

2025 Section Annual Report: Part 1 for Theory Section

Introduction

Annual reports are used by the Sections Committee to assess the health of a Section, measure the Section's vitality, and identify processes, programs, or initiatives that could serve as a model for other Sections. In addition, they serve to provide institutional memory, socialize new Section leaders, and promote transparency to Section members.

This annual report covers the period of Section activity from September 2024 to August 2025 and a fiscal year from January 2025 to December 2025. This report is shared publicly.

Section Governance

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

Business Meeting

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

These minutes are attached separately.

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.

These minutes are attached separately.

Awards

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

Theory Prize

Winner: Kiviat, Barbara. (2023). The Moral Affordances of Construing People as Cases: How Algorithms and the Data They Depend on Obscure Narrative and Noncomparative Justice. *Sociological Theory*, 41(3), 175-200.

Honorable Mention: Feinstein, Yuval. (2024). The tempest within: the origins and outcomes of intense national emotions in times of national division. *Theory and Society*, 53(4), 729-763.

Lewis A Coser Award for Theoretical Agenda Setting

Terence McDonnell, University of Notre Dame

Junior Theorist Award

Winner: Yuchen Yang, "Gender Uptake: Theorizing the Semiotics of (Un)Doing Gender"

Honorable Mentions:

Amanda R. Cheong, "Who Counts as a Stateless Person? Nation-Statist Logics and the Liabilities of Potential Citizenship Elsewhere," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (2025)

Mo Torres, "Separate from Class? Toward a Theory of Race as Resource Signal," *Social Problems* (2024)

Best Grad Student Paper Prize

Co-Winner:

Richardson, Jacob W. 2024. "Queering Edgework: An Autoethnographic Account of Cruising for Sex." *Journal of Autoethnography* 5(1): 95-114.

Co-Winner:

Leeds, Tyler. 2024. "Stuart Hall's Relational Political Sociology: A Heuristic for Right-Wing Studies." *Journal of Right-Wing Studies* 2(1): 98-126.

Honorable Mention:

Sariego, Carlo. 2025. "Birth Rights and Wrongs: Reproductive Outsiders in *Azar v. Garza* and *Madrigal v. Quilligan*." *Signs* 50(2): 343-368.

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 budgeted for our annual meeting reception, Junior Theorists Symposium, award plaques and certificates, web hosting package, and honoraria for the section positions of newsletter editors and website manager. The Junior Theorists Symposium did require support from the section this year. We co-hosted the reception with the Sex & Gender and Culture sections, and our expenses were within the budgeted amount. There were no significant differences between the budget and actual expenses. Remaining funds have been rolled into the 2025-26 budget. We remain in good financial shape.

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 Theory Section chair sent regular updates to the Theory membership throughout the year (on a weekly basis) through the section list-serve. We also hired a webmaster this year, and were able to create and maintain an active section website: <https://asatheory.com>. We also have a Bluesky account, and we sent out posts about important events and calls for papers on

this account. We also advertised our newsletter, which was published twice this year, and which is also available on our website: <https://asatheory.com/current-newsletter/>.

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

We sought to ensure that DEI goals were integrated into every aspect of our operations, from election considerations, to programming (for the virtual panel and ASA panels), to filling committee and organizer positions, to considerations for award winners. We sent out a survey in the Fall asking for volunteers for various section committees and election positions, and this generated a great deal of responses, and allowed us to ensure a democratic process for member participation. We were attentive to issues of including scholars of color and theories about race, gender, class, global-transnational sociology, sexuality, age, disability in our programming for the year, and in whose work was celebrated with awards.

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).

Our annual meeting program was very successful and our panels attracted audiences of 50 or more for each panel. Below is a list of our panels for August 2025.

DuBois and His Theoretical Legacies

Sat, August 9, 2:00 to 3:30pm, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency D

Description

This invited session sponsored by the Theory section extends the theoretical insights of WEB DuBois on the global color line and racialized subjectivity in a number of exciting directions relevant to contemporary social theorists. Two panelists will reflect on DuBois's historical influence on sociology by analyzing the work of his contemporaries studying race relations and his debt to Irene Diggs in his work on global racial formations. Two panelists will focus on how DuBois's legacy helps us make sense of contemporary events through an analysis of his theories of labor and social movements as well as his theories of Pan-Africanism and Zionism.

