

2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for MATHEMATICAL SOCIOLOGY SECTION

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.

The Business Meeting for Mathematical Sociology took place on Monday, Aug. 11, from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm, which immediately followed the James S. Coleman Lecture. See [Attachment 1 – Business Meeting Agenda](#), for additional details. According to an attendance sheet that was passed around the room, there were at least 45 members present at the meeting (which is provided here as [Attachment 2 – Business Meeting Attendance](#)). The Section Chair, Diane Felmlee, presided at the meeting and delivered the section's financial report, which was prepared by the Secretary -Treasurer, Kim Rogers. Section awards were presented. See [Attachment 3 – Business Meeting Minutes](#).

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.

The Mathematical Sociology Council meeting took place offsite at a nearby restaurant, from noon – 1:30 pm on Monday, Aug. 11. Incoming Chair Omar Lizardo took the minutes. For details, see [Attachment 4 – Council Meeting Agenda](#) and [Attachment 5 – Council Meeting Minutes](#).

Awards

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

Award for Progress in Mathematical Sociology

Noah Friedkin (University of California, Santa Barbara) and Eugene Johnsen (University of California, Santa Barbara)

One of their publications: Friedkin and Johnsen, *Social Influence Network Theory: A Sociological Examination of Small Group Dynamics*. 2011. Cambridge University Press.

Harrison White Outstanding Book Award

Eric W. Schoon (Ohio State University), David Melamed (Ohio State University), and Ronald L. Breiger (University of Arizona).
Regression Inside Out, 2024. Cambridge University Press.

Outstanding Article Publication Award

Winner:

Peng Huang (University of California-Irvine) and Carter T. Butts (University of California-Irvine)
"Rooted America: Immobility and Segregation of the Intercounty Migration Network." *American Sociological Review*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00031224231212679>

Honorable Mention:

Scott W. Duxbury. Collaborating on the Carceral State: Political Elite Polarization and the Expansion of Federal Crime Legislation Networks, 1979 to 2005. *American Sociological Review*.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00031224241257614>

Geoffrey Tootell Outstanding Dissertation in Progress Award

Elena Pojman (Pennsylvania State University)
"Matrices of Stratification: Caregiving and Partnership Across Race-Ethnicity and Education in the United States."

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Winner:

Masoud Movahed (University of Pennsylvania) and Tiffany Neman (U.S. Census Bureau).
"Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account." 2024. *Social Science Research* 123:103064. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2024.103064>

Runner-Up:

Fields, Benjamin C., and Justin Huft. 2024. "'Troubled' Meanings: An Affect Control Theory Exploration of the Conflict in Northern Ireland." *Social Currents*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/23294965241254057>

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 Mathematical Sociology Section has two accounts that it uses to cover expenses—our primary account, which we use to cover most of our expenses, and our Dissertation Award Fund, which we use exclusively to cover our Tootell Dissertation-in-Progress Award.

In our primary account for the period January 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025, we had \$1,658 in income and spent \$2,217 on reception expenses (\$1,500), the student paper award (\$500), and lunch for the council meeting (\$217). For our reception, we shared the reception space, food, and drinks with four other sections—Social Psychology, Sociology of Emotions, Methods, and Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity—to defray costs. This allowed us to have a nice well attended event with plenty of food and drink in a lovely venue with space for people to socialize

and connect within and between sections. There is substantial membership overlap among these sections, so the joint reception had the added benefit of not creating scheduling conflicts for those with memberships in multiple sections. By all accounts, the joint reception was a success.

We continued the practice of using certificates (as opposed to plaques) to recognize and celebrate our section award winners. This practice continues to help us keep section expenses under control. Council had approved an up to \$1,000 expenditure to reimburse section mentors for coffee and/or meals with section mentees at the ASA annual meeting, but no one requested a reimbursement.

As you can see from the numbers above, our primary account had a \$559 decrease in net assets from January 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025. Because of a generous gift bequeathed to the section by long-time and founding member Thomas Fararo, the account currently has a healthy balance of \$49,844, and the past year's deficit is manageable. The Secretary Treasurer has conducted an investigation into fundraising options for the section, which we will consider in the upcoming year. The financial statement for the primary account from January 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 is included as **Attachment 6 – Primary Account Financial Statement**.

Between January 1, 2025 and September 30, 2025, the total revenues on our Dissertation Award Fund were \$37,450.57. Our total expenses were \$5,862.45, including our dissertation award (\$5,000) and investment management fees (\$862.45). This account had a \$31,588.12 increase in net assets between January 1, 2025 and September 30, 2025, and a final ending balance of \$318,419.70. The financial statement for the Dissertation Award Fund from January 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 is included as **Attachment 7 – Dissertation Award Fund Financial Statement**.

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 used the Mathematical Sociology Section Listserv frequently as the primary way to communicate to members of the Section. These messages, which go out to all members of the Section, are useful in advancing our Section's goal to further mathematical sociological research and education. Here are just a few of the announcements that were made to the Listserv during the past year:

Call for papers and abstracts for presentation at the Math Soc Section Sessions at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the ASA in Chicago

Call for nominations for section awards.

Call for volunteers and participants in several activities, such as the Mentoring Program, Student and Early Career Mentorship Team, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, and the Webmaster Team.

Call for entries into the Section Newsletter.

Call for volunteers to be candidates for section officers.

We also distributed the Section's newsletter to all members via the Listserv --- *The Mathematical Sociologist*. There were two issues of the newsletter, one in the Spring and another in the Summer. See **Attachment 8 – Mathematical Sociologist SP2025 Newsletter** and **Attachment 9 – Mathematical Sociologist SU2025 Newsletter**.

The Section has a mentoring program that is in its third year and that plays an important role in maintaining communication with new student members. This year there were 8 Welcome and Coordination members of the Mentorship program who reached out to 20 new student members who joined the Section recently and informed them about section activities and opportunities to connect with members. Seven of these later met via phone, video chat, or in person.

Membership Affairs, 2024-2025

Noah Mark (chair), UNC Charlotte
Tenshi Kawashima, University of Georgia
Scott Renshaw, Carnegie Mellon University
Hannah Waight, New York University

Mentor Program Welcome and Coordination Team

Jimi Adams, University of South Carolina
Zack Kline, University of Connecticut
Sabrina Mai, University of California, Irvine
Noah Mark, UNC Charlotte
Mark Pachucki, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Jeffrey Shen, University of Arizona
Loring Thomas, Princeton University
Hannah Waight, New York University

In addition, we are in our second year of a webmaster team who has produced a new, excellent website for the section (<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com>). This website contains a list of section officers, an archive of past issues of the section's newsletter, and a page with profiles of student members. In addition, it provides a place for submission of nominations for Section awards, which has helped to simplify the award nomination process.

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

Our section takes goals of increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion very seriously. We attend to these goals with respect to Section membership, leadership, and participation in activities. In addition to leadership goals, we have a specific DEI committee that works to address these issues, which was chaired this year by Mark Pachucki. The Committee Goals are described in the following document: **Attachment 10 – Charge for Math Soc DEI Committee**.

Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Mathematical Sociology
Section, 2024-25

Mark Pachucki, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (*Chair*)

Nanum Jeon, University of California Los Angeles (*graduate student*)

Allison Leanage, Statistics Canada, McMaster University

Noah Mark, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (*ex officio*)

Scott Renshaw, University College Dublin

The Ad Hoc Committee pursued the following initiatives designed to address diversity in our Section:

(1) Active recruitment of ASA members with math soc-aligned research interests.

Used ASA 2024 Meeting Program to identify ~200 new potential mathsoc members to recruit.

We used public university profiles, not ASA directory (since that would violate ASA regs!)

Emailed section invitations mid-January 2025

(2) Obtained list of ALL former members of the Mathematical Sociology Section and sent invitations to rejoin section to two subsets:

42 current student members of ASA (offered gift membership)

700+ remaining former members

(3) Close coordination w/membership affairs committee on mentoring program outreach to new student mentees.

(4) Started to develop open-access network/computational dataset repository for section members & the general public (continuing into 2025-26).

In general, our aims are to recruit members as broadly and as inclusively as possible. Through our DEI committee, and the Membership Affairs Committee, we devote attention to recruiting student members of ASA and other early career members. We believe that our new mentoring program also is playing an important role in addressing DEI goals.

In addition, we encourage self-nominations in our Section's awards and leadership positions. We continue to include one student member on our standing and ad hoc committees. And we attend to our DEI goals in recruiting for various forms of Section service, such as running for office, organizing paper sessions, serving on award selection committees, Newsletter editors, and webmasters.

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).

Program Committee, Mathematical Sociology Section, 2023-24

Diane Felmlee, Pennsylvania State University, (*Chair*)

Noah Mark, University of North Carolina, Charlotte (*Ex Officio*)

Omar Lizardo, University of California, Los Angeles

Matthew Brashears, University of South Carolina

Neha Gondal, Boston University

David Schaefer, University of California – Irvine
Xiaoling Shu, University of California – Davis

The Mathematical Sociology’s program at the 2025 ASA in Chicago was extremely successful in gaining a large audience for our sessions and covering a broad range of intellectual topics relevant to our Section. Our sessions were very well attended, ranging from 45 (8 AM session) to over 100 people, with many ASA attendees crowded outside the open door of the room in at least one session. We had a total of 5 sessions. Three of these were jointly sponsored sessions on the program, including year two of collaborations with Methodology and Sociology of Culture, and year one of a collaboration with Social Psychology. We also hosted the James S. Coleman Lecture, skillfully delivered by Kathleen Carley, which was a big success. These popular sessions generated abundant discussion and interaction among attendees.

For the second year in a row, we organized a “Flash Talk” session, which generated many highly promising talks, most of which were presented by graduate students and young scholars. There were 10 high quality papers presented in this session, followed by multiple, small-group discussions of each paper in a roundtable setting. We use this format to make it possible for multiple talks to be presented to a full audience at the meetings. This type of session works well with our efforts to encourage students and junior scholars to submit work and present at ASA, which is one goal of the Student and Early Career Mentoring Team. It also is helpful in promoting the formation of connections between presenters and Section members. We received a great deal of positive feedback from participants and Section members for this novel format, both this year and last year. See **Attachment 11 – ASA Program 2025** for a complete description of the program.

Our ASA program was designed to advance the goals and values of the Mathematical Sociology Section. For example, our joint sessions encourage ties between members of other parts of ASA and promote intellectual exchange. In addition, each session was an open-submission paper session, which makes it possible for any member of ASA to submit and present at a Math Soc Section session. However, we gift memberships to each non-Math Soc presenter, so that all the final presenters are members of the section.

Finally, the Section’s joint reception went smoothly and was extremely well attended. One of the new features was a table dedicated to new attendees, where they were greeted by members of the Membership Affairs and DEI Committees, and provided with additional information and companionship.

