

Report of the Editorial and Publications Committee, 2011
Submitted by Claire M. Renzetti, Committee Chair on behalf of the Committee

The Editorial and Publications Committee met on August 19, 2011 from 8:30-11:30am in Parlor B of Harrah's Casino Hotel. Committee members present at the meeting were: Ted Chiricos, Marjorie DeVault, Lara Foley, Nancy Jurik, JoAnn Miller, Claire Renzetti (chair), David Smith, Brent Teasdale, Stephani Williams, and Suzanne Vaughan. Members absent from the meeting were: Benigno Aguirre, Becky Pettit, and Amy Wharton.

UC Press

At the August 19th meeting, the Committee heard reports from Devon Weston, Rebekah Darksmith, Rebecca Simon, and Allison Mudditt of UC Press. Devon Weston shared with the Committee the report she gave on August 18th to the Board about the plan for marketing *Social Problems* particularly to libraries following removal of journal content from Proquest and Hein Online. Claire Renzetti reported on the Board's decision to email the membership urging them to contact their university librarians about maintaining their institution's subscription to the journal, starting a new subscription, or renewing if they had previously cancelled. The UC Press representatives strongly endorse this strategy.

Questions were raised about international marketing efforts, which also led to a discussion of promoting international submissions. The UC Press representatives reported that they do market internationally and that JSTOR is also an important international tool for international marketing. They are also in the process of discussing consortium agreements with a Canadian and a French consortium. Several recommendations were made to increase the international presence of *Social Problems*; I will return to these shortly.

Rebekah Darksmith presented a report on the journal Impact Factor, which is still very strong, but declined slightly last year. Rebekah explained how the IF is calculated and discussion ensued about recommendations for increasing the journal's IF.

Allison Mudditt urged the Committee as well as the Board to think strategically about how we wish to grow the journal: What are our priorities? In what specific content areas would we like to grow? In what specific geographic areas would we like to grow? Where would we like to be, but are currently underrepresented? This strategy should be tied to the organization's strategic growth plan.

A motion was forwarded by Nancy Jurik and seconded by David Smith that the Committee recommends to Becky Pettit, editor of *Social Problems*, that several more international members be added to the journal's Advisory Editor Board. The motion passed unanimously (8-0-0).

Further, recognizing that members of the Advisory Editor Board must be members of SSSP to be nominated to serve and that for some international members paying the membership dues may be prohibitively expensive, Nancy Jurik forwarded a motion, seconded by David Smith, to use revenue generated by the journal's submission fee

to pay the *first year* of membership dues for international Advisory Editors who unable to pay the dues themselves. The motion passed unanimously (8-0-0).

The Committee also accepted Rebekah Darksmith's recommendation to ask the journal editor, Becky Pettit, to *publish accepted manuscripts electronically ahead of print* so that readers have access to them quicker and may begin citing them, thus helping to improve the journal's IF. In addition, the Committee agreed to encourage Becky to explore the possibility of doing 1-2 special issues during her 3-year tenure as editor, since special issues can also help improve the IF.

Outgoing Editor's Report on Social Problems (Ted Chiricos)

Ted Chiricos reviewed his Editor's report, which he will also present to the Board at the August 19th meeting. Ted reported that the editorial transition has proceeded very smoothly.

The Committee discussed the merits of adding a statement to the submission website providing authors with more information about the review process and the fact that the submission fee is non-refundable, even if the manuscript is not sent out for external review.

Nancy Jurik forwarded a motion, seconded by David Smith, that the following statement be added to the journal's Scholar1 Manuscript Submission page:

The Editor will review each submission to see if it is appropriate for further review by external referees.

The motion was unanimously approved (8-0-0).

Social Problems Forum Editor's Report (Brent Teasdale)

Brent shared with the Committee the report he delivered to the Board on August 18th, noting in particular the Newsletter Editor's new responsibility of maintaining the *SP Forum* section of the SSSP website which is now interactive, as well as the social media sites for the newsletter.

Brent will draft a policy for how the Newsletter Editor in his/her role of monitoring the newsletter section of the website will: a) decide when a comment is inappropriate, and b) how inappropriate comments will be handled. The draft policy will then be circulated among the E&P Committee for comment and revision. Once a final version of the policy has been approved by the Committee, it will be sent to the Board for review.

Social Problems Forum Reprint Policy

The Newsletter Editor occasionally receives a request from someone for permission to reprint a piece that has been published in the newsletter. These requests have historically

been handled on an ad hoc basis, but it was decided that the E&P Committee should develop a policy on newsletter reprint requests. Brent Teasdale drafted a policy, using the journal policy as a foundation, and the draft was circulated among the Committee via email and revised in light of Committee members' comments. On May 2, 2011, the E&P Committee approved the following policy:

Reprint Policy – *Social Problems Forum*

1. Requests for reprints from *Social Problems Forum* will be sent directly to the Administrative Office of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP). Reprint fees should be assessed between \$30-\$50 per article to be reprinted. The Editorial and Publications Committee will be consulted by the Executive Officer on decisions regarding reprint permissions.
2. SSSP is responsible for collection of fees for reprinting items from *Social Problems Forum*.
3. Checks/statements will be mailed to authors annually during late October or early November by SSSP.
4. When payment is sent, sources from which payment was derived will be provided, if available.
5. The processing fee will be \$20 per year per primary author. After deducting the processing fee, the SSSP will divide equally the remaining permission fee and remit one-half of it to the primary author. Primary authors are responsible for splitting the authors' share. Author royalty payments for deceased authors and authors who cannot be located will remain in the SSSP General Fund.
6. Checks will not be written to authors for less than \$10.00.

The Committee recommends that the Board approve this reprint policy.

Election of a New Committee Chair

I have completed two terms as E&P Committee chair and I thank my fellow Committee members and the Society for providing me the opportunity to serve in this capacity. It's been my pleasure.

Nancy Jurik nominated David Smith to serve as the E&P Committee Chair for 2011-12. Marjorie DeVault seconded the nomination. David was unanimously elected (7-0-1).

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.