

2009-2010 SSSP Business Meeting Minutes
Saturday, August 14, 2010

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to Order by President JoAnn Miller.

ITEM #2 – ADOPTION (REVISION) OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

ITEM #3 – REVIEW OF THE MINUTES FROM LAST YEAR'S MEETING

Secretary Glenn Muschert presented action items from the minutes from last year's meeting.

ITEM #4 – REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY SUMMARIZING THE 2010 BOARD ACTIONS

Secretary Glenn Muschert presented the action items from this year's board meetings.

ACTION: The approved bylaw changes related to the termination of a Special Problems Division were amended to keep the wording to make them appear less punitive, without changing the spirit of these amendments.

ACTION: The board approved the results of the annual audit.

ACTION: The board moved that the Editorial and Publications Committee take up the issue of whether the SSSP can pursue other avenues for publication that create revenue, i.e. a new online journal.

NOTE: On August 15, 2010, the board did not support a motion to form an ad hoc committee to explore the viability of a new, policy-based SSSP journal. Thus, this motion was, in part, undone in a subsequent board meeting.

ACTION: The board moved for the creation of an ad hoc committee for the discussion of channels for all other avenues (excluding publications) for creating revenue. The committee is composed of Héctor Delgado (Chair), Alison Griffith, Ray Michalowski, JoAnn Miller, and Barbara Katz Rothman.

ACTION: The board approved that the SSSP should sign a five-year contract with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, effective 1/1/12 – 12/31/16.

ACTION: The board approved a 9% increase in the institutions subscription rates for *Social Problems* for the 2012 calendar year.

ACTION: The board decided to set a limit of \$600 annually for each active Special Problems Division.

ACTION: The board approved the 2010 revised budget.

ACTION: The board approved the following change to the by-laws governing Special Problems Divisions. The Council of Special Problems Divisions may recommend that a Division be discontinued, if the division fails to comply with one or more of the following requirements: (1) have at least 150 members for two years running, (2) distribute at least one newsletter a year, (3) have a replacement chair elected by the end of the current chair's term of office, (4) organize at least two sessions for the annual meeting, (5) be represented at every meeting of the Council of Special Problems Divisions, (6) hold a divisional meeting at the annual meeting, and (7) maintain a current entry in our online publication *Working Toward A Just World*. The division can appeal the Council's recommendation, first to the Council itself, and ultimately to the Board if it is unsuccessful in its appeal to the Council.

NOTE: This change to the by-laws was approved by the board, and does not need to be approved in the 2011 general election.

ACTION: The board approved that the society would move to an electronic only production of *Social Problems Forum* (i.e., the SSSP newsletter).

ACTION: The board approved, that on the 2011 general election ballot, the SSSP membership will vote on the SSSP moving to an electronic-only voting procedure.

ACTION: The board approved that an annual budget line for accessibility services be increased to \$2500 per year, with the funds being divided equally among those requesting accessibility. The balance of costs associated with accessibility services would be the responsibility for the members requesting the services. The board referred the issue to the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee for their recommendation for how such a change would be funded.

ACTION: The committee report was amended according to the board's suggestion.

Recommendation: the committee recommended that the annual budget for the Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund be increased by \$1000 to a total of \$5000 for the 2010-2011 year. The board referred the issue to the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee.

Recommendation: that the costs of wiring money to the awardees be absorbed by the SSSP at a maximum of \$50 per award recipient.

ACTION: The board approved the committee recommendation that the applications go to an on-line only format. And, the board approved the committee recommendation that the applicant criteria be limited to transportation costs only, and that the applicants provide a copy of the price quote along with their student ID.

ACTION: The board approved giving separate names to the two mentoring programs: "Meeting Mentor Program" and "Professional Mentor Program."

ACTION: That the identified issues be referred to the Membership and Outreach Committee, with the request that they will return with recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION: that the SSSP administrative office adhere to the application process deadline for the Racial/Ethnic Minority Scholarship.

RECOMMENDATION: that attention should be given to the informing committee members of the review process for the Racial/Ethnic Scholarship.

ACTION: The board approved that the following changes should be made to the governance concerning the Racial/Ethnic Scholarship committee composition: that the committee should be comprised of members at all levels of seniority, although there will be no student members of the committee. The committee should be composed of the chair, chair-elect, and five other members.

