Letter from the Chair

Dear Section Members:

As the clouds of war gather on the horizon I am once again reminded of the relevance of our section. The disparity between general public opinion and the actions of our nation’s leadership carves a particular role for academics to play in encouraging and participating in public discussion within and without the classroom. This particular historical moment reminds us of the importance of those who study the dynamics of war, peace, and conflict. We have the opportunity to engage our students and others in critical thinking, structural analyses, and hands-on activities around the subjects that each of us individually hold dear.

As a section I am glad to report that we are not only alive and well but also vibrant. When I called for volunteers to serve the section I was pleasantly overwhelmed with the response. In particular many graduate students have gotten more involved, which of course is an excellent prognosis for the future. The sessions at the annual meeting in Chicago in August were well attended and sparked lots of conversation. The tables at the roundtable sessions were packed to overflowing. And the outgoing chair, James Burk, and I were quite please to have nearly 40 people attend the business meeting.
As the leaves begin to turn and the temperatures in Wisconsin drop below freezing my focus now turns to the 2003 conference. I would like to appreciate all those who have generously volunteered their time for the section in the past year and for those who have agreed to help this year.

I am still waiting to hear from the national office but I expect that because our section only reached 255 members that we will lose a session for the next conference. The 300 member policy is now in full force with financial and program sanctions in place for smaller sections. Because our section is qualitatively strong and active the section itself is not at risk, but our activities are being circumscribed. I have taken whatever opportunities I can to challenge this policy and will continue to advocate for our section. But as a result I had to prioritize the sessions we had created at the council meeting (see elsewhere in the newsletter).

Looking at statistics on membership provided by the national office the historical size of our section has always floated around 250. With a tight economy and many schools tightening budgets this will be a particularly challenging year to recruit new members. However one very important possibility is to appeal to members of ASA who are in other sections but not in ours. Those people need only pay the additional section fee, much easier to achieve than an entirely new membership. If you have ideas for how best to reach other ASA members about our section, renewals are just around the corner. We need to be actively recruiting so we can reach 300 in the coming year.

David Rohall, Membership Chair would love to hear your ideas!

And be thinking about papers and presentations you would like to make in Atlanta. Submissions are due in early January. All submissions will be handled online this year.

May peace and justice be present in your lives,

Lynne Woehrle, Section Chair

Robin Williams Distinguished Career Award Announcement

The Peace, War & Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association is pleased to present this year’s Robin Williams Award for a career of distinguished contributions to scholarship, teaching and service to Professor Mady Wechsler Segal.

Mady Segal is currently Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland, where she is also an affiliated faculty member in Women’s Studies Department and in the School of Public Affairs, a faculty associate with the Center for International and Security Studies (CISS), and Associate Director of the Center for Research on Military Organization. In addition, she has been a Guest Scientist at the Department of Military Psychiatry in the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, a Senior Research Scientist with the Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, and a Visiting Professor of Sociology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the US Military Academy (West Point).
Throughout the course of her career, beginning in the early 1970s and continuing to the present, she has made important contributions to research, teaching and service to promote sociological study of the military as an institution and to increase our understanding, in particular, of the myriad relations among women and families with military organizations.

Her record of research accomplishment in this field is extraordinary. She was co-author of an important book, *Peacekeepers and their Wives* (1993), which established that service on peacekeeping assignments did more than change the worldviews of the soldiers deployed; it also changed the lives of their wives, increasing their sense of personal growth and independence. Whether the change was welcome, she showed, depended in part on the women’s coping styles and in part on their connections with the larger military community of which their families were a part. This research relied on a social constructivist perspective, avoiding an overly mechanistic or deterministic approach to the study of military and the effects of military service. It struck an important and recurrent theoretical theme in Segal’s work: that, to be useful, institutional analysis must be enriched by an understanding of the ways institutional participants define and respond to the situations in which they find themselves.

Applying this theme to the study of women and the military, Segal has examined the military’s effects on local employment opportunities for women and the propensity of women to enlist in the military; adopted a comparative perspective to examine the integration and roles of women in military institutions in the United States, Canada, Britain, other NATO countries and China; and traced the changing values underlying American public policies toward women’s participation in the military from World War II through the 1980s. Turning to military families, she has done pioneering work applying the concept of “greedy institutions” to study the tensions and conflicts that arise (especially forcefully in volunteer militaries) from the competing demands of military and family life. Her work shows a keen awareness that structural change in the military will beget structural change in the family (and sometimes vice versa), but she is never content to let social facts explain social facts. Her research reveals that the individuals whose lives bestride both of these structures are the carriers of change and the bearers of the social costs that change often brings in its wake. These costs are especially high and difficult to deal with when they entail the death of a family member, a matter that Segal treats with sensitivity and insight. Much of this work on military families examines conditions in the United States; but as with her work on women in the military, here too she displays a concern for comparative perspectives, expanding her research agenda most recently to study the effects of army downsizing on families in Russia.

