2021 Section Annual Report for
Political Economy of the World-System

This annual report covers the period of section activity from September 2020 to August 2021 and a fiscal year from January 2021 to December 2021.

Section Governance
Provide details of your section’s governance activity during the period between September 2020 and August 2021.

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: Section on the Political Economy of the World System Awards Ceremony and Business Meeting (virtual)

Saturday, August 2, 12:30 pm to 1:10pm EST

Total Attendees: 32

I. Greetings (time: 12.30 pm)
The meeting began with Bill Winders, outgoing secretary-treasurer, welcoming everyone. Then, Jennifer Mendez, outgoing chair, introduced herself and welcomed section members. Jennifer briefed on what we were going to discuss, thanking all outgoing council members. Jennifer also recognized Michaela Curran, web weaver who has ensured that our web presence remains current and accurate. Samantha Fox, as Jennifer noted, will introduce a motion to reflect the diversity better. She discussed some past activities, including the renaming of the anti-oppression committee.

II. Report from the Chair (time 12.40)
Jennifer Bickham Mendez presented the report (attached). Jennifer mentions that despite the difficulties of this past academic year, PEWS committees have accomplished a great deal. Jennifer recognizes that in the spring the committee on teaching and mentorship, chaired by Irene Pang, hosted a virtual event to introduce the 2021 Mentoring Program. Jennifer thanked the editors of the
III. Report from the Secretary-Treasurer (time 12.50)

Bill Winders Presented the report (attached)
Summary: acknowledged the difficulty caused by covid and thanked Jennifer for her service.
As of August 6, we had 334 members (compared to 291 at this time last year)
The section account gets an annual allocation of $1000 + $2 per member from ASA.
As of June 30, the section account had a balance of $11,011.
discussed $600 minority fellowship, and $16,350 for JWSR
Both members and finance of the section increased
Bill said PEWS should consider creating a fund through ASA to which members could contribute to purchase gift memberships for graduate students or other ASA members.

IV. Presentation of Awards (Time)

Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award (presented by Sahan Karatasli and Marilyn Grell-Brisk)
Total 16 nominations
- Winner: Laura Doyle
  *Inter-Imperiality. Vying Empires, Gendered Labor, and the Literary Arts of Alliance, 2020, Duke University Press*

- Honorable Mention: Nicholas Jepson
  *In China’s Wake: How the Commodity Boom Transformed Development Strategies in the Global South, 2020, Columbia University Press*

The 2021 PEWS Distinguished Article Award, presented by Jennifer Bickham Mendez
- Jennifer offered a summary of the article and the importance of it in the study of world-systems
- Winner: Sahan Savaş Karataşlı

**The 2021 PEWS Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award, presented by Jennifer Bickham Mendez**
- Jennifer offered a summary
- Winner: Alvin Camba

**Award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, presented by Kristin Plys**
Winner: Mangala Subramaniam, Purdue University

**V. Report from JWSR (Time: 1.00 pm)**

Andrej Grubacic, the JWSR editor, presented the report and budget (attached)
Andrej mentioned about a special JWSR issue on anti-systemic movement pay the editor out of the budget allocated he also mentioned that they are working on website development to have better users (A Canadian company will do this)
He invited all to the social event at 7.00 pm on Sunday

**VI. Introduction to Incoming officers and Council members (Time: 1.05 pm)**

Jennifer introduced them. She makes a call for volunteering in several committees.
Chair: Manuela Boachtă, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Chair-Elect: Lu Zhang, Temple University
Secretary/Treasurer: Nikhil Deb, Murray State University
Council Members (3-year term begins in 2021): Melanie E L Bush, Marcel Paret
Student Rep (2-year term begins in ): Zeinab F. Shuker

**VII. Wallerstein conference in LA**
Chase-Dunn confirmed that the conference would take place in LA. PEWS used to pay $1500, said Bill. He also appreciated Chris doing this...Chris said he would like to do this with council sub-committee, not involving many people (Manuela offered her support for the committee)

Motion (Jennifer Proposed): PEWS sponsor $1500
unanimously supported by all

Council Meeting

Copy and paste below (or attach separately) the agenda and draft/approved meeting minutes of all council meetings. Minutes must include a list of council members present and a summary of decisions made. Minutes are not a transcript of proceedings but a listing of what discussions took place and official actions taken.

