MAKING CONNECTIONS
2009 International Migration Section’s
Mini-Conference

Dear IM section members,

I’m delighted to send you an update on planning for the IM section’s first ever “Making Connections” mini-conference. The conference will be held Friday August 7th, the day before the ASA meetings begin in San Francisco. I’m writing in my capacity as the chair of the organizing committee to provide more details about the conference.

We are very excited about the conference, which aims to engage migration researchers from all career stages in sustained conversation on common interests and to facilitate new connections between participants. I’m attaching a flyer with logistical details about the conference, including a list of roundtables with the presiders who will be moderating the tables. You will see that we have a fantastic list of topics and presiders.

The conference will run a full day, from 9am-6pm. In the morning we have two sets of roundtables. Roundtables will focus on the nuts and bolts of conducting migration research and substantive migration topics. Rather than traditional paper presentations, roundtables will be presided over by experts on the topic who will provide short syntheses of the field or offer concrete tips from their own experiences.

(cont’d pg. 2)
Presiders will then moderate a broad conversation among all participants at the table.

Over lunch, we will have a keynote panel on “(How) Can Social Scientists Affect Future Immigration Policy?” followed by a special afternoon panel on “Comparative Migration and Integration: Empirical and Conceptual Contributions beyond the US.” The speaker list is still being finalized, but we plan to have social scientists from some key think tanks and policy institutions, as well as colleagues from overseas join us for these panels.

The mini-conference will be free to all members of the IM section – we encourage you to sign up students and friends. Registration for the conference and roundtables will be done on a first-come, first-served basis. Please watch for further details about registration through the IM email list. We hope to have a registration system in place by late March, early April, once people hear about ASA panels.

During the conference, we will also be running a book showcase and raffle. All conference attendees (and even those who can’t make it) are invited to donate a signed copy of one (or more) of their books. We will display the books during the conference so that people can flip through some of the great research being done in our field. In the evening, during the reception, we will have a raffle to give away the books, with proceeds going to a local immigrant rights organization.

We very much hope you will attend! We will offer copious food, stimulating conversation and, fog-permitting, gorgeous views of the San Francisco Bay and Golden Gate Bridge as backdrop.

Sincerely,
Irene Bloemraad

On behalf of the mini-conference organizing committee: 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
The International Migration section is delighted to host the first-ever IM “Making Connections” mini-conference this summer!

“Making Connections” aims to engage migration researchers from all career stages in sustained conversation on common interests and to provide an opportunity to make new connections.

The conference will run a full day, with two sets of morning roundtables, a keynote luncheon panel on “(How) Can Social Scientists Affect Future Immigration Policy?” and a special afternoon panel on “Comparative Migration and Integration: Empirical and Conceptual Contributions beyond the US.”

Morning roundtables will focus on the nuts and bolts of conducting migration research and substantive migration topics. Rather than traditional paper presentations, roundtables will be presided over by experts on the topic who will provide short syntheses of the field or offer concrete tips from their own experiences. Presiders will then moderate a broad conversation among all participants at the table.

The mini-conference will be free to all members of the IM section – we encourage you to sign up students and friends. Watch for further details about registration through the IM email list.

Plan to attend! We will offer copious food, stimulating conversation and, fog-permitting, gorgeous views of the San Francisco Bay and Golden Gate Bridge as backdrop.
SESSION 1: MIGRATION RESEARCH CHALLENGES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT [9:30-10:45am]

1. How to run large team projects (across disciplines, places) Phil Kasinitz (CUNY), David Fitzgerald (UCSD)

2. How to publish a book Peggy Levitt (Wellesley), Kate Wahl (Stanford U Press)

3. Successfully employing mixed methods Patricia Fernandez-Kelly (Princeton), Monica McDermott (Stanford)

4. Measuring “integration” Richard Alba (CUNY; Albany), Miri Song (Kent, United Kingdom)

5. Finding, creating & using survey data on immigrants Taeku Lee (UCB), Susan Brown (UCI)

6. Funding -- writing successful grant proposals Aixa Citrón-Vélez (Russell Sage Foundation), Katherine Donato (Vanderbilt)