These are not the sum of her research accomplishments. Segal has also established herself as a leading authority on military change, military socialization, and military recruitment. Nor is she a specialist without spirit who has no knowledge of the significance of her work for our profession at large or for the public sphere. One of her notable
accomplishments has been to publish her work not only in obvious places for students of the military—the main and important journals that specialize in social studies of the military—but also to publish in other general journals or journals that cater to a different subfield. In this way, Segal has demonstrated by example the relevance of sociological analysis of the armed forces and society to those who may not have noticed it before. Another measure of the wide relevance of her work is that her publications have been often reprinted and translated into five languages. And yet another measure of the wide relevance of her work is that the American Psychological Association (Military Psychology Division) recognized her in October 1991 as a co-winner of the Robert M. Yerkes Award for Outstanding Contributions to Military Psychology by a Non-Psychologist.

Hardly less important is Segal’s record of public service. The federal government has repeatedly called on her to share her expertise to improve the American military. Over the last five years, she has served as a member of the Naval Research Advisory Committee on Quality of Life (2000), a member of the Congressional Commission on Military Training and Gender-Related Issues (1998-1999), a designated Consultant to the Secretary of the Army’s Senior Review Panel on Sexual Harassment (1996-1997), and a presidential appointee to the US Military Academy Board of Visitors (1996-1998). She has also testified before Congress on matters related to women in the military.

Segal’s record of service is not confined to government service. Segal has been stalwart in her service to our section, chairing the section in 1999-2000, twice serving as a council member, and more frequently agreeing to chair or be a member of our section standing committees. She has been prominent in serving other professional organizations to promote the study of peace, war and social conflict. She was vice-president of the Research Committee on Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution of the International Sociological Association (1998-2002) and also served on its executive committee (1994-1998). She has been a member of the council of the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society and of the advisory board of Women in International Security, on both from 1987 to the present. And, from 1977 to 1987, she was an associate editor for the Journal of Political and Military Sociology. This list of service activities is not exhaustive but only highlights the work she has done to promote sociological study of the military. It excludes altogether a substantial record of service done to promote other areas of sociological interest.

Throughout her career, Segal has worked primarily and effectively as a teacher of social psychology and theory and small groups and marriage and especially of courses on military sociology, women in the military, and military families. She has chaired or served on nearly fifty graduate committees most of which were committees overseeing research on the military. Many names of the students whose committees she has chaired are familiar to members of this section because, after graduating, these students have continued in the tradition of their teacher: they have been active in research and teaching and active in service, demonstrating their own
commitment to the intellectual aims of our section.

Mady Segal, in sum, has had a most distinguished career in research, especially on the subjects of women in the military and military families. The significance of her research has been widely recognized among academic researchers here and abroad and within the public sphere. She has willingly served to encourage and promote the work of her colleagues engaged in similar pursuits. And, through her teaching, she has helped raise a new generation of scholars able to carry on this tradition of work to which she has dedicated her life.

Elise Boulding Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper

This year's winner of the Elise Boulding Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper is Connie D. Frey of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. In her creative paper, "Jane Addams on Peace and Bread and the Implications for Operation Enduring Freedom," Frey calls for us to revisit Addam's feminist concept of "bread labor." Addams would argue today that earlier Western relief to suffering populations in Afghanistan would have prevented the rise of the Taliban and Bin Laden and thus could have served as war prevention strategy. Frey demonstrates today's relevance of Addam's writings defending one's ability both to remain a pacifist and to promote patriotic goals.

Proposed Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section Sessions for 2003

Session 1: “From Conflict to Peace: Political, Economic and Humanitarian Concerns”
Organizers: Tanya Goodman tanya.goodman@yale.edu and Carlos Enrique Zeisel czeisel561@yahoo.com.

Session 2: Roundtables (business meeting)
Organizers: John Crist john_crist@usip.org and Sharon Nepstad nepstad@duq.edu.

(Due to membership size this one will probably be cut)
Organizers: Meyer Kestnbaum mk151@umail.umd.edu and Gregory Maney Gregory.M.Maney@hofstra.edu.

Nominations Sought for Robin Williams Distinguished Career Award

Now is the time to make nominations for this year’s award for the Robin Williams Award for a Career of Distinguishing Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching or Service. The award is intended to honor an individual with an outstanding scholarly career in the study of peace, war, genocide, military institutions or social conflict and/or important contributions to teaching the sociology of peace, war, and social conflict and/or outstanding service to the ASA Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict.

Send requests for information or letters of nomination with a copy of the nominee’s curriculum vitae to Lynne Woehrle, Department of Behavioral
Science and Social Work, Mount Mary College, 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee, WI 53222 or by e-mail to woehrlel@mtmary.edu. To receive full consideration, nominations should be received before March 1st, 2003.

Nominations Sought for Council

Each year the Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section elects two new members to serve three consecutive years as Council Officers on a six member Council. Moreover, your by-laws stress nominating and electing people that represent the varied interests of the section. Do you know someone who is ready to lead on the PW&SC council. Send your nomination snail mail to: Morten G. Ender, Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, 10996, U.S.A., email to morten-ender@usma.edu; or simply call it in at 845.938.5638.

