A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

In this issue of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*, we present information on the upcoming conference in Montréal as well as this year’s election results. Among things to look out for in this issue is a call for 2006 SSSP Resolutions, the announcement of the 2005 C. Wright Mills Award Finalists, a guide to same-sex civil marriages in Montréal, reasons for staying at the conference hotel, and an announcement of special sessions to look out for at the conference.

In addition, we offer a book review of J. K. Gibson-Graham’s *A Postcapitalist Politics* by Karen Werner and another installment of the Presidential Reflections Essay Series initiated during Steve Couch’s editorship; this installment prepared by Gary Alan Fine, 2004-2005 SSSP President. We also include the second part of my interview with Anne Schneider as this issue’s installment of the Graduate Student and Junior Faculty Member column.

I am still seeking a column editor, so if you are interested in taking an active role in developing and guiding the Graduate Student and Junior Faculty Member column, let me know. Also, I would like to devote part of next

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issue to Hurricane Katrina, its personal and social impact on individuals, communities, governments, and greater society. Accordingly, I would like to invite members to share their insights and/or analyses with us. I am especially interested in soliciting first-hand narratives or creative writings related to Hurricane Katrina. In addition, if anyone has an interest in organizing a Convergences and Divergences feature on this topic, please contact me. And as always, I welcome essays, letters to the editor, ideas for features, book reviews, and more. Have a great summer and a safe trip to Montréal in August.

Ciao . . .

Submission Information:

We welcome essays, commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements of interest to SSSP members. Submissions by email or diskette using Microsoft Word or Word Perfect files are preferred. The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is August 30, 2006.


Send all materials to:

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The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) welcomes the new slate of officers and committee members to the important positions in the governance of the Society. Our congratulations to President Elect Nancy Naples, Vice-President Elect Carrie Yang Costello, and the rest of the winners announced elsewhere in the issue. Yet even as we welcome each of these persons to the important positions that they fill, we note an alarmingly low percentage of eligible voters who participated in the election. Of the 1,998 eligible voters only 265 valid ballots were cast in this election! Last year’s vote total was low at 315, but this year’s total is fifty votes less. Since we count the votes in the Executive Office for Division elections we note that many of those elections have only a few votes cast. How should we interpret these numbers? A common interpretation in state and local elections is voter apathy. The electorate simply doesn’t care. Does that apply in the case of SSSP?

Membership in the Society has increased over the last several years. Attendance and participation in annual meeting programs has also increased. I am completing my fifteenth year of service as Executive Officer. I believe that low participation in the organizational life of the Society can be taken as a sign that members do not wish to take the time to inform themselves and cast their vote. This failure may be taken as a sign that the carefully constructed candidate statements are too long for the majority of members of the Society to read. The low participation may be taken as a sign that the majority of members are content to allow a minority to select the leaders of the organization. (Those who follow voting patterns in various elections in America will note that low turnout is found in local and state elections as well.)

SSSP has placed the idea of grassroots democracy in its very structure. If you do not believe this, go to the web site and read the bylaws of the organization. The chairs of the special problems divisions compose the nomination committee for the major officers of the organization. Often the nominations committee selects persons for nominees that are new to the Society. We are always grateful when a person agrees to stand for election. The Elections Committee Chair contacts each nominee from an ordered list. Often nominees decline the opportunity to be a candidate for a particular office. We are grateful when they accept the opportunity fully recognizing that being on the ballot is not the same as being elected. Having more than one candidate for a position is part of the democratic process.

We have noted over the years that some Special Problems Divisions have had difficulty in securing two candidates to run for chair of the Division. Usually a strong division will have no difficulty in securing two candidates since the Executive Office supplies a good deal of support to Division Chairs. Nine years have gone by since the little handbook doing four things for each division has been prepared. Those four items were responses to the following:

1. What is your vision of a just world in relation to your division’s mission?
2. What are one or two demonstration projects, nations or states that have most effectively addressed your division’s mission at any time in history and what are/were their important features?
3. What are the key difficulties that you and others working toward your division’s mission face in your work toward a better world?
4. What are five to ten key articles or books you would recommend to SSSP colleagues and their student who work outside of your Division’s area but want to learn more about it?

I recently told the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee that updating this booklet was overdue. I indicated my willingness to serve as the collaborator and editor of the contributions of each division. In 1997 we had seventeen special problem divisions. In 2006 we have twenty. Are you ready to support the effort needed to prepare a new booklet? The 1997 booklet was well received by SSSP members; colleagues and students wanted to learn more about one or more areas of study and activism within SSSP.

As I sit writing this column, I consider some of the trends that seem to be shaping our future as citizens of a world filled with inequalities. Access to adequate food and water, access to quality education, access to medical care vary markedly across the countries in the Western hemisphere and around the world. Most SSSP members live in the U.S.A. This country has made a series of policy decisions and implemented practices that have restricted the flow of scientists, scholars and entrepreneurs from abroad. This restriction will no doubt contribute to the decline of the country’s position of leadership in some areas of business and industry. The response of the national government to the world situation has led to less respect for the U.S.A. as a firm advocate for international law. Rather the government’s actions appear to suggest a policy of “might makes right.” If this philosophy remains unchallenged by an apathetic electorate, then we can expect more decisions that view military dominance as the most important aspect of America to defend.

Our Society will meet in Montréal, Canada in August.
lining their pockets with money from lobbyists or who are using the public purse to help friends to profit cannot address these problems successfully.

Come to Montréal! Welcome our new officers! Participate in the divisions to which you belong! Make SSSP a true example of participatory democracy at its best!

Tom Hood, Executive Officer

SSSP Annual Meeting 2006, Montréal, Canada
Same-sex civil marriage:
Want to get married during the conference?

1. Identify a potential spouse.
2. Ask them to marry you.
3. Assuming affirmative response, complete required paperwork.

You must send your documents to Montréal court at least 35-40 days before the date of your civil marriage:

A 20-day “notice of marriage” and interview is required to marry in Montréal – however, you do not have to visit Montréal twice. If you have the NOTICE OF MARRIAGE form completed by a notary or a lawyer in your country, you don't need to come to Canada for the required interview. The notary or the lawyer completes the spousal part (name, surname, date and place of birth) and the witness part.

For the payment, you can send a letter stating that you authorize the Ministre des finances to take the appropriate amount, which ranges from 229-305$ (Canadian), for a civil marriage or union, with the credit card number, the expiration date and your signature.

Upon receiving your documents, the Montréal authorities will contact you by email to set the date of ceremony!

Please use the contact information below to obtain additional information:

Alejandra Camacho
Division des unions et des mariages civils
Palais de Justice de Montréal
10, rue St-Antoine Est, bureau 1.04
Montréal (Québec)
H2Y 1A2
514-393-2113 poste 2262
Télécopieur 514-864-4374
mcmtl@justice.gouv.qc.ca

Brief overview of civil marriage and civil unions in Montréal:

Detailed overview of civil marriage and unions in Montréal:
http://www.justice.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/generale/maria-a.htm#civil

Rules regulating the solemnization of civil marriage or union:

Information about who may perform a civil marriage or union:

Contact information for Montréal courts

REQUIRED FORMS:

Civil marriage general information form (SJ-217A)

Civil union general information form (SJ-833A)

Notice of civil marriage (SJ-218A)

Notice of civil union (SJ-834A)

Request for designation of an officiant of a civil marriage or union (SJ-893A)
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Society for the Study of Social Problems would like to welcome members who have joined since January, 2006 (prepared 5/15/06):

Call for Articles, Book Chapters, and Teaching Materials

Special Issue of Academic Exchange Quarterly on “Teaching Political Science”

Academic Exchange Quarterly, a peer-reviewed print journal devoted to educational research and development, is issuing a call for papers on the topic of Teaching Political Science, for publication in a special section in the Winter 2006 issue. We welcome submissions that span a broad scope of issues in political science education, including teaching techniques, new simulations and active learning exercises, experimental studies, distance learning, pedagogical inquiries, assessment, and synthetic essays. In short, both practical and theoretical articles in all subfields of political science are invited for submission.

The submission deadline is August 31, 2006. The submission procedures may be viewed at: http://rapidintellect.com/AEQweb/rufen1.htm or at: http://www.rapidintellect.com/AEQweb/5politic.htm. The Political Science Feature Editor is David L. Weiden, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University, dweiden@ilstu.edu

Special Issue of Humboldt Journal of Social Relations on “Oppression & Resistance”

The Humboldt Journal of Social Relations, an internationally recognized interdisciplinary social science journal, is seeking submissions for a Spring 2007 issue focused on Oppression & Resistance. We will develop an issue, or potentially a two-issue set, that speaks to oppressions, and resistances across a wide variety of locations, topics, and fields. Our last two issues have focused on (1) Zapatismo: Critical Political and Cultural Practice and (2) Inter-group Forgiveness; both of these issues included work from internationally recognized scholars as well as newer contributors.

We welcome potential contributors to submit manuscripts by September 15, 2006. Please submit four copies of all materials, typewritten, double-spaced, with an abstract and short biographical sketch, as well as a PC compatible disc of the manuscript. Papers should conform with American Sociological Review style. For more information, contact hjsr@humboldt.edu. Since we are not funded by large organizations, please include a $10.00 fee with each submission. Send to:

Jennifer Eichstedt, Editor
The Humboldt Journal of Social Relations
Department of Sociology
Humboldt State University
1 Harpst Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Special Issue of the Journal of Bisexuality on “Bisexual Perspectives on Same-Sex Marriage”

Guest editor M. Paz Galupo seeks submissions for a double issue addressing bisexual perspectives on same-sex marriage. For more detailed information, see page four of the Winter 2006 issue of Social Problems Forum.

Special Issue of the Journal of Black Studies on “Hurricane Katrina: Race, Class and Poverty: Reflections and Analysis.”

The Journal of Black Studies is requesting contributions for a special edition examining the effects and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. We invite contributions from African-American Studies, History, Economics, Ethnic Studies, Political Science, Sociology, Geography and related fields. In preparing your contribution please make use of the format of the journal listed below.

