From the Chair…  

Monica Boyd

Dear Members:

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the chair of the ASA International Migration Section for 2010-2011. I want to acknowledge all the on-going assistance given by Audrey Singer as past-chair (2009-2010) and Silvia Pedraza, chair-elect (2011-2012), and by the members of the current council: Margaret Chin, Robert Courtney Smith, Katharine Donato, Tomas Jimenez, Nazli Kibira, Nadia Kim (Secretary/Treasurer), Bernadette Ludwig, and Wendy Roth. As council members who rotated off in August 2010, special thanks are owed to Irene Bloemraad, Steven Gold and Norma Fuentes for their important contributions during their terms. Charlie Morgan has been our much appreciated web-master since 2004 while Zulema Valdez continues to be the glue that holds the section together by producing World on the Move. She may be stepping down soon (please see page 12) but in the meantime I urge you to continue to send information about your activities and publications to her.

We have an exciting year ahead of us, on many fronts. In the political arena, the seimatic shift to a Republican electorate will bring a new and different immigration agenda to the foreground. Such shifts are not limited to the US, of course, having occurring recently in France and elsewhere. But in the US, one can anticipate not only new chairs of congressional committees dealing with immigration but also a realignment of policy concerns. The earlier promise of immigration reform did not materialize in the wake of President Obama’s health care program, and it is likely that earlier agendas will not persist. Although it is too soon to say with certainty, securitization issues, such as increased border control and enforcement of existing immigration law, are likely to take precedence over former concerns including the legalization of certain categories of undocumented residents and the development of new temporary workers programs. In this issue, Doug Massey shares his thoughts on past and future events associated with the politics of migration (page 8).

New directions also are on the horizon with respect to data that permit studying the integration of international migrants. Many members of the International Migration Section participate in field research and in targeted surveys. However, census data remain a highly used resource in addressing both policy and intellectual issues associated with immigration, and the census provides the sampling frames for many smaller substantively focused surveys. Many of you are aware that the 2010 United States census asked ten basic questions, and the American Community Survey (ACS) now replaces the long form census, last used in 2000. Despite earlier discussions over making the ACS voluntary, the survey continues to be mandatory. In Canada, however, the long form of the census which collects data on birthplace, age at immigration, temporary-permanent resident status, language use and
other immigration related information, is to be replaced by a voluntary National Household Survey (NHS), fielded in May 2011. General knowledge of non-response bias and analysis of the 2001 census suggest that newly arrived immigrants, persons of color, home renters and low-income or poorly educated groups are likely not to respond to the NHS. If this is true, comparisons to earlier censuses will not be possible since substantial improvements in the economic situation of immigrants, rising educational and home ownership levels of the population and a growing “white” Canada in 2011 may simply reflect differences between legally required and voluntary responses. The decision to move the mandatory long form census to a voluntary survey was not made on sound survey principles nor done through consultation. It was a political decision occurring at the highest levels of government. Similarly, in July 2010, the British cabinet minister whose portfolio includes the National Office of Statistics indicated that the 2011 census would be the last, with other existing public and private databases, including credit reference agencies, to be sources of future information. All these recent changes indicate that the autonomy and integrity of statistical agencies cannot be assumed, and that as researchers we need to be vigilant about protecting the quantity and quality of immigration related data that are produced under government auspices.

This coming year also brings new opportunities for members of the International Migration Section. In terms of the section activities, members should consider the call for nominations for three awards (see page 7): the Thomas and Znaniecki Book Award, the Distinguished Student Scholarship Award, and the Distinguished Career Award. The 2011 annual section meetings will be held in Chicago during August 13-16 with our section council and business meetings held on Monday, August 15. The ASA theme this year is: Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas, a topic that surely applies to many aspects of international migration ranging from factors underlying refugee flows, the incorporation of new migrant minorities to the formulation and negotiations over immigration policies. We have “calls for paper” section sessions on the Impact of the Global Recession on International Migration, Local Responses to Immigrant Populations, and Immigrants and Their Descendants in Comparative Context: Remaking the Middle Class (see page 6) as well as our usual roundtable session for additional papers. In 2011, we are returning to the tradition of having a mentoring luncheon which began in 2007. Announcements about this event, where students and faculty are brought together to exchange ideas about research, immigration issues and professional development, will be posted in the Spring 2011 World on the Move.

Our membership currently stands at 579, up from 559 members in August. We benefit collectively and individually by reaching a membership of at least 600; with that number we are allocated another section session on the annual program under ASA guidelines. I urge all of you to renew your membership for 2011 and to encourage others to become members. International migration is truly a field that spans sub-fields of sociology; diverse perspectives and research agendas are welcome in the International Migration Section.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the 2011 annual meeting in Chicago. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions, please contact me or others on the council. We are your representatives, seeking to expand and build the section as well as seeking to increase knowledge about international migration.

Monica Boyd, Ph.D., F.R.S.C.
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and Professor of Sociology
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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED CHAIR, COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE!

