



Healthy Outlook

Division of Health, Health Policy and Health Services
of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

Fall 2005

Statement from the Co-Chair

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Hurricane Katrina exposed health inequalities that are all too familiar to those of us who teach and do research on health and illness, especially from a social problems perspective. The inequalities in mortality by income and race as a result of the hurricane hearken back to Eric Klinenberg's book *Heat Wave*. Affluent people were able to take an airplane ride to safer parts of the U.S. and escape from the turmoil. People with cars and kin at a distance had a place to go and a means of getting there. Poor people with no means of transportation were left behind to fend for themselves, in their homes, on highway overpasses, in the Superdome, and in the convention center. Those who were very ill and were in hospitals and nursing homes were especially vulnerable, stuck with no electricity and limited or no mobility. A survey of evacuees in the Houston area conducted by *The Washington Post*, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and the Harvard School of Public Health found that 38% of the people who did not evacuate were not able to leave physically or were caring for a person with a disability. There is a rich body of knowledge about health inequalities, especially by income, race, and ethnicity, covered in excellent edited volumes, such as Thomas LaViest's *Race, Ethnicity and Health*, and Richard Hofrichter's *Health and Social Justice*. Yet individualistic "blame the victim" discourses framed the media's initial take on the disaster and those who did not leave.

(Statement from Valerie Leiter, continued)

Ripple effects on individuals' mental health, like those reported by Kai Erikson's account of the Buffalo Creek Flood, *Everything in Its Path*, will be felt for many years, as entire families and communities have been torn apart. The social support structures that we might point to as having the potential to moderate the disaster's effects are gone, a secondary social disaster. The CDC has started to document the hurricane's effects, but the ripples will be hard to follow, especially given the mobility of the estimated one million people displaced by the storm, and the complexity of the physical and mental health effects.

We may sometimes take for granted the critical lens that those of us in SSSP bring to our work on health. It informs how we teach our students and how we conduct our research, particularly how we frame health problems and how those frameworks are linked with proposed policy and service solutions. I am grateful to be a member of SSSP, and honored to take on the role of co-chair of the Health, Health Policy, and Health Services division at this time. Those of us who came to SSSP as graduate students know what the organization means to "wanna be" scholars. For those of us who are further along in our careers, SSSP still provides a wonderful touchstone of critically minded colleagues. I already enjoy the connection to my co-chair, Debora Paterniti, and I look forward to learning more about the contributions that you, our division members, are making to understand health and illness and how health policy and services aim to address health concerns, both acute and chronic.

SSSP Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division

Report on the Business Meeting held
August 12, 2005

Introduction of Co-chairs and members:

The meeting opened with introductions: Elizabeth Ettore (Co-Chair 2003-2005), Valerie Leiter (Co-Chair 2005-2007), Debora Paterniti (Co-Chair 2004-2006), Alexis Bender, Catherine Moran, Linda Stelljes, and Carrie Yang-Costello.

With this meeting, Val Leiter assumes co-chair responsibilities. Betsy Ettore served as Division Co-chair from 2003-2005, and her contributions and continued participation in the division are very much appreciated.

Agenda items and discussion:

Review of the 2004 Meeting

Debora Paterniti thanked those who participated in making the 2004 meeting in San Francisco a success.

Panels for the 2005 Meeting

Debora Paterniti reviewed the division sponsored and co-sponsored sessions and thanked the organizers for their work in putting together the slate of sessions for the meeting.

Joint Reception for 2005 Meeting

The Health division agreed to co-sponsor a reception with other divisions. Debora announced that the co-sponsored division reception would be held Friday, 12 August at 6:30pm.

Proposed (and approved) 2006 Budget

Debora Paterniti passed out the proposed (and approved) budget and justifications for 2006 expenditures. The budget has been increased \$19, an increase added to handling the newsletter.

2006 Budget and Requests

Budget items requested and received for SSSP Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division, 2003	Amount
1. Stipend to Division Newsletter Editor, Alexis Bender	\$110
2. Expenses attached to our Division's Graduate Student Paper:	
2a. Student Paper Award	\$100
2b. SSSP registration and banquet ticket for award winner	\$60
2c. SSSP student membership for award winner	\$20
3. Reception at annual meetings	\$200
4. Miscellaneous postage, office supplies, software upgrades for newsletter production	\$110
TOTAL	\$ 600

Potential increases to the budget can be requested for special pre-meeting expenditures. A discussion took place regarding potential pre-meeting topics and a special query to be put forth in the division newsletter to those who might be interested in having a pre-meeting session at a subsequent meeting. A potential topic could be human subjects protections and social science research.

Graduate Student Paper Award

The Graduate Award Committee including Judith Lasker (Chair), Heather Dillaway, Valerie Leiter and Ruth Rubinstein reviewed twenty papers.

