

**2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for
Political Economy of the World-System (PEWS)**

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

Sahan Karatasli served as Chair of PEWS and hosted several Council meetings.

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.

PEWS BUSINESS MEETING NOTES:

We are having this meeting in a moment of deep world-systemic crisis and chaos marked by deepening inequalities, Economic breakdown, geopolitical conflicts, escalation of wars, social struggles, rising genocides as currently happening in Gaza, and the disturbing resurgence of fascist forms of governance. These turbulent conditions make Political Economy of the World-System scholarship not only relevant, but more necessary than ever.

I want to thank all our members and officers for their dedication, energy, and commitment. Your research, teaching, mentorship, and organizing are extremely vital in helping us understand and respond to these challenges.

WELCOMING OF THE INCOMING OFFICERS

1. ASA-PEWS Elections Results

Many thanks to our nominations committee this year: Vilna Bashi, Christopher Chase-Dunn and Manuela Boatcă. I also want to thank everyone who ran for leadership this year. This is a terrific addition to PEWS leadership.

Chair-Elect (3-year term begins in 2025)

(Roberto) Patricio Korzeniewicz, University of Maryland

Council Members (3-year term begins in 2025)

Jason C. Mueller, Kennesaw State University

Cinzia D. Solari, University of Massachusetts Boston

Student Representative (2-year term begins in 2025)

Cameron Farrar, Syracuse University

Congratulations to our new officers and many thanks to everyone who accepted the nomination committee's invitation to run for these positions. This is a terrific addition to PEWS leadership.

2. Awards

We will start with the Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award. Many thanks to our book award committee this year for their outstanding work: Marina Karides, Marilyn Grell-Brisk, Sefika Kumral, and Smriti Upadhyay. I now invite Marilyn Grell-Brisk to deliver the awards.

Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award (Marilyn)

- *Winner*: Olukunle P. Owolabi (2023). *Ruling Emancipated Slaves and Indigenous Subjects*. Oxford University Press.
- *Honorable Mention*: Mariam Mniga Kurtz (2024). *Recolonizing Africa: An Ethnography of Land Acquisition, Mining, and Resource Control*. Routledge.

Distinguished Article Award

Now, we continue with the Distinguished Article Award. This year, the award committee was composed of Sahan Savas Karatasli, Marcel Paret and Michelle Lee. We received 18 articles for consideration with an impressive range of scholarship that reflects the vitality and breadth of research in the PEWS section.

- *Winner*: Joshua Lew McDermott (2024). "Difference Between Global South Cities: Mexico City, Freetown and the Global Division of Urban Informal Labour." *Urban Studies*.

In this innovative work, McDermott develops the concept of the "global division of urban informal labor" to explain why informal economies in Global South cities can be both strikingly different and yet structurally connected. Using a comparative analysis of Mexico City's financialized economy and Freetown's extractivist economy, he demonstrates how each city's position in the world-system shapes its urban labor regime. The article not only advances comparative urban studies but also recenters capitalism and class in the analysis of Global South cities—showing the foundational role of informal work in global capitalism today. We want to congratulate Joshua Lew McDermott for this remarkable achievement.

- *Honorable Mention*: Amanda Sikirica (2024). "Where Are Fossil Fuels Displaced by Alternatives? World-Systems and Energy Transitions." *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 30(1): 249–75. <https://doi.org/10.5195/jwsr.2024.1218>.

This year, we are also pleased to present an Honorable Mention for the Distinguished Article Award. The recipient is Amanda Sikirica, for her article “*Where Are Fossil Fuels Displaced by Alternatives?: World-Systems and Energy Transitions*,” published in the *Journal of World-Systems Research*.

In this rigorous quantitative study, Sikirica examines the displacement of fossil fuels by alternative energy sources—such as hydro, wind, and solar—across different positions in the world-system. Her analysis reveals that, since the 1970s, semiperipheral nations are the only category of countries to experience a meaningful shift in the relationship between fossil fuels and alternatives. This finding suggests that most renewable energy growth adds to total energy consumption, rather than replacing fossil fuels—except in contexts where nations are attempting to break from the U.S.-dominated fossil-fuel world order. The article raises important questions about how nationalist motivations shape global energy transitions. We want to congratulate Amanda Sikirica for this impressive and thought-provoking contribution.

Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award

- **Winner:** Rianka Roy (2024). “Covert Carcerality for ‘High-Income Cheap Labor’: Indian Tech Workers in the United States.” *Sociological Forum*.

The winner of this year’s Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award is Rianka Roy, for her article “*Covert Carcerality for ‘High-Income Cheap Labor’: Indian Tech Workers in the United States*,” published in *Sociological Forum*.

Drawing on 30 in-depth interviews, ethnography in four U.S. cities, and participant observation with immigrant organizations, Roy examines the experiences of Indian tech workers on temporary visas—the largest migrant labor group in the global technology industry. She introduces the concept of “covert carcerality” to describe the hidden, prison-like controls that constrain even relatively privileged, high-income workers due to their racial marginality and Global South origins. These constraints—ranging from restrictions on mobility to economic stagnation and family separation—devalue Indian tech workers, turning them into what she calls “high-income cheap labor.”

Situated within the framework of global racial capitalism, Roy’s work links contemporary migration regimes to the legacies of slavery, indentured servitude, and colonialism, offering a powerful theoretical lens for understanding the political economy of labor and migration in the world-system. I want to congratulate Rianka Roy for this outstanding and original contribution.

- **Honorable Mention:** Aryaman Sharma (2023). “Assessing Core-Monopolization and the Possibilities for the Semi-Periphery in the World-System Today.” *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 29(2): 480–504.

We are also pleased to present an Honorable Mention for the Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award to Aryaman Sharma, for the article “*Assessing Core-Monopolization and the Possibilities for the Semi-Periphery in the World-System Today: A Case Study of the Semiconductors Industry*,” published in the *Journal of World-Systems Research*.

This timely and ambitious study examines the semiconductor industry—arguably the world’s most important commodity—through the lens of the semi-periphery. Sharma situates the analysis in the context of U.S. hegemonic decline, exploring how quasi-monopolies in key industries are maintained and how semi-peripheral states like China and India face structural barriers and geopolitical opposition, such as the U.S.–China trade war. Drawing on a wide range of theoretical sources and comparative-historical analysis of other peripheralized industries, the article concludes that even significant advances in core-monopolized industries are unlikely to yield major upward mobility for semi-peripheral nations. Instead, it argues that anti-systemic mobilization remains the central liberatory path for the Global South. I want to congratulate Aryaman Sharma for this insightful and thought-provoking contribution.

- *Honorable Mention*: Durgesh Solanki. “Plaguing the Empire: Repertoires of Colonial Governance.”

We are also delighted to present an Honorable Mention for the Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award to Durgesh, for the paper “*Plaguing the Empire: Repertoires of Colonial Governance*.” This compelling study asks how states remember and learn from past experiences of disease governance, focusing on bubonic plague outbreaks in Hong Kong (1894), Bombay (1896), and Cape Town (1901) under British colonial rule. Despite major scientific discoveries during this period—such as identifying the plague bacterium and its flea vector—the colonial administrations in each case implemented similar measures, including demolitions and segregation, that were unnecessary from a public health standpoint. To explain this continuity, Durgesh develops the concept of “repertoires of governance,” integrating insights from Charles Tilly and Ann Swidler to show how states draw on established ideas and practices to govern populations, consolidate authority, and extend control. The paper demonstrates how public health interventions intersect with the global projects of empire—legacies that continue to shape governance today. I want to congratulate Durgesh for this original and thought-provoking contribution.

Anti-Oppression Award

Now, we move to our last award: PEWS Anti-Oppression Award. This biennial award is presented in odd-numbered years to a member of PEWS who has been an outstanding advocate in the struggle against oppression. It recognizes an individual who has demonstrated a sustained commitment to dismantling institutional barriers within universities and other arenas of scholarly exchange—such as conferences—that limit the educational and professional advancement of underrepresented students and faculty, including those in the Global South. This year’s nomination committee was composed of Corey Payne, Ricardo Jacobs, and Eirinn-Jingifer Neel.

- *Winner*: Professor Oscar Gil-García

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.