Ali Meghji, University of Cambridge, am2059@cam.ac.uk

Jorge Daniel Vasquez, American University, jdvasquez@american.edu

Cedric de Leon, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, cedricdeleon@umass.edu

Zophia Edwards, Johns Hopkins University, zedward2@jhu.edu

Chair and Discussant, Julian Go, University of Chicago, jgo34@uchicago.edu

Decolonizing and Intersectionalizing the Canon

Sat, August 9, 4:00 to 5:30pm, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Concourse Level/Bronze, Gold Coast

Description

This is an open session sponsored by the Theory section. This session surfaces key debates about the status of the sociological canon. Many advocate for diversifying and expanding the existing canon. Some

have pushed for upending and replacing the all-white, all-male, all-European canon, while other scholars challenge us to rethink whether we need a canon at all, and for what purpose. This session invites submissions that aim to rethink the canon, including but not limited to engaging with its colonial legacies, identifying the intersectional experiences it overlooks, or exploring pathways to include more voices.

Presider: Ioana Sendroiu, University of Hong Kong

Towards a Diasporic Sociology, Elisabeth Becker Topkara

Modeling Man: WEB DuBois's Statistics, Atiya Husain

Settler Colonial Structure and Indigenous Agency: Drawing on the Sociological Canon to Theorize Settler Colonialism, Dean R. Ray

Rethinking Post-Colonial Sociology: Canons, Decolonization and Close Readings, George Steinmetz

Racial Capitalism and Settler Colonialism

Sun, August 10, 8:00 to 9:30am, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency D

Description

This is an invited session sponsored by the Theory Section and the Comparative Historical Sociology section. In recent years, sociologists have contributed to interdisciplinary scholarship on racial capitalism & settler colonialism. These generative conceptual frameworks build on emancipatory traditions and bring sociologists into dialogue with historical and contemporary liberatory projects. Yet the two frameworks remain largely distinct. By bringing together scholars whose research sits at the intersection of settler colonialism and racial capitalism, this panel will help us think these frameworks relationally. Speakers will address topics such as: racial capitalism, colonialism, and caste; settler colonization as a racial capitalist project; the racial/colonial capitalist rescue industry; and liberatory political imaginaries.

Samantha Agarwal, American University, sagarwal@american.edu

Elena Shih, Brown University, Elena_Shih@brown.edu

Ricarda Hammer, University of California, Berkeley, ricarda.hammer@berkeley.edu

Areej Sabbagh-Khoury, University of California, Berkeley, areejabbagh@berkeley.edu

Chair and Discussant, Andy Clarno, University of Illinois at Chicago, aclarno@uic.edu

Theory Section Roundtables

Sun, August 10, 10:00 to 11:00am, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency C

Coser Salon and Lecture

Sun, August 10, 2:00 to 3:30pm, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Regency D

Award given to 2025 winner: Terence McDonnell

Lecture: 2024 Coser Award Winner: Seth Abrutyn

Theorizing Crisis (Co-sponsored with Comparative Historical Section)

Tue, August 12, 12:00 to 1:30pm, West Tower, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Floor: Ballroom Level/Gold, Acapulco

Description

This is a session sponsored by the Comparative Historical Sociology and Theory Sections. We welcome papers that address the role of economic, political, or ecological crises in historical and comparative perspective. We encourage innovative approaches that bridge historical analysis with sociological theory – including but not limited to Marxist crisis theory, Gramscian notions of organic crisis, conjunctural theory, world-systems approaches, postcolonial theory, and discursive or cultural theories of crisis – to illuminate the nature and dynamics of crises across different historical and geographic contexts. Submissions may address topics such as: crises as rupturing events, temporalities of social change, crises as political opportunities, among others.

Presider: Liza Weinstein, Northeastern University

A Legacy of Displacement: Underlying Historical Propulsions of Guatemalan Migration, Matthew Blanton

Interstitial Crisis in India: Towards a Theory of Crisis from the Global South, Smriti Upadhyay
Rethinking Crisis Narratives & Epistemes in Theorizing Crises & The Everyday in Lebanon, Mona Khneisser

Role Collapse: The Mechanisms of Hybrid Domination and Violence in the Contemporary Occupied Territories, Joseph Weinger

The Great Leap Famine and China's Rural Politics, Fei Han

These sessions celebrated and showcased theories that are often absent in the sociological cannon, and we had a great number of diverse scholars, from multiple kinds of institutions and at varying stages in their careers showcased. This met the section's intellectual commitments, but also its commitment to expand what is generally considered "theory."

