Letter from the Chair

Dear Section Members:

If you are reading this, you are genuinely interested in peace, war, or social conflict issues and either are an established member, renewing member, or a potential member. Thank you for taking an interest in what your sociology colleagues are doing. First, thanks to Sharon Erickson Nepstad for stewarding the section over the last year. Also, congratulations to Lee Smithey upon being elected as next year’s Section Chair. Despite some reshuffling of conferencing rooms, unbearable humidity, conspicuously absent beverages at the reception, and our section activities meeting on the last day and hours, we adapted and overcame in Philadelphia in August. PW&SC session attendance was significant, the reception friendly and engaging, and the business meeting a hoot! It was great cultivating old relationships and creating new ones. On a practical level, membership is a stalwart 315. This is both tremendous and inspiring.

Our maintenance of 300 plus members empowers us both quantitatively and qualitatively. Quantitatively, our budget is larger and more stable. This allots us
an additional session at next year’s meetings in Montréal. The two sessions are “Global Conflicts and Prospects for Peace” and “Sociology of the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.” In addition, we’ll continue to have our traditional roundtables. And look forward to our now on-going workshop on “Teaching about Peace, War, Social Conflict, and Military Institutions.” We are excited about discussions with the ASA Program Committee and some additional program activities and marketing in the coming year. We will announce those activities as they emerge. I strongly encourage you to participate in one or more of these professional opportunities. Formal announcements are coming via the ASA soon and deadlines at this writing anticipated for mid-January. The meetings are currently planned for August 11-14, 2006 as the final dates for the 101st Annual Meeting. The meeting is to be headquartered at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal, the convention center located in downtown Montréal, Quebec, Canada. All meeting activities, from program sessions to exhibits and services, are held at the Palais. The PW&SC regular sessions and meetings are scheduled for the first day. We’ll have some wonderful and time-honored awards to confer upon our colleagues, peers, and students.

I must stress that 315 members places us two nostrils above the proverbial ASA waterline. We need to capitalize on our wave of successes over the past years and create some more social flotation. Note that an additional 88 members—roughly one member for every three over the next two years—could propel us to reach the goal of 400 members by September 30, 2006. This will make the PW&SC section far more robust, entitling us an additional session at the New York ASA meetings in 2007. Yuko Kurashina is chairing the section’s Membership Committee with her team of able Section members. Send her your ideas, but more importantly, some new or renewing members.

As important, we look to you to become an even more active member in your Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section by running for section positions. Each year, we elect two new members to serve as officers on our six-member council. This is a three-year term and it is open to any section member including graduate students. For inspiration to serve on committees—it is the gateway to Section Chair. Our diversity is our strength, so consider running. In addition, we will also be voting for the Chair-Elect. Send nominations to Greg Maney, Chair of the Nominations Committee. Secure permission from your nominee prior to sending their name forward. Our most important and coveted position in the Section is being vacated this year by John Crist—our trusted Secretary-Treasurer—or as I like to call it—Ethnographer-Economist. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain a cognitive map of the section. Deadline for Nominations is November 30, 2005.

Thank you very much for your cooperation, support, and continued service! I will steer this section, but you are the motor. I hope you are having a tremendous Fall. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help make us better.

Morten Ender, Section Chair

Essays

Setting our Priorities

By Lynne M. Woehrle, Associate Professor of Sociology, Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, WI

September 4, 2005

In the aftermath of hurricane Katrina many find ourselves trying to understand what more could have been done to avoid or minimize the desperation so many victims have faced this week.

Whereas September 11, 2001 made us conscious of our vulnerability and desire safety based on separation, August 2005 can make us conscious of need for community and interdependence.

Over the last four years the US has invested enormous resources into building visible and invisible fences to keep ourselves “safe” from the feared other. To do this we have taken resources from other projects that now appear to have made the threads of our government and our community much weaker.

The limits in response this week in areas struck by the hurricane are not so much about personal failure but about the choices we have made as a society in order to batten our national home against an unnamed terrorist. We have also used our resources to pursue questionable policy goals through interventionist actions in places such as Afghanistan and Iraq. When we spend excessive amounts on that sort of “security”, we spend less on strengthening the social fabric which sustains us during times of natural disaster.

The government has become so caught up in its role of protecting the citizen from fear of fear that
deferred maintenance has taken over in all other facets of everyday life.

The weak response to the storm is described as a lack of resources and a failure to deliver what we have in a timely manner. Where are those resources?

Since 2002 we have spent over 190 billion dollars to finance the Iraq war. We have rolled back taxes, especially for the rich and we have attempted weak economic stimulation with large chunks of corporate welfare. The National Guard has been shoring up the military forces in Iraq. States have been left with huge deficits, squeezed painfully hard between cuts in federal subsidies (as the US deficit grows and the war bills roll in) and a political arena that makes mentioning taxes increases as akin to political suicide.