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.

Section activities outside of the Annual Meeting centered largely around two ad hoc committees, Membership Affairs and External Affairs. These committees were created in 2022, renewed in 2023, and transformed in 2024 via amendment to Section Bylaws, along with our DEI Committee, into permanent structures as standing sub-committees under the also newly created standing Membership, Inclusion, and Community Committee.

Membership Affairs

The section's new mentoring program has been the primary focus of the section's Membership Affairs Committee since the committee's creation in the summer of 2022.

This past year (2024-25) was the third year of operation for the section's new mentoring program. A team of 8 student and early career mentors reached out individually via email to nearly all of our section's 20 new student members. Each SEC mentor reached out individually to each of their mentees to welcome them to the section and to try to set up a video chat or other meeting so that they could tell them about opportunities for participating in Math Soc Section activities. Although the structures of these welcome conversations were left to the discretion of the SEC mentors and mentees, SEC mentors sought to encourage each of their mentees to participate in section activities in 4 ways:

- Submit their work to present at ASA;
- Submit information and a photo to our section webmasters so that the mentee can have their student profile posted on the Math Soc Section website;
- Submit their work to section award competitions;
- Work with SEC mentor to identify a potential senior mentor and reach out to that person requesting a mentoring meeting and consideration of potential further mentorship.

SEC mentors were encouraged to connect with their mentees at ASA in cases where both were attending. At our section council meeting in August 2025, we approved \$1,000 in section funds for use re-imbursing SEC Mentors for coffee and meal meetings like these.

External Affairs

This was also the third year of operation for our new External Affairs Committee. This committee seeks to increase the visibility of the section and the work of our members and seeks to strengthen our connection to and exchange with practitioners and consumers of mathematical sociology who are based outside of academia. Efforts of this committee are in progress, and Elisa Bienenstock is chairing this committee again in the upcoming year 2025/26 to implement strategies. As someone who worked outside of Academia for many years, Bienenstock reports that she knows how challenging it is to remain connected, and how important it is for our Section to engage in efforts to foster these ties.

We emphasize that there are several benefits to engaging with non-academic mathematical sociologists, including networking with people in industry for grad students that might not find academic positions, links to novel funding opportunities, and the potential for access to novel data sets. Finally, it is important to stay in contact with our students and colleagues that land jobs outside of academia, and to avoid marginalizing them. The purpose of this committee is to work on fostering these non-academic relationships.

2025
James S. Coleman Address

Dr. Kathleen M. Carley, Carnegie Mellon University

Presider: Dr. Carter T. Butts, UC - Irvine

Mathematical Sociology
Section of the ASA
Business Meeting

5:00-5:30 pm ~ August 11, 2025

Chicago, IL

Mathematical sociology section business meeting agenda

- Reports – Standing Committees
 - Award Presentations
 - Nominations – Noah Mark, Chair
 - Treasurer Report – Kim Rogers/Diane Felmlee
 - Council and Program Committee – Noah Mark
- Reports – Standing Sub-Committees
 - DEI Committee, Mark Pachucki, Chair
 - Member Affairs Committee, Noah Mark, Chair
 - External Affairs Sub-Committee, Elisa Bienenstock
- Passing the Gavel

Awards Committees

- Harrison White Outstanding Book Award – Natasha Quadlin (chair, presenter)
- Progress in Mathematical Sociology Award – Xi Song (chair, presenter)
- Outstanding Article Award – Yongren Shi (chair)
- Graduate Student Paper Award – Charles Gomez (chair, presenter)
- Tootell Dissertation Award – Cassie McMillan (chair, presenter)

Harrison White Outstanding Book Award

Recipients:

Eric W. Schoon (Ohio State University), **David Melamed** (Ohio State University), & **Ronald L. Breiger** (University of Arizona)

[Regression Inside Out](#), 2024. Cambridge University Press.

Committee:

Natasha Quadlin, University of California, Los Angeles (*Chair*)

Benjamin Cornwell, Cornell University

Kathleen Carley, Carnegie Mellon University

Ashley Harrell, Duke University

Haoyang Zhang, Pennsylvania State University

Progress in Mathematical Sociology Award

Recipient:

Noah Friedkin, University of California, Santa Barbara, &
Eugene Johnsen, University of California, Santa Barbara

for their development and elaboration of the linear social influence model, widely known as the Friedkin-Johnsen model.

Committee:

Xi Song, University of Pennsylvania (*Chair*)
Lynn Smith-Lovin, Duke University
Trent Mize, Purdue University
Ron Breiger, University of Arizona
Chen-Shuo Hong, National Taiwanese University

Outstanding Article

Recipients: **Peng Huang**, University of California-Irvine
Carter T. Butts, University of California-Irvine

“Rooted America: Immobility and Segregation of the Intercounty Migration Network.”
American Sociological Review 88 (3):1031-1065 (2023).

Honorable Mention:

Scott W. Duxbury, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

“Collaborating on the Carceral State: Political Elite Polarization and the Expansion of Federal Crime Legislation Networks, 1979 to 2005.” *American Sociological Review* 89(4):650-683 (2024)

Committee:

Yongren Shi, University of Arizona (*Chair*)

Robert Manduca, University of Michigan

Zachary Kline, The College of New Jersey

Kevin Lewis, University of California – San Diego

Tenshi Kawashima, University of Georgia

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper

Recipient:

Masoud Movahed, University of Pennsylvania

Tiffany Neman, U.S. Census Bureau

"Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account." 2024.
Social Science Research 123:103064

Honorable Mention:

Benjamin C. Fields, University of California - Berkeley

Justin Huft, University of California – Riverside

"'Troubled' Meanings: An Affect Control Theory Exploration of the Conflict in Northern Ireland." 2025. *Social Currents* 12(1): 3-16.

Committee:

Charles J. Gomez, University of Arizona (*Chair*)

Laura K. Nelson, University of British Columbia

Oscar Stuhler, Northwestern University

Bernardo MacKenna, University of California – San Diego

Jaemin Lee, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Geoffrey Tootell Outstanding Dissertation-in-Progress

Recipient: **Elena Pojman**, Pennsylvania State University

“Matrices of Stratification: Caregiving and Partnership Across Race-Ethnicity and Education in the United States.”

Committee:

Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University (*Chair*)

Hana Shepherd, Rutgers University

Sabrina Mai, University of California – Irvine

Scott W. Duxbury, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

Guillermina Jasso, New York University

Nominations Committee

Welcome to our new officers:

Chair-Elect: **Zack W. Almquist**, University of Washington

Council Members : **Elizabeth Bruch**, University of Michigan

Scott Duxbury, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Council Student: **Tenshi Kawashima**, NYU Abu Dhabi

Committee:

Noah Mark, UNC - Charlotte (*Chair*)

David Melamed, Ohio State University

Anthony Paik, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Elizabeth Roberto, Rice University

Aidan Combs, University of Bamberg

Treasurer Report

Endowment (Year End, 2024)

- Revenue

- Dividends and Interest \$6,982
- Gain on Investment \$20,074
- Total Revenues \$27,056

- Expenses

- Award \$5,000
- Mgmt Fee \$1,201

Endowment (Mid-Year, 2025)

- Revenue

- Dividends and Interest \$3,304
- Gain on Investment \$17,190
- Total Revenues \$20,494

- Expenses

- Dissertation Award \$5,000
- Mgmt Fee (1/2 year) \$571

Section Funds

- Income
 - Dues/Other \$170
 - Budget Allocation \$1,400
 - Total Income \$1,570
- Expenses
 - GS Paper Award \$500
 - Website \$48
 - Reception (in process) **\$1,500**
 - Mentor Mtgs (in process) **~\$1,000**
 - Council Mtg (in process) **~\$400**

Expense Explanations

- Reception Costs: ~\$7,046
 - \$2,750 deposit covered by Social Psych (\$2,000) and Emotions (\$750)
 - Our \$1,500 contribution will be charged post-meeting
- Council/Mentor Meetings:
 - Council approved up to \$1,000 to reimburse mentors for coffee/meals and up to \$400 to reimburse Chair for Council Meeting meals
 - Reduces financial barriers to leadership and mentorship, makes operating costs explicit

Council Report

Approved budget for next year (same as last year)

\$1,500 for Reception

\$1000 for Mentoring expenses at 2026 ASA

Council views the section's mentoring program as a fitting use of funds that Thomas Fararo bequeathed to the section.

\$400 for Annual Council Meeting

\$50-100 for Website

Approved several committees; provided guidance on several issues

Membership

Might be < 300 on August 31, 2025

Allocation of paper sessions changing anyway

New Website

mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com (currently)

Thank you to our 2024-2025 webmaster team:

Nicolas Harder, University of South Carolina

Zara Jillani, University of Georgia

Allison Leanage, Statistics Canada

Program committee

Diane Felmlee, Pennsylvania State University, (*Chair*)

Noah Mark, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Omar Lizardo, University of California, Los Angeles

Matthew Brashears, University of South Carolina

Neha Gondal, Boston University

David Schaefer, University of California – Irvine

Xiaoling Shu, University of California - Davis

DEI Report

- (1) Active recruitment of ASA members with math soc-aligned research interests.
 - Used ASA 2024 Meeting Program to identify ~200 new potential mathsoc members to recruit.
 - We used public university profiles, not ASA directory (since that would violate ASA regs!)
 - Emailed section invitations mid-January 2025
- (2) Obtained list of ALL former members of the Mathematical Sociology Section and sent invitations to rejoin section to two subsets:
 - 42 current student members of ASA (offered gift membership)
 - 700+ remaining former members
- (3) Close coordination w/membership affairs committee on mentoring program outreach to new student mentees.
- (4) Started to develop open-access network/computational dataset repository for section members & the general public (continuing into 2025-26).
- (5) We welcome involvement for 2025-26 – if you'd like to join the DEI subcommittee, please get in touch with Mark @ email address below.

Committee:

- **Mark Pachucki**, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (*Chair*) – mpachucki@umass.edu
- **Nanum Jeon**, University of California Los Angeles
- **Allison Leavage**, Statistics Canada, McMaster University
- **Noah Mark**, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (*ex officio*)
- **Scott Renshaw**, University College Dublin

Membership Affairs, 2024-25

Committee

Noah Mark (chair), UNC Charlotte

Tenshi Kawashima, University of Georgia

Scott Renshaw, Carnegie Mellon University

Hannah Waight, New York University

Mentor Program Welcome and Coordination Team

Jimi Adams, University of South Carolina

Zack Kline, University of Connecticut

Sabrina Mai, University of California, Irvine

Noah Mark, UNC Charlotte

Mark Pachucki, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Jeffrey Shen, University of Arizona

Loring Thomas, Princeton University

Hannah Waight, New York University

Membership Affairs, 2022-25

Thomas J. Fararo Mathematical Sociology Mentoring Program

Year 1

- 20 Prospective Mentees (16 student members, 4 regular members)
- 20 Mentor-Mentee Pairs Matched
- 15 Mentors (2 were mentees too)

Year 2

- 12 Welcome/Coordination Mentors reached out to 53 New Student Members
- 19 of which met with their Welcome/Coordination Mentors by phone, video chat, or in person
- 8 of which reached out to and connected with one or more potential senior mentors

Year 3

- 8 Welcome/Coordination Mentors reached out to 20 New Student Members
- 7 of which met with their Welcome/Coordination Mentors by phone, video chat, or in person
- 4 of which reached out to and connected with one or more potential senior mentors

Passing the Gavel

Thank you to out-going council members, Cassie McMillan and Elizabeth Roberto.

