

## 2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Section on the Sociology of Population

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### 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.

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### Section Governance

Provide details of your Section's governance activity during the period between September 2024 and August 2025.

#### Business Meeting

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

#### Agenda

1. Membership Numbers
2. Annual Meeting Program
3. Reception and Fundraising
4. Secretary/Treasurer Report
5. Program and Award Committees
6. Mentoring Program Report and Suggestions
7. Social Media
8. Other Items and Announcements

#### ASA Section on Population

August 11, 2025 Business Meeting Minutes

Number of attendees: approximately 50

Recorded by Courtney Boen

- 1) The meeting started with a welcome from Jennifer Karas Montez (JKM).
- 2) JKM began by thanking outgoing section leaders and welcoming incoming section leaders.
- 3) JKM provided brief updates on section membership, the annual meeting program, and the co-sponsored section reception, echoing comments made during the section meeting in May. Jennifer thanked the many co-sponsors of this year's joint reception with the Family section.

- 4) Courtney Boen gave a brief update on section finances.
  - a) The section started the year with \$3,523, which increased to \$6,211 (as of July 30, 2025) with the addition of membership fees, other income, and the section allocation.
  - b) This year we expect expenditures for the reception, award plaques, and the award prize for students to total roughly \$2,150. These have not yet been expensed.
  - c) Our expected balance after reception costs and awards fees are paid is approximately \$4,061.
  - d) Overall, section finances are in good shape.
- 5) JKM thanked the Program and Award committees. She also provided a QR code and encouraged those in the audience to follow the link to sign-up to serve on a committee in the coming year.
- 6) JKM asked the audience for suggestions for encouraging students from institutions without Pop. Centers to run for elected positions. Suggestions included:
  - a) Reaching out to students who participated in the section's roundtables.
  - b) Clarifying whether students have to attend the ASA Annual Meeting in order to run for office, given that many students may not have funds to travel and/or may not know in advance if they can attend.
  - c) Clarifying the expectations for the positions when soliciting nominations.
  - d) Offering travel grants or support for elected students to attend the Annual Meeting.
- 7) JKM provided an overview of the section's mentoring program activities this year, echoing comments made in the May 2025 section meeting and highlighting the demand for early-career scholars, including Assistant Professors. She also asked for suggestions for advancing the section's mentoring efforts in the coming year(s). Suggestions from the audience included:
  - a) Matching mentees with multiple mentors in case they already know their assigned mentor and/or the match doesn't work out.
  - b) Hosting something like the mentoring roundtables hosted by the SALC section this year.
  - c) Using one session on the section program for mentorship activities.
  - d) Altering the ASA Communities session to be more oriented towards mentoring.
- 8) JKM asked attendees whether the section should resume social media activity (which had been paused) and, if so, which platform(s) to use. Suggestions included:
  - a) De-centralizing control and sharing the responsibilities among multiple people.
  - b) Including international scholars in the effort, including non-native English speakers.
  - c) Surveying members to see which platform(s) they use.
  - d) Clarifying the goals of social media activity before proceeding.
  - e) Being thoughtful about choosing platforms that don't require individuals to sign-in to access content.
  - f) Using LinkedIn, as it has been used by other sections and the Census.
  - g) Someone mentioned that ASA council is discussing this issue, so that the Pop. Section could see what they decide.

- h) JKM said that a committee would be convened to clarify the goals of social media use and map on an appropriate interface to meet those goals.
- 9) JKM welcomed Karen Guzzo as incoming President. Karen highlighted changes to the Annual Meeting session allocation for next year, echoing comments made during the May section meeting. The Population Section will have 7 slots on next year's program. Karen will work with the program committee to discuss ways to integrate mentorship into next year's program.
- 10) The section welcomed the new Newsletter Editor, René Iwo, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 11) There was no other business to discuss and the meeting was adjourned.

### 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.

#### American Sociological Association, Section on the Sociology of Population

##### Annual Council Meeting

May 20, 2025, 11am-12pm EST

<https://syracuseuniversity.zoom.us/j/97077602507>

#### AGENDA

|             |                                                                                     |                       |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11:00-11:10 | Membership update<br>Annual meeting program<br>Co-sponsored reception & fundraising | Jennifer Karas Montez |
| 11:10-11:15 | Section finances                                                                    | Courtney Boen         |
| 11:15-11:30 | Award Committee Reports (2-3 minutes each)                                          |                       |
|             | Otis Dudley Duncan Award*                                                           | Ashton Verdery        |
|             | Award for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Population*                  | Emily Rauscher        |
|             | Student Paper Award*                                                                | Karen Benjamin Guzzo  |
|             | Early Career Award*                                                                 | Christine Percheski   |
|             | Will we do rollovers nominations?                                                   |                       |
| 11:30-11:35 | Award committee processes<br>Rotation of award committee members                    | Jennifer Karas Montez |
| 11:35-11:45 | Mentoring Program                                                                   | Jennifer Karas Montez |
| 11:45-11:50 | New session allocation starting in 2026                                             | Jennifer Karas Montez |
| 11:50-12:00 | New business?                                                                       | All                   |

\*Please share the number of nominees, awardee name(s), name of person who will present award at the reception, and any feedback/suggestions on the process.