Manuscript Submission Guidelines: MANUSCRIPTS should be submitted in duplicate (one hard copy & one disk copy) to Editor, Troy D. Allen at the address below. A copy of the final revised manuscript saved on an IBM compatible disk must be included with the final revised copy. Disks will not be returned to the author once they are accepted for publication. Articles should be no more than 25 typewritten double-spaced pages with footnotes, references, tables, and charts also double-spaced and on separate page, footnotes, and bibliographic citations should follow APA (Fifth Ed.) style. All submissions must include an abstract and a list of key words. Styles Sheets are available from the editor upon request. A brief paragraph describing each author's current affiliation, research interests, and recent publications should accompany the manuscript. Please allow 4 - 6 months for review of all submitted articles. Direct questions and submissions the guest editor

Troy D. Allen, Guest Editor
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P.O. Box 10092
Southern University
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Troy_Allen@subr.edu

Special Issue of Journal of Public Affairs on “Fusion Public Affairs”

The Journal of Public Affairs seeks both theoretical and empirical submissions for a double special issue on “Fusion Public Affairs.” Just as we used to have French, Chinese, Italian, American restaurants but now have fusion, so too we increasingly see that what were formerly regarded as distinctively national styles of public affairs are melding together. For more information the issue’s guiding questions, see the full announcement at https://www.apsanet.org/content_28338.cfm

Submissions are encouraged from government officials and policy makers, practitioners of public affairs, NGOs and young researchers, as well as from established
News of Note continued

academics.

Papers should be around 4-6,000 words in length, and must strictly follow the Journal of Public Affairs style guidelines. Deadline for the submission of full papers: December 1, 2006. Submissions should be made to both editors by email; write “Special Issue” in the subject line.

International Research Conference

In conjunction with this special issue, the Journal of Public Affairs and the European Centre for Public Affairs will be co-hosting an international research conference in Brussels in March 2007. At least one author of each article submitted should be prepared to present their paper at this conference. Submissions will be blind reviewed by members of the Journal of Public Affairs editorial board, and authors will be informed of initial acceptance decisions no later than 15 January 2007; the authors of submissions received before the deadline will be notified within two months of submission.

Papers will be presented and discussed at the conference, following which all participants will be asked to provide written comments about each paper by 30 April 2007. Authors will then be able to revise their papers in the light of these comments, and must make a final submission by 30 June 2007. Final submissions will again be reviewed, and final decisions about inclusion in the special issue of Journal of Public Affairs will be communicated to authors by 31 August 2007. The special issue will be published in 2008.

Guest Editors: Conor McGrathUniversity of Ulster mcgraths@iol.ie

and

Tom Spencer, European Centre for Public Affairs, Visiting Professor of Public Affairs, Brunel University tomsg Spencer@publicaffairs.ac

Contributors sought for an edited book entitled Men Speak Out: Profeminist Views on Gender, Sex and Power

How can we better understand and imagine new possibilities for men and feminism? Are you a guy who hates sexism? Do you call yourself a feminist? Have you spent hours over coffee (or beer) thinking about issues of gender, power, race, class, and sexuality? Are you involved with social justice activism? If so, then you have stories to tell and I’d like to hear what you have to say.

EDITOR: Shira Tarrant is a writer, activist, and professor. Her work has appeared in Genre, Off Our Backs, and Women’s Studies Quarterly. LENGTH: Essay should be no more than 6,000 words. FORMAT: Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and paginated. Please include your address, phone number, email address, and a short bio on the last page. SUBMITTING: Send essay electronically as a Word document (format file with a .doc extension) and email to MenSpeakOut@yahoo.com. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: September 15, 2006.

To receive a more detailed description of this project please send an email to: MenSpeakOut@yahoo.com Men Speak Out: ProFeminist Views on Gender, Sex and Power will be published by Routledge in November, 2007.

Special Issue of Theoria: A Journal of Social and Political Philosophy on “Politics and the Return of the Sacred”

Contributions are invited for a special issue of Theoria aimed at exploring the relationship between politics and the sacred, and especially the notion that the sacred is enjoying an unprecedented revival in contemporary social and political theory and practice. For this special issue contributors are invited to reflect on the relationships between politics, science and philosophy, the one hand, and theology, religion and mysticism, on the other, in association with, inter alia, fundamentalism, neo-conservatism, nationalism and/or millennialism.

Contributions from across the social sciences and humanities, both discipline-specific and interdisciplinary, as well as comparative perspectives, will be welcomed.

Contributors are encouraged to reflect directly on the meaning and nature of both the sacred and the political and their interrelationship, whether complementary, contradictory or both. Questions that might guide submission are: Is fundamentalism the coming norm in global and local politics? Are we experiencing a re-enchantment of the world, post-Weber? To what extent are secular activities like work and leisure being sacralized, and how might therapeutic and self-improvement activities contribute to this trend? Are there particular affinities between sacred and secular knowledge, or between theology and science, which today might be becoming more central to late modern, or postmodern, societies? Is the strong contemporary emphasis on human rights, and environmentalism, merely sacred social engineering on a global sale, or a resacralization of nature? What are the philosophical underpinnings, and political implications, of ‘New Age’ mysticism, and political evangelism? If some of the roots of modernity itself can be traced back to religion, exactly how new are these current sacralizing trends? Is all of the above just ‘millennial fever’?

The deadline for submission of papers is August 1, 2006. An electronic version of the paper (between 6000 and
Contributors sought for a two-volume work entitled *Women of the World*

Joyce Gelb, City University of New York and Marian Lief Palley, University of Delaware, are editing a two-volume work entitled *Women of the World*. The two volumes, to be published by ABC-CLIO will be out in 2008. One volume will focus exclusively on women in different nations and the other volume will focus on issues that cross national boundaries.

Gelb and Palley are looking for scholars of women and politics who are interested in contributing to this work. In particular, they are looking for scholars to contribute nation-based chapters that look at women in politics in one of 25 different nations. These chapters should include an overview of women's roles in the society as well as the evolving role of women in politics.

In addition, they are seeking contributors who can address single issues relating to a variety of policy areas including women and economic policy, women and political development and political representation, women and business, women and agriculture, women and poverty, and relationships between corporate structures, political access and representation for women.

If you want more information about this project please contact Marian Lief Palley at mpalley@udel.edu

**Congratulations!**

**SSSP Member’s Book Awarded 2006 "Text" Textbook Excellence Award**

Congratulations to Steven E. Barkan! He who won the 2006 "Texty" Textbook Excellence Award in the humanities and social sciences category from the Text and Academic Authors Association for his work *Criminology: A Sociological Understanding, 3rd edition.*

**SSSP Member’s Work Wins Gustavas Myers Human Rights Book Award**

Andrea Smith’s work, *Conquest: Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide*, was awarded the Gustavas Myers Human Rights Book Award. Congratulations!

**SSSP Member Declared “2006 Community Achiever of the Year”**

Congratulations to Doris Wilkinson who was awarded the Central Kentucky YMCA Black Achievers, “Community Achiever of the Year.” This award was given on the basis of her career as a pioneer in the desegregation of the University of Kentucky as an undergraduate just after the Brown Decision and later as the first African American female faculty member, her development of the university’s African American Studies and Research Program and founding of an historic Black Women's Conference, her numerous publications in critical race theory, and her extensive professional and community service.

**Fellowships**

**Center For Tobacco Control Research and Education, Tobacco Control Fellowship**

We anticipate new training grant funding from the NIH to start in July 2006. As a result, we now have a few additional spots available this year. Applications received by May 15, 2006 are preferred, although the slots will remain open until filled.

One and two-year fellowship positions are available in the Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education, University of California, San Francisco. We will train scholars at the postdoctoral level. Fellows will be recruited from a variety of fields, including basic sciences, social sciences, clinical fields, public health practitioners, marketing, political science, history, economics and law.

The training program objective is to conduct policy-relevant research related to tobacco control. In addition, postgraduate researchers will (a) attend Tobacco Control Policy Issues Course, (b) attend Cancer Center/Tobacco Control Seminar, Writing Seminar, and Health Policy Seminar, and (c) be eligible to participate in coursework offered by the existing training programs at UCSF.

Stipends available through the program range from approximately $35,000-$51,000 annually, depending on years of postdoctoral experience. Applications received by May 15, 2006 are preferred, and the fellowship begins July 1, 2006. Please direct requests for information and applications to:

Alison Rodrigues  
Fellowship Coordinator  
Phone: 415 476-0140  
Fax: 415 514-9345  
Email: alison.ordigues@ucsf.edu

**Job Announcements**

**The following institutions are accepting applications for positions that may be of interest:**

Bridgewater State College (Criminal Justice and Social Work positions)  
Case Western Reserve University (Community and Social Development position)  
George Mason University (Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution position)
Howard University (Anthropology and Sociology positions)
Santa Clara University (Sociology position)
University of San Francisco (Sociology position)
Valdosta State University (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice Department Head)

Position announcements and application instructions are available at the SSSP website. Go to [http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/182](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/182).