Thank you to out-going webmaster, Zara.

Welcome and Thank you to our new Chair, Omar Lizardo.



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Math Soc Business Meeting Attendee



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 Ben Fields fields@unr.edu

Business Meeting Minutes (Mon, August 11, 5:00 to 5:30 pm, Chicago) Mathematical Sociology Section of the ASA Notes taken by Omar Lizardo, Incoming Chair.

Section Chair Diane Felmlee welcomed the membership and called the meeting to order.

Award Presentations:

- *Progress in Mathematical Sociology Award*, presented by Diane Felmlee, Section Chair, on behalf of Xi Song, selection committee chair.
 - Recipient: Noah Friedkin (University of California, Santa Barbara) and the late Eugene Johnsen (University of California, Santa Barbara), for their development and elaboration of the linear social influence model, widely known as the Friedkin-Johnsen model.
 - Prof. Friedkin accepted the award in absentia.
- *Harrison White Outstanding Book Award*, presented by Natasha Quadlin, selection committee chair
 - Recipients: Eric W. Schoon (Ohio State University), David Melamed (Ohio State University), and Ronald L. Breiger (University of Arizona), for the book *Regression Inside Out*, 2024. Cambridge University Press.
 - Profs. Schoon, Melamed, and Breiger were present at the meeting to receive the award.
- *Outstanding Article Publication Award*, presented by Diane Felmlee on behalf of the selection committee chair, Yongren Shi, who was unable to attend the meeting.
 - Recipients: Peng Huang (University of California-Irvine) and Carter T. Butts (University of California-Irvine), for their article "Rooted America: Immobility and Segregation of the Intercounty Migration Network," published in *American Sociological Review*.
 - Profs. Huang and Butts were present at the meeting to receive the award.
 - Honorable Mention: Scott W. Duxbury (UNC Chapel Hill) for his article, "Collaborating on the Carceral State: Political Elite Polarization and the Expansion of Federal Crime Legislation Networks, 1979 to 2005," published in *American Sociological Review*.
 - Prof. Duxbury was present at the meeting to receive the award.
- *Geoffrey Tootell Outstanding Dissertation in Progress Award* presented by Cassie McMillan.
 - Recipient: Elena Pojman (Pennsylvania State University) for her dissertation entitled "Matrices of Stratification: Caregiving and Partnership Across Race-Ethnicity and Education in the United States."
 - Dr. Pojman was present at the meeting to receive the award.
- *Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award*, presented by Diane Felmlee on behalf of selection committee chair Charlie Gomez, who was unable to attend the meeting.
 - Recipient: Masoud Movahed (University of Pennsylvania) and Tiffany Neman (U.S. Census Bureau), for their article "Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account," published in *Social Science Research*.
 - Prof. Movahed was present at the meeting to receive the award on behalf of his co-author.
 - Runner-Up: Benjamin C Fields and Justin Huft for their paper, "Troubled Meanings: An Affect Control Theory Exploration of the Conflict in Northern Ireland," published in *Social Currents*.
 - Prof. Fields accepted the award on behalf of his co-author.

Section chair Diane Felmlee then presented the section's incoming officers: Zack Almquist (Chair-Elect), Elizabeth Bruch (Council), Scott Duxbury (Council), and Tenshi Kawashima (Council, Graduate Student Representative).

Chair Felmlee then gave a brief report on the council meeting, noting that relevant committees (DEI and nominations) had been approved, new section newsletter editors and webmasters had been selected, and section finances remained stable and healthy. Chair Felmlee also reminded attendees of the location of the joint reception, which would take place immediately after the business meeting concluded.

Prof. Felmlee then passed on the gavel to incoming Chair Omar Lizardo.

Mathematical Sociology Section Council Meeting

2025 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association

Attendees

Diane Felmlee, Chair

Omar Lizardo, Chair Elect (Incoming Chair)

Noah Mark, Past Chair

Zack W. Almquist, Chair Elect, Elect

Cassie McMillan, Council Member

Natasha Quadlin, Council Member

Elizabeth Roberto, Council Member

Xi Song, Council Member

Scott Duxbury, Council Member Elect

Aidan Combs, Grad Student Council Member

Tenshi Kawashima, Student Council Member Elect

Announcements

- Membership <300 on August 31 likely
- Upcoming ASA changes in Session Allotments

Appointments/Re-Appointments for Consideration/Approval

- Newsletter Editors – Diego Leal and Jorge Zazueta
- Webmasters – Nick Harder and Allison Leamage

DEI Sub-Committee

Mark Pachucki, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (*Chair*)

Allison Leamage, McMaster University

Scott Renshaw, Carnegie Mellon University

Membership Affairs Sub Committee

Hannah Waight, New York University (*Chair*)

Noah Mark, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Tenshi Kawashima, University of Georgia (*graduate student*)

Scott Renshaw, Carnegie Mellon University

External Affairs Sub-Committee

Elisa Bienenstock, Arizona State University (*Chair*)

Nominations Committee

Diane Felmlee, Pennsylvania State University (*Chair*)

Matthew Brashears, University of South Carolina

Scott Duxbury, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Barbara Meeker, University of Maryland

Shuyin Liu, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Award Committees (Omar may have made progress...)

Budget Related Announcement

August 2025 Section Reception (joint with Social Psychology, Sociology of Emotions, Methodology, and Altruism, Morality, and Society) should come in “within” budget. I initiated joint arrangements and took the lead on finding a suitable venue. Eventually, Sarah Harkness (Emotions) was largely responsible for arranging the reception. Pooling resources approximately proportionate to membership led to a reception that was affordable for all sections.

- Max total cost (~\$7,046 USD); Math Soc ~\$1500.

Budget and Related Items

Ideally, Council can approve a budget for the 2025-2026 year.

Thomas J Fararo Mentoring Program

- Ongoing issue/question: How should we use the Fararo bequest to advance the mission of the section?
 - Use funds to host an annual mentoring program reception or banquet
 - Connect mentoring program reception to section reception to help defray costs of section reception, which can exceed available funds
- First year implanting second idea:
(Partially) Reimbursing SEC mentors for connecting (via meal/coffee meetings) with their mentees at ASA -- \$1000

Proposed Budget

Section Reception at ASA	\$1,500 (change to \$1,250?)
Student Awards	\$500
Section Website	\$50 - \$100
Council Luncheon	\$400
Mentoring Program Expenses	\$1000

Announcing Member Publications/Job Openings

- Members sometimes want their new publication sent to the Section
 - There could be a lot of work/messages to do this regularly
 - Now we publish recent pubs in our Newsletter – any changes?
- People ask the Section to announce job openings
 - But jobs must be posted at ASA first
 - Sections only allowed to post minimal information & with link to ASA

Programming Issues?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO MATH SOC!

Mathematical Sociology Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, August 11th, 2025

Attendees: Diane Felmlee, Omar Lizardo, Noah Mark, Zack Alquimst, Aidan Combs, Cassie McMillan, Natasha Quadlin, Elizabeth Roberto, and Xi Song.

Meeting Overview: The council meeting started with Diane Felmlee distributing the previously prepared agenda to all attendees. She opened the floor by acknowledging various questions and issues that had emerged and garnered attention throughout the preceding year. The meeting addressed aspects of the section's operations, including membership, budgetary concerns, and administrative protocols.

Key Discussion Points and Resolutions:

1. Section Membership:

- **Current Status:** A primary concern was the current section membership, which stood at 264. This figure places the Mathematical Sociology section below the crucial 300-member threshold, a benchmark often associated with certain privileges or considerations within the American Sociological Association (ASA).
- **Context and Reassurance:** Noah Mark offered a more reassuring perspective. He clarified that the implications of being below the 300-member mark were "not as dire" as might have been historically assumed, referencing past ASA practices that may have instilled a greater sense of urgency.
- **Recruitment Challenges:** It was universally acknowledged that member recruitment has become "less straightforward" in recent times. This challenge is further exacerbated by the ASA's introduction of convoluted and intricate new session allocation rules, which complicate traditional recruitment strategies.

2. Council Approvals and Appointments:

- The Council unanimously approved several key appointments and initiatives:
 - **Newsletter Editors and Webmasters:** New individuals were appointed to oversee the section's newsletter and maintain its online presence.
 - **DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Subcommittee:** The establishment of a dedicated subcommittee focused on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was unanimously approved.
 - **Nominations Committee Members:** The members responsible for identifying and proposing candidates for future leadership roles within the section were also approved.

3. Mentorship Program and Budgetary Matters:

- **Mentorship Program Leadership:** Noah Mark graciously agreed to assume leadership of the mentorship program, a vital initiative for supporting emerging scholars in mathematical sociology. He further committed to remaining an active member of the Membership Affairs Committee.
- **Budgetary Issues:** Financial matters emerged as a central and critical point of discussion. A significant observation was the "mostly unspent" status of funds specifically allocated for the mentoring program, prompting a closer examination of financial planning and utilization.

- **New Initiatives:** Noah introduced an innovative idea for an "introductions (new people) table" at the upcoming reception. This initiative was well-received by the council, as it was seen as a proactive way to welcome and integrate new members into the section's community.
- **Student Award Funding:** Zack Alquimst raised an important question regarding the funding source for the student award, specifically whether it would be drawn from the section's endowment.
- **Budget Approval and Fundraising Exploration:** Despite various points of discussion, the proposed budget for the upcoming year was ultimately approved by the council, signifying a consensus on financial priorities.
- **Alternative Funding Sources:** Cassie McMillan suggested that the "Fararo funds" had previously been discussed as a potential source for a mentoring reception, offering a historical context to the financial discussions. Elizabeth Roberto proposed a more direct and simpler approach: reimbursing mentors for drinks during related events.
- **Dues Increase Concerns:** Diane Felmler expressed a significant concern regarding the potential strategy of raising section dues as a means of fundraising, characterizing it as a "bad idea" due to its potential negative impact on membership.
- **Motion for Fundraising Exploration:** In direct response to the various financial discussions, Noah Mark formally proposed a motion to thoroughly explore various fundraising options for the section.

