Welcome to the fall 2010 SREM newsletter. Having just returned from the annual Association of Humanist Sociology (AHS) meetings in Santa Fe, NM, I feel energized and ready to engage in dialogue about how we, as a group that cares deeply about issues of race, can collectively move SREM forward. As a side note: if you are not familiar with that organization, I would urge you to check them out. AHS has been around since 1976 and is a really good network for those of us committed to humanist values. That said I am most excited about the Chicago ASA meetings and our sessions, in particular. Our membership continues to be strong and as of September 31st, we had 820 registered members. Thus, I was informed by ASA that all of our sessions were approved. Although we are one of the larger sections in ASA, we could do better. I would ask that all of our members encourage others to join SREM and participate.

In regards to the approved sessions for the Chicago meetings, you will find the organizers and their sessions listed in this newsletter. Also included in this newsletter, you will find information on the 2011 call for award nominations.

Those awards are: Founder’s Award for Scholarship & Service, Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award, Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award, James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award and the Joe R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award. Last year there were no nominations for the Founder’s Award or the Feagin Undergraduate Award. Thus, I urge you to please recognize good scholarship and commitment to our sections’ mission by submitting your nominations to one or more of these award committees. Additionally, we are seeking nominations for Chair-Elect, Council (2 positions), and Student Representative. Please email our nominations committee (David L. Brunsma, brunsmad@missouri.edu and Matthew Hughey, mhughey@soc.msstate.edu) your nominations for these positions. Self-nominations are encouraged and welcomed.

Finally, I would like to thank our Past Chairs—Erica Chito Childs and Emily Ignacio, our Chair-Elect—David L. Brunsma, our Council Members—Korie Edwards, Nancy Foner, Angela Gonzales, Jane Yamashiro, Karyn Lacy, and Matthew Hughey, our Treasurer—Nadia Kim, and our Student Rep.—Layanna Navarre-Jackson, for all of their hard work and dedication to SREM. I would like to also thank the session organizers and all of the award committee volunteers for their service commitments. A special note of thanks goes out to Wendy L. Moore for continuing to help with the newsletter.
SREM Leadership Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Expiration</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Juan Chavez</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Student Representative</td>
<td><a href="mailto:M_chavez96@yahoo.com">M_chavez96@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Chito Childs</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Erica.chitochilds@hunter.cuny.edu">Erica.chitochilds@hunter.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korie Edwards</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kle@sociology.osu.edu">kle@sociology.osu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Embrick</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dembric@luc.edu">dembric@luc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Foner</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nfoner@hunter.cuny.edu">nfoner@hunter.cuny.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanya Maria Golash-Boza</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tgb@ku.edu">tgb@ku.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Gonzales</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Aag27@cornell.edu">Aag27@cornell.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Noelle Ignacio</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eignacio@u.washington.edu">eignacio@u.washington.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Lewis</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Sec/Treas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Amanda.evelyn.lewis@emory.edu">Amanda.evelyn.lewis@emory.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hung Cam Thai</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hung.thai@pomona.edu">hung.thai@pomona.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Yamashiro</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jane@alumni.ucsd.edu">jane@alumni.ucsd.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Brunsma</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Chair-Elect</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brunsmad@missouri.edu">brunsmad@missouri.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nadia Kim</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Sec/Treas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nyk888@gmail.com">nyk888@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karyn Lacy</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Council Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:krlacy@umich.edu">krlacy@umich.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layanna Navarre-Jackson</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Student Representative</td>
<td><a href="mailto:laya-navarre-jackson@uiowa.edu">laya-navarre-jackson@uiowa.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASA SREM Committee Assignments 2010/2011

Nominations Committee:

David L. Brunsma, University of Missouri at Columbia; brunsmad@missouri.edu
Matthew Hughey, Mississippi State University; mhhughey@soc.msstate.edu

Founder’s Award for Scholarship & Service:

Chair: David G. Embrick, Loyola University-Chicago; dembrick@luc.edu
Member: Shirley Jackson, Southern Connecticut State University; jacksons1@southernct.edu
Member: Amanda Lewis, Emory University; Amanda.evelyn.lewis@emory.edu
Member: Bandana Purkayastha, University of Connecticut; ban-
dana.purkayastha@uconn.edu
Member: Charles Gallagher, Lasalle University; Gallagher@lasalle.edu

Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award:

Chair: Karyn Lacy, University of Michigan; krlacy@umich.edu
Member: Paul R. Ketchum, University of Oklahoma; pketchum@ou.edu
Member: Leland Saito, University of Southern California; lsaito@usc.edu
Member: Wendy Moore, Texas A&M University; wmoore@tamu.edu
Member: Carina Bandhauer, Western Connecticut State University; bandhau-
erc@wcsu.edu

Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award:

Chair: David L. Brunsma, University of Missouri at Columbia; brun-
sma@missouri.edu
Member: Nancy Foner, Hunter College; nfoner@hunter.cuny.edu
Member: Marlese Durr, Wright State University; marlese.durr@wright.edu
Member: Rodney Coates, Miami University-Ohio; coatesrd@muohio.edu
Member: Meghan Burke, Illinois Wesleyan University; mburke@iwu.edu

James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award:

Chair: Jane Yamashiro, UC-San Diego; jane@alumni.ucsd.edu
Member: Nadia Kim, Loyola University-Marymount; nyk888@gmail.com
Member: Aliya Saperstein, University of Oregon; asaper@uoregon.edu
Member: Carla Goar, Kent State University; cgoar@kent.edu

Joe R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award:

Chair: Matthew Hughey, Mississippi State University; mhhughey@soc.msstate.edu
Member: Layanna Navarre-Jackson, University of Iowa; laya-navarre-
jackson@uiowa.edu
Member: Angela Gonzales, Cornell University; Aag27@cornell.edu
Member: Carol S. Walther, Northern Illinois University; cwalther@niu.edu
ARTICLES and BOOK CHAPTERS


BOOKS

The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader
University Press of Mississippi. 2010.
Loewen, James W. and Edward H. Sebesta, Etds.

Secession, leading to Civil War, was perhaps the most important single event in U.S. history after the founding of the U.S. Yet it is consistently mis-taught. 60% to 70% of all HS history teachers believe (and teach) that the South seceded "for states' rights." They can only maintain this because they've never read the key documents. The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader sets the record straight, just in time for the sesquicentennial. As the documents show, slavery -- its protection and expansion -- was the cause that prompted secession. The seceding states were clear...The "states' rights" claim is an example of white supremacy afflicting history and historiography. It's not an innocent mistake, even though most teachers today make it innocently. The University Press of Mississippi released this book August 1. “The Confederate flag” is its cover, but its interpretation is anything BUT Confederate! Please ask your college library to get it!

Teaching What Really Happened: How to Avoid the Tyranny of Textbooks and Get Students Excited About Doing History
Teachers College Press. 2009.
By: James W. Loewen

In this follow-up to his landmark bestseller, Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong, James Loewen continues to break silences and change our perspectives on U.S. history. Loewen takes history textbooks to task for their perpetuations of myth and their lack of awareness of today's multicultural student audience (not to mention the astonishing number of facts they just got plain wrong). How did people get here? Why did Europe win? Why Did the South Secede? In Teaching What Really Happened, Loewen goes beyond the usual textbook-dominated viewpoints to illuminate a wealth of intriguing, often hidden facts about America's past. Calling for a new way to teach history, this book will help teachers move beyond traditional textbooks to tackle difficult but important topics like conflicts with Native Americans, slavery, and race relations.

Race, Sport and Politics: The Sporting Black Diaspora
By: Ben Carrington

“From tennis to soccer, basketball to boxing, football to golf, the visibility of black athletes within global popular culture is beyond dispute. Rejecting the view that the level playing field of sport provides compelling evidence that we have moved beyond the racial inequalities of the past, Race, Sport and Politics suggests instead that sport has long constituted an important site of struggle for racist and anti-racist projects alike, and that ideas about ‘the black athlete’ persist as central to contemporary racial politics. In this intellectual tour-de-force, Carrington navigates the troubling contradictions of race and sport, helping us see that when we forgo blind celebration of the exploits of black athletes we might see new paths for racial progress” —Patricia Hill Collins, Distinguished University Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland.
BOOKS, Continued...

Fire in the Heart: How White Activists Embrace Racial Justice
Oxford University Press, 2010
By: Mark R. Warren

Drawing upon accounts of the development of racial awareness drawn from in-depth interviews with fifty white activists in the fields of community organizing, education, and criminal justice reform, Fire in the Heart uncovers the processes through which white Americans become activists for racial justice. The book shows how white Americans can develop a commitment to racial justice, not simply because it is the right thing to do, but because they see the cause as their own. The book also considers the complex dynamics and dilemmas white people face in working in multiracial organizations committed to systemic change in America’s racial order, and provides a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role that white people can play in efforts to promote racial justice.

Racial and Ethnic Relations (9th Edition)
Prentice Hall. 2010.
By: Joe R. Feagin and Clairece Booher Feagin

For courses in Majority-Minority Relations, Racial and Ethnic Relations, Cultural Diversity, and Multiculturalism in departments of Sociology and Ethnic Studies. Racial and Ethnic Relation, 9/e, examines the “what”, “why”, and “how” of racial and ethnic oppression and conflict. Drawing on a broad array of sources, this text provides readers with access to important research and literature on racial and ethnic groups in the United States and, to a lesser extent, in certain other countries around the globe.

Urban Society: The Shame of Governance.
Robert Grantham and Levon Chorbajian, Eds.

This collection features many classic and original essays on the effects of neoliberalism and its predecessors going back to 1950 on urban minorities and the urban poor in favor of vested financial and development interests. Many prominent urban scholars such as Elijah Anderson, Mike Davis, William Julius Wilson, Joe Feagin, and David Harvey are featured along with young scholars such as John Arena on Post-Katrina New Orleans and Meghan Ashlin Rich's study of self-imposed tax levies in a Baltimore neighborhood to access formerly municipally provided services.

By: Judith Rollins

Voices of Concern is a concise and powerful summary of the issues facing women on the Caribbean island of Nevis, their views of those issues, and the factors that have contributed to those views. In addition, it identifies recent improvements in the situation of women in Nevis and the causes of those improvements. Beginning with an exploration of the major trends in Nevisian history, Rollins then focuses on current concerns, allowing her forty interviewees to speak for themselves whenever possible. Through their insightful comments and the nuanced analysis by the author, the reader comes to understand why significant changes for Nevisian women are taking place at this moment in history and how these changes are interconnected to those for women in other parts of the world.
CALL FOR PAPERS

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape explores how cultures around the globe make social categories of race, class, gender and sexuality meaningful in particular ways. The book will examine power and privilege, as well as oppression and marginalization, as it illustrates how inequalities are constructed, mobilized, and challenged through language and representation. Analyses will take up the “politics of representation” — the cultural struggles over how events, processes, institutions, and people are to be understood. As such the collection will contribute insights into the production of culture, knowledge, and power.

Inequality & The Politics of Representation: A Global Landscape welcomes all styles of textual analysis and close reading. The collection will be edited by Celine-Marie Pascale, an Associate Professor of Sociology at American University, Washington D.C. <http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm>

The strongest manuscripts will present complex ideas with clear language. Please avoid jargon and define all specialized terms so that readers unfamiliar with textual analysis will be able to enjoy and appreciate the insights being offered.

All manuscripts should be submitted as Microsoft Word files, double-spaced, and between 25-30 pages in length, including references. Authors are responsible for securing permissions for all images and excerpts.

Manuscripts are due by December 1, 2010 to <celinemariepascale@gmail.com>.

Celine-Marie Pascale, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
T-14 Battelle-Tompkins Hall
4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016-8072
202-885-2524
http://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/pascale.cfm
Call for Chapter Proposals

In 2004 and 2008, the SSSP and the Justice 21 Committee published the first two volumes of the Agenda for Social Justice. Those reports contained chapters on a variety of social problems, among them poverty, educational inequality, unemployment, environmental health risks, global economic change, capital punishment, post-Katrina disaster response, gender inequality in the criminal justice system, the vulnerability of ESL students in public schools, surveillance technologies, civil unions, domestic violence.

We are now beginning our work on the third publication—Agenda for Social Justice-2012. This publication is designed to inform the public-at-large about the nation’s most pressing social problems and to propose a public policy response to those problems. This project affirms the commitment of SSSP to social justice, and enables the members of the association to speak on public issues with the sponsorship of the corporate body. This report will be an “agenda for social justice,” in that it will contain recommendations for action by elected officials, policy makers, and the public at large. The report will be distributed as widely as possible to policy makers, those in progressive media, and academics.

The quadrennial report will be a product of the most valid and reliable knowledge we have about social problems and it will be a joint effort of the members and Divisions of SSSP. We invite you to consider preparing a chapter for the 2012 publication. We ask you, individually or with colleagues, to consider submitting a brief proposal (1-2 pp) identifying a social problem of concern to members of SSSP, and respond to the questions:

What do we know? How do we know it? What is to be done?

As the coordinating committee for Justice 21, we invite members to prepare a draft statement for a proposed contribution to the 2012 publication, tentatively to be produced and distributed by the Edwin Mellen Press (http://www.mellenpress.com/). For the 2012 edition, confirmed contributors include the following well-known sociologists: Frances Fox Piven, Alejandro Portes, and Amatai Etzioni. Please submit a copy of your 1-2 page proposals to each of the members of the committee by March 1, 2011, and contact us if you have questions or would like additional information. Final manuscripts will be due near the end of 2011, and will appear in print prior to the 2012 SSSP annual meetings in August 2012.

Glenn Muschert (chair), Miami University, muschegw@muohio.edu
Kathleen Ferraro, Northern Arizona University, kathleen.ferraro@nau.edu
Brian Klocke, SUNY Plattsburgh, bkloc001@plattsburgh.edu
JoAnn Miller, Purdue University, jlmiller@purdue.edu
Robert Perrucci, Purdue University, perruccir@purdue.edu
Jon Shefner, University of Tennessee, jshefner@utk.edu

For an expanded discussion of Justice 21, see the May 2001 issue of Social Problems (“Inventing Social Justice”). To see the 2004 and 2008 publications, see the SSSP website at the following address: http://sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/323
Crime & Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives & Participation
July 11 – 29, 2011, Ohio State University

Faculty pursuing tenure and career success in research-intensive institutions, academics transitioning from teaching to research institutions, and faculty members carrying out research in teaching contexts will be interested in this Summer Research Institute. Organized by Lauren J. Krivo and Ruth D. Peterson and funded by the National Science Foundation and Ohio State University, the institute is designed to promote successful research projects and careers among faculty from underrepresented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. During the institute, each participant will complete an ongoing project (either a research paper or grant proposal) in preparation for journal submission or agency funding review. In addition, participants will gain information that will serve as a tool-kit tailored to successful navigation of the academic setting. The Summer Research Institute will provide participants with:

- Resources for completing their research projects;
- Senior faculty mentors in their areas of study;
- Opportunities to network with junior and senior scholars;
- Workshops addressing topics related to publishing, professionalization, and career planning;
- Travel expenses to Ohio, housing in a trendy Columbus neighborhood, and living expenses.

The institute will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience.

Completed applications must be postmarked by February 11, 2011. To download the application form, please see our web site (http://cjrc.osu.edu/rdcj-n/summerinstitute). All applicants must hold regular tenure-track positions in U.S. institutions and demonstrate how their participation broadens participation of underrepresented groups in crime and justice research. Graduate students without tenure track appointments are not eligible for this program. Please direct all inquiries to kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu.

Call For Book Proposals

Professor Joe R. Feagin is starting a new book series project with Paradigm Books as of October 1, 2010. The Critical Viewpoints Series: This series invites manuscripts that take a fresh and critical look at persisting or changing dimensions of societal oppression and inequality, especially class, racial, and gender oppression and inequality. Based on interview, ethnographic, or other qualitative data, books in this series will lay bare longstanding and new structures of societal oppression that generate singular inequalities or cut across multiple inequalities. Authors are encouraged to illuminate pathways toward greater societal equality and the social and organizational efforts needed to bring it about. Please send your book idea or prospectus to Joe Feagin, Professor, Sociology Department, Texas A&M University (jrfeagin@yahoo.com).
A letter to the ASA section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities about the Real Utopias theme of the 2012 ASA annual meeting

Erik Olin Wright

October, 2010

(a full version of this memo can be found at: http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~wright/ASA/ASAssectionsMemo.pdf)

The theme for the 2012 Annual meeting of the ASA is “Real Utopias: Emancipatory projects, institutional designs, possible futures.” Here is how I described the core idea of this theme in the ASA newsletter, Footnotes:

“Real Utopias” seems like an oxymoron: Utopia means “nowhere” – a fantasy world of perfect harmony and social justice. To describe a proposal for social transformation as “utopian” is to dismiss it as an impractical dream outside the limits of possibility. Realists reject such fantasies as a distraction from the serious business of making practical improvements in existing institutions. The idea of real utopias embraces this tension between dreams and practice: “utopia” implies developing clear-headed visions of alternatives to existing institutions that embody our deepest aspirations for a world in which all people have access to the conditions to live flourishing lives; “real” means taking seriously the problem of the viability of the institutions that could move us in the direction of that world. The goal is to elaborate utopian ideals that are grounded in the real potentials of humanity, utopian destinations that have accessible way stations, utopian designs of viable institutions that can inform our practical tasks of navigating a world of imperfect conditions for social change.

