

Environment, Technology, and Society

Newsletter of the Section on Environment and Technology

American Sociological Association

Recycling Waste, Throwing Away Labor

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A growing number of social scientists are researching the causes and effects of disproportionate toxic burdens in spaces where the poor and people of color live, work, and play—or environmental injustice/racism. Environmental Justice research emerged, in part, from the need to include communities and work places in our conception of what constitutes “the environment” (Bryant 1995). However, the work place as the intersection of social and environmental inequality remains under examined. An appropriate place to start might be in a “green” industry like recycling. This is the topic of research I have been carrying out for the last two years.



There is a great disparity between the symbolism and the work involved in recycling. This gap is most likely a result of the images recycling invokes around the simplistic notion of “cleaning up the environment.” Politicians and environmentalists are not alone in this public relations effort. The media display corporate advertisements every day in major publications that support the same claims. For example, the Aluminum Association of America’s recent television commercial features a child placing a used soda pop can in a recycling bin and in the next scene another child in a grocery store watches the can magically appear on a shelf, recycled and filled with a beverage for sale. The missing piece: the human labor required to make this process happen, from collection and sorting to remanufacture to processing and delivery. All we are left with is a vision of what a responsible consumer—as defined by an advocacy group backed by transnational corporations—might look like. This is highly problematic for those people actually cleaning up the environment—recycling workers.

This industry is particularly germane to questions of environmental justice because 1) recycling is intended to divert solid waste from landfills and incinerators that tend to proliferate in poor and minority communities; and 2) the recycling industry employs working poor people of color who live in these communities. Working in a materials recovery facility (or MRF)—a firm where recyclable materials are sorted and baled for delivery to remanufacturers—ranges from the not-so-bad to the horrific. Workers in some plants gain skills training and basic educational credentials while others face sweatshop conditions. In this article, I present data on the latter type because it warrants our urgent attention. Thus, this research departs from much of the environmental justice literature in that, rather than focusing on the victims of environmental neglect, I focus on survivors of environmental protection.

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Notes from the Editor...

It's time to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the waning Fall semester and read about what your colleagues are up to. Get out your magnifying glasses for this one, too--lots of submissions means small type. (Thank you to all who sent information and announcements! And let's all keep them coming--the next issue is wide open for your research and teaching ideas, book reviews, etc., etc.)

In particular, I would direct your attention to page 5, where our award winners are described. Congratulations Bill and Beth! Notice that there is no mention of the Boguslaw award, as no winner was selected this past year. This award honors Robert Boguslaw by recognizing a scholar whose work reflects the interests of ordinary people in developing innovative approaches for addressing emerging societal issues about technology, values, and social concerns. The nominee must be a new scholar who is pursuing a graduate degree or no more than five years post-doctoral; the scholarly work should have been written or published since 1992. If you have someone in mind for nomination, talk to Allan Schnaiberg.

Already we are looking toward Toronto, with the call for papers. Note the differences between the listing here on page 4 and what was included in the ASA mailing. This is the correct one! Please get those papers ready and send them off to Tom Rudel so he can put together another conference-full of exciting and enlightening work.

...following up on articles in the Summer issue: 1) Timmons Roberts has posted the handouts from his "Classroom Simulations" article, as well as his full syllabus, in the new Teaching Resources section of the *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism* website. Section member David Sonnenfeld has put these resources together. You can also check out the CNS homepage to find the table of contents of the journal CNS. Check it out at <http://www.cruzio.com/~cns/syllabus>, then send in your own materials to further build these shared resources. 2) And for those of you interested in finding out more about Lee Butler's "Ekotecture," check out <http://www.webcast1.com/ekosea>.

Environment, Technology, and Society Newsletter

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Publication Schedule:

The deadline for submissions for the Winter issue is January 20. If at all possible, please submit text items electronically or on IBM-formatted diskette, as this greatly facilitates the newsletter production process. Articles on current research that can be represented graphically on the front page are especially sought.

