Annual Report for the Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology

For membership year 2016-17

Prepared by: Jennifer Chernega, Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer of the Section and Kimberly E. Fox, Past Section Chair

October 2017
Introduction

Dear Section Past Chair;

Section Annual Reports are an important tool for building your section’s institutional memory and history. In addition, they are one of the most valuable tools that the Association has to assess the vitality of your section. These reports are read and discussed by the Committee on Sections at its Fall/Winter meeting. Afterwards they are retained in the ASA’s Sections archive and will be available upon request for future section members and officers.

Annual Reports should cover your section’s activities during your term as chair, or approximately from the end of the previous year’s Annual Meeting to the end of this year’s.

Please send your completed report to the Executive Office by October 15th of this year. We prefer your reports are sent in electronic format rather than in print. Any printed materials sent to us will be converted into an electronic format.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments or concerns. I am here to assist you. Thank you for your hard work and creativity over these last several years, and congratulations for the successful completion of your term as Chair of your Section.

Sincerely,
Justin Lini, MA
Program Coordinator for Sections, American Sociological Association.
(202) 383-9005 x 330 - Lini@ASAnet.org
Section Governance
During the 2016-2017 year, we held five meetings including our business meeting at the 2017 ASA annual meeting. The standing section committees - programming, awards, and communications - also held meetings and two ad hoc committees met to discuss the organizational directory planning and a new mentoring program. The focus of this year was looking at how we can more effectively engage and support new graduate students and those who are interested in obtaining applied positions.

Business Meeting

Minutes for Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology Business Meeting
Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 9:30am
Palais des Congress de Montreal, 517C

Present: Angela Aidala, Terceira Berdahl, Chloe Bird, Gary David, Michael Fleischer, Melissa Fry, Leslie Hossfeld, Kristen Kenneary, Katie Kerstetter, Melodye Lehnerer, Harry Perlstadt, Jacob Sargent, Tom Pineros Shields, and Greg Squires

Public Engagement Liaison Program – Carmen Russell, ASA
Carmen Russell, the new ASA Director of Communications, introduced himself to section members and discussed his goals for ASA communications. He expressed his desire for ASA to be a media organization in its own right, without having to rely on other media sources to be an intermediary for disseminating news. He has hired a multi-media producer at ASA, who has put out the first video in what is expected to be a long series of explanatory videos, and has also released the ASA’s first podcast, which focused on assaults on free speech on campus. ASA will still do press releases and work with “regular media” – but Russell emphasized that the more we can talk directly to the public is good rather than waiting for other outlets to come to us.

There is a new Public Engagement Liaison Program, and Harry Perlstadt is our Public Engagement Liaison (PEL) for the SPPS section. Each section will have a public liaison, and the deadline for sections naming their public liaisons is September 1. Russell is hoping that the PELs can provide rapid response referrals to sociologists who may be a good fit to speak to a particular story that is being written.

In addition to having a PEL, we also have an SPPS member - Chloe Bird – who is on the Public Engagement Committee of ASA. Russell said that the sees SPPS as a good place to get feedback as he works on the communications plan for ASA. Members of the section emphasized that scholars in our section work directly with publics and that many of our members are experienced with the direct-interfacing work that Russell is emphasizing and do this in the normal course of our work. Members also expressed a desire to develop and cultivate job markets for sociological skills across multiple sectors, highlighting different pathways for graduate students with sociological degrees.
Russell mentioned that the videos that ASA produces can have multiple audiences and purposes and directed members to the first video in the new series with Paul Starr (http://www.asanet.org/news-events/asa-news/paul-starr-shaping-american-health-care-system). He also said that he will be doing a lot of capacity building given that the Communications Department has a staff of three at ASA.

Members also encouraged Russell, in terms of this capacity development work, to focus not just at the federal level and the Washington D.C. region/major cities but also on what is happening at the local and state levels, including what sociologists are doing in small rural communities and small towns. The suggestion was also made to Russell to connect with URBAN (http://urbanresearchnetwork.org/) and its sociology and geographic nodes. Finally, members also asked whether there is a more systematic way to highlight members’ public mentions in Footnotes rather than relying on individual member contributions.

Russell can be reached at russell@asanet.org.

