

**2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for
Section on Comparative and Historical Sociology**

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 2024 to August 2025 and a fiscal year from January 2025 to December 2025. This report is shared publicly.

Section Governance

Provide details of your Section's governance activity during the period between September 2024 and August 2025.

Business Meeting

CHS Business Meeting Minutes 2025

1. Opening Remarks (Chair, Cedric de Leon)
 1. Cedric thanked CHS council, various organizing teams, CHS community for putting their trust in his leadership
2. Update on Finances (Cedric de Leon)
 1. \$2,500 remaining
 2. 651 members
 3. Got offsets to cost of Mini-conference which was key to financial health
 1. UMass: Offered \$1000
 2. UIC: Offered free space
3. Floor nomination for Nominations Committee
 1. Anna Skarpelis
4. Awards (presented by Cedric de Leon)
 1. Reinhard Bendix for Grad Paper
 1. Honorable Mention: Muhammed Amasha
 2. Honorable Mention: Omri Tubi
 3. Co-Winner: Peter Kent-Stoll
 4. Co-Winner: Emily Ruppel
 2. Theda Skocpol Dissertation Award
 1. Honorable Mention: Youbin Kang
 2. Winner: Mary Shi - Paradoxical growth of bureaucratic infrastructure
 3. Charles Tilly Best Article Award
 1. Honorable Mention: Chen, Joy, Erik H. Wang, and Xiaoming Zhang
 2. Co-Winner: Anna Skarpelis
 3. Co-Winner: Andreas Winner, Seungwon Lee, and Jack LaViolette
 4. Barrington Moore Book Award (Presented by award committee member Veda Kim)
 1. Yan Long

2. Atef Said
3. Chana Teeeger
2. Winner: Zeke Baker
5. Ibn Kaldun Distinguished Career Award (Presented by award committee member Jorge Daniel Vasquez)
 1. George Steinmetz
5. Incoming chair remarks: Dr. Angel Parham
 1. Spoke on vision for CHS next year.
 1. Mini-conference theme will be "Histories of the Present." Rationale is to respond to the current rise of authoritarianism. Next year is also the 250th anniversary of American independence. Idea to look into the origins of various illiberal projects and the rise of national conservatism. Submissions on other themes are very welcome. The theme is intentionally capacious
 2. Reminder to use Google sign-up form to volunteer for various committees
6. Closing remarks (Cedric de Leon)
 1. Reminder of remaining ASA CHS panels this year

Council Meeting

CHS Council Meeting - September 9, 2024

Agenda

1. Introductions (5 minutes)
2. Finance (15min)
 1. Making the next mini-conference financially sustainable (UIC Proposal)
 2. Mentoring Event: do we want to continue this? Can we put that money toward increasing access to the annual meeting for students and junior scholars, e.g., in the form of modest travel grants? Or is the mentoring event the access we need?
 3. Department sponsorships (e.g., UMass pays for a section event)
3. Programming (20min)
 1. Section sessions: 1 invited, 1-3 open? 2 solicited from membership? 7am Council Meeting? 90 min business meeting or roundtables?
 2. Joint session with Theory on "Theorizing Crisis" (Claire Decoteau)
 3. Joint reception with Development (Monica Prasad)
 4. Broad mini-conference theme: "New Directions in Comparative Historical Sociology: A Fourth Wave?"
 5. Remote Winter Town Hall (December/January)
4. Operations (15min)
 1. Program Committee: get organizers and high-profile speaker commitments for section sessions and mini-conference asap

Minutes

In attendance: Cedric de Leon; Jonathan Wyrzten; Alexandre White; Jonah Stuart Brundage; Jordanna Matlon; Marisela Martinez-Cola; Maryam Alemzadeh; Vasfiye Toprak; Luis Flores; Angel Adams Parham

1. Chair Cedric de Leon opens meeting.
2. Introductions
3. Finance:
 - Mini-conference: discussed possibility of hosting at a local university (UIC); discussed possibility of asking for payments from registrants; discussed possibility of departmental sponsorships.
 - Award plaques: discussed idea of paper certificates for honorable mention recipients (will save Section money).
4. Programming:
 - Possibility of co-sponsoring an ASA session with the Theory Section ("Theorizing Crisis")
 - Should we have a 90-minute business meeting instead of 30 minutes + roundtables? Council decided to retain current format.
 - Last year we had one invited panel, two thematic but open, and one completely open, with all overflow funneled into roundtables. No objections to maintaining this format.
 - Accepting Monica Prasad's invitation to co-host our ASA reception with the Section on Development; we will also reach out to GATS to see if they want to co-host again.
 - Mini-conference: Cedric proposes the theme of new/up-and-coming directions in the field (with the idea of the three waves of historical sociology in mind); Angel suggests the idea of a moderated discussion (perhaps with Adams/Clemens/Orloff); Council supports this broad theme.
5. Nominations committee: Jordanna volunteers (joining Jonathan on the committee).
6. Mid-year townhall meetings: should we keep them going? Feeling is that they are important for inclusivity. Council decides to keep them going.
7. Luis, Jonah, and Maryam volunteered to help out with mini-conference.
8. Next steps: Cedric will reach out to people about populating awards committees.
9. Meeting adjourned

