Notes from the Division Chair

Hello, fellow Conflict, Social Action, and Change members. It is with great humility that I write to you in my capacity as the new Division Chair. I would like to extend a warm “thank you” for electing me.

It sure seems that with each passing day, two realities are more illuminated: the seemingly innate suffering of humans and, alternatively, our enormous, loving wish to mitigate it. My hope is that our division, in our dedication to social activism and change, might allow the latter—that loving spirit—to guide us. I am drawn to bell hooks’ articulation of the role of loving-kindness in social change: “Dominator thinking and practice,” she explains, “relies for its maintenance on the constant production of a feeling of lack... Giving love offers us a way to end this suffering.”

Academia sometimes propagates this feeling of lack, particularly for those of us who exist on the margins. The realm of the mind, when uncoupled from our subjective, bodily experiences in the world, can feel a bit lacking, especially in the context of profound human suffering. The Society for the Study of Social Problems has always existed as a haven for me, namely because of the organization’s dedication to filling that lack. My hope is that our division, with support from SSSP and the annual conference, will continue the quest for assuaging human suffering through critical scholarship, dialogue, and praxis. Thank you for accompanying me on that journey!

Many thanks to everyone who helped set the panels and find organizers for the 2016 meeting. I am in deep appreciation.

In love and solidarity,

Jenny Heineman  
Chair, Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division, SSSP  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
The column to the right includes all the sessions sponsored or co-sponsored by our division.

The call for papers is still open! Visit http://tinyurl.com/SSSP16CFP to submit today!

At the 2016 SSSP meeting in Seattle, our division will host a range of panels and critical dialogues relating to conflict, social action, and change. Several of our co-sponsored sessions address this year’s theme: **Globalizing Social Problems**. Our division members are organizing sessions on:

- Global Communities and Environmental Justice
- Conflict and Movements Against the Law
- Gender, Globalization, and Social Change
- Student Protests

I encourage new members to check out “Questions that you may have about the SSSP Annual Meeting….but are too embarrassed to ask” by visiting http://tinyurl.com/ssspFAQ

Visit the website http://www.sssp1.org/ and go to “Annual Meetings” for more details about transportation, hotels, and other information.
CHECK OUT WHAT THE SSSP WEBSITE HAS TO OFFER!

JOB OPENINGS ON SSSP’S WEBSITE

“The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) provides a free career center for members and non-members to browse current job opportunities related to sociology. Please remember to contact each employer individually if you would like more information about a job listing. SSSP hopes you find this service valuable. Jobs are listed in chronological order by date posted.”

Visit http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/320/locationSectionId/0/Job_Opportunities for more information.

Calls for Submissions & Conferences


According to the website, If you want to have SSSP “post a call for papers, book chapter, article submission, or a conference announcement listed please email your announcement to sssp@utk.edu. The announcement may be included in the email, attached as a word document, PDF file or word perfect document. Please include a URL for more information, if available.

There is no charge to place an announcement on this website. Announcement for book chapters or articles will be posted until the submission deadline. Announcements will be posted on the website until the date of the conference has passed.”

CELEBRATING CSAC MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Call for the Graduate Student Paper Competition

Each division holds its own Graduate Student Paper Competition. See the call below, and share widely with graduate students, and faculty who oversee graduate students. Also, if you are interested in helping judge the papers, please email CSAC Chair Jenny Heineman at anappleofdiscord@hotmail.com.

CONFLICT, SOCIAL ACTION, AND CHANGE

Deadline: 1/31/15

The Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division announces its 2016 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Students are encouraged to submit theoretical or empirical papers that address some aspect of the interrelation of conflict, social action, and change. The winner of the competition will receive a $200 cash award, a plaque, a one-year student membership to SSSP, and conference registration fees to the 2015 SSSP meeting in Chicago. To be eligible for submission, a paper must not be published or accepted for publication. Also, papers must be authored by a current graduate student (either solely or co-authored by more than one graduate student) and may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student. The student may not submit the same paper to more than one division. The winning author is required to present the paper at a Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division session during the 2016 SSSP meeting in Seattle, August 19-21, 2016. Papers must not exceed 30 pages including all notes, references, and tables. Please both upload your submission to the annual meeting submission site AND send an electronic copy of the paper and a cover letter to Jenny Heineman at anappleofdiscord@hotmail.com with the subject line: SSSP-CSAC Student Paper Competition.

Newsletter submissions

Newsletters go out about twice a year. Please share any exciting news—jobs, publications, awards—with the division. We are also open to publishing short, targeted pieces, like interviews with a mentor, spotlights on topics relevant to CSAC, and other related pieces. If you have an idea for an original piece of writing, please contact the Chair, Jenny Heineman, at anappleofdiscord@hotmail.com

Editor: Crystal A. Jackson, previous CSAC 2013-2015 chair.