Section Recruitment

As the new head of the Membership Committee, I would like to remind all section members to actively approach their colleagues about joining the section. ASA will be sending membership renewal forms at the beginning of November, so this is a good time to remind people about the aims and goals of our section. The ASA membership forms provide an area for members to add sections to their existing membership and a membership form is included with every Peace, War, and Social Conflict newsletter. Given the talk of war in the news, this is a particularly appropriate time to add people to our section’s dialogue on these issues!

David E. Rohall, University of New Hampshire

Employment Opportunity

Duquesne University. The Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy invites applications for one full-time, tenure-track Assistant Professor position. We seek candidates from sociology, political science or related disciplines, who have expertise in areas of conflict resolution and peace studies. Tenure will reside in the Social and Public Policy Program. The position will begin in August 2003. The Graduate Center is a Master's degree program with 16 faculty in Social and Public Policy, Political Science, and Sociology. We offer two tracks of study: conflict resolution/peace studies and policy analysis. The Center is an expanding academic program currently with 50 students see: www.policycenter.duq.edu. We seek candidates who will enhance our program through an active research agenda and innovative graduate teaching. We are particularly interested in candidates with skills that promote Duquesne University's emphasis on ethics, leadership and community outreach. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications. The review process will begin October 15 and continue until the position is filled. Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, samples of scholarly work, teaching evaluations and names of three references. Send to: Policy Center Search Committee, Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy, 550A College Hall, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA 15282.
Founded by the Holy Ghost Fathers, Duquesne University is Catholic in mission and ecumenical in spirit. The University values equality of opportunity both as an educational institution and employer.

Recent Publications


Louis Kriesberg’s recent publications include:


Announcements

John M. Steiner received Das Verdienstkreuz (the Order of Merit) on April 4, 2002 from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Johannes Rau, for outstanding contributions in the field of Holocaust studies, research, scholarship, teaching, and administration.

New TIAA-CREF Retirement Fund:

Back in the 80s, a national group of professors and staff lobbied TIAA-CREF (TC) for five years before it set up a socially responsible fund. Now we've lobbied again to improve that fund so that it would not only avoid certain companies, but would invest in particularly responsible ones and in low-income area housing/business. This is becoming more standard in socially responsible investing and is viable financially. Besides academic and activist group endorsements, (like the National Women's Studies Association and United for a Fair Economy), we're supported by Benjamin Barber, Dennis Brutus, Noam Chomsky, Sandi Cooper, Ursula Goodenough, and
Howard Zinn.

TC has now publically stated that they will set up a new fund that moves us in the right direction, but it requires your commitment to transfer some of your current TC assets to the new fund, should it be established. As of July, hundreds of folks have pledged over $10 million!! But we have a long way to go. Please visit http://www.manchester.edu/academic/programs/departments/peace_studies/fund/ to learn more about the proposed new fund and to submit your pledge. Please forward this message to those at your institution and elsewhere—and to listserves/organizations if you can—with a short personal endorsement. To reach the $25 million requirement set by the CEO of TC, your help is needed. Given their prominence, if TC makes this move, others will likely follow! To receive campaign updates every two weeks or if you have problems with the pledge web site, please let me know.

Section Listserves

Section Announcement Listserv:

Please send your announcements to any of the following officers and they can post your announcement to the listserv: Chair; Chair elect; Secretary-Treasurer; Immediate Past Chair; Announcements are automatically sent to all section members with email.

Section Discussion Listserv:

To join the section discussion listserv you need to do the following:

1. In the address field type in majordomo@listserv.asanet.org; leave subject field blank
2. In text of the message type subscribe peace_war
3. Make sure there is nothing else in the message (no signature)
4. Send the message. You will receive confirmation, and an authorization key with which to confirm that you really want to join the list. Once you reply positively to that you will get a welcome message.

Newsletter Submissions Invited

Submissions are invited for the next issue of the Peace, War and Social Conflict section’s newsletter. Please submit contributions—articles, announcements, book reviews, conference reports, etc.—by March 15, 2003. Send contributions to me either by emailing me at sandhu@umail.ucsb.edu or by snail mail (Department of Sociology, University of California—Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA, 93106).

Amandeep Sandhu, Newsletter Editor
Join the Peace, War, & Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association

Our members are interested diverse areas, including:

- the dynamics of war
- peace movements
- refugees
- the causes of genocide
- conflict resolution
- nonviolence
- military institutions
- nongovernmental organizations

If you are a member of the ASA, simply fill out this form, include your section dues and mail it to ASA headquarters. If you are not an ASA member, you can use this form to get more information about the American Sociological Association and the section on Peace, War, & Social Conflict.

Mail to: American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20005-4701

From: ____________________________________________________________
                                                ____________________________________________________________

[ ] I am an ASA member and want to join the section on Peace, War, & Social Conflict. Enclosed is a check for $12 for section dues.

[ ] I am a student member of ASA and enclosed is a check for $7.

[ ] I am not a member of ASA, but am interested in joining. Please send me information about membership in both the ASA and the Peace, War, & Social Conflict section.

For more information, contact:
Lynn Woehrle, Chair, WOEHRLEL@MTMARY.EDU, or
David Rohall, Membership Chair, DAVID.ROHALL@UNH.EDU