Organizational Directory – Erica Ramos, Loyola University Chicago
Kimberly Fox presented an update on the Organizational Directory Project on behalf of Erica Ramos. A few planning meetings were held last year and included members from AACS and CAPACS. Loyola University will probably be the place to seat the project. Erica Ramos has written a report on questions related to the project, including cost, sustainability, time, and relationship with ASA. She may be renewing conversations with ASA about their support of the project given ASA’s renewed focus on public engagement.

The organizational directory is a searchable way for people to find out who hires sociologists outside of the academy. There was also a suggestion about whether we can put up sample resumes to provide a guide to translating academic work into a public setting, including how to talk about sociological work in these settings.

The audience for the directory is people who are interested in transitioning into more applied work in the future. There is a question about how to keep the directory updated without it being too time intensive.

Erica has a layout of costs, and the current estimate for maintenance is $300-$400 per year. This cost would be divided between three professional groups: SPPS, AACS, and CAPACS. CAPACS would like to see equal branding on the website among the three participating organizations. They are willing to commit funds to the budget and are eager to see the project move forward.

Secretary/Treasurer Report – Kimberly Fox (for Jenna Nargang Chernega)
Kimberly Fox presented information about the section’s membership and finances on behalf of Jenna Nargang Chernega. According to the last update, the section has about 290 members. Our goal is to reach 300 members by September to keep our current amount of sessions for next year’s ASA Meeting.

To recruit additional members, suggestions were made to set up a table at the AACS Meeting for SPPS and have a laptop there for people to register for SPPS on-site and to gift student memberships. According to Michael Murphy at the New Section Officers Orientation, the new system that was developed to accept student gift memberships closed on July 31. However, Murphy is open to coordinating with sections to make it possible to still give student memberships, and Katie Kerstetter (incoming Secretary/Treasurer) will work with him to make sure we are able to provide gift memberships to students. Murphy also mentioned that there is a proposal to delink the number of sessions that are afforded to sections from their membership numbers, and we discussed the importance of lobbying ASA to support that proposal.
Regarding our budget, Jenna suggested that we lower the amount of funding provided for student awards so that we can reverse the trend of ending the year about $150-$200 over budget. There was some concern voiced about lowering the amount of funding we would provide to students and suggestions were offered about other ways to raise funds to cover the shortfall, including a silent auction and a solicitation for donations to the section. Members expressed some concern about the feasibility of a silent auction, given members’ experiences with them in other professional associations and sections. A suggestion was made that the SPPS program committee could consider these and other ideas.

**Passing of the Gavel**
The meeting closed with a passing of the gavel from outgoing chair Kimberly Fox to incoming chair Melissa Fry, the introduction of new officers and section council members, and brief remarks from Melissa that included the importance of strengthening SPPS’s relationship with ASA, AACS, and CAPACS.

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**Section Council Meeting**
We held a joint council/business meeting at ASA in August. In addition to that meeting, we had four other council meetings during the year. I’m including minutes from each meeting where available. These minutes indicate topics of conversation and attendance when available.

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**SPPS Section Council Meeting**
9/21/16, 4pm EDT
Minutes

Attendance: Caren Arbeit, Jennifer Chernega, Kim Fox, Kathleen Korgen, Greg Squires, MaryAnn Mason, Melissa Fry, Catherine Mobley, Dmitri Khodyakov, Harry Perlstadt.

Not Present: Chloe Bird, Jacob Alden Sargent, Douglas Klayman

I. Welcome/Introduction of New Members

II. Continuing Business
   a. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

   313 total members (207 regular, 89 student, 17 low-income)
   Awaiting new budget numbers—received $300 in donations since meeting, budget not as dire as I originally thought because we had only received about half of the levied dues due to us. Chloe and I will submit annual report soon.

   b. ASA Meeting Review

   Two sessions—1 invited panel with practicing sociologists, 1 open paper session
   Roundtable sessions—14 tables on variety of topics—a couple tables with good response and some tables with very low turnout, some table used by other organizations (URBAN, CAPACS, etc.).
   Reception—started onsite and moved off-site to nearby restaurant.
c. For next Annual Meeting
   3 sessions
   Roundtables/ business meeting
   Reception

Kathleen Korgen- in terms of roundtables, section seems to be missing relational aspect- roundtables could be used for a way to get to know each other in the section.

Kim- could use time for a council meeting as well as a business meeting.

Some would like roundtable time protected, someone who knew more of the history and knew that it had taken a long time to block out those slots and even if there is a lull in papers in a year or two, it would be tough to lose the time and space for papers.

