

## 2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Sociology of Sexualities

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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.

### ASA Section on Sociology of Sexualities 2025 Business Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-1:30 CDT

West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency B

- Approximately 45 members in attendance

1. Welcome to New Officers/Council and Thank You to Outgoing Members (Shantel Buggs)
  - a. Outgoing Members: Outgoing Council Members (**Minwoo Jung, Jane Ward, Baker Rogers**), Outgoing Student Representatives (**Y. Vincent Liu, Pamela Tsui**), Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer (**Megan Carroll**), Outgoing Past-Chair (**Theo Greene**), Outgoing Chair (**Shantel Buggs**)
  - b. New Members: New Chair (**Greggor Mattson**) and Chair-Elect (**Kristopher Velasco**), Secretary/Treasurer (**Canton Winer**), Council Members (**Megan Carroll, Jamie Budnick, Blu Buchanan**), Student Representatives (**Evan Zhao, Max Calleo**)
2. Financial / Membership Report (Megan Carroll)
  - Membership is down
  - Section is planning events throughout the year to ensure you get more bang for your buck, watch the Digest emails closely

- Please give to the Martin P. Levine fund
3. Section Updates (Shantel Buggs)
    - a. *Sex & Sexualities*
      - Our section journal LAUNCHED this year!!
      - Journal has been receiving steady submissions
      - Looking for Deputy Editor and Book Review Editor
  4. Award Presentations (Award Committee Chairs)
    - a. Distinguished Book Award
    - b. Distinguished Article Award
    - c. Best Graduate Student Paper Award
    - d. Martin P. Levine Dissertation Award
    - e. Simon & Gagnon Award
    - f. Early Career Award
    - Pictures taken for all awardees
    - Pictures were emailed to recipients soon after the business meeting and will be posted to section website
  5. Introduce New Chair, Greggor Mattson (Shantel Buggs)
  6. New Business (Greggor Mattson)
- Ideas for section panels for ASA 2026 annual meeting...
    - Apryl Williams: relationships with chatbots and/or AI
    - Jaime Hartless: Attacks on DEI and GSS in the academy
    - Andrew Shapiro: Homonationalism and pinkwashing
    - Brittney Miles: East Asian Sexualities
    - Tori Yang (with Meera Choi, in absentia?): Political Lesbianism, Transnationalism

### **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.

### **ASA Section on Sociology of Sexualities 2025 Council Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 12:45 PM CDT

West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency B

#### In attendance:

- Shantel Buggs, chair

- Greggor Mattson, chair-elect
- Theo Greene, past chair
- Megan Carroll, secretary-treasurer
- Canton Winer
- Pam Tsui
- Jamie Budnick
- Alison Better
- Jaime Hartless
- Maya Glenn
- Carly Young
- Max Calleo
- Terrell Winder (via zoom)
- Y. Vincent Liu (via Zoom)
- Blu Buchannan

### Agenda

1. Welcome to New Officers/Council and Thank You to Outgoing Members
2. Financial/Membership Report
3. Section Accomplishments
4. Programming Opportunities for the upcoming year
5. Committee Reports

### Discussion

- NEXT YEAR'S RECEPTION
  - Greggor: Flaming Saddles in Hells Kitchen
    - § Gay male space that serves "walking tacos"/frito pie
    - § Pluses
      - Instead of hiring entertainers, bar tenders do line dances in tight jeans and belt buckles
      - Relatively close to the conference
      - Could be financially beneficial, could partner with a smaller section to help them have a better reception (e.g. Bodies and Embodiment)
    - § Minuses
      - Very much a "gay male" space
      - Has a sign that says "no woo-hoo girls" (aimed at bachelorette parties)
        - The section could address this head-on in the digest and contextualize the sign
- LGBT CAUCUS
  - Shantel: Theo is reviving the caucus
  - Theo: The caucus has money! Hoping to have something to offer in NYC next year

- FINANCIAL REPORT

- Megan: the WEBSITE payment plan (and credit card) needs to change before November, instantly infuse \$200+ into the section budget
- Theo: what's going on with new section session allotment?
  - § Shantel: there are emails to catch up on but basically they're getting rid of regular sessions. There could be more programming opportunities for our section but also more labor and recruiting volunteers
    - Will need more help organizing sessions, has been challenging filling our sessions as-is
    - Shantel: we need to think about recruiting session organizers
    - It's been our sections practice that we pair a TT/PhD with a grad student to organize sessions to encourage mentorship

