

2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility

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.

Agenda & Meeting Minutes

Members present: 45

- Announcing section leadership transitions & thanks to
 - outgoing members
 - Rachel Dwyer (past chair)
 - Tony Jack (council member)
 - Jayanti Owens (council member)
 - incoming members
 - Hyunjoon Park (incoming chair)
 - Ellis Monk (incoming chair elect)
 - Pablo Mitnik (council member)
 - Kimberley Goyette (council member)
- Thanks to Committee Chairs
 - Siwei Chen (Treasurer)
 - Natasha Quadlin (Mentorship Lunch)
 - Tom VanHeuvelen (Communications)
 - Rachel Dwyer (Nominations)
 - Awards: Matthew Clair, Jayanti Owens, Ellis Monk, Deirdre Bloome, Anthony Jack
 - ASA IPM Session Organizers: Angelina Grigoryefa, Jessie Streib, Steven Alvarado, Joe LaBriola, Zach Parolin
- Report on Activities

- Membership mailings received a cost-free facelift
- Mentorship lunch was another big success,
- Participatory budgeting process
 - Idea and process described
 - Committee established
 - Rules will be announced soon
- Questions & comments

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.

Agenda

Council members present: 6

- Budget report and planning
 - Preview of award winners and number of plaques needed
 - Robert M. Hauser Distinguished Scholar Award: 1 winner
 - William Julius Wilson Early Career Award: 2 co-winners
 - Devah Pager Outstanding Article Award: 2 co-winners, 1 honorable mention
 - Book Award : 1 winner, 2 honorable mentions
 - Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award: 1 winner, 2 honorable mentions
 - → Increase in plaques (from 11 to 17); costs doubled, but costs are low compared to other things
- Review of membership data (drawn from July reports of last three years)
 - Rising membership (after a dip in 2024), driven by student membership
 - Total membership: 761 (2023), 737 (2024), 770 (2025)
 - Student membership: 235 (2023), 215 (2024), 251 (2025)
- Discussion of Activities
 - Membership mailings will continue with the cost-free design approach
 - Mentorship lunch will be continued
 - Participatory budgeting process will be established, committee chaired by Fabian Pfeffer

Awards

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

Devah Pager Outstanding Article Award

Co-Winner	Katherine Weisshaar, Koji Chavez, and Tania Hutt for “Hiring Discrimination Under Pressures to Diversify: Gender, Race, and Diversity Commodification across Job Transitions in Software Engineering”
Co-Winner	Pilar Gonalons-Pons and Ioana Marinescu for “Care Labor and Family Income Inequality: How Childcare Costs Exacerbate Inequality among US Families”
Honorable Mention	Pablo A. Mitnik, Victoria L. Bryant, and David B. Grusky for “A very uneven playing field: Economic mobility in the United States”

Outstanding Book Award

Winner	Hyeyoung Kwon for “Language Brokers: Children of Immigrants Translating Inequality and Belonging for Their Families”
Honorable Mention	Robert Courtney Smith for “Dreams Achieved and Denied: Mexican Intergenerational Mobility”
Honorable Mention	Laura López-Sanders for “The Manufacturing of Job Displacement”

Robert D. Mare Graduate Student Paper Award

Winner	Zhi Li for “Educational differences in stock-linked wealth trajectories and wealth accumulation across generations”
Honorable Mention	Saverio Roscigno for “The Status Foundations of Conspiracy Beliefs”
Honorable Mention	Di Zhou for “Redesign the measure of class and the American class structure revisited”

William Julius Wilson Early Career Award

Co-Winner	Siwei Cheng
Co-Winner	Nathan Wilmers

Robert M. Hauser Distinguished Scholar Award

Winner	Lincoln Quillian
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2025 Finances

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

Planned expenses for 2025

1. ASA Reception: \$6,500
2. Awards plaques and shipping: \$250
3. ASA Mentoring lunch: \$1500
4. Blog sponsorship: \$200

Actual expenses for 2025

1. ASA Reception: \$6275.20
2. Awards plaques and shipping: \$481.30

3. ASA Mentoring lunch: \$1292.75
4. Blog sponsorship: \$0

Narrative

2025 continued to be a stable year for the IPM section. Overall, our membership and account are healthy. We continue to have one of the largest sections in ASA and are active and supported financially. Our expenses this year include the award plaques, the annual meeting reception, the mentoring lunch, and a blog sponsorship. Our expenses this year exceeded the budgeted amount, which is mainly due to an unexpected funding shortfall from our reception sponsors. The details are described below: First, our expense for award plaques this year was \$481.30 (original budget \$250). We used the same cost-effective vendor (plaquemaker.com) that our section has relied on in previous years. However, we needed 17 plaques this year (up from 11 last year) to cover all awardees, including both winners and honorable mentions. Additionally, five awardees did not attend ASA in person, so the total also includes the cost of shipping to five individual addresses. More broadly, plaque costs have been rising in recent years due to both an increase in the number of awardees (reflecting more co-authored papers, co-winners, and honorable mentions) and higher unit prices. Second, the ASA reception had an estimated total cost of \$6,275.20. Unfortunately, due to the budgeting constraint at Stanford's Center for Poverty and Inequality, we did not receive the budgeted \$3,000 contribution from them. This represents the largest increase in expenditures this year compared to previous years. Third, the expense for mentoring brunch is around \$1,923.75, and our income from member contribution is \$631USD, making the "net cost" for the mentoring brunch \$1292.75, which is lower than our budgeted amount of \$1,500. Taking all of the above into account, our total estimated expenditures come to \$8,049.25.

Overall, our membership and account are healthy. We continue to have one of the largest sections in ASA and are active and supported financially. We will work on securing additional sponsors to increase contributions in the coming year.

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.

We have continued regular membership mailings and upgraded them with a more attractive and accessible (but still cost-free!) design. We have also continued to communicate over Bluesky, but should expand this communication channel going forward. Finally, we have established a committee to design and implement a "participatory budgeting". This process allows any section member to propose new initiatives and seek funds for them via a full membership vote. Up to \$1,500 will get allocated following democratic deliberation and shared decision-making. Besides fostering democratic participation, inclusion, and organizational responsiveness to our community's needs, participatory budgeting also provides a mechanism to identify promising new ideas for the section.

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

We consider the participatory budgeting instrument, which we have begun to design and announced, as central to our DEI efforts, in particular the “inclusion” part. It will increase members’ voice and stake in the section and ideally generate more democratic engagement with our section.

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 had three section sessions (“Inequality”, “Mobility”, and “Poverty”), each with four papers. The roundtable session featured 40 papers. Furthermore, we had a council meeting, business meeting, and reception that was very well attended, as well as a mentoring lunch event that brought together senior and junior members of the section. All of these events provided ample opportunities for scientific exchange, professional networking, and mentoring.