Maybe roundtables could incorporate some “getting to know you” ideas. Roundtable with Chloe on applied sociology was very useful.

Roundtables with lots of people should be preserved.

Greg- I’d be concerned about giving up the time slots for the roundtables. I’m in the URBAN group and the students have found that very useful. Gives people with common interest a time to get together. Roundtables give individuals on a topic to get together with others. Graduate students can go and hear the idea, too, without “outing” themselves as overly interested in applied work?

Kim- It’s up to Melissa and the program committee to make these decisions. Maybe having fewer tables and more focus as well as ways to advertise to other sections or more people. We are able to be a space for URBAN, CAPAS, Applied and Public Soc organizations. Maybe the program committee can think about the best way to use that space and time.

Is there something we can do to get more people to submit papers?
   • Target programs with applied components as well as section involvement.
   • Some sections use listserv to remind people to submit papers.
   • Other sections are more targeted in topic. Unless we make a decision to have a more targeted focus, more e-mails may not be as effective.
   • Target a call for papers with an applied bent.
   • What about targeting types of projects- such as different types of program evaluation.
   • I don’t think you can target the roundtables – it is only the main sessions that have targeted topics. But I like that way of thinking, so that it was targeted by method rather than topic area.
   • Maybe examples of projects that we could send to other section listservs.
   • Question about ASA roundtable selection- people who submit papers can select 1st choice section, 2nd choice section and then check a box whether they would be willing to be considered for a roundtable.
   • Maybe there is a way to be more visible as a possibility for a roundtable paper—
• Harry- there should be a way to get those papers rejected from other sections by looking at the options and contacting the organizers of those sessions to ask for their rejected papers.
• Great idea, but not sure it can be implemented.
• Kim- maybe we can get people to think of us a second or third choice.
• Melissa will take these comments to the program committee.

Kim- move to reception and award discussion—May want to consider separating awards and reception. We could move the awards to the business meeting and then have the reception as a separate event.

**Folks liked moving awards to during the business meeting.**

Other section had awards during reception off-site. May draw more people if the award was part of it.

Jenna- As recently as Denver, we were giving the award at the off-site reception.

The change seemed to be when we gave the award to Rosabeth Moss Kanter and we had her give a talk to draw people to our section that year.

d. Committee Work

1st year council members are on the program committee with Melissa (future chair). Kim did get some additional volunteers who were interested and will pass that info onto Melissa.

Newsletter committee chaired by Dennis and populated by 2nd year members. 2nd year members also on election committee chaired by Chloe as past chair. No one has volunteered to run for Sec/Treas or newsletter editor.

Award committee chaired by Kim and staffed by 3rd year members.

October 15th deadline on program issues—no new meeting before then. Committee will work on that.

e. Meeting Schedule

Schedule another meeting 6 weeks around the same time. No one disagreed. **Kim will schedule.**

f. Newsletter update- Dennis Watson (newsletter editor) has some submissions and info on award winners. If anyone has burning desire to help with the newsletter. If there is anyone interested-forward name to Kim/Dennis.

III. New Business

a. Directory of Organizations Taskforce
Actually kind of old business. Augie is happy to continue working on it, but need more people help move it forward. Catherine interested in working on it. Catherine has access to student help and can look for further info for the directory. Kim- data has been gathered, just an issue of getting it online and working with ASA website. Need to make it go live. Students would be very useful in that way. Kim and Augie will contact interested folks to get things moving this year. **Maybe a conference call for those who are interested maybe next month.**

b. New Award?

Currently have grad student award and lifetime award. Should we or could we have a mid-career award? In the past 2 student awards with $500 each. Should we lower amount to $300 to avoid eating into reserve.

Harry- other sections have paper awards. May be easier than mid-career award. Could be conference presented paper or published in refereed journal. May be easier to set criteria than mid-career award.

Could use that to drive a follow-up session. May want to make broader than refereed journal. Could it include book? Book chapter? Etc.?

Good idea to have it broader than refereed journal, but not book or article. Maybe a white paper that would better represent our section.

Maybe an article, working paper, or report. Or we could alternate year by year? Opening up beyond the written word—you tubes, etc. other ways that can present applied data.

Award committee will take this up in their meeting. Requires a by-law change.

c. By-Law Change to add Graduate Student Council Member

Provide good outreach to graduate students and help open ideas of non-academic careers. Kim would advocate for that.