Judith recommended (1) to ask for electronic submission of papers for the competition in the next printed call, AND (2) to obtain high-quality papers and to increase awareness and involvement of students in the division, that the call for papers be circulated on various listservs (including SWS and ASA section listservs).

Elroi Waszkiewicz from Georgia State University and Kristen Schilt from UCLA, won the Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Student Paper

Competition for their paper titled, "From Trapped in the Wrong Body to Freed in the Right Body: Transsexual Men's Pursuit of an Appropriately Gendered Body." In recognition of their accomplishment, they presented the paper at the Philadelphia meeting, they received a ticket to and acknowledgement at the SSSP Banquet, a \$100 award, and SSSP registration and annual membership.

The procedures and schedules for 2005-2006 are: Current graduate students and recent graduates (who received their degrees after January 2005) may submit a paper if it was written while still a student. The paper should be related to the broad Division interest, including health and illness, health policy, and health services. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged. The award recipient will be required to present the winning paper at the 2006 SSSP annual meeting and will receive a monetary prize of \$100, student membership to SSSP, SSSP conference registration, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. Submissions are due June 1st. The Committee for 2006 will include Heather Dillaway (Chair), Betsy

Ettore, Jeany Elson, and Elroi Waszkiewicz (2005 awardee).

Newsletter / Newsletter Editor

Emily Kolker, Editor of the Division's *Healthy Outlook*, announced that she will step down as the division's newsletter editor. Debora Paterniti expressed thanks to Emily Kolker for her hard work over the year to get the Newsletter out to the membership on a regular basis.

Debora welcomed the participation of Alexis Bender as the new newsletter editor. Alexis will begin her term as the newsletter editor starting with the fall newsletter. Alexis can be reached by e-mail at abender1@gsu.edu. Division co-chairs will continue to generate articles, and Alexis will also solicit articles for the newsletter. The newsletter will be sent to Division members by email.

Resolution agreement

A resolution concerning accessible space and its creation was proposed by meeting members and drafted by Carrie Yang-Costello. This was

discussed, amended and was brought forward to the Divisions Chairpersons meeting by Carrie Yang-Costello.

2005 Division Elections: Nominations for Co-chair (2006-2008)

Debora Paterniti called for nominations for the division co-chair, 2006-2008: Catherine Moran and Amy Schulz. Short biographies for each candidate will be presented in the division's fall newsletter. Elections will be held during fall 2005.

Division Sessions for SSSP 2006 in Montreal

Valerie Leiter will negotiate specifics and organize sessions for the Division's 2006 sessions. Several members had specific proposals for co-sponsored sessions with other SSSP Divisions including Drinking/Drugs, Environment and Technology, Global, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities. Also proposed were health roundtables, a regular session on gender and health, and a thematic session (Revisioning Healthy Communities: Justice, Diversity, and Democracy).

Candidate Profiles for Co-Chair Nominations

Amy J. Schulz is currently employed as Research Associate Professor at the Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health & the Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Health, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Recent Research Activities: Social and Physical Environments and Health Disparities: A Multi-method and multidisciplinary study designed to examine independent and cumulative effects of aspects of the social and physical environment for disparities in cardiovascular disease. (NIEHS).

Lean & Green in Motown: Intervention study designed to examine implications of changes in the built environment for food access and physical activity among urban residents. (NIEHS).

Constructing Whiteness in Health Disparities Research (with J. Daniels): Analysis of the social production of frameworks of whiteness and, more broadly, race in the context of writings about racial disparities in health. (UM OVPR).

Areas of Interest in Health, Health Policy, and Health Services: Social inequalities and health; urban policy, residential segregation and

health; environmental health; and the social production of knowledge about health.

Other Offices Held: Elected Council. Member Nominations Committee, Medical Sociology Section. American Sociological Association, 2003-2004.

Publications Committee, Sociologists for Women in Society 2001-2003.

Catherine L. Moran has employment in the Department of Sociology, University of New Hampshire.

Recent Research Activities: Catherine's recent research activities include: Parental questioning of and refusal of pediatric immunizations and a Longitudinal analysis of social support changes in people with chronic pain syndromes.

Areas of Interest in Health, Health Policy, and Health Services: Patient Decision-Making, Informed Consent, Social Activism in Alternative Health Decisions, Social Stress and Health.

Teaching Areas: Statistics, Research Methods, Sociological Analysis, Social Problems

Other Professional Activities: Conference Coordinator, International Conference on Social Stress Research (2001-Present).

“What They’re Reading Now”

What are you reading? Please email citations of articles or books to Alexis for inclusion in the next Healthy Outlook: abender1@gsu.edu~

From Val Leiter, Co-Chair of the Division:

Ingstad, Benedicte and Susan Reynolds Whyte. 1995. *Disability and Culture*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

From Alexis Bender, Division Newsletter Editor:

Bloom, Samuel William. 2002. *The Word as Scalpel: A History of Medical Sociology*. New York: Oxford University Press.