#### ASA Section on Population May 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes Recorded by Courtney Boen

Present: Jennifer Karas Montez, Courtney Boen, Sarah Hayford, Victor Agadjanian, Shannon Monnat, Christine Percheski, Emily Rauscher, Ashton Verdery, Kiana Wilkins, Karen Guzzo, Fernando Riosmena

- 1) The meeting started with introductions by all those present.

- 2) Jennifer Karas Montez began by thanking outgoing section leaders: Sarah Hayford, Ashton Verdery, Victor Agadjanian, and Kiana Wilkins.
- 3) Jennifer provided brief updates on section membership, the annual meeting program, and the co-sponsored section reception.
  - a. Section membership has remained relatively stable in recent years, especially compared to the relatively large drop in overall ASA membership. Between 2008/2009 and 2023/2024, section membership declined ~6%, relative to a ~34% drop in ASA membership over the period.
  - b. Section activities at the ASA annual meeting—including the section sessions, roundtables, business meeting, and reception—will take place on Monday 8/11. The co-sponsored section session with the Family Section will take place on Tuesday 8/12.
  - c. The co-sponsored reception at ASA will take place at the Gage on Monday 8/11 from 6:30-8:30. Jennifer encouraged attendance. The section will need volunteers to do 30-minute shifts at the welcome table/to give out drink tickets.
  - d. Starting early this year, the Population and Family sections did a joint fundraising effort for the reception, with the goal of raising \$4,500. As of May 1, they had raised \$4,100. The current political and fiscal environment made fundraising efforts challenging. Fundraising activities will not continue this year.
- 4) Courtney Boen gave a brief update on section finances.
  - a. The section started the year with \$3,523, which increased to \$6,158 (as of April 30, 2025) with the addition of membership fees, other income, and the section allocation.
  - b. This year, based on last year's expenses, we expect expenditures for award plaques and the award prize for students to total roughly \$900. These have not yet been expensed.
  - c. We received an outstanding number of donations this year towards the section reception totaling \$4,100. These donations have yet to be included as part of the section income.
  - d. We will co-sponsor the awards ceremony and reception at the Annual Meeting with the Family section. Like last year, we tentatively plan to divide the costs using a 4:3 ratio; family covering 4/7 and population covering the remaining 3/7. We anticipate total reception costs of roughly \$7,500. After accounting for the donations (\$4,100), and splitting the costs with the Family section, the Population section costs should be approximately \$1,500.
  - e. Our expected balance after reception costs (\$1,500) and awards fees (\$900) are paid is approximately \$3,758.
  - f. Overall, section finances are in good shape.
- 5) The section award committees provided brief reports on this year's awards.
  - a. Ashton Verdery reported on the Otis Dudley Duncan Award. The committee received a number of extremely high-quality submission and had a difficult job coming to a final decision. They ultimately selected Feng Wan's book *China's Age of Abundance: Origins, Ascendancy, and Aftermath*. The committee also selected a runner up: Jennie

*Brand's Overcoming the Odds: The Benefits of Completing College for Unlikely Graduates.*

b. Emily Rauscher reported on committee's selection of the Award for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Population. After much deliberation, they selected Margot Moinester's paper "The Control Boom: US Interior Immigration Enforcement, 1971-2010." The honorable mention is Peter Catron et al's "Contextual Boundaries: Skin Tone Stratification and Skill Transferability Among Mexicans in the Age of Mass Migration."

c. Karen Guzzo shared updates on the Student Paper Award. Karen commented on the high number of extremely high-quality, polished papers received. The committee selected Jane Furey's paper "The Consequences of Racialized Education Careers: How Educational Upgrading Maintains Black-White Economic Inequality." The honorable mention goes to Haowen Zheng's paper "Diverging Trajectories: Gendered Income Dynamics Pre- and Post-Family Migration."

d. Christine Percheski announced that Ashton Verdery received the Early Career Award.

e. The full group briefly discussed whether or not nominations for the Early Career Award should rollover. The Early Career Award will be awarded every other year. Given the relatively long time between awards, rolling over nominations would not necessarily work well, as candidates may "age out" of the award or have relatively substantial changes to their CVs between award years. For this reason, the committee decided that the award committee chair (this year, Christine Percheski) would email the nominators of those who were not selected to encourage them to re-submit their nominations, with any updated materials, during the next award cycle (in this case, 2027).

f. Jennifer asked that each award committee chair send her the short description of their selection process so that she can share it on the section's Google drive for future committees.

g. Jennifer then suggested creating a rotation of council member responsibilities across years of service to balance out the distribution of duties. Attendees agreed that this was a good idea.

