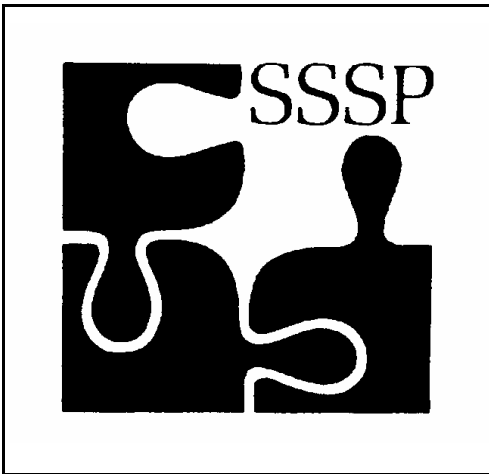


IE NEWSLETTER

Institutional Ethnography Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

November 2004

Vol. 1, No. 3



“What Actually Happened...”

FROM THE DIVISION CHAIR

TIM DIAMOND

Greetings to the Division Members!!! During the Business meeting at last August’s conference in San Francisco, we briefly debated what to call our newsletter. Marie Campbell’s suggestion was “what actually happened.” We take the phrase quite seriously, but not too seriously that it doesn’t also bring a smile to our faces and tongues in our cheeks. So it’s a very good name. What do you think? In this message I share various items of planning and organizing, that is, “institutionalizing” institutional ethnography.

First on the planning, we urge members to renew their membership with SSSP as quickly as possible. We have over 150 members, including some new ones, whom we welcome. So the Division is alive and well going into its second year. In San Francisco we had great turnouts for the sessions and the business meeting and reception. So, as with last year, we urge now for readers to consider attending the meeting in Philadelphia, August 12-14. In this issue we include the panels that we were able to assemble up to this point. Please submit papers to them. In the event of overflow, we will make efforts to construct roundtables where even more IEers can share their work, so please do not shy back from submission.

And, students, please note we now have a paper competition in progress (also explained elsewhere). Thanks to Eric Mykhalovskiy and Marj DeVault for taking the responsibility on this endeavor. There are lots of opportunities for students at the Society for the Study of Social Problems meetings, so please encourage students to join, submit, and attend.

In the very near term we have to hold an election. Please come forward if you have any inkling of wanting to contribute as Chair

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Division Chair
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Ryerson University
Toronto, Ontario
Canada

Paul Luken
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or Chair-elect (and newsletter editor). Or please feel free to submit the name of another person (the nominations committee will approach them to see if they are interested in running). It's imperative that we hold elections and it will be good to get new movers and shakers at the helm, so please come forth.

One more note for Philadelphia planning, we'll have a nice party to celebrate the current boom in publications, especially Dorothy Smith's own Institutional Ethnography: A Sociology for People. I've had the privilege of a preview reading, and it is magnificent. Watch for it from Alta Mira. And come and celebrate it at the meetings!!

IE on the Move

Speaking of meetings, we've had a few, and it is great to see the momentum building on that front as well. "Celebrating the Legacy: A Teach-In on Institutional Ethnography" took place October 1-2 in Toronto, at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, where institutional ethnography lived in its infant years. Many of the veterans of those early years joined in among the 150 attendees to reflect on our progress and to share new material. Nancy Naples also hosted a small conference in Connecticut, mostly with her students from University of Connecticut and UC Irvine. Dorothy Smith had been in residence there for the month of October.

On a final, upbeat note, even as we all hang our heads in gloom at the prospect of more Bushism ahead. At the end of her residence in Connecticut, Dorothy traveled to Washington, DC, to work with Ellen Pence at the Department of Justice. Programs from all around the country were using Pence's Safety Audit, and comparing their various versions. Pure institutional ethnography. Direct Social Change. Reasons for Hope.

New Book of Interest

Inside Corporate U: Women in the Academy Speak Out, edited by Marilee Reimer. Toronto: Sumach Press, 2004.

As more and more women are joining the ranks of the professorate, Canadian universities are restructuring in ways that produce fewer resources and less autonomy. Fourteen chapters, written by Marilee Reimer, Dorothy E. Smith, A. Marguerite Cassin, Linda Eyre, Elizabeth Brulé and others, are devoted to the impacts of the commercialization of academia on scholarship, funding, gender equity, political power, the academic labor force, and curriculum development.

