MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The main purpose of our Section, I have always assumed, is to encourage the application of sociological methods, theories, and perspectives to the study of peace and war. The Section membership includes persons interested in such diverse subjects as military institutions, the resolution of conflicts, the causes and dynamics of war, the uses of nonviolence, the control of weaponry, and so on. Indeed, any attempt to describe what we do has to be understood as a sampling rather than a listing, since the concerns and approaches of our members are so varied. What makes us special is the liveliness of the exchange that can take place over so wide a range of scholarly activity. That is the source of whatever intellectual excitement the section can be said to have, and the principal reason for its existence.

Our membership at last report was 217, comfortably over the minimum of 200 required for registering as an ASA Section. That number may increase. I have just written about a hundred and fifty letters to people I know (or know something about) who seem to me natural candidates for our group, and I gather than John Lofland, the Chair-elect, plans a more extensive membership drive next year. So the curve may be going up.

But I still find it amazing that so few sociologists are drawn to the topics we gather together to discuss and debate—not just because the world is in such peril (reason enough, one would think) but because those topics are so absorbing intellectually. If section membership were taken as an index of what fascinated sociologists in this age of nuclear threat, it would have to be noted that Medical Sociology has 1100 members, Sex and Gender 850, Theoretical Sociology 530, The Sociology of Aging 500, and Crime, Law, and Deviance 460, while our enrollment is, at 217, the smallest by a very considerable margin. What should one make of that?

Funding, surely, is one of the reasons. Lester Kurtz points out in a fine paper entitled “War and Peace on the Sociological Agenda” (noted later in this newsletter) that support for basic research in military research is meager and support for basic research on the making of peace pathetic. “If military sociology is a marginal field,” he notes, “peace research is scarcely even hanging onto the margins.” There are other reasons too, of course.

1988-89 SECTION OFFICERS ELECTED

Officers elected for the Peace and War Section in the 1988 elections are as follows:

Chair: Kal Erikson
Chair-Elect: John Lofland
Secretary-Treas.: Mary Anna Colwell
Section Council: Margaret Herrman*
Lester Kurtz
Kurt Lang
Ruth Searles*
David Segal
Metta Spencer

*remains on the council from a previous election.

relating to the way opportunities and rewards are apportioned in our profession, and Les touches on several of them. Think of it, though. Using section membership as a rough measure, medical sociologists outnumber us five to one, those concerned with gender four to one, theorists three to one, and such scattered fascinations as methods, aging, and deviance a great deal more than two to one. A future historian looking in on us from the vantage of another age would really have to wonder about the sense of urgency an curiosity that seemed to dominate our profession and our time.

We can't do much about funding, I suppose, but it would be wonderful if a strengthened Section could at least validate and enable research on peace and war -- make a scholarly place for it, give it greater legitimacy in the range of things sensible sociologists are invited to engage in. My impression is that students and others trying to make a place for themselves in the discipline shy away from projects in which terms like “peace” and “war” figure too prominently. They calculate, not unwisely, that elders will declare such projects ideologically suspect, methodologically soft, too dependent on the idiographic rather than the nomothetic, too journalistic or sentimental or passionate in tone, and for all those reasons, something other than “real” sociology. And so we drift on, devoting but the tiniest fraction of the accumulated wisdom and skill of our trade to what anyone will agree is one of the truly important problems of our time.
(continued from previous page)

It would be crazy to argue that we should seek foundation support or departmental understanding for projects with titles like "why do the nations so furiously rage together?" (although, on second thought, the question does not sound all that crazy). But how many hours of sociological attention from the many millions expended each year are given over to such wholly manageable (and distinctly sociological) pursuits as the development of arms control, the effects of continuing military tension on human culture, the social anatomy of peace movements, or, for that matter, studies of particular moments in human life when war flared or peace terms were reached, when hostilities grew to a murderous fury or nonviolent methods actually worked, and the like. Several hundred dissertations are being written in sociology this year; half a dozen of them, at best, will be on one or another of those topics. That immense a disproportion is worth thinking about.