7. How to talk to journalists about immigration Dowell Myers (USC), Audrey Singer (Brookings)

8. The job market – tips and advice Tomas Jimenez (Stanford), Jody Agius Vallejo (USC)

9. IRB/ Human subjects for migration research Rob Smith (CUNY), Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (USC)

SESSION 2: SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS IN MIGRATION RESEARCH [11:15-12:30pm]

1. New destinations and local migration politics Rubén Hernández-León (UCLA), Sara Curran (U Washington)

2. Immigrants, collective action & civic/political engagement Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo (USC), Lisa Martinez (Denver) Dina Okamoto (UCD)

3. Culture and immigration Michèle Lamont (Harvard), Mario Small (Chicago)

4. Education and immigration Min Zhou (UCLA), Vivian Louie (Harvard)

5. Religion and immigration Peggy Levitt (Wellesley), Wendy Cadge (Brandeis), R. Stephen Warner (UIC)

6. The 2nd generation and inequality Phil Kasinitz (CUNY), Richard Alba (CUNY; Albany), Jennifer Lee (UCI)

7. Race, ethnicity and immigration Nancy Foner (Hunter-CUNY), John Skrentny (UCSD)

8. Mexican migration David Fitzgerald (UCSD), Rob Smith (Baruch-CUNY)

9. Refugees Silvia Pedraza (U Michigan), Steve Gold (Michigan State), Nazli Kibria (Boston U)

10. National migration policy Kitty Calavita (UCI), Mae Ngai (Columbia)

11. Immigrant families Nancy Landale (Penn State)
NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2008 THOMAS & ZNANIECKI BOOK AWARD
DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2009

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 two years. This year's Thomas & Znaniecki Award committee invites nominations of books published in 2007 and 2008 that would be suitable candidates for this award. Recent winners have included: Ivan Light, Deflecting Immigration: Networks, Markets, and Regulation in Los Angeles (Russell Sage Foundation, 2006), Robert C. Smith, Mexican New York: Transnational Lives of New Immigrants (University of California Press, 2005), and Richard Alba and Victor Nee, Rethinking the American Mainstream: Assimilation and Contemporary Immigration (Harvard, 2003). Please send your nominations by April 1, 2009 to: Ivan Light, Chair, Department of Sociology, Box 951551, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095, Email: light@soc.ucla.edu

DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD
DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2009

The International Migration Section invites nominations for the 2008 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 Richard D. Alba (2007), Edna Bonacich (2005) and Tamotsu Shibutani (2004). 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 (Frank Bean, Chair; Nancy Foner and Audrey Singer, members). Please submit all nominations by April 1, 2009 to: Frank Bean (fbean@uci.edu).

(cont’d pg. 6)
GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD
DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2009

The International Migration Section's Graduate Student Paper Award Committee (Jennifer Glick, Chair, Wendy Roth and David Fitzgerald, members) 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 yet be published at the time of submission and should be written during the 2008-2009 academic year. Papers must be single authored and no more than 10,000 words, including abstract and references. Please send a cover letter, abstract, and copy of the paper (both hard copy and via e-mail) by May 1st, 2009 to: Jennifer Glick, Center for Population Dynamics and School of Social and Family Dynamics, Arizona State University, Box 3701, 144 Social Sciences Building, Tempe, AZ 85287-3701, Email: Jennifer.Glick@asu.edu; Wendy Roth, Department of Sociology, 6303 NW Marine Drive, University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1, Email: wroth@interchange.ubc.ca; David Fitzgerald, Department of Sociology, University of California, San Diego, 401 Social Science Bldg., 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0533, Email: dfitzger@ucsd.edu.
REGULAR SESSION: IMMIGRATION

Organizer: Zulema Valdez, Texas A&M University

SECTION SESSIONS:

I. THE IMMIGRATION EXPERIENCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Organizer: Norma E. Fuentes-Mayorga, Fordham University

II. IMMIGRANT GROUP INCORPORATION

Organizer: Cynthia Feliciano, University of California, Irvine

III. THE CITY, COMMUNITIES & IMMIGRATION

(jointly sponsored with City & Urban Sociology)

Organizer: Eric Fong, University of Toronto

x ROUNDTABLES, Organizer: Susan K. Brown, U.C. Irvine

(New Roundtable Submission Deadline, see pg. 9 for details!)