- SEX & SEXUALITIES JOURNAL

- Shantel: submissions are coming in at a steady pace
  - § S&S Editors are on a 3 year terms so it's time to beat the bushes to find new editors!
  - § Every ASA journal is getting 1 application for an editorial team
- Keep up the enthusiasm for the journal!
- Launch parties were successful

- PROGRAMMING IDEAS

- Membership numbers are DOWN so programming throughout the year needs to materialize to keep members engaged
  - § This is also a broader ASA effort
  - § Need IDEAS on how to engage graduate students
- Shantel: haven't decided whether to apply for virtual drop-in hours
  - § Greggor: doesn't mind having virtual office hours. If it helps grad students talk to the chair, then he's down
- Shantel: some ideas last year of having S&S editors do a thing, maybe a virtual mixer – neither materialized
- Canton: maybe a mentoring thing?
- Shantel: we had a global transnational panel in the fall of 2024
  - § Problem is that it can't fall on the chairs to organize this. Council or other section leaders can help!
- Theo: presenting our research would be easy. Maybe a colloquium series?
  - § Shantel: maybe if you had something not ready for ASA?

- Carly: grad students LOVE workshops more than office hours. Encourage doing a publishing workshop, people love job market workshops
  - Jaime: could invite authors to talk about the publishing process
  - Shantel: could invite editors of special issues (like Shantel & Brandon, Amin)
  - Megan: canton and I could easily run a job market workshop (we talk job market advice with the asexualities mentorship group all the time)
  - Canton: can borrow format of Sex & gender workshop that served on
- OVERALL COMMITTEE WORK THIS YEAR
    - Shantel: Fluctuation in number of submissions, dealing with service burnout of committees (people going MIA, not replying to emails, etc.)
      - § Concerned that there is inconsistency across awards in how we divide the labor
      - § Book award received 13 submissions (fewer than usual) and still divided labor so not all committee members read every book
      - § Want to leave some things to the discretion of committee chairs but be mindful of asking too much labor from each committee member
  - BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE
    - Shantel: Someone was unhappy that they were not selected for the award or honorable mention, wasn't sure how to respond (chose not to)
      - § If someone is unhappy, should we direct them to the section chair?
    - Theo: don't want to compromise the integrity of having awards decided by committee/jury, need to hold fast to the integrity of the process and the award
      - § That's the response: "we hold fast to the integrity of this process"
    - Shantel: there have been years of labor put into developing a *comprehensive rubric* to decide on winners of awards
      - § Rubric is public, process is transparent
    - Terrell: agree with Theo, keep responses short and sweet, apologies to Shantel for the harassment, don't need to dignify with a response
    - Max: it's also disrespectful to the other nominees
    - Jaime: it's also silencing for junior faculty who might want to participate in these committees

- Shantel: sounds like Not replying was the correct move, never encountered a challenge like this
- Theo and Shantel (in response to a question about whether we should say who this was): it doesn't benefit graduate students to know at this time, actions have only been aimed at senior scholars, would approach this differently if this person were a sexual harasser or doing real harm to others, it's just a matter of egos

· NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

- Biggest concern this year was with Nominations committee
- Had to go through a lot of names to get to our very TRIM slate and then had people pull out after they initially agreed
- Theo: this was our largest nomination slate
  - § 30 people turned down chair nomination
  - § Reasons: fatigue and the new ASA policy, people can no longer double dip with multiple service commitments in some cases
  - § This is going to continue to be a huge issue for us, moving forward
- Shantel: just like we need to drum up pipelines for new journal editors, need to drum up volunteers for future section leadership positions
  - § Theo: We were literally holding up ASA sending out the ballot because we didn't have people to run
- Shantel: would be curious to see membership records, maybe find records of people who have served before but not again?
- Alison: do we have lists of people who ran but weren't elected?
  - § Theo: we don't have a master list but we have reports
  - § Shantel: that's how I ended up running for chair
  - § Theo: some people feel burnt, especially if they've run multiple times
  - § Theo: could be more generous with letters to those who don't win
  - § Shantel: we could look at people who've run/submitted for awards

· CAREER AWARDS

- Shantel: We don't get a lot of submissions for early career award
  - § We got 5 submissions, which is more than previous years
  - § Theo: some people carried over, were re-nominated by other people
- Theo: Simon-Gagnon is harder, we only have 1 nomination to carry forward (for the second time we've carried them over), people are not nominating their senior people