CHS Council Meeting - July 7, 2025

Agenda

1. Secretary Treasurer: Finances, Membership, Award plaques and certificates (Jonah - 10 min)
2. Awards committee reports and considerations for next time (Atef, Marisela, Sasha, Cedric subbing in for Nick and Rebecca - 10 min)
3. Business meeting proposed run of show: welcome, secretary treasurer and vote on budget, awards, committee volunteer signup, closing words from Angel - revisions? (Cedric - 10 min)
4. Mini-conference check in - we need Atef on the ground!! (Luis - 10 min)
5. ASA Program: reception, business meeting and sessions - leadership presence, promotion (Cedric - 10 min)
6. Transition: chair hand off, by laws change to make permanent the integrated communications committee, program committee and possibly the mini-conference committee? (Cedric - 10 min)

Minutes

In attendance: Cedric de Leon; Marisela Martinez-Cola; Luis Flores; Jonah Stuart Brundage; Jordanna Matlon; Alexandre White; Maryam Alemzadeh; Vasfiye Toprak; Muhammad Amasha

1. Chair Cedric de Leon opens meeting: thanks everyone for their work this year.
2. Secretary-treasurer Jonah Stuart Brundage gives update on Section finances, membership count, and awards plaques/certificates.
 - Given that there were two winners of the Bendix student paper award, which comes with a \$500 prize, there was a question of whether each winner should receive \$500 or whether the award money should be split between the two winners. Because there was no language in the bylaws about splitting the money, Council decided to award each winner \$500 as a one-off with the goal of clarifying language for the future.
3. Awards committee reports:
 - Marisela reports on Khaldun Distinguished Career Award: only two submissions (something to consider for the future).
 - Alexandre (Sasha) presents on Charles Tilly Article Award: 48 submissions; papers were really good; question arose of how to assess comparative-historical component versus purely historical component (committee came to capacious definition).
4. Mini-conference
 - Luis gives update: planning committee decided not to ask for contributions from registrants; program is available; there will be a social event afterwards; looking for folks on the ground in Chicago to help with coordination.
5. Business meeting
 - Cedric presents structure: welcome from chair, report from sec treasurer, awards (sign-up sheets go around during awards), then hand it over to incoming chair; also: take a nomination from the floor for the nominations committee.
6. Transition:
 - Cedric wants to have a robust transition meeting/conversation with incoming chair Angel Adams Parham, will recommend bylaws changes that include two new standing committees: mini-conference committee and program committee.
 - Maryam suggests giving more defined roles to Council members; Council agrees.
7. Cedric presents on ASA program:
 - Co-hosting reception on Monday with a number of sections; business meeting on Tuesday; sessions split between Monday/Tuesday; suggestions for promotion of program?
8. Meeting adjourned

Awards

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

The Section gives five awards each year (see a through e below):

a. Reinhard Bendix Graduate Student Paper Award

Honorable Mentions:

Amasha, Muhammad. Theorizing Dilemmas through Intellectuals' Politics

Tubi, Omri. State Formation Fever: Malaria and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, 1882-1914.

Co-Winners:

Kent-Stoll, Peter. "Dispossessory citizenship: The settler colonial state and the Bureau of Indian Affairs' relocation program, 1952–1972." *Social Problems* 71 (4): 1014-1031.

Ruppel, Emily H. "How Work Becomes Invisible: The Erosion of the Wage Floor for Workers with Disabilities." *American Sociological Review* 89, no. 5 (2024): 907-936.

b. Theda Skocpol Best Dissertation Award

Honorable Mention:

Youbin Kang, "Underground Labor and the Politics of Circuits: Public Transit Systems of New York and Seoul, 1974-2022" (Univ. of Wisconsin)

Winner:

Mary Shi, *Settlers' Republic: Land, Infrastructure, and the Emergence of New Technologies of Government in the United States, 1789–1862* (UC Berkeley).

c. Charles Tilly Best Article Award

Honorable Mention:

Chen, Joy, Erik H. Wang, and Xiaoming Zhang. 2025. "From Powerholders to Stakeholders: State-building with Elite Compensation in Early Medieval China." *American Journal of Political Science* 69 (2): 607–23.

Co-Winners:

Wimmer, Andreas, Seungwon Lee, and Jack LaViolette. 2025. "Diffusion Through Multiple Domains: The Spread of Romantic Nationalism Across Europe, 1770–1930." *American Journal of Sociology* 130 (4)

Skarpelis, Anna. Forthcoming. "Horror Vacui: Racial Misalignment, Symbolic Repair, and Imperial Legitimation in German National Socialist Portrait Photography," *American Journal of Sociology* 129 (2): 313-383

d. Barrington Moore Best Book Award

Shortlist, which included

- Yan Long, *Authoritarian Absorption: The Transnational Remaking of Epidemic Politics in China*. (Oxford UP, 2024.)
- Atef Said, *Revolution Squared: Tahrir, Political Possibilities, and Counterrevolution in Egypt*. (Duke UP, 2024.)
- Chana Teegeer, *Distancing the Past: Racism as History in South African Schools*. (Columbia UP, 2024.)