An Internet Discussion Group for Researchers Studying Activists, Activism, Activist Movements and Social Movement Organizations!

If you are interested in participating in a discussion over email about some of the theoretical, ethical, methodological, conceptual (and whatever else!) dilemmas of studying facets of activists or activism, then please contact Sobia at sobia@sprint.ca.

Along with your name and your institutional affiliation, please include a short statement of your general (or specific) research interests relating to activism and any questions that you might hope that the discussion group might be able to address (no email attachments please!!).

This is a new initiative which hopes to bring together participants from varied disciplines, places, and points of view to engage in some sort of discussion about activism. As it is new, please feel free to bring any Hopes, Fears and Expectations to the group as well.

N.B. Please forward any inquiries about this discussion group to the sobia@sprint.ca email address! – Gary Kinsman

Call for Papers – IE Sessions at the Next Annual Meeting

We have planned six sessions for the August 2005 SSSP meeting in Philadelphia. You are encouraged to submit your paper, abstract or 2-3 page summary by January 31, 2005. For submission instructions please go to <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm?tsmi=187>. There you will also find a link to the required Submission Cover Sheet. If your presentation does not fit into the planned sessions, please send your information to Tim Diamond at tdiamond@oise.utoronto.ca. **Please write IE SSSP on the subject line.**

Thematic Session

1. The Unintended Consequences of Therapeutic Interventions

Organizer: Kathryn J. Fox
Department of Sociology
University of Vermont
31 South Prospect
Burlington, VT 05405-0176
Ph: 802-656-2170
Fax: 802-656-2131
Email: KFOX@ZOO.UVM.EDU

Regular Sessions

2. Institutional Ethnographies of Domestic Violence

Organizer: Ellen Pence
Praxis International
5402 North Shore Drive
Duluth, MN 55804
Ph: 218-525-0487 x110
Fax: 218-525-0445
Email: praxisep@aol.com

3. New Issues in Institutional Ethnography

Organizer: Timothy Diamond
Disability Studies
Ryerson University
99 Gerard Street East
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 2K3
Ph: 416-979-5000 x4811
Fax: 416-979-5209
Email: tdiamond@oise.utoronto.ca

Co-Sponsored Sessions:

4. Exploring Welfare Policies Ethnographically Co-sponsor: Sociology and Social Welfare

Organizer: Frank Ridzi
Department of Sociology
LeMoyne College
1419 Salt Springs Road
Syracuse, NY 13214
Ph: 315-445-4480
Fax: 315-445-4550
Email: ridzifm@lemoyne.edu

5. Youth, Aging, and Institutional Ethnography Co-sponsor: Youth, Aging, and the Life Course

Organizer: Suzanne Vaughan
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Arizona State University West
4701 West Thunderbird Rd.
P.O. Box 37100
Phoenix, AZ 85069-7100
Ph: 602-543-6011
Fax: 602-543-6004
Email: svaughan@asu.edu

6. Explicating Ruling Relations in Health Care Co-sponsor: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services

Organizer: Marie Campbell
Faculty of Human and Social Development
University of Victoria
Victoria, BC, Canada V8W 2Y2
Ph: 250-721-8050
Fax: 250-721-7067
Email: mariecam@uvic.ca

Graduate Student Paper Competition

George Smith Award in Institutional Ethnography

The Institutional Ethnography Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems solicits papers for its 2005 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers should advance institutional ethnography scholarship either methodologically and/or through a substantive empirical contribution. Authors must be currently enrolled graduate students or PhD's who have completed their studies by March 2004 or later. The papers must be student-authored; co-authored are acceptable as long as all authors are students. The papers must not have been previously published and should be a maximum of 30 pages including all notes, references, and appendices. Papers must be received by March 15, 2005

There are two ways to enter:

1. Send one copy to

Eric Mykhalovskiy
Community Health and Epidemiology
Faculty of Medicine
Center for Clinical Research
Dalhousie University
5790 University Avenue
Halifax, NS B3H 1V7
Canada

AND one copy to

Marjorie DeVault
Department of Sociology
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY 13244
USA

OR

2. Submit a copy as an email attachment to Eric Mykhalovskiy at eric.mykhalovskiy@dal.ca. Specify "IE paper competition" as the subject.