CHAIR-ELECT: SILVIA PEDRAZA, University of Michigan

COUNCIL: KATHARINE DONATO, Vanderbilt University
WENDY ROTH, University of British Columbia

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: BERNADETTE LUDWIG, CUNY
This year we give the **distinguished career award** to Nancy Foner, Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Hunter College and the Graduate Center at the City University of New York. Nancy’s candidacy for this award was advanced by 3 senior scholars in the field of immigration and I will quote liberally from their nomination letters.

Nancy’s extraordinary publication record includes 14 books and over 80 articles and book chapters on a wide range of topics in the field of international migration. The nomination letters identified 3 qualities of Nancy’s work that make her scholarship stand out in the field: it is comparative, interdisciplinary, and pioneering.

The first of these qualities is that Nancy Foner’s work is comparative. One of her most well-known books is *From Ellis Island to JFK*, published in 2001 and is one of the very first books to survey the important debates we currently have in public policy and academia about how much the current immigration is different to historical immigration. In that book, Nancy corrected many myths and half truths about immigration and moved the field forward both empirically and theoretically. Nancy’s scholarship is also internationally comparative, probably best exemplified by her book *In a New Land: A Comparative View of Immigration*. In this book she compares past and present immigration in various contexts: London and New York and other U.S. cities. Her most recent book *Across Generations: Immigrant Families in America* is also comparative: it assembles a rich set of case studies to analyze intergenerational relations among immigrants and their children, considering first and second generations from around the world.

The second quality is that Nancy Foner’s work is interdisciplinary. Perhaps attributable to her training as an anthropologist, she is aware of ideas and work that escape the notice of many of us who are more discipline-bound. Her anthropological background has led her to ask some sensible questions about culture and how it impacts the incorporation of immigrants, and how it is altered by that process. These are often questions that sociologists shy away from. However, Nancy combines an anthropologist’s ability to look at culture and the impact of social change and social structure on individuals, with a sociologist’s ease with quantitative data on immigration and urban life.

Third, Nancy Foner’s work has been pioneering. She was studying immigration at an early point in the absorption of the post-1965 immigrants. She has been doing international comparisons for several decades. She has brought scholars together from multiple disciplines and produced works that are greater than the sum of their parts. She has been very active in international and U.S.-based organizations, working groups and conferences in a wide variety of ventures in the field of immigration and she has encouraged and nurtured younger scholars through fellowship committees, workshops and conferences geared toward the next generation.

Nancy Foner is well deserving of the Distinguished Career Award of the ASA International Migration Section. She is an internationally prominent scholar of immigration, with an exciting and active research agenda. She plays a central role in our field and her work elevates the standards of scholarship not only in sociology, but also anthropology, demography, and political science.

The committee and the section is proud to give the Distinguished Career Award to Nancy Foner.

**Distinguished Career Award Committee:** Audrey Singer (Chair), Fran Bean and Monica Boyd

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.

*The committee has also selected as an honorable mention…*

*Backlash 9/11: Middle Eastern and Muslim Americans Respond,* by Anny Bakalian and Mehdi Bozorgmehr

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*Thomas & Znaniecki Book Award Committee: Mary Waters (Chair), Greta Gilbertson and Cynthia Feliciano*
Winner:  Van Tran, Harvard University
“English Gain vs. Spanish Loss? Language Assimilation among Second-Generation Latinos in Young Adulthood”

The committee was unanimous in selecting Van Tran’s (Harvard University) paper, “English Gain vs. Spanish Loss? Language Assimilation among Second-Generation Latinos in Young Adulthood”, the best student paper. Whereas the bulk of studies on language assimilation assess inter-generational progress in English language skills only, Van’s study is innovative in that it uses a longitudinal approach to investigate both English and Spanish language skills over time within the 2nd generation. In studying change in skills of both languages, Van finds that both Spanish and English language skills increased in 2nd generation Latinos, which contradicts commonly-held notions that language acquisition is a zero sum game in which acquiring a new language implies the loss of one’s native language.

Honorable Mention:  Ken Chih-Yan Sun, Brandeis University
“Fashioning the Ethics of Aging in the Transnational Social Field: A Case of Immigrants in the United States and their Parents in Taiwan”

The committee was also unanimous in wanting to recognize with an honorable mention Ken Chih-Yan Sun’s (Brandeis University) paper, “Fashioning the Ethics of Aging in the Transnational Social Field: A Case of Immigrants in the United States and their Parents in Taiwan.” Ken’s paper investigates the much overlooked dynamics of elder care among transnational families. Many U.S. immigrants come from cultures that have strong traditions of intergenerational geriatric care yet little research has investigated how international migration impacts this important social institution. Ken interviewed Taiwanese immigrants in Boston and their parents that remain in Taiwan to understand how each negotiates and redefines strong traditions of elder care by children who are now separated by thousands of miles.