Do other sections have grad school members on council?

Several mentioned other sections that have grad student members.

**Kim will get award committee talking and write up language for grad school council member. Council puts together proposal then add to spring ballot for voting. Nominations for election and by-law changes need to submitted in November.**

IV. As May Arise

Mentoring? What would be the timeline on working on that and who would lead it?
Last year, program committee considered more mentoring or small group mentoring. Separate from our set plans or maybe during the reception. Other groups set it up so that people who are interested mentoring are set up with mentors and then they work together to find a time to meet.

I like the idea of the one on one meetings actually because people can see others who do applied sociology and could ask questions of.

At Southern meetings, they have incubator sessions where a grad student gives a paper that is in process and then gets feedback from more senior folks. One-on-one feedback about job search. SWS has teach-me sessions to help people get feedback on job materials. Maybe we can incorporate into roundtable sessions.

**Kim and Caren will work together to put something together.**

Moved to adjourn, seconded. Unanimously passed.

Adjourned at 5pm EDT

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**SPPS Council Call October 26, 2016**

1. **Treasurers Report**—316 members—roughly same as last year. Should be getting another dues allocation which will put us at $158 in the account.
   
   Thank you to Harry Perlstadt for Awards Plaques.

2. **Bylaw changes**—must be submitted by November 10 to be placed on the ballot.
   a. **graduate student members**—addition of two graduate students to the Council. Could do two year terms and stagger them. Other sections either elect or appoint. Some have indicated that appointment may work better for this because it doesn’t require that we have a competitive candidacy process. Some sections have a student outreach committee that recruits students to the section, encourages paper submissions, and engage in increasing student engagement.

   Some think two years is better. Longer term commitment may be more difficult for graduate students. Some express interest in election over appointment. Some think we could just have one student the first year and then stagger from there. This would require an amendment this year for one position and another next year. But Harry says we could elect two and have the draw for distinct term lengths. Kim indicates that having one elected every year and serving two year term will naturally stagger it.

   Group is in agreement about the role of student Council Members. Kim and Harry will move it forward and get it out for a vote before November 10 deadline.

   b. **new award(s): Third award discussion.**

   Potentially add a publication award in applied or public Sociology—we could alternate between journal articles and other types of publications—reports, briefs, white papers, or essays published as book chapters etc. Question raised: What makes a project Sociological? Maybe “informed by a sociological perspective.” Maybe we do not need to specify where or how they are published. Do we want to require some sort of peer review?
“Policy reports” rather than “Policy analyses”—Not a journal article and not a book—alternative venues—is that what we mean. Maybe include “books” with “journal articles.”
Kim proposes sticking to journal articles. Kim will send out revised language for a vote before going to ASA for November Deadline. Time frame will be 3 years for both.

3. ASA program plans [Melissa was talking during this section and could not take notes—she pasted the program plan here as documentation of the update provided during the call].

**Invited Session**

**Civic Engagement and Action: Culture and Inclusion on Campus and Off**

**Organizer: Yvette Young**

More than 15 years ago, Robert Putnam’s *Bowling Alone* generated concern about declining civic engagement and social capital. Over the last decade Universities, foundations, nonprofit organizations and think tanks have risen to the challenge of increasing civic engagement and action. This session brings together leaders from inside and outside the academy to discuss challenges and successes of service learning and civic engagement efforts on and off campus and to speak to whether these efforts are increasing voter turnout, social capital, and participation in old and new forms of voluntary association and social action.

We want this session to reflect variety in current efforts to increase civic engagement and build social capital in college students and in the wider society. The session will highlight strategies that are working, challenges and lessons learned from efforts to date, and where leaders think we stand in the effort to increase civic engagement and social capital.

If invited session, ideas for panelists/orgs to represent:
- Campus Compact
- Reimagining America
- Harvard Kennedy School—The Saguaro Seminar
- Demos
- Representative from a campus that is leading the way in Service Learning?
- Academic and/or practitioner from Montreal to share Canadian perspectives and to help us attract and reach out to local folks.
- Jennifer Cross from Colorado State might be an option.
- Jose Calderon from Pitzer is also a possibility.

**Invited Session**

**Sociological Perspectives on Evaluation Research**

**Organizer: Melissa Fry**

Sociologists bring to added value to evaluation inside and outside the academy. The session will include papers that address topics such as transformative evaluation, cultural competency, validity in studies of marginalized communities, and the role of voice and inclusion in collaborative community processes.