4. Other Administrative and Communication Issues:

- The meeting also addressed several other important administrative and communication protocols:
 - **Job Announcement Redirection:** A clear directive was issued that all job announcements, which had historically been shared via the section's listserve, should henceforth be directed to the newsletter. This aims to centralize and streamline the dissemination of such information.
 - **Listserve Usage and ASA Rules:** A concern was raised regarding individuals persistently "pestering the chair" to publicize their work through the listserve. This discussion also led to a firm reminder from Diane for the incoming chair to adhere strictly to the established ASA rules and guidelines for distributing information about job announcements.
 - **Section Award Winners and ASA Membership:** A persistent problem was identified concerning section award winners who were not current members of the ASA. To address this, a practical compromise was reached: a gift membership to the ASA would be offered to some award winners.

American Sociological Assn
Section on Mathematical Sociology (37)
For the Period Ended Tuesday, September 30, 2025

	Year To Date	Acct #
INCOME & EXPENSE		
Income		
Dues Income	\$258	37200
Section Budget Allocation	1,400	37250
Total Income	1,658	
Expenses		
Annual Meeting Reception Expens...	1,500	37300
Annual Meeting Other Events	217	37310
Award Expenses	500	37360
Total Expenses	2,217	
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	(\$559)	
NET ASSETS		
Net Assets - Beginning Balance	\$50,403	
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	(559)	
Net Assets - Ending Balance	\$49,844	

American Sociological Assn
Restricted Fund Balance
Math Soc. Dissertation Award Fund - Fund 73 (Sctn 037)
Tuesday, September 30, 2025

		<u>9/30/2025</u>
Revenue		
Dividends and Interest	50200	\$5,272.53
Gain / Loss on Investments	50202	<u>32,178.04</u>
Total Revenues		37,450.57
Expenses		
Awards	74150	5,000.00
Investment Mgmt Fees	74570	<u>862.45</u>
Total Expenses		<u>5,862.45</u>
Change in Net Assets		<u><u>31,588.12</u></u>

ENDING FUND BALANCE AVAILABLE		<u><u>\$318,419.70</u></u>
-------------------------------	--	----------------------------

Mathematical Sociologist

Message from the Chair: Diane Felmlee



Greetings Mathematical Sociologists! As academics and scientists, we are facing many challenges and uncertainty today. I do not have easy solutions to our societal problems, but I do know that our work as rigorous, creative sociologists remains crucial to our discipline and the wider world. (continues on page 2)

Section Officers

Chair Diane Felmlee Penn State University	Laura K. Nelson U. of British Columbia	Newsletter Co-Editors Jorge Zazueta U. Aut. de S. Luis Potosí
Chair-Elect Omar Lizardo UC – Los Angeles	Natasha Quadlin UC – Los Angeles	Diego Leal University of Arizona
Past Chair Noah P. Mark UNC - Charlotte	Elizabeth Roberto Rice University	Webmasters Nicholas Harder U. of South Carolina
Secretary/Treasurer Kimberly B. Rogers Dartmouth College	Yongren Shi University of Iowa	Zara Jillani University of Georgia
Section Council Cassie McMillan Northeastern University	Student Representative Aidan Combs Duke University	Allison Leamage McMaster University

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Let's keep tackling important questions with the unique tools of our specialty --- the use of mathematics in refining key concepts, theory development, and path-breaking, mathematical, empirical applications. The Mathematical Sociology Section connects us and helps make our work better. This issue of the *Mathematical Sociologist* will catch you up on the many ways we are connecting this year.

First, there are deadlines approaching quickly. It's time to get ready for ASA August 8-12 in the Windy City of Chicago! The deadline for submissions to present at ASA is February 26. There are many exciting sessions hosted by Math Soc, and in several cases, jointly with other Sections. One of our sessions will be the James S. Coleman Lecture, with our own Kathleen Carley as the recipient of the James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Award, presenting: "Digital Dreams: From science fiction to computational sociology." We anticipate all these sessions will bring in large audiences. Check out this newsletter for additional details about the sessions on the program for Chicago and information about the Coleman lecture. A big thank you to the organizers of these promising sessions: Matthew Brashears, Neha Gondal, David Schaefer, Xiaoling Shu, and Anna Skarpelis.

Nominations for our section awards are also on the horizon. Details about these awards appear in this newsletter and on the ASA website. The deadline for nominations is March 15. Self-nominations are encouraged and a good way to get talented colleagues to look over your work. Thank you to the Chairs of these committees, Xi Song, Natasha Quadlin, Yongren Shi, Charles Gomez, and Cassie McMillan, as well as the 20 committed members of these committees who agreed to serve in these important tasks.

In addition, the 2025 ASA Election is approaching, and our Section is well-prepared. We have an excellent slate of candidates recruited by the Nominations Committee and led by Noah Mark. We are lucky to have such a fine group of scholars on the docket! Check the newsletter for details regarding these election candidates. Thank you to the Nominations Committee, including Noah Mark (Chair), Tony Paik, David Melamed, Elizabeth Roberto, and Aidan Combs. We also extend our appreciation to the candidates for their willingness to run for these noteworthy offices.

Note, too, that the Math Soc Mentoring Program is making excellent progress in its third year. The Student and Early Career Mentor Team is reaching out to all our new student members to tell them ways that the Math Soc Section can benefit them and to help them connect with mentors in the Section. Please check the information in the recent announcement that contains details about this program. We need both students and faculty participants to make this program continue to thrive. A hearty thank you to Noah Mark for spearheading this commendable effort and to Mark Pachucki, Hannah Waight, Jimi Adams, Zack Kline, Allison Leanage, Sabrina Mai, Trent Mize, Jeffrey Shen, and Loring Thomas for their work making this program a success.

Also, be sure to check out our fabulous, updated Website <https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/>. The Website includes much important information about our Section including student member profiles and a newsletter archive, and it now greatly facilitates the award nomination process for our members. Thanks to our talented Webmasters, Nicholas Harder, Zara Jillani, and Allison Leavage, for their ingenuity and effort.

There is additional information in the newsletter that you should check out that concerns our Section. It's important for us all to recognize that this newsletter entails a good deal of time and work. I extend my sincere thanks to Diego Leal and Jorge Zazueta for their dedication and effort in generating such a wonderful Spring newsletter edition. We are indeed fortunate to have them behind the keyboard.

Good luck, Section mates, with your submissions and nominations! And hold tight during these tumultuous days.

Best regards,

Diane

Mathematical Sociology at the 2025 ASA Meeting. Call for Submissions

Open Topics in Mathematical Sociology: Flash Talks Session

Session Organizers: Matthew E. Brashears (U. of South Carolina) and Neha Gondal (Boston University)

This is not your typical paper session: this is the Mathematical Sociology Flash Talk Session! Join us for multiple, brief, and snappy renditions of cutting-edge work that uses mathematics, social network analysis, and/or computational methods to advance sociological knowledge. Projects making theoretical, empirical, and/or methodological advances are all welcome for this session. Regardless of subject, we ask and expect that each presenter will do their very best to be fast, informative, and engaging! After these brief presentations, presenters will “break out” for Q&A and interaction roundtable discussions.

Advancing Mathematical and Computational Research in Social Psychology
(Jointly Sponsored with Section on Social Psychology)

Session Organizer: David R Schaefer, University of California - Irvine.

We seek papers for a joint session that extends the rich collaboration between the Mathematical Sociology and Social Psychology sections. We are specifically interested in papers that build, extend, or apply computational or mathematical models to social psychological questions. This may involve bringing new tools to investigate long-standing theoretical questions or using mathematical or computational methods to advance social psychological theory. We welcome papers across any area of social psychology and using a wide range of methods, including (but not limited to) network analysis, natural language processing, agent-based models, machine learning, and mathematical modeling.

Machine Learning and Classical Statistical Approaches: Trade-offs, Integration, and Debate
(Jointly Sponsored with Section on Methodology)

Session Organizer: Xiaoling Shu, University of California-Davis

Machine Learning is a research approach that is both inductive and deductive and plays an important complementary role in improving model goodness of fit, revealing valid and significant hidden patterns in data, identifying nonlinear and non-additive effects, providing insights into data developments, methods, and theory, and enriching scientific discovery. When the explicit model structure is unclear, and algorithms with good performance are difficult to attain, machine learning builds models and algorithms by learning and improving from data. This Section welcomes the following research that: 1) demonstrates the implications of this new paradigm to data, methods, and theory development, or 2) compares machine learning with the classical approach of parameter estimation regressions, or 3) incorporates predictive modeling to produce improved models that combine explanation and prediction.

Culture and Computational Social Science
(Jointly Sponsored with Section on Sociology of Culture)

Organizer: Anna K.M. Skarpelis, Queens College (CUNY).

This panel examines how power and epistemology influence mathematical and computational models of culture. We invite contributions on any empirical topic that highlights how authors navigated the moral and normative challenges posed by the aim of modeling culture, whether brought about by the data used, theories applied, or epistemologies. We are especially curious about creative and non-conventional uses and manipulations of data. Submissions can take various forms—STS-inspired analyses of the epistemic

assumptions in mathematical modeling, innovative methods for handling unusual or problematic data, or theoretical work addressing the normative aspects of modeling complex systems.

2025 Call for Section Award Nominations

The Mathematical Sociology Section invites nominations for five awards to be given in 2025. For all awards, nominators and nominees must be members of the Mathematical Sociology Section at the time the nomination is submitted. Self-nominations are welcome. This year, all nominations should be made via the Mathematical Sociology website: <https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

Award for Progress in Mathematical Sociology

Committee Chair: Xi Song (xisong@sas.upenn.edu)

This award is given annually for a discovery, technical innovation, or invention representing a significant contribution to progress in mathematical sociology. The contribution may have been made at any time prior to the award year. While this contribution will ordinarily be described in one or more publications, this award recognizes the intellectual contribution itself and not any publication arising from it. Up to three individuals may share a given award, provided that all meet the selection criteria. The committee will generate nominations and also encourage nominations from section members. Nominators and nominees must be members of the Mathematical Sociology Section. Self-nominations are welcome.

Please submit nomination letters here by March 15, 2025:

<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

Harrison White Outstanding Book Award

Committee Chair: Natasha Quadlin (quadlin@soc.ucla.edu)

This award is given biennially in odd-numbered years for an outstanding book in mathematical sociology. Eligible books must have been published during the four years prior to the award year (2020-2024). Only members of the Mathematical Sociology section are eligible to be nominated or to submit nominations for this award. Self-nominations are welcome.

Please submit nomination letters here by March 15, 2025:

<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

Outstanding Article Publication Award in Mathematical Sociology

Committee Chair: Yongren Shi (University of Iowa)

This award is given annually for a published article making significant contributions to mathematical sociology. Eligible papers must have a publication date during the three years before the award year, that is, in 2021-2024. Nominators and nominees must be members of the Mathematical Sociology Section at the time the nomination is submitted. Self-nominations are welcome.