RECOMMENDATION: The Racial/Ethnic Scholarship committee should consider focusing the award to members of economically disadvantaged racial groups, not simply to members of minority groups in general.

ITEM #5 – REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS*

Ted Chiricos reported on the status of *Social Problems*. The journal is working in good order, and the editor recognized the service of the managing editor and production editor, contribution of the reviewers. The use of MS-Central has been of great use to the journal. The \$25 submission fee has been accepted largely without complaint.

ITEM #6 – REPORT FROM THE EDITORS OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS FORUM: THE SSSP NEWSLETTER*

Héctor Delgado reported upon the transition surrounding the change in editorship associated with the newsletter. Two previous editors stepped up in the interim, while the SSSP searched for a new editor. A new newsletter editor to take over for the up-coming winter issue will be presented for board approval at the August 15, 2010 meeting.

ITEM #7 – REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Héctor Delgado expressed his gratitude to the office staff, and spoke of the transitions in the office, and discussed the activities of the SSSP office in response to the Arizona legislation and the issues of academic freedom, specifically the events at Marquette University. In addition, the SSSP administrative office is studying the relevance of internationalization for the Society and the importance of creating an experts list. There is increased outreach to practitioners. The Society has a Wikipedia entry.

ITEM #8 – REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND MEETING MANAGER

Michele Koontz reported that the attendance at this year's meeting was 580. The AIDS fundraiser raised nearly \$2000 dollars. Michele discussed transitions in the office. Members were encouraged to respond to the meeting survey that will be forthcoming electronically.

ITEM #9 – A REVIEW OF THE BYLAWS CHANGES AND ANY PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER CHANGE

Héctor Delgado reviewed the two approved bylaws changes. The first related to the activity of Special Problems Divisions. The board approved that the council of special problems divisions can be discontinued if they fail to abide by a number of criteria (as specified in the bylaws). The other revision relates to the Lee Scholar-Activist Award – that the funds would now be awarded to foreign scholars from economically disadvantaged countries who without these funds could not attend the Annual Meeting. In addition, “-Activist” will be removed from the award name.

ITEM #10 – REPORT FROM THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

PJ McGann presented the resolutions as a whole. Discussion of the resolutions ensued. Resolutions 1, 3, and 5 were adopted as revised and presented by the Special Problems Division Chairs. Resolutions 2 and 4 were tabled, and will be revisited at future meetings.

ACTION: The membership approved the adoption of these motions, as listed below.

**2010 APPROVED RESOLUTIONS
THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS**

RESOLUTION 1: EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

Our sincere appreciation is expressed to all of the officers, committee chairs, and members who have made this program possible and whose efforts maintain the vitality of the SSSP. First, we thank President JoAnn L. Miller for her outstanding leadership in developing the 60th Annual Meeting and its theme: Social Justice Work. We also thank this year's Program Committee: Chair: Glenn W. Muschert and committee members Henry H. Brownstein, David L. Levinson, and Paul D. Steele; and Local Arrangements Committee Chair: Wendy Simonds. We thank the staff of The Sheraton Atlanta for fine

accommodations and we particularly want to recognize the efforts made by Cynthia Hernandez, Convention Services Manager and Esther Hunt, Director of Association Sales.

The Society wishes to express its gratitude to Past President Steven E. Barkan for his years of leadership; Vice-President PJ McGann for managing the resolutions process; Glenn W. Muschert for his service as Secretary; and Susan M. Carlson for her service as Treasurer. The Society also thanks A. Javier Treviño, President-Elect; Carolyn C. Perrucci, Vice-President Elect; Board of Directors: Carol Brooks Gardner, Raymond J. Michalowski, Sarah Jane Brubaker, Barbara Katz Rothman, Wendy Simonds, outgoing members Luis Fernandez and Alison Griffith, Antwan Jones (outgoing) and Louis Edgar Esparza, student representatives of the Board; Stephani Williams, Chair of the Council of Special Problems Divisions; Ted Chiricos, Editor of *Social Problems*; Anne Mercuri and Stephen Couch, Editors of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*; Anna M. Santiago, outgoing Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee Chair and committee members Stephani Williams, David L. Levinson, and Susan M. Carlson; Claire M. Renzetti, Editorial and Publications Committee Chair and committee members James A. Holstein, Lora Bex Lempert, Benigno E. Aguirre, Marjorie L. DeVault, Lara Foley, Ted Chiricos, Anne Mercuri, Stephen Couch, Anna M. Santiago, and Amy S. Wharton; the University of Tennessee and the Department of Sociology for hosting the SSSP Administrative Office; the Vice Provost for Engagement Office at Purdue University for their contribution to program activities and to the University of California Press for their financial contribution to the registration bags.

