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.

ASA Human Rights section Business meeting—Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 11:00-11:30am PDT

- David Cunningham welcomes everyone
- notes other Human Rights section events today
- ASA connect discussion—ideally a more accessible platform, will also use it to archive documents
- Danielle Lucksted will serve as the section’s social media manager in the coming year
- Call for new newsletter editors coming soon
- Announcement and presentation of section awards
  - Statements read from award committees on winners
- David Cunningham thanks outgoing officers
- Zakiya Luna welcomed as section leader
  - Discusses section history
  - Notes upcoming collaborations with political sociology and collective behavior and social movements sections—plans for quarterly events with these sections
  - One person from each section talking about different topics
  - Undemocratic politics, abortion, and climate change are the topics we’ll focus on
-joint reception ASA 2023 possibly too?

-Susan Pearce thanks council members and suggests zoom with award winners, the Sociology of Culture section is doing this, for example

-Zakiya Luna notes we should be mindful of folks capacities, but we’ll think about it and will followup with Council

**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.

**Council Meeting—Monday August 1, 2022, 11am EDT**

Held via Zoom (in lieu of in-person conference meeting)

Members Present: David Cunningham, Zakiya Luna, Tim Gill, Danielle Lucksted, Wesley Longhofer, Susan Pearce, Matthias Koenig, Nicole Fox, Hwaji Shin, Reema Sen, Lynette Janice Chua Kher Shing

-Introduction from David Cunningham
-Introductions of Council Members

-Summary of ASA activities: joint reception at the Grand Central Market, section meeting on Tuesday, three sessions for the meeting

-Thinking about partnerships involving the Section:
  -within ASA, 2nd year of partnering with Peace, War & Social Conflict section—joint session during 2021 meetings, joint reception in 2022
  -external partnerships discussed in past years, including pursuing UN Observer status, partnerships with Human Rights Centers
  -Should have these in mind, in the event of future interest

-David thanks individuals for serving on the various committees: book award, grad student paper, etc.
  -Nicole Fox: chaired Best Paper Award committee, shared her experience,
  ~20 submissions for the award, lots of work seems in line with orgs like UN and Human Rights Watch, commended high quality of scholarship, many submissions from women and people of color as well
  -Wes Longhofer: served on book award committee, many nominations were excellent, tough decision for committee
  -Matthias Koenig: served on grad student paper award committee, only issue seemed to involve some submissions with topics tangential to human rights
  -Zakiya Luna: raises issues that folks outside of the section can submit, which isn’t the case in many sections
  -Susan Pearce: says it sees common that most sections are closed off to non-members
- Wes Longhofer: says it's very difficult to read so many books, worthwhile to look into whether section membership requirement would also boost our member numbers

- Membership has remained stable over the years, 218 currently vs 214 members, peaked at 249 in December but dropped to 197 in January and then has grown again to 218 by July
  - David Cunningham noted that past membership campaign appeals appear to have "stuck" (i.e., numbers did not drop off following a single year of membership), and so this bodes well for any future membership initiatives

- Budget report (Tim Gill)
  - Current total: $2,529
    - down from last year, but up from the previous year
  - budgeted $1500 for reception (with equal contribution from PWSC section) and spent $455 for plaques
  - Past year totals:
    - $3,407 (2021) – no ASA reception
    - $2,422 (2020)

- ASA Connect
  - Seems to be an easier way to connect with members
  - Create a library, archive, minutes, etc.
  - More interactive
  - Scheduled on Sept 13 to launch this, with a welcome message, etc.
  - Need 4-6 admins: Zakiya, Lynette, David, John (incoming Secretary-Treasurer)
  - Students cannot serve admins
  - Zakiya Luna notes that folks need to go through a training for this
  - Would be good to have a newsletter editor on the admin team
  - David Cunningham notes we might think of it as an archive of sorts or a library for institutional memory
  - Zakiya Luna has created a shared dropbox folder for meeting notes, etc. so that we can organize these sorts of documents