§ Shantel: workshop idea: how to nominate people for awards

- Megan: my department has started a nominations committee inspired by Shantel's department

§ Shantel: to nominate people, need to email them nicely and ask for CV

§ Theo: there have been previous concerns about getting senior faculty to pressure jr faculty to nominate, maybe we don't need to do S-G award EVERY 2 years

§ Shantel: need to audit our membership, how many have had their PhD for 20 years?? Send them an email, ask them to consider

- **WORKSHOP IDEAS:**

- Nominations (how to nominate people for awards)
- Publishing
- Journals' special issues
- Session with the editors of S&S
- Job Market
- Colloquia/Research Presentations

## **Awards**

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

### **2025 Section on Sexualities Graduate Student Paper Award**

Co-Winners:

Olivia Y. Hu, "Racialized Romance Beyond the White/Non-White Color Line: An Intersectional Analysis of East Asian Women's Masculinities Construction Processes"

Chelle Jones, "Outsider Exemption: Transgender Migrants and Gender Accountability in South Korea"

Honorable Mention: Chaoting Tang, "Exploring or Floundering in the Sex Industry? Understanding Sex Work as Job Explorations for Emerging Adult Sex Workers"

### **2025 Section on Sexualities Distinguished Book Award**

Winner: Apryl Williams, *Not My Type: Automating Sexual Racism in Online Dating* (2024, Stanford University Press)

### **2025 Section on Sexualities Distinguished Article Award**

Winner: Winer, Canton, Carroll, Megan, Yang, Yuchen, Linder, Katherine, & Miles, Brittney. (2024). "I Didn't Know Ace Was a Thing': Bisexuality and pansexuality as identity pathways in asexual identity formation." *Sexualities*, 27(1-2), 267-289.

Honorable Mention: Yang, Tori Shucheng, Changhui Song, and Hui Xie. (2025). "Reworking Identity, Reworking Heteronormativity: The Case of Tongqi in China." *Gender & Society* 39(1), 63-90.

#### **2025 Martin P. Levine Dissertation Award Committee**

Winner: Tristen Kade, "Black Masculinities in Private and Public"

Honorable Mention: Guangquan Shen, "Dealing with Marriage Pressure: Continuities and Changes in Marriage in Contemporary Urban China"

#### **2026 Section on Sexualities Early Career Award (alternates years with Simon-Gagnon Lifetime Achievement Award)**

Co-Winners: Alicia Walker, Missouri State University and Shantel Gabriel Buggs, Florida State University

### **2025 Finances**

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

We were able to save on reception costs this year by co-sponsoring a reception with Race, Gender, and Class, who we also co-sponsored with for ASA 2024. Our reception and awards were more costly than what we budgeted for, especially because one of our award-winning papers had 5 authors. Shantel donated personal funds for the reception, and Shantel and Megan covered some costs of additional section award plaques for co-author winners. We communicated with the section that future leaders are not expected to dip into their personal funds, and we decided at the council meeting to change our website subscription to save money.

### **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.

In AY 2024-2025, our section sent biweekly digests through our listserv. We also maintained a section website: <https://sexualitiesasa.org/>.

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

This year, we focused much of our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals toward establishing the framework of the section's new journal, *Sex and Sexualities*. In addition to ensuring diversity among our new Publications Committee, we also established the journal's mission statement and abstract to align with the section's goals. Additionally, we spent enormous energy last year revising the section's bylaws to ensure they reflected the growing diversity of the section. The bylaw amendments, which established the Publications Committee and updated the award



committees and rubrics, were passed by the membership in the 2024 election, and the past year was spent implementing those revisions. We also continued our efforts of supporting junior scholars by encouraging pairings between junior and senior scholars as organizers for all our 2025 ASA sessions. We believe this to be an excellent opportunity for mentorship and professionalization. Further, our session descriptions for ASA 2025 explicitly ask for contributions

from marginalized scholars. For example, one of our session descriptions reads: “We invite submissions focusing on intersectional, decolonial, and/or transnational analytics, examining the connections between global and regional crises and the transformation of sexual identities, marginalized communities, and erotic experiences.” Finally, the section continued collaborating with other sections of ASA. For example, the section teamed with the Section on Race, Class and Gender for our reception, which included a performance by local drag artists.

