Statement by the Chair

Dear Section Members,

In the past six months, those of us particularly attentive to media-driven and politically-inflected events related to sexualities have been treated to news of a “sex pill” for middle aged women, various celebrity marital breakups, reports of high birthrates to unmarried mothers, gay rights battles over marriage, military policy, and political asylum, the ever-present threat to family planning clinics, and continued spread of HIV globally, to name just a few. In May, all of us were shocked to learn of the decision by Marquette University to rescind its signed offer to Dr. Jodi O’Brien, objecting to her research focus on sexuality, sexual practice, and sexual politics. On behalf of the Section and in consultation with Sexualities Council members, I requested that the ASA condemn this action. The ASA did just that. [See the ASA letter later in this issue.]

Our Section day is Saturday, August 14, the first day of the ASA meetings. All our events are in the Hilton Hotel. Sexualities Section members will have the opportunity to consider the sociological framing and implications of some of these issues and many others in our formal sessions and at the Section’s reception. For example, Josh Gamson organized the session “Sexual Censorship and Sexual Controversy,” that addresses some of these issues directly. We have two other sessions on topics suggested by the section members at our business meeting last summer. In the first, participants to the session organized by Laura Carpenter consider “Sexualities Across the Life Course,” and the second, Adam Green in a session entitled “Space, Place, and the Geographies of Sexuality,” has gathered together scholars who tackle the unwieldy relationship of space to sexuality.

In addition to those organized as regular section sessions, we are involved in two other important scholarly and professional events. We are co-sponsoring with Sex and Gender section an academic session on “Gender Diversity and the Limits of Citizenship.” Concern with members’ professional lives resulted in the organization of the Professional Workshop, “Being LGBT in the Academy,” put together by Tim Ortyl and Betsy Lucal through the ASA LGBTQ Caucus. The workshop is also co-sponsored by SWS.

Everyone is invited to take part in our Business meeting that follows right after the Roundtables on Saturday afternoon. And of course, please join us for the Sexualities Section reception at 6:30 in the Hilton. At the reception, we will honor this year’s award winners and provide time for all of us to visit with our colleagues in this very exciting field.

Congratulations are in order: To the award winners (Jeffrey Weeks, Marcus Hunter, Tey Meadows, Mary L. Gray, Nancy Naples and Salvador Vidal-Ortiz), and to our newly elected officers (Kristen Schilt, Lorena García, Héctor Carrillo, Amy Stone, Corinne Reczek, and Georgiann Davis).

Finally, a special thanks to Kristen Schilt for serving as the section Secretary/Treasurer for so many years, to Bayliss Camp for producing our newsletter, and to Council members who provided invaluable service this year.

Beth E. Schneider, University of California-Santa Barbara
This Section

In the last decade or so, the study of sexuality has emerged as a vibrant interdisciplinary field of social analysis. For many years, sexuality was approached as an individual, biological or psychological phenomena. Today, the idea of sexuality as a social fact or construction is the point of departure for much of the most exciting scholarship in the area...

Sections are an important mechanism for getting out information about our specialty area... Section status also affords a variety of institutional supports from the ASA, including funding for information dissemination and a guaranteed number of paper sessions at the annual conference.

In short, we believe it is in the best interests of the discipline of sociology to advance the sociological study of sexuality. One way to promote this goal is to support the... "Sociology of Sexualities" as an ASA section and to encourage you to join... when you renew your membership in the ASA.

Text written by Steve Seidman, Gil Zicklin, and Mark Hager

The Purpose

The purpose of the Section on the Sociology of Sexualities is to encourage, enhance and foster research, teaching and other professional activities in the sociology of sexuality, for the development of sociology and the benefit of society, through organized meetings, conferences, newsletters, publications, awards, and other means deemed appropriate by the Section Council.

The Section seeks to promote communication, collaboration, and consultation among scholars in sociology, the sociology of sexualities, and allied disciplines.

Officers for 2009-10

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<th>Chair</th>
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<td>Elizabeth A. Armstrong</td>
<td>Juan Battle</td>
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Key Dates

**August 14-17, 2010**: ASA annual meeting (“Toward a Sociology of Citizenship: Inclusion, Participation, and Rights”): Atlanta, GA.


**March 10-13, 2011**: Pacific Sociological Association meeting, Seattle (submissions due: October 15th, 2010)

Congratulations to our new officers for 2010-2011!