2010 Distinguished Student Scholarship Award Committee members:
Elizabeth Durden, Bucknell University, and Emily Greenman and Mark Leach, both of Penn State University.
Impact of the Global Recession on International Migration
Organizer: Steven Gold

Since late 2008, much of the world has suffered from the largest economic recession since that of the late 1920s. Many factors associated with international migration are related to economic trends. These include emigration and return, patterns of remittance-sending, immigrants’ ability to find jobs and housing, anti-immigrant and racist movements, conflicts over jobs and turf in settlement location, and enforcement of immigration laws. This session seeks papers that address the impact of this global recession on international migration. Since the recession is global, we seek papers that describe such changes in immigration in various world regions including Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe and the Middle East as well as North America.

Local Responses to Immigrant Populations
Organizer: Shannon Gleeson, UC Santa Cruz

This session will bring together a variety of research agendas whose focus is on the response of local governments to a growing immigrant (including non-citizen and undocumented) population. While federal governments in the U.S. and in abroad set the agenda for immigration policy, state and local governments have begun to craft their own immigrant policies, eliciting two emerging trends. On the one hand, some local governments are enacting more restrictive policies, such as empowering local law enforcement to carry out federal immigration mandates, restricting landlords from renting to undocumented residents, and deputizing state workers to report undocumented clients. On the other hand, some cities and other geographical units have opted to stretch the boundaries of membership, and have spurred policies such as expanded healthcare for undocumented residents, non-citizen voting, and municipal ID’s. Papers in this session will explore the contested political and bureaucratic processes that local governments undergo to enact these immigrant policies, as well as the impacts of such actions on immigrant communities. In addition to U.S. studies, other country examples are welcome.

Immigrants and Their Descendants in Comparative Context: Remaking the Middle Class
Organizer: Jody Agius Vallejo, USC

The question du jour in immigration research is whether today’s new immigrants and their descendants incorporate into the middle class, whether they forge a minority pathway to upward mobility or whether they experience downward assimilation into a minority underclass. This session will focus on the rise and expansion of the immigrant middle class and will examine the mechanisms and social processes that may lead to different pathways into the middle class for specific origin and/or racial immigrant groups and their descendants. Papers will examine various dimensions of incorporation including but not limited to racial/ethnic identification, civic and political participation, labor-market experiences and residential assimilation in the United States and/or in other countries.

Roundtables, Organizer: Wendy Roth

We hope you will consider submitting a paper to one of our exciting 2011 panels!
THE THOMAS & ZNANIECKI AWARD
DEADLINE APRIL 1, 2011

The Thomas & Znaniecki Award is given annually for outstanding social science scholarship in the field of international migration to a book published within the previous 2 years. For the 2011 award, books must bear the publishing date of 2009 or 2010. Books must be nominated by a member of the International Migration Section (self nominations are permitted, but books nominated by the publisher alone will not be considered). Books awarded “honorable mention” in a previous year are ineligible for the award in subsequent years. Nominations consist of a written statement by the member proposing its consideration for the award; and arrangements must be made with the publisher to send the nominated book to all the members of the award committee, including the chair by April 1, 2011.

Chair: Ruben Hernandez-Leon. Department of Sociology, University of California Los Angeles, 264 Haines Hall, Los Angeles CA 90095 email: rubenhl@soc.ucla.edu

2011 DISTINGUISHED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2011

The International Migration Section’s Distinguished Student Scholarship Award Committee invites nominations and submissions for the section's annual graduate student paper competition. Students from any discipline may submit papers about any topic related to international migration broadly conceived. Papers must not be accepted for publication at the time of submission. Papers must be single authored and no more than 10,000 words, including abstract and references. A cover letter, abstract, and copy of the paper (both hard copy and via e-mail) by May 1st, 2011 to the committee chair: Julie Park. 2112 Art-Sociology Bldg, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 email: juliepark@socy.umd.edu

2011 DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD
DEADLINE: April 1, 2011

The International Migration Section invites nominations for the 2011 Distinguished Career Award. The award recognizes a lifetime of contribution to the field of the sociology of international migration. 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. Nominations will be evaluated by the Distinguished Career Award committee. Please submit all nominations by April 1, 2010 to the committee chair. Chair: Monica Boyd, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto, 825 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2J4 Email: imasa@utoronto.ca

What was He Thinking? Obama and U.S. Immigration Reform

The first two years of the Obama Administration have been deeply disappointing to advocates of immigration reform and a source of great irritation to Latinos. Obama campaigned intensively for Hispanic votes in 2008 and promised to push comprehensive immigration reform once in office. Hispanics responded by giving him two thirds of their votes, providing him a winning margin in several key states, such as Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado, and Florida. They thus had every right to expect a political payback once he was in office.

Amazingly, not only did President Obama fail to move forward on immigration reform, which might be excused given the many pressing issues he had on his legislative agenda, but he added insult to injury by actually accelerating the war on immigrants launched by Bush. During his first year in office, Obama increased the number of Border Patrol Officers by 15%, raised the Border Patrol budget by 16%, and accelerated deportations by 10% to reach a record level of nearly 400,000 per year.