SELECTED TEACHING RESOURCES RELATED TO HURRICANE KATRINA

Kaiser Foundation: <http://www.kff.org/katrina/index.cfm>

SSRC: <http://understandingkatrina.ssrc.org/>

Coalition of Radical Educators: <http://www.nycore.org//katrina.html>

Rose Weitz, ASU: <http://www.public.asu.edu/~yma14/Katrina/Overviews.htm>

From the Editor

Division members should send contributions for the newsletter to Alexis Bender, including calls for papers, new book announcements, relevant fellowships or grants, etc. I can be reached via postal mail at Georgia State University, Department of Sociology, P.O. Box 5020, Atlanta, GA 30303 or via email at abender1@gsu.edu.

Call for papers
International Sociological Association - RC15 Sociology of Health XV1
World Congress of Sociology in Durban, July 23-29, 2006

We invite abstracts for any of the 16 sessions listed below. Abstracts should be no more than two pages long and sent directly to the session chair by November 1st 2005. Please include Names) and affiliation(s) of the author(s), contact details of presenting author (postal address, tel. Fax, email).

1. Men's Health

Chair: Elianne Riska (University of Helsinki, Finland) elianne.riska@helsinki.fi

2. Women's Health

Chair: Ellen Annandale (University of Leicester, England) eca7@le.ac.uk

Papers which explore the concept of gender in relation to both women's and men's health may be submitted to either session chair. It is anticipated that an edited book will be developed out of selected papers from the two sessions.

3. Health and Health Care Delivery in South Africa

Chair: Dingie van Resburg (University of the Free State, South Africa) vrensh.HUM@mail.uovs.ac.za

4. Bioethics and Society

Co-chairs: Kristina Orfali (University of Columbia, USA) Ko2145@columbia.edu

Raymond DeVries (University of Minnesota, USA) devries@umn.edu

5. Environmental Health Issues

Chair: Ella Haley (Athabasca University, Canada) ellah@athabascau.ca

6. The Sociology of HIV and AIDS

Chair: Jennie J. Kronenfeld (Arizona State University, USA) jennie.kronenfeld@asu.edu

7. Social Theory and Health Sociology

Chair: William C. Cockerham (University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA) wcocker@uab.edu

8. Health and the Transformation of Families

Chair: Lorne Tepperman (University of Toronto, Canada) Tepperman@chass.utoronto.ca

9. Genetics - Whose Revolution?

Chair: Robert Dingwall (University of Nottingham, UK) Robert.Dingwall@nottingham.ac.uk

10. The Body and Health

Chair: Elizabeth Ettore (University of Plymouth, UK) e.ettore@plymouth.ac.uk

11. Health Care in the Developing World

Chair: Masahira Anesaki (Daiichi Welfare University, Japan) anesaki_m@yahoo.co.jp

12. Health, Work and Marginalization

Chair: Cecila Benoit (University of Victoria, Canada) cbenoit@uvic.ca

13. Sexuality and Sexual Health

Chair: Anthony Price (City University, UK) apryce@city.ac.uk

14. Regulation of Professional Groups in Health (joint RC15 and RC52)

Chair: Mike Saks (University of Lincoln, UK) MSaks@lincoln.ac.uk

15. Globalised Standardisation and Local Needs in Health (joint RC15 and RC52)

Chair: Ellen Kuhlmann (University of Bremen, Germany) e.kuhlmann@zes.uni-bremen.de

16. Health, Work and Migration (joint RC15, RC52 and RC31)

Chair: Ivy Lynn Bourgeault (McMaster University, Canada) bourgea@univmail.cis.mcmaster.ca

Call for Papers
The Body and Health
Congress (Durban, South Africa, 23-29 July 2006).
Submission Deadline: 1 November 2005

Twenty first century bodies are located in age, gender, race, ethnic and class ranked positions, while shaped simultaneously as commodified sites of health, leisure, attractiveness and style. The body, as a central element in the construction of the social and the time-honoured focus of the private sphere, has become the template upon which cultural identities are fashioned and through which emotions are played out.

The task of sociologist is to bear witness to all forms of embodied oppressions and to contextualise the body as a politically inscribed entity, its biology and histories/herstories shaped by practices of containment and control. Bodies need to be seen as sites where narratives of health, illness, risk, identity, anxiety and social management converge and not as gender, race, class, and age neutral, non-determinate systems. How can a sociology of health further this type of understanding of the body?

This is an excellent opportunity for those doing research in this area to reach an international community of sociologists.

Abstracts (2 pages maximum) should be submitted to the session Chairperson on or before 1 November 2005:

Chairperson/Organiser: Elizabeth Ettore, University of Plymouth, UK, eettore@plymouth.ac.uk

Information about the XVI ISA world conference can be found at:
<http://www.ucm.es/info/isa/congress2006>