Also at the ASA: Author Meets Critics

Survival of the Knitted: Immigrant Social Networks in a Stratified World
(Stanford University Press, 2007)

Vilna Bashi Treitler
**AWARDS**

Mindelyn Buford, II (Johns Hopkins University) has received an NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant for her project "Social Class, Migration, and Assimilation,” under the direction of her advisor Professor Lingxin Hao. Ms. Buford will also teach a special Intersession course for Johns Hopkins University freshmen titled "Baltimore: Immigration and the City."

Elizabeth Durden (assistant professor, Bucknell University) was awarded the Fulbright Hays Faculty Research Award. Durden will spend the 2008-2009 academic year in Yucatan Mexico. Her research project centers on indigenous Mexican immigration from the Yucatan to the United States. Specifically, she will focus on an immigrant hometown association as a tool to explore transnationalism, civil society and ethnic identities.

Elaine Howard Ecklund (University at Buffalo, SUNY) and Michael Emerson (Rice University) recently received a grant for $190,194 from the Russell Sage Foundation for a study titled, "Religion and the Changing Face of American Civic Life." Through a comparison of five different immigrant groups to the native-born, the study will examine changes to civil society as a result of recent immigration to the United States.

Zulema Valdez (Texas A&M University) has received a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship for Minorities (2008-9) for her project, “Race, Class & Gender in American Enterprise”.

Jody Agius Vallejo (PhD, UC Irvine) will spend the 2008-2009 academic year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies and U.S.-Mexican Studies at UC San Diego.


**MIGRATIONS**

Elaine Howard Ecklund has recently taken a position as assistant professor of sociology at Rice University. She will also be associate director of the Rice University Center on Race, Religion and Urban Life (CORRUL).
Ruben Hernandez-Leon (Dept. of Sociology, UCLA) has been appointed director of the newly created Center for Mexican Studies at UCLA.

Mark A. Leach has recently taken a position as assistant professor of rural sociology and demography at Pennsylvania State University.

Jen’nan G. Read will join Duke University as an associate professor in the Department of Sociology with an appointment in the Duke Global Health Institute, where she will serve as Director of the postdoctoral program.

Holly Reed has recently taken a position as assistant professor of sociology at Queens College, City University of New York. She is also affiliated with the new CUNY Institute for Demographic Research.

Jody Agius Vallejo (PhD, UC Irvine) accepted a tenure-track assistant professor of sociology at the University of Southern California.

IM SECTION ROUNDTABLES
NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
MARCH 1, 2009!

The International Migration Section is accepting new submissions for the 2009 ASA ROUNDTABLES (Susan K. Brown, U.C. Irvine, Organizer). If you have not yet submitted a paper to one of our sessions or your paper falls outside of the three session areas (1. The Immigration Experience in the 21st Century; 2. Immigrant Group Incorporation; 3. The City, Communities and Immigration), please send your paper or extended abstract to Carolynn Bramlett at cbramlet@uci.edu. It’s not too late!
Announcing the PhD in Sociology Program at the University of South Florida

The PhD in Sociology emphasizes multi-disciplinary research, teaching, and scholarship related specifically to the study of Sustainable Communities in Global and Urban Environments. Designed to prepare students to engage in research and teaching that focus on the post-industrial urban environment, the program requires a minimum of 60-credit hours beyond the M.A. and includes an interdisciplinary professional seminar, disciplinary core requirements (Advanced Research Methods and Study Design, Advanced Sociological Theory, a Speciality Methods course), disciplinary electives, interdisciplinary electives, a capstone interdisciplinary seminar, and a dissertation.

