2022 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Sociology of Mental Health

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.

See attachment.

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.

See attachment.

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

Pearlin Award
Jo Phelan

Best Publication Award

Dissertation Award  
Alena Kuhlemeier, University of New Mexico

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.

Income  
The Section’s income is generated by two sources: 1. the Section allocation from ASA and member dues, both of which depend on the number of members, and 2. royalties, which typically decrease annually. For the past two years, the Section has received substantial income from royalties due to the publication of the 3rd edition of the Handbook for the Study of Mental Health, published by Cambridge University Press and edited by Teresa Scheid and Eric R. Wright. Compared to the previous two years, royalty income has been considerably lower at $73. The 2020 royalties were $913, and the 2021 royalties were $1022.

Expenses  
The major expense each year is the Section Reception at the annual meeting. For the past two years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the reception was cancelled, yielding a substantial cost savings. This year, the Section Reception has not yet been deducted from finances, but will likely dip into that total amount. Regardless, the Section remains in a good financial health.

Pearlin Fund  
The Pearlin fund is kept separate from the general fund. It continues to generate a moderate amount of interest, which is returned to the fund. It has been used to purchase student memberships and, during budget shortfalls, to pay for awardee meals at the Section Awards dinner.

2023 Projected Budget  
The draft budget for the Sociology of Mental Health Section (19) for 2023 is included in Part 2 of the Section Annual Report. Income and expenses from 2021 (plus inflation) were used as a guide given the unusual circumstances in 2020.

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.

We plan to continue the usual forms of communication, including send regular announcements via the ASA Connect, distributing Section Newsletters across the course of the year, and maintaining our ASA website. Additionally, we are now using Twitter as well.
Describe the Section’s diversity, equity, and inclusion goals. What steps were taken this year to achieve those goals?

We look forward to continuing to expand the formal mentoring efforts in the Section. Those efforts somewhat stalled in 2021. We hope to expand both the scope (e.g., including early career faculty) and programming based on lessons learned from the first year of the mentoring program.

In addition, we paired more established faculty members with early career faculty this year to organize the Section sessions. This will give junior faculty access to senior Section members that are not currently in their immediate network.

Finally, Section Council discussed a more concerted effort to focus on inclusivity and diversity within the context of our mentoring program. One way to do this would be to reach out to past and current ASA Minority Fellows as mentors, and as consultants as we build our mentoring program.

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).

2022 ASA Sessions for Sociology of Mental Health

A. Immigration and Immigration Policy: Implications for Mental Health (90 minutes)

Immigration and immigration policy are risk and protective factors neglected in the sociology of mental health. On the one hand, mechanisms including family separation, stigma, harassment, and so on undermine immigrant individuals’ and communities’ sense of psychological well-being. On the other hand, mechanisms including collective identity, culture, progressive policies (e.g., DACA), and so on protect immigrant individuals’ and communities’ sense of psychological well-being. This session invites papers interrogating the mental health significance of immigration and immigration policy, and mechanisms through which they influence mental health.

Social Determinants of Mental Health among Neglected Populations (90 minutes)

Considerable social science research relies on data from individuals in Western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic (WEIRD) societies, who represent as much as 80 percent of respondents and research participants, but only 12 percent of the world’s population. The same is true in the sociology of mental health, where it seems heterogeneity and variation in lived experiences remain under-appreciated empirically and theoretically. What are sociologists of mental health missing when we rely on data from narrow population groups and assume theories apply universally across communities and societies? This session invites papers privileging social determinants of mental health among neglected populations.

Mental Health Challenges Created by Mass Incarceration and the Carceral State (90 minutes)

The nation’s three largest mental health care treatment facilities are jails in LA County, California and Cook County, Illinois, and on New York City’s Rikers Island. Increasing numbers of studies document how mass incarceration ravages communities, though not all communities experience comparable levels of harm. Given continued expansion of the
prison industrial complex, this session invites papers examining how incarceration shows
direct and collateral mental health significance for individuals and communities. This session
also invites papers addressing pathways that may counteract the insidious nature of
collateral consequences for those connected to the incarcerated.

B. Roundtable Sessions (hosted jointly with Medical Sociology Session Roundtables)
   Mental Health I (5 papers)
   Mental Health II (4 papers)

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.

This past year we did not host any programmatic activities outside of the Annual Meeting,
largely due to COVID-19 restrictions, the weight of anti-blackness, and generalized Section
Member burnout. It was a difficult and stressful year for most Section members.
MINUTES OF THE SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday, August 9, 2022
11:00am to 11:30am (PDT)
LACC, Floor: Level 2, 405

I. Introductions | Tony Brown, Outgoing Section Chair, Rice University
   a. The meeting began at 11am PDT. Tony Brown welcomed Section Council Members and Section members to the meeting.
   b. In attendance: 12 members including Outgoing Chair, Incoming Chair, Chair-Elect, and Past Chair

