Section Annual Report for
Section on the Sociology of Culture

This annual report covers the period of section activity from September 2017 to August 2018 and a fiscal year from January 2018 to December 2018. The report is typically completed by the immediate past chair of each section as it covers the period this person served as chair. However, it is often completed in consultation with other officers and it may be submitted by anyone on the section council.

Sections that do not file an Annual Report will have their budget allocation withheld until a complete report is received. Please submit the report by November 15.

Section Governance
Provide details of your section’s governance activity during the period between September 2017 and August 2018.

Business Meeting
Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and approved meeting minutes from the section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting.

Business Meeting; August 13, 2018, 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Minutes: Prepared by Ruth Braunstein, COO

Ron Jacobs convened the business meeting at 11:30am.

1. Ron Jacobs welcomed newly elected section leadership.
   Chair-Elect (two-year term begins in 2018):
   Allison Pugh, University of Virginia
   Council Member (three-year term begins in 2018):
   Victoria Reyes, University of California, Riverside
   Gabriel Abend, New York University
   Student Representative (three-year term begins in 2018)
   Joanna Pepin, University of Maryland

2. Ron Jacobs thanked outgoing section leadership and newsletters editors.
   Student Representative: Gemma Mangione, Northwestern, 2018
   Francesco Duina, Bates College & University of British Columbia 2018
   Terence Emmett McDonnell, University of Notre Dame 2018
   Kelly Balistreri, Bowling Green State University 2018

   Newsletter editors:
   Diana Graizbord
   Michael Rodriguez
   Hillary Angelo
   Dustin Stoltz

3. Ron Jacobs thanked 2017-18 nominations committee.
   Jeffrey Guhin (Chair)
4. **Ruth Braunstein reported on the section’s membership and finances.**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The culture section is the second largest section of ASA, with 971 members at last count (August 8, 2018). The section also has the third largest number of student members (316 as of August 8, 2018). That said, for the fourth year in a row, our membership numbers are a bit down, and for the first time since 2008 we have fewer than 1000 members. If we are not able to get this number back above 1000 by September 30, we would only earn five sessions for next year's meeting rather than our typical six sessions.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Once all of the income and expenses shake out, the culture section has in recent years carried a balance of around $10,000. We currently have $15,150 in the bank (as of July 31, 2018), but this does not yet reflect our annual meeting expenses. Although we took in more income than we spent last year, this year we are on track to spend about the same amount as our income.

The bulk of our income comes from our section budget allocation from ASA, which gave us $3,126 this year; the rest comes from dues, which has given us $701 as of the July 31, but by the end of the year usually comes out to about $1,200. Total annual income is thus around $4300.

We will spend $3,057 this year on our reception, which will be held tonight (Monday, August 13) from 6:30 to 8:10pm at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Level 5, Salon H. We will also spend about $432 on the council meeting food.

Our other annual meeting expenses come from the awards we distribute. In addition to the $300 that we grant the graduate student award recipient, we also spent $196 on plaques this year. We awarded seven plaques for three section awards (one award had co-winners, one award had one honorable mention, and one award had two honorable mentions). We also re-ordered one plaque from last year due to an error on the plaque.

Outside the annual meeting, we also spend $500 to support those who produce our website.

Last year former Culture Section COO Allison Pugh noted that a $10,000 balance is highly unusual for a section (it is more common to have between $3-5K). In light of this, at the 2017 Culture Section Council Meeting, council members agreed to poll section members about how to spend $5,000 (approximately half) of this surplus and to discuss the results of this poll at the 2018 ASA Annual Meeting. Gemma Mangione has prepared a separate report on these results.

4. **Report from Gemma Mangione about Council decisions regarding surplus funds.**

Gemma Mangione reported that the Council will create a new committee to evaluate applications for student travel awards, and will create an ad hoc committee to develop the mentorship program. She solicited volunteers for the ad hoc committee. The following members volunteered:

- Michaela DeSoucey
- Michael Vaughn
Ron Jacobs thanked Gemma for taking the lead on survey and analysis.