We also co-sponsored our reception this year with the section on Sex/Gender and with the Culture section, and our reception was exceptionally well-attended. It was quite a successful opportunities for theory members to meet people from other 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.

We held a virtual panel, which I will describe below on May 16, 2025.

Theory & Movements for Social Justice

Panelists who study and organize across a wide array of movements for justice will come together to share the ways in which theory is meaningful in their work. Theory helps us diagnose our conditions, develop strategies, and imagine an emancipatory future. This panel will provide space for theorists across sociology to discuss the strategies they are using to make sense of and challenge the current conjunctural crisis we face.

May 16 from 11am-1pm (central time)

Organized by: Claire Decoteau, Dan Morrison, Veda Kim, Jason Mueller, Joss Greene, and Shai Dromi.

Panelists included: Zophia Edwards, Andy Clarno, Juliana Góes, Mabrouka M'Barek and Woods Ervin.

The session was summarized in the Spring Theory Newsletter: <https://asatheory.com/current-newsletter/>.

The panel was hosted on zoom and 58 people attended from all over the nation.

The Junior Theory Symposium was also held the day before ASA began at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and it was exceedingly well-attended. There were at least 100 people in attendance. It featured 12 different junior scholars who presented their original work, and discussants included Guillermina Altomonte (New York University), Oluwakemi Balogun (University of Oregon), and Barbara Kiviat (Stanford University). A keynote was given by Jonah Brundage Stuart, and an after-panel called “The Potential of Public Theorizing” featured several prominent scholars.

Theory Business Meeting

August 10, 2025 – ASA Annual Meeting

Claire called the meeting to order. Announced 717 section members as of today.

Leadership roles, thanked: Maggie, Shai, Carly, Ankit – thanked for their contributions.

New council members: Ali Meghji, Jonah S-B, Freeden Blume, Emily Tingle

Mentoring committee: thanks for your work in putting together a slate of candidates.

Claire: accomplishments this year included a new section website, social media presence (thank you, Gilad). Two newsletter editors: Youbin Kang and Jun Zhou. New bylaw amendment (per info from council meeting). May 2025: virtual event on theory and social movements. Ca. 75 attendance, with write-up in the section newsletter.

JTS on 8 August 2025, UIC. Good attendance, keynote, panels. Thanked the organizers.

We've also had a fabulous slate of programming at this ASA meeting. DuBois, decolonizing the canon, comp-hist joint session on settler colonialism & racial capitalism, comp-hist joint panel on theorizing crisis; Coser salon and Pinstripes reception will be today.

Budget report: Fiona

Awards: Best Paper (Hilary), Junior Theorist Award (Jonah), Best Student Paper (Asia Friedman) co-winners.

Final business point: We need to elect members of the nominations committee. The pool of names passed without dissent. Claire handed it over to Rebecca.

Rebecca: self-introduction. New allocation system provides us with 8 sessions total (Coser, roundtable plus six others). She invited suggestions for topics. Email call for contributions. Programming lined up re: Turn to the Right (mix of N and S American theorists, October 17 at noon on Zoom).

Theory Section Council Meeting
November 15, 2024

Present: Claire, Maggie, Rebecca, Fiona, Carly, Anna, Ankit, Mike, Gilad, Shai, Jun, and JTS
organizers: Daphne Fietz, Mira Vale, Yunhan Wen, Xuewen Yan, Lauren Clingan

