

## **Report of the 2008-09 Local Arrangements Committee, San Francisco, CA**

Chair: Rebecca Wepsic Ancheta, City College of San Francisco

Committee Member: Kimberly Richman, University of San Francisco

**Annual Meeting Site:** This year's site is the Stanford Court Hotel at 905 California Street, San Francisco, CA.

**January 29-Feb. 31 Site Visit:** Michele and Steve visited San Francisco to tour the conference site and finalize meeting arrangements. LAC Chair Rebecca Ancheta identified several restaurants for the Board dinner and made reservations at two restaurants (*Rue Saint Jacques* and *Crustacean*) to visit while Steve and Michele were in San Francisco. The restaurants, due to pricing, room set-up, or location were decided against. *The University Club* was suggested and was initially decided on as the site of the board dinner after the site visit had taken place. However, in July, it was discovered that the University Club was not fully ADA accessible. The board dinner was moved and will now take place at *Fournou's Oven* at the Stanford Court Hotel on Thursday, August 6th, from 7:30pm – 9:30pm. The cost per person is \$53.68 per person.

Rebecca and Michele walked from the Stanford Court to the ASA hotels (Hilton San Francisco and Parc 55 Hotel), to estimate the walking times from the SSSP hotel. Entertainment for the silent auction was also discussed.

**\*Recommendation:** The 2009 contract outlining the duties of the local arrangements chair states that the cost per person for the board of director's dinner "should not exceed \$40." This amount is far below the amount eventually negotiated for the dinner. It is recommended that the amount in the contract be raised to \$55 (inclusive), so that future local arrangements chairs may identify restaurants that are appropriate for the board's needs. We may also want to consider adding that the restaurant must be ADA compliant.

**Program:** Rebecca wrote a "Welcome to San Francisco" piece for the SSSP website and both the preliminary and final programs. Airín D. Martínez, Doctoral Candidate in Sociology at the University of California-San Francisco, agreed to write a separate "Welcome to San Francisco" message from the graduate student's perspective. In appreciation for her work, the committee is paying for her ticket to the SSSP awards banquet from the local arrangements committee budget.

**Meeting Promotion/Media:** Rebecca wrote a press release that was approved by Steve and Tom. She then compiled a list of the major television stations, newspapers, and Sociology Departments of the San Francisco Bay Area. Rebecca sent the press release by e-mail to each of these organizations.

**Directions to and from Stanford Court Hotel and ASA hotels:** Rebecca provided Michele with walking directions from the Stanford Court Hotel to the ASA hotels.

**AIDS Fundraiser and Auction:** In late January and February, AIDS organizations located in or near San Francisco were suggested as possible recipients of the Silent Auction proceeds. The websites of the organizations were reviewed in order to identify the organization that could most benefit from the fundraiser. Steven decided on Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center whose mission is to educate, support, empower, and

advocate for Asian and Pacific Islander communities, particularly those living with or at-risk for, HIV/AIDS.

During the January site visit, entertainment for the AIDS Auction was discussed. Rebecca suggested the local jazz/blues vocalist, Denise Fraga. Ms. Fraga was contacted and a contract was signed a few weeks after the site visit.

Items that have been donated by both SSSP members and non-members include: pottery, books, a music CD, photographs, and a SSSP membership. A list is being made as items are donated and a bidding sheet for each item donated is being prepared by Rebecca. A flyer is also being prepared to publicize the fundraiser and auction. It will be distributed in conjunction with the SAN Mini-Conference at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

**Materials Stored and Delivered to the Hotel:** Rebecca is receiving registration materials, bags, auction items, and other press materials. She will transport these to the hotel on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Submitted by:**

Rebecca Wepsic Ancheta, PhD  
2008-09 LAC Chair