The Society wishes to thank Executive Officer Héctor L. Delgado, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Assistant & Webmaster Sharon Shumaker, and Graduate Research Associate Sarah Hendricks for continuing to make the organization run and do all that it does year in and year out.

RESOLUTION 2: DISCONTINUE THE ATLANTA “BRAVES” LOGO AND PARAPHERNALIA

WHEREAS in 2007, the SSSP approved a resolution calling for the discontinuation of the demeaning and racist use of Native American nicknames, logos, and mascots in sport; and
WHEREAS the Atlanta Braves organization, despite decades of requests and protests by Native American groups and organizations, continues to use Native America symbols and images that perpetuate stereotypes and the stigmatization of Native American people and Nations,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the membership of the SSSP authorizes and directs the Administrative Office of the SSSP to send a copy of the 2007 Resolution and a letter to the Administrative Office of the Atlanta Braves, the Governor of Georgia, and the Mayor of Atlanta, with a copy to local newspapers, calling on the Atlanta Braves organization to discontinue and cease in promoting any and all demeaning and otherwise negative representations of Native Americans, and in particular tomahawk chants, paraphernalia, and logos.

RESOLUTION 3: TO OFFICIALLY ENDORSE THE CLEAN WATER PROTECTION ACT [HR 1310]

From: W. Ryan Wishart, Department of Sociology, University of Oregon;
Shannon Elizabeth Bell, Department of Sociology, University of Kentucky;
Sara Malley, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee

Whereas many communities' health and wellbeing depend upon the ecological functioning and purity of the water system that has its headwaters in the mountains of Appalachia, and over 1,200 miles of streams have already been impacted by mountaintop removal coal mining (MTR) (United States Environmental Protection Agency 2005),

Whereas MTR has impacted more than one million acres of land and more than 500 mountains in the Central Appalachian states of West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia (Geredien 2009), and the number of permits for new MTR mines continues to rise,

Whereas MTR has many devastating consequences for residents living in communities down-valley from these mining operations, including massive flooding (Flood Advisory Technical Taskforce 2002); coal slurry impoundment breaks and disasters (Erikson 1976, Scott et al. 2005); respiratory problems from coal dust in the air (Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition 2005); and well water contamination consisting of heavy metals (present in coal) and carcinogenic chemicals used in the coal cleaning process (Orem 2006),

Whereas the Appalachian Regional Commission reports that in 2000, more than 75% of Appalachian coal counties were classified as “economically distressed,” despite providing more than one-third of the coal produced in the United States,

Whereas the most comprehensive peer-review study of MTR to date has concluded that Mountaintop Mining and Valley Fill (MTM/ VF) permits “should not be granted” because of the “preponderance of scientific evidence that [MTR/VF] impacts are pervasive and irreversible and that mitigation cannot compensate for losses” (Palmer et al 2010),

Whereas many residents and environmental justice advocates in the Appalachian coalfields have been subjected to violence and threats of violence,

Whereas legislation to better-regulate this destructive practice is currently proposed in Congress and the legality of mining permits under current laws is under review,

Be it therefore resolved that the membership of the SSSP is encouraged to be mindful of the social problems surrounding coal extraction, including the needs of displaced workers, in their professional work and to engage with their elected representatives as advocates to resolve said problems.

Be it further resolved that the SSSP shall officially endorse the Clean Water Protection Act [HR 1310] currently before the House and communicate this endorsement to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

Be it further resolved that the SSSP encourages the Senate to pass complementary legislation to address the problems of environmental justice discussed above.