ET&S is a publication of the American Sociological Association, Section on Environment and Technology. The newsletter is a member benefit.

Please note that you must be a member of the ASA in order to join a Section. Contact the American Sociological Association, Membership Services, at 1722 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20035-2981

"Too, Too Close For Comfort!!!"

The Section just experienced a very close call—far too close a call for my timorous blood—with our membership totals. For reasons that are not entirely clear (but, no doubt, partly due to the overall drop in section memberships of ASA) our section enrollment on April 12, 1996 was 350 and on July 11 it was 379—down by approximately 30-50 members or around 10% from the same dates the previous year. This was well below the 400 quota required to obtain three Section sessions at the 1997 annual meetings of the ASA. It was only through the heroic efforts of Loren Lutzenhiser, Secretary-Treasurer, and Greg Guagnano, Chair of the membership committee, as well as last minute efforts to enroll students by Tom Rudel, Phil Brown, and others that the count on September 30 (the day used to determine session allotments to sections based upon membership) was 405. Whew, just five above the bar.

An observation and a plea are in order. First, our current membership totals are not at healthy enough levels. Being this close to the margin ensures that next year, and perhaps subsequent years, will find the officers and membership chair of the section frantically seeking members during the weeks before the September 30 deadline. And there is no guarantee that those efforts will bring us up to the required 400 members. Thus, we need to begin building a cushion—and begin building it now. This cannot be accomplished by the officers and membership committee alone; it can only be accomplished by the broad-based cooperation of the membership. So, invite, coax, entreat, importune, cajole, threaten, or do whatever is necessary to get colleagues to join the section. (If nothing else interests them, we are now acquiring a reputation for holding the best reception at the annual meetings). As for graduate students, the hopeful reproduction of ourselves, engaging them in section activities is an appropriate mentoring activity. Furthermore, the current section policy of paying for first-time student membership is still in force. Finally, as a possible future enticement the officers have begun to explore the possibility, already a practice in some other sessions, of including a graduate student on the section council.

I look forward to your cooperation in this challenge vitally important to all of us. I also welcome your comments and suggestions.

Calls for Papers and Manuscripts . . .

⇒ A future issue of "Race, Gender & Class", the journal of the ASA section by the same name, will cover "Race, Gender, Class, & Environmental Issues." The editors are Robert Bullard, Doreeta Taylor, and Glenn Johnson, and they can be reached with regard to submissions at the Environmental Justice Resource Center, Clark Atlanta University, 223 James P. Brawley Drive, Atlanta, GA, 30314; (404) 880-6911. For subscription or other information, contact Jean Ait Amber Belkhir, Editor at (718) 997-3070 or jean_belkhir@qc.edu.

⇒ *Greener Management International* is a quarterly journal on corporate environmental strategy and practice. The editors have decided to create a special theme issue: "Environmental Management Accounting: Current Practice and Future Opportunities." The Editorial Board invites contributions with a practical basis and relevance for industrial use, that stimulate further discussion or report on previous experience.

Please submit preliminary abstracts, completed manuscripts or requests for further information to: Martin Bennett and Peter James, Environmental Management Accounting Group, Wolverhampton Business School, Wolverhampton WV3 9XD, UK; Tel: +44 1905 821574; Fax: +44 1902 323755; e-mail: m.bennett@wlv.ac.uk; or to: John Stuart, Publications Co-ordinator, Greenleaf Publishing, Broom Hall, 8-10 Broomhall Road, Sheffield S10 2DR, UK; Tel: +44 114 2663789; Fax: +44 114 2679403; e-mail: greenleaf@worldscope.co.uk

(sample copies of *GMI* are available upon request)

⇒ Greenleaf Publishing is a specialist publisher in the business and environment sector, and has been developed in response to the growing need for high-quality resource material in this area. Greenleaf is now interested in acquiring manuscripts/book

proposals from both academics and practitioners in the field for publication in 1997/8. Areas of interest include but are not limited to: voluntary agreements; environmental purchasing; environmental decision-making; environmental technology and corporate development; industrial ecology; design for the environment; business, government and Agenda 21; and regional responses to corporate sustainability.

Please send us: A covering letter that explains the concept of the book; a description of the intended readership; a description of how your work is different from other publications currently available; a c.v. or resume; a detailed Table of Contents (Please include a chapter-by-chapter written description, setting out the scope of each chapter and the contribution it will make to the book's argument.); and a sample chapter or two

Once we have received these materials we will review your proposal and give you a timely response.

Send all proposals/manuscripts to: John Stuart, Publications Co-ordinator, Greenleaf Publishing, Broom Hall, 8-10 Broomhall Road, Sheffield, S10 2DR, UK; Tel: +44 114 2663789; Fax: +44 114 2679403; e-mail: greenleaf@worldscope.co.uk

⇒ Volume VII of *Research in Community Sociology*, (JAI Press Series) will be devoted to issues related to technology, environment and communities. Theoretical, empirical, comparative, problem/policy-oriented, and critical explorations of issues related to technology, environment, and community life are welcome.

Three copies of manuscripts (ASR format and style) no longer than 40 pages should be sent before November 1, 1996. The Series Editor, Dan Chekki, requests paper titles and abstracts, as soon as possible. Send to: Dan A. Chekki, Professor of Sociology, The University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9; CANADA

While more substantial research has come out of Europe, there are almost no data collected on labor conditions in MRF's in the United States. Below is a listing of health violations for which the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recently cited a recycling company in a large Midwestern city. I will call this company TNC, as it is a transnational corporation.

TNC's OSHA Violations:

- Employees subjected to dangerously high sound levels (90.1-90.5 decibels)
- No existing sound monitoring system in place
- Proper protective equipment not being used to protect workers from hazards
- Proper machine guarding not provided to workers
- Hepatitis B vaccination was not administered to workers
- Inadequate safety training, resulting in eleven hypodermic needle stick exposures
- No emergency plan or training was evident in the plants

While these violations correspond strongly with the ethnographic data we have gathered, they fail to capture the full reality of the oppressive labor process TNC employees confront every workday. Workers and managers at these plants have informed me of hazards that would horrify most citizen-workers. Some of these are listed below.

TNC Working Hazards not on the OSHA Notice:

- Workers regularly coming into contact with bags labelled "biohazard" on the sorting line.
- Dead animals (deer, cats, dogs, rats, opossums) and human beings (a woman and an infant) on the sorting line.
- Plastic and Glass bottles bursting and propelling through the shop floor, resulting from machines with large tires rolling over them.
- Workers poked by branches, nails and other non-recyclables on the line.
- Workers sprayed with battery acid on the sorting line.
- Spontaneous methane-based fires erupting throughout the plant, as a result of the MRF being built on an old landfill.
- Working on platforms at dizzying heights (40+ feet).

- Workers falling from these platforms.
- Workers getting full-body rashes from exposure to trash.
- Inadequate heating of the facility during the winter months.
- Inadequate bathroom facilities and no running water.
- Portions of the roof caving in on workers.
- Armed security guards 'supervising' workers.
- Inadequate accounting system, resulting in unpaid labor and requirement that workers travel to another site to pick up pay checks.
- Work shifts of up to 20 hours a day, sometimes.
- Contingent workers being dismissed without cause or proper procedure.

While these conditions constitute physical hazards, equally devastating are the psychosocial effects that impact workers such as the heightened stress that workers feel while on the job and at home and the uncertainty about the future impacts work with hazardous materials might have on an employee's health (Roberts 1993). For example, one worker at a MRF told me that "you have to accept it that working here and breathing in all this dust is going to shorten your life. You just don't know how much." These data raise a number of research and policy questions. They underscore the need to examine labor's position in environmental industries, particularly given this sector's unprecedented growth (Czernie 1994) and the frequent claim that 'green collar' work takes on a "deeper meaning and satisfaction" (Chappell 1993:xv). Otherwise we ignore the extension of the bifurcated labor market form in green industries and the forced choices low-skilled workers have to make everyday.

References

- Bryant, Bunyan. 1995. *Environmental Justice*. San Francisco: Island Press.
- Chappell, Tom. 1993. *The Soul of a Business*. New York: Bantam Books.
- Czernie, Wilfred. 1994. "Energy Efficiency and Environment Technologies." Paper presented at the Energy Policy Forum, Aspen, Colorado. July.
- Roberts, J. Timmons. 1993. "Psychosocial Effects of Workplace Hazardous Exposures." *Social Problems* 40:74-89.

Meetings . . .

✓ There will be at least four sessions related to the environment at the **Midwest Sociological Society** meetings next April 3-6 in Des Moines. The general theme for the 1997 meetings is "Transmitting the Discipline to the Next Generation: Issues of Inclusion and Exclusion." Members have been asked to consider the ties of sociology to other areas and, among other things, this will involve a number of thematic sessions dealing with various "ties." J. Allen Williams, Jr. is organizing a thematic session on "Sociology's Ties to Environmental Studies." Although the deadline for submissions has passed, those interested in participating or attending may wish to contact: J. Allen Williams, Jr.; Department of Sociology; 711 Oldfather Hall; University of Nebraska; Lincoln, NE 68588-0324

✓ 1997 Call for Papers, Environment and Technology Section, **American Sociological Association** meetings, Toronto, Canada; August 9-13, 1997.

Section Day: August 10th.

Deadline for submissions: January 10, 1997.

Regular Paper Sessions

Joint Session (with the Political Economy of the World Systems section): "The Political Economy of the Environment."

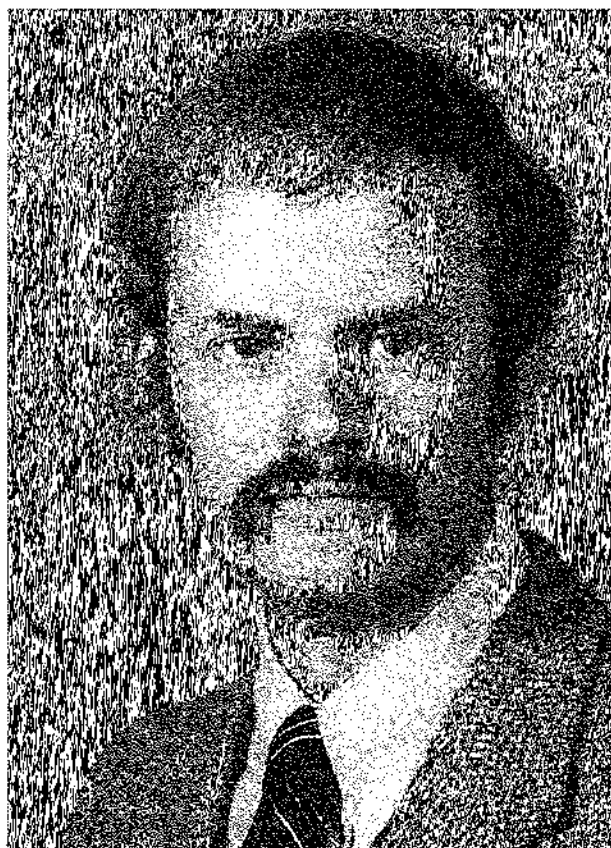
Roundtables, Authors Meet Critics, etc. Sessions

Organizer for all of the above E&T sessions is Thomas K. Rudel, Dept. of Human Ecology, Cook College, Rutgers University, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, N.J.
Phone: 908-932-9624. Fax: 908-932-6667.
Email: rudel@rci.rutgers.edu.

1996 Section Awards

Bill Freudenburg, the winner of the Section's 1996 Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Award, is being recognized for excelling in scholarship on sociology of the environment and of technology and for his leadership in these fields. Bill's contributions can be captured no better than was done in the letter nominating him: "The range of Bill's publications on environment and technology topics has been particularly impressive. Whereas most people in the field tend to stress one or at most two substantive speciality areas, Freudenburg has published on energy boomtowns, social impact assessment, nuclear power, NIMBYism, environmental attitudes, resource-dependent communities, and other topics.

"Bill's leadership on behalf of environmental sociology, both within sociology and outside of the subdiscipline, has been extraordinary. Bill has been extremely active in sociological organizations (e.g., the Chair of Environment and Technology Section of ASA, Chair of the Natural Resources Research Group of the Rural Sociological Society and Vice President of RSS) and in related professional activities (e.g. his service as Secretary and now Chair of Section K of AAAS). In each case, Bill has been a tireless proponent of the role of environmental sociology. He has done likewise in his policy-related work at the National Academy of Sciences, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Interior, and other organizations. Much of the growing visibility of environmental sociology within sociology and in policy circles has been due to Bill Freudenburg's efforts."



Bill, we all thank you and congratulate you on this deserved honor.



This year's winner of the **Marvin E. Olsen Student Paper Award** is: Beth Schaefer Caniglia, Department of Sociology, University of Notre Dame.



Ms. Caniglia's paper begins by reviewing the most significant findings from recent research on the relationship between sociodemographic characteristics, ecological concern and proenvironmental behaviors. The author then puts forth a theoretical categorization of proenvironmental behaviors in an effort to allow for richer exploration of the predictors of such behaviors. Finally, the paper incorporates these categories into models and analyzes them using the 1993-94 General Social Survey data. The paper demonstrates a thorough understanding of the literature and a command of statistical analysis techniques. Most importantly, Ms. Caniglia is able not only to categorize and empirically test the theoretical work in this area, but also to extend it. The paper is clearly written and original; a fine piece of work.

This annual Award is named to honor the memory of our distinguished colleague. The purpose of this award is to recognize an outstanding paper presented by a graduate student at the annual American Sociological Association Meetings. The recipient is announced at the annual business meeting of the Section, and is presented a certificate acknowledging the honored paper and a monetary donation to help defray expenses associated with attending the ASA meetings. Nominees are limited to graduate students who are giving presentations at the annual meetings. All members, including potential recipients, are encouraged to submit nominations.

Member News and Research . . .

☛ **Carole Seyfrit** of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia has been selected to serve as Program Manager for the Arctic Social Science Program in the Office of Polar Programs at the National Science Foundation. Carole's term started September 1. The current Program Manager is taking leave for a year. An environmental sociologist at NSF!

☛ Washington State University recently announced the appointment of **Riley E. Dunlap** as Boeing Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sociology. The professorship, which Dunlap will hold on a permanent basis, was one of several endowed by a large gift from The Boeing Company to WSU. A past Chair of the ASA Section, Dunlap is currently President of the International Sociological Association's Research Committee on Environment and Society. He has published widely on environmental topics, and is co-editor of *American Environmentalism*, *Public Reactions to Nuclear Waste*, and the forthcoming *Handbook of Environmental Sociology*.

☛ **Lori M. Hunter**, a Demographer and Environmental Sociologist, has joined the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology at Utah State University as an Assistant Professor. Hunter recently received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Brown University and is pleased to take on the challenge of bridging the gap in teaching and research between population and environment relationships at USU.

Hunter's research experience includes her NIEHS-funded dissertation research examining the association between internal migration streams and county-level environmental risk (with Michael J. White). In addition, she has undertaken metropolitan-level environmental equity research with Phil Brown.

Utah State provides an excellent opportunity to further explore the population and environment relationship as the University houses demographers, Environmental Sociologists and a productive College of Natural Resources. As a specific research project, Hunter is interested in incorporating demographic and socio-economic layers into Utah's GAP analysis package – a GIS-based approach to the protection of biodiversity allowing comparison of land management and species distributions in order to identify "gaps" in biodiversity protection.

Anyone interested in, or with information related to, this type of population/biodiversity research (or other related work), please contact Lori at lmh@wpo.hass.usu.edu or: Utah State University; Department of Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Logan, UT 84322-0730; Phone: 801-797-2941

☛ And from a future member?...**Deb Felio** graduated from St. Lawrence University with a major in Environmental Studies and Sociology. Her honors thesis, entitled "Sustained Injustice: The Interstate Transport of Biohazardous Waste," was presented at the 1996 Meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society. Ms. Felio is starting graduate school at Fordham this Fall.

Member Publications and Other Publications of Interest . . .

The Winter 1995 issue of the *Journal of Social Issues* (Vol. 51, No. 4) is titled "Psychology and the Promotion of a Sustainable Future." Issue editors: Doug McKenzie-Mohr and Stuart Oskamp. Included is "Global Concern for the Environment: Is Affluence a Prerequisite?" by Riley E. Dunlap and Angela G. Mertig.

Farhar, Barbara C. and Ashley H. Houston. "Willingness to Pay for Electricity from Renewable Energy," NREL/TP-460-21216, September 1996, Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Farhar, Barbara C., Nancy E. Collins, and Roberta Ward Walsh. "Linking Home Energy Rating Systems with Energy Efficiency Financing: Progress on National and State Programs," NREL/TP-460-21311, October 1996, Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Gould, Kenneth A., Allan Schnaiberg, and Adam S. Weinberg. 1996. *Local Environmental Struggles: Citizen Activism in the Treadmill of Production*.

Nevarez, Leonard. 1996. "Just Wait until There's a Drought: Mediating Environmental Crises for Urban Growth." *Antipode* 28(3): 246-272.

Punch, Maurice. 1996. *Dirty Business: Exploring Corporate Misconduct: Analysis and Cases*. From Sage. (Cl: 0-8039-7603-8 £45; Pb: 0-8039-7604-6 £14.95).

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(Broom Hall; 8-10 Broomhall Road; Sheffield S10 2DR; UK;
Tel: +44 114 2663789; Fax: +44 114 2679403):

Greening People: Human Resources and Environmental Management. Edited by Walter Wehrmeyer, The Durrell Institute, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK. ISBN 1-874719-15-2 416pp hardback £29.50/\$52.00

And forthcoming from Greenleaf Publishing:
ISO 14001 and Beyond: Environmental Management Systems in the Real World, Edited by Christopher Sheldon. ISBN 1-874719-01 2 Available November 1996
350pp paperback £16.95/\$30.00

Continued on page 7

Greening the Boardroom: Corporate Governance and Business Sustainability. Edited by Dr. Grant Ledgerwood, University of Greenwich, UK. ISBN 1-874719-02-0 Available January 1997 c. 200pp hardback, 234x156mm; £45/US\$75

From **Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd** (P O Box 330; Lyme, NH 03768 USA; Tel: (603) 795 2282; FAX: (603) 795 2818 or 8 Lansdown Place; Cheltenham; Glos GL50 2HU; UNITED KINGDOM; <http://www.e-elgar.co.uk>);

The Sociology of the Environment. Edited by Michael Redclift and Graham Woodgate, Wye College, University of London, UK. Three Volume Set 1995 2, 004 pp. Hardback 1-85278-902-6 US \$595.95

The International Handbook of Environmental Sociology Edited by Michael Redclift and Graham Woodgate, Wye College, University of London, UK. September 1997 c 500 pp. Hardback 1-85898-405-X c US \$190.00

