



Social Problems

The official journal of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

Pamela Anne Quiroz and Nilda Flores Gonzalez, Editors
University of Illinois at Chicago

July 11, 2014

To: SSSP Board of Directors
Editorial Board and Publications Committee
Associate Editors
From: Pamela Anne Quiroz and Nilda Flores Gonzalez
Re: 2014 Annual Report

We are pleased to submit our report on the first month of our term as coeditors of *Social Problems*. This report documents our activities at the University of Illinois-Chicago from June 1, 2014-July 10, 2014. We want to express our gratitude to those who supported us and for the opportunity to serve as coeditors of *Social Problems*.

We are exceptionally grateful to former editor Becky Pettit and her staff for their excellent leadership and management of the journal, and for their assistance in the transition of the journal from the University of Washington to the University of Illinois-Chicago. We appreciate their mentorship, training, and their generosity in assisting us to move seamlessly into the role of coeditors.

Editorial Office

Our transition to coeditors was also greatly facilitated by our excellent staff members whose efforts are invaluable to our work for the journal. Our Managing Editor, Brandi Vigil, comes to *Social Problems* with substantial experience as a former managing editor for another social science journal as does our Assistant Editor, Lydia Hou. Also, we are pleased to report that we have retained the services of the Production Editor, Amy Jo Woodruff, whose efforts provide a continuity for the journal that is particularly valuable as we transition to a new publisher, Oxford University Press. As part of the transition, we have elected to provide Spanish translation of the online abstracts of published articles, beginning with Volume 62, Number 2 of *Social Problems*.

Associate Editors

In addition to our staff at UIC, we have 10 associate editors who provide substantive and methodological expertise and a commitment to scholarly excellence. Professors Hector Carillo, Sharon Collins, Heather Dalmage, David Embrick, Roberto Gonzalez, Cedric Herring, Moon Kie Jung, Maria Krysan, Barbara Risman, and Rogelio Saenz, will assist us to address conflicts of interest and discrepancies in reviews [please see attached list of associate editors].

Advisory Board

We have also invited 65 colleagues to serve on the advisory board [please see attached list of advisory board members]. These colleagues provide expertise in a variety of areas of specialization and methodology significant to *Social Problems*, and include 12 international scholars. Advisory board members have agreed to review four manuscripts per year and to help use their expertise to resolve discrepancies in reviews.

Student Advisory Board

Following the initiative of Professor Becky Pettit, we have also formed a student advisory board. We invited 22 students from the University of Illinois-Chicago, Northwestern University, University of Texas-San Antonio, Loyola University-Chicago, and Harvard University to serve on the board [please see attached list of student advisory board members]. These students will help to select reviewers for manuscripts and summarize the comments of external reviewers.

A small group of these students are also part of our new Social Media Committee and the chair of this committee, Kasey Henricks (Loyola University-Chicago), serves as the liaison between the *Social Problems* staff and Allison Ferguson of Oxford University Press. The committee is comprised of four students whose knowledge of social media is extensive, and the goal of this committee is to supplement the work of the publisher by helping to promote the journal, particularly the work of selected authors, through the use of social media.

As of July 10, 2014 *Social Problems* has a following of 387 on Facebook and 172 on Twitter.

The Social Media committee has created accounts on the following sites:

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/socprobsjournal>
- Twitter - <https://twitter.com/socprobsjournal>
- Academia.edu - <https://uic.academia.edu/SocialProblems>
- YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLy4FC_WNN4rz3hnp28RXPQ
- tumblr. - socprobsjournal.tumblr.com
- Google+ - <https://plus.google.com/u/0/113525223211171932683>
- Wiki - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Problems_\(journal\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Problems_(journal))

Summary & Submission Processing

a) Changes to Manuscript Central

With the Board's approval we have revised a template on Manuscript Central that allows us to provide data on the race/ethnicity of reviewers/authors who submit manuscripts to *Social Problems*. Identification will be voluntary and will align the reports of *Social Problems* with those provided ASA sponsored journals and other journals such as *Marriage and Family*.

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Race or Origin". At the top, it says "Search on this list:". Below this is a search input field, a "Case sensitive" checkbox, and a "Search" button. To the right of the search field is a "Clear" button. Below the search area is a list of race/ethnicity categories: African American/Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian American/Asian, Hawaiian Native or Pacific Islander, Latino/Hispanic, Middle Easterner/North African, White, and Multiracial. There is a "+ Add" button next to the list. The interface is designed for users to select one or more categories from the list.