Be it further resolved that the SSSP strongly encourages Congress to pass legislation to ensure that coalfield communities who have provided cheap energy to the nation at the cost of their environment and health receive assistance in dealing with economic hardship from ongoing decline in extractive employment.

Resources:

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The SSSP should forward this resolution to:

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Sara Elizabeth Malley - smalley2@utk.edu

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ITEM #11 – REPORT FROM THE TREASURER ON THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE SOCIETY
Susan M. Carlson reported on the financial state of the SSSP. The Society continues to hold its own, despite tough economic times. The SSSP experienced a \$60K (paper gain) increase in assets, which helps to off-set the \$143K (paper loss) decrease experienced in 2008. The SSSP is likely facing a budget deficit, resulting by a decline in membership dues and a decrease in institutional subscriptions for the journal. Reserve funds might help to see the Society through the short- and middle-term period. The annual audit gave the Society a clean bill of financial health. The Society is in reasonable financial shape, given the economic conditions in which we operate.

ITEM #12 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS
There was no additional business presented.

ITEM #13 – INTRODUCTIONS OF THE NEW PRESIDENT AND PASSING OF THE GAVEL
President JoAnn Miller introduced A. Javier Treviño, In-Coming President, and passed the SSSP gavel.

ITEM #14 – NEW PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES THE SITE, DATE, AND THEME FOR THE 2011 MEETING
President A. Javier Treviño announced that the 2011 annual meeting will take place at the Renaissance Blackstone Chicago Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, August 12-14. The annual meeting theme will be Service Sociology.

ITEM #15 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS MEETING
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President A. Javier Treviño.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Glenn W. Muschert, SSSP Secretary

**2010-2011 SSSP Board of Directors Minutes
Sunday, August 15, 2010**

ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by President A. Javier Treviño.

ITEM #2 – INTRODUCTIONS

Members Present:

A. Javier Treviño, President
JoAnn Miller, Past President
Wendy Simonds, President Elect
Carolyn C. Perrucci, Vice President
Wendy Chapkis, Vice President Elect
Glenn W. Muschert, Secretary
Susan M. Carlson, Treasurer
Stephani Williams, Chairperson, Council of the Special Problems Divisions
Sarah Jane Brubaker, Board Member
Valerie Leiter, Board Member
Nancy Mezey, Board Member/Chair of Nominations Strategy Committee
Claire Renzetti, Board Member/Chair of the Editorial and Publications Committee
Barbara Katz Rothman, Board Member
Louis Edgar Esparza, Student Board Representative
Mandy Frake-Mistak, Student Board Representative
Ted Chiricos, Editor, *Social Problems*
Héctor Delgado, Executive Officer
Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager

ITEM #3 – ADOPTION (REVISION) OF AGENDA

The agenda was revised to include unfinished business from the Friday, August 13, 2010 board meeting.

ITEM #4 – REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF COUNCIL OF SPECIAL PROBLEMS DIVISIONS (INCLUDING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2011 GENERAL ELECTION)

Stephani Williams presented the sentiments of the Council of Special Problems Divisions. The chairs had few particular concerns, though the chair of chairs noted that half of the division chairs are not fulfilling the minimum requirements associated with the role.

Stephani Williams presented the slate of nominations for the 2011 general election. The board discussed the nominations, and will forward recommendations regarding these names to the administrative office.

ITEM #5 – NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Led by A. Javier Treviño, the board identified candidates. Susan M. Carlson agreed to serve an additional term as Treasurer and Glenn W. Muschert agreed to serve an additional term as Secretary, if elected.

ITEM #6 – REPORT FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Louis Edgar Esparza and Mandy Frake-Mistak presented the report from the SSSP student members. The report focused on the use of technology, student recruitment, the scheduling of student meetings/receptions, and the formation of by-laws for the student group and a handbook for new student representatives. The board accepted the report as given.

ITEM #7 – REPORT FROM THE EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Claire Renzetti presented the activities of the editorial and publications committee. The activities of the committee included the selection of a new editor for *Social Problems*, and the selection of a new editor for *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*.

The board accepted the committee report as submitted, with the exception specified below.

ACTION: The board accepted the committee's recommendation that Dr. Becky Pettit be named the next editor of *Social Problems*.