Organization & Environment is a new journal created to encourage informed discussion about the social roots and consequences of environmental problems and to stimulate deeper reflection on the meaning and significance of the natural world. It is an international forum for work that illuminates connections between the natural environment (including animals, plants, air, water, land and other ecological entities and systems) and systems of organizing human production and consumption. It provides critical examination of the forces driving human activities that are harmful to the natural environment and develops ideas useful in moving toward more restorative and idealized patterns of living in nature. In particular, **Organization & Environment** is aimed

at developing new perspectives on science and technology, organizations and organizing, and consumption and consumerism, perspectives that encourage environmentally sensitive reflection, inquiry and practice.

In order to ensure that **Organization & Environment** is launched with the highest quality of scholarship possible, the launch date for the first issue has been moved to March of 1997. In the interim, the Editorial Board has been enhanced. John Bellamy Foster now joins John M. Jermier and Paul Shrivastava as Co-Editor and Mary Mellor has become editor of Citation Classics and Foundational Works. The complete Editorial Board is as follows:

Co-Editors: John Bellamy Foster, University of Oregon, John M. Jermier, University of South Florida, and Paul Shrivastava, Bucknell University; **Art and the Natural Environment:** Patrick D. Murphy, Indiana University of Pennsylvania; **Book and Other Media Reviews:** Stephen R. Couch, Pennsylvania State University; **Citation Classics and Foundational Works:** Mary Mellor, University of Northumbria, UK; **Editorial Associate:** Linda C. Forbes, University of South Florida; plus an extensive **Editorial Review Board.**

Sage is offering members of the Section "Environment & Technology" of the ASA special introductory discount rates. For a limited time your individual subscription will be reduced by 20%: one-year subscription for only \$40 (reg. \$50); two-years is \$80 (reg. \$100); and three-years is \$120 (reg. \$150). All subscriptions must be paid in U.S. funds. Foreign subscriptions must add \$8.00 per year for postage, surface mail.

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A Funding Opportunity

National Science Foundation. The Office of Polar Programs Arctic Social Sciences Program is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary program encompassing archaeology, anthropology, geography, sociology, psychology, decision and risk-management science, political science, economics, linguistics and related subjects. Research themes of particular concern are rapid social change, community viability, and human/environment interactions, including issues related to subsistence and sustainable development. Target dates for submission of proposals are December 15 and June 1. Proposals for workshops or dissertation improvement grants can be submitted at any time. For more information refer to Arctic Research Program-Guidelines for Submission of Proposals (NSF 95-133), Grant Proposal Guide (NSF 95-27), or Proposal Forms Kit (NSF 95-28). Contact the Forms and Publications Unit, (703) 306-1130 or pubs@nsf.gov. For more information on the Arctic Social Sciences Program, contact Program Director Carole Seyfrit, (703) 306-1029 or cseyfrit@nsf.gov.

Reminder: Join the Environment and Technology listserve!
Send an e-mail message with the text:
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☐ It's fun, it's educational, sign up today! ☐

Position Announcements . . .

Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

Henry R. Luce Professorship
in Urban Environmental Studies

Occidental College invites applications for the Henry R. Luce Professorship in Urban Environmental Studies. With funding from the Henry Luce Foundation, the Luce Professor will be responsible for establishing and coordinating a new Urban Environmental Studies Project—an interdisciplinary group of faculty and students, courses, research and public service programs focused on understanding urban environmental issues, and using metropolitan Southern California as a laboratory. We seek a scholar or professional, from any academic discipline, who is recognized for his/her intellectual skills in some aspect of the urban environment, and with a strong record of research and/or public service in urban environmental problems and solutions.

Occidental enjoys the unusual advantage of being a highly selective small liberal arts college in a major metropolitan setting. Located on an exceptionally attractive 120 acre campus in Northeastern Los Angeles, Occidental has committed itself to being involved in its local community in all its exciting diversity and urban challenges. The successful candidate will be highly committed to Occidental College's mission of teaching excellence, student involvement in research, cultural diversity, and community service.