The great irony is that by 2008 undocumented migration had actually stopped. According to estimates prepared by his own Department of Homeland Security, the undocumented population fell by a million persons between January 1, 2008 and January 1, 2009, a decline that can only occur when net migration is negative. In August of 2010 Obama nonetheless sent to congress a $600 million border security bill to increase the Border Patrol budget by another 17% and hire another 1,500 agents, despite the fact that border apprehensions were spiraling downward. As annual deportations climbed above 390,000 for the first time in American history, he put out a press release to note the fact.

Immigration enforcement is a policy arena over which he has absolute control as chief executive and thus his decision to expand deportations and step up border enforcement was the result of a deliberate, political calculation. Not surprisingly, Hispanics feel betrayed and are understandably seething with anger. What was he thinking? I can find no political logic in the course of action Obama has taken with respect to immigration reform. By accelerating the war on immigrants and relegating reform legislation to the back burner he is seemingly trying to placate social conservatives who vociferously oppose immigration reform, but these people will never support Obama on immigration reform or any other issue. Republicans have taken a blood oath to vote against any Obama initiative, so a strategy of compromise is futile.

By trying to appease the unappeasable he is alienating a key constituency. Although those Hispanics who did show up at the polls on November 2nd did vote overwhelmingly for Democrats, many simply stayed home and in so doing contributed to the sharp reversal of Democratic fortunes in the House of Representatives. Not only are Hispanics a key constituency now, they are the demographic future of the United States and will soon hold the balance of power in states throughout the nation.

Alienating Hispanic voters in a vain attempt to mollify conservative republicans makes no political sense whatsoever. If Obama has any sense, he will push hard for passage of the Dream Act in the lame duck session of congress and force the republicans to formalize their anti-immigrant, anti-Latino stance by voting it down or actually launching a filibustering. If by some miracle the Republicans back off and the legislation passes, it will finally lift the burden of illegality from the shoulders of three million people who entered the country as minors and are not themselves culpable for any crime. If the more likely scenario of a blocked bill occurs, it will be good politics for Obama and the Democrats in the short and long term. After all, it was Republican Governor Pete Wilson’s championing of the anti-immigrant Proposition 187 in California that permanent transformed that state from a republican to a democratic stronghold.

— Doug Massey, Princeton University
The theme for the 2012 Annual meeting of the ASA is “Real Utopias: Emancipatory projects, institutional designs, possible futures.”

Here is how I described the core idea of this theme in the ASA newsletter, Footnotes:

“Real Utopias” seems like an oxymoron: Utopia means “nowhere” – a fantasy world of perfect harmony and social justice. To describe a proposal for social transformation as “utopian” is to dismiss it as an impractical dream outside the limits of possibility. Realists reject such fantasies as a distraction from the serious business of making practical improvements in existing institutions. The idea of real utopias embraces this tension between dreams and practice: “utopia” implies developing clear-headed visions of alternatives to existing institutions that embody our deepest aspirations for a world in which all people have access to the conditions to live flourishing lives; “real” means taking seriously the problem of the viability of the institutions that could move us in the direction of that world. The goal is to elaborate utopian ideals that are grounded in the real potentials of humanity, utopian destinations that have accessible way stations, utopian designs of viable institutions that can inform our practical tasks of navigating a world of imperfect conditions for social change.

Exploring real utopias implies developing a sociology of the possible, not just of the actual. This is a tricky research problem, for while we can directly observe variation in what exists in the world, discussions of possibilities and limits of possibility always involve more speculative and contentious claims about what could be, not just what is. The task of a sociology of real utopias, then, is to develop strategies that enable us to make empirically and theoretically sound arguments about emancipatory possibilities.

I am hoping that many of the sections of the American Sociological Association will be enthusiastic about engaging this theme in some of the sessions which they directly organize, but I also hope that members of different ASA sections will submit proposals to the program committee for thematic panels which explore the problem of real utopias within their subfield.

One of the politically hottest issues in the U.S. today revolves around international migration. If anything with globalization and uneven development, the question of how best to organize migration flows will become more intense in the future. The “real utopia” question about this issue, in a broad sense, concerns the design of regimes of international migration and how these connect to issues of social justice and human flourishing. This is partially a question of what might be the best politically achievable design, but more fundamentally the problem is elaborating what might be viewed as the optimal design of a viable migration regime (or the optimal design of institutions connected to the issue of international migration) even if it is not presently achievable. My hope is that there are people in the International Migration section who will creatively elaborate proposals for panels that might explore such issues at the 2012 meeting.

Information about submitting proposals for different kinds of panels for the meeting can be found at: http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/septoct10/2012_0910.html.

To facilitate such proposals I thought it might be helpful if I shared some of my general ideas on the structure of the thematic and plenary panels for the 2012 meetings. This is all quite tentative – the first real meeting of the program committee where these and other ideas will be discussed will be in early December – but it may give people some idea of the kinds of things I hope to see happen. What follows, then, is a brief sketch of the different kinds of panels around the theme of Real Utopias I would like see at the meeting.