The Bush Administration FY2006 proposed budget cuts in federal grants to state and local governments by 9%. In Alabama this is a loss of $221 million, in Louisiana $176 million, and in Mississippi $153 million. It is estimated that those states have also made a heavy contribution to the war effort (based on tax revenues): Alabama, $2 billion; Louisiana, $1.7 billion; and Mississippi $919 million.

Why do these choices about spending prioritize relate to the aftermath of the hurricane? Because we have become a debtor society which instead of strengthening the common good through investing in sensible government spending practices, prefers privatization and accepts inequalities in wealth distribution. Those values hurt us in times of national disaster because the first responders have little of the national wealth to work with.

Katrina hit hardest three states ranked highest among measures of poverty. According to the US Census Bureau Alabama is 8th, Louisiana is 4th, and Mississippi is 3rd on the number of persons below poverty level. And looking at lowest median household income by state, they come in 10th, 4th, and 5th respectively in their location from the bottom of the pile. They also rank poorly on personal income per capita (Mississippi is 50th) though about middle of the pile on Gross State Product. These states contribute to the national wealth through giving a home to the chemical and oil industries (among others), but in recent years have seen little benefit. Pleas for federal and private investment in preserving the natural coastline have gone almost unheard. Individual exposures to contaminants have been ignored. Concerns over weakened infrastructure and deferred maintenance have fall on deaf ears. The starkness of the failure of government was made clear as it was acknowledged that hundreds of thousands in New Orleans alone could not afford to evacuate nor could local governments afford to assist them to the extent that was needed. At the same time it was clear to officials that a mandatory evacuation order was warranted. If anything, more evacuation orders were needed further east.

Though a Category 4 storm when it hit the coast, we can only hope that Katrina is a category 5 wake-up call for all citizens to use the democratic processes and rights and freedoms we have to demand a return to well-resourced government that puts people before war and corporate profit.

Sources: National Priorities Project and the US Census Bureau

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**The Disaster of Knowledge Disconnect**

By **Marilyn Dudley-Flores**, Sonoma State University

The Katrina disaster reminds us again of the catastrophe underpinning all natural and manmade disasters. That catastrophe is the disconnect between the experts who have the knowledge to minimize these disasters and planners and government executives.

Most the American brain trust labors in Academe and under funded non-profit organizations. Only a part of that brain trust is sufficiently resourced by their institutions to provide an immediate connection between their expertise and real-world situations. I am talking about resources like decent living wages, offices, laboratories, and contact points where those in need of their expertise can locate them. Because fifty percent or more of American scholars and scientists teaching in our colleges and universities work under “have not” conditions, their expertise is invisible to those charged with planning for and responding to the many challenges that we face in the 21st century world. This sorry situation exists because postsecondary administrators are allowed to operate American Academe according to the “Sweatshop University, Piecework Professor” model. They now use funds that used to support professors for other gorgeous projects on their campuses. This magnifies government’s tendency to approach large-scale events that can wipe out great numbers of people and destroy cities through political “old boy-ism,” committees that never leave the comfort of their conference rooms, and viewgraph presentations.
that bear little resemblance to what actually happens out there in the real world.

I spent my early career life being educated and working in extreme situations and environments. When I returned to earn my doctorate at the University of South Carolina, I worked on issues like oil tanker spills and hurricane disasters. However, trying to connect up with emergency preparedness jobs, I found the system of hiring more along the line of political appointments than the acquisition of new expertise, such as only a real natural or social scientist can provide.

Clearly, folks with my expertise were not available to the South Carolina emergency preparedness effort in 1999 when the Hurricane Floyd evacuation was miserably botched in front of the national eye. South Carolina Governor Jim Hodges defensively responded that such an evacuation had never been attempted before. But, were the “lessons learned” from that botched event applied? I doubt it because, later, during snowstorms and severe power outages, I watched parts of South Carolina practically devolve to the Mad Max Scenario. I made fruitless phone calls to state officials, trying to explain the connection between emergency preparedness and the national security.

Years before 9/11, colleagues and I were working on terrorism issues. Governmental organizations showed little interest in funding our research. After 9/11, I wrote to U.S. senators who were vocal in the media about the paucity of preparedness to 9/11. I wrote to Governor Tom Ridge immediately after he was selected to head up the Homeland Security Agency. I got no response at all. By the time the Homeland Security Agency got around to funding scholarly experts, I didn’t see their advertisements and no one bothered to give me a heads-up about these funding opportunities, even though by that time I was in the Presidential Appointments database for my expertise! However, one reason that I never saw the Homeland Security Agency advertisements was the fact that I didn’t have a sufficient level of university resources to make the connection from my side of the Information Highway. Despite my expertise, I am one of those under-resourced professors whom I mentioned before.

This is not the way it used to be in America. Used to be, expertise in Academe was readily available to community authorities. Nowadays, people do not know what expertise resides in their communities. The local authorities try to depend on paper plans that they presume have been authored by “the experts.”