**Other Conferences’ Call for Presentations**

The Georgia (USA) Political Science Association will meet in Savannah November 16-18, 2006. We welcome attendees and presenters from all disciplines worldwide. Over 200 participants from the United States and overseas attended our 2005 conference. For more information about submitting proposals, the $500 McBrayer Award, or the agenda of past conferences, please go to our web site at [www.gpsanet.org](http://www.gpsanet.org) or e-mail GPSA06@GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

The Association for Humanist Sociology is holding its annual conference November 1-5, 2006 in St. Louis, Missouri. This year’s theme is *The Future of Humanism.* Papers or other forms of creative or scholarly work on the conference theme or on other issues of sociological and human interest are welcome. Abstracts or descriptions may be submitted via e-mail to adairs@ccsu.edu or sent via regular post by June 12, 2006, to

Stephen Adair
Department of Sociology
Central Connecticut State University
New Britain, CT 06050

The Lyman Briggs School of Science at Michigan State University is holding an international conference on “Globalization, Environmental Ethics and Environmental Justice” August 24-28, 2006. Papers are invited for an interdisciplinary conference focused on unfolding environmental developments. As globalization advances and the global character of many environmental problems becomes more manifest, wider perspectives are stimulated in local environmental traditions. In North America, a burgeoning environmental justice movement makes links between environmental damage, poverty and race that strongly recall longstanding political concerns in Europe and the South. In Western Europe, skepticism and mistrust of GM and other new deep technologies raises questions about the character of ‘nature’ long discussed in relation to the American wilderness tradition. This conference aims to bring together a range of disparate voices across the globe and the disciplines, broadening these new international discussions by bringing distinctly American traditions of environmental ethics into dialogue with international concerns in environmental politics, philosophy, literature, sociology, history and economics. Workshop topics will include:

- Environmental Citizenship
- Economy and Ecology
- Nature, Culture and Artifact
- Ecofeminism
- Ecology and Utopia
- Environmental Justice
- Risk and Technology
- Ecological Restoration
- Environmental Movements
- Animals and Speciesism
- The Land Ethic
- Environmental History
- Literature and Ecology
- Climate Change & Disasters

Abstracts should be received by **June 16, 2006** and sent to:

Dr. Piers H.G. Stephens
Lyman Briggs School
Michigan State University
35 E. Holmes Hall
East Lansing, MI 48825-1107, USA
Email: steph243@msu.edu
Tel: (517) 353-4878

**Other Conferences/Workshops of Interest**

Information on the ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research is now available. Visit [http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/training/summer/index.html](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/training/summer/index.html)

The Justice Studies Association will hold its 2006 conference June 8-10 at the University of California, Berkeley. This year’s theme is *Where do the Children Play? Considering Future Generations through Peace, Social, and Restorative Justice.* For further information contact either 2006 Program Chair Dr Judith Kay (jkay@ups.edu) or JSA President Dr Dan Okada (dokada@csus.edu).

The 2006 annual meeting of the Law and Society Association will take place in Baltimore, Maryland, USA, July 6-9, 2006. This year’s theme: *Law’s End(s)?* For more information, visit [http://www.lawandsociety.org/ann_mtg/am06/call.htm](http://www.lawandsociety.org/ann_mtg/am06/call.htm)


**Project South seeks participants for the 2007 United States Social Forum**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in struggle! The Atlanta-based Host Committee calls you to participate in the US Social Forum (USSF) to be held in Atlanta in summer 2007. We are youth, elders, poor people, and workers
representing indigenous, Black, Latina, Asian, immigrant, queer, and disabled communities to name a few. We are the forgotten people, the oppressed people, people who have struggled against every form of exploitation. We are rising up.

The USSF is more than a conference, more than a networking bonanza, more than a reaction to war and repression. The USSF is the next most important step in our struggle. This moment demands that we build a powerful movement that disrupts and transforms this country. We must declare what we want our world to look like and begin planning the path to get there. The USSF will provide spaces to build relationships, learn from each other’s experiences, and share our analysis of the problems our communities face, and begin to vision and strategize how to reclaim our world.

To win nationally, we must win the US South. The Southern site of the USSF marks a new movement in the US movement for social and economic justice. Hosting the USSF in the US South builds political potency for a powerful movement to challenge white supremacy, imperial domination, worldwide genocide, ecocide, and all other manifestations of global capitalism. Join us in Atlanta to build a strong and effective movement!

Call to join us in Atlanta, the Summer 2007

United States Social Forum
9 Gammon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30315
404.622.0602 * www.ussocialforum.org

The 4th annual Qualitative Research Summer Institute hosted by Research Talk, Inc. will be held in Long Island, NY from June 23-28. For more information, visit http://www.researchtalk.com.

The Religious Research Association (RRA) is holding its 2006 annual meeting in Portland, Oregon, October 19-22, 2006. This year’s theme is Congregations, Denominations and Research on Religion: Promoting Cooperation. More detailed information is available at http://rra.hartsem.edu/annual.htm. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the SSSR annual conference, see below.

The Rural Sociological Society (RSS) invites you to participate in our 2006 annual meeting to be held in Louisville, Kentucky on August 10-13, 2006. This year’s theme is Perils and Promises of Globalization: Difference, Resistance and Possibility. Conference information is available on the web at http://ruralsociology.org/annual-meeting/2006/index.html.

Direct specific questions about the program to Patricia Allen at 2006rss@ucsc.edu, and general questions to Edie Pigg at ruralsoc@missouri.edu.


The Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) annual conference will be held in Portland, Oregon, October 19-22, 2006. Its theme this year will be RELIGION V. SPIRITUALITY: Assessing the Relationship between Institutional Religious Involvement and Personal Religious Experience. For more information, go to the SSSR website at http://las.alfred.edu/~soc/SSSR/index.html. This conference is being held in conjunction with the RRA annual meeting, see above.

The Society for Utopian Studies’ 31st Annual Meeting will be held October 12 - 15, 2006, in Colorado Spring, Colorado. Scholars and artists from all disciplines are encouraged to present on any aspect of the utopian tradition—from the earliest utopian visions to the utopian speculations and yearnings of the 21st century, including art, architecture, urban and rural planning, literary utopias, dystopian writings, utopian political activism, theorizing utopian spaces and ontologies, music, new media, or intentional communities. For more information, see http://www.utoronto.ca/utopia/meetings.html

Recent Books Published by Members


Anyone who is asked to write a memoir must have some sympathy for James Frey, the now disgraced author of *A Million Little Pieces* (apparently only 100,000 pieces), who was caught in a web of fibs as he constructed his own little life. Two questions demand to be answered about a memoir: why would anyone write one? And why would anyone read one? A skeptic might imagine that these queries pose insuperable obstacles for the development of the genre.

Writers who desire the admiration and attention of their readers might well feel frustrated by the inadequate or turgid story line that their life provides, and so why not tidy up around the edges. And yet such undercuts the ethnographic reality of a memoir: its mise-en-scène, a sense of *being there*, while observing dramatic events and providing a moral as well. A memoir should speak to collective memory, how a community believes that a life should be lived.

And so I am charged with reflecting on my life in SSSP, a request that comes, not from any sense of a powerful storyline, but from the belief that having been selected for office, my association with the association must be worthy of note.

The truth is that my connection with SSSP did not emerge from an epiphany, so far as I call recall, but from a sense of a common sensibility. I joined the organization in the middle of graduate school in 1973. I was enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Social Psychology at Harvard at the time, working on problems of rumor, gossip, and group culture, and attempting to develop a line of argument that could be grounded on qualitative and interpretivist principles.

The story has roots somewhat further back. As an undergraduate I attended the University of Pennsylvania at a propitious moment. One of those happenstances that most shaped my direction as a scholar, although I surely did not appreciate it at the moment, was a string of rejections from colleges that I had hoped to attend. But Penn did not have such wisdom. Choosing between NYU, Johns Hopkins, and Penn, I traveled from Manhattan to Philadelphia because of their studio art program. Once there I never took an art course.

Penn was known, then, as the weakling of the Ivy League, a marginal member of that August collection. Yet at this moment of higher education expansion, the Penn sociology department consisted of a group of remarkable and quirky men (and Renee Fox, as well), but unlike other Ivies, Penn could acquire a relatively modest number of highly motivated graduate students. By the time that I was a sophomore I learned that I could hold my own in graduate discussions, and so I soon enrolled in classes with such luminaries as E. Digby Baltzell, Philip Rieff, Ray Birdwhistell, and, of course, Erving Goffman. What each of these otherwise quite different scholars had in common was an overarching skepticism about taken-for-granted realities, the truisms of everyday life. Whether I was pushed to disbelief or whether the disbelief fitting my intellectual wardrobe is hard to state.

Among the works that most powerfully affected my thinking while in graduate school was Malcolm Spector and John Kitsuse’s pair of 1973 *Social Problems* papers, “Toward a Sociology of Social Problems: Social Conditions, Value-Judgements, and Social Problems” and “Social Problems: A Re-Formulation.” Together they provided an extension of Labeling Theory, which itself developed from within SSSP by Howard Becker and his colleagues. Spector and Kitsuse provided a skeptic’s wedge for understanding how social problems came to be constructed, a manual for doubters. Building on the work of Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann, they created “social constructionism” as an influential brand for a body of scholarly investigations.

It is well to recall that this work underscores a division within SSSP between true believers and those who consumed by the mistrust of truth claims. There is a gap between those who accept the claims of moral entrepreneurs and those who wish to question these assumptions. The break is, in some regards, between activists and theorists. SSSP has been an important home for both of these groups, and they have typically (but not always) agreed to live and let live. Both were suspicious of conventional wisdom, both wanted to expand the range of methods and discourse, and both hoped to find a home in which positivistic science did not reign supreme. During the period of time that the American Sociological Association doubted the possibility of being a scholar-activist and doubted an interactionist/interpretivist sociology, SSSP provided an important base of support. And given that most theorists were personally progressive (if with a touch of libertarianism occasionally thrown in for leavening), the disagreements over what the objective status of inequality, injustice, and unfairness really implied could be overlooked.

Although I had joined SSSP a few years before, my first
A presentation at a national sociological conference was at SSSP in 1977, a year after my Ph.D. had been awarded, and so this makes nearly three decades of active participation in the organization. And like many others I was impressed by its liveliness and openness; some of those I met at that meeting are still friends today. Over the years I have served a term as chair of the social problems theory section, and served on the board of directors for a term before becoming President on my third attempt. I first ran against Beth Hess. It will not surprise any member of this organization that not only did Beth receive a large proportion of the votes of the membership, but she received mine as well. The other two occasions I voted for myself.