I. Real Utopia Proposals Sessions

Each of these sessions will revolve around a proposal for a real utopian design to resolve some domain of problems. Examples would include: unconditional basic income, market socialism, equality-sustaining parental leaves, participatory budgets, random-selection democratic assemblies, worker cooperatives, stakeholder corporations, solidarity finance, democratic media, etc. The ideal here is to recruit an anchor person for the session who we know has already worked extensively on formulating such real utopia designs rather than simply a person who has thought critically about the theme (although there will certainly be flexible on this). This format will not be appropriate for all of the themes around real utopias; it will be especially effective for those problems around which there exists on on-going discussion of alternative institutions.

My idea is for the sessions to be organized as follows:

- We will create a dedicated website for these sessions.
- The person who anchors these sessions will prepare an elaborated proposal for institutional designs around some theme which will be posted online by early 2012. While of course these essays will include some discussion of what’s wrong with existing structures and institutions, the goal is for them to sketch the central contours of alternatives. By this I do not mean a detailed “institutional blueprint”, but rather a careful elaboration of the core principles of an institutional proposal. My expectation is that these will be in the 10,000 word range, although some could be longer.

A letter to the ASA section on International Migration about the Real Utopias theme of the 2012 ASA annual meeting

Erik Olin Wright, October, 2010
In some sessions there could be two competing or contrasting proposals. Having two different proposals could make for a very lively session for some topics.

The website will allow for comments and dialogue so that these proposals can be part of a discussion prior to the meeting. I am not sure yet precisely what the best design for the website would be, but I am hopeful that it will be an interactive site rather than simply a passive site.

At the session there will be a very brief – 15-20 minute – presentation of the proposal and at most one commentary, or perhaps a contrasting proposal. I want to avoid panels with lots of presentations and little time for debate and discussion.

In Footnotes, section newsletters, and other modes of information dissemination we will encourage people to look at the proposals before the meeting and to come to sessions with issues they want to raise. While of course we want to avoid long-winded speeches from the floor, I think somewhat longer than usual interventions could be constructive.

Partial list of potential Topics for Proposal Sessions
Below is an initial list of possible thematic panels built around real utopia proposals. I have identified these sessions by the central principle of the proposal (for example, Unconditional Basic Income) rather than by the general topic or target of a proposal (eg. Healthcare), except where I do not have a specific real utopian proposal in mind. Because of my own expertise, most of the topics I have thought of revolve around political and economic issues. Nevertheless, it would be good if some of these thematic proposal sessions revolved around cultural issues of various sorts and around egalitarian and social justice issues that are not exclusively socio-economic in character (gender, race, sexuality, etc.). Some of these topics may be more suitable for general thematic sessions rather than for the proposal sessions.

1. Unconditional Basic Income
2. A democratic media system
3. “High road” capitalism
4. Democratizing finance
5. Participatory budgeting
6. A democratic, egalitarian system of campaign finance
7. Deliberative referenda
8. Gender: Parental leaves for gender equality
9. Parecon (participatory economics)
10. A framework for a digital network economy
11. Building the Scientific Commons (publications, data dissemination)
12. Community policing
13. Worker-owned Cooperatives
14. Pensions, labor’s capital, solidarity finance, wage earner funds
15. Randomocracy, citizens’ assemblies
16. LETS (local exchange trading systems)
17. Globally just Fair trade
18. Market socialism
19. Intellectual property—the creative commons
20. Public education
21. Universities
22. Healthcare

II. Film/documentary sessions
I think it would be interesting to have a number of sessions which present documentary films on exemplary and iconic cases of social innovations to solve problems. The intention here is not to have cheerleading films, but documentaries that analyze specific kinds of leading cases. The films could either be presented by the filmmaker or by an expert who researches the case and could lead a discussion following the film. Most documentaries which are thematically relevant on these issues tend to be mainly about social movements and struggles – sometimes of the “heroic struggle” variety – and not so much about outcomes, institutional innovations, actual transformations of social structures. So, I am not sure exactly what is available.

Examples could include things like:
- The kibbutz – there are a number of films that are retrospectives on the kibbutz experience
- Holding Ground – a film about the Dudley Street neighborhood association
- Local food, alternative agriculture
- Public transportation – I understand that there is an interesting film about innovative public transportation in a Brazilian city, but I have not seen it

III. Thematic panels around broad topics and disciplinary subfields
Some of the topics listed under Real Utopia Proposals sessions could be shifted to these regular thematic sessions if we don’t find a suitable anchor person with a well-worked out institutional/transformational proposal. And some of the topics listed below, of course, could also be moved to the institutional proposal category.

