Newslette of the
Peace, War, & Social Conflict

Section of the American Sociological Association
November 1999

From the Chair:
Mady W. Segal, University of Maryland, College Park

Our section is in very good shape, both intellectually and administratively. We all owe much thanks to Rob Benford for his superb job as Chair. He has made my job easier by being quite organized and keeping me informed about our activities during the past year. I hope to do the same for Gordon Fellman, our new Chair-Elect. Our sessions at the 1999 A.S.A. meetings in Chicago were interesting, informative, and well-attended. Our thanks go to the session organizers for their efforts. The business meeting and reception were also popular events, with about 44 members at the business meeting (A.S.A. requires a minimum of 25) and about 60 members and guests at the reception. (Details on the awards presented are printed elsewhere in this newsletter.)

For the 2000 meetings in Washington, D.C., I have tried to develop themes for the sessions that will appeal to Section members with diverse interests. Please submit papers to these sessions (details are elsewhere in this Newsletter). The topics for our two allotted sessions are “Military and Non-Military Participation in Peace Operations” and “Race, Gender, and Class in the Study of Peace, War, the Military, and Social Conflict”. As usual, we will use the hour allotted for the Council meeting for our Roundtables, papers for which can be on any topic relevant to our Section.

The number of members in the section has been a perennial issue. To continue as a section, with allotted
sessions at the annual meetings, each section must meet both quantitative and qualitative criteria set by A.S.A. The minimum number of members has gone up this year from the former 200 members (which we used to have problems attaining) to 300. A.S.A. determines section membership as of 30 September. Our membership count as of the first of September was 283 members (which represents a steady increase over the past several years, much of which has been due to the tireless efforts of Jen Hlavacek). I am delighted to report that our new count as of 30 September is 300. We did it! We gained new student members because several faculty members paid for students' first year's membership. This is a great way to recruit new members (who are our future) and I recommend that we continue to do this. Obviously, since we hit the minimum number on the nose, we must keep working on this. Please send your ideas for recruiting new members (and keeping those we have) to John ("Jack") Nusan Porter, our new Membership Committee chair. Even better, volunteer to serve on the Committee.

The qualitative criteria used by A.S.A. to judge sections' viability (as outlined in the Section Manual) include "meaningful activities as reflected in Annual Meeting sessions, newsletters, or other initiatives; an annual business meeting with at least 25 section members present; an annual section council meeting; an annual report (that describes the business and council meetings, activities of the year, plans for the following year, and includes a copy of all section newsletters for that year); a section-approved operating budget and sound management of operating budget; and a democratic nominations and election process." In the orientation session for section chairs, we were told that the qualitative criteria also include active attempts to recruit new members. We meet all of these criteria and our plans for this year will keep us on track.

Here is the current membership of each of our committees for the year. (I think that it is important to have an actively involved Council; therefore, I have asked every member of Council to serve on a committee or organize a session for the annual meetings.) The Nominations Committee is: Allen Grimshaw as Chair, along with Rob Benford, M. Christina Bourg, Juanita Firestone, and David R. Segal. The Membership Committee consists of John "Jack" Nusan Porter as Chair, with Barbara Chasin, Les Kurtz, and Rennison Lalgee. Last year's entire Boulding Student Paper Award Committee has volunteered to serve for another year, for which I am grateful; they are Joseph W. Elder (Chair), Morten Ender, Dana P. Eyre, Niranjan S. Karnik, and Lynne Woehrle. Tom Cushman is chairing the Committee on Genocide. The Distinguished Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching, and Service Award Committee consists of the Section Chair (Mady W. Segal), the Past Chair (Rob Benford), and the Chair-Elect (Gordon Fellman). Lee Smithey is continuing as Web Master (with occasional help from Morten Ender). If you wish to volunteer to serve on the Membership Committee or Genocide Committee, please let me know. If you wish to run for office, contact Allen Grimshaw, our Nominations Chair. This year we will be electing a Chair-Elect, a...
Secretary-Treasurer, and two members of Council.

In addition to our usual committees, I have appointed a By-Laws Committee to make recommendations for a much-needed revision to our by-laws to bring them up to date (e.g., to use our new section name, to describe the section in a way that represents the diverse interests among our members, and to add our awards program). Rob Benford has graciously agreed to chair the committee; Gordon Fellman and I will assist. Once we have accomplished our work, the by-laws revisions will be submitted to the membership for a vote.

With this issue we welcome Steph Lambert and Amy S. Hubbard as our new Newsletter editors. A special thank you goes to Jackie Smith for all her hard work in producing our Newsletter! Please send items of interest to section members to Steph for publication in the Newsletter. For example, send us information about your recent publications for the list of "Publications by Section Members". Having this in the Newsletter helps us to keep up with work in our research and teaching areas. It also gives an indication of the range of interests and expertise in the Section.