1. Chair updates. Claire presented the updated budget, reflective of the \$2600 contribution to the ASA 2025 reception and \$600 for newsletter editors (\$300 each instead of \$150 each). The budget was moved to a vote by Claire; motion seconded by Maggie. Unanimously approved. Announcement: Dec. 5 at 1pm Central will be the planning meeting for virtual sessions. Topic: the role of theory in supporting movements for justice.
2. Section website. Gilad presented a sample framework for refreshing the section website. Key points are ease of sharing and locating announcements and communications, and creating a syllabus repository for theory-related courses and reading lists. Maggie emphasized the importance of keeping the sections updated with new content. Gilad is investigating web host subscription arrangements with ASA, to avoid a reimbursement scenario that can lead to lapsed URLs. Bluesky suggested. This topic was not resolved but we agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting.
3. Nominations committee. Carly provided updates on nominations for the 2025 section ballot. Almost all slots are filled. The committee is still looking for at least one candidate for chair. She will share the list of candidates when it is complete. They have generally found folks receptive to running; chair has been the challenging ballot slot to fill, due to the heavy lift involved in the role. (Compliments from Council to the nom cmte for their work.)
4. Newsletter. Jun announced content for the Winter newsletter. The centerpiece will be a series of short essays on the Nov '24 election outcomes. Invitations have gone to Josh Pacewicz, Daniel Laurison, Cedric de Leon, Julian Go, and Tressie Cottom McMillan. The editors are awaiting responses. Council members asked questions and there were several specific suggestions. Council member recommendations: curate the essays in such a way that different angles are covered regarding the election and potential after effects; adopt a dialogue format, which would allow authors to reply to each other's essays. The newsletter will also contain calls for submissions to conference panels, mini-conferences, and awards. The Council thanked Jun and Youbin for their work.
5. JTS. The organizers introduced themselves and updated Council on their planning progress. The date has not been fixed. The CFP will go out in January. The planners are still confirming respondents. Council thanked JTS for their efforts.
6. Mentoring. Volunteer committee established. They are in the early stages of planning next year's mentoring program.

Theory Section Council Meeting

May 22, 2025

Attending: Claire Decoteau, Mike McCarthy, Gilad Wenig, Monica Prasad, Ankit Bhardwaj, Ioana Sendroiu, Rebecca Jean Emigh, Maggie Frye, Daphne Fietz, Anna Skarpelis.

Note taker: Anna Skarpelis

Agenda

- 1) Elections
- 2) Changing the Junior Theory Award call (award update)
- 3) Coser budget update
- 4) Updates on Theory/Social Movement virtual event and reception
- 5) Mentoring program
- 6) how to support members in these difficult times
- 7) Looking forward to ASA in Chicago

1. Elections Committee

- A Google Form was sent to the Theory section to solicit self-nominations.
- After two rounds of voting, a candidate list was finalized from those who agreed to run.
- Issue: ASA informed the section that no candidate can run for chair in two different sections.
 - Two selected candidates were running for chair.
 - Attempts to recruit another candidate for Theory were unsuccessful; only one candidate remains.
- Key Takeaway: Going forward, verify whether any nominee is also running for chair in another section.
- Carly will circulate the final list of candidates.
- Recommendation: Nominate two candidates for treasurer next year, as that role rotates out.

2. Junior Theorist Award Committee

- The Junior Theorist committee encountered two main issues raised by Jonah Stuart Brundage:
 1. Co-authored Submissions: Should these be considered going forward?
(Precedent: 2021 awardees)

2. Mixed Eligibility: In one instance, one author was eligible, the co-author (a grad student) was not. This was ruled ineligible.
- Suggestions: Both authors do not need to meet conditions of eligibility; however, no author can be more senior than the eligibility guidelines (disqualifying co-authorship with graduate students might have averse impacts on co-authorship and professionalization).
- Next Steps:
 - Letters submitted alongside the award submission must specify who would give the talk in cases of co-authorship
 - Co-authorship with someone senior beyond eligibility is not permitted.
 - Rebecca will revise the award call to reflect these guidelines.

3. Coser Reception

- The reception will be held in Chicago at Pinstripes on Sunday, August 10th.
- Though the Theory section was charged for the Coser reception the past two years, it should be funded by a separate Coser budget.
- Approximately \$4,000 has been reallocated back to the Theory section.

4. Virtual Session (Last Friday)

- Topic: Theory and Movements for Social Justice
- Well-attended (approx. 60 participants).
- Recording will not be made public.
- Yubin will prepare a session summary for the next newsletter.
- Book recommendations from the session will also be shared

5. Mentoring Program

- Organizers: Maggie, Daphne, and Mike.
- A [Google Form](#) was sent out with a deadline of May 30th (next week)
- Responses: 43 total — 10 mentors and 33 mentees.
 - 31 prefer in-person mentoring; the rest opted for virtual.
- Next Steps:
 - Send a reminder email on Monday (Claire)
 - A space has been reserved at ASA (Saturday evening, the only conflict-free time).
 - Mentees and mentors can meet at this time in person, or arrange other options.

