

**Report of the 2019-2020 Local Arrangements Committee (LAC)
Annual Meeting 1/2 Day Meeting, August 7, 2020**

Final Report Date: July 15, 2020

Chair: Valerie Francisco-Menchavez, Associate Professor, San Francisco State University

Committee members:

Theresa Rocha Beardall, Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech University

Orly Clerge, Assistant Professor, UC Davis

This report, submitted to the Board of Directors of SSSP, describes the activities and decisions by the 2019-2020 Local Arrangements Committee (LAC).

Tasks Assigned to LAC

The 2019-2020 LAC was tasked to fulfill the following responsibilities for the formerly scheduled in-person annual meeting in San Francisco:

1. Accompany President Heather Dalmage and Meeting Manager Michele Koontz, on the Final Site Visit on Oct. 15;
2. Compile a list of local colleges and universities with contacts to be mailed the meeting promotional by Oct. 15;
3. Propose wheelchair accessible walking tours by Mar. 1;
4. Write a Welcome to the City message for the program;
5. Recruit a graduate student to write a Welcome to the City message for the program;
6. Provide walking directions between SSSP to ASA hotel;
7. Write a Press Release for the 2020 annual meeting;
8. Provide a written committee report and present on LAC activities to the Board.

NOTE: The Board decided that restaurant guides are no longer necessary as there are highly effective smart phone apps available. Therefore, 2019-2020 LAC decided not to create a restaurant guide.

Below is a description of the committee's work:

1. Final Site Visit on Oct. 18
Although I was not able to attend the site visit because of teaching obligations, I met with Michele Koontz and Heather Dalmage to discuss local arrangements items over dinner. During this meeting, I proposed my ideas for walking tours and the cultural heritage districts that represent the contradictions of rich presence of people of color, immigrants and Queer people alongside the increasing gentrification of the city. Heritage districts are funded by the city but are powered by community members in neighborhoods thus making each as unique as the communities they serve.
2. Compile a list of local colleges and universities with contacts to be mailed the meeting promotional by Oct. 15;

I was able to submit a list of contacts for Departments of Sociology in colleges and institutions in the Bay Area that included:

Academy of Art University
California College of the Arts
California Institute of Integral Studies
California State University Maritime Academy
California State University, East Bay
Cogswell Polytechnical College
Dominican University of California
Golden Gate University
Holy Names University
Lincoln University
Menlo College
Mills College
Minerva College
Patten University
SAE Expression College
Saint Mary's College of California
San Francisco Art Institute
San Francisco State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Skyline College
Sonoma State University
Stanford University
University of California, Berkeley
University of San Francisco

3. Propose wheelchair accessible walking tours by Mar. 1;

I proposed a total of three walking tours that included the GLBT museum in the Castro District and the Comfort Women Monument walking tour organized by the Comfort Women Justice Coalition. However, in conversation with Heather Dalmage, Calle 24 Cultural Heritage Districts's walking tour was proposed and my originally proposed SOMA (South of Market) Pilipinas walking tour was confirmed. I proposed the SOMA Pilipinas walking tour because the SSSP venues were located in this neighborhood and I thought it apt for SSSP participants to understand the historic and current conditions of the residents of this neighborhood.

Below were the descriptions of the finalized tours that were offered to SSSP participants, focused on cultural heritage districts in SF. These cultural heritage districts emerged from social movements to preserve San Francisco neighborhoods at the height of gentrification and displacement in the city.

- The Calle 24 walking tour would cover the history of the Latino community, and the struggles that have been fought through the years to earn our place in the city, specifically and how the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District was developed to help preserve our cultural assets. We will discuss the social and political movements that have shaped our history. In addition, we will talk about current issues that our community is fighting as we continue to face deep displacement and gentrification through the city/region/and states unaffordability crisis. The tour would be led by Erick Arguello, Founder and President, and Jon Jacobo Vice President for the Latino Cultural District.
- The SoMa Pilipinas EthnoTour is an interactive 2-hour walking tour with 6 landmarks in SoMa Pilipinas, San Francisco's Filipino Cultural Heritage District. It includes historical events, struggles and legacies through the anthropological and historical lenses of the Filipino community in South of Market. Not only it depicts the history of SoMa Pilipinas, but also ongoing matters such as gentrification and displacement and the living history of our neighborhood.