5. Presentation of section awards

Book Awards
Committee: Michaela DeSoucey (Committee Co-Chair), Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve (Committee Co-Chair), Jonathan Wynn, Ming-Cheng Lo, Andrea Voyer

Presented by Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve and Michaela DeSoucey
Received 30 books

Co-Winners:
Michaela DeSoucey’s comments about Clayton Childress. Under the Cover: The Creation, Production, and Reception of a Novel (Princeton, 2017):

“Culture” books usually do either the sociology of culture (understanding social influence on cultural formations/objects/industries/expressions) or cultural sociology (understanding cultural influences on social processes). This book does both, and does so in such an insightful and engaging way.

Under the Cover follows the life course of a historical novel from creation to production, and to reception. In doing so, Clayton conducted sweeping research in which no stone was left unturned. He took on the challenging empirical task of mapping these intersecting cultural worlds using archival, ethnographic, and survey methods, he demonstrates that the process is creating a book is truly a collective one.

The book is epically broad in scope, without cheating readers of attention to detail and rich illustrations of the ideas. It reads like peeling the layers of an onion!

It was our committee’s pleasure to read Under the Cover and to award it the Mary Douglas prize. We all felt this book is going to have lasting impact and should shape the sociological study of culture for a long time to come. It raises the bar for all of us.


Paper Award committee
Committee: Daniel Winchester (Chair), Lisa McCormick, Claire Decoteau, Jessi Streib, Greggor Mattson
Presented by Dan Winchester
Received 41 articles

Honorable Mention

In this article, Maggie Frye provides novel answers and insights regarding a central question in cultural sociology: how can peoples’ cultural understandings or beliefs about why people do the things they do simultaneously contribute to and diverge from aggregate patterns of action? Often
seen as competing explanations – peoples’ beliefs are either causal drivers of action or simply post-hoc sense-making devices for action already undertaken – Frye shows how both can be true in her analysis of the relationship between girls’ sexual relationships and educational pursuits in contemporary Malawi. Frye’s interviews with teachers and students demonstrate a strong belief that sexual relationships make it impossible for girls to continue in school, but her survey data provide limited support for these posited causal processes. However, these shared beliefs about the detrimental effects of relationships on school performance do have real consequences: teachers, parents, and students act as if these narratives are true, and these behavioral responses sustain the broader antagonism between sex and schooling. Acting within a normative environment that connects sexual relationships and school failure, teachers and parents create new capabilities and constraints for female students and—without realizing their role in the process—render girls’ schooling trajectories conditional on their sexual comportment. In doing this work, Frye extends our understandings of a classic sociological concept – the self-fulfilling prophecy – as well as demonstrates a methodologically sophisticated recursive approach between survey and interview data. Please join me in congratulating Prof. Frye for her contribution and award.

Winner of Geertz Award

Paul Joosse’s work is an exciting example of how rediscovering largely neglected concepts and arguments in classical cultural sociology can be used to answer pressing questions in our contemporary moment. More specifically, Joosse shows how a reclamation and extension of Max Weber’s overlooked notion of the “charismatic aristocracy” helps us answer the question of how charismatic authority – often understood as an inherently personal form of legitimate domination – spreads its influence into wider and wider social territory. How, in effect, do gurus, saints, prophets, heroes, celebrities, current U.S. presidents extend their seemingly personal and idiosyncratic charisma across broad swaths of social space and time? Well, they don’t do it alone. Instead, Joosse explains, they do so through a particular social structure, an inner circle of followers “marked by an excellence in their ability to comport themselves as exemplary charismatic followers—followers who are exquisitely qualified to perform roles as valiantly subservient partners in the charismatic interaction”. These partners mediate the relationship between the leader and his/her followers, forming, extending, and reconstructing the charismatic bond that ties one to the other. Most fascinatingly, Joosse shows through an empirical application of his theory to the case of the emergence and ascension of the leader of a successful contemporary new religious movement, the role of the charismatic aristocracy is just as important for shoring up the confidence of the leader during moments of crisis and confusion as they are in transmitting his aura to throngs of followers. What Joosse does ultimately, creatively marrying Weberian theory with insights from symbolic interactionism and the performative turn in cultural theory, is create a truly relational and interactive approach to the constitution and spread of charismatic power, one that both demystifies one of Weber’s most fascinating but least understood concepts at the same time that it opens up new domains for empirical application. Please join me in congratulating Prof. Joosse on his award and for his rich contribution to cultural sociology.

