Introduction
Annual reports are used by the Sections Committee to assess the health of a Section, measure the Section’s vitality, and identify processes, programs, or initiatives that could serve as a model for other Sections. In addition, they serve to provide institutional memory, socialize new Section leaders, and promote transparency to Section members.

This annual report covers the period of Section activity from September 2021 to August 2022 and a fiscal year from January 2022 to December 2022. This portion of the report will be shared publicly.

Section Governance
Provide details of your Section’s governance activity during the period between September 2021 and August 2022.

Business Meeting
Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes from the Section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

The business Meeting of the Rationality and Society section took place on August 6, 2023, from 3pm to 3.30 at Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) in room 301A. 15 members were present, including one of the section founders, Micheal Hechter, several of the most long-standing section members like Willie Jasso and Mary Brinton, and some of the incoming officers, namely the new chair (Neha Gondal).
The meeting agenda contained the following points:
1. Section award ceremony;
2. Announcement of new officers and consequent changes in the section council composition;
3. Thanks to the various section members having served in various ways during the past year;
4. Announcement of the section reception and explanation of how it was organized in collaboration with 6 other sections (namely, Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity; Mathematical Sociology; Sociology of Emotions; Social Psychology; Evolution, Biology, and Society; and Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology);
5. Discussion of the membership issue
The main decision taken during the business meeting concerned the possibility to change the name of the section.
A long discussion engaged indeed on the reasons that could explain the progressive reduction of membership over the last year, which led the section to fluctuate around 100 members. A strong agreement emerged on the fact that a possible cause may concern the mismatch that exists between the type of sociology the vast majority of the section member adheres to, and the name of the section, still focused on a particular type of micro-foundation, or action theory. The discussion on this point convinced the past-chair (Gianluca Manzo) and the new chair (Neha Gondal) that there was a certain consensus on the necessity to open again the debate on a possible name change for the section, a point that was raised several times over the last ten years or so but never consistently developed in such a way that the section was asked to vote on that issue.
A discussion then engaged on various labels previously proposed, and then the discussion moved on to a new name proposed by the past-chair (Gianluca Manzo), i.e. “Decision-making, Networks, and Society”. The rationale behind this was explained, and the proposal was very positively received by the members present at the BM, including some of the most long-standing section members.

However, given that the majority of the new section council was not present, the new chair (Neha Gondal) proposed, according to the section bylaw, to launch a debate by e-mail within the section council in September 2022, in order to see if a majority, virtually, all the council, would agree with the proposed name change, and if so, she committed to submit the proposal to ASA by November 15 and, eventually, should ASA accept, to put the name change on the ballot in Spring 2023.

All present members agreed on the proposed plan.

**Council Meeting**
Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. 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.

In agreement with the incoming chair and new officers, it was decided not to have a physical council meeting and discuss instead collectively the main section problem (i.e. Low membership) during the business meeting (please see section above).

**Awards**
Provide a list of Section awards and awardees conferred in the past year.

1. **2022 James S. Coleman Outstanding Article Award**  
   Awardee: Diego Leal  

2. **2022 Award for Best Paper by a Graduate Student**  
   Awardee: Yunsub Lee  
   Awardeed paper: “Power-dependence relations within Structural Holes and Network Closure: Evidence from different survival mechanisms of actors and directors in the U.S. film industry” (unpublished manuscript)

**2022 Finances**
Provide a narrative on how the 2022 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2022. Please account for any substantive differences.

The financial statement of December 2021 show a net balance of $3,008. The section base Allocation for 2022 finally was $741. In 2022 the section had two expenses: $631.03 for the section reception in Los Angeles and $66 for the award plaques. The section budget allocation thus entirely covered the section expenses in 2022 (net positive balance +$44), and the final net balance on September 2022 (last financial statement accessible at the moment of writing) was $3,052.

**The Previous Year**
Describe Section activities during the period between September 2021 and August 2022.
Provide an overview of the Section’s communications with its members and include explanation of how your communication strategy meets the goals and values of the Section. Include links to the section website, newsletters, and any other electronic media used.

The chair regularly communicated with the section through the dedicated mailing list (rational_choice-announce@listserv.asanet.org). Between October and July 2022, the chair sent 18 messages to the section in order to keeping members updated about the section life and deadlines as well as in order to share events and publications the chair estimated of potential interest to the section members.