6) Jennifer Karas Montez provided an overview of the section's mentoring program activities this year.

a. There was substantial demand for the mentoring program this year. In total, 52 people requested mentors through the section.

b. Jennifer worked with Susan Short (Past President of the section) to match mentors with mentees. Jennifer mentioned that this approach of having the current and past Presidents work together on the matching process worked well as it provided a good division of labor, with one person doing the matches and the other emailing all the matched pairs. Also, to be on this committee, individuals must know a sizable share of section members, making the task well suited for section presidents.

c. Once a match was made, Susan sent emails out to the pairs. The emails detailed the desired areas of mentorship and the expectations for the mentees and mentors. The group noted that these details were helpful.

d. Kiana Wilkins discussed her experience with serving as a mentor this year, noting that it was a positive experience overall. She noted that the emails sent by the section to the mentee/mentor pairs were especially useful in guiding conversation and setting expectations.

e. Jennifer noted that it was somewhat challenging to recruit sufficient mentors given the high demand. The group discussed ways to increase the number of mentors. Suggestions from the group included:

i. Including a box on the survey that the mentor is willing to be included as a mentor on an ongoing basis (no need to recommit each year, since people sometimes forget which section mentoring programs they have agreed to participate in).

ii. Including in the mentor survey/email a note about the type of mentorship that mentees request in an effort to clarify the goals and expectations of the program.

iii. Reaching out to past mentees to ask them to be mentors.

iv. Ensuring and clarifying in writing that mentors will be matched with one mentee.

v. Encouraging junior and early career members (including advanced graduate students, postdocs, and junior faculty) to be mentors by highlighting their areas of mentoring expertise (e.g., recent job market experiences, developing dissertations, etc.)

f. The group discussed how to sustain the mentoring committee moving forward, and the group agreed that having the current and past chairs on the committee made the most sense.

7) Jennifer provided updates on the new session allocation plans that will roll out beginning in 2026.

a. In the past, ASA has allocated sessions based on section membership.

b. Starting in 2026, there will be no more regular sections at ASA. The existing regular sessions to be distributed to the sections based on topical/substantive areas. Sections will also be allocated sessions based on membership. Overall, this will likely mean an increase in Population Section sessions in 2026.

c. The group noted that they will need to discuss how to allocate sessions (invited panels, paper submissions, etc.) moving forward.

8) There was no other business to discuss and the meeting was adjourned.

## Awards

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

### Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Population – Award Winner

Margot Moinester. 2024. The Control Boom: U.S. Interior Immigration Enforcement. *American Journal of Sociology* 129(5):1447-1492.

Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Population – Honorable Mention

Peter Catron, María Vignau Loría, and Sarah Farr. 2024. Contextual Boundaries: Skin Tone Stratification and Skill Transferability among Mexicans in the Age of Mass Migration. *Demography* 61(5):1377-1402.

Early Career Award

Ashton M. Verdery, Pennsylvania State University

Otis Dudley Duncan (book) Award – Award Winner

Wang Feng. 2024. *China's Age of Abundance: Origins, Ascendancy, and Aftermath*. Cambridge University Press.

Otis Dudley Duncan (book) Award – Honorable Mention

Jennie E. Brand. 2023. *Overcoming the Odds: The Benefits of Completing College for Unlikely Graduates*. Russell Sage Foundation.

Student Paper Award – Award Winner

Jane Furey. The Consequences of Racialized Education Careers: How Educational Upgrading Maintains Black-White Economic Inequality.

Student Paper Award – Honorable Mention

Haowen Zheng. Diverging Trajectories: Gendered Income Dynamics Pre- and Post- Family Migration.

## **2025 Finances**

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

Section expenses are highly predictable, and our expenses and income closely matched the 2024 estimates. The major expense is the awards ceremony and reception held in person at the annual meeting, usually co-sponsored with the family section. Additional expenditures include award prizes (for the student paper award winner) and award plaques (for other awardees).