We want this session to move beyond discussion evaluation strategies and techniques to explore how the sociological perspective and toolkit enhances evaluation and should be used to interrogate standard evaluation and identify opportunities for inclusion and critical reflection on voice, validity, and power in shaping both evaluation outcomes and uses of evaluation findings.

If invited session, ideas for panelists/orgs to represent:
- Mathematica
Someone working in Sociology of Education that does evaluation—Rand has some good folks doing this work
RTI
Donna Mertens or Amy Wilson
Elmima Johnson

**Open Submission Refereed Session**
**Applying Sociology to Real World Problems**
*Organizer: Mark Frezzo*
Sociological research has a wide variety of applications from classroom teaching to public policy discussions. This session invites papers that apply sociological research and knowledge to enhance teaching, assist non-profit organizations or government agencies, evaluate programs, contribute to the analysis of current events, and inform public policy.

We want this session to reflect a broad array of interests from classroom work to public interest research and policy initiatives.

**Roundtables**
*Organizer: Melissa Fry*
Roundtables will include papers submitted to our sessions, but not accepted and we will also alert other sections to our interest in submissions that involve applied or public sociological research methods or purposes that do not make it into other refereed sessions.

**Mentoring Table**
*Organizer: Catherine Mobley*
One university-based applied and/or public sociologist and one non-academic applied sociologist will lead discussion that will answer questions that undergraduates, graduate students and junior faculty may have about strategies for success inside and outside the academy. Depending on turnout, this may divide into two tables to target distinct audiences.

*May go in the approved Workshop on Applying Sociology outside the academy. If not, we will host a roundtable on the topic.*

**Writing for Non-academic Audiences and Non-academic Venues**
*Organizer: Kristin Kenneavy*
Group will discuss writing for non-academic audiences and non-academic venues. May consider someone from The Society Pages and/or Carsey Institute to lead the discussion.

**Reception**
We will plan for an off-site reception close to the conference center so we don’t lose participants along the way. None of us is in Montreal so we will prepare for something on-site as we work on something off-site with the goal of having it off-site and on-site as the back-up.

A committee member has some connections in Montreal and will seek recommendations for a location close to the Convention Center. Our awards ceremony will be held at the reception. We would like a place very close to the conference site and one that will be accessible for those with disabilities.

Next steps:
- Invite speakers to our invited panel sessions.
- Plan reception and make all appropriate reservations.
• Contact other session chairs about funneling “applied” papers that don’t make it into sessions to our roundtables.
• Review submissions for open session.
• Plan roundtables: interest in mentoring round tables (what’s it like to work outside academia? Applied Sociology in the Academic setting?) We received feedback that we should contact other sections and indicate that if they have papers that are applied and don’t get accepted they should send them to our Round Tables (evaluations, needs assessments, public sociology pieces and the like—we should list a few specific types of projects for this).

4. ASA workshop—Casey Oberlin will be organizing the workshop, which was approved.
1 hour 40 minutes
Don’t know if it will coincide with our section day or how it will coordinate. They will schedule in April and that is when we will know.
Need to send a paragraph and title by November 21.
We can build this to complement and extend on what we have in the program.
Would like to see broad participation—maybe target international and diverse applied contexts. We need to discuss format.
[See attached workshop proposal.]
We need to discuss potential participants and a format for the workshop.
Don’t want to repeat the media engagement workshop or writing press releases workshop. We might focus on items like policy briefs and public reports.
Someone had reached out to Phil Nyden about writing for other audiences and it sounded like a good fit for a round table.
Oriented toward those in transition—graduate students or faculty looking to shift to work outside of academia.
Maybe include previous Dentler Award members along with some that are more senior to get diversity of experiences. This is a good way to keep award winners engaged.
We can think about what we might want to do for 2018—the theme is related to race so we should start thinking about possibilities.

5. Mentoring project
Match people on skill areas rather than rank or level. “Getting a job outside academia,” for example. Maybe 5 categories—evaluation research, for example. This could be nonhierarchical.
Suggestion: pairings occur before we get to Montreal based on an announcement/invitation.
Karen says we’ll announce in the Spring and match by July so that people can be ready and plan ahead for ASA.
People could do virtual or in person mentoring out of this effort.
Could set aside a table at roundtables for a more general conversation.