In terms of format, I have a strong preference for sessions which do not have so many presentations that there is little time for discussion, and generally I prefer sessions without discussants – my experience is that it is usually more interesting to have discussion from the floor unless the discussant is really engaged in a debate with a specific argument (as in the proposal sessions). For these sessions, then, I would generally like three presenters and no discussant.
Some possible topics for general thematic sessions

1. Consumerism
2. The corporation: alternative models for more democratic/participatory governance
3. Carework
4. Future studies as a framework for envisioning real utopias
5. The Cleveland cooperatives initiatives
6. Mondragon, Emilia-Romagna and other exemplary worker cooperative districts
7. Utopian thinking within sociological theory
8. Utopian and dystopian visions
9. Marxism and real utopias or Marxism vs real utopias
10. Energy
11. Global Warming
12. The family
13. Sexuality
14. Childhood/children
15. Cities
16. Multiculturalism
17. Linguistic justice
18. Race, racial justice
19. International migration
20. Methodological issues: nonevents and possible futures
21. Criminal justice: crime & punishment
22. The military
23. Intentional communities
24. 19th century utopian communities
25. Transforming culture
26. Local food
27. Alternative Agro-food Systems
28. The Internet
29. Wikipedia
30. Creative commons
31. Voluntary simplicity
32. The Chicago participatory budget experiment
33. Transhumanism
34. Science policy

IV. Plenary Panels

The program contains up to three plenary sessions – one on Friday evening and the in the noon slot on Saturday and Sunday. Tentatively, I am thinking of the following possibilities:

1. Big Ideas for Real Utopias: This could be one or two of the plenary panels, depending on other plenary suggestions. The idea would be to have a panel(s) featuring very prominent, articulate advocates of specific real utopian proposals. I envision three presentations for this panel, each around some Big Idea. One idea is also for these panelists to lead a proposal-thematic session (category I above) on the day after they are on the plenary panel. This would make it possible for there to be intensive discussion of the high profile ideas presented in the plenaries.

   If we have only one plenary session of this character, the topics could include, for example, some of the following: Basic Income; A democratic media system; Gender equality and the family; Cooperatives. If we have two panels of this sort, one could be built around democracy issues and one around equality issues:

   Democracy:
   - Making Elections truly democratic
   - Participatory budget and direct democracy
   - Democratic media

   Equality:
   - Basic Income
   - Gender equality and family
   - Cooperatives

2. Energy, the environment, and global warming: This plenary would focus on institutional designs for countering global warming and other aspects of ecological crisis rather than just the nature of the problem itself. Mostly when I have seen panels and discussions of these issues the discussion of institutional design is pretty thin. There is a sharp indictment of existing consumption and production patterns and a call for dramatic transformation in how we do things, but little discussion of the mechanisms for accomplishing this and how sustainability and low growth can be institutionalized and reproduced.

3. Sociology as Real Utopia: I am less sure about this, but it might be possible to have a session which reflected on the nature of the discipline and academic life, and asked what the real utopia vision for sociology might be.

*The next meeting of the ASA Program Committee is December 3; it would be good if we had proposals at that meeting.*

Erik Olin Wright
Vilas Distinguished Professor
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AWARDS
Chien-Juh Gu, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Western Michigan University, received the Emerging Scholar Award from the Women’s Caucus at Western Michigan University. She gave a speech, “Gender, immigration and psychological well-being” at the award ceremony in April 2010.

MIGRATIONS & TRANSITIONS
Mindelyn Buford II has joined the Northeastern University Department of Sociology and Anthropology as an Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Eileen Diaz McConnell has been promoted to Associate Professor in the School of Transborder Studies at Arizona State University.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Chien-Juh Gu was invited to give a keynote speech, “Family relations and psychological well-being among Taiwanese immigrant women,” at the annual conference of National Council on Family Relations in March 2010.

Jorge Durand, professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Guadalajara, spent six weeks this fall as a “Visiting Resource Scholar” at Vanderbilt University, invited by the university’s Center for Latin American Studies. Jorge gave a number of talks and participated in panels addressing current issues concerning Mexico-US migration and fieldwork in rural Mexico.

Tanya Golash-Boza has started a professional development blog: Weekly Tips on How to Succeed in Academia and Have a Life Too http://getalifephd.blogspot.com/ <http://getalifephd.blogspot.com/>

The New Americans: Recent Immigration and American Society, edited by Steven J. Gold and Rubén G. Rumbaut, explores recent immigration and related changes in American society from the perspectives of sociology, anthropology, political science, economics, education, psychology, history, and law.

WORLD ON THE MOVE is seeking a NEW EDITOR!
If you are interested in serving as the new newsletter editor, please contact Monica Boyd (imasa@utoronto.ca) and Zulema Valdez (zvaldez@libarts.tamu.edu). The editor will need to have a computer that handles Microsoft Publisher, and should be able to maintain an organized archive where all newsletter information is stored. Organization and attention to detail are assets. Estimated hours are approximately 12-15 hours per issue (there are two issues per year) and a pre-existing template for the newsletter exists. The editor will be reimbursed for the cost of Microsoft Publisher if necessary, and the editor also can hire a graduate student to help out for a nominal fee. Previous newsletter editors have usually served at least 3 years.

Anderson, Bridget, Nandita Sharma and Cynthia Wright (eds.), 2009, Special Issue on “No Borders As a Practical Political Project” of Refuge, 26:2.


Kim, Minjeong. 2010. “Gender and International Marriage Migration” Sociology Compass 4 (9): 718-731.