Becoming president, it became clear that one of the challenges that faces SSSP is what will a scholarly/activist organization look like in the 21st Century. The American Sociological Association is – and should properly be – first and foremost a professional organization. Its primary concern must be the welfare of the sociological discipline and the members of that discipline. But academic organizations are more than occupational support groups. ASA is also a scholarly organization, and many consider providing space for presenting research and then publishing it to be its core mission. Recently, slowly and fitfully, ASA has become more open to activism, as reflected in Michael Burawoy’s call for a “Public Sociology.” It is not only pure researchers who are unnerved by this charge; members of SSSP perhaps worry, as an organizational matter, whether such a change, if it is fully embraced, will suck the air out of our organization. Can we survive as providing more than a superb journal?

The attempts of SSSP, through its Justice 21 Project, under the leadership of Bob Perrucci to publish short agenda-setting policy-relevant summaries of research is surely one way by which we can combine scholarship and activism. In addition, we must consider more ways in which we can inject activism into our meetings, perhaps by sponsoring smaller, focused gatherings, or even attempt to meet apart from the ASA, not merely to listen to the same kind of presentations, but to reinvigorate activist linkages, even while building in a certain skepticism towards received truth claims - both those of government and those of activists themselves.

SSSP is one of my most important intellectual homes. And many of my personal role models have been devoted members of this organization over the years from Al Lee to Herbert Blumer to Helena Lopata to John Kitsuse (all deceased) to Howie Becker (who couldn’t be left out, even though he has many good years left) and Tom Hood (who, I believe, was one of those I met in 1977 and has been a continuing source of personal and organizational inspiration). If I am forced to write a memoir, there are many more painful topics than SSSP that I could cover.
SPECIAL SESSIONS – AUGUST 13, 2006

CUBAN SOCIALISM TODAY / EL SOCIALISMO CUBANO HOY
(8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Sponsored by:
Dalhousie University, Programme of International Development Studies
SSSP Global Division
Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales
FLACSO-Cuba Programme

Themes include:
• Social Development in Cuba
• Sustainable Development
• Education and Development
• Comprehensive Health and Social Security
• Community Work and Social Participation
• Culture and Arts

“Achievements and Challenges in Cuban Socialism”
Elena Diaz, FLACSO-Cuba

“Present Day Realities and Future Prospects in Cuba”
Delia Luisa López, FLACSO-Cuba and José Bell Lara, FLACSO-Cuba

“US Hegemony, Neoliberalism, and Cuba”
Daniel Egan, University of Massachusetts.-Lowell

For more information please contact co-chairs:
Elena Diaz; FLACSO-Cuba Programme, ediaz@flacso.uh.cu
Richard A. Dello Buono, rdellob@hotmail.com
You may also contact
Marian T. Mackinnon; Dalhousie University; IDS@dal.ca

GLOBALIZATION AND NEOLIBERAL CRISSES: SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND SOCIAL STRUGGLES (2:00 p.m.- 6:15 p)

Sponsored by:
Journal Critical Sociology
SSSP Global Division
Project South
FLACSO-Cuba Programme, University of Havana

(additional sponsors invited)

Themes include:
• Indigenous People’s Struggles
• Migration and Border Crises
• Global Social Forums
• Urban Dilemmas under Capitalist Globalization

Panelists:
“The Social Impact of Globalization”
Richard A. Dello Buono, Independent Scholar and José Bell Lara, FLACSO-Cuba

“Facing the Challenges of Sustainability and Development: A Sociological Evaluation of the New Urban State in Buenos Aires”
Ryan Centner, University of California, Berkeley

“Canada’s Global City Hierarchy”
Nathanael Matthiesen, UIC-Irvine

Jimena Feijoo, Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad (CEDES)

“Wal-Martizing the Holidays”
Laura L. Finley, Florida Atlantic University and Celene Andreano, Florida Atlantic University

“Indigenous Movements in the Americas: Pro-Traditionalism and Anti-NeoLiberalism”
James V. Fenelon, California State University

“Waking up to the ‘Katrina Moment’”
Walda Katz Fishman, Howard University/Project South

“Social Movements in the Western Hemisphere: Towards the First U.S. Social Forum”
Jerome Scott, Project South

“Reproducing the Mexican Household under Neoliberalism, 1990-2004”
Irma Lorena Acosta, Autonomous University of Zacatecas

“Imperialism and the Environment in Times of Neoliberal Crisis”
Victor Figueroa, Autonomous University of Zacatecas

Discussant:
David Fasenfest, Wayne State University and Editor, Critical Sociology

For more information please contact co-chairs:
Richard A. Dello Buono, rdellob@hotmail.com
Jose Bell Lara, FLACSO-Cuba Programme, josebell@flacso.uh.cu
Donations Sought
for AIDS Fundraiser Auctions

Join us for the 6th Annual AIDS Fundraiser and the Graduate Student and New Member Reception on Thursday, August 10th, from 9:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.

Bring your dancing shoes. A local band will provide music. Enjoy complimentary hors d’oeuvres and a limited cash bar. During the evening, there will be both silent and live auctions.

You'll be able to place bids on lots of great stuff.

SSSP is fortunate to have many talented individuals among its membership, including a number of artists. If you are one of those talented individuals, please consider donating a piece of your work to the auction. You can mail it ahead of time, or you can bring it to the meeting. Please provide us with a full description of the item (and its estimated value, if you can do that) by June 15th, by email Yesim Bayer at yeshbayar@yahoo.ca or Michele Koontz at mkoontz3@utk.edu.

Those of you who are not artists may wish to donate another item instead. Perhaps you’ve written a book and would be willing to donate a signed copy, or maybe you have something special that you think would be a hit at the auction.

Please get in touch with us about your donations. All proceeds from this event benefit local AIDS organizations, so please help us make the 6th Annual AIDS Fundraiser and Graduate Student and New Member Reception a big success by donating an item.

SPF Seeks Hurricane Katrina-related Contributions

Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter seeks essays, creative writings, commentaries, poems, and polemics addressing various aspects of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, for a special section to appear in the next issue if there are sufficient submissions.

We are especially interested in hearing from members from those states directly affected, although contributions from all members are welcome.

Also, we invite contributions on this topic for a Convergences and Divergences feature.

Interested? Please contact the editor, Ken Kyle, at sssp_editor@yahoo.com with ideas, proposals, and/or submissions.


2006 CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

SSSP resolutions constitute an important opportunity for our scholar-activist membership to publicly declare their sentiments, thereby creating a channel for greater visibility and more direct influence upon a variety of “publics,” i.e., fellow activists, scholars, students, decision-makers, social action groups, voters, and others. Thus, as Vice-President this year, I am calling on the membership to submit resolutions for discussion, debate, and in some cases, passage. To do so, simply forward your resolution or your idea for a resolution to the appropriate SSSP Division Chair. When doing so, remember that proposed resolutions can serve as useful discussion points for SSSP members, helping to increase and enhance communication and activities during the long period between annual meetings.

Resolutions that are submitted to Division Chairs should contain a concise position statement concerning a social problem of urgent concern to the Division. In most cases, the resolution should include some sort of call for viable action on the part of the SSSP. This typically has involved a letter from the Board directed to some public entity, expressing concern, support, or protest. Feel free, however, to propose other forms of appropriate action.

It is the SSSP Vice-President’s responsibility to serve as the facilitator for resolutions being sponsored by the Divisions as well as from individual Society members, making them available to the membership at the annual business meeting. This year in Montréal, Canada, the resolutions process will be organized in a manner that promotes wider discussion prior to formal consideration at the 2006 Business Meeting. The process is as follows:

On the first day of the meetings an open forum of discussion will be held, which is designed to encourage a political discussion of concerned members. At this meeting, each proposed resolution should be presented for membership discussion by the sponsoring Division's Chairperson (or designated representative) and adequate time for discussion will be properly allotted to each. To facilitate this process, all proposed resolutions should be made available to the SSSP Vice-President well in advance of the meetings such that the membership can be provided a print copy with their registration packet.

Modifications and revisions will be considered during the open discussion forum that will meet in place of the annual meeting of the Resolutions Committee. All Division Chairs should plan to participate in this session or designate a proxy from their division if unable to attend. It is essential that someone be present who can speak to the substance of the proposed resolution.

During the 2006 Annual Business meeting, the resolutions will be presented (including any modifications or revisions) by the Vice-President as a package for approval for action by the attending membership. The membership will vote on proposed resolutions that were discussed and revised on the first day of the meeting. Experience shows that the Annual Business meeting fails to provide sufficient time for a detailed discussion of resolutions. If objections from the floor are raised to any specific resolution at this year's Business meeting, that resolution can, by majority vote of those present, be singled out from the package, and voted on separately. Those present can either support the resolution for approval as proposed or decide to table the resolution for further discussion at the subsequent year's annual meeting.

We will attempt to make approved resolutions immediately available to the press. In addition, all approved resolutions will be submitted for publication in the Fall issue of the SSSP Forum.

Members who wish to propose resolutions for consideration of the SSSP should submit them to a Division Chairperson (see http://www.sssp1.org for current contact information) or directly to the SSSP Vice-President at cookk@uncw.edu. I look forward to hearing your ideas.

Kimberly J. Cook, SSSP Vice-President 2005-2006
A Conversation with Professor Anne Schneider Concerning Tenure and Promotion

This is the second half of a conversation with Anne Schneider, Professor of Justice Studies in Arizona State University’s School of Justice and Social Inquiry, and former Dean of the College of Public Programs from 1989 to 2004. As Dean, Dr. Schneider oversaw Schools of Human Communication, Journalism, Justice Studies, Public Affairs, Social Work, and a Department of Recreation Management and Tourism, and thus, she offers a senior administrator’s perspective and a senior faculty member’s perspective on academic life that may be of interest to junior faculty members and working toward tenure and to graduate students.

During a wide-ranging conversation conducted February 15, 2006, Dr. Schneider talked about a variety of topics, including the job market and interviewing (see Social Problems Forum Winter 2006 issue), and about the tenure and promotion process. Excerpts from this interview focusing on promotion and tenure are presented below.

SPF: Shifting gears quite a bit, for those working towards tenure and promotion, do you have any insights or thoughts that you can offer?

Anne Schneider: Well, the first thing to do when you get to a new job is to talk to your colleagues about how the process works. Because your colleagues and your chair may not have that much experience with new faculty, especially if the program hasn’t hired in quite a while. And they may not realize that there are things you need to do that you don’t know about. For example, you may not know that unless you keep your teaching evaluations, they won’t be available in some institutions. Or that unless you keep track of how many times you spoke on the radio or went down to the speak to a local group, no one is going to know that, and yet community service is part of most tenure and promotion applications. [Laughing] I know of one person here who got a great big box and she tossed all of those kinds of things in that box – thank you letters for having spoken to the Red Cross, etc.

SPF: Yes [laughing] I have friends who did similar things.

Anne Schneider: She kept all of her teaching evaluations. In most departments there will be a staff person who’ll do those, but not everywhere. So you need to find out how that works and you need to collect the stuff. The other thing is, if there is an annual performance review. You need to find out whether the criteria are the same for it as for tenure and promotion. If so, that can give you some guide as to how well you are doing, or you can figure out how much of a guide the annual performance review can be. Most places today have either a second year review or a third year review which is kind of a many tenure review with the exception of external letters.

SPF: That is what I experienced. I had a two and four year review before going up my sixth year, but it was only for the sixth year that external letters were solicited and used.

Anne Schneider: Yes, and then they ought to find out how that works and you need to collect the stuff. The other thing is, if there is an annual performance review. If so, that can give you some guide as to how well you are doing, or you can figure out how much of a guide the annual performance review can be. Most places today have either a second year review or a third year review which is kind of a many tenure review with the exception of external letters.

SPF: Is this advice from Anne the dean or from Anne the faculty mentor? I ask because at my institution we were strongly advised not to publish a book.

Anne Schneider: Because it would slow you down too much?

SPF: Yes, that was their thinking. And it became, in my mind, almost a prejudice. There are times when a book is more appropriate given the topic or argument being raised. For example, I forewent working on my dissertation and turning it into a book until after I was granted tenure, and the book I wrote was very long, always longer that it seems. You need to find out if people think peer reviewed articles are the same as book chapters or whether book chapters are in fact much lower in the hierarchy? You need to find out whether an authored book is enough to get you tenure, or if it isn’t enough, how many articles do you think that you need as well. I think it is risky in the social sciences to put all your eggs in the authored book basket. I really do. It’s risky. If you want to convert your dissertation into a book, then it’s probably a good idea to pull a core part of it out to publish as an article and start getting that floated around. And don’t worry, your book will be different anyway. And then get started on your book, but at the same time get some other project started that is a little more narrow gauged from which you can publish something.

SPF: Is this advice from Anne the dean or from Anne the faculty mentor? I ask because at my institution we were strongly advised not to publish a book.

Anne Schneider: Because it would slow you down too much?

SPF: Yes, that was their thinking. And it became, in my mind, almost a prejudice. There are times when a book is more appropriate given the topic or argument being raised. For example, I forewent working on my dissertation and turning it into a book until after I was granted promotion and tenure. I would have published it earlier and without having to go back and update it so many years later. I wonder if at the Dean’s level, is there some wiggle room for different interpretations on the value of
Anne Schneider: Oh, you’ll get the same kind of divergence of perspectives among Deans as you do among different faculties. Some of them are in fields where books are important, and some of them aren’t.

SPF: So really, then, you should sound out both the faculty and the Dean in those institutions where deans play a greater role in hiring decisions.

Anne Schneider: Exactly. And another way to do that is to seek out an exemplary tenure and promotion profile. Sometimes departments put together a profile of what they think is a really good case. [Laughing] Now that can also scare you to death.

SPF: Right [Laughing] I bet it can.

Anne Schneider: But one thing is for sure. Simply looking at the tenured faculty around you and saying, “well, if I’m as good as them then I can get tenured” is a big mistake. It’s a mistake because those people got tenure on the basis of standards that are constantly changing. And that means they are going up, not down.

SPF: Okay, but that is good to know since I remember conversations with junior colleagues at conferences talking about this very subject.

Anne Schneider: No, don’t ever make that assumption. Don’t make the argument, “well, I’m as good as so and so, that so and so is a full professor and only has X.” That won’t get you anywhere.

SPF: Yes, that argument won’t hold water.

Anne Schneider: And people need to learn how to teach, and teach well enough so that teaching isn’t a barrier to tenure.

SPF: For those people who focused on their research and publication to the detriment of their teaching as they worked toward tenure, and as a result, their teaching evaluations are mediocre, are there things they can do to improve their teaching or at least to show that they are committed to improving.

Anne Schneider: Well, they need to find out from their annual reviews how much weight there is on teaching. The other thing is to take advantage of teaching workshops that some universities and departments hold. Some of them are very good. Student evaluations at most universities are certainly a part, maybe big, maybe small, but they are a part of the tenure requirements. You don’t want students not being receptive to your teaching, and workshops can help.

SPF: There’s a controversy or claim by people who teach statistics that they feel they are at a disadvantage when it comes to teaching evaluations. And there have been studies, in fact, that have shown that students sometimes take out their fear of statistics on instructors by giving them lower teaching evaluations. Is there something from a Dean’s perspective that can be done to address such concerns?

Anne Schneider: Yes, one that you can do is have your department compare your evaluations against other similar courses, if they don’t already do so.

SPF: Right, as opposed to comparing such courses against all courses.

Anne Schneider: And that goes for stats classes and any required classes.

SPF: And women’s studies classes might be appropriate too. For example, women’s studies classes may be classified as diversity-focused or diversity-centered by some and thus attract students who might not otherwise be interested in the topic, or even be hostile to the topic.

Anne Schneider: Yes, that goes for diversity-focused courses as well. Sometimes it is appropriate to get a cluster of teaching evaluations for that class to see where you are.

SPF: Was that your experience as the Dean? Would you facilitate that if people asked? Was there a policy in place?

Anne Schneider: Most of our departments already did that. They made an analysis of some classes that way.

SPF: Okay, I’m trying to think back to when I was doing this, to my fears and the trepidations about the process.

Anne Schneider: [laughing] You know, you just got there yourself. It really is a nerve-wracking process. At some universities it is very predictable, you can tell what’s expected and how the process works. You see who gets tenured. Another thing that is important for junior faculty members is getting to conferences and getting to know people in your area is really crucial, because they’ll become your outside reviewers. It is a big mistake to think that conferences are a waste of time, or that a conference presentation is a real publication – it isn’t. But going to give a paper with other people, particularly from places with faculty that you respect and admire is a good idea. Or if you want to be strategic about it, figure out who the very best people in your field are, find out
what panels they are on, and go.

**SPF:** Go to the sessions? And ask questions?

**Anne Schneider:** Yes, make sure to ask questions. And go up and introduce yourself afterwards. It also gives you an opportunity to see where they are going with their work. That’s one of the reasons to go to a conference. Those papers won’t show up in print for a couple of years, plus you get to put a face with a name.

**SPF:** Yes, and vice versa. That was one of the big things people advised me to do, to make myself visible. People are a lot less likely to say “Yes, I’ll be an outside reviewer for this person’s promotion and tenure petition” if they have no idea who you are. But they may be more likely if they have had some contact with you. Not that they should be buddy-buddy with you, since that would likely disqualify them from serving. But if they have some familiarity with you from having met you at a conference, or having presented a paper on a panel with you, etc., that can be a good thing.

**Anne Schneider:** And have you ever heard of my three envelope rule of publication?

**SPF:** No, I don’t recall that I have. Let me hear it.

**Anne Schneider:** It goes like this. You write a paper, and as your write the paper, you need to decide what’s the best journal.

**SPF:** [laughing] Oh you and I are completely opposite on this point.

**Anne Schneider:** No, you need to ask yourself, what is the best journal I can get this into. Then you do some reading of the journal, and make sure you cite the people that publish there who are doing the same thing you are, because they’re probably going to be your reviewers. But then you also pick out a second and third journal that you’re going to send it to

**SPF:** Right, for when your first choice rejects you or whatever, you can send it to your second choice [laughing].

**Anne Schneider:** When you get the rejection back, you read the review, quickly, because they are usually quite insulting. [laughing] You commit yourself to a weekend or two to fix anything that is fixable and that you agree with, and you do that. And then you put it in the second envelope and send it off. And you repeat the process until at least a third envelope.

**SPF:** [laughing] Before you consider that there might a fatal flaw?

**Anne Schneider:** [laughing] Yes, it could just be a bad paper, but reviewers are very idiosyncratic. On the other hand, you ought to fix things that you agree with and that you can fix. But if someone says, “this paper really asks the wrong question, the important question to ask is this,” well, you really can’t fix that too easily, or perhaps at all. And a lot of the fixing you can do in footnotes. But it’s worth turning papers around very fast.

**SPF:** That’s good advice. I took the other strategy. I usually write the paper first and then I go fishing for the outlet, but that is often frustrating.

**Anne Schneider:** Well, you can do it that way, but when you find the outlet, it’s really worth taking some revision time to cite people who are doing similar work in that particular journal.

**SPF:** I agree, and I actually do that before sending out the paper. But when you spoke of selecting the journal first, it made me think of people I know who review journals for particular stylistic formulas or organizational trends, and then tailor the presentation of their essay to meet that formula.

**Anne Schneider:** Yes, that’s all right. You’re not altering the content then, you are just altering the presentation. I actually had this happen once. I don’t remember if it was between the first and the second envelopes or the second and third envelopes, but one of the reviewers said “I’ve already reviewed this essay for another journal and I thought it was a great paper then, but the author could have paid a bit more attention to my comments last time.

**SPF:** Oh very good, very, very good [laughing]

**Anne Schneider:** Yes, that’s all right. You’re not altering the content then, you are just altering the presentation. I actually had this happen once. I don’t remember if it was between the first and the second envelopes or the second and third envelopes, but one of the reviewers said “I’ve already reviewed this essay for another journal and I thought it was a great paper then, but the author could have paid a bit more attention to my comments last time.