All entries should specify that they are being submitted for the Graduate Paper Competition in Institutional Ethnography and the author should note if the paper had already been submitted as part of the Society's "Call for Papers."

The winner will be recognized at the annual banquet of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. The prize includes a cash award, registration fees, a banquet ticket, and the opportunity to present the paper at the annual meeting.

Journal of Contemporary Ethnography

Special Issue: Institutional Ethnography

edited by

Peter Grahame, Mount Saint Mary's University

Call for Papers

This special issue of *JCE* will bring institutional ethnography (IE) to the attention of a wider community of ethnographic researchers. The general goal will be to gather and present work that is both strong as ethnography and effective in demonstrating what is distinctive about IE. Space will be limited to four (4) papers. We hope to have a good pool of submissions.

Papers for the special issue will be selected using the following criteria:

- (1) the paper clearly exemplifies the IE approach;
- (2) the paper is credible and interesting as an example of ethnographic work done in a field setting;
- (3) the paper directly addresses and considers problems of doing IE (e.g., beginning in experience, doing interviews, working with texts, mapping social relations, etc.).

The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2005.

Papers should be submitted to:

Peter R. Grahame
1009 Kent Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
USA

Inquiries about the special issue can be directed to Peter Grahame at the above address or at pgrahame@comcast.net.

Institutional Ethnography Division -- Business Meeting Minutes

Russian Hill Room, Cathedral Hill Hotel
1:45-3:15 pm, August 13, 2004

Tim Diamond, Division Chair, welcomed a whopping 18 members to the Annual Business meeting, held as part of the SSSP annual meeting on August 13. After noting the large attendance at the IE session that preceded the Business Meeting and the crowd in the Russian Hill Room for the Business meeting, he reminded the attendees of the upcoming paper sessions and the reception later in the day. He expressed his hopes that the IE Division would invigorate the Society because of its approach to social issues and because of the new members that it was bringing into the Society. He noted that the Division membership had grown to over 130 and remarked that the many Canadian sociologists in the Division would certainly provide a refreshing perspective.

The question of whether the *IE Newsletter* should have another name and what that might be was briefly discussed. While some suggestions were offered, there did not appear to be a clear consensus for a new name at this time. Paul Luken encouraged everyone to submit contributions. Notes announcing new publications, research in progress, or comments about institutional ethnography were encouraged.

There was a good deal of discussion regarding the 2005 program in Philadelphia. The Division is allowed three sessions and additional joint sessions with other divisions are encouraged. Tim Diamond hoped that we would have a thematic session as well. Frank Ridzi agreed to organize a session on social welfare. Eric Mykhalovskiy suggested that there be other types of workshops aside from standard paper sessions. Some options that were discussed dealt with works in progress, preparing IE work for publication, and how to get funding.

Tim Diamond also encouraged people to submit manuscripts for the special section on Institutional Ethnography in *Social Problems*. It was noted that the deadline for submissions was changed to October 1, 2004.

There was also much discussion of student awards. While there was general agreement that an award should be given to the students who produce outstanding papers, it was unclear what the criteria for evaluating the papers would be, the educational level of the awardees, how the awardees would be selected, and so on. These issues will be addressed by Marj DeVault and Eric Mykhalovskiy who agreed to serve as the Student Awards Committee.

Nominations for the position of Division Chair was the next item of business. Alison Griffith agreed to be a candidate. Additional candidates would be welcomed until the official announcement of candidates is produced. Tim Diamond and Paul Luken will serve as the Nominating Committee.

Kathryn Church described the program for the upcoming Institutional Ethnography conference, "Creating a Legacy: A Teach-In on Institutional Ethnography," to be held at OSIE/UT, October 1 and 2. A flyer/registration form was distributed.

Welcome New IE Division Members **(May 18 – October 11, 2004)**

Ola Agevall
Jemel P. Aguilar
Megan Bahns
Flutura Bardhi
John G. Dale
Jackie L. Eller
Lara J. Foley
Judith Bogard Gordon
Carolyn J. Green

John W. Hollister
Sonya L. Jakubec
Joyce M. Johnson
Margo A. Kushner
Karen MacKinnon
Susan K. Metheny
Megan C. Mullins
Doug P. Schrock
Laura West Steck

Paul D. Steele
Teresa A. Swartz
Lisa V. Torres
Max Travers
Steven Vallas
David R. Wells
Joan Weston
Judith Wittner

Call For Nominees

I know. I know. You often say to yourself, “What can I do to be of service to the Institutional Ethnography Division? I am so glad that IE has become a division within the SSSP, and I wish there were some way in which I could help out.”