Best Graduate Student Paper Award
Committee: Matthew Clair (Chair), Shai Dromi, Alvaro Santana-Acuna, Matthew Norton, Jingsi Wu
Presented by Shai Dromi
Received 17 papers
This year, the Richard A. Peterson Award committee received 17 impressive papers. The committee—comprised of Matthew Clair, Shai Dromi, Matthew Norton, Alvaro Santana-Acuna, and Jingsi Christina Wu—unanimously agreed that one paper stood out above the rest. This year’s
Richard A. Peterson Award goes to Anya Degenshein, a Ph.D. candidate at Northwestern University, for her paper "Strategies of valuation: Repertoires of worth at the financial margins."

Drawing on 13 months of rich, ethnographic fieldwork in a Chicago pawnshop, Anya’s paper examines how customers and employees seeking to sell or purchase goods rely on discursive strategies to contest the value of particular objects. She identifies three discursive strategies of valuation used in the pawnshop—reference to a physical characteristic of an object; reference to the unique biographical history of an object; and reference to the unique biography and social position of the customer, the owner of the object. Surprisingly, she observed that some customers were able to reference their disadvantaged social position—e.g., telling the pawnshop owner they needed money for their taxes—in order to increase the value of an object they were selling to the shop. One customer’s loyalty to the pawnshop also enabled him to negotiate an object’s price down when seeking to purchase several items.

Anya’s findings contribute to economic sociology and cultural sociology by showing that these three discursive strategies serve as an important mechanism in the formation of economic value. Moreover, her findings reveal how an individual’s disadvantaged socio-economic status—if strategically employed—can work to one’s benefit in the context of pawnshop negotiations. She suggests that these discursive strategies likely operate in other, more mainstream economic contexts, as evidenced by the pawnshop opener’s use of his own biography to obtain a bank loan. The committee commended Anya for writing an outstanding paper that is both theoretically important and empirically rich.

In addition to Anya’s paper, the committee selected two additional papers to receive honorable mentions: Lily Liang, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for her paper "No room for respectability: Boundary work in interaction at a Shanghai rental"; and Talia Shiff, from Northwestern University, for her paper "Evaluating the case: Encounters of schematic accordance and discordance in asylum adjudications."

Lily’s paper draws on deep and impressive ethnographic fieldwork in a Shanghai collective rental—a 3-bedroom apartment where she and 36 women lived in the summer of 2011. Her paper examines how these women managed their crowded living situation. Even though all the women were recent migrants to Shanghai and worked in low-paying jobs, some were college-educated and others were not. Education status served as a salient symbolic boundary. The paper shows how the college educated women engaged in defensive othering against the non-college women. The college-educated women derided the non-college-educated as “low quality” people whom they resented because their co-habitation reminded the college women of their own struggles for self-worth. Lily’s paper shows how defensive othering can weaken solidarity among subordinated groups.

Talia’s theoretically innovative paper draws on semi-structured interviews with U.S. asylum officers to examine how they make asylum decisions in the face of ambiguity, or what she defines as “schematic discordance.” Schematic discordance occurs when asylum officers confront asylum-seeker cases that do not fit within routine agency categories but nevertheless reveal moral deservingness. Under such conditions, the paper shows how asylum officers transform from rule-bound bureaucrats to moral deliberators. Contributing to the literature on frontline workers’ discretion and the literature on moral justifications, her paper offers insight into the ways bureaucratic decision-making is able to proceed in situations where a frontline bureaucrat’s personal belief or moral evaluation is not legible to standard agency categories.