- Updates on future plans and initiatives:
  - Will be looking for newsletter editors, as Anne Bryden, Tim Gill, and Pamela Neumann will be rotating off of this role – thanks to Anne, Tim, and Pamela for their valued service!
  - Zakiya Luna says she's working with other section leaders (Political Sociology, and Collective Behavior) and have created a subcommittee called the Power Block, committed to do three different panels on the sections and their topics, planning them in October/January/Spring, in next few weeks sending out requests for section members to discuss their research, want to create more space for connections between sections
  - Tim Gill shares thoughts on Listservs and ASA Connect, ASA Connect will replace listservs
  - Hwaji Shin curious about ASA Connect as well and how well it would work, and Zakiya Luna discusses more about ASA Connect and how it works (not exactly like Slack, etc.)
  - Danielle Lucksted slated to take over social media duties for the section, and we also have a website that has valuable resources but historically has been updated sporadically—ideally will be easier to centralize and maintain communications (alongside Twitter, etc.) with this Connect platform
-David extends thanks to folks who are rotating off the Council

-Zakiya ends meetings thanking everyone and looking forward to LA

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

**Gordon Hirabayashi Human Rights Book Award:**
*Honorable Mention:* Joachim Savelsberg, *Knowing about Genocide: Armenian Suffering and Epistemic Struggles* (University of California Press 2021)

**Best Scholarly Article Award:**
*Co-winners:*
Marie Berry and Milli Lake, "Women’s Rights After War: On Gender Interventions and Enduring Hierarchies." *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* (2021)

**Graduate Student Paper Award:**

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

Our main expenses for 2021-2022 related to our section reception at the ASA meetings in Los Angeles and the purchase of plaques for section award-winners. As we had multiple co-winners and honorable mentions for this year’s awards, plaque expenses were a bit higher than anticipated ($455 vs. the budgeted $300). We partnered with the Peace, War and Social Conflict section for our reception, which lowered our costs somewhat (to $1,500, relative to the budgeted $2,000). Given these divergent over/under-estimates, our expenses came close to matching our overall anticipated budget for the past year.

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.
During 2021-2022, our section communication mainly came through email list messages compiled and sent by the Section Chair. Section members were invited to contribute announcements, requests, and calls, and—in an effort to spare members’ inboxes and boost readership of messages sent on a regular schedule—the Chair would then incorporate ASA-related announcements (calls for award nominees, annual meeting submission deadlines, etc.) and combine into a single monthly missive. Alongside these email messages, the section continued to maintain its website as well as a social media presence on Twitter. The section produced two issues of our section newsletter as well, which provided a more formal means to communicate around section activities, recent research, and global events of interest to sociologists working on human rights issues.

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

Our section strives to ensure that our membership is representative of the breadth of the ASA overall, and that those occupying leadership positions also reflect the diversity of our full body. Along those lines, our nominations committee has encouraged nominations (including self-nominations) and constructed ballots that reflect this goal. Section activities both during and outside of this year’s annual meeting—including our roundtable research-in-process sessions and first-book virtual launches—also highlight the work of junior members, those in teaching as well as research-centered institutions, and underrepresented scholars.

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).

At the 2021 and 2022 Annual Meetings, our section organized (1) its own sessions, focused on topics proposed by section members, (2) an additional session jointly organized with the Peace, War and Social Conflict section, and (3) roundtable sessions featuring “research in progress” that emphasized broad discussion of work at various stages of development. As the 2022 meeting allowed us to return to in-person events, our section co-organized a reception with the Peace, War and Social Conflict session at Grand Central Market in Downtown LA. That event offered a welcome opportunity for section members to re-connect, and also to meet and learn about the work of members of our partner section. Our Business Meeting provided another occasion to connect as a session around additional planned future events (discussed below). As we are able once again to envision in-person possibilities, section members had occasion to discuss, during Council and Business meetings, opportunities afforded by the now-in-process transition to ASA Connect as well as the forging of additional networking and other professional occasions.

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.

We continue to regain our footing with an expanding slate of section activities following some retrenchment during the pandemic. Outside of the annual meeting this past year our section
(co-)sponsored a small number of virtual sessions, including a listening session with section officers and book launch panels. We additionally have worked to build collaborations across sections, which have led to joint sessions and receptions over the past two years and a planned series of virtual panel events featuring section members’ research in 2022-23. While we have been wary of asking too much of section members over the COVID period, we also have plans to reinstitute our membership-building activities, via outreach to scholars doing human rights-related research and connections to human rights centers that overlap with our members’ broader work.