Well, this was supposed to be a brief word of greeting rather than a lumbering editorial, so let me end by thanking our editor for his indulgence. I'll write more in the next newsletter about plans for our meeting in August. Meantime, best wishes for what will be left of the holiday season when this reaches you.

Kai Erikson

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Research in Community Sociology, a new serial publication (JAI Press) invites manuscripts dealing with theoretical and empirical studies on community structure, change, problems, policy-planning and related issues. Cross-cultural, comparative, interdisciplinary and critical studies are welcome. Send three copies of papers (25-75 pages double spaced) in ASA format to the series editor: Dan A. Chekki, Professor of Sociology, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg R3B 2E9 CANADA.

The ASA Teaching Resource Center invites materials useful in teaching sociology for Teaching Sociology Using Song Lyrics. All forms of syllabi and instructional material are appropriate. General suggestions on using music effectively in teaching, general comments on what works in class (and what does not) also are solicited. Submit all materials to: Monika Reuter-Echols, Department of Sociology, SS540, State University of New York, Albany, NY 12222.

CONFERENCES and EDUCATION

The National Conference on Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution will meet in Montreal, 28 February - 5 March 1989, with a wide range of sessions in four broad areas: developments in practice, curriculum, and research, and concerns of the field. For more information, contact Margaret Herrman, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia, Terrell Hall, Athens, GA 30602; telephone: (404)542-2887.

Summer Institute on Regional Conflict and Global Security: The Nuclear Dimension. The Center for International Cooperation and Security Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, will hold its third Summer Institute on "Regional Conflict and Global Security: The Nuclear Dimension" July 28 through August 4, 1989. Fifty applicants will be selected for participation in this event, and will be reimbursed for their round-trip economy-class airfare to and from the program. The Institute is organized around presentations and follow-up discussions with twenty internationally recognized scholars. Michael Klare (Director, Five College Peace and World Security Studies Program), Carol Cohn (Center for Psychological Studies in the Nuclear Age, Harvard Medical School) will serve as resource persons. The deadline for applications is 8 March 1989. For additional information and full application procedures, contact: CICSS, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1120 W. Johnson St., Madison, WI 53715-1045. (Telephone: (608)262-0270.)

The Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation has sponsored a series of international conferences, including two on "Discourse, Peace, Security, and International Society" in Ireland, and a two-day meeting on "International Civil Society" with the Hungarian writer George Konrad providing the keynote. For more information, contact: James M. Skelly, IGCC Central Office, Q-060, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92039.

INFORMATION FOR NEWSLETTER WANTED

Please send items for the spring newsletter to:

Les Kurtz
Sociology Department
University of Texas
Austin, Texas 78712
BUSINESS MEETING: SOCIOLOGY OF PEACE AND WAR
Atlanta, Georgia, 28 August 1988

Jim Skelly (chair) presiding: Sam Marullo (secretary-treasurer) recording. Number of section members present: 19.

Meeting called to order at 12:30 p.m. in the Stockholm Room of the Marriott Hotel.

Agenda for the meeting is announced. Skelly conveys incoming Chair Kai Erikson’s regrets for being unable to attend due to illness in the family.

Skelly announces the new section council members -- Kurt Lang, Metta Spencer, Les Kurtz and David Segal -- and new officers -- Kai Erikson (chair), John Lofland (chair-elect), Mary Anna Colwell (secretary-treasurer), and Les Kurtz (newsletter editor).

1. Newsletter -- Les Kurtz announces his plans for making the newsletter more substantive, containing summaries of the meetings, news, calendar, minutes, reviews, research abstracts, and calls for papers. He asks the members for contributions. He plans to publish the newsletter three times per year -- early fall, spring, and summer. Three larger editions (rather than four smaller ones) will make it a more useful vehicle for current members and to attract new members. The newsletter can be used to place ads (section members notify your publishers) and/or distribute a membership list. These options will be considered.

2. Recruitment -- Members are informed of our plans to develop a section brochure by John Lofland and Les Kurtz. Members are strongly encouraged to ask their colleagues to join the section. Each member has to assume some responsibility for recruitment. We discussed other recruitment vehicles, such as a section reception (listed on the program). The large expense of this might be minimized if we co-sponsor a party with another section or two. We will also explore the possibility of coordinating activities with local groups. Next year’s early meeting date puts our section day on August 9, the 42nd anniversary of the Nagasaki bombing. This is a terrible day in some ways, since many section members will be undertaking other political actions on that day, but we should take advantage of it in the program if possible.

4. Treasury -- Sam Marullo announces we have a balance of $1,379.43 in the section’s discretionary account.

5. Committee nominations -- Since incoming chair Kai Erikson is not here, volunteers are solicited to serve on next year’s nomination and award committees. Helen Raisz (Trinity College, Hartford, Ct) and Brian Sherman (Mercer University, Atlanta) volunteer for the award committee, and James Gibson (Southern Methodist University, Dallas) and Metta Spencer (University of Toronto, Toronto, CAN) volunteer for the nominating committee. These names will be passed on to Erikson, who will make the appointments. Marullo’s offer to consult with the award committee chair will be conveyed, as will Ruth Searles’ solicitation of names from last year’s nominating committee.

5. Section Dues -- The Council’s discussion of section dues was recapped for those attending the business meeting. The ASA Council has presented us with a fait accompli by announcing higher section dues for next year. Dues will be $8.00 for each section for members, but only $5.00 for students. We currently have a $2.00 surcharge, which will be levied for 1989 membership, making our dues $10.00 for members and $7.00 for students. The council’s decision to defer action until the 1989 dues renewal occurs was accepted by the business meeting.

6. Switching days -- It was reported that the process of switching days is underway for the political sociology section and the work and occupations section. This impacts on us, since political sociology will now be on our day. This may compete with our sessions, since their topics are often of interest to section members. The council’s response to contact the program committee to request that our sessions not be scheduled at the same time was announced.

7. Next year’s program -- Suggestions for next year’s program should be sent to Kai Erikson. Members are encouraged to publicize the section’s activities as a way of building the section.

8. Boulding award -- Sam Marullo described the process of creating the award and selecting the winner of the Elise Boulding Award for Distinguished student paper. This year’s winner is Eleanor Hodges of U.C. San Diego, for her paper “Europe’s Nation-States in the Nuclear Age: A
Time of the Signs," Fred Davis of U.C. San Diego accepted the award for Hodges, reading her acceptance statement.
Meeting adjourned at 10:25.

COUNCIL MEETING (8/28/88)
SOCIOLOGY OF PEACE AND WAR
[Editor's note: what follows are not complete minutes because of overlap with the section meeting's minutes.]
Present: Jim Skelly (Chair), Mary Anna Colwell, Joe Elder, Les Kurtz, Kurt Lang, John Lofland, Ruth Searles, Sam Marullo (recording)
Meeting called to order at 9:30a.m. in Jim Skelly's room.
Agenda for the meeting is announced.
1. Newsletter [see section minutes].
2. Recruitment [see section minutes].
3. Treasury. Sam Marullo announces we have a balance of $1379.43 in the section's discretionary account. The major expenditure of the year was $200 for the Elise Boulding Award prize money.
4. Boulding Award [see section minutes]. The award committee consisted of Sam Marullo, Mary Anna Colwell, and Paula Rayman. Alternatives for awarding the prize and presenting the paper were discussed. Consensus emerged over having the student paper presented at a regular section sponsored session or the mini-session following the business meeting. This recommendation will be conveyed to Kai Erikson.
5. Award Committee -- It is the incoming chair's prerogative to select the award committee. Marullo offered to consult with the new committee chair regarding this year's experience.
6. Nominating Committee -- It is the Council's obligation to select a nominating committee. In order to expand interest and commitment to section activities, the nominating committee should be selected to reflect the diversity of section interests. Rather than appointing members from Council, members attending the business meeting would be selected and Kai Erikson would be encouraged to select others to achieve a diversity of committee memberships.
7. Section dues [see section minutes]. After much discussion regarding lowering student section membership by dropping the $2.00 surcharge for students, it was decided to defer this decision until we could see what impact it would have on renewals. The council is encouraged to reconsider this decision in early spring, when new membership figures become available.
8. Switching days [see section minutes].
9. Next year's program [see section minutes]. Lofland encourages next year's chair to find slots in our program for all coherent papers submitted by section members. He promises to institute a refereed roundtable session to achieve this goal for the 1990 meetings, when he will be section Chair.
10. John MacDougall's proposal -- The proposal for section sponsorship of the day-long teaching workshop proposed by John MacDougall is now moot. He has altered the proposal and resubmitted it to ASA Teaching Resources Committee to be considered as a regular program item under their sponsorship. They will respond to his request.
Meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Elise Boulding Award Goes to Eleanor Hodges