Please submit nomination letters here by March 15, 2025:

<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Committee Chair: Charles Gomez (University of Arizona)

This award is given annually for a paper that makes a significant contribution to mathematical sociology. Papers can be published or unpublished. The submission can consist of a dissertation chapter but not the entire dissertation. Eligible papers must have been written while the corresponding or first author was still a graduate student and during the three years before the award year, that is, 2021-2024. Multiple-author papers are admissible, provided that the corresponding or first author meets the eligibility requirements and no non-student is a co-first author. In the case of multi-authored papers with non-student authors, a letter from the most senior non-student author is required, which describes the student(s) contributions. Nominators and nominees must be members of the Mathematical Sociology Section at the time the nomination is submitted. Self-nominations are encouraged. On multiple-author papers including non-student authors who are Section members, the award is shared by the eligible student authors. Please submit (1) a copy of the paper, (2) a brief nomination letter describing the reasons for the nomination, and if relevant, (3) a co-authorship letter. (Faculty co-authorship letters may be sent separately in case of self-nomination; in that case, please indicate the name of the co-authorship letter writer in the nomination letter.)

Please submit nomination letters here by March 15, 2025:

<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

Geoffrey Tootell Mathematical Sociology Outstanding Dissertation-in-Progress Award

Committee Chair: Cassie McMillan (Northeastern University)

This award, given annually, provides a grant of \$5,000 to meet some of the scholarly expenses of a student whose dissertation employs mathematics in an interesting, imaginative, or ingenious way to advance sociological knowledge. The applicant should submit a copy of the approved dissertation proposal, with a list of any requirements added by the graduate committee. The application packet should also include a letter of support from the student's sponsor, which describes the student's qualifications for completing the work and the potential importance of the project. Applicants must be members of the Mathematical Sociology Section and must agree to remain members through the period to be covered by the grant. Please submit a copy of the dissertation proposal and an application letter. (Letters of support may be sent separately in cases of self-nomination; please indicate the name of the letter writer in the application letter.)

Please submit nomination letters here by March 15, 2025:

<https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/section-awards/>

2024 Math Soc Election Slate

Chair-elect

(1-year term begins in 2025. One person to be elected)

- ❖ Zack Almquist, University of Washington
- ❖ Lisa Walker, University of North Carolina – Charlotte

Graduate Student Representative

(1-year term, begins in 2025. One person to be elected)

- ❖ Tenshi Kawashima, University of Georgia
- ❖ Sabrina Mai, University of California – Irvine

Council Members

(3-year term, begins in 2025. Two people to be elected)

- ❖ Elizabeth Bruch, University of Michigan
- ❖ Scott Duxbury, University of North Carolina Chapel–Hill
- ❖ Charles Gomez, University of Arizona
- ❖ Xiaoling Shu, University of California – Davis

Note: Full candidate bios and other information will be on the ballot itself.

Voting starts on April 17 and runs from April 17 to May 19. Your membership in ASA and the Math Soc Section must be active from April 1 through June 1 to be eligible to vote and receive a ballot. Keep your memberships current, and be sure to renew by March 31 if your membership is set to expire before June 2nd.



Coleman Lecture: Kathleen Carley

Digital Dreams: From Science Fiction to Computational Sociology

When Asimov wrote the foundation trilogy he inspired generations of scholars to try to bring psycho-history to fruition. Today, the advances in social network analysis, artificial intelligence, and data science more broadly along with the increase in data available digitally have made this dream feasible. In this talk, advances due to thinking about networks from a high dimensional and dynamic perspective, and due to the use of techniques such as large language models are described, and their implications for understanding diffusion and social influence discussed.

Kathleen M. Carley (Ph.D. Harvard; HD University of Zurich) is a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University in the School of Computer Science’s Software and Societal Systems Department, IEEE Fellow, Director of the Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organizational Systems (CASOS) and Director of the Center for Informed Democracy and Social Cybersecurity (IDeaS).



Other News

News by Zachary Neal (Michigan State University): A working group of the [International Network for Social Network Analysis \(INSNA\)](#) has recently published [Recommendations for Sharing Network Data and Materials](#) in the journal Network Science. The working group “recommends that network data and materials should be shared, but access to or use of shared data and materials may be restricted if necessary to avoid harm or comply with regulations. Researchers should share the network data and materials necessary to reproduce reported results via a publicly accessible repository when an associated manuscript is published. To ensure the adoption of these recommendations, network journals should require sharing, and network associations and academic institutions should reward sharing.” You can find the complete open-access paper, together with a brief overview of the recommendations and an opportunity to endorse them, at <https://www.zacharyneal.com/datasharing>.

Mission Statement

Thank you for your timely contributions to this issue of the Mathematical Sociologist. Please continue to send us your announcements, articles, book reviews, conference announcements, etc. The more you are involved with the newsletter, the better it will be. Please feel free to send us your comments, concerns, corrections, or any ideas you have for the newsletter.

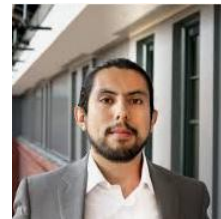
Have a great Spring semester, and watch your email for future newsletter editor requests!

Newsletter Co-editors



Jorge Zazueta

jorge.zazueta@uaslp.mx



Diego F. Leal

dflc@arizona.edu

Mission Statement of the Mathematical Sociology Section

The purpose of the Mathematical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association is to encourage, enhance, and foster research, teaching, and other professional activities in mathematical sociology for the development of sociology and the benefit of society through organized meetings, conferences, newsletters, publications, awards, and other means deemed appropriate by the Section Council. In addition, the Section seeks to promote communication, collaboration, and consultation among scholars in sociology in general, mathematical sociology, and allied scientific disciplines.

Mathematical Sociologist

Message from the Chair: Diane Felmlee



Greetings, Mathematical Sociologists! I hope you're taking time this Summer to get away and relax, despite all the challenges we face this year in our country and academia. Lucky for us, the ASA meetings are just around the corner, which will give us the opportunity to discuss our work, plan, and learn from each other. There are many promising Math Society events to look forward to in August. Our Section has multiple top-notch sessions, in addition to an exciting business meeting (with delivery of Section awards) and a welcoming reception. (continues on page 2)

Section Officers

Chair

Diane H. Felmlee
Penn State University

Laura K. Nelson
U. of British Columbia

Natasha Quadlin
UC - Los Angeles

Elizabeth Roberto
Rice University

Chair-Elect

Omar Lizardo
UC - Los Angeles

Past Chair

Noah P. Mark
UNC - Charlotte

Yongren Shi
University of Arizona

Secretary/Treasurer

Kimberly B. Rogers
Dartmouth College

Xi Song
U. of Pennsylvania

Section Council

Cassie McMillan
Northeastern University

Student Representative
Aidan Combs
Duke University

Newsletter Co-Editors

Jorge Zazueta
U. Aut. de S. Luis Potosí

Diego F. Leal
University of Arizona

Webmasters

Nicholas Harder
U. of South Carolina

Zara Jillani
University of Georgia

Allison Leanlage
McMaster University

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There will be a total of 5 sessions during ASA in Chicago in which Mathematical Sociology is the sponsor, or co-sponsor, and these sessions are packed with original and inventive research. Full details about the Sessions are available in this Newsletter, below. However, let me highlight a couple of details. First, our Section's conference day, Monday, Aug. 1, will be busy. There are two Math Soc Sessions that day, beginning with our popular and novel Flashtalks and followed by a creative session that combines Mathematical Sociology and Social Psychology (co-sponsored with the Social Psychology Section). In addition, our very own Kathleen Carley will present the James S. Coleman lecture from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Monday, a talk that should not be missed. Directly after that, our Business meeting will take place from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm. Please attend. Business meeting attendance informs and involves our members, signals the vitality of the Section, and it is a great chance to congratulate our award recipients! Furthermore, on two different days, there are other stimulating sessions co-sponsored by the Math Soc, one on Saturday with Sociology of Culture, and the second on Sunday, jointly with Methodology.

Join us for the fun at our ASA reception, which will be held off-site on our Section Day, Monday, Aug. 11. The event will take place from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub. See details below.

Our Section has given several awards to extremely well-deserved recipients this year, with information about these awards described below. Congratulations to all our fabulous award winners! Note, too, that the selection of these awards involved a lot of hard work on the part of the committees, with tough choices having to be made between numerous excellent candidates. I would like to extend deep thanks to the Committee Chairs and members who invested a good deal of time and effort to make this happen!

Don't forget to vote for the next leaders of our Section! The ASA Section elections are ongoing, starting on Jun. 16 and ending on Jul. 16 at 5 pm (ET). The results of those elections will be sent to the listserv later.

Thanks to our dedicated Webmasters, Nicholas Harder, Zara Jillani, and Allison Leauge, for their creativity and fast responses to questions regarding our website, <https://mathematicalsociology.wordpress.com/>! The website includes noteworthy information, such as student profiles and a newsletter archive, and it was invaluable in facilitating the award nomination process for our members.

Finally, it's essential to recognize the dedication and time invested by Diego Leal and Jorge Zazueta to produce this excellent Summer Edition of the Mathematical Sociologist! Their professionalism made the work so much easier for the rest of us. My sincere thanks for their assistance this year in generating newsletters in such a seamless manner.

I look forward to seeing you in the Windy City in August!

Diane

2025 Mathematical Sociology Award Winners

Award for Progress in Mathematical Sociology

Committee Chair: Xi Song (University of Pennsylvania)

This award is given annually for a discovery, technical innovation, or invention representing a significant contribution to progress in mathematical sociology.

Noah Friedkin (University of California, Santa Barbara) and **Eugene Johnsen** (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Awarded for their development and elaboration of the linear social influence model, widely known as the Friedkin-Johnsen model. Sincere congratulations to the winners on this important and well-earned award.

One of their publications: Friedkin and Johnsen, Social Influence Network Theory: A Sociological Examination of Small Group Dynamics. 2011. Cambridge University Press.

Evaluation Committee Members

Xi Song (Chair)

Lynn Smith-Lovin, Duke University

Trent Mize

Ron Breiger

Chen-Shuo Hong

University of Pennsylvania

Duke University

Purdue University

University of Arizona

National Taiwanese University

Harrison White Outstanding Book Award

Committee Chair: Natasha Quadlin (University of California – Los Angeles)

This award is given biennially in odd-numbered years for an outstanding book in mathematical sociology. Eligible books must have been published during the four years prior to the award year (2020-2024). Only members of the Mathematical Sociology section are eligible to be nominated or to submit nominations for this award.

Winners: **Eric W. Schoon** (Ohio State University), **David Melamed** (Ohio State University), and **Ronald L. Breiger** (University of Arizona).

