



Society for the Study of Social Problems

Founded 1951

Community Research and Development Division Newsletter

SUMMER 2009

Chair: Theo J. Majka, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology

Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work • University of Dayton • 300 College Park • Dayton, OH 45469-1442
Phone: 937-229-2138 • Email: Theo.Majka@notes.udayton.edu

From the Division Chair ...

Our SSSP annual meeting in San Francisco, August 7-9, will feature noteworthy sessions with a wide range of subjects. Our Division is sponsoring or co-sponsoring 10 sessions this year, 2 more than last year. Seven are co-sponsored with other divisions. Three of our sessions are thematic ones that are organized around this year's theme of "Race, Ethnicity, and the Continuing Problem of the Color Line": 1) Immigrant Enclaves and Residential Segregation (Sunday, 8:30am) 2) Community-based Efforts Targeting Racial and Ethnic Inequities and Disadvantages (Sunday, 10:30am) and 3) Environmental Racism and Community (Sunday, 4:30pm). Topics of other Community Division sessions include: globalization; experiential & service learning and community internships; community action research; social justice, peace & the environment, and environmental racism, among others. The schedules, paper titles and presenters are listed later in this newsletter.

Also, please plan to join us for our division meeting on Friday, August 7 from 4:30pm - 6:10pm in the Stanford West room of the SSSP hotel: The Stanford Court Hotel. We'll be planning for the 2010 SSSP Meeting in Atlanta next August 13-15, including session topics and titles. Details are below.

Our student paper competition winner this year is Julia M. Wesley, graduate student at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She will present her paper, "Addressing the 21st Century Problem of the Color Line Using Community-based Participatory Research with Urban Black Churches," in Session 42: Student Award Winning Papers I, on Friday, August 7 at 4:30- 6:10pm in the Russian Hill room. Our thanks are due to Division member Kimberly Kennard who once again was the coordinator for the award.

Since this is my last SSSP meeting as chair, I want to thank all of you for making it a pleasant experience. I've enjoyed coordinating sessions and planning for future meetings. Most of all, it has been fulfilling that our sessions have provided stimulating forums for the presentation of SSSP members' research, particularly of scholars in the early stages of their careers.

Our new chair is Heather MacIndoe of the Department of Public Policy and Public Affairs, University of Massachusetts Boston. She will assume the duties of the Division chair after the 2009 meetings. Please assist her in keeping our division vital and energizing.

~ Theo Majka

From the Incoming Chair ...

Hello, I'm Heather MacIndoe the incoming Community Research & Development Division chair. I'd like to take this opportunity to briefly introduce myself. I'm an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at University of Massachusetts Boston. My research focuses on the various roles that nonprofit organizations play in urban environments. I am particularly interested in how public and private funding to nonprofits impacts neighborhood residents who rely on these organizations for a variety of services.

I know that many of you are doing really interesting and diverse research on communities and I hope that you will continue to look to the Division's paper sessions as a forum to

introduce and solicit feedback on your research. I would like all of us to make a special effort to engage recent PhDs and graduate students in the Division--both by encouraging our students to submit, present, and attend the SSSP conference, and by identifying students who have papers to submit to our annual student paper competition.

I look forward to getting to know those of you with whom I haven't already had the pleasure of interacting and to working together to continue the engaging paper sessions at the annual conference. If you have suggestions for paper sessions at the 2010 annual meetings or other suggestions please contact me by email: Heather.MacIndoe@umb.edu.

Division Meetings and Sessions

All sessions held at the SSSP hotel: The Stanford Court Hotel • 905 California Street • San Francisco, CA

Divisional Meeting: Planning for 2010 Sessions and Division Business

Friday, August 7, 4:30-6:10 p.m. • Room: Stanford West

Planning for the 2010 SSSP Meeting in Atlanta, August 13-15 will address the theme of the 2010 meeting, “Social Justice Work.” Since much of the pursuit of social justice occurs within particular communities, division members should be able to expand upon various dimensions of the theme.