ACTION: The board accepted the committee's recommendation that Dr. Brent Teasdale be named the next editor of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*.

The board recognized the committee's recommendation to move *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter* to an electronic-only option, and noted that this decision has already been affirmed in an earlier board meeting this year. The committee reported on the discussion related to the development of a policy-based social problems and public policy.

ACTION: The board did not approve the motion to form an ad hoc committee to explore the viability for development of a new, policy-focused SSSP journal.

a. PROPOSED 2010-2011 ADVISORY EDITORS

Ted Chiricos presented the proposed 2010-2011 advisory board for *Social Problems*.

ACTION: The board accepted the advisory board as presented.

ITEM #8 – PRESENTATION OF THE 2011 PROPOSED BUDGET

Stephani Williams presented the actions of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee.

The committee discussed IT expenditures, the approval of the \$2500 budget line for disability accessibility services, and the delayed increase in the Lee Scholar-Activist fund. The committee projects a \$42K projected deficit for the 2011 calendar year.

ACTION: The board accepted the 2011 proposed budget as presented.

ITEM #9 – REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES CHAIR

Lloyd Klein reported on the committee's activities, highlighting the committee's recommendations.

ACTION: The board approved the recommendations of the committee, as amended in the board's discussion.

ITEM #10 – DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS MEETING REFERRALS AND MOTIONS

No business was reported for this agenda item.

ITEM #11 – DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTIONS APPROVED AT THE BUSINESS MEETING

Michele Koontz reported on the resolutions process. In the August 14, 2010 business meeting, resolutions 1, 3, and 5 were accepted, while resolutions 2 and 4 were tabled for further clarification. The administrative office will work with the Executive Officer to disseminate the resolutions as described in each approved resolution.

ITEM #12 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM 2010

a. REPORT OF NOMINATIONS STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Nancy Mezey gave the discussion of nominations strategy committee recommendations. The board approved the report, with a June 15th deadline for nominations. In specific, the board adopted the following actions, recommended by the committee.

ACTION: The board approved the dissolution of the Ad Hoc Nominations Strategy Committee, to be replaced by a new permanent Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee will be comprised of the Chairperson of the Council of the Special Problems Divisions, three to five Division Chairs, and a member of the Board of Directors nominated by the SSSP President. The Chairperson of the Council of the Special Problems Divisions will serve as Chair.

ACTION: The board approved that the identity of the person who nominates a candidate should not be known.

ACTION: The board approved that the slate of nominees would be forwarded to the Council of Division Chairs, from the administrative office.

ACTION: The board approved the restructuring of the meetings for the Council of Division Chairs and the Nominations Committee during the annual meeting. Meeting one would focus on the Roles and Responsibilities of Division Chairs and the elections to the Nominations Committee. Meeting two would focus on resolutions. At a separate meeting of the Nominations Committee, they will develop a slate of nominees to be presented to the Board prior to the end of the annual meeting.

b. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION REGARDING THE RETREAT ITEM: INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP.
Héctor Delgado presented on efforts to internationalize the SSSP, one option of which is the establishment of an international fellowship. Various members are exploring these possibilities, and this effort will be an on-going.

c. REPORT FROM THE MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR
The board reviewed the committee report.

ACTION: The board voted to include efforts to attract new members in the SSSP's move to on-line only publication.

d. REPORT FROM THE PERMANENT ORGANIZATION AND STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR
The board reviewed the committee report.

ITEM #13 – NEW BUSINESS

a. REQUEST FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT
Michele Koontz presented on behalf of Jim Gruber. Every other year, we partner with the International Coalition against Sexual Harassment. This partnership will occur at the 2011 annual meetings in Chicago.

ACTION: This request was approved by the board.

b. FUNDING DISABILITIES SERVICES

Valerie Leiter proposed adding an option to donate for disability accommodation services, as part of the membership and annual meeting registration forms.

ACTION: The board approved the addition of a line for disability accommodation services on the membership and annual meeting registration forms.

ITEM #14 – ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2010-2011 BOARD

There being no further business, the board was adjourned by President A. Javier Treviño.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Glenn W. Muschert, SSSP Secretary