Exploring real utopias implies developing a sociology of the possible, not just of the actual. This is a tricky research problem, for while we can directly observe variation in what exists in the world, discussions of possibilities and limits of possibility always involve more speculative and contentious claims about what could be, not just what is. The task of a sociology of real utopias, then, is to develop strategies that enable us to make empirically and theoretically sound arguments about emancipatory possibilities.

I am hoping that many of the sections of the American Sociological Association will be enthusiastic about engaging this theme in some of the sessions which they directly organize, but I also hope that members of different ASA sections will submit proposals to the program committee for thematic panels which explore the problem of real utopias within their subfield.

I think issues connected to the study of racial and ethnic minorities pose constructive and difficult challenges to thinking about “real utopias.” Most critical writing on issues of race and ethnicity focus on the nature of the oppressions connected to these social categories, the social processes which reproduce and undermine such oppression, and the struggle of people against such oppression. The normative concerns are animated by commitments to social justice and social emancipation, but less attention is usually given to the real utopia question of what kinds of institutions are needed to fully realize the normative goals embodied in the critique of existing institutions. Are there aspects of the ideal design such institutions that reflect distinctive characteristics of racial and ethnic relations? The answer to this question involves a wide range of considerations, including, among other things, issues of identity and multiculturalism, the question of the appropriate response to historical legacies of injustice, and the relationship between recognition and redistribution as dimensions of social justice. My hope is that there are people in the Racial and Ethnic Minorities section who will find engaging these kinds of issues (and others that I have not thought of) productive and will elaborate proposals for panels at the 2012 meeting. Information about submitting proposals for different kinds of panels for the meeting can be found at: http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/septoct10/2012_0910.html.

To facilitate such proposals I thought it might be helpful if I shared some of my general ideas on the structure of the thematic and plenary panels for the 2012 meetings. This is all quite tentative – the first real meeting of the program committee where these and other ideas will be discussed will be in early December – but it may give people some idea of the kinds of things I hope to see happen. What follows, then, is a brief sketch of the different kinds of panels around the theme of Real Utopias I would like see at the meeting.

I. Real Utopia Proposals Sessions

Each of these sessions will revolve around a proposal for a real utopian design to resolve some domain of problems. Examples would include: unconditional basic income, market socialism, equality-sustaining parental leaves, participatory budgets, random-selection democratic assemblies, worker cooperatives, stakeholder corporations,
solidarity finance, democratic media, etc. The ideal here is to recruit an anchor person for the session who we
know has already worked extensively on formulating such real utopia designs rather than simply a person who has
thought critically about the theme (although there will certainly be flexible on this). This format will not be appro-
priate for all of the themes around real utopias; it will be especially effective for those problems around which
there exists on-going discussion of alternative institutions.
My idea is for the sessions to be organized as follows:
• We will create a dedicated website for these sessions.
• The person who anchors these sessions will prepare an elaborated proposal for institutional designs around
some theme which will be posted online by early 2012. While of course these essays will include some discussion
of what’s wrong with existing structures and institutions, the goal is for them to sketch the central contours of al-
ternatives. By this I do not mean a detailed “institutional blueprint”, but rather a careful elaboration of the core
principles of an institutional proposal. My expectation is that these will be in the 10,000 word range, although
some could be longer.
• In some sessions there could be two competing or contrasting proposals. Having two different proposals could
make for a very lively session for some topics.
• The website will allow for comments and dialogue so that these proposals can be part of a discussion prior to
the meeting. I am not sure yet precisely what the best design for the website would be, but I am hopeful that it will
be an interactive site rather than simply a passive site.
• At the session there will be a very brief – 15-20 minute – presentation of the proposal and at most one com-
mentary, or perhaps a contrasting proposal. I want to avoid panels with lots of presentations and little time for de-
bate and discussion.
In Footnotes, section newsletters, and other modes of information dissemination we will encourage people to look
at the proposals before the meeting and to come to sessions with issues they want to raise. While of course we
want to avoid long-winded speeches from the floor, I think somewhat longer than usual interventions could be
constructive.