**SPF:** [laughing] Before you consider that there might a fatal flaw?

**Anne Schneider:** That’s true story. It is kinda funny [laughing]. So at least pay attention to the simple comments, the ones that are easy to fix.

**SPF:** Yes, but if the comment is something like “This question is obviously inappropriate,” then you can’t address that.

**Anne Schneider:** No, you can’t address that. Or if they say, “the author needs twice as large a sample,” you can’t address that.

**SPF:** Of course, the data is collected in most cases and you can’t go back and recollect data.

**Anne Schneider:** Yes, that is right. So you may need to acknowledge that the sample is small but the findings are worth it. Another issue in many departments is that there are various factions. Junior faculty need to understand the
committee assignments made at some universities. What advice might you have for female faculty members and faculty members of color who are asked to serve on more committees than others as universities seek to equalize committee memberships?

Anne Schneider: In general, I don’t believe this is as big a problem in the social sciences as it used to be. But this is certainly true for minority scholars. I guess one thing to say would be, when you serve on committees, make sure they are important committees.

SPF: I know that it is particularly difficult for entry level junior faculty to say “no.” It is almost impossible to say “no.” But maybe the best things they could do is say, “no,” because they may be in a culture where they are asked to do more and more and more.

Anne Schneider: Well it could be that everyone is expected to be on a committee. You need to take that into consideration, and you need to do your fair share. But you shouldn’t do more than your share. So you really need to figure out what a fair share is. And try to make your service work important if you can. If you can, make it something that gives you energy, or at that doesn’t drain you of energy.

SPF: How do you say “no” to the Dean? For example, what if you’ve already served on four or five search committees where all of your peers have only served on one or two over the same period of time and the Dean asks you to be on another committee?

Anne Schneider: Well it could be that everyone is expected to be on a committee. You need to take that into consideration, and you need to do your fair share. But you shouldn’t do more than your share. So you really need to figure out what a fair share is. And try to make your service work important if you can. If you can, make it something that gives you energy, or at that doesn’t drain you of energy.

Anne Schneider: I think it is possible that there are some places like that, but that shouldn’t happen. Part of the problem with this is that the Family Leave Act and other formal protections don’t help very much at the university because many policies aren’t designed with the academic year in mind. They don’t fit a semester system.

SPF: I see that our time is running out. Do you have any last thoughts or comments you would like to share?
Anne Schneider: Yes, there’s something I used to always say to junior faculty and it didn’t come up in our interview. I used to always say to them that, at some point, they have to figure out what kind of faculty member THEY want to be – not just what everyone else wants them to be. They need to do this even as a junior faculty member, because if they bend themselves completely to everyone else’s expectations, then by the time they get tenure, they may no longer know themselves very well.

SPF: As a person recently having completed the tenure and promotion process, I must say that rings very true. Thank you very much for doing this interview. I’m sure our readers will enjoy reading your comments and that they will find them both interesting and provocative.

First Speed Dating, Then Speed Chess, Now Speed Mentoring?

You’ve probably heard of speed dating, and perhaps you’re even familiar with speed chess. But what about speed mentoring? The SSSP annual meeting in Montréal will offer graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists (“mentees”) the opportunity to sit one-on-one with a stellar group of senior faculty (“mentors”) to get feedback on dissertations and/or ongoing or planned research projects. Meetings will each last 20 minutes, and there will be time for four such meetings within the speed mentoring session time block of 100 minutes.

The Program Committee welcomes your participation in this session and hopes you will find it very useful. The mentors and their areas of specialization are listed below. Individuals interested in participating as mentees should contact the session organizer, Steve Barkan (barkan@maine.edu) by JULY 1, 2006.

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>1. Joel Best</td>
<td>Constructionist work on social problems &amp; deviance; qualitative &amp; historical sociology</td>
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<td>University of Delaware</td>
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<td>2. Richard K. Caputo</td>
<td>Social policy; poverty; social justice; income dynamics</td>
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<td>3. Kimberly Cook</td>
<td>Criminology; restorative justice; violence against women; capital punishment</td>
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<td>4. Elizabeth Ettorre</td>
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<td>5. Kathleen Ferraro</td>
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<td>6. Gregory Hooks</td>
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<td>7. Valerie Jenness</td>
<td>Crime, law, &amp; social control; social movements; public policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California/Irvine</td>
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<td>8. Nancy Jurik</td>
<td>Gender &amp; work; work organizations; small business; economic development</td>
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<td>Arizona State University</td>
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<td>9. Kathleen Lowney</td>
<td>Qualitative sociology &amp; ethnography; popular culture &amp; media; religion</td>
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<td>Valdosta State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Nancy A. Naples</td>
<td>Inequality; social movements; social policy; feminist theory; qualitative methods; gender and sexuality</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Connecticut</td>
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<td>11. Mary Romero</td>
<td>Women &amp; work; qualitative methods; race relations; critical race theory; Latino/a studies</td>
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<td>Arizona State University</td>
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<td>12. Barbara Katz Rothman</td>
<td>Sociology of Medicine; bioethics issues, maternity issues</td>
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<td>City University of New York</td>
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<td>13. Richard Wilsnack</td>
<td>Epidemiological aspects of substance use; gender roles; medical sociology</td>
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<td>University of North Dakota</td>
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Book Review:


Reviewed by Karen Werner, Goddard College

I was introduced to the ideas in *A Postcapitalist Politics* in the fall of 2005, while sitting in on a graduate seminar called “Rethinking the Economy” taught by Julie Graham.

(Julie Graham, who teaches at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, is one half of the pen name J.K. Gibson-Graham; the other half is Katherine Gibson, who teaches at the Australian National University in Canberra. Both are feminist economic geographers, and they have collaborated on a number of prior publications, including the recently re-issued, *The End of Capitalism (As We Knew It): A Feminist Critique of Political Economy.*)

To my surprise, Graham’s seminar helped me not only to rethink the economy but also to clarify the ways I want to practice sociology and activism. I am a recent sociology Ph.D., most intrigued by public sociology and always on the lookout for inspiring examples of sociological practice. *A Postcapitalist Politics* is a boon in this regard.

Wary of sounding like a proselytizer (my enthusiasm is still new; I have a fresh sense of purpose, and so I gush), I’m delighted to share the insights of this book with SSSP members. This review of *A Postcapitalist Politics* is especially timely given this summer’s SSSP conference theme: “Building Just, Diverse, and Democratic Communities”

J.K. Gibson-Graham weave three threads together in this book about rethinking and re-enacting the economy: they put forth a politics of language, constructing a language of the diverse economy, dislodging the “macronarrative” of capitalism; a politics of the subject, cultivating subjects who desire and create non-capitalist economies; and, a strategy for collective action, detailing an action research methodology they have used to build community economies.

**A Politics of Language: The Diverse Economy**

Gibson-Graham ask: “How is it that waged labor, the commodity market, and capitalist enterprise have come to be seen as the only ‘normal’ forms of work, exchange and business organization?” (53) A key aim of the politics of language is to create a vocabulary for the diverse economy, to broaden our imaginations about what work, exchange, and business are.

Gibson-Graham’s politics of language is a deconstruction, a queering of the economy, building on their prior work in *The End of Capitalism (As We Knew It.*) They use the image of an iceberg – the visible part above the surface of the water is capitalist wage labor, while below the surface lies the range of transactions not typically deemed economic: gift, barter, informal lending, not for market or non-monetized exchanges, work with children, volunteering, under the table work, consumer and worker cooperatives, work in churches and temples, moonlighting, illegal work, self provision, and slave labor. (70)

Gibson-Graham show that this thing we call a capitalist economy is actually more complex, full of diverse forms of exchange and production. The authors offer a pie chart showing that, at most, half of our daily work (in the U.S.) is capitalist. A good portion of our work is non-capitalist household, cooperative, or governmental work. And yet we see ourselves, without question in most cases, as participants in a capitalist economy.

**A Politics of the Subject: Spaces of Becoming**

Creating a language of the diverse economy goes hand in hand with developing non-capitalist subjectivities. Gibson-Graham look at the power of Economic (by which they mean capitalocentric) rhetoric in creating a “hegemonic system of subjects, relationships, institutions, and practices.” (50) By listening carefully, the authors also identify momentary cracks and openings that could, if cultivated, allow for the emergence of “different kinds of being,” borrowing William Connolly’s phrase. Tending to these openings, Gibson-Graham’s aim is to provide “a breathing space for fugitive energies of caring, social concern, and collective to be directed towards new performances of the economy.” (51)

Aware of the challenges in creating such spaces of becoming, Gibson-Graham embrace Eve Sedgwick’s proposal for “weak theory.” That is, they make room for hope and the not-yet-fully-realized in order to nurture shaky-legged possibilities and non-capitalist subjectivities. (Though not explicitly described this way, the authors’ collaborative pen name is an experiment in alternative authorial subjectivity.)

**Collective Action: Creating Community Economies**

While immersed in postmodern ideas about language and subjectivity, Gibson-Graham do, refreshingly, recommend certain kinds of collective action. Though ambivalent about proposing a counterhegemony to replace capitalism, they “tentatively” offer the community economy as an alternative. (78)
Gibson-Graham use the phrase community economy carefully, avoiding “normative ideals of community as a fullness and a positivity.” (86) They do not assume that a community economy is the same thing as a local, green, or socially responsible economy. They define community economy more openly as “an ethical space of decision, rather than a specified set of qualities, forms, and functionings.” (86) The ethical questions and decisions could dwell on how to generate and use surplus, how to create direct well-being, and how to use the commons.

Gibson-Graham enact their politics of subjectivity, language, and collective action through their action research projects (and through their writing.) A Postcapitalist Politics describes a number of action research projects in the Latrobe Valley of Australia; in the Pioneer Valley of western Massachusetts; and in the Jagna municipality of the Philippines, among a few other places.