The thing is, those so-called experts usually means a committee back in Washington, D.C., advised by well-paid political wannabes who came up with their plan from googling off of the Internet. Dr. Irwin Redlener of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness recently told CNN’s Aaron Brown on the air that billions have been spent on preparedness after 9/11 but no one knows what has been done and how the money has been spent.

If Americans want to be safe in their homeland and abroad, the real knowledge experts must directly connect with government authorities. Colleges and universities need to stop being operated like sweatshops. Piecework professors must be converted into tenured or tenure-equivalent postsecondary teachers who have the resources to cross the Information Highway to provide help when and where it is needed. Clearly, the “smarts” weren’t there for the Gulf Coast to prepare it for Katrina. Contact Marilyn at md-r@ops-alaska.com.

Awards

Robin Williams Distinguished Career Award to Lester Kurtz

Morten Ender presented Lester Kurtz with the Robin Williams Award in Philadelphia at the section’s business meeting on behalf of Sharon Erickson Nepstad. Portions of Morten’s remarks are presented below.

This award honors 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 these subjects, or Association section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict. The 2005 recipient of the award is Lester Kurtz.

Professor Lester Kurtz has made substantial scholarly contributions to the field of Peace, War and Social Conflict. He is the author and co-author of numerous articles and books including: The Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict; Nonviolent Social Movements: A Geographical Approach; The Web of Violence; and The Nuclear Cage: A Sociology of the Arms Race (to name just a few). He is currently working on books on Gandhi and India’s nonviolent legacies as well as an anthology on religion and violence. He is also developing a documentary film on the history of nonviolence.
In addition to his research, Dr. Kurtz has served our section and the broader field in various capacities. In the ASA Peace, War, and Social Conflict section, he was a council member and the newsletter co-editor from 1989-1992. He held the position of section chair from 1995-1996. He has also been active in the Peace Studies Association, serving on the board of directors, as chair, and annual meeting host. Furthermore, he has been on the editorial board for numerous Peace Studies journals such as Peace Review, Journal of Peace and Gandhian Studies, and Peace and Change.

On personal note, I came across Les’s 1992 book chapter titled “War and peace on the sociological agenda.” It appears in Terence C. Halliday and Morris Janowitz (Eds.). Sociology and its Publics: The Forms and Fates of Disciplinary Organization (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, pp 61-98). Lee Smithey recently informed me that the article is required reading for his undergraduates. In that chapter he systematically examines citations and the treatment of peace and war in sociology and is critical of the structures of our collective fields of study and challenges us to be better at what we do. That particular paper provoked me a great deal and ultimately shaped an entire area inquiry of research that I’ve pursued and struggled with for the past ten years. Professor Kurtz is also a respected teacher. One of his students wrote of Lester, “Not only is his knowledge and perception of issues related to peace and war exceptionally impressive, but his vision and ideas of how to deal with the problems of today are as realistic as they are ingenious.” Receiving this award he joins a distinguished group. Indulge me while I read the list:

1992 Robin Williams, Cornell University
1993 Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University
1994 Elise Boulding, Dartmouth College
1995 Herbert C. Kellman, Harvard University
1996 Gene Sharp, Harvard University
1997 William Gamson, Boston College
1998 Allen Day Grimshaw, Indiana University
1999 Janet Abu-Lughod, New School for Social Research
2000 David R. Segal, University of Maryland, College Park
2001 Glen Elder, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2002 Mady Wechsler Segal, University of Maryland, College Park
2003 Thomas J. Scheff, University of California, Santa Barbara and Suzanne M. Retzinger, Santa Barbara
2004 Paul Wehr, University of Colorado, Boulder

The members of the committee wholeheartedly agreed and it is with great respect and pleasure that we honor Les Kurtz with the Robin Williams Award for a Distinguished Career in the Field of Peace, War, and Social Conflict studies.

Lester Kurtz at the PWSC Business Meeting in Philadelphia, August 2005

2005 United Nations Memorial Fellowship Award Recipients

The PW&SC section’s newly created United Nations Memorial Fellowship Award program pays for ASA and section membership fees to two graduate students. Applicants were asked to submit a curriculum vita, along with a statement of how their research interests coincide with the study of peace, war, genocide, military institutions and social conflict. The two winners were asked to submit a brief bio regarding their scholarly activities—this year’s recipients are Daniel Ritter, University of Texas-Austin and Tammy Ann Smith, Columbia University.
**Daniel Ritter, University of Texas-Austin**