There is. There is. You could nominate yourself or another member of the Division to be a candidate for the positions of division chair or chair-elect. Ah, I see that you are hesitant. You think that others may be more qualified or that you’re just not right for the job. No Way! This is the opportunity that you’ve been waiting for. And if you don’t act quickly, it will be a couple of years before this possibility comes around again.

Just email Paul Luken at pluken@westga.edu and tell him which office appeals to you. If you are having trouble deciding, the Nominations Committee will be glad to counsel you and see you over this hurdle. Write soon because the deadline is November 20. And write the word “yes” on the subject line.

We would love to hear from you

One aspect of the “Creating a Legacy” conference that I enjoyed the most was hearing about others’ ongoing research projects. There is some exciting IE work taking place, and many people are unaware of it. So if you can find a moment, please send in a brief description of your projects, and we will find a good place for it in this newsletter. Remember, not all of our members are able to attend the various conferences, and this newsletter can help to bridge the communication gap. Also, please submit information on your most recent publications – articles or books – so that we can keep up with the latest developments. – Paul

Employment Opportunities

STATE UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA. The Department of Sociology and Criminology seeks applications for three tenure-track Assistant/Associate Professors positions beginning August 2005. Two positions are in sociology and one is in criminology. For the

sociology positions a PhD in sociology or related field is required. (1) The first sociology position requires a specialization in social psychology. (2) For the second position the area of specialization is open. For both positions we seek candidates who can contribute to our program in a number of areas: social welfare, culture and media studies, race and ethnicity, education, work, organizations and global studies. (3) For the criminology position a PhD in criminology, sociology, or a related field is required. Areas of specialization are open, though the department is particularly interested in applicants with a critical orientation. Each successful candidate must have a strong commitment to teaching, an active research agenda, and the ability to enhance undergraduate and Masters programs. In all cases the level of appointment will be based on qualifications and availability of funds. Interested applicants are invited to visit the department website at <http://www.westga.edu/~soccrim>. Send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and contact information for three references to Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology, State University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA 30118. Screening begins Nov. 15, 2004. The State University of West Georgia is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, AT WEST CAMPUS, The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences. The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences invites applicants for a tenure-track position at the Assistant level to begin August 16, 2005. We are seeking candidates whose teaching and research are in areas related to metropolitan studies and/or social justice and human rights such as, but not limited to migration, globalization, international non-governmental organizations, social policy organizations, and/or international human rights law. Required qualifications include a Ph.D. by August 15, 2005, in a social science discipline or interdisciplinary field; evidence of successful teaching in an area related to metropolitan studies and/or social justice and human rights; record of publication in one or both of these areas, and a record of, or evidence of potential for, external funding appropriate to experience. We desire candidates with a record of interdisciplinary collaboration in research and grant writing. The successful candidate will teach in our interdisciplinary department, conduct research, provide service to the campus and community, and contribute to the development of proposed MA programs in Metropolitan Studies and/or Social Justice and Human Rights. Applicants must send a hard copy cover letter addressing qualifications related to the above requirements, a statement about research, teaching and grant activity planned for the next five years, a current curriculum vitae, the names and contact information (address and telephone number) for at least three references. Please send your application to: Thomas Keil, Social Policy/Organizations Search Committee, Arizona State University West campus, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, P.O. Box 37100, Phoenix, AZ 85069. Deadline is January 14, 2005; if not filled the 15th of each month thereafter until the search is closed. For further information about the department, consult: <http://www.west.asu.edu/sbs>. As a new American university, Arizona State University is a force for discovery, turning students into leaders who shape the future. In its 20th year, the West campus of ASU, located in Phoenix, fulfills this mission through interdisciplinary teaching, research, and community engagement. The campus serves more than 7,300 students and offers 29 bachelor's degree programs, nine master's degrees, eight professional certificates and is currently developing its first doctoral degree program. Please visit our web site at <http://www.west.asu.edu/>. ASU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer in policy and practice.