PEWS COUNCIL MEETING September 24, 2024 5 pm EST

<https://urichmond.zoom.us/j/88546973691?pwd=OBtQOhMSf9AuAclGXPb1a3TxHyNMuv.1>

Meeting ID: 885 4697 3691
Passcode: 258591

AGENDA:

- 1- Introductions
- 2- Committee Assignments
- 3- Membership Information Update
- 4- ASA 2025 Chicago
- 5- Publication Committee Announcements/Updates

6- Online PEWS Events & Miniconference

7- Other Items

INTRODUCTIONS:

Current Elected Leadership

Note for consistency and record keeping in the ASA member database, all terms are recorded to begin on September 1 of the term-start year and end on August 31 of the term-end year.

Position	Member	Term Start	Term End
Chair	Sahan Savas Karatasli	9/1/2024	8/31/2025
Chair-Elect	Marina Karides	9/1/2024	8/31/2025
Past Chair	Vilna Bashi	9/1/2024	8/31/2025
Secretary/Treasurer	Sefika Kumral	9/1/2024	8/31/2027
Student Representative	Michelle Lee	9/1/2023	8/31/2025
	Umaima Miraj	9/1/2024	8/31/2026
Council	Alvin Camba	9/1/2022	8/31/2025
	Kristen Shorette	9/1/2022	8/31/2025
	Zachary Levenson	9/1/2023	8/31/2026
	Corey Payne	9/1/2023	8/31/2026
	Marilyn Grell-Brisk	9/1/2024	8/31/2027
	Ricardo Jacobs	9/1/2024	8/31/2027

Web-Master: Nayla Huq (nayla.huq@stonybrook.edu)

Newsletter editor: Jack Votava (JackVotava2027@u.northwestern.edu)

JWSR editor: Andrej Grubacic (agrubacic@ciis.edu)

PEWS-IC coordinator: Christopher Chase-Dunn (chriscd@ucr.edu)

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Nominations Committee:

Chair: Vilna Bashi (Past-Chairperson)

Christopher Chase-Dunn

Manuela Boatcka

No member shall serve on the nominating committee for two consecutive years, and the Past-Chairperson of the Section will be the chair of the committee. The Nominations Committee shall present at least two people for each office to be voted on by the voting members of the Section.

Position Title	Length of Term	# of Vacancies	Minimum # of Candidates
Chair-Elect	1 year (3-year term)	1	2
Secretary/Treasurer	3 years	0	No Election Until 2027
Council Members	3 years	2	4
Student Representative	2 years	1	2

***Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award Committee**

Chair: Marina Karides (Chair-Elect)

One first year council member (Marilyn Grell-Brisk)

Sefika Kumral

Smriti Upadhyay

The award is given to honor the life, work and continuing legacies of Immanuel Wallerstein. It is given to the book or books published with copyright date falling in the two calendar years prior to the year of the award. Authors are invited to self-nominate for the award. Authors and nominators must be members of the section at the time of nomination.

***Article Award Committee (both Distinguished paper and student paper)**

Chair: Sahan Savas Karatasli (Chair)

Michelle Lee (second year student rep)

One volunteer (can be past award winner -- Marcel Paret)

Article awards will be offered for both the best professional paper and the best student paper published (including publication in ASA meeting proceeding) with copyright date falling in the two calendar years prior to the year of the award. Authors are invited to self-nominate for the awards. Authors and nominators must be members of the section at the time of nomination.

Teaching and Mentoring Committee (No Award)

One Council member of the second year (Zachary Levenson)

First Year Student rep (Umaima Miraj)

Nicholas Theis

Each year, the Committee will organize the mentoring program at the annual meetings of the ASA. The Committee will pursue strategic teaching and mentoring initiatives as identified by the Committee in consultation with the PEWS Chairperson and Council. This may include creating or updating resources on the website such as lists of syllabi, other teaching resources, relevant journals, and grants/fellowships.

The Committee will offer a Distinguished Teaching Award biennially in even years. Members are invited to self-nominate for the award. Nominees must be members of the section at the time of nomination.

Anti-Oppression Committee *

One Council member of the second year (Corey Payne)

One Council member of the first year (Ricardo Jacobs)

One Volunteer from the membership (Eirinn-Jingifer Neel)

The Committee will collect demographic data on the composition of the section membership, the Council, and committees, as well as other relevant data, and provide a report to the Council and the membership annually. The Committee will pursue strategic initiatives, in consultation with the PEWS

Chairperson and the Council, to pursue the goals of equity, diversity, and inclusion within the section. The Anti-Oppression Committee shall be allocated resources to organize an anti-oppression social and networking event at ASA's annual conference.