The program is currently accepting applications for Fall, 2009

Further information can be found on the Sociology Department website:
http://sociology.usf.edu/

Or contact: Donileen R. Loseke, Professor and Graduate Director dloseke@cas.usf.edu

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Malmö University announces a position as Professor in International Migration and Ethnic Relations (IMER)
Last date for application: March 1st 2009

The position is placed at Malmö University, Department of IMER

Malmö University also includes the research institute Malmö Institute for Studies of Migration, Diversity and Welfare - MIM. The MIM Institute houses the Guest Professorship in IMER in Memory of Willy Brandt, whom the prospective Professor in IMER will have the opportunity to cooperate with in his/her work and research at Malmö University.

Link to advertisement:
http://www.mah.se/templates/Page____88376.aspx

Titti Kjellander
Administratör, Malmö högskola
Tel: 040-665 80 57 (LUT), 040-665 71 17 (MIM)

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FOR MORE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS, VISIT THE ASA JOB BANK AT:
http://jobbank.asanet.org/jobbank/index.cfm
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION ONLINE:
WEBSITES, REPORTS, JOURNALS

MASON PROJECT ON IMMIGRATION
CENTER FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

STUDY ON ANTI-IMMIGRANT SENTIMENT

As part of the Mason Project on Immigration, the Center for Social Science Research has conducted a study of the social bases of anti-immigrant sentiment, using Virginia as an example of one southern state’s experience. The results are revealing of many fault lines that have opened up at the local and county level, and which are not likely to wane any time soon.

A summary of the findings can be found at www.cssr.gmu.edu.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Steven P. Vallas, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
George Mason University
4400 University Drive
Fairfax VA 22032 MS 3G5
703 993 2127 (v)  
703 993 1446 (fax)

NEW! ESTIMATES OF THE UNAUTHORIZED IMMIGRANT POPULATION

The Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) would like to announce the release of *Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: January 2006*. This report provides estimates of the unauthorized immigrant population residing in the United States as of January 2006, for periods of entry and leading countries of birth and states of residence. The PDF is available on the OIS website at:


HAVE YOU SEEN...
*Refugees and Asylees: 2006*

**Symposium on Immigration: What Do We Know and What Do We Need to Learn?**

is now available to view online at [www.nationalacademies.org/immigration](http://www.nationalacademies.org/immigration).

Held at the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center in Irvine, CA in November 2006, the symposium looked beyond the rhetoric surrounding immigration and focused on what we have learned from existing research and on areas in which we need more research and analysis.

Special focus was given to economic integration and the fiscal impacts of immigration on the nation and local economies, to social and political integration, and to the effects immigration has on individuals and communities. The event featured presentations by experts in economics, sociology, political science, and medicine, and was structured to allow for dialogue among participants and attendees.

**Melvin Oliver**, Dean of Social Sciences at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and expert in poverty, inequality, social policy and interethnic relations chaired the symposium while a historical overview of immigration was provided by **David M. Kennedy**, the Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History at Stanford University, and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for his book *Freedom from Fear: The American People in Depression and War*.

**James P. Smith**, Senior Economist at RAND Corporation, and **Stephen Trejo**, Associate Professor of Econo-
ics at the University of Texas-Austin, addressed the fiscal impacts of immigration and the effects of immigration on the economy.

**Guillermina Jasso**, Professor of Sociology at New York University, and **Louis DeSipio**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Chicano/Latino Studies Program at the University of California, Irvine, focused on the social and political integration of immigrants with regard to identity, language, political participation, and legal status.

**Rubén Rumbaut**, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Irvine, and **José Escarce**, Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, and Senior Scientist at RAND Corporation, addressed how immigration affects individual and community well-being in areas such as the family, education, health, housing, and crime.

**SSRC WEB FORUM ON IMMIGRATION**
Available at: [http://borderbattles.ssrc.org/](http://borderbattles.ssrc.org/)

**CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS OF MIGRATION (CREAM)**
Available at: [http://www.econ.ucl.ac.uk/cream/](http://www.econ.ucl.ac.uk/cream/)

**BERKELEY INTERDISCIPLINARY IMMIGRATION WORKSHOP AND THE INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**
Available at: [http://www.iir.berkeley.edu/immigration/index.html](http://www.iir.berkeley.edu/immigration/index.html)