PEWS Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes
August 17, 2021
3 pm EDT

Attendees:
Manuela Boatcă, Bill Winders, Lu Zhang, Jennifer Bickham-Mendez, Nikhil Deb, Marcel Paret, Kristin Plys, Sahan Savaş Karataşlı, Samantha Agarwal, Samantha Fox, Christopher Chase-Dunn, Andrej Grubačić, Kelly Austin

Agenda:
1. Introductions
   Welcome to new officers:
   Chair-Elect (3-year term begins in 2021)
   *** Lu Zhang, Temple University
   Council Members (3-year term begins in 2021)
   *** Melanie Bush, Adelphi University/University of South Africa
   Marcel Paret, University of Utah/University of Johannesburg
   Council Member, Student (2-year term begins in 2021)
   *** Zeinab Shuker, Sam Houston State University
2. PEWS News
3. Wallerstein Mini-conference (Chris Chase-Dunn)
4. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report (Bill Winders)
5. JWSR Report (Andrej Grabacic)
6. Committee Assignments 2021-2022
   - Nominations committee:
     o Jennifer Bickham Mendez (chair)
     o 2 Volunteers from the membership
   - Publications committee: (chair elected by committee)
     o Andrej Grabacic (JWSR Editor)
     o 2 PEWS News editors
- **Web Master**
  - Irene Pang (3rd year Council Member)
  - Samantha Fox (3rd year Council Member)
  - 2 Volunteers from Membership
- The Publications Committee will consist of up to eight members which will include the current editor of the *JWSR*, the section newsletter editor(s), the section webmaster, two third-year Council members, and up to two volunteers from the membership, which should include past *JWSR* editors when possible. Each year following the annual ASA meeting, the committee will elect its chair from its members and announce that election to the section via the section listserv.

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

- **Book Award Committee:**
  - Lu Zhang (chair)
  - Either Melanie Bush OR Marcel Paret
  - Volunteer from membership
  - There shall be an annual Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award Committee, the composition of which shall be Chairperson-Elect, one member of Council in their first year of service, and one volunteer from the membership, which may be the past award winner. The Chairperson-Elect shall be chair of the committee.

- **Article Awards Committee:**
  - Manuela Boatca (chair)
  - Volunteer from Membership
  - Samantha Agarwal (student rep)
  - There shall be an annual Article Award Committee, the composition of which shall be the PEWS Chairperson (who will serve as chair of the committee), the student representative in their second year of service, and one volunteer from the membership, which may be the past award winner.

- **Teaching and Mentoring Committee:**
- Either Sahan Savas Karatasli OR Kristin Plys
- Zeinab Shuker (Student rep)
  - There shall be an annual Teaching and Mentoring Committee, the composition of which shall be one member of Council in their second year of service (who will serve as chair of the committee), the student representative in their first year of service, and one volunteer from the membership, which may be the past award winner.

- **Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:**
- Either Sahan Savas Karatasli OR Kristin Plys
- Either Melanie Bush OR Marcel Paret
- Volunteer from Membership
- There shall be a Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the composition of which shall be one member of Council in their second year of service, one member of Council in their first year of service, and one volunteer from the membership, which may be the past award winner.

- **Roundtable Organizers:**
  - 1-2 volunteers from the membership, preferably grad students

**Meeting Minutes:**

**Welcome (3.00pm)**

Jennifer Mendez thanked everyone, particularly the outgoing council members for their service, and welcomed all new members.

