

SSSP Graduate Student Meeting
Friday, August 21, 2015 8:30am
Caribbean/Caspian

Submitted by Graduate Student Representatives to the Board of Directors, Kathryn Nowotny, Kasey Hendricks (incoming), and Margaret Austin Smith (outgoing)

Welcome and Introductions

8 students were in attendance (compared to 20 in 2014 and 8 in 2013). All students were first time attendees. Margaret Smith was not able to attend.

Graduate Student Feedback

Student Representatives discussed their experience with SSSP and the different options available for students to get involved. Students in attendance were encouraged to attend the Graduate Student Happy Hour, New Member Breakfast, and division meetings and receptions. Students mentioned that they were attending the SSSP because they were looking for an intellectual home that was more social justice oriented and were urged to attend by professors in their department. There were two suggestions for garnering student interest and involvement. First, students expressed interest in methodological workshops run by more senior scholars, especially in areas of participatory action research and similar methodologies. Second, students suggested creating an online student group to build a social media presence where news (articles job postings) and information about social actions could be shared. Thunderclap was suggested as a useful platform for this kind of communication. Kasey Hendricks volunteered to look into it given his experience with social media for *Social Problems*.

Second Annual Graduate Student Workshop
Friday, August 21, 2015 9:00am
Caribbean/Caspian

Engaging the General Public in Sociological Research and Ideas, *Contexts* Editor Syed Ali

Dr. Syed Ali discussed *Contexts*, specifically, in terms of the scope of the journal and the submission process. He also discussed writing for and trying to engage general audiences with empirical research including how to capture the interest of readers and different outlets (blogs, websites) for disseminating academic work. This workshop was well received by the students in attendance.