Ron Jacobs asked anyone who took photos of award winners to send those to him so we can run them in the newsletter.
6. **Ron Jacobs solicited nominations for the 2018-19 nominations committees.**
   Boris Buyukokutan
   Fatima Gocek
   Amy Jonasson
   Michael Strand
   Genevieve Zubrzycki

7. **Ron Jacobs introduced the new section chair Omar Lizardo.**

Omar Lizardo spoke about the fact that the culture section is an intellectually vibrant section, featuring methodological diversity and theoretical depth; that the state of the section is strong and its getting even stronger over time; and that the distinction between sociology of culture and cultural sociology is eroding over time.

Omar Lizardo reminded members about the Section Reception.

Omar Lizardo closed the business meeting.

---

**Council Meeting**

*Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and approved meeting minutes of all Council Meetings conducted between August 2017 and September 2018. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.*

---

**Section Council Meeting**

*Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2018*

Prepared by Ruth Braunstein, COO

**Minutes from the 2018 Culture Section Council Meeting**

August 13, 2018

Attachments:
- culture 2018 COO report.docx
- culture 2018 results of surplus survey.pdf

Attending: Outgoing Chair Ron Jacobs (University at Albany); Incoming Chair Omar A. Lizardo (University of Notre Dame); Chair-Elect Allison Pugh (Univ. Virginia); Chief Operating Officer Ruth Braunstein (Univ. Connecticut); Student Representatives Gemma Mangione (Columbia University Teachers College) and Ande Reisman (University of Washington); Incoming Student Representative Joanna Pepin (Univ. Maryland); Council Members Terry McDonnell (Notre Dame); Elizabeth Armstrong (Univ. Michigan); Aneesh Aneesh (Univ. Wisconsin); Patricia A. Banks (Mount Holyoke); Ming-Cheng M. Lo (Univ. California-Davis); Victoria Reyes (Univ. California, Riverside);

Not attending: Council member Gabriel Abend (NYU)

Ron Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:10 a.m. Breakfast was served.

1. **Approval of 2017 minutes.** The Council approved the 2017 minutes.
2. **Report on awards committees.** Ron Jacobs updated the Council on discussion about changes to the time window for book submissions. In past years, authors could submit books published during the two prior years, but this not only led to a large number of submissions (which was a large burden on selection committees) but also unfairly benefitted books published at the beginning of the calendar year. This year the Council agreed to limit submissions to books published during one full year prior to the submission deadline. The Council discussed this decision and agreed to continue this policy in the future.

*Update: Ruth Braunstein has reminded Ron and Omar to change the language of the call for nominations on Dropbox so that this is ready to go in the Fall.*

3. **Report and Discussion of Newsletter/Website.** The Editors welcome submissions, but are otherwise happy with how things are going. Council reports the website support team has been very responsive. Council working under the assumption they will continue on as the editorial/web team.

4. **Report from Ruth Braunstein about section membership and financial status.** See “culture 2018 COO report.”

   Allison Pugh raised the issue of how to plan sessions for next year in case we fall below 1000 members and lose a session. The Council agreed we should plan for six sessions. It is also possible we will get an extra session if we are scheduled on the last day of the ASA next year. Allison Pugh is investigating this possibility.

5. **Discussion of member poll regarding use of excess funds.** See “culture 2018 results of surplus survey.”

   Gemma Mangione circulated copies of her report on the findings of the member poll concerning how to spend $5000 of excess funds. 400 responses were collected. She reminded Council that excess funds cannot be used to fund student memberships. She also suggested we correct an assumption some members have that we plan to spend entire surplus and not just $5000.

   How does Council feel about results? Ron Jacobs raised the issue that a mini-conference would spend all of the surplus money at once and could actually make the ASA more expensive by extending the length of the conference. It may also be unnecessary since we already have a large number of sessions. On the other hand, travel support for graduate students would be able to support more students over a longer period of time. Gemma Mangione noted this could also help address the decline in membership, by signaling that the section is supportive of graduate students.

   Aneesh Aneesh suggested we choose whether to focus on things that keep members satisfied and strengthen existing section, or focus on something that would attract new members.

   Victoria Reyes suggested small microgrants to a small number of students each year. Elizabeth Armstrong suggested this go to students on roundtables or others beyond student award winners. If we offered 5 x $100 grants per year, this could last several years. But what would the process be? Gemma Mangione proposed an application that demonstrates applicants are presenting at ASA and have financial need (based on level of departmental or other support). We could consider students who get some funding from home institution, but also create a ranking based on level of need (Ron Jacobs).