A newsletter was also published in the fall of 2021 and the spring of 2022 (for the text, please see the website below). The newsletter include a message from the chair to section as well as a summary of past and incoming events as well as major publications from the section member. A specificity of our newsletter is that it is a join newsletter with the research committee 45 “Rational Choice” of the International Sociological Association.

The section website has been under elaboration during the past year (and it continues to be improved). Actually we had to find a volunteer to replace Wojtek Przepiorka who, after lively acting for several years as webmaster, understandably wished to step down. Lucas Sage accepted to replace him, and he is still trying to improve the section website.

The last version of it can be find here: https://sites.google.com/site/rationalityandsocietysection/home.

Describe the Section’s diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. What steps were taken this year to achieve those goals?

The section has continued to collaborate with the research committee 45 “Rational Choice” of the International Sociological Association with the goal to share the sections’ activity more largely from a geographical perspective. Various Japanese colleagues are very active within the ISA rational choice research committee, and this creates an important scientific bridge across various areas of the world.

In addition, since my first year as chair-elect in 2021, I emphasized the importance of having slate of candidates for section officers with an increase number of more academically young, highly-qualified female colleagues. This led to the election of Neha Gondal in 2021 as chair-elect. Neha acting as chair of the nomination committee in 2022 pursued this effort, which led to the election in 2022 of Emiliy Erikson.

Thus the section clearly is now strongly committed with increasing diversity and inclusion, and, given current chair and chair-elect, it equally clearly has the potential to do so better and better in the coming years.

Provide an overview of the section’s programming at the annual meeting and include explanation of how this programming meets the goals and values of the section (e.g. intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, inclusion).

The section had the possibility to organize two sessions at LA meeting. These two sections were thought as serving different but complementary roles.

One session was conceived as to reflect the type of work that is currently done by a large majority of the section members, namely research on various micro-macro models partly related to the role that social networks play in the micro-macro transition. This session also wanted to show the plurality of methods the section is interested in.
This first session was a normal paper session finally organized by Milena Tsvetkova under the title “Computational and Empirical Approaches to Micro-Macro Dynamics” (August 6th, 10:00-11.30am, LACC). This was a high-quality, well attended (around 40 people in the room) session presenting various works on social network effects on norms (Daniel DellaPosta and colleagues) and moral attitudes (Cassie McMillan and colleagues), residential and school segregation (Elly Field and Elizabeth Bruch), status hierarchies (Neha Gondal), and the diffusion of innovations on digital platforms (Antonio Sirianni and Kimberly Rogers).

The second session was instead conceived as a place to think about the history of the section and to discuss the future directions to be undertaken. In particular, the session was intended to fuel a debate (that took place during the business meeting, see above) concerning potential explanations of the section low membership.

For these reasons, the session was organized as an invited panel session, run by Willie Jasso, and gave the floor to a variety of scholars including Michael Hechter (the section’s founder), Eva Meyerson, Jeylan Mortimer and Karl-Dieter Opp, all reflecting upon the kind of sociology that our section was able to foster since its creation 28 years ago, which explains the title of the session, ie “ASA Rational Choice 28”.

This was an important session, which provides elements motivating the proposal to change the name of the section.

Provide an overview of the Section’s programmatic activities outside of the Annual Meeting (e.g. webinars, networking events, mentoring initiatives, resources for dissemination) and include explanation of this programming meets the goals and values of the Section.

Through its chair, our section was involved in the organization a pre-conference (August 5th, 2023, 10:00am-4:00pm) in collaboration with the Mathematical Sociology section, the Japanese Association for Mathematical Sociology, and the Rational Choice Research Committee 45 of the International Sociological Association with the goal to reinforce interactions between action-oriented sociology, social network analysis, mathematical, computational, and experimental sociology. James Kitts was invited as keynote speaker, and eight research papers as well as twelve posters were presented by a variety of junior and senior scholars from US and Japanese universities. A special issue of the Journal of Mathematical Sociology is under preparation based on a set of papers presented at the pre-conference. These are important activities to foster and disseminate the type of work our section does and tries to promote across a variety of national communities.

The reception was also thought as a crucial networking event where section members, in particular PhD students, may have the chance to establish contacts and foster further collaboration with members of sections having substantive and/or methodological overlaps with us; this also is a typical place where ideas and opportunities for possible joint sessions arise.

That is why the 2022 reception was organized jointly with the following 6 sections: Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity; Mathematical Sociology; Sociology of Emotions; Social Psychology; Evolution, Biology, and Society; and Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology.