

Environment, Technology and Society

NEWSLETTER OF THE SECTION ON ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2010

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Secretary (2009-2012):

Karen Ehrhardt-Martinez kehrhardt@humandimensionsresearch.org

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Outstanding Publication Committee:

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Marvin Olsen Student Paper Certificate Committee:

Richard York, Chair rfyork@uoregon.edu

Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism:

David Pellow, Chair dpellow@umn.edu

Fred Buttel Distinguished Contribution Award Committee:

Timmons Roberts, Chair jtrobe@wm.edu

Chair of Teaching and Mentoring Award Committee

Sherry Cable, Chair bmayer@soc.ufl.edu

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Chair of Membership Committee

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The State of the Arctic: The Human Dimensions of Change

by Lawrence Hamilton
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More than 400 scientists, policymakers and stakeholders gathered recently in Miami for a conference on the State of the Arctic. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation and 14 other organizations, the conference had a strong natural-science flavor given urgency by the data flooding in about Arctic system change. Human dimensions of Arctic systems were prominently featured as well, in talks spread throughout many sessions instead of being concentrated in a few. This prominence reflects a keen awareness by physical scientists (and by policymakers and stakeholders) that societal aspects of Arctic change have critical importance.

"Human dimensions" in this context is a broad tent enclosing not just social science, but also local and traditional knowledge, outreach and education, and the engagement of Arctic residents in research. Even the social scientists at State of the Arctic represented diverse disciplines including sociology, anthropology, economics, archaeology, geography and political science — with one or a few scholars from each, and

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ASA Seeks Nominations for New Task Force on Climate Change

At its February 2010 meeting, the ASA Council approved a proposal by the ASA Environment and Technology Section to establish a Task Force to produce a report applying a sociological analysis to the issue of climate change. The Task Force will make a series of public policy recommendations based on that analysis. The Council approved Riley E. Dunlap, Oklahoma State University, as Task Force Chair, and John Logan, Brown University, as ASA Council Liaison to the Task Force.

Nominations of volunteers to serve, including self-nominations, are sought for this new Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change. Task force members will serve for a period of a minimum of two years. The task force will report to Council on its progress prior to submitting a final report, and Council could extend the term of the Task Force, as needed. Council will act on the final report. This effort will involve a substantial time commitment by the volunteers. Their work is likely to be organized into the following three categories: A Core Writing Team, Contributors, and Consultants or Reviewers. A preliminary organizing committee will work with the ASA Council to develop the Task Force, including the core writing teams for each issue area.

Nominations should include a statement of interest and a brief biographical sketch on relevant background and expertise. Send nominations and supporting materials to American Sociological Association, Attn: Governance, 1430 K St., NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005. **The deadline for submission of nominations is May 1.**

A subcommittee of the ASA Council will review the nominations and select the members. Appointments will be made by June. Members will serve two-year terms and the Task Force will meet at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Much of the vitality of ASA flows from its diverse membership. With this in mind, it is the policy of the ASA to include people of color, women, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons, sociologists from smaller institutions or who work in government, business, or other applied settings, and international scholars in all of its programmatic activities and in the business of the Association.

Robert Brulle, E&T Section Chair
Professor of Sociology & Environmental Science,
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E&T Section Midyear Reports: Chair Report

In this edition of the newsletter, the Midyear report of the Environment and Technology Section is provided for the information of the members. The E&T bylaws require that the chair and council provide a report to the membership every March.

As you will see from this report, the section is vibrant and very active. A few of the activities that I would like to highlight are as follows;

1. Establishment of ASA Climate Change Task Force:
At last year's ASA meeting, the Council of the E&T section unanimously voted to authorize an initiative to create an ASA Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change. Dr. Timmons Roberts, Dr. David Pellow and I developed and submitted a proposal to the ASA Council. This proposal was approved by ASA Council in February, and Riley Dunlap was appointed Task Force Chair. Nominations for members are now being solicited. Information on the Task Force can be found at <http://www.asanet.org/about/NominationsTFClimateChange.cfm>. I believe that our Section has a great deal to contribute to this Task Force, and I urge individuals to volunteer. I would like to thank David Pellow, Timmons Roberts, Gene Rosa, Jim Short, John Logan, Craig Calhoun, and Sara Soule for their efforts in support of establishing the Task Force. I wish Riley the best of luck in this important endeavor.

2. Planning for ASA 2010 Meeting in Atlanta - David Pellow had done a great job in organizing the sessions at this year's ASA convention in Atlanta. The entire listing of sessions is contained in Dave's report. Additionally, Dave has substantially increased involvement of section members in running the different sessions. I would like to thank all of the members who have volunteered to preside over the different paper sessions.

3. Web Site Improvements The E&T web site has never looked better. Dan Thompson has done a great job in updating the web site. In addition, he has added an upload capability to the web site for members. You can now upload your papers and syllabi to the E&T web site, and share them with other environmental sociologists. To access this capability, you need to log in at : <http://www.envirosoc.org/cms/> and follow the instructions. This is an important capability and enables us to share our work with each other.

4. *Legacy Project* Beth Caniglia is chairing an ad hoc committee charged with documenting the historical development of environmental sociology. This committee will start interviewing key environmental sociologists at the ASA convention this year. If you wish to help out on this effort, please contact Beth Caniglia at beth.caniglia@okstate.edu

Robert Brulle
ETS Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Past-Chair Report

After handing over the gavel finally after four years as Chair-Elect and Chair, in my calmer role as Past-Chair I advertised the Buttell Distinguished Contribution Award, to be reviewed starting March 1st. I also helped a bit on listserv and website issues, and in developing the proposal for an ASA report on climate change and sociology. Given the past four years, this is a much-needed break, and I'm pleased to see the section prospering.

Timmons Roberts
ETS Past-Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Chair Elect Report

ASA E&T Paper Sessions Update: I am in charge of organizing two regular paper sessions, a special session (Challenges to the Orthodoxy of Environmental Sociology), and the Roundtables. Jason Konefal (Utah State University) graciously agreed to assist with organizing the roundtables and did a great job.

I am pleased with the quality and substance of most of the papers submitted for these sessions. I was hoping for more papers for the Roundtable sessions but there simply were not that many papers submitted overall. Also there were several competing paper sessions, which I think is actually great since it offers people more high profile alternatives. These include the sessions that Sherry Cable is organizing and a session I organized for the SKAT section, all of which received many submissions.

We had a total of 40 papers submitted to all the sessions I was in charge of. The three paper sessions have 4 presenters each, plus a presider, and there are 24 papers accepted to the Roundtables. The

remaining 4 papers were rejected because they choose not to go forward with a Roundtable option or because they were substantively not focused on E&T subject matter.

Participants include the very senior scholars and first year graduate students, scholars from every region of the country, and numerous scholars from abroad. The substance of the papers covers a great deal of conceptual and methodological ground, and there should be interest in our sessions from sociologists active in myriad other sections like Race and Ethnic Minorities, World Systems, Social Movements, Community and Urban, Labor Movements, Medical, Peace/War/Social Conflict, Political Economy, Population, and Theory. I have included an attachment with all the sessions listed.

Boguslaw Award Update The Council has been charged with addressing concerns related to the Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism, mainly because there seem to be so few young scholars interested in it, or nominated for it. However, this year we currently have 4 nominees for the award, suggesting that email reminders (and perhaps a difficult job market) have encouraged people to participate. Depending on the quality of the papers and nominations received this year, I will either urge us to leave the award as is or I will propose new language to the Council. I have contacted the ASA archives and they do not possess the Boguslaw family will, so we have limited materials to draw from, but I think the purpose of the award is clear enough to allow for a broadening of its scope if we choose that path.

David Pellow
ETS Chair-Elect

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Secretary Report

Major Activities Since Annual Meeting The Secretary's primary activities since the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco have included:

- Assisting the nominations committee in soliciting and organizing nominations for six upcoming elected section offices. I have not received a report from Beth as to the number of nominees that were submitted to ASA for section office; however she did indicate that nominations were received and that they will be on the 2010 spring ballot.
- Assisting the Council in publicizing the calls for nominations for various section awards for 2010.

Deadlines for the nominations range from March 1 to April 1.

- Begin work with section members to explore options for the 2010 section reception in Atlanta, Georgia.

• *Upcoming Tasks Prior to the 2009 Annual Meeting*
The next several months will be relatively busy ones for this office. Activities will include:

- Finalizing plans for the 2010 Section Reception.
- Help provide for a smooth transition to the incoming officers. Help ensure that all outgoing officers provide documentation as to their activities to provide continuity. These materials should be completed prior to the annual meeting, and transmitted not only to the incoming officer, but also to the Section Chair, and Secretary-Treasurer.
- Work with the Section Awards committees in preparing for the 2010 awards. This includes preparation of certificates, and for the student paper award, a cash award, as well. Awards committees should submit the results of their deliberations to the Secretary-Treasurer as soon as possible. Awards made early enough will also be conveyed to the ASA offices for inclusion in the awards materials for the annual meeting.
- Recording formal minutes for the 2010 Section Council & Business Meetings.
- Assisting the Chair in producing the 2009/10 Council report for ASA.

Karen Ehrhardt-Martinez
ETS Secretary

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Treasurer Report

As of the end of November, 2009, we had a total of \$4951.00 available in our section account. Based on amounts from 2009, we project an income of \$2200 for the year from membership, base allocation and dues. We expect section expenses to run approximately \$2300 for the year. This includes the cost of the reception at the annual meeting (\$2000), section awards (\$100), and miscellaneous expenditures (\$200). This will result in a balance of \$4851 for the year, or a decrease in 2010 of \$100 from the end of year balance in 2009.

JoAnn Carmin
ETS Treasurer

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Membership Committee

In the fall of 2009 and then again in January 2010, I sent out membership renewal reminders over the two appropriate ETS listserves. I also sent out reminders in the fall 2009 and winter 2010 ETS newsletters. In all of these reminders, I also asked members to try to recruit to the section people they know who conduct environmental sociology research but are not members of the section. However, as is apparently usual at the beginning of a new calendar year, we have had a significant drop in membership due to people either (a) renewing their ASA membership but not their ETS membership (42 people) or (b) not yet renewing their ASA membership (188 people). Despite these hopefully temporary losses, we currently have 314 members. We had 442 members in the fall. So, if we can convince most of the non-renewing members to rejoin the section, we will have more members than last fall, though breaking the 500 member mark seems unlikely.

As I see it, we will encounter two significant and related problems in trying to recruit new members and get old members to rejoin the section. First, state budgets are tight, which means that some people can no longer afford to join the ASA or add on extra sections once they do join. Second, due to budget cuts and the location of this year's annual meeting, fewer people are likely to go to the ASA conference this summer, which will dampen enthusiasm for the ASA in general and ETS in particular. I will do my best to counter these problems. For example, in addition to continuing to send out general e-mail reminders, I will tailor my recruiting efforts to more narrow audiences. Thus, in the next few weeks, I plan to e-mail former members who didn't rejoin and ask them to either reconsider their decision or make an effort rejoin the ASA and ETS. In addition, if I can get some graduate student assistance, I would like to continue with one of Andrew Jorgenson's recruitment strategies by looking through specialty and general interest journals that publish environmental sociology articles to identify environmental sociologists who are not members of the section but should be (focusing on journals Andrew did not look at in his initial attempts). I would also like to look at departmental web pages for sociologists who teach in the area but are not members of the section. If the section has any money to help me hire a graduate student for several hours of work on this, that would be a great help.

Given the success of last summer's mini-conference with PEWS, I would also like to coordinate recruitment

efforts with the PEWS membership chair, such that I send out a membership appeal to PEWS section members and let PEWS send out a membership appeal to our members (I would send out the PEWS appeal and the PEWS membership chair would send out my appeal). However, before doing this, I want to make sure that the rest of the council approves of this.

Liam Downey
ETS Membership Committee Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Policy and Research Committee

Summary of activities

I ensured that the announcement for both award competitions was placed in the Section newsletter, the Section's listserv, and in Footnotes. I will follow up with reminders to at least the listserv and possibly other venues a few weeks before the deadline (April 1). We have so far had one nomination for the Student Paper Award and four (including "pre-nominations," where I've been told a nomination letter is on the way) for the Outstanding Publication Award.

Work in Progress

I am still working on putting together a conflict of interest policy regarding serving on awards committee. I hope to have this done soon.

I haven't done much regarding policy issues. I'll try to get to work on this.

Action Items

One of the nominations for the Outstanding Publication Award creates a conflict of interest for me and one other committee member (Rebecca Clausen). So, we will need to have two people appointed to serve on this committee (Angela Mertig is the other person on the committee). So as to divide labor, Becky and I will handle the Student Paper Award, and consult with the other committee members if we have a tie.

Richard York
Policy and Research Committee Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Nominations Committee

This year, our committee was charged to fill a slate for the following positions: Chair-elect, At-Large, Chair of the Nominations Committee, Chair of the Policy &

Research Committee, Chair of the Publications Committee and Graduate Student Representative. Nominations were solicited at the section's annual business meeting and twice via the section listserv. The nominations solicited at the business meeting were anonymous, while the nominations submitted by email were not. A total of 33 individuals were nominated for positions on the E&T council.

The Committee worked together to create a short-list of candidates for each position, if more than two people were nominated. The Committee was mindful of gender, race/ethnicity, and former service to the Council when selecting candidates and strived for broad representation on the slate. The short lists were derived from nominees submitted to the Committee for all positions except Chair-elect. The Committee nominated several candidates to serve as Chair-elect before filling the slate. Ultimately, however, both candidates who accepted to run had been submitted to the Committee.

Each of the top two nominees was contacted by email and/or phone by the Committee. The nominees were provided an overview of the position for which they were nominated; they were informed regarding the term of service; and an electronic file was updated regularly as to the status of each nominee.

The Committee solicited and received biographical statements from all candidates. These biographical statements were submitted to David Sonnenfeld, who submitted them to ASA. The candidates for office are as follows:

Chair

Beth Schaefer Caniglia
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Oklahoma State University

Kari Norgaard
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology & Environmental
Studies, Whitman College

At Large Council Member

Scott Frickel
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Washington State University

Aaron McCright
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Michigan State University

Student Representative

Christine Bevc
Department of Sociology
University of Colorado, Boulder

Joe Simpson
Department of Sociology
Oklahoma State University

Nominations Committee Chair

Penelope Canan
Professor
Department of Sociology
University of Central Florida

Tammy Lewis
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Muhlenberg College

Policy and Research Committee Chair

Rachael Schwom
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Rutgers University

Lori Hunter
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
University of Colorado, Boulder

Publications Committee Chair

Michael Agliardo
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Loyola University Chicago

Sandy Marquart Pyatt
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Environmental
Science & Policy, Michigan State University

Submitted by Beth Schaefer Caniglia
ETS Nominations Committee Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Teaching, Training, and Practice Committee

Activities:

- Established Committee
- Solicited Summaries of Teaching Sessions held during 2009 ASA for ETS Newsletter
- Distributed Information on ASA 2010 Teaching Award through networks

Suggested projects for the future:

- Compile a list of films appropriate for environmental sociology courses to post on the website.
- Solicit some newsletter articles written by graduate students describing their experiences as graduate teaching assistants.
- Help to develop teaching module on climate change for Climate Teach-In, - working with Penelope Canan at UCF on this

Brian Mayer
ETS Teaching, Training, & Practice Committee Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Publications Committee

Written publications (the newsletter)

Michael Agliardo assumed the position of Newsletter editor in the spring of 2009. Since then, Michael has made the following changes:

- 1) Moved the "publication" date of the Newsletter back two weeks. There were two reasons for this. First, to get out important matters with sufficient lead time before the ASA and, second, to get out an edition just before the flurry of activity that takes place in January associated with the ASA and our section.
- 2) Because a number of people were concerned about the newsletter growing too large and unwieldy it was decided to drop publication of tables of contents of journals. Instead people now send out the TOCs via the listserv.
- 3) Some other technical modifications were also made (embedding hot links, expanding the "masthead", including email addresses therein, etc.).

Online vehicles of communication with the members (website, EnviroSoc listserv)

Most of the committee's energies have been directed toward the new website. Several changes were made to the ETS main site in the last 12 months:

- The Fall 2009 and Winter 2010 ETS newsletters were added with links, and short summaries were posted on the "Section News" page.
- The contact page was updated with current information for section leaders and the webmaster.

- The new Practice and Outreach award was added to the awards page, and the Teaching and Mentorship award, which alternates annually with the Practice and Outreach award, was commented out of the source code so that it does not appear this year.
- The “Who We Are” page was updated with current section leaders and committee members.

A new section was created in which dues-paying ETS members can post and share papers and syllabi. This section was constructed with Drupal, a popular open-source content management system. This involved several steps:

- Drupal version 6 was installed on the Godaddy.com host.
- A user registration system was created that allows users to create their own accounts, which then must be approved by the webmaster.
- Two forums – for papers and syllabi – were created with attachment and comment functions.
- Substantial design changes were made to the original Drupal site so that it was easy to navigate and more aesthetically consistent with the main site.

Several administrative tasks on the Godaddy.com host were completed:

- The user name and password were changed, and this information was shared with the Communications Chair.
- An FTP account was created on the Godaddy.com host to facilitate fast and complete uploads of files and folders.
- All files for the ETS main and member sites were downloaded, zipped, and saved in two places.

In addition to work on the website, Dan Thompson has been exchanging phone calls and emails with the ASA webmaster and working toward having the previous ETS website pages removed from the ASA server. Currently, the main page has been removed and the URL redirects to the current ETS site. However, some of the other pages from the previous site still remain. We hope to resolve this soon.

Michael Carolan
ETS Publications Committee Chair

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Council Member at Large Report

I have engaged, informally, in recruitment efforts among colleagues and graduate students. Much of

this effort has been directed at colleagues in other countries. I am also active in the Southern Sociological Society, and so have extended my recruiting efforts there. I have made suggestions to friends and colleagues in other sections about possible items to submit to our newsletter, hoping to generate inter-sectional interest.

Future agenda

- We need to work with other ASA sections, and other regional professional societies, to expand the breadth of our networks, and to reduce the fractioning of allegiances because of the ever-increasing number of ASA sections.
- We might think of pooling our media-relevant talent, to try to reach out to environmental reporters.
- We should encourage scholars outside of the section to contribute documents to the website.

Lee Clarke
ETS Council Member at Large

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Student Rep Report

As graduate student representative, I have sent occasional e-mail notifying graduate students of potential opportunities relevant for environmental sociology in addition to encouraging graduate students to renew their membership in the section. An e-mail conversation was initiated regarding ways to involve graduate students in the section further. Ideas suggested included career mentoring, helping raise student profiles/web presence in the section, and networking. No follow-up actions have been taken at this point, but are planned previous to August 2010 meeting.

Rachel L. Shwom-Evelich
ETS Student Representative

E&T Section Midyear Reports: Ad Hoc Legacy Committee

The Legacy Committee was asked this year to focus on two issues: the oral history project, which is designed to capture the reflections of our Buttell Award winners on the evolution of our discipline, and the naming of awards. We have focused on the first project to date.

The Committee has entertained discussion and debate regarding the best methodological approaches

to use for the oral history project. One group feels strongly that the interviews should be conducted in person, preferably by mentees or former students of the Buttel Award recipient; while the other group feels skype or phone interviews would be sufficient (and more reasonably priced). The committee is moving in the direction of consensus that conducting the majority of interviews in person at the annual ASA meetings is a cost-effective and methodologically sound approach. We are actively pursuing this avenue and plan to begin interviews at the ASA meetings in Atlanta. Next steps include finalizing a set of questions and pursuing funding opportunities for the project. The committee will soon turn to a discussion of the naming of awards.

Beth Caniglia
Ad Hoc Legacy Committee

ASA 2010: Environment & Technology Section Meetings

Challenges to the Orthodoxy of Environmental Sociology

Organizer: David N. Pellow

Presider, Stella Capek, Hendrix College

- "Materializing the Sociology of Flows." Robert Perdue.
- "Market Power in the Power Market." Glenn Weinberg
- "Jobs, Affluence, Capitalism, and the Commons." William Freudenburg, Lisa Berry, and Frank Howell
- "Holism, Justice, and Structuration: A Paradigm Shift for a Sustainable Future." Frank Carrejo, Chad Smith, and Vince Lopes.

Pushing the Boundaries of Environmental Policy: Scientists, NGOs, States, and Industry

Organizer: David N. Pellow

Presider, Lori Peek, Colorado State University

- "Boundary Work and Uncertainty in Flame Retardant Research and Policy." Alissa Cordner and Phil Brown.
- "Do Debt-for-Nature Swaps Matter for Deforestation?" John Shandra, Restivo, and London.
- "The Limited Influence of Global Civil Society on Global Environmental Governance." Brian Gareau.
- "Comparative Campaigns: Organization and Decision Aspects of ENGO Ranking and Rating Campaigns." Christine Overdevest.

New Frontiers of Environmental Justice Studies and Struggles

Organizer: David N. Pellow

Presider, Harris Ali, York University

- "Pesticide Drift and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice." Jill Harrison.
- "Anti-Oppression Foundations of Food Justice: The Case of West Oakland and People's Grocery." Joshua Sbicca.
- "Militarism and Environmental Policy in the U.S." Eric Bonds.
- "Justice as Rights: Revisiting EJ Theory." Damayanti Banerjee

ASA 2010: Environment & Technology Roundtables

Organizer: Jason Konefal, Utah State University

Environmentalism, Globalization, and the Global South: Development and Sustainability

Presider: Dionne Banks, University of Florida

- A Sustainable Development State? Thomas K. Rudel, Rutgers University
- Economic globalization, global governance, and environmental outcomes Christopher Dick, North Carolina State University
- Soybean Exports and Deforestation from a World-Systems Perspective: A Cross National Investigation of Comparative Disadvantage Kelly Austin, North Carolina State University
- Rethinking Third World Environmentalism: Analyzing India's Water Struggles Krista Bywater, Grinnell College

2. Natural Resources and Land Use: Competing and Complementary Valuations

Presider: Medani Bhandari, Syracuse University

- The Nature Conservancy and the Conservation of Biocultural Diversity: Pitfalls and Promise Todd Paddock, Winona State University
- Imaginaries and Social Construction of Water Scarcity Stephen Gasteyer, Michigan State University
- The Value of Distinct Agricultural Land Uses: An Examination of Farmland in Boulder, Colorado Amy Telligman, University of Colorado Boulder
- The Belief Constraint and Social Bases of Environmental Concern in China Chenyang, Xiao, American University; Dayong Hong, Renmin University of China

3. The Environment and Social Theory

President: Anne Kaduk, University of Minnesota

- Movement Intellectuals and Imagination
Randolph Haluza-DeLay, The King's University College
- Fluid Constellations: Tracing Alliances and Identifying Absences within Socio-Natural Hybrids
Sean Dunne, Trinity College Dublin
- The Paradise is a double click away: images of Nature in the YouTube
Marie Louise Conilh de Beyssac, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
- Meta-Theoretical Bridgebuilding Beyond Middle Range Theorizing
John Barnshaw, University of Delaware; Lynn Letukas, University of Delaware

4. Environmentalism and Public Participation

President: Kelly Bergstrand, University of Arizona

- Assessing the Role of Public Participation in Environmental Remediation
Andrew Van Alstyne, University of Michigan
- Patterns of Activism: Examining Latent Classes of Participation in the Environmental Movement
Winston B. Tripp, Pennsylvania State University
- A Tribute to the late Allan Schnaiberg's Categories of Environmentalism
Nehal A. Patel, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- Environmental Justice in Oklahoma
Jan Meij, Wells College, and Tony Zschau, Oklahoma State University

5. Political Economy, Socioeconomics, and the Environment

President: Craig MacMillan,

Washington State University

- Profits before human and environmental health? Ideological change and the precautionary principle
Wendi Belinda Kane, University of Central Florida
- Obamanization of Environmental Sociology
Jan-Martijn Meij, Wells College, Joseph M. Simpson, Oklahoma State University
- Surface Coal Mining and Socioeconomic Outcomes in Rural Appalachia
Ryan Wishart, University of Oregon
- Reducing Morbidity and Mortality from Extreme Hot Weather in Parkdale: The West End Heat Registry
Tanya Gulliver and Harris Ali, York University

6. Migration, Health, and the Environment

President: Loka Ashwood, University of Wisconsin

- Weak Ties, Labor Migration, and Environmental Impacts: Towards a Sociology of Sustainability
Xiaodong Chen, Michigan State University; Kenneth A. Frank, Michigan State University; Thomas Dietz, Michigan State University; Guangming He, Michigan State University; Jianguo Liu, Michigan State University
- Rethinking the migration effects of natural amenities
Guangqing Chi, Mississippi State University; David W. Marcouiller, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Adult mortality and household food security in rural South Africa: Does AIDS represent a unique mortality shock?
Wayne Twine, University of Witwatersrand, Lori M. Hunter, University of Colorado at Boulder
- The Role of Employers and Supervisors in Promoting Pesticide Safety Behavior among Florida Farmworkers
Brian Mayer, University of Florida

The State of the Arctic: The Human Dimensions of Change

(continued from page 1)

none dominant. The interconnected nature of Arctic research selects for people who like to work and think across disciplines; for instance, oceanographers interested in what social scientists have to say, or vice versa. An environmental sociologist could feel at home here.

As one example of this rich diversity, a session I chaired called "Responses to Arctic Change" included presentations (all excellent) on

- mapping local/traditional with scientific knowledge,
- reindeer herders amidst rapid energy development on Russia's Yamal Peninsula,
- marine mammal evolution through hybridization under rapid climate change,
- a circumpolar human-dimensions database,
- effects of temperature and snow depth on ecosystem CO₂ exchange,
- risks from ship-borne invasive species in the Arctic, and
- rapid long-distance transport of ice, sometimes polluted, formed on continental shelves.

Human-related talks given in other sessions meeting at the same time included

- population of northern regions during the International Polar Years,
- optimizing the Arctic social observation system with an Arctic system model,
- Arctic marine transportation by 2030, and
- Arctic Ocean primary production in the next decades (with implications for fisheries).

Attending any of these sessions provided a sampling of innovative research from different fields.

Plenary sessions offered broad overviews covering new ideas or years of research, such as

- local indigenous perspectives on the Arctic,
- tipping points, positive feedback switches, and rapid change in ecosystems,
- human dimensions of the changing Arctic,
- linkages between the Arctic and Earth system: what should we be watching?
- socioecological state changes in the Arctic, and turning science into policy and action.

So what is the state of the Arctic? In two words, rapidly changing. The Arctic Ocean sea ice minimum of 2007 took scientists by surprise, making a seasonally ice-free state look decades closer than it had in the 2007 IPCC report. The IPCC report also underestimated the rate of sea level rise, because the Greenland Ice Sheet and large glaciers turn out to be wasting faster than expected. Worrisome new reports tell of methane emissions from huge deposits capped by subsea permafrost on the Siberian Shelf, some of that permafrost now thawing due to increased river runoff as pan-Arctic freshwater cycles accelerate. Terrestrial permafrost thaw and shrubification of tundra provide other positive feedbacks in which Arctic warming begets more warming. These things are all interconnected. The Arctic is Earth's fastest-warming region, with mechanisms that could increase climate volatility as well as averages to the south.

The Bering Sea ecosystem is experiencing a regime shift. Farther north some southerly species are moving into the low Arctic, while high Arctic or ice-specialized species are in trouble. Amidst all these changes stand the humans, affected already by social changes including steps towards indigenous self-government, decline of fishing and other historic industries, economic fluctuations, net outmigration and the quest for sustainable development. Climate change intensifies geopolitical and development pressure on the Arctic, with consequences for everyone. There are many signs of danger and hope in the human dimensions of the Arctic.

2010 Behavior, Energy & Climate Change Conference

The 4th Annual Conference focused on the practical applications of social and behavioral research to achieve viable solutions to energy and climate challenges.

November 14-17, 2010
Sacramento, CA, USA

Deadline for abstracts is May 15, 2010
www.BECCconference.org

2010 Behavior, Energy & Climate Change (BECC) Conference* is the fourth annual conference focused on the practical applications of social and behavioral research to achieve viable solutions to energy/climate challenges. It builds on the overwhelming success of previous BECC conferences at which 700 participants from universities, government, corporations and organizations discussed successful policy and program strategies, shared important research findings, and created dynamic new networks and collaborations.

ECC 2010 will include 45 topic/plenary sessions and over 200 presenters selected through a competitive abstract process and by special invitation. We seek abstracts for formal oral presentations, short highlight talks, and poster presentations.

The conference will focus on six broad areas (examples of potential topics) :

1. **Behavior & Policy** (Behavioral strategies in energy/climate policy design, legislation, regulation, implementation, enforcement. Behavior of policymakers and the policy process. International, national, state or local policy, as well as utility regulation and strategies.)
2. **Physical Environment & Technology** (Integrating behavior insights in design, interfaces, adoption, usage, maintenance and disposal of technology; feedback, smart meters, HAN; the impact of the built environment on energy behavior; community planning, buildings, and transportation.)
3. **Corporations, Organizations, Communities & Networks** (Behavior-based approaches in corporations, businesses, government agencies, the military, schools, universities, churches and communities to address energy/climate; social groups and social networks; sociology; organizational behavior.)
4. **Media, Marketing & Communications** (New and traditional media, communications, journalism, information, entertainment, social marketing and

community-based social marketing, branding, advertising, labeling, segmentation, messages and messengers.)

5. **Individuals, Psychology, & Behavioral Economics** (Practical implementation of individual/social models of behavior and decision-making; social norms, habit formation, attitudes, lifestyles, incentives & dis-incentives, public goods, bounded rationality, choice architecture, framing, and fairness.)
6. **Evaluation, Measurement, Models & Methods** (Practical methods for measuring behavior impacts: program evaluation, cost-benefit analysis, non-energy benefits, real-time evaluation, behavioral models of decision-making, robustness, and experimental design.)

BECC 2010 is co-convened the California Institute for Energy and Environment (University of California), the Precourt Energy Efficiency Center (Stanford University) and the American Council for an Energy-Efficiency Economy.

Call for papers: *International Journal of Community Currency Research* (special edition)

The International Journal of Community Currency Research (IJCCR) is planning a 'special edition' that provides a snapshot of current developments in the field of complementary currencies. It is therefore inviting proposals for short papers (1,500 - 2000) words that focus on either

- a) Regional overviews of trends / developments in different parts of the world
- b) Case studies of schemes which can in some sense be regarded as exemplars
- c) Case studies of schemes that are in some sense can be regarded as particularly innovative.

Deadline for submission: 30 June 2010

This edition of the Journal is also linked to a new Grassroots Innovations: Complementary Currencies (GICC) research project at the University of East Anglia that is specifically focusing on community currencies as processes of socio-technical innovation. To this end, there may be the opportunity for authors to attend a seminar in London in September 2010 and present their paper.

If you intend to submit a paper please contact IJCCR Editorial Assistant Noel Longhurst (n.longhurst@uea.ac.uk) in the first instance to assist with co-ordination.

Gill Seyfang and Colin Williams (Co-Editors, IJCCR)
www.uea.ac.uk/env/ijccr

For further information on the GICC project see:
www.uea.ac.uk/~e175/Seyfang/GICC.html

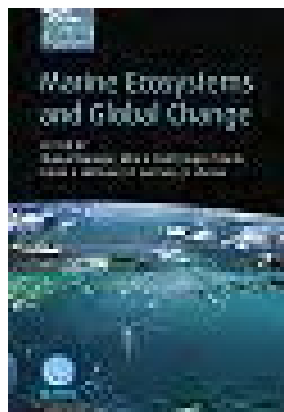
Publications

Books

Marine Ecosystems and Global Change

Manuel Barange, John G. Field, Roger P. Harris, Eileen E. Hofmann, R. Ian Perry, F.E. Werner (eds.)
Oxford University Press (2010)

Global environmental change (including climate change, biodiversity loss, changes in hydrological and biogeochemical cycles, and intensive exploitation of



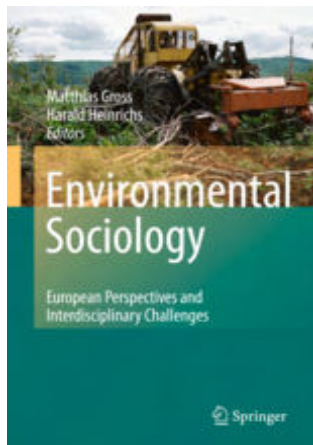
natural resources) is having significant impacts on the world's oceans. This book advances knowledge of the structure and functioning of marine ecosystems, and their past, present, and future responses to physical and anthropogenic forcing. It illustrates how climate and humans impact marine ecosystems, providing a comprehensive review of the physical and ecological

processes that structure marine ecosystems as well as the observation, experimentation, and modelling approaches required for their study. Recognizing the interactive roles played by humans in using marine resources and in responding to global changes in marine systems, the book includes chapters on the human dimensions of marine ecosystem changes and on effective management approaches in this era of rapid change. A final section reviews the state of the art in predicting the responses of marine ecosystems to future global change scenarios with the intention of informing both future research agendas and marine management policy.

Marine Ecosystems and Global Change provides a detailed synthesis of the work conducted under the auspices of the Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics (GLOBEC) programme. This research spans two decades, and represents the largest, multi-disciplinary, international effort focused on understanding the impacts of external forcing on the structure and dynamics of global marine ecosystems.

Environmental Sociology: European Perspectives and Interdisciplinary Challenges

Gross, Matthias and Harald Heinrichs (eds.)
Springer (2010)



Despite being a relatively young sub-discipline, European environmental sociology has changed considerably in the last decades towards more interdisciplinary collaborations and problem solving. Current trends such as global environmental modernization and processes of economic, political and socio-cultural globalization, fuelled by developments of transport, environmental

flows, scientific uncertainty, and information technologies, have fostered new conceptual approaches that move beyond classical sociological mind-sets toward broader attempts to connect to other disciplines.

Environmental Sociology is the first book to broaden the realm of environmental sociology by forging links to other environmental disciplines, such as environmental policy, media studies, geography, ecological economics, ecological modeling, or ecological design. The book's focus on current environment-related issues in interdisciplinary developments are not only of relevance for strengthening environmental sociology but will make it a great read for upper undergrad and graduate courses in social sciences dealing with environmental topics

What is Environmental Thought?: From Environmentalism to Ecologism

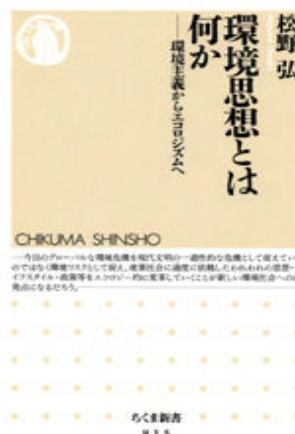
Hiroshi Matsuno
Chikuma Shobo Publishing Co., Tokyo (2009)

The author aims to analyze historical disputes over the environmental problems in the U.S. and Europe through environmental thought from Environmentalism to Ecologism. It is useful for us to examine those ideas from the past to the present, to find any possible solutions against this environmental crisis, when we, the humans to try to make global agreements on the climate change in the serious situation.

He clearly pointed out that the modern industrialism emerging from the Industrial Revolution in the U.K. in 18th century caused the environmental problems including public hazards that the modern industrialism. This Industrialism brought about social evolution, social progress and the principle of efficiency for the success of

economic growth, but in turn, it produced us the degradation and destruction of the natural environment and our life.

It is very important for us to find any solutions not by adopting the technical fix to comply with the environmental problem, but by radically transforming our industrial way of thinking, lifestyle and behavior with the ecologically sustainable values, behavior and policy. The author presents us a roadmap towards the Green State and the Green Society by explaining the green political theory of Professor Dr., Robyn Eckersley in her 'The Green State' in 2004 (MIT Press) and the actual case study of 'Green Welfare State' project in recent Sweden.



This book makes a significant and influential contribution to the academic and popular debates about the role of the contemporary environmental thought composed of environmental political thought, environmental economic thought, environmental cultural thought, environmental law thought and environmental policy thought. It will greatly help us in finding

any possible solutions against the global environmental problems with those environmental thoughts.

Prologue. The Global Environmental Crisis and The Role of Environmental Thought

Chapter 1. What is Environmental Thought—Basic viewpoints and Development?

Chapter 2. The Dilemma of The Affluent Society

Chapter 3. The Emergence of Environmental Thought

Chapter 4. Environmental Thought as Intellectual Device for Transformation

Chapter 5. Contemporary Phases of Environmental Thought: From Environmental Society to Green Society

Chapter 6. How can Contemporary Environmental Thought Contribute to the Green Society?

Epilogue. Rethinking the Controversy over Hetch Hetchy Valley—Environmental Thought to be geared for Green Society

Advances in Ecopolitics, volume 5:

Global Ecological Politics

Liam Leonard & John Barry (Eds.)
Emerald Books (March 2010)

This volume of the Advances in Ecopolitics examines the range of environmental campaigns that are in occurring

across the planet. As world leaders attempt to tackle climate change, this edition presents a collection of case studies on global grassroots initiatives and activism in diverse areas.

Advances in Ecopolitics, volume 4:
The Transition to Sustainable Living and Practice

Editors: Liam Leonard & John Barry
Publication date: 21 December 2009

Advances in Ecopolitics, Volume 5:
Global Ecological Politics

Editors: Liam Leonard & John Barry
Publication date: 3 March 2010

Advances in Ecopolitics, Volume 6:
Sustainable Justice: Restoring the Community

Editors: Liam Leonard & Paula Kenny
Forthcoming: Winter 2010

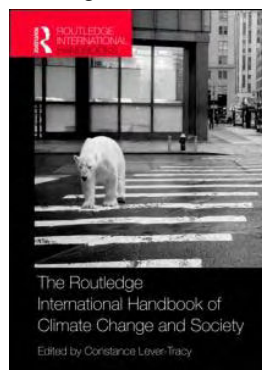
Advances in Ecopolitics, Volume 7:
The Incineration Issue: Waste, Politics and Policy
Forthcoming 2010-11

Advances in Ecopolitics, Volume 8:
Environmental Philosophy
Forthcoming 2010-11

Routledge Handbook of Climate Change and Society

Constance Lever-Tracy (edit.)
Routledge (2010)

As the time scales of natural change accelerate and converge with those of society, Routledge Handbook of Climate Change and Society takes the reader into largely uncharted territory in its exploration of anthropogenic climate change. Current material is used to highlight the global impact of this issue, and the necessity for multidisciplinary and global social science research and teaching to address the problem.



The book is multidisciplinary and worldwide in scope, with contributors spanning specialisms including agro - forestry, economics, environmentalism, ethics, human geography, international relations, law, politics, psychology, sociology and theology. Their global knowledge is reflected in the content of the text, which encompasses chapters on American, Euro-

pean and Chinese policies, case studies of responses to disasters and of the new technological and lifestyle alternatives that are being adopted, and the negotiations leading up to the Copenhagen Conference alongside a preface assessing its outcomes. Starting with an initial analysis by a leading climatologist, key issues discussed in the text include recent findings of natural scientists,

social causation and vulnerability, media and public recognition or skepticism, and the merits and difficulties of actions seeking to mitigate and adapt.

This accessible volume utilizes a wealth of case studies, explains technical terms and minimizes the use of acronyms associated with the subject, making it an essential text for advanced undergraduates, postgraduate students and researchers in the social sciences.

Table of Contents

Part 1: Understanding climate change
Part 2: Social impacts on nature
Part 3: Natural impacts on society
Part 4: Social recognition of climate change
Part 5: Reducing emissions
Part 6: National and global policies

For review copy: Gemma-kate.hartley@tandf.co.uk

Fighting For the Future of Food: Activists Vs. Agribusiness in the Struggle Over Biotechnology

Rachel Schurman and William Munro
University of Minnesota Press
(Forthcoming: August 2010)

How activists changed the trajectory of the new agricultural biotechnologies

When scientists working in the agricultural biotechnology industry first altered the genetic material of one organism by introducing genes from an entirely different organism, the reaction was generally enthusiastic. To many, these genetically modified organisms (GMOs) promised to solve the challenges faced by farmers and to relieve world hunger. Yet within a decade, this "gene revolution" had abruptly stalled. Widespread protests against the potential dangers of "Frankenfoods" and the patenting of seed supplies in the developing world forced the industry to change course. As a result, in the late 1990s, some of the world's largest firms reduced their investment in the agricultural sector, narrowed their focus to a few select crops, or sold off their agricultural divisions altogether.

Fighting for the Future of Food tells the story of how a small group of social activists, working together across tables, continents, and the Internet, took on the biotech industry and achieved stunning success. Rachel Schurman and William A. Munro detail how the anti-biotech movement managed to alter public perceptions about GMOs and close key markets to such products. Drawing strength from an alternative worldview that sustained its members' sense of urgency and commitment, the anti-GMO movement exploited political opportunities created by the organization and culture of the biotechnology industry itself.

Fighting for the Future of Food ultimately addresses society's understanding and trust (or mistrust) of technological innovation and the complexities of the global agricultural system that provides our food.

Rachel Schurman is associate professor of sociology and global studies at the University of Minnesota. William A. Munro is professor of political science and director of international studies at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Articles

Of special note: The current issue of Environmental Politics has devoted the current issue to a "Symposium on Climate Change Policy and Politics."

Environmental Politics 19(2) (April, 2010).

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/09644016.asp>



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Member News

E&T Members win 2009 Gerald L. Young Book Award in Human Ecology for Recent Publication

The Society for Human Ecology (SHE) has announced the winner of its 2009 Gerald L. Young book award as *Human Footprints on the Global Environment: Threats to Sustainability* edited by Eugene A. Rosa, Andreas Diekmann, Thomas Dietz, and Carlo Jaeger.

The Society for Human Ecology distinguished scholarly book award, named in honor of Gerald L. Young, former WSU Environmental Science Faculty member who is considered one of SHE's founders

and a recognized leader in scholarly publications in human ecology, is presented annually for the best single book published in a calendar year. A committee awards the annual prize for a book that makes an unusually important contribution to advancing the field of human ecology.

Christine Bevc to take up Post-Doc at Chapel Hill

Christine Bevc has accepted a position as a post-doctoral researcher/research associate with the NC Preparedness and Emergency Response Research Center at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Riley E. Dunlap Named DaVinci Fellow

Riley E. Dunlap, Oklahoma State University, has been selected as a 2010 DaVinci Fellow by Oklahoma's DaVinci Institute. The Institute is a public-private partnership involving all of the State's institutions of higher education, and is committed to fostering innovation and creativity. Dunlap was honored for his contributions to establishing environmental sociology.

Randolph Haluza-DeLay Reaches a Milestone

Randolph Haluza-DeLay recieved tenure and promotion in the Sociology Department at King's University College in Edmonton, Alberta. Professor

Haluza-DeLay will be able to celebrate this event with a year's sabbatical starting this summer.

Gene Rosa on NPR's "Talk of the Nation"

Gene Rosa appeared on NPR's talk of the nation in connection with its March 1st program: Do You Want to Live Near a Nuclear Power Plant? As part of this half-hour segment interviewer Neal Conan asked Rosa about the public mood about nuclear power in the United States, especially since on the one hand the nuclear industry is claiming a nuclear renaissance and President Obama is promoting the technology. On the other hand, the Vermont legislature voted (26 to 4) to deny the relicensing renewal of Vermont Yankee, the state's only nuclear reactor (providing 30% of the state's electricity), when it expires in 2012, due to tritium gas leaking into ground water. Rosa pointed out that the general mood of the nation is now nearly evenly split between nuclear supporters and opponents, but the public still doesn't want a plant in its community if one is not already there. The recorded and printed transcript can be found at: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=124205435>