The Committee will offer an Award for Advancing Anti-oppression Work biennially in odd years. Members are invited to self-nominate for the awards. Nominees must be members of the section at the time of nomination.

Publications Committee (8 members)

Current Editor of the JWSR: Andrej Grubacic

The Section newsletter editor: Jack Votava

The Section webmaster: Nayla Huq

Two Third year Members: Alvin Camba and Kristen Shorette

Up to two volunteers from the membership: Christopher Chase-Dunn and Jason Mueller, David Smith

There shall be a Publications Committee to oversee the publication of the *Journal of World- Systems Research*, the section newsletter, and the section website, and to maintain the social media presence of the section. The Publications Committee will consist of up to eight members which will include the current editor of the JWSR, the section newsletter editor(s), the section webmaster, two third-year Council members, and up to two volunteers from the membership, which should include past JWSR editors when possible. Each year following the annual ASA meeting, the committee will elect its chair from its members and announce that election to the section via the section listserv. The editor of the JWSR shall be appointed to a five-year term by the Council on the recommendation of the Publications Committee. The current editor of the JWSR shall serve as a non-voting, Ex-Officio member of the section Council. The newsletter editor(s) and the webmaster shall be appointed to three-year terms by the Council on the recommendation of the Publications Committee, and they may be reappointed to a second term by the Council.

Membership Committee:

Chair: Secretary/Treasurer: Sefika Kumral

Corey Payne

Sahan Savas Karatasli

The Membership Committee shall be composed of the Secretary-Treasurer, who will chair the committee, and two volunteers from the membership, which should include the Outreach Editor of the JWSR when possible.

ASA 2025 MEETING SESSIONS (Chicago)

The 120th ASA Annual Meeting will be held August 8-12, 2025 in Chicago.

PEWS Day is "Day 3 – Monday, August 11"

Panel Suggestion: (Open but specific)

This is an open call for sessions and papers to be presented at the August 2025 meetings of the Section on Political Economy of the World-Systems (PEWS). We welcome submissions on a broad range of topics that critically examine the capitalist world-economy and other historical social systems from global and/or comparative-historical perspectives. We particularly encourage work grounded in the intellectual traditions of anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist analyses, especially those emerging from decolonization struggles and perspectives from the Global South. Papers may engage with world-systemic dynamics and explore intersections of political economy with race, gender, class, imperialism, neo-colonialism, and environmental issues. Submissions that challenge disciplinary boundaries and embrace diverse theoretical, methodological, and epistemological approaches are highly encouraged. Our goal is to foster a vibrant exchange of ideas among scholars, activists, and educators from both the Global North and Global South.

Roundtable:

The Section on Political Economy of the World-Systems (PEWS) invites members to submit papers for inclusion in section roundtables at the ASA annual meeting. Submissions are welcome on a wide range of topics that align with the critical study of the capitalist world-economy and other historical social systems. We encourage work that draws from the intellectual tradition of anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist analyses, particularly those rooted in struggles for decolonization and perspectives from the Global South. Papers may engage with world-systemic dynamics and explore intersections of political economy with race, gender, class, imperialism, neo-colonialism, and environmental issues. Submissions that challenge disciplinary boundaries and incorporate diverse theoretical, methodological, and epistemological approaches are strongly encouraged. We aim to foster rich intellectual exchange among scholars, activists, and educators from both the Global North and Global South.

Roundtable Volunteers:

Umaima Miraj

DEADLINES:

October 27: Award calls must be submitted to the ASA

November 15: Annual Reports

November 15: Submit Proposals for Bylaws amendments (if any)

November 15: Dues Change Proposals (if any)

January 12: Submit all nominations for the voting ballot to the ASA

PEWS COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, February 21st 4 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87644744447?pwd=oGa54Dnay3zMN546R8bbej3sW9lbjU.1>

Meeting ID: 876 4474 4447

Passcode: 174898

AGENDA:

1. JWSR Editorship update

2. Budget issues and Joint Reception and Chicago Palestine Film Festival (CPFF) with PEWS, GTS, PWSC, CHS, Labor etc (Monday):
3. Online PEWS Events
4. Marina: Joint Cross-Campus Organizing
5. Membership Campaign (and International PEWS memberships)
6. Other Themes