At our Divisional meeting, we will discuss and plan our sessions for the 2010 SSSP meetings, including session topics and title. Come offer your suggestions and volunteer to organize one of the sessions. We should have at least one that is thematic – directly relates to the theme of the 2010 meetings. We will also discuss our Division’s undergraduate student paper competition and other issues pertaining to our Division. We look forward to seeing you at our divisional meeting!

From the SSSP website description of next year’s theme:

SSSP members engage in social justice work. The interdisciplinary perspectives and methods that activist scholars use to pursue social justice is the theme of the 2010 annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Social justice work is problem-driven scholarship that employs rigorous theory and research methods. Examples include work on human rights and civil rights; action research focused on injustices on the factory floor or in the courtroom; and the study of discrimination or violence which is directed at groups or individuals in local communities in the United States and throughout the wider world.

Explanation and understanding are the starting points, not the results, of social justice work. The most urgent and persistent social problems – war and violence, economic distress and poverty, inequalities, and unfair treatment of social groups – initiate social justice work, which changes the value or utility attributed to mainstream scholarship within the social sciences. Practitioners, all types of scholar activists, are not blinded by

a favorite framework or the desire to produce papers directed only to academic specialists. Social justice and ways to achieve it, rather than intellectual struggles, are deemed to be the worthy battles.

Social justice workers are engaged within the community, whether local or global, yet they bring new ideas and new perspectives into the academy. Theory and practice are linked. The linkage occurs when scholars decide to understand why immigrant workers are forced to do ‘dirty work’ to care for their families, or when they struggle to understand militarism, or how diplomacy gone wrong can provoke a nuclear threat or interpersonal violence.

The 2010 meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems will feature presentations and thematic sessions on the work of social justice practitioners – those who organize or study social movements, those who look within and across organizations to see how community problems can be ameliorated, those who talk to persons who fight wars in other nations or wars within themselves. A number of workshops and panels on the scholarship of engagement and the classroom practices introducing students to social justice work are planned.

The many forms of social justice work will be featured. Protest movements, community studies, social change projects from within organizations, social action research, institutional ethnographies, comparative studies, and policy studies are examples. We will challenge social science dogma and celebrate the possibilities of a just world.

- JoAnn L. Miller, SSSP President,
Purdue University

But that’s next year. Now onto our sessions for this year...

Division Sponsored and Co-sponsored Sessions

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

Session 5: 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM

Room: Russian Hill

Impact of Globalization on Communities in Less Developed and Developed Nations (co-sponsored with Global Division)

Organizer & Presider: Debarashmi Mitra,
Delta State University

Papers:

- "Globalization, State, and Community Resistances: Water Rights in India," Mangala Subramaniam, Jaclyn Tabor and Christopher Malackany, Purdue University
- "A Different Perspective on Nations Within Nations: Immigration and Population Policies in Kuwait and Bahrain," Connie L. McNeely, George Mason University and Mohammad Al-fahad, Kuwait University
- "Understanding Racial Reconciliation from a Global Perspective: Tourism and Race in America's Periphery," Alan Barton, Delta State University
- "Managing Purity, Maintaining Moral Boundaries: Distinction, Deference, and Social Change in Modern India," Patrick Inglis, CUNY Graduate Center

Session 35: 2:30 PM - 04:10 PM

Room: #208

Research Matters

Organizer: J.S. Onesimo Sandoval, Saint Louis University
Presider: Josie Parker, Georgia State University

Papers:

- "Removing barriers to effective HIV testing interventions: Maintaining Fidelity while integrating Clinical Practice Wisdom to create a flexible, evidence-based approach," Jemel Aguilar and Jeremy Goldbach, University of Texas at Austin
- "Holistic Re-Entry: A Practice-based, Mixed Method Evaluation of The Fortune Society Academy," William Cabin, Hunter College/CUNY and Susan Lang, S Lang & Associates
- "A response to Kimberly A. DeTardo-Bora's 'Action research in a world of positivist-oriented review boards'," Jennifer Pearce, California State University East Bay, Dept. of Public Affairs and Admin
- "What Time Is It? Methodological Issues in Measuring Medication Adherence in Seropositive People in Ethiopia," Yordanos Tiruneh, Northwestern University