My research focuses on nonviolent regime changes. In studying the application of nonviolent methods as it relates to large-scale social change, I am primarily interested in two aspects of the process. First, what are the conditions that foster nonviolent movements? Are these conditions different from those of social movements in general? If they are the same, then why do some movements become nonviolent while other remain violent? My goal is to identify the social conditions that are necessary for nonviolent social change to be a viable option for reformers and revolutionaries. Second, what are the long-term consequences of nonviolent regime changes? This is the question that interests me the most at the moment. While it is difficult to argue against the fact that nonviolent struggle can be a very effective method of fighting injustices in the shape of tyrants and dictators, skeptics do have a point if they claim that nonviolent movements have very few long-term effects on a given society. Experience seems to tell us that once the dictator has been ousted, the election has been declared fraudulent, or the parliament has been dissolved, whether through violence or nonviolence, few real changes take place. Oftentimes the opposition simply takes the role of the oppressive regime it has helped oust. While it can be argued that this type of development is less likely if nonviolence is used, it is still the case that citizens of societies that have experienced some of the greatest examples of nonviolent social change, say the Philippines or South Africa, have seen a relatively slight improvement in their overall social situation. Perhaps we are asking for too much from nonviolent struggle when we expect it to an effective tool for social change and not simply a strategic device for political change. Whatever the answer to that question might be, I believe it is worth investigating what the effects on nonviolent regime changes have been on societies, and if we can expect more that what we have seen. In other words, was Gandhi correct when he thought that nonviolence has the power to transform society? Only by researching the topic can we hope to discover the answer to that question.

**Tammy Ann Smith, Columbia University**

My interest in identity, human rights and conflict stems from my years of work in the field of human rights and international development in locations as diverse as Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, Haiti, and Cyprus. Prior to entering the doctoral program at Columbia, I worked in Bosnia for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. From 1996 to 1998, I produced the international community’s only public human rights report, which analyzed human rights violations throughout the country on a weekly basis. In 1998, I accepted a position as OSCE’s Director of Governance, were I designed and implemented a capacity building program for women in politics and a good governance program that supported municipalities seeking to be transparent and accountable and which welcomed the reintegration of ethnic minorities into their pre-war communities.

I have used my experience in conflict zones to produce two articles. The first, “After the fighting: women’s rights and post-war governance by international actors in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” (forthcoming, *Critical Half*) examines the international community’s anemic efforts at securing women’s rights and equal access to resources in post-war Bosnia. This work traces how inattention to the role of international actors – by both practitioners and academics – has paved the way for the establishment and reproduction of governance structures insensitive to gender inequalities in post-war settings. This work is a springboard for a long-overdue discussion on international actors’ contributions to social exclusion in post-conflict societies and will be followed by comparative analyses with Kosovo, East Timor, Sierra Leon, Afghanistan and Iraq. A companion article, based on interview data with staffers from the UN’s Department of Peace Keeping Operations, will examine how masculine cultures within aid agencies limit their abilities to curb international peace keepers’ participation in violence against women, including the trafficking of women.

A second article, “Institution building after conflict: emergent confidence or interpersonal trust?” (under review) examines the challenges to post-war trust and confidence building. Specifically, this work asks how or even whether citizens in states emerging from conflict can regain confidence in governing institutions. Rooted in the literature of social capital and trust, this article shows that the distinction between a citizen possessing confidence in an institution and a citizen affirming trust for a social intimate who works in that institution are sociologically different phenomena with correspondingly different outcomes for institution building. Although this article is based on contemporary data, it shares important similarities with conflicts of longer duration. Namely, lack of confidence in new governing institutions stems from earlier experiences of institutional discrimination that heightens distrust of formal and impersonal governing systems. Instead, individuals rely on trustful relations with family and friends, a process that blocks the development of institutional
confidence and undermines the development and functioning of institutions in post-conflict settings.

My dissertation expands my interest in post-war governance and applies it to a historical case. My dissertation utilizes data from the northern Adriatic region of Istria, in present-day Croatia, and its neighbor, the Italian city Trieste. Ethnicly based political violence before, during and after the Second World War prompted the flight of more than 300,000 Istrians from the region, many of whom settled in Trieste. To quell tensions, from 1945 to 1954, Trieste and a part of Istria were divided into a predominantly Italian region governed by British and American military forces and a Yugoslav-run region. This division produced two starkly different narratives about the post-Second World War period: an Italian narrative that details violence between Italians and Slavs, and a Yugoslav narrative that stresses tolerance and cooperation among Italians and Slavs in the partisan movement and silences references to violence.

My dissertation probes the social processes that produced the two divergent Istrian narratives by comparing testimonies given by Istrians from 1947 to 1954, with accounts of the same events taken from interviews I conducted in 2003 and 2004. I then trace changes in testimonies over time to social processes in the respective states – one democratic and the other authoritarian – as both confronted similar challenges to conflict resolution. At the same time, I refine a formal relational perspective to narrative to investigate how events relate to each other to form the core concepts that individuals use to describe their histories. Employing such a structural approach affords a view into gaps in the narratives that have developed around politically sensitive topics since the post-war period.

