

2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Section on Environmental 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

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes from the Section business meeting which include a count of members present and summary of decisions made at this meeting. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

Section on Environmental Sociology Business Meeting

August 12, 2025

Chicago, IL

Section leadership:

Chair:	Raoul Liévanos
Chair Elect:	Josh Sbicca
Secretary:	Michael Haedicke
Treasurer:	Maricarmen Hernández
CRIEJ:	Ian Carrillo
Nominations:	Margaret Walkover
Policy/Research:	Caleb Scoville
Publications:	Ian Carrillo
Teaching/Training/Practice:	Alan Rudy
Membership:	Jennifer Givens
Digital Communication:	Michael Lengefeld Angeline Letourneau

Meeting minutes:

1. Chair Liévanos began the meeting by sharing the land acknowledgement and discussing the American Indian Center in Chicago and indigenous land and action.
2. Chair report (Liévanos)
 - a. Thanks to committee members for service
 - b. Major foci
 - i. Restarted chair's semi-regular communications with members
 - ii. Consulted with council and Sbicca on AM program
 - iii. Led by-law amendment proposal

1. Institutionalized revamped mentoring program
 - iv. Administered 25-26 mentoring program
 - v. Represented section at joint open house program
3. Chair elect report (Sbicca)
 - a. Described process of evaluating submissions
 - i. 114 papers, 94 of which assigned to sessions (4 topical sessions)
 - ii. Worked with committee to evaluate papers and assign them to sessions (new process, replacing chair-only process)
 - b. Noted that ASA is changing the process by which sessions are allocated to sections. Going forward, all regular sessions that are related to sections will go to sections. Est. 7 total sessions (inc. roundtables and open session) for 2026. There will also be 30 sessions sponsored by multiple sessions.
4. Treasurer report (Hernández)
 - a. Budget is doing well – annual budget is \$4000.
 - b. Will not know final cost of reception until after cash bar receipts are tabulated
 - c. Encouraged consideration of joint receptions with other sections in the future
5. Digital Committee Co-Chair & Website Administrator (Lengefeld)
 - a. Reported on regular maintenance and updates to Climate Change Teaching Resources page
6. Legacy Committee Chair (delivered by Liévanos)
 - a. 10 interviews available through oral history project on WordPress website; review for possible inclusion in course activities.
 - b. Goal in upcoming year – 10 additional interviews with founding members and award recipients; transcribing video-recorded interviews
 - c. Exploring creation of YouTube channel for the section
7. Membership Committee Chair (delivered by Liévanos)
 - a. White composition of section exceeds that of ASA as a whole; also male composition; reinforce importance of targeted outreach.
 - b. 520 section members as of July 8, 1% increase
 - c. 19th largest section in the ASA
 - d. Largest overlap is with political sociology section; recommends outreach to other sections with whom SES has decreasing overlap to increase diversity and inclusion of SES
8. Nominations Committee Chair (delivered by Liévanos)
 - a. Three new elected council members and committee leadership
 - b. 10 vacancies on 2026 election ballot; there are also other service opportunities on section committees.
9. Policy and Research Committee Chair (Scoville)
 - a. Student paper and outstanding publication awards
 - i. Criteria: originality, contribution, readability, diversity
 - ii. Student paper award: 14 submissions, 2 co-winners
 - iii. Outstanding pub award: 22 submissions, 1 winning paper and 2 honorable mentions

- b. Next year, books will be considered for outstanding pub award
- 10. Publications committee chair (Carrillo)
 - a. Standing invitation to submit feature essays to the newsletter; members are asked to encourage graduate students
- 11. CRIEJ Chair (delivered by Liévanos)
 - a. Had to pause much work this year; discussed strategies to rebuild committee membership and restart work
- 12. Announcements from members
 - a. Rutgers – Department will have two positions open this year (Crim and Computational Sociology)
 - b. Whitman – TT position in public health
 - c. Colorado State – One position in Crim, with intersections with environment
- 13. Check-in with members – support needs? What’s worked for you?
 - a. No responses
- 14. Adjourn

Council Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings, but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

Date: Monday, September 30, 2024

Time: 9am to 10:15am (Pacific Time)

Meeting modality: held remotely on Zoom

Attendees: Liévanos (chair), Haedicke (secretary), Scoville, Sbicca, Letourneau, Ramanujam, Davidson, Raker, Hernández, Erfani, Lengefeld, Carillo, Givens, Walkover

Agenda

- 1. Hellos and welcome to the 2024-2025 SES year.
 - a. Committee members discussed access to the section Dropbox folder. Hernández and Sbicca need access.
- 2. Announcement of forthcoming material (in a follow-up e-mail) from Raoul Liévanos: (1) gauging interest in doing an updated Section Task Force Report on Climate Change; (2) ideas about a 600-member campaign; (3) by-law changes in development that would be due by November 15 (see bylaws current as of 2023 by clicking [here](#)).
 - a. Liévanos briefly described these items and encouraged council members to review the section by-laws to identify any needed changes.
 - i. Davidson suggested that the Council consider changes to by-laws (if needed) to create a committee to evaluate abstract submissions (removing the responsibility from the chair-elect) and to formalize criteria to evaluate abstracts.

3. Check in on the 2024 annual report being compiled by Debra Davidson, which is due to ASA by November 15. Note: 3 sections of the report have been submitted thus far (see the 2024 report folder in the section Dropbox folder).
 - a. Davidson reported that she has most/all of the information that is needed to assemble the annual report. She will reach out individually to council members as needed for additional information.
4. Joshua Sbicca to share ideas and comments about the 2025 ASA Annual Meeting in Chicago.
 - a. Sbicca described ongoing work to identify 4 session topics for the Annual Meeting, including a review of session topics in previous meetings. Ideas include “Racial Capitalism and the Environment,” “The Role of State Violence in the Environment,” “Radical/Transformative Environmental Movements” (2 sessions). Council members were invited to communicate feedback about session topics within 2 weeks, including how to ensure that they reflect the breadth of section members’ work. There will also be opportunities for members to present in the roundtable session, with 15-20 roundtables expected.
 - i. Davidson suggested including indigenous-based movements/violence within the “State Violence and the Environment” session.
 - ii. Liévanos commented that it might be difficult to field two full sessions on the theme of radical environmental movements. Sbicca indicated that a session about food/agriculture might be an alternative to one focused on radical movements. A second alternative might be a session focused on right-wing environmental movements.
 - iii. Hernández suggested that an open-ended session topic, such as “Novel Approaches in Environmental Sociology, might be a good complement to three topically-focused sessions.
 - iv. Liévanos shared that roundtables in 2024 covered topics such as technoscience and the environment, interpretive processes related to the environment, everyday experiences of climate change, emotions and the environment, mobility and migration, etc. Cross-cutting themes included political economy of the environment, policy and policymaking, etc. Liévanos also suggested reviewing the topics of other environmentally-themed sessions at ASA 2025.
 - v. Scoville is organizing the ASA Regular Sessions about Environmental Sociology. Davidson is also organizing an environmentally-themed session.
 - vi. Sbicca shared that sections will be organizing regular sessions starting in 2026.
 - vii. Walkover suggested incorporating a theme into sessions dealing with how people can make a difference/move forward in relation to environmental problems. Davidson commented that this theme could be incorporated into a movements-focused session.
5. Update from Margaret Walkover about the 2025 election nominations process.
 - a. Chair-elect, Membership Committee Chair, and Teaching/Training/Practice Committee Chair need candidates. Members are encouraged to spread the word about these opportunities.

6. Check in with Rezvaneh Erfani about CRIEJ 2024-2025 priorities and plans, including a potential EJ in Palestine mini-conference.
 - a. Carillo reported that CRIEJ is discussing the following ideas: EJ in Palestine miniconference, grad student focused panel. CRIEJ needs to meet as a group to discuss these ideas.
 - b. Hernández noted that CRIEJ has \$800 in honorarium support that remains unspent.
 - c. Ramanujam noted that historically, the graduate student rep has organized mentoring activities.
7. Mike Lengefeld, Margaret Walkover, and Debra Davidson on their work with Andy Szasz to update and “roll-out” the SES “[Climate Change Teaching Resources](#)” webpage.
 - a. Walkover noted that the webpage has been revamped to make it more user-friendly and more discoverable for section members and others. The group will send an email requesting section members to send items (e.g. syllabi, assignments, etc.) to populate the webpage.

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Time: 11am to 12pm (Pacific Time)

Meeting modality: held remotely on Zoom

Attendees: From Section on Environmental Sociology: Josh Sbicca (Chair-Elect), Raoul Liévanos (Chair), and Maricarmen Hernández (Treasurer); From Section on Animals and Society: Jordan Fox (Chair), Seven Mattes (Chair-Elect), and Mark Suchyta (Secretary/Treasurer).

Meeting Summary: Representatives from the two sections discussed their shared interest in and logistical questions about holding a joint reception together at the 2025 ASA Annual Meeting. They also brainstormed about a third ASA Section with whom they could partner in 2025 or for another future ASA Annual Meeting. They identified the Indigenous Peoples and Native Nations (IPNN) Section as a partner to prioritize. Chair-Elect Sbicca planned to communicate with IPNN leadership to explore that partnership.

January to July 2025: Due to a prolonged family health situation that commenced in January 2025, a series of overlapping and unexpected university service demands on his time, Chair Liévanos conducted Section business from January to July 2025 through the quarterly Section newsletter, and e-mail communications with committee chairs and council members. He also requesting Section work to be completed in committees. Further, Chair Liévanos prioritized his limited available meeting time for three Zoom meetings with select Section Council members. The summaries or available minutes of those meetings are provided below.

Date: Friday, April 4, 2025

Time: 3:30pm to 4:30pm (Pacific Time)

Meeting modality: held remotely on Zoom

Attendees: Raoul Liévanos (Chair) and Michael Murphy (CREIJ Co-Chair).

Meeting Summary: Murphy and Liévanos reflected on some of the difficulties in staffing and maintaining participation in the Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice (CRIEJ) in light of all the challenges and stressors they are already managing and the new ones that are associated with the policies and actions from the new Trump Administration.

The discussion included some ideas that Murphy and CRIEJ Co-Chair/Publication Committee Chair, Ian Carrillo, had brainstormed about how the Section could work with CRIEJ to address their challenges and offer support for underrepresented and overburdened Section members. Those ideas included the continued Section emphasis on offering structured mentorship opportunities; an EJ in Palestine mini-conference; more contributions to the Section's oral history project; and opportunities for graduate students to present work on climate change, adaptation, and resilience.

Several questions emerged from the conversation, including:

- How can we come together beyond ASA in a (Zoom) space that can help build community?
- How can we get more senior faculty involved in Section activities?
- What about sponsoring a series of workshops about the job market, writing while dissertating, teaching and supporting each other during this time, managing scholarship and community-engaged work, academic freedom/freedom of speech?
 - How often would we have such workshops – once a quarter, once a month, or something else?
 - What about the sequencing of workshops given the job market and increasingly rapid timelines for finishing degrees at many institutions?

Liévanos contemplating his limited availability for meetings and capacity for organizing events during this time, but he emphasized the need to meet again with CRIEJ members and Chair-Elect Sbicca.

Date: Friday, April 18, 2025

Time: 10am to 11am (Pacific Time)

Meeting modality: held remotely on Zoom

Attendees: Josh Sbicca (Chair-Elect), Raoul Liévanos (Chair), Michael Murphy (CRIEJ Co-Chair), and Ian Carrillo (CRIEJ Co-Chair/Publication Committee Chair).

Meeting Minutes:

Meeting started with attendees sharing how they are processing and managing the challenges they are experiencing and witnessing in their communities and universities from the policies and actions from the new Trump Administration. Then, the meeting focused on brainstorming how to respond with protective and proactive measures to help Section members who are also experiencing and witnessing such challenges.

Chair-Elect Sbicca wondered how the Section can work with other sections to collect information about challenges that people are experiencing and the supports that they need. Can we create a matching program to connect people more easily?

CRIEJ Co-Chair Murphy discussed the importance of supporting each other as intellectuals and of continuing the Section's efforts to uplift environmental justice research, teaching, and service activities. He also inquired about the Section's mentorship program and professional development opportunities.

Chair Liévanos gave an update on the plans for this year's mentorship program and how its current structure could help offer the support that some need during this time.

CRIEJ Co-Chair/Publication Committee Chair Carrillo brainstormed the idea of the Section putting on panels about academic freedom.

Chair-Elect Sbicca: emphasized the need to continue to get the research out to the public. How can we facilitate connections to enable collaborations between colleagues to help us support work and colleagues that are being silenced and defunded?

Carrillo and Sbicca contemplated having a workshop at an ASA Annual Meeting for members to discuss the challenges they are experiencing, what supports they need, and what has "worked" for them during this political moment.

The conversation returned to plans for the 2025 mentorship program and how to maintain participation in it and further optimize matches between mentors and mentees.

Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Time: 1:30pm to 2:30pm (Pacific Time)

Meeting modality: held remotely on Zoom

Attendees: Raoul Liévanos (Chair), Ian Carrillo (CRIEJ Co-Chair/Publication Committee Chair), and Archana Ramanujam (Student Representative).

Summary of meeting and subsequent e-mail communication: The meeting attendees reflected on preliminary mentor-mentee matches by Liévanos from the 36 section members who submitted their responses to the 2025-2026 Section mentorship program interest form. Ramanujam and Carrillo offered some suggestions on how refine those matches further. They continued to propose refinements to the matches and how to include two additional program participants by e-mail over the next two days. They quickly and easily reached consensus on matches and Liévanos notified program participants of their matches by e-mail shortly thereafter.

Awards

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

Environmental Sociology Outstanding Publication Award:

- Winner: Pierce Greenberg (Clemson University) and Robert Todd Perdue (Virginia Tech). 2025. "Prisons and Pollution: A Nationwide Analysis of Carceral Environmental Inequality." *Social Problems* 72(2):783–801.
- Honorable Mentions:
 - Andrew K. Jorgenson (University of British Columbia), Brett Clark (University of Utah), Ryan P. Thombs (Pennsylvania State University), Jeffrey Kentor (Wayne State University), Jennifer Givens (Utah State University), Xiaorui Huang (Drexel University), Hassan El

Tinay (Boston College), Daniel Auerbach (University of Wyoming), and Matthew C. Mahutga (University of California-Riverside). 2023. "Guns Versus Climate: How Militarization Amplifies the Effect of Economic Growth on Carbon Emissions." *American Sociological Review* 88(3): 418-453.

- Rachel Wetts (Brown University). 2023. "Money and Meaning in the Climate Change Debate: Organizational Power, Cultural Resonance, and the Shaping of American Media Discourse." *American Journal of Sociology* 129(2):384-438.

Environmental Sociology Student Paper Award:

- Co-Winners:
 - Anupriya Pandey (University at Buffalo, SUNY), "Toward a Critical Caste Ecology: How Does Agrochemical Harm Interact With Caste Relations in Rural India?"
 - Livio Silva-Muller (Geneva Graduate Institute), "Pathways of the Environmental State: Global Climate Politics in the Amazon Rainforest."
- Honorable Mention: Joyce Ho (University of Michigan), "The Limits of Indemnity: Compensating Loss After Climate Disaster."

Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism:

- Co-Winners:
 - Valerie Berseth (Oregon State University), "Open Science as a Distrust Technology: Rethinking Trust-Building in Genomic Data Sharing."
 - Ken Cai Kowalski (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), "Science-Fictional Expectations: Public Beliefs About AI and Change in the Moral Economy."

****** No nominations were advanced for the Environmental Sociology Distinguished Contribution Award, and the Environmental Sociology Practice and Outreach Award, so those awards were not made for 2025.

2025 Finances

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

The planned budget for 2025 was \$4,080 dollars in expected expenditures. It was divided into the following: \$2500 for the Annual Meeting joint reception with the Section on Animals and Society (Section on Environmental Sociology covered 2/3 of cost and Section on Animals and Society covered 1/3 of cost), \$280 for the Section's website (<http://envirosoc.org/>) maintenance, \$500 toward awards, and \$800 in speaker honorariums for the Theory and Community-Building Café organized by the Section's Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice (CRIEJ). CRIEJ planned to host four events during the 2024-25 academic year. The council voted in 2021 to compensate speakers with a \$200 honorarium.

Accounting for a remaining balance in 2025 of \$6,183 and an estimated income for 2025 of \$3,799, and budgeted expenditures of \$4,080 planned, the 2025 planned budget accounted for \$5,902 in estimated assets by the end of August 2025.

Regarding actual income and expenses for 2025:

As of September 30, 2025, the section has a balance of \$6,596.

The total year-to-date income as of September 30, 2025, was \$3,285. This includes \$1,206 in membership dues and \$2,079 in the Section budget allocation.

Regarding expenses for 2025: \$2,444 for the Annual Meeting joint reception with the Section on Animals and Society. The reception was on-site at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The Section paid \$2,444 to cover food, taxes, and gratuity.

The Section spent \$286 for website maintenance (\$119.88 for hosting and \$165.62 for security), \$400 for student paper award prizes (\$200 given to each of the two winners), and \$301 for other award expenses.

We did not spend the \$800 allocated for the CRIEJ Theory and Community Building Café speaker honorariums. CRIEJ members Ian Carrillo and Michael Murphy, along with current Section leadership, are thinking of ways to revamp CRIEJ activities and maintain them given the challenging context in which we work at the moment. The funds are available for future use.

In total, the Section's expenses as of September 30, 2025, were \$3,431. That amount exceeded our total income of \$3,285 by \$146.

Net assets for 2025:

The Section's beginning balance of net assets was \$6,742. Minus the \$146 in excess expense, the Section's ending net assets balance as of September 30, 2025, was \$6,596. This surplus is a result from the following line item: (1) CRIEJ planned for four events during the year, none have taken place. The Section has no unexpected or unforeseen expenses beyond those budgeted.

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.

In light of the ongoing challenges to organize, support, and sustain group connections since the COVID-19 pandemic, the Section Chair and leadership did what they could during the 2024-2025 year to nurture and support a sense of community among Section members as they sought to promote sociological research and professional activity in relation to environmental sociology topics. In so doing, they sought to maintaining consistent and meaningful communication with Section members.

Our Section's Publication Committee Chair, Ian Carrillo, produces a quarterly newsletter in consultation with Section leadership and contributing Section members. Carrillo solicited contributions to the newsletters from Section members through our formal ASA Section listserv (ASA-ENVIRONMENTAL-SOC@LISTSERV.ASANET.ORG) and informal, non-ASA listserv (ENVIROSOC@listserv.neu.edu). Carrillo shared the published versions of the newsletters through those listservs, with the assistance of Chair

Liévanos, on or near November 13 (fall 2024 issue), February 11 (winter 2025 issue), May 29 (spring 2025 issue), and August 1 (summer 2025 issue).

Our Section's website is an important communication vehicle for both members and non-members, and it can be found here: <http://envirosoc.org/>. Current and archived Section newsletters can be found on that website at: <http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/newsletter-archive/>. The Section website also contains general information about the Section; periodic updates on Section members' activities and contributions; information on graduate programs (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/graduate-programs/>), scholarly journals (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/scholarly-journals/>), and agencies and nongovernmental organizations (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/agencies-and-ngos/>); as well as links to the Section's Diversifying the Environmental Sociology Canon Project (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/diversifying-the-environmental-sociology-canon-project/>), exemplar course syllabi (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/example-syllabi/>), climate change teaching resources (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/climate-change-teaching-resources/>), public outreach suggestions (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/public-outreach/>), and Oral History Project (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/oral-history-project/>).

Between September 2024 and August 2025, Chair Liévanos restarted semi-regular Chair communications with Section members. This is a noteworthy Section communication activity because it was paused in fall 2022, following the end of Nora MacKendrick's time as Section Chair. Following the example of Chair MacKendrick and other prior Chairs of the Section (and of other ASA Sections), Chair Liévanos published Chair's messages in all Section newsletters published during his time as Chair and disseminated 24 announcements to the Sections ASA listserv. In so doing, Chair Liévanos aimed to foster a sense of community among Section members and share notices of opportunity (e.g., extensive lists of job ads of potential interest from the ASA Career Center, calls for papers and proposals, funding opportunities) and other time-sensitive information to Section members.

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

On pages 4-7 in the Section's summer 2020 newsletter, the SES Council published an official statement of solidarity and commitment to support Black lives, which included eleven pledges to address racial exclusion and promote greater equity within the section (<http://envirosoc.org/Newsletters/Summer2020.pdf>):

1. Focus council work on assessing and developing ways to address the fact that our section and the broader discipline often continue to function as a white institutional space (a seemingly race-neutral social space that reproduces white privilege), and sharing these lessons with the broader membership through the listserv.
2. Critically examine and change section business practices to help redress the whiteness of environmental sociology, including but not limited to addressing the overwhelming presence of white scholars among section award winners, council members, presenters in section sessions at the ASA annual meeting, and active participants on the section listserv. These changes are made through section bylaws..., council positions' instructional handbooks (which we will continue to revise accordingly), and informal practices.
3. Work across ASA and in our own departments to recruit sociologists of color as members and leaders in the section and other institutional spaces we inhabit.

4. Establish and support a formal Committee on Racial Exclusion and Equity to help continue the work started by our ad hoc Committee on Racial Equity. This was just approved by section membership, and we have issued a call for nominations for this committee
 - a. [Note: the committee is now called the Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice (CRIEJ)].
5. Revise the “canon” of environmental sociology posted on the section’s website. Section members have cultivated lists of recommended scholarship that address race, racism, and the environment; settler colonialism and Indigenous environmental movements; and other critical and underrepresented bodies of literature that decenter and challenge white, heteronormative, and other privileged experiences of the environment. We have more work to do to elevate the work by Black scholars and other scholars of color and others underrepresented in the academy to elevate their voices and scholarship within our own teaching, research, service, and outreach, including how we represent “core” environmental sociology.
6. Revise our mentoring program to better serve the needs and interests of junior scholars, particularly those of color.
7. The white members of council commit to listening and learning about how to be better accomplices in the fight against racist oppression and to honestly examining our own practices that reinforce white supremacy, which scholars of color have long called for. We implore our white colleagues throughout the section to join us in this work.
8. Commit ourselves to speaking up about exclusionary claims, actions, dynamics, and other expressions of white supremacy in section affairs and on section listservs, and to following through on redressing them.
9. Push beyond self-education, diversity training, and campus programming into advocating for antiracist policies and structural changes at our universities.
10. Increase our media presence in order to more meaningfully support Black Lives Matter and affiliated movements against injustice.
11. Regularly disseminate a survey inviting section members to suggest additional ways council can address racism within the section and the discipline more broadly.

Section leadership and members engaged in concerted efforts in pursuit of those pledges during the 2024-2025 year. As elaborated below, Chair-Elect Sbicca developed Annual Meeting programming after soliciting feedback from Section Council members and past Chair-Elects, then formed an ad hoc Annual Meeting program committee with three other Section Council members. Together, they evaluated Annual Meeting abstract and paper submission based on topic suitability, methodological rigor, originality, and relevance to advancing (1) environmental sociology, and (2) diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

Additionally, Chair Liévanos worked with an ad hoc committee that included Publications Committee Chair and Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity, and Justice Committee Member Ian Carrillo, as well as student Representative, Archana Ramanujam, to continue the Section’s effort to revamp its mentoring program. In the second year of this program overseen by Chair Liévanos, the ad hoc committee ensured that mentor-mentee assignments were based on the extent to which program participants prioritized common research interests, participation objectives, and support for Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC); lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and all other identities (LGBTQIA+); and first generation scholars. Chair Liévanos drafted bylaw changes, which were approved by the Section membership, to make the mentoring program a permanent component of the Section and place the program under the purview of the Section Chair.

Further, Chair Liévanos and Membership Committee Chair Givens monitored the extent of racial, class, and gender diversity in the section. Chair Liévanos presented a combined report from Givens's analysis of membership data and his own analysis at the Section's annual business meeting. The combined report raised awareness about how the Section's 2024 membership remained majority white (61.5%), which contrasts with the greater level of racial parity seen throughout the whole ASA, whose 2024 membership was 50.6% white. Breaking this down further in intersection terms along race and gender, Liévanos's and Givens's analyses indicated that more meaningful recruitment, retention, and supports (e.g., the mentorship program, more leadership opportunities) are needed and must be maintained for prospective members of color, across gender identities *but especially so for female scholars of color*, to find the Section appealing and inclusive of their work and presence in what has and continues to be a white *and gendered* institutional space.

Lastly, Chair Liévanos and countless Section leaders and members engaged in teaching, service, and scholarly activities that identified barriers to social equity and environmental justice. They also sought to advance antiracist policies, protect increasingly threatened diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, and promote academic freedom and freedom of speech on their own campuses, and in their communities. Examples of such work were featured and shared in numerous outlets, including in the Section's newsletters published throughout the 2024-2025 year (see <http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/newsletter-archive/>).

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).

The Section was allocated four regular sessions and one roundtable session at the 2025 Annual Meetings held in Chicago. There were 114 submissions, 94 are in sessions, 9 were rejected, and 11 were withdrawn after being accepted for sessions. The four paper sessions were: (1) *Racial Capitalism and the Environment*; (2) *State Violence and the Environment*; (3) *Environmental Movements and Counter Movements*; and (4) *Novel Approaches to Environmental Sociology*. These themes captured both well-established and emerging areas of study in the field. Chair-Elect Sbicca developed the section topics by listing areas he believed would elicit papers, then solicited feedback on the draft topics from the Section Council, who offered suggestions and changes to refine the sections further. The Roundtables were thematically clustered according to the abstract and paper submissions received to enable scholarly exchange among researchers working in similar areas of inquiry.

In years past the Section Chair-Elect unilaterally picked topics and papers. In contrast, for the 2025 Annual Meeting, Chair-Elect Sbicca decided, after consulting with former Chairs, to form a small ad hoc Annual Meeting Program Committee to divvy up reading and evaluating the papers for inclusion in the Section's Annual Meeting Programming. The ad hoc committee members were Membership Committee Chair, Jennifer Givens; Treasurer, Maricarmen Hernández, and Digital Committee Co-Chair & Website Administrator, Michael Lengefeld. To evaluate papers, Sbicca, Givens, Hernández, and Lengefeld considered the methods and topic, as well as originality, relevance to advancing environmental sociology, and relevance to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.

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.

Bylaw Amendments: In the 2025 ASA elections, Section membership approved meaningful bylaw amendments that were led by Chair Liévanos and that made a number of important and necessary clerical and substantive updates to the bylaw. Those changes (a) aligned the start date of Section leadership positions with ASA recommendations and preferences, (b) removed outdated references to precursor of the Committee on Racial Inclusion, Equity and Justice and associated report, (c) removed gendered language, (d) shifted the sole responsibility for the Section's ASA Annual Meeting program from the Chair-Elect to a committee lead by the Chair-Elect to leave open opportunities for broad participation in that committee from Section members, (e) corrected references to two Section awards, (f) generalized references to the Section's social media accounts and activity, (g) institutionalized the Section's revamped mentoring program, and (h) corrected the reference to the Section name in Appendix A.

Mentoring Program: The Section is now in its second year of its rebooted mentoring program. The program is institutionalized through Section 8.i: The Mentorship Committee in the updated bylaws:

The Section Chair will chair the Mentorship Committee. Interested and available Section Council members, Committee Chairpersons, and/or other active Section members will be recruited by the Chair to serve on the Mentorship Committee. The Mentorship Committee will be responsible for organizing and evaluating the Section's Annual Mentoring Program, which seeks to offer support and sense of community for Section members in their effort to advance environmental sociology. The Mentorship Committee will distribute a call for participants in the Section Mentoring Program at least three months before the ASA annual meeting. In that call, participants will be asked to commit to a year-long mentor-mentee group that lasts from the ASA Annual Meeting to July of the following year. The Mentorship Committee will place interested participants into mentor-mentee groups based on criteria including but not limited to participants' rank, research interest, objectives for program participation, priorities for being matched with other colleagues, availability of potential mentors to mentor one or more mentees, and preference for in-person and/or virtual meetings. Mentors will be expected to schedule in-person and/or virtual meetings with their mentee(s), preferably around the ASA Annual Meeting and at least 2 other times during the Mentoring Program year. Mentors will also be expected to be available to do such things as read and comment on a paper in preparation and/or help review job market or promotion materials from the mentee. The Mentorship Committee will commence an evaluation of the Mentoring Program at least three months (i.e., in April) before the end of each Mentoring Program year (i.e., the July before the ASA annual meeting). That evaluation will seek to understand participants' experience in the program and to solicit any suggestions participants have for improvement for the next iteration of the program. The results of that evaluation will be shared in an annual Mentorship Committee Report that will be presented by the Section Chair at the Section's annual business meeting and included in the Section's annual report to the ASA.

Now Past-Chair Liévanos is working on an evaluation of the two years that he oversaw the Section Mentorship Program before it was institutionalized. Below is a preliminary assessment of program participation patterns during the two-year pilot period.

Table 1 summarizes the mentoring program participation rates in the two years by participants' academic position. There were 75 Section participants in the program for 2024-2025: 4 full professors, 9 associate professors, 26 assistant professors, 4 postdoctoral scholars, 31 graduate students, and 1 prospective graduate student. In the 2025-2026 Mentorship Program, there were 39 participants: 2 full professors, 6 associate professors, 11 assistant professors, 1 an adjunct assistant professor, 4 postdoctoral scholars, and 15 graduate students. The 39 participants for 2025-2026 is a 48% decline

from 2024-2025. Yet, a relative constant across the two years is that assistant professors and graduate students constitute most of the program participants.

Table 1: Summary of Section on Environmental Sociology Mentoring Program Participation in 2024-2025 & 2025-2026 by Participant Academic Position

Academic Position	2024-2025		2025-2026	
	N in Year	% in Year	N in Year	% in Year
Full Professors	4	5.33	2	5.13
Associate Professors	9	12.00	6	15.38
Assistant Professors	26	34.67	11	28.21
Adjunct Assistant Professors	0	0.00	1	2.56
Postdoctoral Scholars	4	5.33	4	10.26
Graduate Students	31	41.33	15	38.46
Prospective Graduate Student	1	1.33	0	0.00
Total	75	100.00	39	100.00

Chair Liévanos and ad hoc committee members Carrillo and Ramanujam followed similar practice for mentor-mentee assignments that Liévanos and Carrillo used in the 2024-2025 Mentorship Program year. Specifically, they considered participants' academic position; preferred role in the program (mentor, mentee, or both), meeting modality, and number of mentees; priorities for mentor-mentee assignments (especially with regard to BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and first-generation scholar support), research interests, and objectives for participation in the program. Liévanos, Carrillo, and Ramanujam formed 11 triadic and 3 dyadic mentor-mentee groups with the aim of offering opportunities for participants to expand their networks and to have supplemental support they might need over the program year beyond what they can find at their home institutions.

In the more comprehensive evaluation of the Mentoring Program that Liévanos plans, he seeks to understand participants' reflections on what they liked and disliked about their experience in the program. He also aims to inquire about the reasons that 2024-2025 program participants opted out of participating in 2025-2026. Further, he is considering posing brief survey questions to the Section members who have yet to participate in the Mentoring Program to explore why they decline participation and what might incentivize their participation in the program. The goal is to then share the results from those inquiries with Section leadership and the broader membership, as well as include those reports in the Section's 2026 Annual Report for the ASA.

Resources for Dissemination:

Nominations Committee Chair, Margaret Walkover, worked with Digital Committee Co-Chair & Website Administrator, Mike Lengefeld, Past-Chair Debra Davidson, and long-time Section member, Andy Szasz to update and "roll-out" the Section's "Climate Change Teaching Resources" webpage (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/climate-change-teaching-resources/>). Specifically, they revamped the webpage to make it more user-friendly and more discoverable for section members and others. They, along with Chair Liévanos, sent communications to Section membership, requesting that they continue to send items (e.g. syllabi, assignments, etc.) to populate and update the webpage.

Legacy Committee Chair, Lori Peek, directed the continued development of the Section's Oral History Project (<http://envirosoc.org/wordpress/oral-history-project/>) by outlining ways to potentially include course activities linked to it, planning 10 new interviews with founding members and award recipients, and exploring the creation of a Section YouTube channel.