Winner:

Baker, Zeke. 2024. *Governing Climate: How Science and Politics Have Shaped Our Environmental Future*. Oakland: University of California Press

e. Ibn Khaldun Distinguished Career Award

Winner:

George Steinmetz (University of Michigan)

2025 Finances

Provide a narrative on how the 2025 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2024. Please account for any substantive differences.

As of September 30, 2025, our total income for the year was \$2,996. (Dues income was \$604 while the Section budget allocation was \$2,392.) Based on the remaining dues that we will receive, our total income for 2025 should be consistent (within \$100) with what we estimated in our 2025 budget.

In terms of expenses, we have spent \$4,635 in 2025. This includes \$1,839 for the annual meeting reception; \$1,396 for award expenses (\$396 for plaques and \$1,000 for two Bendix Award prizes); \$1,250 for the mini-conference; and \$150 for website maintenance (webhosting fees). The only place where we meaningfully under-budgeted was award expenses because we normally give just one Bendix prize. However, this year there were co-winners and Council decided to award each winner the full prize money as there wasn't a clear precedent for what to do in such a situation. (For the future, we have decided to split the \$500 prize between winners when this situation arises.) There are a couple places where we over-budgeted as well. We had anticipated allocating \$750 for a Section mentoring event during the annual meeting, but we did not end up holding the event, so we achieved savings in that area. We also achieved savings in website maintenance, because we had budgeted for the possibility of a website redesign but didn't end up pursuing this. To summarize, then, we came out under budget for 2025: our estimated expenses were \$5,000, and our actual expenses were \$4,635.

Our estimated net assets by year's end are \$2,748. This will make our net assets approximately \$200 greater than anticipated in our 2025 budget.

The Previous Year

Describe Section activities during the period between September 2024 and August 2025.

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.

Our Integrated Communications Committee met regularly (every other month) to coordinate our communication with the membership across four platforms: Chair's email, [Trajectories](#) (the Section newsletter), the Section website (<https://asa-chs.org>), and the [CHAT Podcast](#). The Committee, which consisted of teams responsible for each of these platforms minus the Chair's email, agreed that some platforms were better suited than others for a given piece of content. For example, while we could of course include a transcript of an interview with a senior member of our section, our Podcast team believed that a live recorded interview would be more engaging. Similarly, the Committee agreed that time sensitive gatherings in the short term should go over the Chair's email, whereas communication about the section's mini-conference and annual meeting program should be featured primarily in the newsletter. I would be remiss if I did not add that our website team created a brand new website for the section. The company we had been dealing with to host our website and domain were bought up by two separate entities, and we were unable to synchronize the security settings and editing privileges as a result. All hosting for our new website is done by the same company now.

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

The Committee on Racism and Antiracism in Comparative Historical Sociology, had been dormant for two years. This year, we revived the committee, and our new committee chair, Tony Chen, is now restaffing the group to create a resource for comparative historical sociologists wanting to include readings on these issues on their syllabi.

In addition, we made several efforts to cultivate a sense of belonging among minoritized members, including international students who may have been the target of immigration restrictions or political persecution. For example, the Council shared legal resources and links to potential support networks with members facing these issues. In addition, we published the papers from the 2024 ASA section session on Intersectionality that featured the work of Chair-Elect Angel Parham, Julia Adams, Muge Gocek, Ann Orloff and myself.

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).

Our goal as a section this year was to take stock of our subfield's past, present and future and in doing so feature the sheer breadth of our colleagues' research. To that end, we included in the annual program three panels whose topics were more general

in scope - methods, crisis, and resistance and repression - as well as two sessions that represented the particular interests of many junior colleagues in the subfield, namely, race and colonialism. The sessions were as follows:

40866 - Race and Labor in the Americas

41066 - Methods and Methodological Innovations in Comparative Historical Sociology

50264 - Legacies of Colonialism

50664 - Theorizing Crisis (Co-sponsored by Theory Section)

50864 - Resistance and Repression

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.

Our main activity outside the annual meeting was our mini-conference, titled, "Third Wave, Fourth Wave, or Critical Turn?" The opening plenary celebrated the 20th anniversary of Julia Adams, Lis Clemens, and Ann Orloff's book, *Remaking Modernity*, which was meant to take stock of where we have been, where we are, and where we are headed in the subfield. The closing plenary featured the work of junior scholars working at the cutting edge of the subfield. In between we hosted three concurrent sessions, primarily of graduate student papers working in a variety of domains, including the environment, social movements, among others. Again, the goal was to feature breadth and host a meta-conversation about the subfield itself.