**Chair-Elect:**
Kristen Schilt, University of Chicago (kschilt@uchicago.edu)

**Secretary-Treasurer:**
Lorena García, University of Illinois-Chicago (lorena@uic.edu)

**Council Members:**
Héctor Carrillo, Northwestern University (hector@northwestern.edu)
Amy Stone, Trinity College (amy.stone@trinity.edu)

**Student Representatives:**
Corinne Reczek, University of Texas-Austin (reczek@prc.utexas.edu)
Georgiann Davis, University of Illinois-Chicago (gdavis4@uic.edu)
The Simon and Gagnon Award honors career contributions to the study of sexualities as represented by a body of work or a single book. This award commemorates decades of research and writing on sexualities by Professor William Simon (University of Houston) who died on July 21, 2000, and his longtime collaborator, Professor John Gagnon (SUNY-Stony Brook).

2010 Honoree: **Jeffrey Weeks, Professor Emeritus; London South Bank University and the Institute for Social Science Research.**

The ASA Section on Sexualities is pleased to announce two winners of this year’s Distinguished Book Award:


The Martin Levine Memorial Dissertation Award was established to honor the memory of Martin Levine, who died of AIDS in 1993. It provides $3,000 to a graduate student (and $500 to an honorable mention) in the final stages of dissertation research and writing, who is working on those topics to which Levine devoted his career: 1) the sociology of sexualities, 2) the sociology of homosexuality, and 3) HIV/AIDS research. It is designed to help students complete their dissertations; the committee therefore evaluates dissertation proposals rather than completed work.

2010 Winner:
**Tey Meadow (New York University), for "The Gender Dis/Order: Childhood Variance and the Politics of Conformity."**

2010 Honorable Mention:
**Evren Savri (University of Southern California) for “Queer Subcultures and Politics in Turkey.”**

This award is given to a paper authored by a student currently enrolled in a sociology graduate program. A paper may be co-authored by two or more students who would share the award (papers co-authored with faculty are not eligible).

2010 Recipient: **Marcus Hunter (Northwestern University) for “All the Gays Are White and All the Blacks Are Straight: Black Gay Men, Identity and Community.”**

Please join in congratulating all of the honorees at the annual reception: Saturday, August 14th, 6:30-8:30pm at the Hilton-Atlanta.
2010 ASA Meeting, Sexualities Section Activities

NOTE: Please check the final ASA program schedule for the specific room locations of various sessions.

Saturday, August 14th:

8:30 - 10:10 a.m.: Paper Session: Sexualities Across the Life Course (Hilton)
Organizer and Presider: Laura M. Carpenter (Vanderbilt).
Discussant: Koji Ueno (Florida State).
Sinikka G. Elliott (North Carolina State): “Talking to Teens (or Not) about Sex: Age and Gender Dynamics in Mother-Teen Sex Talks.”
Amy Caroline Lodge and Debra Umberson (UT-Austin): “Broken Masculinities and Femininities: Gender and Sexuality Among Older Married Couples.”
Amelia W. Karraker and John D. DeLamater (Wisconsin-Madison): “Habituation, Age, or Physical Health?: Sexual Activity Cessation among Older Married Couples.”

10:30 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.: Invited Session: Sexual Censorship and Sexual Controversy (Hilton)
Organizer and Presider: Joshua Gamson (U. of San Francisco).
Discussant: Barry Adam (Univ. of Windsor).
Amin Ghaziani (U. of British Columbia): “Infighting and Insurrection: The Role of Conflict and Culture in Organizing Lesbian and Gay Marches on Washington.”
Beth Schneider (UC Santa Barbara): “Sex Scandals in the 21st Century: Heteronormativity and the Commercialization of Masculine Transgression.”

2:30 – 4:20 p.m.: Paper Session: Space, Place and the Geographies of Sexuality (Hilton)
Organizer and Presider: Adam Isaiah Green (U. of Toronto).
Kimberly Kay Honag (UC Berkeley) "She's Not a Low Class Dirty Girl!: Sex Work in Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam."
Christopher J. Stapel (U. of Kentucky), “Reclaiming Rural Ruralities: (Anti)Metronormative (De)Colonization of Rural Space and Place.”
Corie Hammers (Macalester College): “The Racial (Re)Production of Sexed Spaces.”
Eve Ilana Shapiro (Westfield State) and Amy L. Stone (Trinity): “This Group is How I Came into Queer”: The Role of Community Space in Retooling Sexuality.”

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.: Refereed Roundtables (Hilton)
Organizers: Anna Sorensen (UC Santa Barbara) and Lorena Garcia (Illinois-Chicago).
Topics: Sexualities, Boundaries, and Identity Construction I and II, Sexualities and the Internet, College Students and the “Hook Up” Culture, Theoretical Perspectives on Sexuality, Family Relationships, Practices, and Discourses of LGBTQ-identified Individuals & Groups, Exploring Factors that Inform Sexual-Decision Making, Challenging Sexual and Gender Binaries, Social Movements and LGBTQ Activism

5:30 – 6:10 p.m.: Business Meeting (Hilton; same room as the roundtable sessions). Please attend and share your input regarding the coming year for the Sexualities Section.