2005 Elise Boulding Student Paper Award Recipients

The Peace, War, and Social Conflict section annually sponsors a student paper competition at both the graduate and undergraduate level. This year’s committee was chaired by Juanita Firestone (University of Texas-San Antonio) and committee members included John Crist (U.S. Institute of Peace), Daniel Egan (University of Massachusetts), Jen Hlavacek (independent scholar), and last year’s graduate student recipient, Clayton Peoples (Ohio State University). The 2005 graduate student paper went to Katherine McCoy of the University of Wisconsin-Madison for her paper, “Trained to Torture? The Human Rights Effects of U.S. Military Training at the School of the Americas.” The best undergraduate paper was award to Rachel Beck of the United States Military Academy at West Point; her paper is entitled “Sex, Neighborhood, Religion-Predicting Attitudes Towards Democracy in Post-Saddam Iraq.”

Awards to Section Members

Darlene Iskra, University of Maryland, is the second recipient of the Phillips Award—a College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Award given to a graduate student whose research has influenced public policy. In her role as Congressional Fellow through the Women’s Education and Research Institute, Darlene served as a legislative assistant to Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington. In that role, she learned that one group of American military women serving in Saudi Arabia were required by the Department of Defense to wear the Abaya – a traditional heavy black religious garment for Saudi women that, along with a head scarf, covers the wearer from head to foot – whenever they went off the military base. Darlene revealed that during the first Gulf War women were not required to wear the Abaya and that only women assigned to one Task Force were then required to wear it. Darlene convinced Senator Cantwell to become a primary co-sponsor of the Senate bill of an amendment written that would abolish the requirement that these women wear the Abaya, recruited another six co-sponsors, and built a strong coalition in support of the amendment. Both the House and Senate passed the amendments unanimously.

David R. Segal, University of Maryland, received the 2005 Stuart Rice Award for Lifetime Contributions from the DC Sociological Society. He also received the Morris Rosenberg Mentoring Award from the graduate students in the Department of Sociology at the University of Maryland.

Call for Nominations: Robin Williams Award for a Career of Distinguished Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching, or Service

This award honors 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 these subjects, or outstanding service to the American Sociological
Association section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict.

Send all inquiries and letters of nomination (including a copy of the nominee’s curriculum vita) to Morten G. Ender, Ph.D., Sociology Program Director, Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership, Thayer Hall, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY 10996. Nominations or inquiries may also be sent by email to morten.ender@usma.edu. Deadlines for Nominations are March 1, 2006.

Call for Submissions: 2006 Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award

The Peace, War, and Social Conflict Section of the American Sociological Association invites undergraduate and graduate students to submit a paper on any topic related to the sociology of peace, war, military institutions, or social conflict for the 2006 Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award competition. The first place award for both undergraduate and graduate student papers is $150.00 each toward the cost of travel to the 2006 American Sociological Association meeting.

Awards: Two awards are offered: one for best paper by a graduate student(s) (masters or doctoral level); and one for the best paper written by an undergraduate(s). Award winners are expected but not required to be present at the 2006 ASA meeting to present their papers. All submitters will be notified by June 1, 2006 on the status of their submission.

Eligibility: The contest is open to any student or former student (within two years) with a high quality paper dealing with the sociology of peace, war, or social conflict. Papers can be multi-authored.

Specifications: Papers must have been written within the past two years. They must be typed, double-spaced with a 12-point font. The page limit is 25 pages including tables, references, and illustrations. Each submission should include a separate cover page listing the name of author(s), contact information (including mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address), paper title, and whether the paper was written as an undergraduate or graduate student paper. No student identifying information should appear in the body of the manuscript or on any other page. All students will be notified electronically about their submission and about the final selections.

Judging: The Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award Committee is made-up of 4-5 members of the ASA Section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict. The committee encourages papers on a broad range of subjects related to these themes. Papers should reflect a high degree of professionalism, both in their scholarly content and in their clarity of expression.

Deadline: Students should send five (5) copies of their papers and a cover letter with name, affiliations, and contact information by April 15, 2006 to:

Daniel Egan, Chair, Elise M. Boulding Student Paper Award Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, 850 Broadway Street, Lowell, MA 01854 or Daniel_Egan@uml.edu.

Calls for Nominations: Peace, War and Social Conflict Graduate Student Fellowships

The Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict of the American Sociological Association would like to announce the 2006 Peace, War and Social Conflict Graduate Student Fellowships. This fellowship was created as a result of a generous gift from a Section member who wanted to commemorate those United Nations officials – especially the late High Commissioner of Human Rights, Sergio Viera de Mello – who have lost their lives in the effort to reduce violence. The awards will be made to two graduate students in the form of fellowships that will pay their ASA and Peace, War and Social Conflict Section membership fees for one year. Fellows will be asked to contribute a research note on their own work or a brief book review on a work related to human rights for publication in the Section newsletter. Interested graduate students should send a one-page letter of application describing their interests in the sociology of peace, war and social conflict, their contact information including e-mail, phone and institutional affiliation, and a letter of nomination from one professor (sent under separate cover). Preference will be given to first-time members. The deadline for applications is February 15, 2006. Please send applications to Daniel Egan, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts- Lowell at Daniel_Egan@uml.edu.
Section Member Publications


General Announcements

Laura Miller (RAND Corporation) served as a member of the Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies. The recently released final report is available at http://www.dtic.mil/difs/reports.html. Congress directed the Task Force to assess and make recommendations concerning how the Departments of the Army and the Navy may more effectively address sexual harassment and assault at the United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy.