- "Building the Social Capital of Low-Income Adults Via Homeownership and Asset Building Programs: The Case of Denver's Home Ownership Program," Anna M. Santiago, George C. Galster, Angela A. Kaiser, Ana H. Santiago-San Roman and Cristina Tucker, Wayne State University

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

Session 62: 12:30 PM - 2:10 PM

Room: #208

Experiential Learning, Service Learning, and Community Internships (co-sponsored with Teaching Social Problems Division)

Organizer: Vicky M. MacLean, Middle Tennessee State University
Presider: Theo Majka, University of Dayton

Papers:

- "Goal Oriented Pedagogy for Integrating Experiential Learning Practices into the Curriculum," Paulina Ruf, Lenoir-Rhyne University and Elizabeth Scheel, Saint Cloud State University
- "Teaching Empowerment toward Change: Possibilities and Pitfalls in an Academic-Meets-Organizer Partnership," Kristin Marsh, University of Mary Washington and Kevin Simowitz, Virginia Organizing Project
- "The Community Service Miniterm: An Innovation in Service Learning," Janet Grigsby, Union College
- "'It's Not Just About You': Teaching Students about Social Problems through Community Organizations," Shirley A. Jackson, Southern Connecticut State University
- "Teaching and Learning Moments: Studying Accessibility in City Services with Undergraduate and Graduate Students," Kathleen Lowney and Ginger Macheski, Valdosta State University

Session 73: 2:30 PM - 04:10 PM

Room: #208

Service Learning & Community Action Research: The Global Experience (co-sponsored with Teaching Social Problems Division)

Organizer: Vicky M. MacLean, Middle Tennessee State University
Presider: Theo Majka, University of Dayton
Discussant: Shirley A. Jackson, Southern Connecticut State University

Division Sponsored and Co-sponsored Sessions, continued

Papers:

- “More Worldly: College Student Views of US Foreign Policy Before and After Global Travel,” Christine Wernet, University of South Carolina Aiken
- “An Exploratory Survey of School Social Work in S. Korea and the United States,” Alfred Joseph and Ji-Young Lim, Miami University
- “Reflection on Contrasting Communities: Racial and Gendered Differences in Sex Education Classrooms,” Melissa Busher, Illinois State University
- “On the Ground Social Action in the Trenches with the Poor,” Warner Woodworth, Brigham Young University

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

THEMATIC

Session 86: 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM

Room: California Blue

Immigrant Enclaves and Residential Segregation

Organizer, Presider & Discussant: Thomas J. Keil, Arizona State University

Papers:

- “Immigrant Representation In and Influence on Real and Imagined Culture in New York City,” Elizabeth Miller, CUNY Graduate Center
- “Immigration, Racialization, and Infiltration of the Model Minority Myth into Korean American Communities,” Hyeyoung Kwon, University of Southern California (USC)
- “Not All Are Created Equal: The Racial Impact of Advance Placement Enrollment Program in Howard County’s Public High Schools,” Junior Hopwood, Howard University
- “Shifting Color Lines: How Racial Segregation Shaped The American Metropolis,” J.S. Onesimo Sandoval, Saint Louis University

THEMATIC

Session 96: 10:30 AM - 12:10 PM

Room: California Blue

Community-based Efforts Targeting Racial and Ethnic Inequities and Disadvantages (co-sponsored with the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division)

Organizer: Madeline Troche-Rodriguez, Harry S. Truman College
 Presider & Discussant: Elena Gutierrez, University of Illinois-Chicago

Papers:

- “Whosoever Will, Let Him Come: How Black Mega Churches Respond to Race Matters and Racial Issues,” Sandra L. Barnes, Vanderbilt University