6:30-8:30 p.m.: Section Reception (Hilton-Atlanta).
2009 ASA Annual Meeting, Other Sessions of Interest

NOTE: please check the final ASA program for specific room locations.

Saturday, August 14th:
   Regular Session. Sociology of Body (Hilton).
4:30 - 6:10 p.m.: Regular Session. Masculinities (Hilton).

Sunday, August 15th:
8:30 - 10:10 a.m.: Regular Session. Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Studies (Hilton).
12:30 - 2:10 p.m.: Section Session (Collective Behavior and Social Movements). Forms of Contemporary LGBTQ Organizing (Hilton).
2:30 - 4:10 p.m.: Regular Session. Stigmatizing, Refining, and Mainstreaming LGBTQ Identities (Hilton).

Monday, August 16th:
8:30 - 10:10 a.m.: Professional Workshop. Being LGBT in the Academy (co-sponsored by the Section on Sexualities, the ASA LGBTQ Caucus, the Sex & Gender Section, and Sociologists for Women in Society) (Hilton).
   Organizers: Betsy Lucal (Indiana U. – South Bend) and Timothy Ortyl (U. of Minnesota).
   Panelists: Mary Bernstein (U. of Connecticut), Nikki Jones (UC Santa Barbara),
   Dina Perrone (CSU Long Beach), Carla Pfeffer (Purdue U. – North Central), and
   Salvador Vida-Ortiz (American U.)
   Regular Session. Political Sociology: Political Dimensions of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality (Marriott Marquis).
2:30 - 4:10 p.m.: Regular Session. Race, Class, Gender, and Religion: HIV and AIDS in Comparative U.S. Contexts (Marriott Marquis).
4:30 - 6:10 p.m.: Regular Session. U.S. Lessons in HIV and AIDS Prevention (Marriott Marquis).
6: 30 p.m.: Section on Sex and Gender reception (Marriot Marquis).

Tuesday, August 17th:
12:30 - 2:10 p.m.: Invited Session (Section on Sex and Gender). Gender Diversity and Citizenship (Hilton).
ASA Statement on Dr. Jodi O’Brien

(An open letter from ASA Present Evelyn Nakano Glenn to the President and Provost of Marquette University, regarding the rescission of an offer to Dr. Jodi O’Brien of the deanship of the College of Arts and Sciences)

May 12, 2010

Reverend Robert Wild, S.J., President, and Dr. John Pauly, Provost
Marquette University
Zilber Hall, PO Box 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881
By Fax: 414-228-3161
414-288-7664

Dear President Wild and Provost Pauly:

As President of the American Sociological Association (ASA), I am profoundly concerned about your decision to rescind your offer to sociologist Dr. Jodi O’Brien to become Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Marquette University.

The ASA is the national scholarly society for American sociologists with a national and international membership of over 14,000 most of whom are employed in the academy. The ASA has a long-standing record of rejecting any policies or actions in the academy that disqualify candidates who are pursuing scholarly inquiry that is recognized as legitimate within their disciplines. The Code of Ethics of the American Sociological Association and the explicit policies of our Association also reject any exclusion on the basis age; gender; race; ethnicity; national origin; religion; sexual orientation; disability; health conditions; marital, domestic, or parental status. We regard these standards to reflect the fundamental principles of academic freedom and the core mission of higher education in both scholarship and teaching.

We condemn the action of Marquette University’s senior officials in rescinding its offer to Dr. O’Brien. By doing so, Marquette University appears to have violated its own non-discrimination policy as well as the principles of free inquiry that govern all great universities.

As a scientific discipline, sociology seeks to develop theoretical and empirical understanding of complex social structures and social processes through research and scholarship. This often means that sociologists’ legitimate lines of inquiry take them into areas that can be fraught with cultural and social conflict. The scholarship of sociology, however, cannot abandon these areas; indeed, in its search to contribute to learning and social well-being, sociology explicitly promotes the vitality and diversity of research within our discipline. The ASA has 50 special interest sections as part of our organizational structure that reflect this diversity. From sections on Peace, War, and Social Conflict and the Sociology of Education, to a section-in-formation on Altruism and Social Solidarity and the Section on the Sociology of Religion, to the long-standing Section on Sex and Gender and the Section on Sexualities, these intellectual communities reflect areas of active sociological scholarship. As the publisher of nine major scholarly journals in sociology, the ASA includes high-quality, peer-reviewed research in all these areas of scientific inquiry.

As a major institution of higher education, Marquette University should acknowledge the professional and personal harm it has done to Dr. O’Brien by rescinding its offer to her. Similarly, the university should recognize that, by its action, Marquette has broken the principles of academic freedom and professional collegiality and damaged the university’s own stature as an institution of higher education.