   Ron Jacobs proposed creating an ad hoc committee to work out the details and process. The Committee would need to investigate whether we would need to set up another committee to make decisions about microgrants; whether we need to amend bylaws, etc. Victoria Reyes will serve as Council representative on this committee.
Council voted on a proposal to offer small student travel grants (5 x $100 annually) to support presenting at ASA; to create an ad hoc committee to work out the details; and to solicit three volunteers for the committee at the business meeting. **Council voted yes unanimously.**

Terry McDonnell suggested we also use part of the funding to support a mentorship program beyond the professionalization workshop. Council voted on this proposal as well as the proposal to create an ad hoc committee to work out details (how to structure mentorship program, etc). **Council voted yes unanimously.**

*Note: At the business meeting Tania DoCarmo volunteered to help with mentoring ad hoc committee.*

The council decided Gemma Mangione could report these council decisions to members at the business meeting.

6. **Discussion of reception planning.** Ron Jacobs investigated the possibility of planning an off-site reception (spent 20-30 hours), but concluded the costs were prohibitive for spaces that could fit our large section membership (400). He ultimately decided to hold the reception on-site. He asked whether the Council had a preference about this going forward. Patricia Banks and Allison Pugh noted that off-site receptions can be more feasible when someone is located in the conference city or when we co-sponsor with another section. Next year is in New York, so it was suggested that we may want to include locals on an informal conference planning committee. But Ron Jacobs also noted that it is a lot to ask the section chair to do the work of organizing an off-site reception. Ande Reisman noted that some people appreciate the convenience and accessibility of on-site receptions. There was general agreement that an on-site reception is fine for next year, but that the Council would ultimately leave this up to the next chair.

Ron Jacobs called the meeting to a close at 8:05 a.m.

**The Previous Year**

Describe section activities during the period between September 2017 and August 2018.

- **Membership recruitment and retention** – What efforts did the section make to retain members and reach out to new members? What were the results of the efforts?

Given that the Sociology of Culture section has been such a large section for so long, we no longer have a membership committee devoted to securing new section members (as we did in the 1990’s). Instead, we have relied upon the natural growth of the topic matter to draw in members, which makes sense given the sizable number of graduate students who continually replenish section membership numbers. At last report, we were the section with the second-largest number of members, and the third-largest number of student members.

Instead, we focus on communicating with members via the revamped Culture Section website and newsletter.

- **Communications** – How does the section communicate with its members? Did it begin using any new technologies or strategies? If so, were they effective? Include links to the section website, newsletters, and any other electronic media used.
While the Culture Section continues to make use of the section listserv, the bulk of the section communication has migrated to the Culture Section website and newsletter, both of which can be found at http://asaculturesection.org.

Hillary Angelo, Diana Graizbord, Michael Muniz, and editorial assistant Dustin Stoltz have worked hard to make this a “one-stop” location for communication with members, with a newsletter, notes on recent publications, and announcements for various competitions, grant application deadlines, and publication opportunities.

• Mentoring – What, if any, mentoring opportunities does the section offer to students, early career faculty, nonfaculty, etc.?

Each year the section organizes a career workshop, which is organized by graduate students and focused on the professionalization of graduate students and early-career faculty. This year, the session was focused on “Bringing Cultural Sociology to the Public”. The session was organized by Gemma Mangione (Teachers College, Columbia University) and Andrea Reisman (University of Washington). The panel featured early-career sociologists who had success communicating with the public through blogs, twitter, media interviews, and other forms of exposure that increase the public presence of cultural sociology. Panelists included Ellen Berrey (University of Toronto), Jesse Streib (Duke University), Daniel Hirschman (Brown University), and Greggor Mattson (Oberlin College).

The section has also decided to create five travel awards to support graduate student attendance at the Annual Meetings. An ad hoc committee was created to establish guidelines for the award. The committee is headed by Victoria Reyes, and also includes Michaela DeSoucey, Shai Dromi, and Michael Vaughn.