The Luce Professor will participate in a team-taught course on the urban environment, teach a senior interdisciplinary seminar in his/her discipline, and maintain a strong interdisciplinary research program which involves students. He/she will also consult with a community advisory board to help guide the activities of the Project. He/she will also work with existing faculty to expand our GIS laboratory and database, to seek additional funding, and to integrate these and other currently available research tools into courses and research with appropriate institutional support. We welcome applicants from the natural sciences, but we do not anticipate funding a separate science laboratory for the Luce Professor. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply. Occidental College is an equal opportunity employer nationally recognized for the diversity of its faculty and student body.

Tenure status and rank are open. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Occidental College offers a

comprehensive benefits package, as well as staff and research support. Applications should include a vita, letters from at least three professional references, and statements of teaching and research interests. The preferred starting date for this position is August, 1997. Review of applications will begin on November 30, 1996 and continue until the position is filled. Mail applications to: Wendy Clifford, International Public Affairs Center, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles, CA, 90041-3314.

For additional information, contact Professor Jim Sadd, Chair, Environmental Science and Studies Program (jsadd@oxy.edu, (213) 259-2518) or Professor Peter Dreier, Director of Public Policy Program (dreier@oxy.edu or (213) 259-2913). General information about Occidental College is available on the College's web page (<http://www.oxy.edu>).

University of Kansas, Department of Sociology

Faculty Position in Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies Program invites applications for a tenure track Assistant Professor half-time in Environmental Studies/half-time in a social science department (e.g., Economics, Sociology, Political Science), to begin on August 16, 1997, contingent upon budgetary approval. Applicants must have a Ph.D. and the successful applicant's research should focus on the economics or political economy of the environment. The teaching load is 4 courses per year; salary range is \$40,000-48,000. Applicants should submit: 1) a letter of application that outlines a research agenda, teaching philosophy, and areas of teaching interest, 2) vita, 3) three letters of recommendation, and 4) samples of written or published work to: Professor John Clark, Chair, Environmental Studies Search Committee, Environmental Studies Program, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045. Initial review of applications will begin on November 30, 1996, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Kansas is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. For further information please feel free to contact Joane Nagel, Chair, Sociology Department, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, (j-nagel@ukans.edu).

National Institute for the Environment Update

The proposed National Institute for the Environment (NIE) is intended to improve the scientific basis for making environmental decisions. As an independent, nonregulatory federal science institute, the NIE would provide the environmental information needed to anticipate, prevent, and respond to our complex environmental problems. The NIE would identify and fund needed research and communicate the results of this research to decision makers and the public. It would also support the education and training of future environmental professionals.

Over the past year the Committee for the NIE has made important strides toward establishment of the Institute. Bipartisan legislation to found the NIE—H.R. 2827, the Sound Science for the Environment Act—was introduced in the House. The proposed Institute has been endorsed by over 70 scientific and professional societies; over 150 colleges and universities; all former EPA Assistant Administrators for Research; the Honorable William Gray III, President of the United Negro College Fund; and increasing numbers of local chambers of commerce and environmental organizations.

The CNIE has set up a prototype electronic National Library for the Environment at <http://www.cnie.org/nle>. Access is available to more than 200 reports on environmental topics, prepared by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. An encyclopedia of environmental issues and terms is also being prepared as part of the library. An on-line center for information about environmental programs in higher education is planned as well.

The CNIE has also worked with the Department of the Interior to have its principles incorporated into the US Geological Survey. Possible changes include a science advisory committee for the USGS and an extramural grant program for multidisciplinary research as part of the FY 98 budget.

Further information on the NIE may be found on the website <http://www.cnie.org> or by contacting the Committee for the National Institute for the Environment; 1725 K Street, N.W.; Suite 212; Washington, DC; 20006-1401; (202) 628-4303.