As President of the American Sociological Association, I request that Marquette University affirm its dedication to non-discrimination and principles of academic freedom by extending an invitation to Dr. Jodi O’Brien to be Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences that includes a statement that the University desires her leadership. We are hopeful that Marquette may still have the privilege of having this outstanding sociologist within its community of scholars and leaders.

Sincerely yours, [signed in the original]

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, PhD
President, American Sociological Association
Director, Center for Race and Gender, and Professor, Gender and Women’s Studies and Ethnic Studies
University of California, Berkeley
Call for Applications

Director, LGBT Resource Center, Syracuse University

Syracuse University is seeking an experienced energetic leader to fill the position of director of the LGBT Resource Center. The mission of the LGBT Resource Center is to provide education, advocacy, support, and safe space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and straight ally students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents/family members. The Center provides programs and activities, education, resources, trainings, advocacy, consultations, and referrals regarding the diverse set of concerns that affect the LGBT and questioning community. The Director of the LGBT Resource Center is a full-time professional staff member responsible for the overall management of the Center.

For more information on qualifications, and to apply, please go to: http://www.sujobopps.com (refer to job# 026133). Cover letter, resume, and list of three references must be attached to the application. Syracuse University is an EEO/AA Employer.

Call for Submissions

Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change, a peer-reviewed volume published by Emerald Group Publishing/JAI Press, encourages submissions for Volume 32 of the series. The theme of this volume will be women and/or gender; submissions concerned with gender and/or women as it relates to any of the three broad foci reflected in the series title will be considered.

To be considered for inclusion in Volume 32, papers should arrive by August 1, 2010.

Send submissions as an MS Word document attached to an email to Anna Snyder, RSMCC Guest Editor for Volume 32 at a.snyder@uwinnipeg.ca.

Call for Applications

Post-doctoral Teaching Fellow, Ctr. for Population Research in LGBT Health

The Fenway Institute of Fenway Health in Boston is pleased to announce an employment opportunity for a position as a Post-doctoral Teaching Fellow. The duties are to teach and assist with the Center for Population Research in LGBT Health’s Summer Institute Program. More information about the Summer Institute can be found at: http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/FENWAY/training.

The post-doctoral fellow will reside at The Fenway Institute and will join an interdisciplinary community of scholars and investigators. S/he will pursue a productive research program, will teach in the LGBT Population Center’s Summer Institute in LGBT Population Health, will supervise and instruct graduate students in the Summer Institute’s data lab, and will assist in administering the Summer Institute program. The fellow will be encouraged to develop research collaborations with TFI investigators and to engage in research projects using Fenway Health’s electronic medical record data.

For more information about the position, requirements, and the application process, please contact: Aimee Van Wagenen, avanwagenen@fenwayhealth.org, 617-927-6348 or Judith Bradford, jbradford@fenwayhealth.org, 617-927-6015

Ctr. for Population Research in LGBT Health, The Fenway Institute, 1340 Boylston St. Boston, MA 02215.
Call for Members: Section on Disability

ASA Section on Disability in Society

This is an urgent appeal to all social scientists interested in disability scholarship to join the newly formed Section-in-Formation of the American Sociological Association: Disability in Society. We intend to explore a range of issues which will be very familiar to those studying the sociology of sexualities, including ways certain bodies, desires, and behaviors are pathologized. If you are interested in processes of medicalization, discrimination, stigma, social exclusion, prejudice, and social control – or if you are simply interested in the connections between disability and intersex bodies, or the ways in which certain disabled bodies are ‘queered’… this may be the place for you! This new Section-in-Formation is a great place to network, engage with other scholars, discuss recent events, and pursue avenues for grants, teaching, research and service.

The existence of the Disability and Society Section is dependent on our ability to attract at least 300 paying members by September 2010, or we have lost the opportunity to become a section of ASA. If you would like to advance the continuation of disability scholarship in sociology, please join us today.

Contact Liat Ben-Moshe (ibenmosh@maxwell.syr.edu) with any inquiries about the section and becoming a member. Mailing address: Syracuse University Disability Cultural Center, Center on Human Policy, Law and Disability Studies, 805 South Crouse Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210-1714.

The Disability section is also pleased to be offering FREE membership to graduate students who are current members of ASA who would like to join the section. Please contact Valerie Leiter (valerie.leiter@simmons.edu) to make those arrangements.

Have Something to Say?

Submit your brief announcements, 500-word essays, reviews, letters, art or photos for the next issue of SexualitiesNews to: Bayliss J. Camp, bayliss.camp@csus.edu, Dept. of Sociology, CSU Sacramento, 6000 J St., Sacramento, CA 95819 Fax (916) 278-6281.
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