• Programming – Provide an overview of the section’s programming at the annual meeting, scholarly/professional development activities outside of the annual meeting, development of substantive resources, partnerships with other sections or groups, etc.

The overall theme this year was to showcase the relevance of cultural analysis across emerging fields of inquiry and thematic concerns in the discipline at large, while also addressing analytic and empirical issues of fundamental substantive and theoretical interest to cultural sociologists.

Furthering the first mandate, Marion Fourcade (UC Berkeley) and Kieran Healy (Duke University) co-organized an open-submission panel on "Emerging Economies of Moral Judgment". Panelists included Mary Patrick, Gabriel Chouhy, Greta Krippner, and Barbara Kriviat. Estimated attendance was 55.

In addition, Lynette Shaw (University of Michigan) organized an open-submission panel on "Computational Social Science, Culture, and Cultural Analysis ". Panelists included Christopher A. Bail, and M.B. Fallin Hunzaker, Marcus Mann, Friedolin Merhout, John Paul
Bumpus, Jaemin Lee, Taylor Whitten Brown, Carly Knight, Richard W. Lu, Jennifer A. Chatman, Amir Goldberg, Sameer Srivastava, M.B. Fallin Hunzaker, Devin J. Cornell, and John W. Mohr. Estimated attendance was 78


Furthering the second mandate, there were several open-submission panels dealing with thorny theoretical problems in the study of culture. The first, organized by Stephen Vaisey (Duke University) dealt with the connection between "Cultural Sociology and the Study of Beliefs, Preferences, and Choices." Panelists included Colin Bernatzky, Alanna Gillis, Laura Krull, Nick Bloom, Dimitry Kurakin, Dan Wang, Jackson Lu, Sheena and Sethi Iyengar. Estimated attendance was 30.

Iddo Tavory (New York University) organized an open-submission panel dedicated to the issue of the many meanings of our central concept entitled "Culture in the Plural." Panelists included Ariel Yankellevich, Anne Warfield Rawls, Jason Turowetz, Paul J. DiMaggio, Sharon Cornelissen, and Athena Engman. Estimated attendance was 45.

Finally, our referred roundtable session was co-organized by Dustin Stoltz and Marshall Taylor (University of Notre Dame).

The last session was a professionalization workshop for early career scholars. This year’s panel, co-organized by Gemma Mangione (Teachers College, Columbia University) and Andrea Reisman (University of Washington) was an invited panel dedicated to "Bringing Cultural Sociology to the Public." Panelists are listed above, in the discussion of mentor activities. Estimated attendance was 27.

**Plans for the Coming Year**

Describe section plans for the period between September 2018 and August 2019. These plans should align with the 2018 budget and proposed 2019 budget below.

- **Membership recruitment and retention** – What efforts will the section make to retain members and reach out to new members? What are the goals of the efforts?

  We will continue to use the same recruitment and retention strategy, described above, which has been very effective.

- **Communications** – How does the section plan to communicate with its members? Does the section plan on using any new technologies or strategies? If so, how?
Our plans for communication will remain the same, as we continue to consolidate all our communications within our section website.

- **Mentoring** – *What efforts will the section make to mentor students, early career faculty, nonfaculty, etc.?*

  The main new effort is the creation of travel awards, which we describe above. We will also continue our practice of organizing a professionalization workshop, which is designed for graduate students and early-career faculty.

- **Programming** – *Provide an overview of the section’s upcoming plans for programming at the annual meeting, scholarly/professional development activities outside of the annual meeting, development of substantive resources, partnerships with other sections or groups, etc.*

  The following is the list of sections organized by the Section:

  **Algorithmic Cultures.** Organizer: Angele Christin, Stanford University. Description: From Facebook’s newsfeed to Uber’s ratings, algorithms and analytics – broadly defined here as computational procedures drawing on digital data – are increasingly mediating the production, circulation, and reception of meanings in the social world. Yet to date most sociological research has taken these technological developments as a set of methods to apply rather than as an object of study. This panel seeks to fill this gap by exploring the interplay between algorithmic technologies and cultural processes in a variety of social settings, from the workplace to the family. How do algorithms and analytics affect – and in turn are affected by – canonical cultural forces such as identities, repertoires, and values? How can we study this interplay? And what do these developments entail for the future of culture?