The discussion then quickly moved to what to do with PEWS News, division’s newsletter. Kelly said it more about how to make it more effective. People like it and its wonderful. She mentioned a blog-like effort would be more effective. Manuela echoed it, continuing that we need more of social media present because many people follow twitter (or other social media). Lu Zhang said she shares the point, stating how to make it more vibrant should be the focus. Zang also support the idea of blog-like thing.

Marcel said Newsletter in PDF format is customary, but it would be effective to do it online so people can link to where they want to look. Sahan said we can do both – PDF and blog (we can post selected parts) because PEWSNews has a long history. Jennifer appreciate the feedback. Some sections she said, are very active in virtual formatting... everything needs to be a collective endeavor

**PEWSNews (3.15pm)**

Kelly, who initiated the discussion appreciated the ideas from everyone. Doing incrementally or may start this year to keep this momentum... Jennnier said we can put this motion and council members can vote... Manuela said we can do this without passing a motion. We can start doing it on twitter.

Shahan said we can go with the idea of blog; he said he can do this but the difficult part is the editorial content and he can volunteer to start. Jennifer appreciated this generous offer

Chris Chase-Dunn brought to the discussion the Wallerstein Mini-conference. Since ASA cancelled the San Francisco meeting, the conference is not taking place for two years. He said he would like to add Kevin Harris (World-Systems scholar, so it would be on the day following the ASA.
Chris mentioned that “we would create a separate committee.” PEWS would sponsor. Additionally, Chris said we are trying to do “alternative” so it doesn’t cost much. Chris discussed that this what can be in LA, we can go with the ASA convention center.

PEWS used to pay $1000, said Bill. He also appreciated Chris doing this. Chris said he would like to do this with a council sub-committee, not involving many people.

Motion (Jennifer Proposed): PEWS sponsor $1000 to Wallerstein Conference unanimously supported

Manuela, incoming chair, and Nikhil Deb, incoming secretary-treasurer, offered their support.

Secretary-Treasurer’s Report, presented by Bill Winders (3.40 pm) [the report is attached]

As of August 6, we had 334 members (compared to 291 at this time last year), PEWS will have an additional session because PEWS day in 2022 will be on the last day of the ASA meeting.

As of June 30, the section account had a balance of $11,011. Our primary expense will be a contribution of $600 to the ASA Minority Fellowship Program. PEWS will also spend about $400 on plaques for section award winners. In 2022, PEWS will help to support the symposium in honor of Immanuel Wallerstein. The JWSR account is funded by an increase in our dues that was required by ASA, as part of the deal to make JWSR an ASA journal. As of June 30, the balance for the JWSR was $16,350.

Bill also discussed how to increase membership. PEWS should consider creating a fund through ASA to which members could contribute to purchase gift memberships for graduate students or other ASA members. PEWS can partner with other ASA sections to share lists of graduate student members for whom to purchase gift memberships.

He said he can work with Nikhil Deb to do this. we can discuss it here and/or do the email motion. Most of the time we wait until the end of the year to increase membership. The motion is opened and the motion carries unanimously...

JWSR Report, presented by Andrej Grabacic (3.50 pm) [the report is attached]
The new issue of JWSR is out. He provided a snapshot of what JWSR has in this issue. He said to modernizing the website to be more functional. We also pay the editor out of the budget allocated. Next special issue would be on anti-systematic movement (two colleagues from UC Irvine are doing this). We also discussed in ASA that we should do a YouTube channel and podcast on the journal. Manuela says “I have a few ideas for podcasts as well” She said, “we need to expand beyond the US.” Jennifer thanked Andrew for his nice work.