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The Xaripu Community across Borders

Labor Migration, Community, and Family
Notre Dame Press, 2010
Manuel Barajas

During the past three decades there have been many studies of transnational migration. Most of the scholarship has focused on one side of the border, one area of labor incorporation, one generation of migrants, and one gender. In this path-breaking book, Manuel Barajas presents the first cross-national, comparative study to examine a Mexican-origin community’s experience with international migration and transnationalism. He presents an extended case study of the Xaripu community, with home bases in both Xaripu, Michoacán, and Stockton, California, and elaborates how various forms of colonialism, institutional biases, and emergent forms of domination have shaped Xaripu labor migration, community formation, and family experiences across the Mexican/U.S. border for over a century.

Of special interest are Barajas’s formal and informal interviews within the community, his examination of oral histories, and his participant observation in several locations. Barajas asks, What historical events have shaped the Xaripus’ migration experiences? How have Xaripus been incorporated into the U.S. labor market? How have national inequalities affected their ability to form a community across borders? And how have migration, settlement, and employment experiences affected the family, especially gender relationships, on both sides of the border?

Manual Barajas is associate professor of sociology at California State University, Sacramento.

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Encyclopedia of American Immigration,
3v Set (Hardcover)
by III Carl L. Bankston
Salem Press, 2010

Offering a clear and innovative approach to immigration history, the three volumes in this set address all questions about immigration that students might reasonable be expected to ask. Essay topics include accent discrimination, world migration patterns and xenophobia. There are also essays on immigrants who had a significant impact on the United States.
Getting Ahead: Social Mobility, Public Housing, and Immigrant Networks

New York University Press, 2010
Silvia Domínguez

Getting Ahead tells the compelling stories of Latin-American immigrant women living in public housing in two Boston-area neighborhoods. Silvia Domínguez argues that these immigrant women parlay social ties that provide support and leverage to develop networks and achieve social positioning to get ahead. Through a rich ethnographic account and in-depth interviews, the strong voices of these women demonstrate how they successfully negotiate the world and achieve social mobility through their own individual agency, skillfully navigating both constraints and opportunities.

Domínguez makes it clear that many immigrant women are able to develop the social support needed for a rich social life, and leverage ties that open options for them to develop their social and human capital. However, she also shows that factors such as neighborhood and domestic violence and the unavailability of social services leave many women without the ability to strategize towards social mobility. Ultimately, Domínguez makes important local and international policy recommendations on issue ranging from public housing to world labor visas, demonstrating how policy can help to improve the lives of these and other low-income people.

Salvando Fronteras: Migración Internacional en America Latina y el Caribe
Mexico City: Editorial Miguel Angel Porrúa. 2010

Salvando Fronteras, Migración Internacional en América Latina y el Caribe es una obra colectiva elaborada por un connotado grupo de investigadores de la migración latinoamericana que se caracterizan por utilizar para su análisis la base de datos del Proyecto Latinoamericano de Migración (LAMP), que llevan a cabo las universidades de Princeton y Guadalajara. Se trata del primer estudio sistemático de tipo comparativo sobre la migración en distintos contextos latinoamericanos. A partir de la base de datos del LAMP y del Mexican Migration Project (MMP) se desarrollan diferentes tipos de estudios sobre el tema migratorio en relación con los procesos, selectividad y regularización migratoria, la educación, género, redes sociales, salud, trabajo, remesas y violencia social.
The Politics of International Migration Management
Edited by Martin Geiger and Antoine Pécoud

Palgrave Macmillan, 2010

'International migration management' is a new concept for understanding and rethinking migration flows. Throughout the world, governments and intergovernmental organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration, are developing new approaches aimed at renewing migration policy-making. This includes calls for cooperation between governments to govern migration flows; an understanding that migration is a normal process in a globalizing world rather than a problem; a 'post-control' spirit that goes beyond the restrictions on peoples' mobility to draft proactive policies; and a promotion of holistic approaches to migration, not only centered on security or labour, but also on development and human rights.

This book critically analyses the actors, discourses and practices of migration management, including both empirical investigations of new forms of migration policy and analytical explorations of their political and ideological foundations.

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The Store in the Hood: A Century of Ethnic Business and Conflict
Steven J. Gold
Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2010

The Store in the Hood is a comprehensive study of conflicts between immigrant merchants and customers throughout the U.S. during the 20th century. From the lynchings of Sicilian immigrant merchants in the late 1800s, to the riots in L.A. following the acquittal of the police officers who beat Rodney King, to present-day Detroit, recurrent conflicts between immigrant business owners and their customers have disrupted the stability of American life. Devastating human lives, property and public order, these conflicts have been the subject of periodic investigations that are generally limited in scope and emphasize the outlooks and cultural practices of the involved groups as the root of most disputes. This book develops a more nuanced understanding by exploring merchant/customer conflicts over the past hundred years across a wide range of ethnic groups and settings. Utilizing published research, official statistics, interviews, and ethnographic data collected from diverse locations, the book reveals how powerful groups and institutions have shaped the environments in which merchant/customer conflicts occur. These conflicts must be seen as products of the larger society's values, policies and structures, not solely as a consequence of actions by immigrants, the urban poor, and other marginal groups.
The Diversity Paradox: Immigration and the Color Line
In Twenty-First Century America
Jennifer Lee and Frank Bean
Russell Sage Foundation, 2010

