

2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Sociology of Emotions

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.

2025 Sociology of Emotions Business Meeting Agenda

Announcements:

- Recognition of section officers and incoming chairs

Reports:

- Membership
- Budget (Chelsea Kelly, Secretary/Treasurer)
- Awards (presented by Karen Hegtvedt, Anna Villarreal, and Paul Joose)

New Business

- Call for newsletter editor
- Call for session topics for 2026 Annual Meeting
- Potentially reinstating ad hoc membership and/or mentorship committees

2025 Sociology of Emotions Business Meeting Minutes

31 members were present at the business meeting. The Chair, Sarah Harkness, began the meeting by thanking section officers and committee members. She then recognized Incoming Chair, Marci Cottingham, and Chair-Elect, Kimberly Rogers. Sarah then gave a brief report on membership numbers, noting that our membership is experiencing a slight downward trend post-pandemic, but is hovering around 200 members. Sarah then noted that this should not affect ASA session allocations for the 2026 meeting as the section will receive more sessions because of a change in ASA-wide policy. She then put out a call for session topics members

would like to see at next year's meeting, as well as a call for volunteers to serve as officers and committee members in the following year.

Chelsea Kelly, our current Secretary/Treasurer, gave a brief budget report demonstrating the financial health of our section. Please see the 2025 budget breakdown below for details.

Section awards were then given. Karen Hegtvedt presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Rebecca J. Erickson. Anna Villarreal presented the Outstanding Recent Contribution Award to Chana Teegeer for her article, "(Not) Feeling the Past: Boredom as a Racialized Emotion" (*American Journal of Sociology*, 2023). Finally, Paul Joose presented the Graduate Student Paper Award to Lauren Clingan for her article, "Masculinity Challenged: Emotional Responses to State Support for Women's Employment in the United Arab Emirates" (*Social Problems*, 2024).

The Business Meeting concluded with a note that we may reconvene our ad hoc membership and mentorship committee the following year. Sarah also noted that the section needed a Newsletter Editor, and Sarah Rocks graciously agreed to serve in this role.

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.

2025 Sociology of Emotions Business Meeting Agenda

Announcements:

- Recognition of section officers and incoming chairs
- Confirmation of outgoing positions the following year

Report

- Membership numbers

New Business

- Potential bylaw amendments
 - Alignment of position start date to align with ASA
 - Committee numbers in bylaws
 - Membership requirements for award consideration
 - Can co-awardees be given for paper awards
 - Newsletter bylaw amendment

2025 Sociology of Emotions Business Meeting Minutes

Six people attended the council meeting: Laura Brashears, Marci Cottingham, Sarah Harkness, Chelsea Kelly, Mary Rose, and Stef Shuster. Sarah began the meeting by thanking officers for their service this past year and confirmed that the 2025-2026 year was the final year for Chelsea Kelly (Secretary/Treasurer), Laura Brashears (council member), and Madeline Williams (student council member).

Report

- Sarah gave a report on the current membership trends. The membership is slowly decreasing but the section tends to stay around 200 members.

New Business

- Sarah and the council then discussed various potential bylaw amendments:
 1. To have our bylaws align with new ASA rules regarding when positions begin, the bylaws should be amended to state that newly elected section officers should begin their positions on September 1 of that year and end on August 31.
 - Currently the bylaws state that officers “shall begin duties on the day following the annual business meeting.”
 2. There are several committees that are difficult to fill because they are quite large for our section. Currently, the Nominations Committee (Chair + 4), Outstanding Recent Contribution Committee (Chair + 3), and Graduate Student Paper Award (Chair + 3) are the most problematic due to their size. The Program Committee (Chair + 2) is also quite large for the small tasks of programming our sessions; however, with the ASA’s new allocation of program slots, this should arguably stay at this membership level until we know more.
 - Potential wording change to the bylaws: “The Section chair determines the size and composition of the committee in consultation with Council with no fewer than 3 members (Chair and 2 additional members).”
 3. For awards, the current bylaws are unclear about whether one needs to be a current section member to be considered for the award. Council proposed that for the Outstanding Recent Contribution Award and Lifetime Achievement award, we should have a requirement of membership for consideration. Specifically, those nominated for the Lifetime Achievement Award should be section members and at least one author on a nominated Outstanding Recent Contribution Award paper should be a section member.
 - Justification: Increases clarity of the bylaws, increases fairness amongst section membership, and supports section member numbers.
 4. The bylaws are also unclear about whether co-awardees and/or honorable mentions are allowed for any of the awards. Council advocates that no co-awardees or honorable mentions shall be made for the Lifetime Achievement Award.
 - a. For the Outstanding Recent Contribution Award and the Graduate Student Paper Award, both should allow honorable mentions (without financial prizes) and “only under exceptional circumstances shall a co-awardee be allowed.”
 5. The newsletter editorship positions have been difficult to fill when past editors step down. To allow for more flexibility in filling this position when vacancies arise, we propose changing the bylaw description of the Publications and Social Media Committee from “The purpose of this committee is to prepare a Section newsletter to be distributed to all Section members twice a year, send out Section news on the Section’s social media accounts, and keep the Section website up-to-date....” to “The purpose of this committee is to keep members informed of section news, such as via a Section newsletter, maintaining the Section’s social media accounts, and keeping the Section website up-to-date....”