**Committee Assignments (4 pm)** are left to the committee chair of the respective ones.

**Awards**
Provide a list of section awards and awardees conferred in the past year.

Immanuel Wallerstein Memorial Book Award
Laura Doyle
*[Inter-Imperiality. Vying Empires, Gendered Labor, and the Literary Arts of Alliance, 2020, Duke University Press]*

Honorable Mention: Nicholas Jepson

Award for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Mangala Subramaniam, Purdue University

Distinguished Article Award
Sahan Savaş Karataşlı

Terence K. Hopkins Student Article Award
Alvin Camba

**2021 Finances**
Provide a narrative on how the 2021 budget matched with actual expenses and income from 2021. Please account for any substantive differences.

As of June 30, 2021, the section account had a balance of $11,011. Based on a membership of more 300, we have a dues allocation of about $1800. Our 2021 budget included $1200 to be allocated to the PEWS reception at ASA 2021, and $1500 to be allocated to a Mini-conference preceding the annual meetings. These events were either canceled or postponed due to the announcement that ASA 2021 would be held virtually. In lieu of the reception, Council voted to contribute $600 to the ASA Minority Fellowship Program. In addition, PEWS will also spend about $400 on plaques (including shipping costs) for section award winners. After the cancellation of the in-person meeting, PEWS officers decided to once again present awardees with plaques, since we could not celebrate their accomplishment at the Business Meeting or in person.
Welcome everyone to our 2021 Annual Business Meeting. I’m delighted to see you all here today. My name is Jennifer Bickham Mendez, and it’s been my honor to serve as chair this past year. At today’s meeting we’ll hear a couple of reports and will also join in congratulating our 2021 award winners.

It gives me great pleasure to report on the events and happenings of the year. First, I would like to thank our amazing officers and committee members this year. In particular, I want to recognize our outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Bill Winders. Bill has been absolutely fantastic over the past year. I feel so fortunate that my term as chair overlapped with his. He’s been a true joy to work with and a wonderfully supportive Secretary-Treasurer. So, I would like us all to give a virtual round of applause for Bill.

I also want to recognize publicly Michaela Curran, our fabulous web weaver who has ensured that our web presence remains current and accurate. On behalf of the section, I want to thank her for her effort, follow-up, and attention to detail.

Despite the difficulties of this past academic year PEWS committees have accomplished a great deal. Here are some highlights.
The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, expertly chaired by Samantha Fox developed a series of motions to change the Section by-laws to better reflect a World-Systems approach to diversity and inclusion. Council recently approved these motions. And after review by ASA the membership will have the opportunity to vote on adopting an Anti-Oppression statement drafted by the committee as well as a name change for the committee and the bi-annual award that it confers. The proposed new name is the Anti-Oppression Committee.

Last spring the committee on teaching and mentorship, chaired with expertise and grace by Irene Pang, hosted a virtual event to introduce the 2021 Mentoring Program, and provide PEWisers the chance to connect virtually to share research interests and discuss topics of interest. Some 25 members of PEWS joined us for that event. The 2021 Mentorship Program was launched last week with around 40 participants signing up. This year mentors and mentees were assigned to mentorship groups of 3. Neither membership in PEWS, nor registering for ASA will be required this year to participate in the program. The committee did an excellent job of match-making in constituting these groups which will meet at least twice over the course of the coming academic year.

I am also pleased to report that over the last academic year PEWS News was revived and reinstated, thanks to the hard work and effort of Marilyn Grell-Brisk and Zeinab Shuker. This team put together two wonderful issues of the newsletter, helping us maintain our intellectual community. We are very grateful to them.
We have a fantastic cohort of incoming council members and officers who will start their terms following this meeting. We are excited to welcome Melanie Bush and Marcel Paret to Council.

I think that’s all I have. I’d ask for a final round of applause for our outgoing Council Members—Jordanna Matlon and Kelly Austin as well as Tanya Golash-Boza who is finishing up her term as past chair.

With that I am delighted and honored to announce that Manuela Boatca will succeed me as the next chair of PEWS and Lu Zhang will begin her term as Chair elect. Nikhil Deb will serve as our next Secretary/Treasurer, and Zeinab Shuker will serve as our new student rep. I feel incredibly confident in pronouncing that our section is in expert hands, and I just want to thank these new offices as well as all the continuing council members for their support and work over the past year.