Captain Mikael Salo from the Finnish National Defence College completed a 15-month tour in the United States under the Engineer and Scientist Exchange Program. He was assigned to the U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences in Arlington, Virginia where he worked with Guy L. Siebold to carry out research on military unit cohesion, adjustment, attrition, and leadership.

Military Sociological Database Launched

This is to inform you that the SOWI has just launched the Military-Sociological Database. We would also like to invite you to inform us about projects that you yourself or others in the field are undertaking in order to enlarge the database and make it an even more valuable resource for researchers in the field. Please feel free to pass this information on to others you deem interested in the database. It can be accessed at:

http://www.sowi-bundeswehr.de/projectform.pdf

Call for Submissions: Equity & Excellence in Education

Equity & Excellence in Education is currently soliciting manuscripts for a special issue on community colleges and social justice issues. Community colleges ideally offer opportunities for a wide range of citizens to pursue a college degree. They act as feeder institutions for four-year institutions, offer occupational curricula, and developmental level courses. Open enrollment, English as a second language classes, G.E.D. classes and adult education, and relative low-cost tuition all invite a variety of students, including adult learners, returning students, recent immigrants, TANF recipients, as well as working and middle class traditional college-age students. We will consider a wide range of topics, including the following:

Conflict, Peace and Development in South Asia

Hosts: University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, India, and National Law University, Jodhpur, India Organized in co-operation with the International Center for Conflict Prevention and Management, Sydney - Australia; some universities, private and public organizations in the United States, South Asia and elsewhere. When: 28 - 30 December 2005

Although the focus of the meeting will be on political, ethnic, religious and regional conflicts within and between countries in South Asia, papers related to Peace Economics and Peace Science; conflicting issues in environment law, natural resources, health care and development in general are also welcome. The first meeting was held in Jodhpur in 2003. Some of the suggested topics specifically related to South Asia are: Conflict and Peace Science Theory; Defense and Peace Economics; Nuclear Proliferation; Arms Spending and Trade; Peace Keeping; Trade and Conflict; Economic Conversion; Democracy and Conflict; Ethnic and Religious Conflict; Small Arms and Terrorism; Security and Disaster Management. Persons residing outside India please contact Manas Chatterji, School of Management, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY 13902. Tel.# : (607) 777-2475, Fax: (607) 777-4422, Email: mchatter@binghamton.edu

http://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~mchatter/index.php


• Issues related to social, economic, racial, gender, and other types of inequalities in community colleges;
• Differing graduation, retention, and transfer rates among white students and students of color;
• Creative pedagogies specific to meeting community college students’ needs;
• Strategies to address issues related to open enrollment;
• Creating community on community colleges campuses;
• Supporting students who balance work, family, and school;
• Issues particular to returning students;
• Single mothers and community colleges;
• Access to academics for students with significant disabilities;
• Immigrant, ESL, and international student experiences in community colleges;
• Teaching about social justice issues in community colleges.

Complete manuscripts are due March 1st, 2006. Submit three “masked” paper copies (plus a disk) with separate cover title page including author contact information. Please indicate in your cover letter that the submission is for the special issue on Social Justice Issues and Community Colleges. Mail to: Equity & Excellence in Education, Hills South 370, School of Education, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. For more information, please visit the journal website http://www.eee-journal.com. Contact Linda McCarthy with any questions related to this special issue: mccarthyl@gcc.mass.edu

Call for Submissions: Critical Pedagogy in the Sociology Classroom

Critical Pedagogy in the Sociology Classroom - 2nd Edition Revision. Critical Pedagogy in the Sociology Classroom is being revised for 2006. Please send classroom exercises, projects, and assignments that reflect and promote the ideals of critical pedagogy; essays (up to 1500 words, including references) that orient sociologists to the method and philosophy of critical pedagogy; and other educational resources that connect this style of teaching to the sociology curriculum. It would be extremely helpful if all submissions (excluding essays) included a brief statement describing the connection to critical pedagogy. Deadline for submissions is January 15, 2006. Please send submissions electronically as attachments in either WordPerfect or MS Word to Peter Kaufman, Department of Sociology, SUNY New Paltz, kaufmanp@newpaltz.edu.