Awards

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

The section awarded three awards this year. The Lifetime Achievement Award went to Rebecca J. Erickson. Chana Teeger won the Outstanding Recent Contribution Award for her article, “(Not) Feeling the Past: Boredom as a Racialized Emotion” (*American Journal of Sociology*, 2023). The Graduate Student Paper Award went to Lauren Clingan for her article, “Masculinity Challenged: Emotional Responses to State Support for Women’s Employment in the United Arab Emirates” (*Social Problems*, 2024). We also awarded an Honorable Mention for the Graduate Student Paper Award to Annie Ferguson for her paper, “White Gatekeeping: How Internalized White Supremacy and Emotions Impact White Antiracism” (*Ethnic and Racial Studies*, forthcoming).

2025 Finances

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

This year we intended to make use of our cushion funds for the section, budgeting to spend \$2,240 (an increase over expected income by about \$1000). There were no significant substantive differences from our overall budgeting, but details by allocated expense category are below:

1. We overspent on annual meeting reception costs by \$90.50 (absorbing, as host section, the overage for location fees).
2. We overspent on annual meeting other expenses (buttons and council breakfast) by \$95.63; we chose to purchase button swag for attendees.
3. We overspent on our awards budget by \$80.55; this was due to shipping costs and the decision to give an award plaque to an honorable mention that was awarded this past year.
4. We had also budgeted to spend a grand total of \$500 for other member-solicited uses; these funds went unspent.

Overall, we underspent on our expected budget by \$233.32.

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 Chair communicated with members at least once a month sent monthly emails highlighting recent publications, section announcements (including award calls), and ASA updates. The Chair also collaborated with Secretary/Treasurer Chelsea Kelly to update the content on the section’s website, www.socofemotions.com. Looking forward, section leadership has discussed broadening our social media outreach to BlueSky, aligning with ASAs adoption of that platform.

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

The section demonstrated its dedication to DEI across its core activities. Specific efforts included comprising the award committees with members from a wide array of backgrounds (see Part 2

of the Annual Report for more details), endeavoring for a diverse candidate slate for the 2026 ballot, and programming sessions with a diversity of topics and presenters.

Provide an overview of the section's programming at the annual meeting and include explanation of how this programming meets the goals and values of the section (e.g. intellectual exchange, professional networking, mentoring, inclusion).

The section had 2 sessions at the 2025 annual meeting. The first was an invited panel for the Chair's Hour on the importance of joy during times of social upheaval, and the second was an open session on emerging work in the field. The section also organized a roundtable session with Social Psychology. Here are the program details:

Sociology of Emotions Chair's Hour: The Revolutionary Necessity of Joy

Monday, August 11, 10:00-11:00am, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze Gold Coast

Presider: Sarah Harkness

Panelists: stef m. schuster, James M. Jasper, and Rebecca J. Erickson

Advances in the Sociology of Emotions (Paper Session)

Monday, August 11, 2:00-3:30pm, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Water Tower

Presider: Natalia Ruiz-Junco, Auburn University

A Theory of Culture Work: Causality in Cultural Action. Stephen F. Ostertag, Tulane University
Double Consciousness and Racialized Emotion Complexity. Cerenity E. Collins, Clemson University; Dawn T. Robinson, University of Georgia

Exploring How Neighborhood Perceptions Influence Emotional Well-Being. Lisa Braddix, Wayne State University; Patricia M. Morton, Wayne State University; Joy Kadowaki, University of Dayton

When is Anger Legitimate for People of Color? Racialized Feeling Rules and Representation in Climate Activism. Yeryeng Choi, University of California Irvina

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.

We did not have any outside programming.