4. Write a Welcome to the City message for the program;

I co-wrote a Welcome to the City message with Theresa Rocha Beardall. After reviews by Héctor Delgado, Heather Dalmage and Michele Koontz, I submitted the final draft on March 12, 2020. It was published online on March 16, 2020.

5. Recruit a graduate student to write a Welcome to the City message for the program;

Aika Eden, an MA student in the Sexuality Studies program at San Francisco State University, wrote a Welcome to the Bay Area message from a graduate student perspective. Aika submitted their writing on March 11, 2020. It was published online on March 16, 2020.

6. Provide walking directions between SSSP to ASA hotel;

I wrote the below directions and submitted them to Michele Koontz on February 18.

The Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) is held at two locations: Hilton San Francisco Union Square (333 O'Farrell Street) and Parc 55 (55 Cyril Magnin Street). The distance from the Park Central Hotel to the ASA locations is 0.5 mile, about a 10-15-minute walk. Both hotels can also be accessed by public transportation, car, and taxi.

From the SSSP conference (Park Central San Francisco) to the ASA conference (Hilton San Francisco Union Square)

Upon exiting the Park Central Hotel on 3rd Street, walk towards Market Street. Turn left on Market Street to walk 500 feet until you see the Wells Fargo Bank across the

street. Cross Market Street. Take a left at O'Farrell Street. Walk 4 blocks, crossing Mason Street before you reach the **Hilton San Francisco Union Square** entrance.

From the SSSP conference (Park Central San Francisco) to the ASA conference (Parc 55 Hotel)

Upon exiting the Park Central Hotel on 3rd Street, walk towards Market Street. Turn left on Market Street to walk 500 feet until you see the Wells Fargo Bank across the street. Cross Market Street. Walk along Market Street. Walk 3 blocks until you reach Powell Street. Do not turn into Powell Street to follow the cable car, rather walk alongside the Bank of America Financial Center. Cross Cyril Magnin Street before you reach the **Parc 55 San Francisco Hotel** entrance.

7. Write a Press Release for the 2020 annual meeting;

I did not write a press release for the annual meeting due to the cancellation of the physical meeting under the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beyond the tasks assigned by the SSSP board, one of the highlights of the 2019-2020 LAC was exploring and instituting resources towards indigenous lands and activism in the cities the organization convenes on. Traditionally, the practice of the SSSP is a written land acknowledgment in the program. Transforming this practice into a praxis of acknowledging the original custodians of the land under which we convene yearly included shifting organizational resources to indigenous and Native American activists and organizations alongside a program acknowledgement in the Welcome to the City message.

This proposal was passed by the Board approved by a 16-0 (1 no response) vote. The \$500 "Indigenous Peoples Social Justice Award" will be given every year to a local Native American organization or an organization working on behalf of Native Americans on a social justice issue. The Local Arrangements Committee from this point on will have the task of providing the Board with an organization or organizations they think merit receiving or sharing the award.

I wrote the below nomination to the board:

On behalf of the The Sogorea Te' Land Trust, I nominate this organization, an urban Indigenous women-led community organization that facilitates the return of Chochenyo and Karkin Ohlone lands in the San Francisco Bay Area to Indigenous stewardship. The Sogorea Te Land Trust facilitates the Shuumi Land Tax, **a voluntary annual financial contribution** that non-Indigenous people living on traditional Chochenyo and Karkin Ohlone territory make to support the critical work of the Sogorea Te' Land Trust. The Shuumi Land Tax directly supports Sogorea Te's work to acquire and preserve land, establish a cemetery to reinter stolen Ohlone ancestral remains and build urban gardens, community centers, and sacred arbors so current and future generations of Indigenous people can thrive in the Bay Area. SSSP would be contributing to the Shuumi Land Tax as a visiting organization on Chochenyo and Karkin Ohlone lands.

To my knowledge, SSSP is the only national academic organization that has earmarked resources to directly support indigenous organizations in the occupied territories where conferences will convene.