The website is designed to provide researchers, instructors and interested citizens with substantive content pertaining to immigration issues, including resources for studying and researching immigration, teaching courses with immigration content and providing easy access to news stories on immigration in the US and abroad. This website includes: statistical information, archives, journals that publish on immigration, think tanks, and course syllabi. Comments welcomed! — Irene Bloemraad

**MigRes Website**
European University Institute
The website offers descriptions and links for national and international institutions working with immigration, a list of journals on immigration, a selection of syllabi kindly contributed by various professors from different fields as well as a directory of scholars from both Europe and North America who currently work with immigration. Available at: [http://www.iue.it/RSCAS/Research/MIGRES/](http://www.iue.it/RSCAS/Research/MIGRES/)
Articles and Book Chapters:


(cont’d pg. 17)


Rodríguez, Havidán, Rogelio Saenz and Cecilia Menjívar. (Editors) 2008Latinos/as in the United States: Changing the Face of América. New York: Springer


A Nation of Emigrants: 
How Mexico Manages its Migration.

Fitzgerald, David.

In the aggressive image of nation-state formation that infuses political sociology, populations lie prone while the state surveils, penetrates, cages, contains, disciplines, coerces, and extracts resources from them. In exchange, states provide populations with protection and negotiate civil, political, and social rights of national citizenship. But what do states do when much of their population simply gets up and walks away? In Mexico and other migrant-sending countries, mass emigration prompts governments to negotiate a new social contract with their citizens abroad. After decades of failed efforts to control outflow, the Mexican state now emphasizes voluntary ties, dual nationality, and rights over obligations. This book examines a region of Mexico whose citizens have been migrating to the United States for more than a century. It finds that emigrant citizenship does not signal the decline of the nation-state but does lead to a new form of citizenship à la carte, and that bureaucratic efforts to manage emigration and its effects are based on the membership model of the Catholic Church.

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.
The Sexuality of Migration: Border Crossing and Mexican Immigrant Men

By Lionel Cantú, edited by Nancy A. Naples and Salvador Vidal-Ortiz

Sexuality of Migration is an innovative study of the experiences of Mexican men who have sex with men and who have migrated to the United States. Cantú situates his analysis within the history of Mexican immigration and offers a broad understanding of diverse migratory experiences ranging from recent gay asylum seekers to an assessment of gay tourism in Mexico. The Sexuality of Migration complicates a fixed notion of sexual identity and explores the complex factors that influence immigration and migration experiences.

Getting Saved in America: Taiwanese Immigration and Religious Experience
Princeton (2008)

Carolyn Chenn

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.
Imperial Citizens  
*Koreans and Race from Seoul to LA*  
Nadia Y. Kim

Asians and Latinos comprise the vast majority of contemporary immigrants to the United States, and their growing presence has complicated America's prevailing White-Black race hierarchy. *Imperial Citizens* uses a global framework to investigate how Asians from U.S.-dominated homelands learn and understand their place along U.S. color lines. With interviews and ethnographic observations of Koreans, the book does what others rarely do: venture to the immigrants' home country and analyze racism there in relation to racial hierarchies in the United States.

Attentive to history, the book considers the origins, nature, and extent of racial ideas about Koreans/Asians in relation to White and Black Americans, investigating how immigrants engage these ideas before they depart for the United States, as well as after they arrive. The author shows that contemporary globalization involves not just the flow of capital, but also culture. Ideas about American color lines and citizenship lines have crossed oceans alongside U.S. commodities.

Inheriting the City:  
*The Children of Immigrants Come of Age*  
Philip Kasinitz, John Mollenkopf, Mary Waters, and Jennifer Holdaway

Behind the contentious politics of immigration lies the question of how well new immigrants are becoming part of American society. To address this question, *Inheriting the City* draws on the results of a groundbreaking study of young adults of immigrant parents in metropolitan New York to provide a comprehensive look at their social, economic, cultural, and political lives.