The Elise Boulding Award for Distinguished Student Paper was awarded to Eleanor Hodges, a doctoral candidate at the University of California at San Diego. Her winning paper is titled "Europe's Nation-States in the Nuclear Age: A Time of the Signs?" This is the first year the Elise Boulding Award has been given.

The Sociology of Peace and War section created this prize at the 1987 A.S.A. meetings. Its purpose is to encourage creative thinking among students in addressing the issues of war and peace, and to promote student interest in the section. The award carries with it a $200 prize.

The award committee consisted of section members Mary Anna Colwell, Sam Marullo, and Paula Rayman. Their efforts are much appreciated. The award will be offered again for the 1988-89 academic year. Inform your students now, in relevant courses, so they can keep this in mind when writing term papers. (See the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.)

The Award was presented on 28 August 1988 at the business meeting of the Sociology of Peace and War section in Atlanta.

Statement by Sam Marullo Awarding the Elise Boulding Prize

It is a great privilege for me to announce the winner of the 1988 Elise Boulding Award for Distinguished Student Paper. There were several exceptionally good papers submitted for the competition, making the task of the award committee a difficult one. I would like to thank the other committee members, Mary Anna Colwell and Paula Rayman, for their diligence in reading the papers and for their efforts in determining a winner. Unfortunately, Elise Boulding is unable to attend this year's meeting to make this presentation herself. She is traveling to the International Peace Research Association meetings in South America, where she will be engaged in peacemaking efforts.
After much deliberation, we selected this year's Boulding Award winner to be Eleanor Hodges for her paper, "Europe's Nation-States in the Nuclear Age: A Sign of the Times?" In her paper, Hodges traces the transformation of absolutist states in Europe to nation-states, drawing on Giddens' framework as outlined in "Nation-States and Violence." She extends this framework to apply it to the current European nation-state system, which is now undergoing a transformation to a "programmed-state" system. In this process, she sees the transformation from exemplary power to disciplinary power, nationalism to internationalism, pre-capitalist to post-capitalist social relations, and increasing civilian surveillance over the military -- all of which provide hope when confronting the nuclear holocaust. She concludes that it is only in the creation of global civil society, now under way in Europe, that we can hope to remove ourselves from the outer edge of the precipice of history.

Congratulations to Eleanor Hodges, the 1988 winner of the Elise Boulding Award.

Statement of Eleanor Hodges on Winning the Elise Boulding Award

I feel honored to be the first recipient of the Elise Boulding Award, 1988, and wish to convey to Dr. Marullo, the committee and the members of the Peace and War Section here today my thanks and my appreciation. Having long admired the writings of the Bouldings, it is a great pleasure for me to receive the award.

I was surprised and delighted when I received the news that my paper had been selected to bear the title "distinguished." A boost to the ego is always pleasant, but I was pleased as well that my success would redound to the credit of the people of IGCC (The University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation) who have not only funded me, but treated me very well indeed during my two years as a Dissertation Fellow. I also want to express my gratitude to my committee Chair, Dr. Bennett Berger, and to the UCSD sociology faculty generally. They have treated me with unfailing kindness ever since I arrived on their doorstep from down-under several years ago, and I owe many members of that department -- including Professor Davis -- a great deal. I felt too, that perhaps Dr. Boulding, who returned late to the halls of academia after a fairly long period of full-time mothering, might be pleased that the first person to receive the award which bears her name was someone who has done likewise. Thank you very much.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Building a Global Civic Culture: Education for an Interdependent World. by Elise Boulding, Professor Emerita of Dartmouth College has been released by Teacher's College Press of Columbia University. In it, Boulding explores ways in which a successful worldwide civic culture can be achieved, stressing the need to stay rooted in our communities and traditions while cooperating with and respecting those whose lives follow other patterns.