6. Org Directory project
Three schools—CURL at Loyola, Gary David at Bentley, and Katherine at Clemson have agreed to work on moving this forward and are looking into hosting the directory.
The Organizational Directory will be a service to Sociology.
Katherine says that Clemson program is a logical home, but they are in a transition period and not in a great position to launch this effort. Could still provide some student labor.
CAPACS and AACS are also involved in this effort.
Katherine asked if we were going to talk more about proposal from Loyola. Kim says that conversation is the group working on the Directory, not the Council.
7. Website updates
Working to get newsletter connected to our website. We need an additional person who might take a lead role on moving our website forward. Grad students may have interest and skills.
Also, Dennis has stayed on as newsletter editor, but would be happy to step aside. We might consider combining communications roles.
Web-site does not have new officers and Council Members—we need to at least update the leadership page.

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Minutes for 3/3/17 SPPS Executive Council Meeting

1. Secretary/Treasurer Report (Jenna)
   a. Membership is a little low across the board, including our section

2. By-Law Updates (Kim)
   a. We proposed two changes to the by-laws. The first introduces a new award to honor an outstanding publication or applied paper from the previous 3 years. These awards will rotate between a traditional journal publication and an applied paper. The second bylaw change adds graduate students to the council. We will have 2 graduate student representatives for overlapping 2 year terms – the first will be elected next year and the second would be elected the following year.

3. Upcoming Elections (Kim) – we have a full slate of nominations but if you know anyone interested in serving on the council, please have them contact Kim or Chloe.

4. 2017 Conference Programming (Melissa)
   a. There was a meeting on Feb 15th, sessions are moving forward.
   b. The open submission session and two invited sessions are planned.
   c. Discussion over what to do about roundtables- perhaps a mentoring table
   d. Reception planning is going well, looking at a restaurant near the hotel

5. ASA Workshop (Casey – arriving late)
   a. Casey is working on this for 2017 ASA

6. Section Website (Kim)
   a. Jacob solicited website goals and will work on improving the site.
   b. Goals included
      i. Baseline need: reliable and current information for the council (bylaws, etc.)
      ii. Next level goal: animate communication within section membership (announcements about awards and CFPs)
      iii. Would be nice if possible: membership retention and recruitment of new members through sharing relevant information (jobs, news etc.)

7. Mentoring Program Pilot (Caren)
   a. Caren described some models. Council was interested in focusing mentoring on the meeting—coffee connections or the like. Caren and Kim will discuss the options.

8. Directory of Organizations (Kim)
   a. There is interest in housing at Loyola University, but there are still challenges there.

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Minutes for SPPS Council Meeting 6/2/17
In attendance: Kim F, Melissa F, Dennis W, Dmitry K, Jenna C, MaryAnn M,

Congrats to Kim on new job!

1. 2017 ASA Conference Meetings & Reception
   Conversation with Casey Oberlin from Grinnell- putting together a workshop, not listed as our event in the program, but organized by us. Workshop focused on how to become an applied sociologist. Scheduled at 2:30 on Sunday, Aug. 13th. Casey suggests two areas to focus on: Decoding a skill-based resume and job interview list of questions to ask.
   Roundtables on last day (Tuesday) at 8:30 followed by section business meeting. Very few papers- each paper has a table and people attending can move from table to table to hear and converse about individual papers. Other table on mentoring (Catherine) and maybe other table on writing for non-academic audiences.
   Sessions-all set and ready to go.
   Melissa will put together a flyer on all section events.
   Reception- at Tapas 24. Still looking at menu. Need to discuss menu and budget and reimbursement.
   Mentoring opportunities- Kim is working with Caren Arbeit on it.

2. Election Updates/Voting Closes Jun 1
   Election is over and waiting on results. Kim will send out results as soon as she hears, hopefully soon.

3. Awards - nominees for Dentler Student and Whyte Award
   Three nominations for Dentler award.
   No nominations for Whyte award- section council put forward some ideas.
   Awards will be given out at the reception. Will need to get them made. I’ll get Jeff Will’s e-mail to Kim.

4. Strategic Planning for Section Website
   Needs someone to curate it. Elizabeth and Jacob looked through it, but it really needs regular tending.
   Communications committee should be in charge of this. Right now Dennis works on newsletter and Jacob works on the website, but might need to pull that back together. Need to update the minutes and the newsletter on the website. Perhaps we could reinvigorate the communications committee for next year.