Their action research methods include convening focus groups of economic “experts”; training paid community researchers to create a diverse economy audit and map; comparing a needs-based map of a community to an assets-based map (following the work of John Kretzmann and John McKnight at Northwestern University); documenting inspiring case studies of community economic enterprises and activities; and, after re-convening with the community researchers and economic professionals, networking, researching, and bringing new community enterprises into being. (132)

In western Massachusetts, this kind of action research has led to, among other things, the creation of a landscaping cooperative for a cooperatively owned housing organization (the Anti-Displacement Project in Springfield.) In the Latrobe Valley, participants started an urban garden, a Santa’s workshop (producing Christmas decorations), and a youth-run circus. Most recently, in Jagna, this action research has led to increased collaborations with a group called Unlad, an NGO that distributes the savings of Filipino migrant workers who want to invest in community enterprises. Unlad has used these savings to develop an organic chicken farm, a yam processing plant, and a coconut coir manufacturing plant in the regions surrounding Jagna.

Conclusion

A Postcapitalist Politics is clearly relevant to sociologists, as well as other scholars and organizers, who want to build just, diverse, democratic communities.

The book is relevant in terms of its content: for bringing the economy down to size and for sharing inspiring examples of community enterprises. For instance, Gibson-Graham devote a chapter to describing Mondragón, an impressive production cooperative in the Basque region of Spain with over 30,000 worker-owners, and its own credit union, housing system, and university. They also mention Mararikulam in the Kerala province of India, which is helping to create women’s savings groups, credit associations, and production cooperatives.

While immersed in postmodern ideas about language and subjectivity, Gibson-Graham do, refreshingly, recommend certain kinds of action. Though ambivalent about proposing a counterhegemony to replace capitalism, they ‘tentatively’ offer the community economy as an alternative.

The book is relevant in terms of its theoretical contributions: for combining thoughtful postmodern ideas about becoming and being-in-common with a “nodal point,” the community economy, which helps orient collective action.

It is relevant methodologically for laying out, in clear detail, a template for post-structuralist participatory action research.

A Postcapitalist Politics makes strategic contributions, showing the value of linking academic, community, government, and NGO groups. The sense of hope in the book is also strategic.

Along similar lines, Gibson-Graham make contributions to academic culture through their international and collaborative ways of working. They are models of public intellectuals, popularizing their work through a website (www.communityeconomies.org) and aligning themselves with “the movement of movements,” as articulated in the World Social Forums. They also invoke the ubiquity of feminism as their political inspiration and show that knowledge production is a valuable way of being political.

Notably, the book is useful for showing that social science research can have tangible, practical contributions to communities, a few of which have been detailed above.

And, A Postcapitalist Politics makes stylistic contributions with its use of weak theory, creating spaces to describe and “care for the new.” (8) The writing is always delightfully clear, too.

A Postcapitalist Politics is not your typical academic theory book. I’ve already seen several copies, their light beige covers smudged and worn from everyday use, packed into briefcases and backpacks, and taken along on bike rides and trips to the café. This book is a keeper!

Karen Werner teaches sociology at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont, and recently received an ASA Sydney Spivack Community Action Research Grant to study community enterprises in western Massachusetts.

Contact: karen.werner@goddard.edu
explores how our obsession and value system impact such issues as media (think Janet Jackson at the Super Bowl), health issues, breastfeeding, and body image. (57 minutes - Bullfrog Films)

**CASA DE LOS BABYS**

Shown: Saturday, August 12 from 3:15pm - 4:50pm

In this major motion picture that received virtually no recognition, 6 American women travel abroad to adopt. The film recounts the many problems associated with the American adoption system, and the special problems that arise when attempting international adoption. (MGM Home Entertainment, 96 minutes)

**CRASH**

Shown: Friday, August 11 - “Midnight Madness” from 12:00am - 1:50am
Saturday, August 12 from 1:15pm - 3:15pm

This academy award winning movie examines the many ways in which racial stereotypes shape human interaction. The film also deals with the impact of racial tensions on family relationships, and institutional processes. (Lions Gate Films, 112 minutes)

**FACES OF THE ENEMY**

Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 2:45pm - 3:45pm
Saturday, August 12 from 9:30am - 10:30am

This is one of the only films that is not a recent release. This film uses archival news footage, public service announcements and cartoons to explore the many ways that people and political entities try to justify war by vilifying the enemy. The director shows how the patterns have been replicated in every conflict since World War II. (57 minutes - California Newsreel)

**GAME OVER**

Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 4:15pm - 5:00pm
Friday, August 11 from 1:30pm - 2:15pm

Video and Computer games are firmly embedded in popular culture. Kids and adults alike spend thousands of hours playing themselves and others (many of whom they never meet, except in cyberspace). This film is the first to critically examine this aspect of the media, and the portrayals of race, gender, and violence that permeate this realm of entertainment. (41 minutes - Media Education Foundation)

**GOD SLEEPS IN RWANDA**

Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 9:00am - 9:30am
Thursday, August 10 from 3:45pm - 4:15pm
The continual conflict in Rwanda has left the country predominantly female. This film examines the new role of women as they strive to rebuild a country. This film follows 5 women as they discuss the impact of the male genocide on their country. (28 minutes - Women Make Movies)

HIJACKING CATASTROPHE  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm  
Saturday, August 12 from 8:30am - 9:30am

This film explores the sense of vulnerability that continues in the U.S. post 9/11. It explores the political impact, the propaganda used to maintain a sense of fear, and how patriotism has been defined to exclude all those who question the war, and the Bush administration’s declarations. (60 minutes - Media Education Foundation)

JULY ‘64  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 5:00pm - 6:00pm  
Saturday, August 12 from 10:30am - 11:30am

This new documentary revisits the race riots which exploded in Rochester, New York on July 24th of 1964. The film examines the factors that contributed to the riots: the time, the place, the incident that combined to ignite the tensions that night. (54 minutes - California Newsreel)

THE LOST TRIBE  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 11:00am - 12:00pm  
Thursday night/Friday from 12:15am - 1:15am

This film follows the life of Sue Ann Post an ex-Mormon, a lesbian, and a stand up comedian. She chronicles her childhood experiences and her feelings about the Mormon Church. This film provides one example of the many ways that religion and sexuality intersect in everyday life. (56 minutes - Women Make Movies)

PLAYING UNFAIR  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 8:30am - 9:00am  
Friday, August 11 from 4:30pm - 5:00pm

“Playing Unfair is the first video to critically examine the post-title IX landscape in terms of the representation of female athletes.” The film examines the persistence of a variety of gender stereotypes, including those about competency, and sexuality. (30 minutes - Media Education Foundation)

SHAKE HANDS WITH THE DEVIL  
Shown: Friday, August 11 from 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Romeo Dallaire was the head of the UN peacekeeping mission in Rwanda in the 1990’s. As a Canadian General assigned to Rwanda, he is ordered NOT to use force to protect the Rwandans. A decade later, he returns to the region, still haunted by the events that unfolded before his eyes. The ethical dilemmas, and the role of UN peacekeepers, presented through the landscape of Rwanda, are still relevant as ethnic wars in the Sudan and other locales continue to arise. (91 minutes - California Newsreel)

SOUL OF JUSTICE  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 12:00pm - 1:00pm  
Saturday, August 12 from 12:15pm - 1:15pm

Thelton Henderson is a Senior Judge of the Federal District Court in Northern California. It has been said that “his life parallels the larger historic arc of the Civil Rights Movement.” Henderson’s legal decisions have made him less than popular with the Conservative Right. Even when his decisions have been made on sound legal judgment, he has often been criticized for being partial, holding race bias, and attempting to use his courtroom for judicial activism. Soul of Justice follows his life and raises many interesting questions about race and justice. (60 minutes - California Newsreel)

SPEAK UP! IMPROVING THE LIVES OF GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, & TRANSGENDERED YOUTH  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 9:30am - 10:00am  
Thursday, August 10 from 11:45pm - 12:15am

SPEAK UP explores the violence and harassment that GLBT students often face in school. The film explores what GLBT youth and their allies have done to transform their schools into places where such incidents occur less often. The film explores strategies and provides resources for those actively working to create change. (30 Minutes - Media Education Foundation)

WHEN ENOUGH IS ENOUGH? THE APPETITE FOR OIL  
Shown: Thursday, August 10 from 2:00pm - 2:45pm  
Saturday, August 12 from 11:30am - 12:15pm

Global corporations continue their quest for oil. This film highlights one battle between communities and oil corporations. The Cree live above on of the world’s largest oil deposits. This film highlights the uphill battle that the Cree had to fight to protect one of the greatest freshwater deltas on earth. The film also highlights the environmental damage that many people seem willing to pay in their unending quest for oil. (45 minutes - Bullfrog Films)

The film exhibit was coordinated by Dr. Stephani Williams, Arizona State University. Stephani is a member of the Program Committee.
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
The RECEPTION HONORING OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

and the

AWARDS BANQUET

at the

Hilton Montréal Bonaventure Hotel
900 de La Gauchetiere West
Montréal, Québec, Canada

Friday August 11
Reception:  7:00pm—7:45pm
Banquet:  8:00pm—10:00pm

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED

SSP Division Awards: Winners of various student paper competitions and other division awards will be announced.

Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship: This $3500 scholarship will be awarded to a new or continuing graduate student who began her or his study in a community college or technical school.

C. Wright Mills Award: For a distinguished book that exemplifies outstanding social science research and an understanding of the individual and society in the tradition of C. Wright Mills.

Lee Founders Award: For Recognition of significant achievements that have demonstrating continuing devotion to the ideals of the founders of the Society and especially to the humanist tradition of the Lee’s.

Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship: This $10,000 scholarship is given annually for support of graduate study and commitment to a career of scholar activism.