  **Culture and Service Work: Relationships, Identities, Inequalities.** Organizer: Eileen Otis, University of Oregon. Description: Service work is distinguished by an emphasis on relating to others, whether they are customers, clients or patients. The effort to relate invokes identities and generates inequalities. Culture can be said to inform this substrate of relational activity but the cultural dimension of the work is often taken for granted. This session seeks to unearth and subject this foundation of caring and services to critical scrutiny. We invite papers from scholars bringing a cultural lens to the specificities of service labor. We aim to engage a conversation about the cultural norms, ethics, symbols and codes that shape the modes of relating, identities and inequalities.

  **Culture, Racialization, and Intersectionality (Co-Sponsored with the Section on Race, Gender, and Class).** Organizer: Michael Jeffries, Wellesley College. Description: As the gospel of intersectionality spreads among sociologists and lay audiences, many observers lament a shift in focus and slippage in meaning. Crenshaw’s initial theory of intersectionality emphasized structural and legal realities, and the harm caused by interlocking race, gender, and class oppression. More recent invocations of intersectionality occasionally focus on identity at the expense of institutional power. Cultural sociologists are especially well equipped to bridge this gap, as we investigate relationships between institutions and the people who work, play, and create meaning within them. This session will highlight cultural sociology approaches to intersectionality as an essential consideration in the study of racialization. We invite papers with new and inventive applications of intersectionality to topics including, but not limited to, processes of identity and group formation, cultural production, and value/belief systems. Historical and contemporary
studies are welcome, as are multidisciplinary approaches to the study of culture and racialization.

Global and Transnational Approaches to Culture and Power (C-Sponsored with the Section on Global and Transnational Sociology). Organizer: Chinyere Osuji, Rutgers University. Description: Both members of dominant and marginalized populations must negotiate, contest, or reproduce the social boundaries that lead to inequality around the world. At the heart of this is how people make meaning of these processes, whether through the use of cultural repertoires, framing issues for their constituencies, or story-telling, among others. For this panel, we will examine these social phenomena, whether from members of marginalized or dominant peoples, to have a better grasp of how social actors navigate unequal societies globally. This panel will especially provide a critical approach to racial, ethnic, gender, religious, and class boundaries or any combination of these social categories in global or transnational contexts. Overall, it will illustrate the link between this meaning-making and building particular strategies of action, including everything from silencing undesired voices to starting or engaging social movements, whether locally or globally.

Section on Sociology of Culture Refereed Roundtables. Organizer: Matthew Rowe, University of Colorado.

Graduate Student Professionalization Workshop. Organizers: Ande Reisman (University of Washington) and Joana Pepin (University of Maryland).

2018 Finances
Provide a narrative on how the 2018 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2018. Please account for any substantive differences.

The Section operated within its budget for the year. Indeed, as the Report below demonstrates (prepared by Ruth Braunstein), the Culture Section is in healthy financial status – with a $10,000+ carrying balance.

Culture Section COO report
Prepared by Ruth Braunstein

August 2018

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
The culture section is the second largest section of ASA, with 971 members at last count (August 8, 2018). The section also has the third largest number of student members (316 as of August 8, 2018). That said, for the fourth year in a row, our membership numbers are a bit down, and for the first time since 2008 we have fewer than 1000 members. If we are not able to get this number back above 1000 by September 30, we would only earn five sessions for next year’s meeting rather than our typical six sessions.

FINANCIAL REPORT
Once all of the income and expenses shake out, the culture section has in recent years carried a balance of around $10,000. We currently have $15,150 in the bank (as of July 31, 2018), but this does not yet reflect our annual meeting expenses. Although we took in more income than we spent last year, this year we are on track to spend about the same amount as our income.
The bulk of our income comes from our section budget allocation from ASA, which gave us $3,126 this year; the rest comes from dues, which has given us $701 as of the July 31, but by the end of the year usually comes out to about $1,200. Total annual income is thus around $4300.