II. Listening Session Topics
   a. Soliciting nominations for Council openings (e.g., Membership Committee Chair)—reviewing strategies to encourage more nominations for all elected positions
   b. Adding more Section members to serve on the Awards Committee—number of nominations has grown exponentially while the number of committee members remains static; vote to update the Section by-laws to reflect Awards Committee growth and proposed composition change
   c. Paying two graduate students to manage the Section Newsletter and webpage—should we continue to produce the Section Newsletter and update the non-ASA webpage at KSU; at a minimum, archive all old newsletters, if discontinuing because of ASA Connect
   d. Describing ASA Connect and its rollout, along with the roles of Group Admins—how to encourage Section members to post and support Group Admins (i.e., flagging content, starting discussions, responding to posts, etc.)
   e. Rethinking the Section Awards Dinner—combining the Section Reception, Awards Presentations, and Awards Dinner into one on-site social event with icebreakers to break down barriers that produce elite, non-diverse, non-overlapping networks within the Section
   f. Donating Section funds yearly to the ASA’s Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)—should we donate funds every year, funds saved by “Rethinking the Section Awards Dinner”; yes, we should donate every year
   g. Report on Mentoring Program—too few mentees and mentors attended the annual meeting this year to host a mentoring event; push your universities to purchase Alpha Kappa Delta memberships; virtual follow-up with graduate student Section members in the mentoring program who could not attend the annual meetings
   h. Other topics?

III. Transition to Donna McAlpine, Incoming Section Chair, University of Minnesota

Meeting Adjourned
MINUTES OF SECTION ON SOCIOLOGY OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL MEETING

https://riceuniversity.zoom.us/j/99255580684?pwd=UUNUTGtSZTV2RjFkY1AvMHUxZlFiZz09

I. Introductions | Tony Brown, Outgoing Section Chair, Rice University
   a. The meeting began at 7am PDT. Tony Brown welcomed Section Council members to the meeting.
   b. In attendance (virtually): Tony Brown, Eric Wright, Matt Heuse, Richard (Dick) Adams, Patricia Louie, Pam Jackson, Mercedes Tarasovich, Matthew Andersson, Matt Grace, Fernando Rivera, Donna McAlpine, Teresa Scheid, Bianca Manago (13)

II. Welcome incoming Section Council Members!

   Chair-Elect: Eric Wright, Georgia State University
   Nominations Committee Chair: Patricia Louie, University of Washington
   Awards Committee Chair: Michael Hughes, Virginia Tech
   Student Representative: Mercedes Tarasovich, University of Alabama at Birmingham

III. Report from Secretary/Treasurer | Bianca Manago, Vanderbilt University
   a. Bianca Manago moved and Fernando Rivera seconded to approve the 2021 minutes
      i. Unanimous approval
   b. Current Membership: 271 (69 graduate student members)
   c. Good financial health (~$17,000 before reception, etc.)

IV. Committee Chair Reports

   a. Publications Committee | Joseph D. Wolfe, University of Alabama-Birmingham
   b. Report on Membership | Brittany Hearne, University of Arkansas/Amazon
      i. Update given by Tony Brown
      ii. We again raised a discussion of separating cost of Section membership from journal
      iii. Send out blurbs about the relevance for mental health for research in other Sections
      iv. Reach out to people with lapsed membership (which we did this year)
   c. Student membership
      1. Let’s increase student membership (Matt Heuse)
      2. Offer gift membership (Eric Wright) – that deadline is July 31st so perhaps for next year
      3. Discussion of using Pearlin Award funds for this
      4. Perhaps only separating cost of Section membership from journal subscription for graduate students
   c. Report on Awards | Elaine Wethington, Cornell University
i. Update given by Tony Brown
ii. Discussion of the high workload associated with this position and strategies to decrease:
   1. Teresa Scheid recommended maybe adding the outgoing chair to the committee
   2. Bianca Manago recommended having the awards committee chair ask Section members to oversee specific committees
   3. Tony Brown discussed importance of changing the by-laws to reflect any decisions (must be complete by November 15th)

V. Report on Mentoring Program | Max Elliott Coleman, Indiana University Bloomington
   i. N/A

VI. Thanks to Rin Reczek (The Ohio State University), Chair of the Medical Sociology Section, for partnering to host Mental Health Roundtables (2)

VII. Report on SMH | From Alex E. Bierman, University of Calgary and Scott Schieman, University of Toronto
   i. Update given by Tony Brown
   ii. Impact factor increased from 3.4 to 3.6
   iii. Turnaround time improved – full set of reviews received within 1 or 2 months

VIII. Action Items and/or Business Meeting Agenda Items
   a. Nominations for Council openings (e.g., Membership Committee Chair)
   b. Paying two graduate students to manage the Section Newsletter and webpage
   c. ASA Connect rollout, Group Admins, and helping Group Admins (requesting support from Section Council Members)
   d. Restarting and/or rethinking the Section Awards Dinner
   e. Donating Section funds to the Minority Fellowship Program

IX. Thank you outgoing Council Members!

Past Chair: Pamela Braboy Jackson, Indiana University
Membership Committee Chair: Brittany Hearne, University of Arkansas/Amazon
Award Committee Chair: Elaine Wethington, Cornell University
Nominations Committee Chair: Fernando I. Rivera, University of Central Florida
Newsletter Editor: Teresa Scheid, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Section Webmaster: Richard Edward Adams, Kent State University

Meeting Adjourned