersexual and Asian men are often portrayed as weak laborers or powerful martial artists. Racing Romance reveals how allegedly progressive interracial relationships remain firmly shaped by the logic of patriarchy and gender inherent to the ideal of marriage, family, and nation in America, even as this ideal is juxtaposed with discourses of multiculturalism and color blindness.
Eastern European Immigrant Families
Routledge (2009)

Mihaela Robila

The rapid growth of Eastern European immigrants around the world has received insufficient attention. This volume fills this gap by presenting key issues related to immigration from Eastern Europe. After reviewing a historical background, the book presents quantitative and qualitative data on contemporary Eastern European migration with a focus on children and families, addressing issues such as cultural beliefs, child-rearing values and practices, gender roles and marital interactions. The volume also examines the benefits and challenges of migration in Eastern European sending countries such as the role of remittances, the loss of human capital or human trafficking. The issues faced by Eastern European families as they immigrate around the world are also explored.

Multiculturalism and Social Cohesion: Potentials and Challenges of Diversity
Springer (2009)

Jeffrey Reitz, Raymond Breton, Karen Dion, Kenneth Dion

Does multiculturalism policy create social cohesion, or undermine it? Multiculturalism was introduced in Canada in the 1970s and widely adopted internationally, but more recently has been hotly debated, amid new concerns about social, cultural, and political impacts of immigration. Advocates praise multiculturalism for its emphasis on special recognition for cultural minorities as facilitating their social integration, while opponents charge that multiculturalism threatens social cohesion by encouraging social isolation. Multiculturalism is thus rooted in a theory of human behaviour, and this book examines the empirical validity of some of its basic propositions, focusing on Canada as the country for which the most enthusiastic claims for multiculturalism have been made. The analysis draws on the national Ethnic Diversity Survey of over 41,000 Canadians in 2002.

The analysis provides a new and more nuanced understanding of the complex relation between multiculturalism and social cohesion, challenging uncritically optimistic or pessimistic views. Ethnic community ties facilitate some aspects of social integration, while discouraging others. For racial minorities, relations within and outside minority communities are greatly complicated by more frequent experiences of discrimination and inequality, slowing processes of social integration. Implications for multicultural policies emphasize that race relations present important challenges across Quebec and the rest of Canada, and that ethnic and religious community development requires more explicit support for social integration.

Written for: Demographers, sociologists, economists, psychologists and policy makers
WOM VOLUME 16, NO. 1

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