Call: North Central Sociological Association

A session on the "Sociology of War" is being organized for the upcoming annual meeting of the North Central Sociological Association, “Making a Difference: Sociology as Social Activism,” March 23-25, 2006. Crowne Plaza Hotel at Union Station, Indianapolis, IN. Papers in the session "Sociology of War" could explore causes and precursors, responses and outcomes, or attitudes toward war, as well as other topics. If you are interested in presenting a paper, send your manuscript title and a brief abstract to me (my contact information is listed below) the organizer for the session. Please include your name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, email address and telephone number. NCSA requires this information to prepare the preliminary program. Please send all information before December 1, 2005. Steve Carlton-Ford, Department of Sociology, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221 or Steve.Carlton-Ford@uc.edu.

Call: ISA World Congress 2006

January 31, 2006: Research Committees, Working and Thematic Groups, Symposia and other Programme Coordinators to submit programme of sessions to the Congress Secretariat in Durban (sociology2006@ukzn.ac.za) and ISA Secretariat in Madrid (isa@cps.ucm.es).

March 31, 2006: Deadline for electronic submission of abstracts of accepted papers to the Sociological Abstracts web site (http://www.csa.com/socioabs/submit.html). Only abstracts submitted by this web site will be accepted. In order to submit an abstract, a participant must have registered for the Congress. Abstracts will be included in a print booklet to be distributed to registrants at the World Congress. These abstracts will also be included in Sociological Abstracts.

(Financial Support to Attend the ISA World Congress of Sociology, Durban 2006:}
Empire, Resistance and the War in Iraq

Who: Historians Against War
Where: University of Texas, Austin
When: 17-19 February 2006

This is the first scholarly conference to examine the war in Iraq—both its origins and its opposition—in historical perspective. We especially invite papers that examine the history of resistance to U.S. empire, whether in North America, Latin America, southeast Asia, or the Middle East; the history of international peace and justice movements; and the defense of civil liberties and democratic institutions in wartime. In addition, we invite papers that set the Iraq war in long-term historical context. Do the policies of the Bush administration represent a reckless departure from multilateralism or a continuation of past expansion? Does the machinery of empire subvert democratic decision-making, or is the U.S. a privileged "imperial democracy" whose people receive real benefits? Does U.S. empire resemble Western empires of the past, or is it a new departure in the era of globalization? To what extent is U.S. empire in Latin America a prototype for U.S. expansion in southeast Asia and the Middle East?

Proposals should include a brief (up to 300 words) description of the paper and a brief biography of the proposer. They should be sent electronically to: hawconf@historiansagainstwar.org

Positions

George Bush School of Government

International Security Faculty Position: The George Bush School of Government and Public Service invites applications and nominations for a position member as an Associate or advanced Assistant Professor in the field of International Security. Of special interest is expertise in one or more of the following areas: (a) conflict and dispute resolution, (b) cross-cultural communication, (c) the role of non-state actors and international organizations or (d) ethnic and regional conflicts. Successful candidates must demonstrate a commitment to high quality research as manifested in a record of scholarly publication. Individuals with experience or demonstrated interest in policy issues are particularly encouraged. The selected faculty member will teach graduate students anticipating careers in international affairs. Review of applications will begin on November 14 and will continue until the position is filled. Send a formal letter of application, vita and three letters of recommendation, and a sample of research work to: MPIA Search Committee, George Bush School of Government & Public Service, Texas A&M University, 4220 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4220

Kent State University

The Department of Political Science and the Center for Applied Conflict Management at Kent State University invite applications for a tenure-track, Assistant Professor position in Conflict Management beginning in August 2006. The successful applicant will have strong credentials in conflict management and must also be able to contribute to our doctoral program in public policy. Expertise in international conflict resolution is a plus.

The teaching load for untenured faculty members is two courses per semester until the application for tenure. Junior faculty receive graduate assistance for research support. Salaries are competitive with those at other Research Extensive institutions. Primary teaching responsibilities will be in the Center's B.A. in Applied Conflict Management. Kent State's Political Science Department of twenty-five full time faculty members also offers the B.A., M.A., M.P.A., and Ph.D. with a public policy focus in the M.A. and Ph. D. programs.

Applicants must have their Ph.D. completed before Fall 2006 and should exhibit a clear potential for success in research and in teaching at the undergraduate through Ph.D. levels. Position available: August, 2006, pending final budgetary approval.

A letter of interest (including explanations of academic training and current research agenda), vita, graduate transcripts, selected publications/papers, teaching portfolio (with evaluations, or summaries), and three letters of reference should be sent to: Patrick G. Coy, Search Committee Chair, Kent State University, Department of Political Science, Kent, OH 44242-0001

Review of applications will begin October 24, 2005, and continue until the position is filled. Information about the Kent State University Political Science Department and the Center for Applied Conflict Management is available on our websites at:
Ball State University
Tenure-track Assistant Professor position available August 18, 2006. The Department offers an excellent working environment with a possible three course per semester teaching load (most faculty members teach two sections because classes with more than 70 students count as two courses), highly supportive colleagues, and a master's program. Ball State features a beautiful campus with state-of-the-art computer technology and combines the characteristics of a research university with those of a public liberal arts university. Muncie is a moderate-sized city with a low cost of living within 50 miles of the metropolitan amenities of Indianapolis. Our department is actively seeking to increase diversity in our faculty.