We will spend $3,057 this year on our reception, which will be held tonight (Monday, August 13) from 6:30 to 8:10pm at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Level 5, Salon H. We will also spend about $432 on the council meeting food.

Our other annual meeting expenses come from the awards we distribute. In addition to the $300 that we grant the graduate student award recipient, we also spent $196 on plaques this year. We awarded seven plaques for three section awards (one award had co-winners, one award had one honorable mention, and one award had two honorable mentions). We also re-ordered one plaque from last year due to an error on the plaque.

Outside the annual meeting, we also spend $500 to support those who produce our website.

Last year former Culture Section COO Allison Pugh noted that a $10,000 balance is highly unusual for a section (it is more common to have between $3-5K). In light of this, at the 2017 Culture Section Council Meeting, council members agreed to poll section members about how to spend $5,000 (approximately half) of this surplus and to discuss the results of this poll at the 2018 ASA Annual Meeting. Gemma Mangione has prepared a separate report on these results.

Budget for 2019
Creating a budget will help the section plan its activities for the year. Your 2019 budget should reflect the narrative in the “Plans for the Coming Year” section. The following table will help you organize and calculate a budget.

### Expected 2019 Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Category</th>
<th>Budgeted Amount</th>
<th>Details (use the cells in this column to provide information on each expense)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>$3000.00</td>
<td>Co-Sponsored with Theory Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Meeting Expenses</td>
<td>$ 500.00</td>
<td>Council Meeting Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Awards</td>
<td>$ 300</td>
<td>Graduate Student Paper Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Plaques</td>
<td>$ 200</td>
<td>Use this space to provide details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$ 500</td>
<td>5 x $100 Graduate Student Travel Awards (Not included: 1 x $500 John Mohr Graduate Student Travel Award – will organize off-budget until ASA proposes more formal process.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>$ 500</td>
<td>Use this space to provide details</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Estimated 2019 Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Category</th>
<th>Estimated Amount</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section Allocation – Base</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>ASA Office will provide figure mid-October. See note 1 on how this figure is calculated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Allocation – Per Member</td>
<td>$1990</td>
<td>ASA Office will provide figure mid-October. See note 2 on how this figure is calculated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premium Dues</td>
<td>$1216</td>
<td>ASA Office will provide an estimated figure. See note 3 on how this figure is calculated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$Enter amount</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>$Enter amount</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2019 Estimated Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4206</strong></td>
<td>Sum estimated income</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Budget Summary

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Remaining Balance at</td>
<td><strong>$11150</strong></td>
<td>Accounting for all estimated costs for the remainder of the year, estimate the remaining balance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>end of December 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 2019 Estimated Income</td>
<td>+$4206</td>
<td>Fill in from the Estimated Income table above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 2019 Budgeted Expenditures</td>
<td>- $5000</td>
<td>Fill in from the Budgeted Expenditures table above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>= $10356</strong></td>
<td>To calculate net amount, sum Lines 1 and 2, then subtract Line 3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes

The following explains how income is calculated. By October 20, the ASA Office will provide the following information, so sections do not have to calculate estimates themselves.

1. **Section Allocation – Base**
   
   Based off of this year’s final membership count as of September 30, sections receive a base allocation as follows:
   
   - Sections with 300 or more members receive a base allocation of $1,000
   - Sections with fewer than 300 members and more than 200 members receive: [\# of section members - 100] x $5
   - Sections with fewer than 199 members receive a base allocation of $500

2. **Section Allocation – Per Member**
   
   Based off of this year’s final membership count as of September 30, sections receive two dollars for each member.

3. **Premium Dues**
The base rate is $10 for regular members, $5 for students and $10 for associate, low income, and high school teacher members. Any dues raised by the sections in excess of the base rate go directly to the section throughout the year based on actual membership numbers. Subscription Fees for Section Journals are not added here.

To see current and historical membership counts, please visit www.asanet.org/SectionMembership. Please note that membership year ends on September 30.

**Miscellaneous**
Is there any additional information about the section or the area of study you would like to share with the Committee on Sections? Is there any feedback you would like to provide to the Committee on Sections?

Click or tap here to enter text.