The book is divided into two parts. The first part deals with where we are now, setting a context within history and our current social systems for building a better future. It provides an overview of the different dimensions -- economic, cultural, political, environmental, informational -- of the emerging new international order.

The second part deals with developing the craft and skills that provide for a peaceful interdependent world. Boulding presents the concept "imaging" a world without weapons -- before such a world can be achieved we must be able to conceive of it clearly as a real possibility. She discusses the problem of knowing, of being conscious of our assumed values and those of others. And she explores problem solving and conflict resolution across cultural and national barriers. Order from Teachers College Press, PO Box 939, Woodboro, NH 03894 ($18.95).

Resolving Disputes Between Nations: Coercion or Conciliation? by Martin Patchen of Purdue University has just been published by Duke University Press. This book (365 pages, hardcover and paperback) provides an integrated summary of research and theory on a wide range of topics relevant to war and peace. It should be useful both for professionals in the field and as a text in courses dealing with issues of peace and war.

The book focuses on these questions: How do national leaders come to choose coercive or conciliatory actions in disputes with other nations? How effective are various kinds of actions (threats, coercion, promises, concessions, etc.) and various strategies (e.g., reciprocity, conciliatory initiatives) for avoiding war while defending national interests? When will disputes between nations be settled?

Chapter headings are as follows: (1) Disputes between Nations: An Analytical Framework; (2) The Situation; (3) Perceptions; (4) Making Decisions; (5) When are Coercive versus Conciliatory Tactics Used? (6) Threat and Deterrence; (7) Arms Buildups: Deterrent or Provocation? (8) The Use of Coercion; (9) The Use of Positive Incentives; (10) Strategies that Mix
Conciliation and Coercion; (11) Settling Disputes; (12) Summary and Conclusions.

Sam Marullo and John Lofland are editing a book entitled *Peace Movement Dynamics* to be published by Rutgers University Press. It is a collection of original research on the 1980s peace movement in the United States. Contact Sam Marullo at (202)687-3582 or John Lofland (U. California-Davis).

"War and Peace on the Sociological Agenda" is the title of a paper delivered by Les Kurtz at a conference on "Sociology and Institution-Building" in Phoenix in November. The paper discusses the "two cultures" in war and peace research: military sociology and "peace research." For copies of the paper or comments, contact Les Kurtz, Sociology Department, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.

**NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST**

**PEACE STUDIES ASSOCIATION ORGANIZES**

The Peace Studies Association, an organization of college and university academic programs for the study of peace, conflict, justice, and global security, has been formed recently to unite the efforts of the large number of peace studies programs at this level and enhance the field of peace studies through improved communication and cooperation. Ultimately, the long-term goal is greater effectiveness and success in educating for peace.

The specific goals of the Peace Studies Association (PSA) are: (1) to assist emerging programs in the field of peace studies; (2) to advance the academic quality of the field; (3) to facilitate improved communication and collaboration among programs in the field; and (4) to pursue financial and institutional stability and permanence for programs in colleges and universities. Faculty teaching in peace studies programs at these levels comprise a distinct constituency and share similar academic needs and concerns. The new association's purpose is to serve these needs.

Primary goals of the PSA include: "(1) to assist emerging programs in the field of peace studies; (2) to advance the academic quality of the field; (3) to facilitate improved communication and collaboration among programs in the field; and (4) to pursue financial and institutional stability and permanence for programs in colleges and universities."

For further information about the association, contact its Executive Director, Robin J. Crews at The Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Bethel College, 300 E. 27th St., North Newton, KS 67117.

**Stephen P. Strickland Selected as New President and Executive Director of National Peace Institute Foundation**

Stephen P. Strickland, formerly of the Kettering Foundation, has been selected as president and executive of the National Peace Institute Foundation. The Foundation is a non-governmental, volunteer organization (founded in 1982) concerned with the development of the United States Institute of Peace, Peace education, conflict resolution, and the United Nations. Our section's James Laue (George Mason University) is on the Board of Directors, and Elise Boulding is on the Advisory Board.