*Inheriting the City* examines five immigrant groups to disentangle the complicated question of how they are faring relative to native-born groups, and how achievement differs between and within these groups. While some experts worry that these young adults would not do as well as previous waves of immigrants due to lack of high-paying manufacturing jobs, poor public schools, and an entrenched racial divide, *Inheriting the City* finds that the second generation is rapidly moving into the mainstream—speaking English, working in jobs that resemble those held by native New Yorkers their age, and creatively combining their ethnic cultures and norms with American ones. Far from descending into an urban underclass, the children of immigrants are using immigrant advantages to avoid some of the obstacles that native minority groups cannot.
Ethnic Solidarity for Economic Survival: 
Korean Greengrocers in New York
Russell Sage Foundation (2008)

Pyong Gap Min

In *Ethnic Solidarity for Economic Survival*, Pyong Gap Min uses Korean produce retailers as a case study to explore how involvement in ethnic businesses can shape the social, cultural and economic unity of immigrant groups. Min returns to the racially charged events of the 1990s, when perceived economic invasion of ethnic neighborhoods fueled boycotts of Korean-owned stores. At the time, the Korean community responded with rallies, political negotiations, and publicity campaigns of their own. The disappearance of such disputes in recent years has been accompanied by a corresponding reduction in Korean collective action, suggesting that solidarity is situational. Min provides both a sophisticated empirical analysis and a riveting collection of stories that highlight the themes of immigration, race, work, and the American dream.

West Indian Immigrants: A Black Success Story?
Russell Sage Foundation (2008)

Suzanne Model

West Indian immigrants fare better than African Americans on a wide array of economic measures. Some argue that the explanation for their advantage lies in differing cultural attitudes toward work; others maintain that white Americans favor West Indian blacks over African Americans. Still others hold that West Indians immigrants are more gifted and ambitious than those they left behind.

In West Indian Immigrants, Suzanne Model adjudicates among these possibilities by drawing on four decades of national census data, surveys of Caribbean emigrants around the world, and historical records dating to the slave trade. Among her many findings: West Indian immigrants are very similar to African American internal migrants. Both West Indian immigrants and native-born African-American movers are the “best and the brightest”—they are more skilled and hold better jobs than those who stay put. Taken together, her research demonstrates that neither cultural legacies nor white favoritism are responsible for West Indian success; rather, voluntary movers are more talented and diligent than those who stay behind. Ultimately, Model shows that West Indians aren’t a black success story at all—they’re one of many immigrant success stories.
Interruption across Race and Ethnicity among Immigrants: E Pluribus Unions
LFB Scholarly Publishing (2008)

Charlie V. Morgan

Morgan examines the relationship between assimilation and intermarriage. In studying mixed relationships, he finds that ethnicity, in the form of language and religion, is more important than race. Males and females were more likely to find themselves in coethnic relationships as they imagined the role that extended family would play. They talked about parental prejudices, language, religion, and other cultural clashes as major factors. There were many females, however, who did not follow this pattern because of perceptions of patriarchy. They avoided coethnic relationships because they wanted a partner who would think of them as an equal.

Civic Hopes and Political Realities: Immigrants, Community Organizations, and Political Engagement
Russell Sage Foundation (2008)

S. Karthick Ramakrishnan and Irene Bloemraad (editors)

For many Americans, participation in community organizations lays the groundwork for future political engagement. But how does this traditional model of civic life relate to the experiences of today's immigrants? Do community organizations help immigrants gain political influence in their neighborhoods and cities? In Civic Hopes and Political Realities, experts from a wide range of disciplines explore the way civic groups across the country and around the world are shaping immigrants' quest for political effectiveness.

Civic Hopes and Political Realities shows that while immigrant organizations play an important role in the lives of members, their impact is often compromised by political marginalization and a severe lack of resources. At the same time, while some observers worry that America's increasing diversity is detrimental to civic life and political engagement, Civic Hopes and Political Realities advances an alternative understanding of the ways in which immigrants are enriching America's civic and political realms—even in the face of often challenging circumstances.
World on the Move

WELCOMES YOUR SUBMISSIONS, OPINIONS, EDITORIALS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE SEND ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS TO
ZULEMA VALDEZ, NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
zvaldez@libarts.tamu.edu

Correction:

Monica Boyd (University of Toronto) was omitted from the Section Officers list in the Fall 2008 Newsletter and the ASA Section on International Migration website.

Monica Boyd is serving a one-year term as council member for the 2008-2009 academic year.