

SSSP Graduate Student Meeting Agenda
Philadelphia, PA
August 10, 2018
2:30 pm–4:10 pm in Liberty Ballroom A

Submitted by Graduate Student Representatives to the Board of Directors, Maria D. Duenas (standing), Sarah St. John (outgoing), and Apoorva Ghosh (incoming)

Attendance

We announced the meeting through email to SSSP graduate student members and on social media. Six (6) students were in attendance (compared to 7 in 2017, 19 in 2016, and 8 in 2015). One student was a first-time attendee of the annual meeting while the others have previously attended. Five of them were sociology PhD students while one was a PhD student in Public Health.

Topics Discussed

In the meeting, we discussed the mission of SSSP and the student representatives discussed why they first attended SSSP and why they chose to become involved with the organization. We provided information about the array of opportunities available for the graduate students for professional development and to get involved in the organization. We made students aware of Division Meetings, Business Meetings, the Meeting Mentorship Program, the Lee Student Support Fund, Beth Hess Memorial Scholarship, Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship, and student paper competitions/awards. We also made student aware of various events at the conference that they might be interested in attending such as the Welcoming Reception, the Graduate Student Happy Hour, the New Member Breakfast, the session on Getting Published in Social Problems & the Student Editorial Board (Session 066), the Networking Event: Interdisciplinary Collaboration for Publishing (Session 085), the session on the Academic Job Market (Session 093), and the Division-Sponsored Reception. We announced these events through an email to graduate student members of SSSP and at the graduate student meeting.

Graduate Student Feedback

There were two ideas for workshops for next year's graduate student meeting. The first was a panel on strategies on how graduate students can most effectively use the time they spend at SSSP while in graduate school and then later in their careers once they have earned their PhDs. The second idea, which the attendees overwhelmingly supported, was a workshop on specific strategies on how to navigate power relations and hierarchies as graduate students and how to not replicate systems of oppression once they become faculty members. The graduate students expressed that they preferred a majority graduate student panel for this discussion, but wished to include one junior faculty member who recently graduated with a PhD on the panel. Most of the students at the meeting even offered to serve as panelists on this session and offered suggestions for junior faculty who might be interested in participating.

Happy Hour

The happy hour was scheduled earlier this year than in previous years. Approximately 45 students attended. Several students expressed that they appreciated the earlier timeslot for this

event. We suggest continuing to schedule the happy hour in the early evening on Friday of the annual meeting.

Networking Event: Interdisciplinary Collaboration for Publishing
Saturday, August 11
12:30 pm–2:10 pm in Liberty Ballroom A

This year, the Networking Event: Interdisciplinary Collaboration for Publishing, was held on Saturday. This event was specifically organized in response to feedback received during last year's Graduate Student Meeting about events that would be particularly beneficial to students in developing their careers. The Networking Event was designed to facilitate interaction between SSSP members from diverse disciplines at the annual meeting to foster interdisciplinary relationships that lead to publications.

A panel of seasoned scholars from multiple topic areas discussed relevant journals for submissions, tips on getting articles published in those journals, and collaboration with multiple authors. After the panel, graduate student members and seasoned scholars met in roundtables organized by area of interest for networking opportunities. Attendees were encouraged to bring ideas for future papers and research projects as well as active research projects and papers that could use additional support. We look forward to receiving participant feedback regarding the event in the conference survey.