**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).**

As in previous years, the Section on Sexualities organized panels to amplify new research pathways within this growing field. This year’s panels included a panel exploring sports and sexuality, sexualities in turbulent times, and the sociology of queer nightlife. These sessions allowed scholars to reflect on the exigent aspects of sexuality studies in the contemporary moment. All sessions encourage diverse scholarly orientations, innovative methodologies, and foregrounding BIPOC scholars and scholarships. Finally, we continued the tradition of pairing junior scholars and graduate students with advanced scholars as organizers, creating new mentoring opportunities and networking opportunities.

### **Sports and Sexuality**

How do we make sense of conflicting reactions to LGBTQ+ identities in sports? Despite the visibility and rise of LGBTQ+ athletes and athletes of color, persistent beliefs in sex essentialism, heteronormativity, and the Western ideal of the desirable body remain intact in mainstream sports culture. This panel will explore the relationship between sports and LGBTQ+ identity through an intersectional and transnational lens. Issues like sex testing have long been a concern in global sports competitions, such as the Olympics, where competitive female athletes, especially those of color, are often subjected to these tests when they do not fit the Western ideal of femininity. Transgender athletes at all levels are attacked or punished, with some sports seeing games forfeited in protest. At the same time, lesbian and bisexual athletes are gaining significant attention and support from fans across various sports, including the WNBA and NWSL. This panel welcomes papers that examine not only identity but also expressions of sexuality in relation to fandom, marketing, and the policing of sports in the U.S. and globally.

(Session Organizer) Jinsun Yang, University of Oregon; Travers Travers, Simon Fraser University

### **Sexualities in Turbulent Times: Capitalist Crises, Democratic Decadence, and Right Wing Proto-Fascism**

Our world is in chaos. Geopolitical tensions remain high, with ongoing, genocidal wars in Palestine, Lebanon, Sudan, and other regions. Eroding democracy, rising

authoritarianism, and political polarization contribute to global precariousness. Climate change causes various disruptions, while economic uncertainties persist. This panel will explore how these turbulent forces shape contemporary sexualities and impact people's intimate lives globally, and rethink what sexual justice and transnational solidarities mean in difficult times. We invite submissions focusing on intersectional, decolonial, and/or transnational analytics, examining the connections between global and regional crises and the transformation of sexual identities, marginalized communities, and erotic experiences.

(Session Organizer) Alithia Zamantakis, Northwestern University; Cristián Valenzuela-Méndez, Northwestern University

### **Sexualities and the Sociology of Nightlife**

A crescendo of recent studies highlight the role of nightlife in shaping, remaking, and actualizing sexualities. This panel invites papers that provide new and innovative sociological explorations of nightlife and its broader impacts for social life, particularly opportunities for shared pleasures and political organizing. Studies might attend to the economic and political transformations that are reshaping physical venues and sending parties wheeling across the city. Through performance artistry like drag or burlesque, straight and LGBTQ+ people dramatize and recast identities both for themselves and their audiences, but are the effects durable beyond a flashing reveal? Premeditated fun is someone's daily—nightly—grind, difficult and demeaning labor that is often performed by workers who are marginalized from the scenes they facilitate. Who does the work of curating nightlife's pleasures, how is their labor valued, and what is that work's connection to the sexualities of the revelers? Politicians sometimes try to harness nightlife for their own economic ends, but at what expense, and to whose benefit? Studies that attend to temporality itself are welcome: is daytime straight time, and the night always already queer? Does attending to the exclusions and inequalities beneath the glittering surface of the night preclude an attention to tender pleasures and raucous joy? What is the sex that appears in public, and is the sex that is concealed just as full of friction, and in what ways? As always, this panel especially encourages analytics that are intersectional, decolonial, and/or transnational.

(Session Organizer) Greggor Mattson, Oberlin College & Conservatory; Amin Ghaziani, The University of British Columbia

### **Section on Sociology of Sexualities Roundtables**

(Session Organizer) Rebecca F. Plante, Ithaca College; Cameron James Keating, Indiana University-Bloomington

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 Section on Sexualities hosted a virtual launch part for *Sex & Sexualities*, the new section journal. This included a group-bonding trivia event speeches from the Chair of the Publications Committee and the incoming co-editors, and time for questions from members for the editors about the journal. We also threw an in-person journal launch party that coincided with the 2025 annual meeting in Chicago. These met the goals and values of the section by building

community, promoting our scholarship as featured in the new journal, and upholding our commitments to equity.