Partial list of potential Topics for Proposal Sessions
Below is an initial list of possible thematic panels built around real utopia proposals. I have identified these ses-
sions by the central principle of the proposal (for example, Unconditional Basic Income) rather than by the general
topic or target of a proposal (eg. Healthcare), except where I do not have a specific real utopian proposal in mind.
Because of my own expertise, most of the topics I have thought of revolve around political and economic issues.
Nevertheless, it would be good if some of these thematic proposal sessions revolved around cultural issues of vari-
os sorts and around egalitarian and social justice issues that are not exclusively socio-economic in character
(gender, race, sexuality, etc.). Some of these topics may be more suitable for general thematic sessions rather than
for the proposal sessions.
  Unconditional Basic Income
  A democratic media system
  “High road” capitalism
  Democratizing finance
  Participatory budgeting
  A democratic, egalitarian system of campaign finance
  Deliberative referenda
  Gender: Parental leaves for gender equality
  Parecon (participatory economics)
  A framework for a digital network economy
  Building the Scientific Commons (publications, data dissemination, etc.)
  Community policing
  Worker-owned Cooperatives
  Pensions, labor’s capital, solidarity finance, wage earner funds
II. Film/documentary sessions

I think it would be interesting to have a number of sessions which present documentary films on exemplary and iconic cases of social innovations to solve problems. The intention here is not to have cheerleading films, but documentaries that analyze specific kinds of leading cases. The films could either be presented by the filmmaker or by an expert who researches the case and could lead a discussion following the film. Most documentaries which are thematically relevant on these issues tend to be mainly about social movements and struggles – sometimes of the “heroic struggle” variety – and not so much about outcomes, institutional innovations, actual transformations of social structures. So, I am not sure exactly what is available.

Examples could include things like:

- The kibbutz – there are a number of films that are retrospectives on the kibbutz experience
- Holding Ground – a film about the Dudley Street neighborhood association
- Public transportation – I understand that there is an interesting film about innovative public transportation in a Brazilian city, but I have not seen it

III. Thematic panels around broad topics and disciplinary subfields

Some of the topics listed under Real Utopia Proposals sessions could be shifted to these regular thematic sessions if we don’t find a suitable anchor person with a well-worked out institutional/transformational proposal. And some of the topics listed below, of course, could also be moved to the institutional proposal category.

In terms of format, I have a strong preference for sessions which do not have so many presentations that there is little time for discussion, and generally I prefer sessions without discussants – my experience is that it is usually more interesting to have discussion from the floor unless the discussant is really engaged in a debate with a specific argument (as in the proposal sessions). For these sessions, then, I would generally like three presenters and no discussant.

Some possible topics for general thematic sessions

1. Consumerism
2. The corporation: alternative models for more democratic/participatory governance
3. Carework
4. Future studies as a framework for envisioning real utopias
5. The Cleveland cooperatives initiatives
6. Mondragon, Emilia-Romagna and other exemplary worker cooperative districts
7. Utopian thinking within sociological theory
8. Utopian and dystopian visions
9. Marxism and real utopias or Marxism vs real utopias
10. Energy
11. Global Warming
12. The family
13. Sexuality
14. Childhood/children
15. Cities
16. Multiculturalism
17. Linguistic justice
18. Race, racial justice
19. International migration
20. Methodological issues: nonevents and possible futures
21. Criminal justice: crime & punishment
22. The military
23. Intentional communities
24. 19th century utopian communities
25. Transforming culture
26. Local food
27. Alternative Agro-food Systems
28. The Internet
29. Wikipedia
30. Creative commons
31. Voluntary simplicity
32. The Chicago participatory budget experiment
33. Transhumanism
34. Science policy

IV. Plenary Panels

The program contains up to three plenary sessions – one on Friday evening and the in the noon slot on Saturday and Sunday. Tentatively, I am thinking of the following possibilities:

1. Big Ideas for Real Utopias: This could be one or two of the plenary panels, depending on other plenary sugges-
tions. The idea would be to have a panel(s) featuring very prominent, articulate advocates of specific real utopian proposals. I envision three presentations for this panel, each around some Big Idea. One idea is also for these panelists to lead a proposal-thematic session (category I above) on the day after they are on the plenary panel. This would make it possible for there to be intensive discussion of the high profile ideas presented in the plenaries. If we have only one plenary session of this character, the topics could include, for example, some of the following:

- Basic Income
- A democratic media system
- Participatory Budgets and direct democracy
- Gender Equality and the family
- Cooperatives

If we have two panels of this sort, one could be built around democracy issues and one around equality issues:

- **Democracy:**
  - Making Elections truly democratic
  - Participatory budget and direct democracy
  - Democratic media

- **Equality**
  - Basic income
  - Gender equality and family
  - Cooperatives

2. *Energy, the environment, and global warming:* This plenary would focus on institutional designs for countering global warming and other aspects of ecological crisis rather than just the nature of the problem itself. Mostly when I have seen panels and discussions of these issues the discussion of institutional design is pretty thin. There is a sharp indictment of existing consumption and production patterns and a call for dramatic transformation in how we do things, but little discussion of the mechanisms for accomplishing this and how sustainability and low growth can be institutionalized and reproduced.

3. *Sociology as Real Utopia:* I am less sure about this, but it might be possible to have a session which reflected on the nature of the discipline and academic life, and asked what the real utopia vision for sociology might be.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Session Type:</th>
<th>Session Title:</th>
<th>Session Organizer:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Invited</td>
<td>Race, Methodology and Epistemology</td>
<td>David G. Embrick  &lt;br&gt; Loyola University-Chicago  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:dembric@luc.edu">dembric@luc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Open Submission</td>
<td>Changing Notions of Blackness in the Americas</td>
<td>Mindelyn Buford, II  &lt;br&gt; Northeastern University  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:m.buford@neu.edu">m.buford@neu.edu</a>  &lt;br&gt; Tanya Golash-Boza  &lt;br&gt; University of Kansas  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:tgb@ku.edu">tgb@ku.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Open Submission</td>
<td>The Growing Racial Wealth Gap and its Implications</td>
<td>Michael Emerson  &lt;br&gt; Rice University  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:moe@rice.edu">moe@rice.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Open Submission</td>
<td>Shifting Lines/Shifting Boundaries: Toward a Critical Sociology of Multiraciality</td>
<td>David L. Brunsma  &lt;br&gt; University of Missouri at Columbia  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:brunsmad@missouri.edu">brunsmad@missouri.edu</a>  &lt;br&gt; Kerry Ann Rockquemore  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:soclady@yahoo.com">soclady@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Open Submission</td>
<td>Race, Ethnicity and Human Rights</td>
<td>Rodney Coates  &lt;br&gt; University of Miami  &lt;br&gt; <a href="mailto:coatesrd@muohio.edu">coatesrd@muohio.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities Roundtables (one hour)  
Session Co-Organizers:  
David G. Embrick  <br> Loyola University-Chicago  <br> dembric@luc.edu  <br> Bhoomi Thakore  <br> Loyola University-Chicago  <br> bthakor@luc.edu
Announcements

- Mindelyn Buford II has joined the Northeastern University Department of Sociology and Anthropology as an Assistant Professor of Sociology.


- Joyce M. Bell has joined the University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor.

- Waverly Duck has joined the University of Pittsburgh Department of Sociology as an Assistant Professor.

FROM THE EDITOR

I have committed to another year as editor of Remarks, and I am very excited to see that with each issue I put together more and more section members are sending in information about their publications, and opportunities for scholarship and programs, as well as career and scholarship announcements. I hope that this will inspire even more members to send me information for the spring and summer issues in 2011!

I want to thank Erica Chito-Childs for her work as SREM Chair in 2009-2010 and welcome David Embrick as our new section Chair. At the suggestion of Dr. Embrick I have included, on page 2 of this issue, a chart with the SREM leadership past, present and future. If you want to get involved in any way with the section, these are the people you should contact—and I encourage everyone to do just that.

Along the lines of getting involved, I also encourage all of you to think about ways you may contribute to future issues of Remarks. Dr. Joyce M Bell will continue with Community Corner beginning in spring 2011; she is taking time off from the newsletter as she makes her transition from the University of Georgia to the University of Pittsburgh! Her new email contact, if you have ideas for Community Corner, is jmb267@pitt.edu. If you have ideas for a similar creative contribution to the newsletter, please let me know—I would welcome new ideas for Remarks!

—Wendy Leo Moore

Remarks is edited by Wendy Leo Moore

If you have comments, concerns, or ideas for future issues, please contact Wendy at wlmoore@tamu.edu.