Schoon, Eric, David Melamed, and Ronal Breiger. 2024. *Regression Inside Out*. Cambridge University Press.

In this book, the authors reimagine linear regression analysis by shifting the focus from variables to the cases—e.g., individuals, organizations, nations—that comprise them. By turning regression “inside out,” they offer a case-oriented approach that makes it possible to incorporate insights that are otherwise obscured in traditional models. This perspective not only deepens our understanding of statistical relationships but also allows scholars to help transcend the divide between quantitative and qualitative methods. The book is accompanied by reproducible and accessible examples that make it a pleasure to read and a valuable resource for the mathematical sociologist. Congratulations to the authors on this well-deserved honor.

Evaluation Committee Members

Natasha Quadlin (Chair)
Benjamin Cornwell
Kathleen Carley
Ashley Harrell
Haoyang Zhang

University of California, Los Angeles
Cornell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Duke University
Pennsylvania State University

Outstanding Article Publication Award in Mathematical Sociology

Committee Chair: Yongren Shi (University of Arizona)

This award is given annually for a published article making significant contributions to mathematical sociology.

Winners: Pen Huang (University of Georgia) and Carter T. Butts (UC -Irvine)

Peng Huang and Carter T. Butts. 2024. “Rooted America: Immobility and Segregation of the Intercounty Migration Network.” *American Sociological Review* 88(6): 1031-1065

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00031224231212679>

Despite the popular narrative that the United States is a “land of mobility,” the country may have become a “rooted America” after a decades-long decline in migration rates. This article interrogates the lingering question about the social forces that limit migration, with an empirical focus on internal migration in the United States. We propose a systemic, network model of migration flows, combining demographic, economic, political, and geographic factors and network dependence structures that reflect the internal dynamics of migration systems. Using valued temporal exponential-family random graph models, we model the network of intercounty migration flows from 2011 to 2015. Our analysis reveals a pattern of segmented immobility, where fewer people migrate between counties with dissimilar political contexts, levels of urbanization, and racial compositions. Probing our model using “knockout experiments” suggests one would have observed approximately 4.6 million (27 percent) more intercounty migrants each year were the

segmented immobility mechanisms inoperative. This article offers a systemic view of internal migration and reveals the social and political cleavages that underlie geographic immobility in the United States.

Honorable Mention: Scott W. Duxbury (UNC – Chapel Hill)

Scott W. Duxbury. 2024. "Collaborating on the Carceral State: Political Elite Polarization and the Expansion of Federal Crime Legislation Networks, 1979 to 2005." *American Sociological Review*. 89(4): 650-683

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00031224241257614>

Lawmakers are routinely confronted by urgent social issues, yet they hold conflicting policy preferences, incentives, and goals that can undermine collaboration. How do lawmakers collaborate on solutions to urgent issues in the presence of conflicts? I argue that by building mutual trust, networks provide a mechanism to overcome the risks conflict imposes on policy collaboration. But, in doing so, network dependence constrains lawmakers' ability to react to the problems that motivate policy action beyond their immediate connections. I test this argument using machine learning and longitudinal analysis of federal crime legislation co-sponsorship networks between 1979 and 2005, a period of rising political elite polarization. Results show that elite polarization increased the effects of reciprocal action and prior collaboration on crime legislation co-sponsorships while suppressing the effect of violent crime rates. These relationships vary only marginally by political party and are pronounced for ratified criminal laws. The findings provide new insights to the role of collaboration networks in the historical development of the carceral state and elucidate how political actors pursue collective policy action on urgent issues in the presence of conflict.

Evaluation Committee Members

Yongren Shi (Chair)
Robert Manduca
Zachary Kline
Kevin Lewis
Tenshi Kawashima

University of Arizona
University of Michigan
The College of New Jersey
University of California - San Diego
University of Georgia

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Committee Chair: Charles J. Gomez (University of Arizona)

This award is given annually for a paper by a graduate student that makes a significant contribution to mathematical sociology.

Winners: Masoud Movahed (University of Pennsylvania) and Tiffany Neman (U.S. Census Bureau).

Masoud, Movahed and Tiffany Neman. 2024 "Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account." *Social Science Research* 123:103064. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2024.103064>

The study of intergenerational income mobility has witnessed more visibility in academic and public policy circles in light of the new estimates generated by Chetty and colleagues. The distribution of race-based estimates of intergenerational income mobility demonstrates strong spatial patterning, such that the success of a child's traversal to the top income quintile in the United States is spatially conditioned and dependent on locality. However, research drawing on the new estimates of intergenerational income mobility has largely taken an aspatial approach. This study is the first attempt to develop an explicitly spatial model, demonstrating that the determinants of place-based mobility vary both geographically and across racial groups. By systematically accounting for spatial autocorrelation and heterogeneity, we identify the race- and region-specific determinants of intergenerational income mobility across counties in the United States.

Honorable Mention: Benjamin Fields (UC – Berkeley) and **Justin Huft** (UC – Riverside)

Fields, Benjamin C., and Justin Huft. 2024. "'Troubled' Meanings: An Affect Control Theory Exploration of the Conflict in Northern Ireland." *Social Currents*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23294965241254057>

The Troubles in Northern Ireland ranks among the most violent periods in recent history. While social movements scholars have long sought to understand the conflict, often they do not include micro-level approaches. We use affect control theory and cultural meanings among Catholics gathered at the height of The Troubles to create prototypical group members and then simulate interactions across and between groups. Using cultural meanings gathered at a Catholic high school in Belfast in 1977, we find that Catholic (in-group) identities hold more positive meanings than Protestant identities. This remains true for identities within the paramilitary organizations and non-combatant identities. However, we find that the meanings of combatant identities are much lower in evaluation—a measure of goodness—than non-combatant identities. Our simulations suggest that interactions between groups are expected to be relatively innocuous. However, we do find that, in simulations, combatants—on both sides of the conflict—are expected to interact negatively with others. These findings and the methods we use suggest future avenues for both researchers and policymakers to better understand conflict and peacemaking.

Evaluation Committee Members

Charles J. Gomez (Chair)
 Laura K. Nelson
 Oscar Stuhler
 Bernardo MacKenna
 Jaemin Lee

University of Arizona
 University of British Columbia
 Northwestern University
 University of California - San Diego
 The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Geoffrey Tootell Mathematical Sociology Outstanding Dissertation-in-Progress Award

Committee Chair: Cassie McMillan (Northeastern University)

This award, given annually, provides a grant of \$5,000 to meet some of the scholarly expenses of a student whose dissertation employs mathematics in an interesting, imaginative, or ingenious way to advance sociological knowledge.

Winner: **Elena Pojman** (Pennsylvania State University)

"Matrices of Stratification: Caregiving and Partnership Across Race-Ethnicity and Education in the United States."

This award is for Elena Pojman's proposal titled, "Matrices of stratification: Caregiving and partnership across gender, race-ethnicity, and education in the United States." Pojman aims to investigate how various demographic processes contribute to social stratification in kin caregiving, romantic partnership, and singlehood. She plans to expand this body of research by applying an impressive array of techniques from mathematical demographic methods, including kinship matrix models and multi-dimensional population projections. By adopting an intersectional approach, Pojman's project will further unpack the demographic origins of inequality across key points of the work-family life course. The committee agreed that Pojman's proposal stood out across a pool of highly competitive applicants because of its strong application of methodological techniques from mathematical sociology to address important substantive questions with clear policy implications.

Evaluation Committee Members

Cassie McMillan (Chair)
Hana Shepherd
Sabrina Mai
Scott W. Duxbury
Guillermina Jasso

Northeastern University
Rutgers University
University of California - Irvine
UNC - Chapel Hill
New York University

Mathematical Sociology Program at 2025 ASA Meeting

Section on Mathematical Sociology James S. Coleman Lecture

Mon, August 11, 4:00 to 5:00pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

Session Organizer and President: Carter T. Butts, UC – Irvine.

Presenter: Kathleen M. Carley, Carnegie Mellon University.

This session will feature an address by Dr. Kathleen Carley: "Digital Dreams: From Science Fiction to Computational Sociology." Dr. Carley is the recipient of the Section on Mathematical Sociology's James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Achievement Award.

Abstract: When Asimov wrote the foundation trilogy he inspired generations of scholars to try to bring psycho-history to fruition. Today, the advances in social network analysis, artificial intelligence, and data science more broadly along with the increase in data available digitally have made this dream feasible. In this talk, advances due to thinking about networks from a high dimensional and dynamic perspective, and due to the use of techniques such as large language models are described, and their implications for understanding diffusion and social influence discussed.

Kathleen Carley is a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University in the School of Computer Science's Software and Societal Systems Department, IEEE Fellow, Director of the Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organizational Systems (CASOS) and Director of the Center for Informed Democracy and Social Cybersecurity (IDeaS).

Section Business Meeting

Mon, August 11, 5:00 to 5:30pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan

Meeting chair: Diane H. Felmlee, Pennsylvania State University

Mathematical Sociology Flash Talks

Monday, August 11, 8:00 to 9:30am, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Grand Ballroom B

Session Organizers: Matthew Brashears (University of South Carolina) and Neha Gondal (Boston University)

Parsimony, logical rigor, and substantive importance come together in Mathematical Sociology Flash Talks. This is not a typical paper session. A flash talk paper session creates many full-audience presentation opportunities within a single session. Short flash talk style presentations will be delivered to the full audience, followed by the same number of presentation-specific small group roundtable Q&A discussions. While the session format is different, the projects are the same. We invite papers and extended abstracts that use mathematics, social network analysis, and/or computational methods to advance sociological knowledge. Projects making theoretical, empirical, and/or methodological advances are all excellent fits for this session. Extended abstracts describing promising work in progress are encouraged.

Assessing the Relational Outcome Model through Monte Carlo Simulations - Kevin Anthony Carson, University of Arizona; Diego F. Leal, University of Arizona

Behavioral Responses to Contextual Interventions: Evaluating In-Silico Public Health Interventions - Alexander Murray-Watters, University of California-Irvine et al.

Common Ground in Crisis: Causal Narrative Networks of Public Official Communications During the COVID-19 Pandemic – Sabrina Mai, UC – Irvine.

Divided We Keep?: A Model for Socioeconomic Segregation's Effect on Generosity - Ian Rowe-Nicholls, Pennsylvania State University.

Mapping the Complete Network of Sweden – Károly, Takács et al., Linköping University.

Peer Review as Goal Alignment: The Case of Computer Science Research - Christina Wilmot, University of California-Los Angeles.

Survey-based Large Language Model agent: probing the gender attitude and change - Mengzhen Jia, Sun Yat-Sen University

The Promises and Pitfalls of Using Panel Data to Understand Individual Belief Change - Turgut KeskinWrk, Duke University et al.