Responsibilities: teach courses at the undergraduate and graduate level; engage in publication of scholarly work in sociology; perform appropriate service for the department, university, and community. Minimum qualifications: ABD with completion of PhD required by August 1, 2007; commitment to high quality teaching and excellence in scholarly research.

Send letter of application, vita, statement of research agenda, statement of teaching philosophy, teaching evaluations, scholarly writing sample, and three letters of reference to: Roger Wojtkiewicz, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Sociology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306. Review of applications will begin November 4, 2005, and will continue until the position is filled.

University of Bradford Professorship
School of Social & International Studies Department of Peace Studies Professor in African Peace and Conflict Studies (Post Ref APC0111) The Department of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford is one of the main international academic institutes of excellence in peace and conflict research. The Department operates a research income in excess of £1 million annually, with five research and policy centres, and a vibrant undergraduate and postgraduate student body drawn from more than 40 countries. The rapidly developing Africa Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies in the world-renowned Department of Peace Studies has just secured a 5-year grant from The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust on Working for Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa. We are looking for a dynamic, motivated and enterprising academic to build on the progressive development of the Africa Centre in the area of research and publication, teaching, consultancy services and securing research grants. You will be already working at a senior level, with demonstrable leadership capabilities and innovation, and have a recognised research publication track record equivalent to RAE grade 5. The Chair will work with the Director of the Africa Centre, Dr David Francis, who is already in post. Closing date: 4 November 2005. For further information:

http://www.brad.ac.uk/admin/personnel/jobvacancies/ExternalSite/Bradford/academic.html

Membership Appeal for 2006
Dear Members of the Peace, War, and Social Conflict section of ASA:

As the holiday season is just around the corner, we’d like to remind you to renew your membership in both the American Sociological Association and in the Peace, War, and Social Conflict section for 2006.

Thanks to your support, our section has counted 312 members this year, and successfully secured 2 regular sessions for the 2006 ASA meeting. We want to continue having your support in 2006 and make efforts to reach those who share research interests but are not our section members. Our section is a great mix of people from small colleges to large universities; students, faculty and professionals; all interested in various aspects of studying how society is shaped by (and shapes) war, conflict, peace, human rights, and conflict resolution.

Member Benefits & How to Renew Your Membership
As a section member, you will receive our newsletter, providing stimulating discussions of current events, cutting edge research, teaching and grant opportunities, book announcements and more. As the world comes to an important crossroad, it needs sociologists like you to point out fruitful paths towards the just and lasting cessation of social conflict.
To renew your membership electronically, go to the following URL:
www.asanet.org/members/membership.html

Recruit New Members!

We also invite each of you to bring one more member into our midst this year. Embracing the growing interests in war, peace, and social conflict among sociologists, we set our next goal to reach 400 members. Having 400 members will add another regular session and better facilitate our section members with additional funding given by the ASA. Please encourage your colleagues, students, and classmates who share research interests with us to join our section. Especially for graduate students, our section is a great place to start their professional career development and networking. There are few such sections that provide graduate students supportive environments and opportunities to play an active role.

At last, let me introduce the 2005-2006 Membership Committee members: Yuko Kurashina (Committee Chair-University of Maryland, College Park), Stephen Trainor (U.S. Naval Academy), Aleksandra Sasha Milicevic (Colgate University), Laura Miller (RAND), and Scott P. Davis (St John’s University). Please feel free to contact me (ykurashina@socy.umd.edu) or any of us regarding your membership questions and concerns.

Thank you!

Yuko Kurashina, Center for Innovation/Center for Research on Military Organization, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park

Section Listservs

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, and immediate Past Chair. Announcements are automatically sent to all section members via 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.

Join the Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict, or Renew Your Membership

If you are a member of the ASA, now is the time to consider showing your support for the work of the Section on Peace, War and Social Conflict by joining the section or renewing your membership. To do either online, you can go to https://www.e-noah.net/ASA/Login.asp

If you are not already a member of the American Sociological Association, and would like to join the Association and the Section, you can do so online by going to https://www.e-oah.net/ASA/Profile/General.asp?S=1

Any questions you might have regarding membership in the Association or the Section can be addressed to membership@asanet.org; or you can telephone the ASA at 202-383-9005, ext. 389.

Did you know?

Two sociologists and Nobel Peace Prize recipients

1932 – Jane Addams
1946 – Emily Greene Balch