The Diversity Paradox uses population-based analyses and in-depth interviews to examine patterns of intermarriage and multiracial identification among Asians, Latinos, and African Americans. Lee and Bean analyze where the color line—and the economic and social advantage it demarcates—is drawn today and on what side these new arrivals fall. They show that Asians and Latinos with mixed ancestry are not constrained by strict racial categories. Racial status often shifts according to situation. Individuals can choose to identify along ethnic lines or as white, and their decisions are rarely questioned by outsiders or institutions. These groups also intermarry at higher rates, which is viewed as part of the process of becoming “American” and a form of upward social mobility. African Americans, in contrast, intermarry at significantly lower rates than Asians and Latinos. Further, multiracial blacks often choose not to identify as such and are typically perceived as being black only—underscoring the stigma attached to being African American and the entrenchment of the “one-drop” rule. Asians and Latinos are successfully disengaging their national origins from the concept of race—like European immigrants before them—and these patterns are most evident in racially diverse parts of the county.

Brokered Boundaries: Creating Immigrant Identity
In Anti-Immigrant Times
Douglas S. Massey and Magaly Sanchez R.
Russell Sage Foundation, 2010

Brokered Boundaries analyses how first- and second-generation immigrants from Central and South America and the Caribbean navigate these categories and their associated meanings as they make their way through U.S. society. Massey and Sanchez argue that the mythos of immigration, in which newcomers gradually shed their respective languages, beliefs, and cultural practices in favor of a distinctly American way of life, is, in reality, a process of negotiation between new arrivals and native born citizens.

Brokered Boundaries shows that, although Latin American immigrants come from many different countries, their common reception in a hostile social environment produces an emergent Latino identity soon after arrival. During anti-immigrant times, however, the longer immigrants stay in America, the more likely they are to experience discrimination and the less likely they are to identify as Americans.
Mexican migration to the United States and Canada has a long and very fraught history, and remains a highly contentious issue in the eyes of many North Americans. Consuming Mexican Labor covers the time period from the Bracero Program (1942-64) to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to demonstrate how Mexicans have been actively encouraged to migrate northward when labor markets are in short supply, only to be turned back during economic downturns. The book is divided into three parts: the first looks at the Bracero Program and the subsequent backlash against Mexican farm workers in the United States; the second part looks at attempts by Mexican immigrants to organize effectively and resist exploitation; and the final section offers a contemporary look at Mexican communities across the continent, from traditional areas like California and the American Midwest to less traditional areas like the American Southeast and Canada. The result is a comprehensive and up-to-date look at how consumption needs in North America have significantly shaped the ebbs and flows of Mexican migration.

América inmigrante, de Alejandro Portes y Rubén G. Rumbaut, recoge de manera muy detallada la historia contemporánea de la inmigración a los Estados Unidos, inmigración que en sucesivas oleadas ha contribuido decisivamente a la transformación y configuración actual de este país. Este libro, que aborda sociológicamente las migraciones deteniéndose, entre otras, en cuestiones tales como las pautas de asentamiento de los inmigrantes, la influencia de sus redes sociales y comunidades étnicas, el transnacionalismo inmigrante, o la integración de la segunda generación, ayuda a entender algunos procesos claves de las migraciones internacionales contemporáneas, y abre incógnitas, hipótesis de trabajo y reflexiones que son de utilidad en numerosos países.(Estrella Gualda Caballero, Revisión técnica de la traducción)
Migrants for Export
How the Philippine State Brokers Labor to the World

University of Minnesota Press, 2010
Robyn Magalit Rodriguez

Migrant workers from the Philippines are ubiquitous to global capitalism, with nearly 10 percent of the population employed in almost two hundred countries. In a visit to the United States in 2003, Philippine president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo even referred to herself as not only the head of state but also “the CEO of a global Philippine enterprise of eight million Filipinos who live and work abroad.”

Robyn Magalit Rodriguez investigates how and why the Philippine government transformed itself into what she calls a labor brokerage state, which actively prepares, mobilizes, and regulates its citizens for migrant work abroad. Filipino men and women fill a range of jobs around the globe, including domestic work, construction, and engineering, and they have even worked in the Middle East to support U.S. military operations. At the same time, the state redefines nationalism to normalize its citizens to migration while fostering their ties to the Philippines. Those who leave the country to work and send their wages to their families at home are treated as new national heroes.

Drawing on ethnographic research of the Philippine government’s migration bureaucracy, interviews, and archival work, Rodriguez presents a new analysis of neoliberal globalization and its consequences for nation-state formation.

Some From Zacatecas

Tamar Diana Wilson
Plain View Press, 2010

Some From Zacatecas is the story of the migration and adaptation of an extended family of undocumented immigrants from that Mexican State to the west side of Los Angeles, and how some of them received amnesty after the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act and some did not. The book looks at the daily lives and interactions of a group of brothers, their wives, and their cousins. It looks both at the triumphs and the tragedies that some migrant workers face during their journey to the north.
Sociology Department, Texas A&M University

World on the Move

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