AGENDA DETAILS

1. JWSR Editorship update

Many thanks to Prof. David A. Smith for chairing the PEWS editorial committee and for his work in the search for a new editorship for JWSR. After an extensive search, the *Journal of World-Systems Research* (JWSR) has recommended a new editorial team. Professors Deparna Roy (Nazareth College) and John McCollum (Alabama A&M) will serve as co-editors, with Professor Daniel Pasciuti (Georgia State University) joining as Book Review Editor. Additionally, a Georgia State Sociology PhD student will assist with journal operations. The proposal now awaits final approval from the ASA Publications Committee by January 2025.

Awards

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

The PEWS Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award

Winner

Olukunle P. Owolabi (2023). *Ruling Emancipated Slaves and Indigenous Subjects*. Oxford University Press.

Honorable Mention

Mariam Mniga (2024). *Recolonizing Africa: An Ethnography of Land Acquisition, Mining, and Resource Control*. Routledge.

(Committee Members: Marina Karides (Chair), Marilyn Grell-Brisk, Smriti Upadhyay, Şefika Kumral)

The PEWS Distinguished Article Award

Winner

Joshua Lew McDermott (2024). "Difference Between Global South Cities: Mexico City, Freetown and the Global Division of Urban Informal Labour." *Urban Studies*. DOI: 10.1177/00420980241269659

Honorable Mention

Amanda Sikirica (2024). "Where Are Fossil Fuels Displaced by Alternatives? World-Systems and Energy Transitions." *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 30(1): 249–

75. <https://doi.org/10.5195/jwsr.2024.1218>.

(Committee Members: Sahan Savaş Karataşlı (Chair), Marcel Paret, Michelle Lee)

Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award

Winner

Rianka Roy (2024). "Covert Carcerality for 'High-Income Cheap Labor': Indian Tech Workers in the United States." *Sociological Forum*. DOI: 10.1111/socf.13028

Honorable Mentions

Aryaman Sharma (2023). "Assessing Core-Monopolization and the Possibilities for the Semi-Periphery in the World-System Today." *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 29(2): 480–504.

Durgesh Solanki. "Plaguing the Empire: Repertoires of Colonial Governance."

(Committee Members: Sahan Savaş Karataşlı (Chair), Marcel Paret, Michelle Lee)

The PEWS Anti-Oppression Award

Winner

Professor Oscar Gil-García

(Committee Members: Corey Payne (Chair), Ricardo Jacobs, Eirinn-Jingifer Neel)

2025 Finances

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

Our December 2024 budget projected the following:

- **Estimated Remaining Balance at end of December 2024:** \$14,176
- **Total 2025 Estimated Income:** +\$1,748
- **Total 2025 Budgeted Expenditures:** −\$1,760
- **Projected Balance:** \$14,164

As of July 2025, the actual figures are:

- **Net Assets – Beginning Balance:** \$14,500
- **Increase in Net Assets:** \$172
- **Net Assets – Ending Balance:** \$14,672

This represents a surplus of approximately **\$500** compared to the projected balance. The difference is primarily attributable to timing, as some reimbursements (for website expenses and royalties) had not yet been submitted. In addition, while the **reception cost more than originally estimated**, this year's **award expenses were lower** because we opted to provide certificate awards rather than plaques. These offsetting adjustments helped keep the budget in balance. Overall, there is no substantive discrepancy between the budget and the actuals.

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.

The Section has placed strong emphasis on maintaining active and consistent communication with its members. Throughout the past year, we relied primarily on **regular email updates**, reaching members almost every week with information about Section news, upcoming events, calls for participation, and publications authored by our members. These frequent messages aimed to ensure that members were kept fully engaged with both Section activities and the broader intellectual community.

In addition to email, we actively utilized our **website** (<http://asapews.org/>) as a central hub for resources, announcements, and archival materials. Our **social media presence**—on platforms including Twitter/X and Bluesky—has further extended our communication means.

One area of transition this past year has been the **newsletter**. Due to a change in editorial leadership, no newsletter was published in 2024. However, revitalizing the newsletter is a priority for 2025, and we

expect it to once again become a key vehicle for sharing member achievements, ongoing research, and Section initiatives.