Toward a Formal Sociological Model of Partner Search - Lawrence L. Wu, New York University

Joint Reception

(with Section on Social Psychology, Section on Sociology of Emotions, Section on Methodology, Section on Altruism, Morality, and Society)

Mon, August 11, 6:30 to 9:00pm, Offsite, Lizzie McNeal's Irish Pub

Advancing Mathematical and Computational Research in Social Psychology (Co-sponsored by Section on Social Psychology)

Mon, August 11, 2:00 to 3:30pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

Organizer: David R. Schaefer, UC – Irvine
President: Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University

This joint session extends the rich collaboration between the Mathematical Sociology and Social Psychology sections. Papers build, extend, and apply computational or mathematical models to social psychological questions by bringing new tools to investigate long-standing theoretical questions and/or using mathematical or computational methods to advance social psychological theory. Methods largely consist of network analysis, natural language processing, and mathematical modeling.

Tribulation and triumph in romantic rivalries: How adolescent love triangles inform dislike and future romance - Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University et al.

Network Activation Style and Returns to Brokerage: A Memory Perspective - Hui Sun, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management gGmbH et al.

Large Language Models and the Dynamics of Affective Connotations in the United States, Germany, and France - Aidan Combs, Otto-Friedrich-University Bamberg et al.

Meaning in Hyperspace: Word Embeddings as Tools for Cultural Measurement - Andrei G. Boutyline, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Alina Arseniev-Koehler, Purdue University

Machine Learning and Classical Statistical Approaches: Trade-offs, Integration, and Debate Psychology (Co-sponsored by Section on Methodology)

Sun, August 10, 2:00 to 3:30pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Lobby Level/Green, Plaza Ballroom B

Organizer Xiaoling Shu, UC - Davis

Machine Learning is a research approach that is both inductive and deductive and plays an important complementary role in improving model goodness of fit, revealing valid and significant hidden patterns in

data, identifying nonlinear and non-additive effects, providing insights into data developments, methods, and theory, and enriching scientific discovery. When the explicit model structure is unclear and algorithms with a good performance are difficult to attain, machine learning builds models and algorithms by learning and improving from data. This section welcomes the following research that: 1) demonstrates the implications of this new paradigm to data, methods, and theory development, or 2) compares machine learning with the classical approach of parameter estimation regressions, or 3) incorporates predictive modeling to produce improved models that combine explanation and prediction.

How Accurately Can Machine Learning Algorithms Predict a Person's Future? - Emily M. Cantrell, Princeton University et al.

Did Chicago Reforms Impact Outcomes of Police Misconduct Investigations? Comparing DiD & Predictive Modeling Results - Michelle Shames, Northwestern University et al.

Couples' Household Labor: New Insights with Observed-Synthetic Data Using Supervised Machine Learning and Actor-Partner Interdependence Model - Xingyun Wu, Johns Hopkins University / School of Arts & Sciences

Algorithmic Tradeoffs, Applied NLP, and the State-of-the-Art Fallacy - *AJ Alvero*, Cornell University et al.

Discovering Connections Between Networks and Outcomes: Labeled Subgraph Kernels for Social Network Analysis – Carter T. Butts, UC - Irvine

Computational and Mathematical Approaches to Social Problems and Inequalities
(Jointly Sponsored with Sociology of Culture)

Sat, August 9, 8:00 to 9:30am, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, San Francisco

Session Organizer: Anna K. M. Skarpelis, CUNY-Queens College

Discussant: Carly Knight, New York University

This panel examines how power and epistemology influence mathematical and computational models of culture. We invite contributions on any empirical topic that highlight how authors navigated the moral and normative challenges posed by the aim of modeling culture, whether brought about by the data used, theories applied, or epistemologies. We are especially curious about creative and non-conventional uses and manipulations of data. Submissions can take various forms—STS-inspired analyses of the epistemic assumptions in mathematical modeling, innovative methods for handling unusual or problematic data, or theoretical work addressing the normative aspects of modeling complex systems.

Auditing Multimodal Large Language Models for Contextualized Hate Speech Detection Using Conjoint Experiments - *Thomas Davidson*, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

From Codebooks to Promptbooks: Extracting Information from Text with Generative Large Language Models - *Oscar Stuhler*, Northwestern University et al.

Generative AI in Sociological Research: A Survey of Computational Sociologists - *AJ Alvero*, Cornell University et al.

Interpretative Variation: How Interpretations Diverge in the U.S. Congress - *Miriam Hurtado Bodell*, Stanford University; *Amir Goldberg*, Stanford University

Standing Committees

Committee on Nominations	Program Committee	Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award	Outstanding Article Publication Award
Noah Mark (Chair) UNC - Charlotte	Diane Felmlee Pennsylvania State University	Charles Gomez U. of Arizona (Chair)	Yongren Shi (Chair) University of Arizona
Aidan Combs University of Bamberg	Noah Mark UNC - Charlotte	Laura K. Nelson U. of British Columbia	Robert Manduca U. of Michigan
David Melamed Ohio State University	Omar Lizardo UC - Los Angeles	Oscar Stuhler Northwestern U.	Zachary Kline College of New Jersey
Anthony Paik U. of Massachusetts		Bernardo MacKenna UC - San Diego	Kevin Lewis UC - San Diego
Elizabeth Roberto Rice University		Jaemin Lee Chinese U. of H. Kong	Tenshi Kawashima University of Georgia
Award for Progress in Mathematical Sociology	Geoffrey Tootell Mathematical Sociology Outstanding Dissertation in Progress Award	Harrison White Book Award	DEI Sub-Committee
Xi Song (Chair) University of Pennsylvania	Cassie McMillan (Chair) Northeastern University.	Natasha Quadlin (chair) UC - Los Angeles	Mark Pachucki (Chair) U. of Massachusetts
Lynn Smith-Lovin	Hana Shepherd		Nanum Jeon

Duke University	Rutgers University	Benjamin Cornwell Cornell University	UC - Los Angeles
Trent Mize Purdue University	Sabrina Mai UC – Irvine	Kathleen Carley Carnegie Mellon U.	Allison Leanage McMaster University
Ronald L. Breiger, University of Arizona	Scott Duxbury UNC – Chapel Hill	Ashley Harrell Duke University	Scott Renshaw Carnegie Mellon U.
Chen-Shuo Song National Taiwan University	Guillermina Jasso New York University	Haoyang Zhang UIUC	

Membership Affairs Sub-Committee

Noah Mark
UNC - Charlotte (Chair)

Tenshi Kawashima
University of Georgia

Hannah Waight
New York University

Scott Renshaw
Carnegie Mellon U.

External Affairs Sub-committee

Elisa Bienenstock (Chair)
Arizona State University

Newsletter Editors

Diego Leal
University of Arizona

Jorge Zazueta
U. Aut. S. Luis Potosí

Webmasters

Nicholas Harder
U. of South Carolina

Zara Jillani
University of Georgia

Allison Leanage
McMaster University

Other News

Publications by our members:

Jasso, Guillermina. 2025. "Advancing Knowledge in the Spirit of Fararo: Generativity and Unification." *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0022250X.2024.2423944> .

Jasso, Guillermina. 2025. "Certainty, Unity, and Tolerance." *Theory and Society* 54(1):29-33 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-025-09594-7> .

Santana, Jessica J. and Seonghoon. 2025. "From Values to Codes: A Computational Text Analysis of the Codification of Occupational Ethics" *Organization Studies Online* first <https://doi.org/10.1177/01708406251317255>

Santana, Jessica J. and Laura K. Nelson. 2024. "How Machine Learning is Reviving Sociological Theorizing." The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Machine Learning edited by Christian Borch and Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780197653609.013.35>

Awards:

Guillermina Jasso won the 2025 ISJR Lifetime Achievement Award given biennially by the International Society for Justice Research (ISJR). Jasso is the first sociologist to win the award. In July 2025 she will deliver the Award Lecture at the ISJR biennial conference in Seattle, Washington. [International Society for Justice Research](#)

Training:

CMU CASOS will be offering a 1 week summer institute on AI enabled Network Science. <https://github.com/flashlight/flashlight>. Trainees should bring their own laptop. Data and tools will be provided. The CASOS/IDeaS Summer Institute is an introduction to network science and how network science is enabled by artificial intelligence (AI). Topics that will be covered include identification of key actors and groups, stance, network comparison, and network dynamics. AI will be used to generate synthetic network data, label groups, and identify missing links in networks. Summer Institute will provide an overview of how network science can be used to overcome limitations in AI systems and how AI can be used to overcome limitations in network data and support analysis. Much of the training will be hands-on and participants will be given data and technologies to analyze. The data provided will be organized in scenarios that the participants will review during the week and produce insights related to these scenarios given the use of the AI enabled network science methods. The Summer Institute is a five day workshop, Monday August 4th through Friday August 8th. Each day's instruction will be from 9:00am to 6:00pm US Eastern.

Special Issue

Call for quantitative group processes papers for the new open-access journal, Social Sciences.

Guest Editor: Alison Bianchi

The new open-access journal, Social Sciences, welcomes original research and theoretical papers including, but not limited to, the following:

- ❖ Expectations, status, and behavior theories
- ❖ Power, dependence, and social exchange theories
- ❖ Identity theories and group dynamics
- ❖ Affect control theories of social interaction and the self
- ❖ Justice theories
- ❖ Legitimation theories
- ❖ Theories of emotions and group interactions
- ❖ Research on teams, work groups, and other group configurations


Special Issue
**Group Processes Using
 Quantitative Research
 Methods**

Message from the Guest Editor
 We welcome original research and theoretical papers including, but not limited to, the following:

- Expectations, status, and behavior theories;
- Power, dependence, and social exchange theories;
- Identity theories and group dynamics;
- Affect control theories of social interaction and the self;
- Justice theories;
- Legitimation theories;
- Theories of emotions and group interactions;
- Research on teams, work groups, and other group configurations—that is, theory-driven by other social psychological frameworks not mentioned above.

Guest Editor
 Dr. Allison J. Bianchi
 Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Iowa, 416B
 North Hall, Iowa City, IA, USA


Deadline for manuscript submissions
 31 October 2025



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief
 Social Sciences is an international open access peer-reviewed journal publishing the latest research across all disciplines of the social sciences including anthropology, criminology, economics, education, geography, history, law, linguistics, political science, psychology, social policy, social work, sociology and related areas. The journal is especially interested in interdisciplinary research, and aims to facilitate the interaction and communication between different social scientific disciplines. The journal welcomes conventional length articles as well as shorter Research Notes or short articles, as long as they meet the journal's standards of quality and originality.