Decisions on manuscripts inherited from former editor between June 1, 2014-July 10, 2014

Manuscript Decision	Number of Manuscripts	Percentage of Total
Accept	1	1%
Conditionally Accept	3	3%
Revise and Resubmit	14	17%
Reject	16	20%
In Process	48	59%
Total:	82	100%

As coeditors of Social Problems, beginning June 1, 2014, we inherited 82 manuscripts from the former editor. Inherited manuscripts were in various stages of the submission process. Of those, 1 was accepted, 3 have been conditionally accepted, 14 received a revise and resubmit, 16 were rejected and 48 are in process.

Decisions on Original manuscripts received between June 1, 2014-July 10, 2014

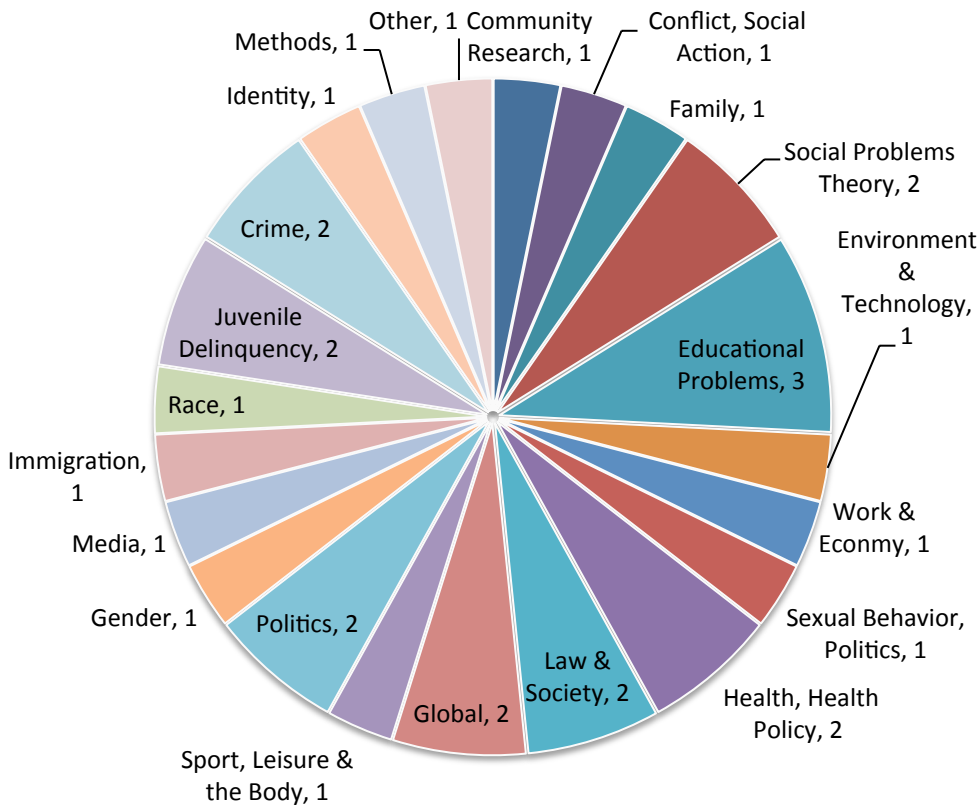
Manuscript Decision	Number of Manuscripts	Percentage of Total
Deflect	3	10%
Solicited Reviews	3	10%
In Process	25	80%
Total:	31	100%

Since June 1, 2014 we have received 31 new submissions. This equates to an average of 1 submission per day. Of those, 3 were deflected, 3 received a revise and resubmit, and 25 are in process.

**Please note that the tables show only decisions made for the first month of our term as coeditors.

Original Submission by Subject Area, June 1, 2014-July 11, 2014

We have also begun to record original submissions by subject area and though our numbers are quite small at this time, we believe that this data will be of interest in next year's report.



Subject Area	# of Submissions
Community Research	1
Conflict, Social Action	1
Family	1
Social Problems Theory	2
Educational Problems	3
Environment & Technology	1
Labor Studies	1
Sexuality	1
Health, Health Policy	2
Law & Society	2
Global	2
Sport, Leisure & the Body	1
Politics	2
Gender	1
Media	1
Immigration	1
Race	1
Juvenile Delinquency	2
Crime	2
Identity	1
Methods	1
Other	1
Total:	31

Budget

The journal is operating within budget at this time.

Summary

We are looking forward to a successful year as co-editors of *Social Problems*. With our exceptional staff and our associate, advisory, and student editors, we are confident that we can continue to apply the high standard of scholarly excellence in selecting papers for publication in *Social Problems*.

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