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

During this year's business meeting, the Section once again underscored the central importance of **diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)** in all aspects of our work. Using ASA statistics, we highlighted that PEWS is among the most racially diverse sections of the ASA. PEWS leadership has long recognized that women and members of historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups have been underrepresented in both membership and leadership positions compared to other ASA sections. Several years ago, we made a deliberate commitment to address this gap by prioritizing more inclusive nomination practices for elected roles.

These ongoing efforts have already produced meaningful change—broadening the composition of our student membership and fostering a leadership culture that is more representative of the Section as a whole. In 2025, we carried this commitment forward by actively encouraging nominations from a wide range of backgrounds and perspectives. This intentional approach ensured that the new cohort of leaders reflects not only academic excellence but also the diverse experiences and voices that strengthen our community.

By embedding DEI considerations into both our leadership selection processes and the conversations held at the business meeting, PEWS continues to cultivate a Section culture that values inclusivity, represents its membership more fully, and sets a model for other parts of the discipline.

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).

In 2024–2025, the Section made strong efforts to ensure that our programming at the Annual Meeting reflected our values of intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, and inclusion. We encourage ASA not to sway from visibly and actively engaging in DEI including not being driven by overly cautious legal Counsel. We must as sociologist recognize the law as social constructed and fightable as ASA honorably displayed in its recent successful lawsuit.

We organized the following panel, and it became a hub for a very vibrant intellectual discussion.
40403 - Emergent Horizons in the Capitalist World-System in Crisis
Mon, August 11, 10:00 to 11:30am, East Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Michigan 1A

Session Submission Type: Paper Session (90 minute)

Description

Amid intensifying crises in the capitalist world-economy, new social, political, and economic horizons are coming into view. This panel brings together critical interventions that examine the emergent contours of political economy, labor, energy, and revolutionary praxis during a period of intensified systemic crisis in the capitalist world-system. From shifting labor regimes in China's rural-industrial nexus to the contestation over digital infrastructures and energy transitions, and from the reimagining of revolutionary theory at the global scale to the rise of digital commoning movements, these papers collectively highlight

how new socio-economic and political forms are incubated within the fractures of global capitalism. Anchored in the traditions of anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist thought and the world-systems perspective, this panel interrogates how crises in the current global order generate both constraints and openings for transformative social change. The panel reflects the growing urgency to analyze the restructuring of power, labor, and technological sovereignty as struggles over the future of our world intensify.

Session Details

- **Session Type:** Paper Session (90 minutes)
- **Organizer & Presider:** Sahan Savas Karatasli (University of North Carolina-Greensboro)
- **Discussant:** Kevan Harris (University of California-Los Angeles)

Presentations and Presenters

1. **"Between Fields and Factories: The Rural Roots of Hyper-Flexible Employment in China"**
Guowei Liang and Beverly Judith Silver (Johns Hopkins University)
2. **"Coding the Future: Digital Technologists and the Constitution of the Next System"**
Ben Manski and Dhruv Deepak (George Mason University)
3. **"The Political Economy of Energy"**
Jennifer Keahey (Arizona State University-West)
4. **"World Capitalist System and Revolutions: Towards a Truly Global Understanding of Revolutions"**
Huseyin Rasit (Ritsumeikan University)

Our roundtables were also very vibrant. During the both the business meeting and the reception, we provided an environment which provided opportunities for intellectual exchange, mentorship opportunities and dissemination of resources.

With the Marxist Sociology Section, PEWS also organized a table where we introduced our section to 10+ new interested ASA members; some of them joined the section afterwards.

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.

Throughout the year, we used regular email communication to foster academic discussion and to share members' work. More than one hundred academic papers and newly published books by our members were circulated, helping to highlight their contributions and keep intellectual exchange at the center of our community.

We also organized a town hall meeting that created space for open discussion of urgent issues facing our members. This format encouraged wide participation, transparency, and dialogue across different career stages.

In addition, our Membership Committee took an active role in outreach, working to grow our section and ensure that our events and activities are welcoming and inclusive. Together, these initiatives reinforced the Section's commitment to building an engaged scholarly community where members can exchange ideas, support one another's professional development, and broaden participation.