We started September 1, 2024 with \$6,231 in funds. As of August 31, 2025, we had \$7,298. Our major expense in 2025 was the awards ceremony and reception held in Chicago. We co-sponsored the reception and awards ceremony with the family section and divided the costs using a 4:3 ratio; family covering 4/7 and population covering the remaining 3/7. The population section's total cost of the 2025 reception (\$1,427) was slightly less than in 2024 (\$2,927.21). Additional expenditures included a monetary prize for the graduate student paper award winner (\$500), award plaques (\$136) and printing of programs (\$384); award plaques and printing costs were not paid until September 2025. We were fortunate to receive donations from several members' universities and research centers which greatly helped offset the cost of the reception. Given that section membership (like ASA membership overall) continues to decline, we may need to rely more and more on donations particularly when the annual conference is held in expensive cities.

## **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.

Between September 2024 and August 2025, the section disseminated a monthly newsletter to its members that included section and ASA business, ASA job postings, and other announcements of interest to our membership such as call for papers for journals and funding opportunities. The Section Chair and Listserv Coordinator generated these announcements, including soliciting news from section members. This communication strategy aimed to serve the section by expanding access to information of use to members, providing opportunities for all members to participate in section leadership, and drawing members into section, ASA, and broader professional opportunities of relevance to the sociology of population. The section did not have active website or social media presence beyond the official ASA website.

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

A key goal for the section is to increase interest in the sociology of population and support junior scholars in the field across career stages, institutions, and backgrounds. We worked toward this goal in several ways: 1) the nominations committee was intentional in selecting candidates from diverse demographic and institutional backgrounds, 2) committee membership was assigned with an eye toward participation from junior scholars, scholars from less well-resourced institutions, and scholars who represent the diversity of the section, and 3) we awarded an inaugural Early Career Award.

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 four paper sessions, business meeting, roundtables, and offsite reception are listed below.



### **Monday, August 11 (Section Day)**

8:00-9:30am: Policies, Politics, and Population Processes (organizer: Paola Langer)

10:00-11:30am: Demography and the Future of Work (organizer: Margaret Gough Courtney)

2:00-3:00pm: Roundtables (organizers: Christie Sennott & Jessica Short)

3:00-3:30pm: Business Meeting

4:00-5:30pm: Population and Environment (organizer: Mathew Hauer)

6:30-8:30pm: Offsite reception at The Gage, cosponsored with the Family Section

### **Tuesday, August 12**

12:00-1:30pm: The Demography of Family Inequality and Wellbeing (organizer: Kristin Perkins)  
*\*cosponsored with Family Section*

These sessions were well-attended and generated lively intellectual exchange. The topics met a section goal of highlighting distinctively sociological approaches to the study of population.

Scheduling the roundtables together with the business meeting increased attendance at both the roundtables and the business meeting, increasing engagement in section governance as well as scholarly knowledge and professional development.

In addition to meeting sessions, the section held a reception with the family section during the conference. The reception was well-attended by faculty, postdocs, and students. It is a terrific opportunity for networking and professional collaborations across the two sections.

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.

The two main activities included the monthly Newsletter and the mentoring program.

We had a high demand for the mentoring program, with 52 members requesting mentorship. We announced the program in January 2025 in the section's newsletter which included a Qualtrics survey where members could either (a) request mentorship and select topics that they wanted mentorship on (e.g., job market, grants), or (b) volunteer to be a mentor and select topics that they felt confident providing mentoring on. The mentorship committee (Jennifer Karas Montez and Susan Short) then matched each of the 52 members requesting mentorship with a mentor. We modified the program from past years in several ways, including (a) asking people to select topics they wanted mentoring on or to provide mentoring, (b) matching people based on those topics, (c) providing clear expectations about how often the mentee-mentors pairs should meet and what should be discussed (see the screenshot below of the email that was sent to each mentee-mentor pair). The section will collect feedback in late 2025 to evaluate the success of the program and areas for improvement.

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]:

Thank you for participating in the Mentoring Program of the ASA Population Section. We are delighted to match [REDACTED], University Professor of Sociology at Syracuse University, as a mentor for [REDACTED], Postdoctoral researcher of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin.

[REDACTED] is seeking mentoring on these topics:

- Finding and getting the most out of a postdoc
- Academic job market
- Writing and publishing
- Public sociology (e.g., writing blogs, policy briefs)

Guidelines for the mentoring program are below:

- Mentees should email their mentor to schedule the first meeting.
- Each mentee-mentor pair should have three 30-minute meetings during 2025. Of course, pairs can meet more than that if they want. These meetings will likely be virtual.
- During the first meeting, pairs should discuss the desired outcomes of the mentoring.
- Pairs should meet at least once, preferably twice, before the ASA 2025 meeting.
- Pairs who are attending ASA 2025 can meet in person at the section's business meeting and reception.

Best wishes,

The 2025 Mentoring Committee  
Susan Short and Jennifer Karas Montez