**Agenda**

**PEWS Business Meeting, August 7, 2021**

1. Report from the Chair (Jennifer Bickham Mendez) (4 min)

2. Report from the Secretary-Treasurer (Bill Winders) (4 min) 11:34am-11:38am

3. Presentation of Awards
   - The 2021 PEWS Distinguished Book Award, presented by Sahan Karatasli and Marilyn Grell-Brisk (6 min) 11:38am-11:44am
   - The 2021 PEWS Distinguished Article Award, presented by Jennifer Bickham Mendez 11:44-11:47
   - The 2021 PEWS Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award, presented by Jennifer Bickham Mendez 11:47-11:51
   - The 2021 PEWS Award for Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, presented by Samantha Fox 11:51-11:54

4. Report from JWSR (Andrej Grabacic) 11:54-11:57

5. Investiture of New Chair and announcement of elected officers/council members
Distinguished Article Award:

On behalf of my fellow committee members Victoria Rios and Daniel De Deus Cunha, I am delighted to announce that this year’s winner of the PEWS Distinguished Article Award is Sahan Savaş Karataşlı for his article: Capitalism and nationalism in the longue durée: Hegemony, crisis, and state-seeking nationalist mobilization, 1492–2013. In this article Karatsli brings fresh insights to World-systems theories, while also introducing an impressive new database made up of news reports and secondary sources dating from 1492 to 2013. Using this database, which he compiled over a period of ten years, and employing multivariate negative binomial regression analysis Karatsli argues that State-seeking (as opposed to state-led) nationalist movements are more likely to take place during periods of financialization, economic crisis, war, colonial occupation, and social unrest. His findings reveal that dominance by financial capital is a recurrent phase of historical capitalism, bringing with it successive waves of state-seeking nationalist mobilization. Through careful argumentation Karatsli leverages these quantitative findings to demonstrate how over time different conjunctures produced by historical dynamics of capitalism create more or less favorable climates for nationalist mobilization on a global level. In this manner this work advances our understanding of the dynamics of nationalism in world history. On behalf of the committee it gives me great pleasure to present this award to Professor Karataşlı. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.
Student award:

On behalf of the articles award committee I am delighted to announce that this year’s winner of the Terence K. Hopkins Student Article Award goes to Alvin Camba for his article, “The Sino-Centric Capital Export Regime: State-Backed and Flexible Capital in the Philippines.” Based on several years of fieldwork in the Philippines and Hong Kong, Camba shows how China’s current Sino-centric capital export regime has involved two types of Chinese capital exports to the global South. He provocatively draws on examples from the Philippines — the Kaliwa Dam project and online gambling—to demonstrate these two types. In the first type, state-backed capital imposes a development model on host states by modifying ‘local orders’ in an attempt to make these states legible by creating maps of peoples and terrains that surround China. However, the absence of any direct coercive apparatus and the existence of an active and resistant civil society make China’s attempts largely unsuccessful. Instead, elites in the host state—in this case, the Philippines-- are able to hijack Chinese capital in order to pursue their own goals.

In the second type, by moving into the Global South flexible capital breaks through the barriers placed by the Chinese state, thereby generating new venues of accumulation and novel ways of organizing production. Flexible capital takes on various forms, including investments in illicit sectors (like illegal online gambling). In the case of the Philippines, while the Chinese government finds online gambling problematic for various reasons, the state has been relatively unsuccessful in curbing these firms, which have found the Philippines to be safe from Chinese government intervention thanks to their allies in the Philippine state. In this highly original work Camba adds further nuance to the question of whether Chinese capital is developmental (that is, good) or oppressive (that is, bad). Further this analysis advances our conceptual understandings
of legibility and state capital and deepens our understanding of the dynamics of flexible capital. I am delighted to present this award to Professor Camba. Congratulations on this accomplishment.