Editor-in-Chief
 Emeritus Prof. Nigel Parton
 School of Human and Health Sciences, University of Huddersfield,
 Huddersfield HD1 3DH, UK

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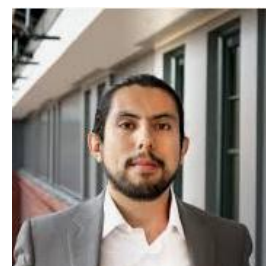
Mission Statement

Thank you for your timely contributions to this issue of the Mathematical Sociologist. Please continue to send us your announcements, articles, book reviews, conference announcements, etc. The more you are involved with the Newsletter, the better it will be. Please feel free to send us your comments, concerns, corrections, or any ideas you have for the Newsletter. Have a great Summer, and watch your email for future newsletter editor requests!

Newsletter Co-editors



Jorge Zazueta
jorge.zazueta@uaslp.mx



Diego F. Leal
dflc@arizona.edu

Mission Statement of the Mathematical Sociology Section

The purpose of the Mathematical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association is to encourage, enhance, and foster research, teaching, and other professional activities in mathematical sociology for the development of sociology and the benefit of society through organized meetings, conferences, newsletters, publications, awards, and other means deemed appropriate by the Section Council. In addition, the Section seeks to promote communication, collaboration, and consultation among scholars in sociology in general, mathematical sociology, and allied scientific disciplines.

Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Mathematical Sociology

Chair: Neha Gondal

Members: Anthony Paik, Kimberly Rogers

*Guillermina Jasso sitting in as Chair of the Section, Program Committee

*James Kitts sitting in as Chair of the Nominations Committee

Committee Goals:

- (1) Working to diversify and grow section membership;
- (2) Encouraging those involved in forming committees and soliciting and reviewing nominations/submissions for awards to pursue diversity, equity, and inclusion and reduce conflicts of interest in committee staffing, nominations/submissions, and selection of awardees;
- (3) Being mindful of the language used in soliciting award nominations and employing inclusive language to encourage submissions from a diverse pool of candidates;
- (4) Encouraging those involved in organizing ASA sessions to pursue diversity, equity, and inclusion and reduce conflicts of interest in paper submissions and selection of presenters;
- (5) Helping to ensure accountability and transparency by reporting on our goals, efforts, and results, including:
 - (a) Representation in membership and member retention
 - (b) Representation in those serving on our committees
 - (c) Representation in award submissions/awardees
 - (d) Representation in ASA submissions/presenters

Action Steps:

- (1) Bolstering recruitment efforts to grow and diversify the membership of the section
- (2) Work with Nominations Committee and section and committee chairs to promote diversity and inclusion in staffing committees and section offices
- (3) Work with awards committees to promote diversity and inclusion in soliciting submissions and equity in awardee selection
- (4) Work with Program Committee to promote diversity and inclusion in soliciting ASA submissions and equity in presenter selection

ASA Mathematical Sociology Section Awards 2021

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award in Mathematical Sociology

Committee: Gianluca Manzo (GEMASS CNRS and Sorbonne University), Anthony Paik (University of Massachusetts Amherst), Yoshimichi Sato (Tohoku University), Emma Spiro (University of Washington), and Lisa Walker (University of North Carolina Charlotte).

Outstanding Article Publication Award in Mathematical Sociology

Committee: Alison Bianchi (University of Iowa), Freda Lynn (University of Iowa), Noah Mark (University of North Carolina Charlotte), Jeffrey Smith (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), and Xiang Zhou (Harvard University).

Harrison White Outstanding Book Award in Mathematical Sociology

Committee: Carter Butts (University of California, Irvine), Karen Cook (Stanford University), Diane Felmler (Pennsylvania State University), Eugene Johnsen (University of California, Santa Barbara), and John Skvoretz (University of South Florida).

Outstanding Dissertation-in-Progress Award

Committee: Pamela Emanuelson (North Dakota State University), Diego F. Leal (University of South Carolina), Christopher Marcum (National Human Genome Research Institute), Laura K. Nelson (Northeastern University), and Yongren Shi (University of Iowa).

Award for Progress in Mathematical Sociology

Committee: Phillip Bonacich (University of California, Los Angeles), Ronald Breiger (University of Arizona), Noah E. Friedkin (University of California, Santa Barbara), John Skvoretz (University of South Florida), and Lynn Smith-Lovin (Duke University).

Nominations Committee

Scott Duxbury, Neha Gondal, James Kitts (Chair), Victoria Money, Anthony Paik.

2021 Election Results

Chair-Elect (Chair in 2022-2023)

Dawn T Robinson, University of Georgia

Secretary/Treasurer (3-year term begins in 2021)

Pamela Emanuelson, North Dakota State University

Council Member (3-year term begins in 2021)

Emma Spiro, University of Washington

Weihua An, Emory University

Student Representative (1-year term begins in 2021)

Victoria Money, University of South Carolina

Section on Mathematical Sociology's ASA Program; Chicago 2025

Section on Mathematical Sociology James S. Coleman Lecture

Mon, August 11, 4:00 to 5:00pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

Session Organizer and Presider: Carter T. Butts, UC – Irvine.

Presenter: Kathleen M. Carley, Carnegie Mellon University.

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Kathleen Carley is a Professor at Carnegie Mellon University in the School of Computer Science's Software and Societal Systems Department, IEEE Fellow, Director of the Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organizational Systems (CASOS) and Director of the Center for Informed Democracy and Social Cybersecurity (IDeaS).

Section Business Meeting

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Meeting chair: Diane H. Felmlee, Pennsylvania State University

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(with Section on Social Psychology, Section on Sociology of Emotions, Section on Methodology, Section on Altruism, Morality, and Society)

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Mathematical Sociology Flash Talks

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Assessing the Relational Outcome Model through Monte Carlo Simulations - Kevin Anthony Carson,

University of Arizona; Diego F. Leal, University of Arizona

Behavioral Responses to Contextual Interventions: Evaluating In-Silico Public Health Interventions - Alexander Murray-Watters, University of California-Irvine et al.

Common Ground in Crisis: Causal Narrative Networks of Public Official Communications During the COVID-19 Pandemic – Sabrina Mai, UC – Irvine.

Divided We Keep?: A Model for Socioeconomic Segregation's Effect on Generosity - Ian Rowe-Nicholls,

Pennsylvania State University.

Mapping the Complete Network of Sweden – Károly, Takács et al., Linköping University.

Peer Review as Goal Alignment: The Case of Computer Science Research - Christina Wilmot, University of California-Los Angeles.

Survey-based Large Language Model agent: probing the gender attitude and change - Mengzhen Jia, Sun

Yat-Sen University

The Promises and Pitfalls of Using Panel Data to Understand Individual Belief Change - Turgut KeskinWrk, Duke University et al.

Toward a Formal Sociological Model of Partner Search - Lawrence L. Wu, New York University

Advancing Mathematical and Computational Research in Social Psychology (Co-sponsored by Section on Social Psychology)

Mon, August 11, 2:00 to 3:30pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 3

Organizer: David R. Schaefer, UC – Irvine

President: Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University

This joint session extends the rich collaboration between the Mathematical Sociology and Social Psychology sections. Papers build, extend, and apply computational or mathematical models to social psychological questions by bringing new tools to investigate long-standing theoretical questions and/or using mathematical or computational methods to advance social psychological theory. Methods largely consist of network analysis, natural language processing, and mathematical modeling.

Tribulation and triumph in romantic rivalries: How adolescent love triangles inform dislike and future romance - Cassie McMillan, Northeastern University et al.

Network Activation Style and Returns to Brokerage: A Memory Perspective - Hui Sun, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management gGmbH et al.

Large Language Models and the Dynamics of Affective Connotations in the United States, Germany, and France - Aidan Combs, Otto-Friedrich-University Bamberg et al.

Meaning in Hyperspace: Word Embeddings as Tools for Cultural Measurement - Andrei G. Boutyline, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Alina Arseniev-Koehler, Purdue University

Machine Learning and Classical Statistical Approaches: Trade-offs, Integration, and Debate

Psychology (Co-sponsored by Section on Methodology)

Sun, August 10, 2:00 to 3:30pm, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Lobby Level/Green, Plaza Ballroom B

Organizer Xiaoling Shu, UC - Davis

Machine Learning is a research approach that is both inductive and deductive and plays an important complementary role in improving model goodness of fit, revealing valid and significant hidden patterns in data, identifying nonlinear and non-additive effects, providing insights into data developments, methods, and theory, and enriching scientific discovery. When the explicit model structure is unclear and algorithms with a good performance are difficult to attain, machine learning builds models and algorithms by learning and improving from data. This section welcomes the following research that: 1) demonstrates the implications of this new paradigm to data, methods, and theory development, or 2) compares machine learning with the classical approach of parameter estimation regressions, or 3) incorporates predictive modeling to produce improved models that combine explanation and prediction.

How Accurately Can Machine Learning Algorithms Predict a Person's Future? - Emily M. Cantrell, Princeton University et al.

Did Chicago Reforms Impact Outcomes of Police Misconduct Investigations? Comparing DiD & Predictive Modeling Results - Michelle Shames, Northwestern University et al.

Couples' Household Labor: New Insights with Observed-Synthetic Data Using Supervised Machine Learning and Actor-Partner Interdependence Model - Xingyun Wu, Johns Hopkins University / School of Arts & Sciences

Algorithmic Tradeoffs, Applied NLP, and the State-of-the-Art Fallacy - AJ Alvero, Cornell University et al.

Discovering Connections Between Networks and Outcomes: Labeled Subgraph Kernels for Social Network Analysis – Carter T. Butts, UC - Irvine

Computational and Mathematical Approaches to Social Problems and Inequalities
(Jointly Sponsored with Sociology of Culture)

Sat, August 9, 8:00 to 9:30am, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, San Francisco

Session Organizer: Anna K. M. Skarpelis, CUNY-Queens College

Discussant: Carly Knight, New York University

This panel examines how power and epistemology influence mathematical and computational models of culture. We invite contributions on any empirical topic that highlight how authors navigated the moral and normative challenges posed by the aim of modeling culture, whether brought about by the data used, theories applied, or epistemologies. We are especially curious about creative and non-conventional uses and manipulations of data. Submissions can take various forms—STS-inspired analyses of the epistemic assumptions in mathematical modeling, innovative methods for handling unusual or problematic data, or theoretical work addressing the normative aspects of modeling complex systems

Auditing Multimodal Large Language Models for Contextualized Hate Speech Detection Using Conjoint Experiments - *Thomas Davidson*, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

From Codebooks to Promptbooks: Extracting Information from Text with Generative Large Language Models - *Oscar Stuhler*, Northwestern University et al.

Generative AI in Sociological Research: A Survey of Computational Sociologists - *AJ Alvero*, Cornell University et al.

Interpretative Variation: How Interpretations Diverge in the U.S. Congress - *Miriam Hurtado Bodell*, Stanford University; *Amir Goldberg*, Stanford University