5. Newsletter Editor Opening
   Dennis is stepping away after three years as newsletter editor. Will need to find a new person for this. Current section members may not use the website as much as the newsletter. Maybe a share site for the council where the minutes, budget, etc. could be used by the section council. Maybe the graduate student council member could be tapped to be on the communication committee. Dennis- job requires sending out requests for material and then placing the content in the template, format it, edit and send it out. Not a heavy work load.

State of the Section Budget
   Our section stayed within budget, although we have been slowly eroding our end-of-year balance. We had a total income of $2,464 and total expenditures of $1,464 and an ending balance of $2,269. However, payment for our reception at the Annual Meeting was not yet included in the end-of-year report, which will reduce the balance by approximately $1500. Our proposed budget for next year attempts to correct this erosion by reducing the funds available for student awards.
An operating budget for the coming year approved by the Section Council. See the attached budget report for the section’s budget plan for next year.

Statements, Notes, Observations
In recent years, our expenditures have been greater than our income so we have been using up our section savings. We propose two things to stem this trend: 1) cap the award to student honorees at $800 ($400/awardee); and 2) be particularly mindful of spending on the section reception. We believe that these two actions will keep our budget inline for the coming years.
The Previous Year

This section discusses your section’s activities during your term as Section Chair.

Overview

During the 2016-2017 year, we met four times to discuss how we could move the section forward and support the growing interest in applied and public sociology. These meetings included discussions of the collaborative organizational directory program with the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociologists (AACS) and the Commission on the Accreditation of Programs in Applied and Clinical Sociology (CAPACS). We also discussed how to mentor new members and engage with graduate students and those interested in exploring applied and public sociology.

During the annual meeting we hosted 3 successful sessions – 2 invited sessions: 1 on evaluation research and 1 on civic engagement along with an open session on applying sociological research to real world problems. All of our sessions were very well attended even though they took place on the last day of the conference. The section also helped plan a workshop titled, Preparing for Applied Work Outside of Sociology: Lessons in Translation that led participants through developing a skills-based resume and interviewing for applied jobs. The workshop had 31 participants and received very positive feedback. We would like to host a similar workshop in the future and also provide resources on our website.

The least successful part of our annual meeting plans were the roundtable sessions that were sparsely attended. This has been an ongoing struggle for our section as we do not get the number of overflow papers that other sections receive. We have often used these roundtables to collaborate with URBAN and AACS but may want to re-evaluate how that time is spent. It may be more useful to use it for section business or other planning activities.

Recruiting and Retention Efforts

We continue to focus our recruitment efforts on graduate students through free section memberships, awards, and now graduate student representatives. We have been successful at keeping our numbers above the 300-member threshold and feel that is a good number for us. Although ASA’s renewed emphasis on public and applied sociology, we would like to find additional ways to effectively connect with these efforts and other ASA members who do applied, public and practical work.

Communications Strategy

Our section relies most heavily on the e-mail listserv to communicate with our members. We have weekly e-mails that go out letting members know about opportunities of interest. We have a periodic newsletter that includes articles by members and an update from our chair. We do have a website, although no one currently on our council has the skills to maintain or update it. Section members have expressed that they appreciate the weekly e-mails, although a few have asked not to receive them.

Statements, Notes, Observations

Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.
The Coming Year
This portion of the report discusses your section’s plans for next year.

Elections and Nominations
Our nominations committee consists of the past chair and the 2nd year members of the council as outlined in our section by-laws. The committee suggests members who they think would make good members of the council and we also ask members of the section to self-nominate for council seats as well as leadership positions. This fall we also sent out a volunteer opportunity form asking people to get involved in section activities, including leadership and council positions. These processes lead to a good slate of candidates for our positions.

Plans for the coming year.
Our plans for the upcoming year includes a continuation of our engagement with applied and public sociology among our section and throughout the ASA membership. We are also enhancing our connections to other applied sociology groups, most notably AACS, whose president Gary David is also a member of our section. This collaboration has focused on the ongoing organizational directory project that has moved forward in the last few years and that we hope will “go live” during the upcoming year.

We are also emphasizing our stronger connections to graduate students through electing the graduate student representatives and developing our mentoring program. A formal mentoring program for section members can support members at all levels of experience to show the important work of applied and public sociologists throughout the policy and academic communities. We recognize that sociologists may move into applied work at multiple stages of their careers and want to provide an opportunity for them to get advice from those in applied positions.