Our finances are in good shape, thanks to a $5,000 donation to the section received (January 1999) from the Esther E. Fitch 1984 Trust. This will help to offset a deficit proposed budget for 2000. The increase in membership will help somewhat because A.S.A. allocates to the section each year $1,000 plus $2 for each member.

I look forward to a year of active participation by Section members. Please contact me if you have any ideas for or concerns about the section. You can reach me by e-mail (msegal@soc.uc.umd.edu) or call if it's urgent (301-405-6433). If you have ideas for the work of a particular committee, please communicate with the committee chair (and send me a copy). Wishing you a world at peace.

**CALLS FOR PAPERS**

Sincerest thanks to Jackie Smith for her four years of service as our newsletter editor.

**ASA 2000:**

The Section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict has two regular paper sessions planned for the Washington, DC, meetings, in addition to our roundtable sessions. **SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR ALL SESSIONS IS JANUARY 10, 2000.**

**SESSION 1: MILITARY AND NON-MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN PEACE OPERATIONS.** Papers may include research on either military organizations and personnel or civilians, including nongovernmental organizations, in peace operations. Papers that cover interactions among these types of actors are especially encouraged. Send one copy of submitted papers to each organizer:

John T. Crist  
US Institute of Peace  
1200 17th Street, NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036-3011  
Phone: (202) 429-3897  
FAX: (202) 822-5199  
Email: john_crist@usip.org

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SESSION 2: Race, Gender, and Class in the Study of Peace, War, the Military, and Social Conflict (Co-Sponsored with the Section on Race, Gender and Class). Relevant to this session would be research, teaching activities and ideas that include race, gender, or class in any of the areas of study in our Section (such as military organizations, peace organizations, ethnic conflicts, conflict resolution, etc.) Especially encouraged are papers that deal with the intersection of race, gender, and class. Please send one copy of submitted papers to each organizer:

Lynne Woehrle  
Department of Sociology  
Wilson College  
1015 Philadelphia Ave  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
Phone: (717) 264-4141 x3281  
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ROUNDTABLES:  
Any topics relevant to the section will be considered. Boulding Student Paper Award winners will be encouraged to participate. Please send one copy of submitted papers to each organizer:

Bradford Booth  
Department of Sociology  
Room 2112 Art/Sociology Bldg.  
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Email: mk151@umail.umd.edu

There will also be regular and thematic sessions of ASA that are relevant to the interests of section members. See the 2000 Program listing in FOOTNOTES for details.

PEWS 2000:


The twenty-fourth annual conference of the Political Economy of the World-System Section of the American Sociological Association will take place March 24-25, 2000 at Boston College.

We will do a retrospective analysis of the 20th century by focusing on several world-scale, long-term processes. Priority will be given to papers which cover from 50 to 100 years or more, and/or which encompass a regional or world-scale level spatial dimension.

The deadline for submission of papers or detailed abstracts is December 15, 1999. Please submit materials to:

Ramón Grosfoguel  
Sociology Department  
McGuinn Hall 426  
Boston College  
140 Commonwealth Avenue  
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167-3807  
Email: grosfog@ix.netcom.com

Please send submissions for the next newsletter to steph.lambert@asu.edu by March 15, 2000
Children of the Cold War: Growing up in the Shadows of Organizations during the 20th Century
Edited by Morten G. Ender

This volume will bring together the recent plethora of studies of a unique population of people. The intent is to produce an international, interdisciplinary, and high quality volume. Contributions by and about non-Americans are especially welcome.

Please submit a 2-4 page electronic prospectus/abstract by November 1999. Include paper title, a short biography and contact information (professional title, institutional affiliation, degrees, snail mail, Email, and telephone.) To send materials or for further information contact:
Morten G. Ender, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Sociology

HELEN FEIN HONORED

Dr. Helen Fein, Research Associate at Harvard University’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, received our section’s 1999 Distinguished Contributions to Scholarship, Teaching, and Service Award. Rob Benford made the presentation to Dr. Fein during the section’s ASA reception before an enthusiastic crown of 55 to 60 members. What impressed the awards committee the most was the extent to which Dr. Fein distinguished herself in all three areas – scholarship, teaching, and service.

Dr. Fein is among the most eminent genocide researchers in the world. Throughout her illustrious career, she has devoted herself to identifying and analyzing the correlates, social contexts, dynamics, and consequences of genocide. The common thread that runs throughout Dr. Fein’s 50+ books, monographs, and scholarly articles is the notion that through the comparative study of genocide we can learn how to prevent it. Her 1979 Accounting for Genocide earned her ASA’s prestigious Sorokin Award. In the Sorokin’s Committee’s words, Accounting for Genocide, is “a brilliantly original interpretation of a complex and singular historical process, that has until now defied comprehension social analysis.” More recently, the PIOOM Foundation, a Dutch-based non-profit organization for...
interdisciplinary research on root causes of gross violations of human rights, awarded Helen Fein its first PIOOM Award for her 1991 book *Genocide: A Sociological Perspective*. She also was the recipient of a Social Science Research Council/ MacArthur Foundation International Peace and Security Studies fellowship.