Other ASA Meetings:

- Council Meeting Options:
 - Sunday at 7 AM (not preferred)

- During roundtables at 10 AM on Sunday (preferred, and chosen for now)
- Business Meeting with Awards: Sunday at 11 AM
- Coser Salon: Also on Sunday

6. Supporting Members

- Concerns about international students and job market challenges.
- Rebecca: Suggested a list of resources or “know your rights” workshops.
- Claire: Has access to some existing resources.
- Mike & Daphne: Will draft a short statement framed around travel needs for international members.
 - Important: The section cannot make political statements.
 - ASA will not allow remote participation.

Additional Updates:

- Social Media: No new updates from Gilad.
- JTS: Scheduled for Friday, August 8th, at UIC.

7. Closing Note

- Looking forward to seeing everyone on that ASA Sunday on August 10th at 10 AM!

Theory Section Council meeting – ASA Annual Meeting

August 10, 2025

Present: Claire Decoteau, Rebecca Emigh, Shai Dromi, Freeden Blume, Monica Prasad, Anna Skarpelis, Daphne Fietz, Yunhan Wen, Fiona Greenland

Meeting

Claire read the names of outgoing council members and incoming. All were thanked for their service and contributions.

Bylaws updates: award descriptions; leadership start date (to Sept. 1, in line with ASA turnover schedule); gender pronouns in section texts.

Gilad created a new section website, with section newsletters, publications, some social media (BlueSky).

May event: theory and social justice (65 people attended). So far this ASA, Theory Sessions have been well attended (DuBois session, ca. 75 people!).

News regarding tasks for the section: naming the nominations committee chair had to be done by August 1. Slate of nom cmte members must be done at this meeting. We don't know that everyone will accept, so we need to approve more than required.

Budget report (Fiona): We are in good financial shape. Slightly ahead of last year's balance, even with the additional JTS costs. Rebecca asked whether it would be possible to raise the web manager's pay. Also mooted the possibility of raising the section member due by \$1 (others have done this). There have been some additional contributions (\$90). Could give this to the UIC volunteer.

Claire mentioned that we'll need to determine whether Jun and Youbin want to continue as newsletter editors, and Gilad as web manager.

JTS update: Good turnout, good sessions, location worked out thanks to Claire's connections with UIC. The room was packed (standing room only). Next year's organizers have not yet been identified. We discussed how best to do this (call for volunteers? May ask this year's presenters to decide). Council congratulated Yunhan and fellow organizers.

Mentoring event: Mixed success. Several mentors came and had no mentees show up. Council members brainstormed solutions for this (but there was sufficient notice, via email). Is a physical event necessary? Other sections do this virtually. People are assigned to groups, and groups

decide how they want to communicate or meet. Decentralize the meeting component. Self-organizing to be encouraged.

Updates from chair: ASA has allocated 8 sessions for Theory next year (1 goes to Coser, 1 to Roundtables). At least one has to be open call. There's no guarantee that ASA will approve the joint sessions, but we can apply for those slots. "Turn to the right" programming will be part of the upcoming section year.

Workshop on writing: potential offer for students in the coming year.

Theory Section Council Meeting September 23, 2025

Present: Rebecca Emigh, Emily Tingle, Daphne Fietz, Monica Prasad, Freeden Blume, Ali Meghji, Anna Skarpelis, Selen Güler, Claire Decoteau, Ioana Sendrioiu, Youbin Kang, Jonah Stewart Brundage, Fiona Greenland

Rebecca called the meeting to order, shared the agenda, and asked for self-introductions.

Section volunteers and conference planning. We had many volunteers (ca. 90) for section committees, which is great news, and chair is starting the process of assigning them. Panel planning for the 2026 annual meeting is underway. We have 8 panels, 2 of them open calls, 4 of them invited panels (Sociology of Scale, Populism, Class and Capitalist Crisis, Race/Gender/Sex/Decoloniality). Coser counts as one of them. The math section has proposed a joint session on complexity.

Section positions. Youbin will continue as newsletter editor for one more year. Katrina will take over after that. Social media team for the Theory section: our Bluesky account has very little traffic. Rebecca is motivated to increase that traffic and the number of followers.

Junior Theorists Symposium. The Historical and Comparative section wants to coordinate to avoid an overlap in scheduling. August 7 is the JTS date (Friday before the conference starts). Focus will be on the breadth of methods that sociologists use in their theorizing. New developments in historical or comparative sociology. Data as theory/theory as data. The section strongly supports this event and we will propose to members that they give more.