- “Focus Group Needs Assessment of a Local Latino Community,” Anne Statham, University of Southern Indiana
- “Challenging Institutional Disadvantage through Service Learning in an Inner-City Neighborhood,” Theo Majka & Linda Majka, University of Dayton
- “MoveSmart.org: An Innovative Approach to Promote Vibrant and Diverse Neighborhoods in Chicago,” Madeline Troche-Rodriguez, Harry S Truman College and Justin Massa, MoveSmart.Org

Session 112: 12:30 PM - 2:10 PM

Room: Fournou’s Oven

Social Justice, Peace, and Environment (co-sponsored with Environment & Technology and Poverty, Class & Inequality Divisions)

Organizer & Presider: Julie Andrzejewski, St. Cloud State University

Papers:

- “Social Justice, Peace, and Environmental Education: A Key to Addressing Social Problems,” Julie Andrzejewski, St. Cloud State University
- “Devastation by Hurricane Katrina as a State Crime: Perceptions of Victims and the Public,” Kelly L. Faust and Susan M. Carlson, Western Michigan University
- “When the Rally Is Over: Patriotism, Presidential Approval, and Dissent in the Aftermath of War,” Jeremy Straughn, Purdue University and Tauna Sisco, St. Anselm College
- “Barack Obama as a Human Rights President: A Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis,” Laura Finley, Barry University
- “The Political Discourse of the Global South at the WTO: Toward Institutionalization or Marginalization?” René Audet and Jules Duchastel, Sociology, Université du Québec à Montréal

Session 114: 12:30 PM - 02:10 PM

Room 719

Politics of Inclusion/Exclusion in the Neo-liberal Agenda and Participatory Development (co-sponsored with the Global Division)

Organizers: David A. Smith, University of California Irvine and Jon Shefner, University of Tennessee
 Presider: Jon Shefner, University of Tennessee

Division Sponsored and Co-sponsored Sessions, continued

Papers:

- “Coalition Work: a comparison of two Mexican contexts,” Krista Brumley, Wayne State University and Jon Shefner, University of Tennessee
- “Methodologies of the Peoples: Approaches to Inclusion and Discovery,” Doreen E. Martinez, University of Colorado - Boulder
- “National Culture and Neoliberal State Legitimacy: The Case of Turkey,” Cory Blad, Manhattan College and Banu Koçer, Beykent University

Session 121: 2:30 PM - 04:10 PM

Room: Stanford East

Roundtable: Teaching Research for Community Action

Organizer Presider & Discussant: Linda Majka, University of Dayton

Papers:

- “What Now?: The Challenges and Successes of a Community Based Homeless Census Count,” Josie Parker and Pam Regus, Pathways Community Network and Georgia State University and Jane Massey, Pathways Community Network
- “Census Tracks, Socio-cultural City Structures, and Social Stratification: Teaching the Intersections of Identity and Social Life,” Daniel Farr, University at Albany, SUNY
- “Responding to Challenges Facing Nonprofit Agencies Serving Youth in a Rural Community: A Collaborative Model for Enhancing Agency Effectiveness and Sustainability,” Karen L. Porter, Alfred University

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Session 127: 4:30 PM - 6:10 PM

Room: California Blue

Environmental Racism and Community (co-sponsored with Environment & Technology, Health, Health Policy & Health Services and Racial & Ethnic Minorities Divisions)

Organizer: Shawn A. Cassiman, University of Dayton
Presider & Discussant: Linda Majka, University of Dayton

Papers:

- “Poverty and Inequality issues in Environmental Problems: A paradox on the White River,” Esha Sanyal, Kansas State University
- “I Keep to Myself: Negotiating Social Interactions Under Conditions of Scrutiny,” Tennille Allen, Lewis University
- “Captive Audiences? How Residents in Two Detroit Neighborhoods Respond to Lack of Accessible, High Quality Food Sources,” Daniel Rose, PhD Candidate - University of Michigan - Department of Sociology
- “Right to water as a right to health issue: world polity, contention and prospects,” Michelle Thompson and Alex Otieno, Arcadia University
- “Narratives of Urban Space Among the Jamaican Middle Class,” Jennifer Simon, Georgia State University