July 3, 2008

To:      SSSP Board of Directors
From:   Nancy Mezey, Chair of Special Division Chairs
RE:      2007-2008 Division Report

This year has run smoothly regarding the Special Divisions, thanks largely to the work of Michele Koontz, Division Chairs, and active members of each division. The use of nomination forms is working very well, particularly as people sent in many nominations in advance.

This report highlights input shared by Division Chairs during the 2007 meetings and throughout the year. It is divided into suggestions at the Divisional level and at the Board/Committee level. Some of these issues were discussed at the end of the 2007 meetings as well.

**A. Suggestions at the Divisional Level**
1. Divisions need to continue to encourage more members to participate at the divisional level.
2. Divisions need to continue to generate interest in the graduate student paper awards, perhaps working with the SSSP Student Representatives, as well as graduate students in their divisions.
3. Divisions should work on publishing three newsletters a year (fall, spring, and early summer)

**B. Suggestions at the Board/Committee Level**
1. Chairs have asked if the Program Committee can coordinate with the ASA so that division days do not overlap. They point out the ASA plans their division days in advance, so coordinating may be possible.
2. Chairs request that session organizers have discretion as to how many papers they accept per session. Many feel that five papers per session is too many and would rather only have four.
3. Chairs request that the Program Committee not put papers in sessions without first consulting the organizer first.
4. There is a concern about international presenters not being able to attend. Many are having trouble securing visas and had to cancel last year. We invite suggestions as to how to address this issue.
5. Having resolutions and nominations meet during the same meeting is problematic because of time limitations. Chairs request one longer, or perhaps two shorter, meetings to address these separate issues.