Helen Fein is not only a preeminent researcher, she is also a devoted teacher committed to teaching the world about genocide. And she's employed virtually every mode of transportation and medium of communication in order to find reach her pupils. She's traveled throughout the world lecturing on genocide and human rights. She's published guidebooks on how to teach about genocide. She's written editorials for numerous periodicals including the *New York Times, Commentary*, and *Genocide Forum*. She has also appeared on numerous radio and television shows including Voice of America, PBS International, and Dutch television, sharing with citizens around the globe what she's learned about genocide. But perhaps most impressive around my household and to my two daughters, Dr. Fein wrote the entry on genocide for *Encarta*, Microsoft's on-line encyclopedia.

Finally, Helen Fein's service contributions alone warrant this award. She has served tirelessly on numerous advisory boards related to genocide, refugees, and human rights. For the past dozen years she has served as the Executive Director of the Institute for the Study of Genocide. She also served as the President of the Association of Genocide Scholars (1995-97), played a key role in the ASA's President's Committee on Genocide and Politicide (1993-94), and has worked for our Section's Committee on Genocide (1994-present).

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**STUDENT PAPER AWARDS PRESENTED**

Two student paper awards were made this year. The Elise Boulding Student Paper Award for the best undergraduate paper was given to Joel Richard Torres, Department of Sociology, UCLA, for his paper, "Mexican Americans in the United States Armed Forces: An Exploratory Study." The Elise Boulding Student Paper Award for the best graduate paper was given to Mary Christina ("Chris") Bourg, Department of Sociology, Stanford University, for her paper, "The Effects of Obligatory Military Service on the Civic Consciousness and Behavior of American Men." Ms. Bourg gave a very brief and informative synopsis of her paper at the business meeting. Joe Elder, University of Wisconsin, served as chair of the Boulding award committee.

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**ASA BYLAWS CHANGING**

In light of the petition drive (over 500 signatures), the 1999-2000 ASA Council passed a resolution to change the bylaws to ensure that, at any point in time, the Committee on Sections will have three persons who were sections officers at the time they were elected to the Committee. Final wording for both the bylaws and implementation procedures will be worked out this fall among Felice Levine, Paula England and Harry Perlstadt. Please send any outstanding petitions to:

Harry Perlstadt, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Department of Sociology, 316 Berkey Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1111
Phone: (517) 353-5089
FAX: (517) 432-2856
Email: perlstad@pilot.msu.edu
TEACHING TIP

From Ken Pope:

On the first day of class, I ask each student to take 5 minutes to write a sentence or two about: (a) their worst nightmare of what this course would be like, and (b) their most idealistic hope of what it could be like. When the 5 minutes is up, I take the papers, shuffle them, and hand them out randomly. Each person reads aloud the paper he or she has been given.

Almost every “nightmare” gets a big laugh, and gives us the opportunities to discuss some of the taboo topics (including group process issues). It also gives me a chance to dispel some misconceptions about the course, and allows the class to discuss what all of us can do to create a community which respects diverse experiences and beliefs, encourages questioning and critical thinking, and appreciates thoughtful dissent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STUDENT FORUM AT ASA

The Student Forum was created by the ASA as a means of facilitating student involvement within the Association and as a way for students to come together and share their experiences, desires and troubles with the discipline. One of the goals we would like to accomplish is a more active involvement in ASA Sections in addition to the Association as a whole and would like to begin this involvement by introducing ourselves to all of the ASA Sections. On behalf of the Student Forum and its Officers I would like to extend our help to each of the Sections and offer ourselves as a resource for reaching the student population of the ASA. So feel free to contact Victor Thompson, editor of the Student Forum newsletter, Studentlink, at vthompso@uiuc.edu, or Lisa Dobransky, co-editor, at lmd4@rabbit.INS.CWRU.EDU. Studentlink can be accessed through the ASA home page at http://www.asanet.org.

CONFERENCE ON CAREWORK

A Conference on Carework will take place at Howard University in Washington, DC on August 11, 2000, the day before the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. The conference will bring together researchers for one day of meetings and networking. For more information about the conference, and to join ongoing discussions at the cutting edge of carework research and policy, please subscribe to the Carework Listserv by contacting the list administrator at: careadmin@soc.umass.edu.

PROGRAM DIRECTORY

The Consortium on Peace Research, Education and Development (COPRED) has completely updated and revised the global, annotated directory of peace studies and conflict resolution programs. This edition, to be published in December 1999, will profile over 400 undergraduate, Master’s and Doctoral programs and concentrations. Described are the program’s philosophy and goals, examples of course offerings, fellowships and internships offered, key course requirements, degrees and certificates offered and complete contact information including email and web addresses.

The directory may be ordered at the COPRED website: http://www.gmu.edu/departments/ICAR/copred/. Order before December 31, 1999, at the prepublication price of US $35 (price will be higher after publication).
PUBLICATIONS BY SECTION MEMBERS