Statements, Notes, Observations
Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.
The Association and the Executive Office

This is your opportunity to put items onto the agenda of the Committee on Sections and ASA Staff.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the ASA Council and Committee on Sections?

With the renewed emphasis that ASA is placing on applied and public sociology, we would like to become a stronger partner with the central association leadership on this front. Our collective experience in industry, academia, and government can enhance the efforts of ASA and support the longstanding work of the Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology. The work of our sections crosses with many of the more topical sociological sections and we think it would be useful to see how sections like ours are complementary to the work of many sections.

What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to ASA Staff?

Please feel free to suggest improvements to sections procedures or services provided to sections.

Statements, Notes, Observations

I want to thank you for all the help you provide sections. It has been very useful to know that I can reach out to you as needed and that I will always get a prompt and helpful response.
Sociological Practice and Public Report for Current Year

For more information please contact the Section Coordinator, Justin Lini (lini@asanet.org)

### Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Meeting</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>$1,552.87</td>
<td>37300</td>
<td>estimated based on invoice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Meeting Expense</td>
<td></td>
<td>37310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td></td>
<td>37320</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>37370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,552.87</strong></td>
<td><strong>n/a</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Awards</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
<td>37360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Plaques</td>
<td>donated</td>
<td>37360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td></td>
<td>37360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>37360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>n/a</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communications</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td></td>
<td>37330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td></td>
<td>37370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>37370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>n/a</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miscellaneous</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td></td>
<td>37370</td>
<td>Gift Memberships may not be funded from allocated funds. Funds must be raised for this purpose.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td></td>
<td>37370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>37370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>n/a</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$2,552.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Year's Income</td>
<td>$2,464.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carryover Balance</td>
<td>$805.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Year Balance</td>
<td><strong>$716.13</strong></td>
<td>From Net Assets, Beginning Balance in Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Calculated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Allocation</td>
<td>$1,632.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description: Fill this in using the "Section Budget Allocation" from the "Year to Date" Column

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levied Due</th>
<th>$367.00</th>
<th>Special</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: Fill this in using the "Dues Income" from the "Year to Date" Column. Your section may not collect excess dues. Dues income accrues on a monthly basis, so this number will change over time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>$265.00</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: These are funds raised from members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Royalties</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: Royalties donated by members or generated through other activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outside Contributions</th>
<th>$200.00</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: Funds donated from individuals/entities outside the section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miscellaneous Income</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Miscellaneous Income</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Description: Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>$2,464.00</th>
<th>n/a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Sociological Practice and Public Sc Plan for Next Year

Use this sheet to assist with planning for the next year. *All operating budgets must be approved by the section council.*

Note: All green shaded areas are self calculating. This budget template only covers activity for your section’s primary account. Any restricted accounts and endowments must be monitored and reported on separately. Please use the Notes field to provide information on miscellaneous

For more information please contact the Section Coordinator, Justin Lini (lini@asanet.org)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budgeted Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Meeting Expense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Awards</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Awards</td>
</tr>
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<td>Award Plaque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Communications</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Website</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Miscellaneous</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Summary</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budgeted Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carryover Balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Est. End of Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- I suggest a lowered student award amount if possible to correct our recent history of spending approximately $150-200 more than our income each year.
- Gift Memberships *may not* be funded from
- Brought over from current year’s report
# Estimated Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Calculated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section Alloc</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
<td>(Members*2)+A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**: The amount allocated is determined by the overall membership size. Sections with fewer than 200 members receive a base allocation of $500. Sections with less than 300 members but more than 200 members receive a base allocation of: (# of section members minus 100) multiplied by $5. Sections with more than 300 members receive a base allocation of $1,000. In addition the section receives two dollars from dues of each member. **To calculate this amount enter your section’s membership in the shaded box on the left. See your monthly membership report update for these numbers.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Special</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Levied Dues</td>
<td>$504.00</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Contributions</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**: Any dues raised by the sections in excess of the base rate go directly to the section’s coffers. The base rate is $10 for regular members, $5 for students and $10 for associate (low income) members. Subscription Fees for Section Journals are not added here. **To calculate this, add regular members to the light shaded box, student members to the middle shaded box, and low income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Special</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Contributions</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Contributions</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Contributions</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**: Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description.

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Special</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Contributions</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description**: Anything not captured above. Please replace this text with a description.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>$2,504.00</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>