Newsletter editors. Youbin is open to pitches for the next issue. Announcements, symposium (scholarly exchange).

Budget. Update from Treasurer. The balance that carried over from last year is healthy, thanks in part to the Coser refund from ASA. We will study the financial implications of the new ASA formula for base budget allocations and section fees.

Awards: Proposal to add a prize, bringing Theory in line with other sections. There was interest in doing this.

Suggested further section activities:

- Reminder about the Turn to the Right series
- Proposed a workshop for writing and publishing theory papers. General support for this among council members. Rebecca will ask editors of a few different journals to speak with participants about their experience and how they think about theory papers.
- Proposed an ad hoc outreach and support effort to connect with members who may be impacted by the national political and policy situation. General support among council members, with some concerns about doing this without contravening ASA policy. Rebecca is coordinating with the chairs of other sections and will report back with specific next steps.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour.

Theory Section Council meeting

10/17/2025

Present: Rebecca Emigh, Anna Skarpelis, Freeden Blume, Katrina Wang, Daphne Fietz, Eralp Karduz, Fiona Greenland

Agenda: Rebecca called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm Eastern. Minutes approved.

Updates on section business. The 2026 annual program is in good shape. There will be 8 panels for Theory, and 3 joint panels. We have 4 award committees, and 28 volunteers for the different panels & section events. The Turn to the Right Series starts today [Oct. 17] and there are two sessions being planned on how to write theoretical papers. Yuchen will do an event in November, and we're planning a second panel in the spring (on publishing). In addition, Rebecca met with the communications committee about outreach and further activities, with Diana Graizbord and Ioanna Sendroiu taking the lead on that effort.

a. Communications ideas:

- i. Add videos of talks to our section website
- ii. Syllabus bank (Ioanna will email various council members to solicit syllabuses)
- iii. Blog: Rebecca would like to kick this off and get contributions from section members.

2. Vote on bylaw change. The proposal is to add an award: the Theory Article Prize. This brings us into line with the majority of ASA sections in terms of the number of Section awards. From the proposal: “This will be a committee of five members. Two members will be elected each year at the Section Business Meeting. Three members, including the Committee Chair, will be appointed by the officer who becomes Section Chair on the September 1 following the ASA meeting (the Chair-Elect) after soliciting nominations during the business meeting and through an online survey to the full section membership, shortly after the annual meeting.”
 - a. Council members present generally supported the idea. No objections were raised. There will be an adjustment to the Section budget line item for awards, in the amount of ca. \$80 (the current price of a plaque).
 - b. Because we didn’t have quorum, we weren’t able to hold the vote during the meeting. We will send an email to section members asking for votes. The proposal is available in Google Drive.
3. Budget and Dues structure. Fiona shared the current section budget and the projected budget, reflective of the new ASA dues structure. The base section membership cost is going up, and sections will retain 100% of the premium dues paid by Regular members. Rebecca observed that Theory’s premium due is low compared with other sections: ours is \$2/person, whereas most sections are \$4 or \$5.
 - a. Discussion among council members. General agreement that raising the premium will be beneficial for the Section and allows us to build reserves and increase honoraria for section positions. We settled on \$4 as the target premium amount. The premium due is not levied on student or low-income members of the section.
 - b. Next step is to get section approval to put this on the ASA ballot. Fiona will work with Rebecca to confirm this piece.
 - c. We will build out budget scenarios to study the feasibility of honoraria increases at different levels.
 - d. Budget approved by all present.
4. JTS. Connected with the budget discussion, the JTS organizers have historically had to pay out of pocket for event expenses and wait for reimbursement. This is suboptimal. Council members discussed alternatives. Anna suggested a Venmo donations (or similar platform) that would allow JTS planners to build their fund early in the process and use that to pay up front. There was general support for this. The section’s contribution to JTS has remained

\$250 for several years. If the premium dues are raised, we could study the possibility of increasing the JTS contribution. Rebecca will work with the JTS organizers to figure out the best solution to fundraising and expenditures.

5. Other business: updates from Rebecca on the annual meeting reception. GATS is interested in co-hosting the reception. Rebecca is also waiting to hear back from RCG and Sexualities. We don't yet have Theory section volunteers willing to organize (but they are still needed). Noted advantages of an on-site reception (attendance tends to be higher than for offsite), so we could think about scoping the costs of that and saving the time and logistics needed for offsite. General support for this.

Meeting adjourned: 2:07 Eastern