Social Action Award: This award is given to a not-for-profit organization in the Montréal, Québec, Canada area in recognition of challenging social inequalities, promoting social change, and/or working toward the empowerment of mar-

Join us for a catered reception with a cash bar honoring our past presidents. The reception is Complimentary to all SSSP members and will be hosted on the Salon Castillon Terrace. In the event of rain, the reception will be held in the Salon Castillon Restaurant. A special thanks to the Office of the President and the Office of the Provost of the University of Dayton for their financial contribution to the reception.

The awards banquet will be held in the Westmount Room. The buffet will feature: corn and celery salad with fine herbs; coleslaw salad, cucumber and tomato salad; potato salad; mixed salad; vegetable salad; supreme chicken with orange sauce; poached exca-lopies of Atlantic salmon with marjoram butter sauce; pasta of the day; risi bisi; green beans with almonds; an assortment of cakes and pies, millefeuille; fresh fruit salad with kirsch; Québec cheese tray and freshly brewed coffee and tea. A vegan dish will be available for those who request one. A cash bar will be available. Come celebrate with your friends and colleagues and enjoy the evening!

The reception honoring our past presidents is complementary to all members.

The cost of a banquet ticket is $40 (US) per person.

A limited number of banquet tickets will be sold in the registration area. Those with advance reservations will receive their ticket/s with their registration materials.
ANNOUNCING THE
FINALISTS for the
2005 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD


Carrie Young Costello, *Professional Identity Crisis Race, Class, Gender, and Success at Professional Schools*, Vanderbilt University Press


Patricia Yancey Martin, *Rape Work: Victims, Gender, and Emotions in Organization and Community Context*, Routledge


Call for SSSP Nominations

This year, we will be electing a President-Elect, a Vice-President Elect, regular and student members of the Board of Directors, members of the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, Editorial and Publications Committee, and the Committee on Committees. Please consider nominating a colleague or yourself for one of these offices. Nominations should include a brief description of the nominee’s SSSP involvement and other relevant experiences. The Nominations Committee will meet at the Annual Meeting in Montréal, Canada so all nominations should be submitted prior to July 31, 2006 to Carrie Yang Costello, Chair, Council of Special Problems Divisions at the following address:

Carrie Yang Costello
Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201
W: (414) 229-6942; F: (414) 229-4266; Email: costello@uwm.edu
Annual Meeting Book Exhibit Information:

Dear Annual Meeting Presenters and Organizers:

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) has arranged with The Scholar’s Choice to manage the combined book exhibit for our 56th Annual Meeting taking place August 10-12, 2006, at the Hilton Montréal Bonaventure. It will be possible for your recently published books to be included in the display. The procedure to do that has been sent to us by The Scholar’s Choice.

Any members interested in having their book displayed at the upcoming SSSP meeting should contact their publisher. Please keep in mind that the publishers pay a fee to display with The Scholar’s Choice and may not have the marketing budget necessary to honor all requests, particularly for older titles. We ask that books be appropriate to the meeting and published recently. Reservations from the publishers will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis so reserving early is recommended. Please note that The Scholar’s Choice displays on behalf of the publishers and ALL requests must be made by the publisher, not the author. Therefore, you are encouraged to contact your publisher as soon as possible to check on whether or not your publisher will reserve your title. Please contact your publisher directly - do not call The Scholar’s Choice. The person who handles publisher reservations at The Scholar’s Choice is Debby Pitts. She may be reached at dipitts@scholarschoice.com or at 585-262-2048 x108. Please ask your publisher to contact her.

The Scholar’s Choice has a long and successful history of managing academic book exhibits. We welcome them to our Montréal meeting.

Most sincerely,
Claire M. Renzetti
SSSP President

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS—56TH ANNUAL MEETING

Hilton Montréal Bonaventure—Montréal, Québec, Canada—August 10-12, 2006

Book on-line at www.atcmeetings.com/
Follow the Meeting links to find:

NEW

TRAVEL DISCOUNTS AND RESERVATIONS:

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- CAR DISCOUNTS up to 25% off regular rates
- ZONE FARES region-to-region flat rates
- CONSOLIDATOR AND NET FARES reducing the cost of high price tickets

Call ATC for your travel needs.
If you need to book directly, utilize the codes listed below to receive your discount and credit SSSP.

United 800-521-4041 510CK
American Airlines 800-433-1790 A9386AE
Air Canada 800-361-7585 CV060941
Avis 800-331-1600 J952801
Enterprise 800-593-0505 32H7476

Valid Discount Travel Dates: August 7-15, 2006

*Up to 15% off applicable classes of service for tickets purchased more than 30 days prior to the meeting. Restrictions apply. (United).
5% off applicable classes of service for tickets purchased prior to the meeting. (American Airlines).
Service fees apply to completed reservations.
Applicable discounts purchased prior to the meeting (Air Canada).
ATC hours of operation are 9:00am—7:30pm EST.
Why should I stay at the SSSP convention hotel during the Annual Meeting?

Our members ask this question frequently. Another hotel may be cheaper or closer to the ASA hotel. A friend may offer to share a room at another hotel. Staying at the SSSP convention hotel saves the Society money. Please consider these reasons.

- In order to secure favorable sleeping room rates and to avoid paying high meeting room rental costs, SSSP must guarantee with the hotel that our members will occupy a certain number of room nights. To honor our contract, we must have 670 sleeping room nights reserved by July 9, 2006.

- In the event that we do not meet our sleeping room guarantee, the hotel will charge us an additional fee for using the meeting rooms in which we hold our sessions.

- The ‘room pick-up’ actual rooms occupied, during the days of our contract, by SSSP members has implications for the final hotel bill. Terms of the contract grant the Society a number of complimentary rooms used to house officers and other volunteers who give their time to the organization. In the event that our ‘room pick-up’ is low, we must pay for these rooms.

- Hotels review our ‘room pick-up’ history when we request a bid for holding a future annual meeting. A favorable record (meeting or exceeding our room block) helps the hotel feel assured of a certain level of income. Hotels make their money by having as full occupancy as possible. Saving rooms for convention goers who do not occupy them means that they may have an empty room that could have been sold to someone not attending the convention.

- Members attending the convention should reserve a room for the nights they will attend and honor the reservation. This action helps save the Society money and improves the experience.

- Staying at the convention hotel provides many advantages. The banquet takes place at the conference hotel, as do the receptions, most parties, and special events. You have the opportunity to renew acquaintances with other members and meet the newcomers. Informal gatherings are easy to arrange because the largest proportion of the members will stay at the convention hotel.

So ... please stay ...

by Thomas C. Hood, Executive Officer

ATTENTION:

MEETING PARTICIPANTS, STUDENTS, AND NEW MEMBERS:

Never been to a SSSP meeting before? Sign up for the mentoring program for new members and graduate students! Learning to navigate meetings is not difficult, but a meeting mentor can make the process less awkward and lonely. SSSP will match you to a person who will meet with you, and help orient you to the organization and meetings.

If you are a meeting veteran, would you be willing to help a graduate student or new faculty member out at the meetings as a mentor? Remember those awkward days when you were trying to meet people? Although the meetings are often too jam-packed with work and catching up with old friends, being a mentor is absolutely worthwhile. Mentoring a new member gives you a fresh perspective on the meetings, and allows you to give something invaluable to them—a connection.

Whether you are an old hand or a newcomer (however you want to define that), please email your contact information (name, affiliation, address, email, and researching/teaching interest areas) before June 15 to James Gruber, Chair, Lee Student Support Fund Committee (jegruber@umich.edu). Please indicate whether you’re a newcomer or a returning SSSP member.
The Society for the Study of Social Problems
56th Annual Meeting Registration
August 10-12, 2006
Hilton Montréal Bonaventure, 900, rue de La Gauchetière Ouest, Montréal, Québec, Canada
(Program Participant Deadline: Program participants must preregister by May 31)

Last Name: ___________________________ First/Middle Name: ___________________________

Work Affiliation(s) for badge:
□ Check here if you would like to be identified as working outside academia so that you may meet other engaged non-academics.

Preferred Mailing Address: ___________________________

Work Phone: ___________________________ Home Phone: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________

Make your hotel reservation at the Hilton Montréal Bonaventure and preregister for the Annual Meeting no later than July 15 in order to have your name entered in a contest. The winner will receive a room upgrade and welcome amenity (at the Hilton Montréal Bonaventure) courtesy of SSSP. The winner’s name will also appear in the final program.

*REGISTRATION FEES (US DOLLARS): Check one

□ Member Registration Including Banquet $145 $160
□ Member Registration Only $105 $120
□ Student/Unemployed Member Registration Including Banquet $65 $85
□ Student/Unemployed Member Registration Only $25 $45
□ Non-Member Registration (for non-exempt presenters who do not wish to become members) $155 $170
□ Non-Member Student Registration (for non-exempt student presenters who do not wish to become members) $75 $95

GUEST REGISTRATION: One guest registration is permitted with each full registration category above. Guest registration provides a name badge only (name only, no affiliation). Any guest who wants full access to SSSP sessions or special events and a program packet must register individually and pay the full registration fee and membership dues.

□ Guest (name badge only) $10 $20

Guest Badge: ___________________________ Last Name: ___________________________ First Name: ___________________________

ADDITIONAL BANQUET TICKET(S): Friday, August 11, 8.00pm - 10.00pm, tickets $40 each.
□ Check here for a vegan entree.

DONATE A BANQUET TICKET PROGRAM:
Donate a banquet ticket to a deserving graduate student, foreign scholar or scholar-activist, tickets $40 each.

6th ANNUAL AIDS FUNDRAISER:
Thursday, August 10, 9:00pm - 11:00pm, tickets $15 each (students and new members will receive a complimentary ticket)

AIDS FUNDRAISER RAFFLE TICKET(S): tickets $5 each
There will be a raffle for a two-night hotel stay at the Hilton Montréal Bonaventure, the 2006 SSSP conference hotel. The voucher can not be applied to your 2006 conference stay. You do not have to be present to win. The winner will be announced at the AIDS Fundraiser.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: You must be a current member to attend the Annual Meeting. If you are already a 2006 member, skip this section.

□ Life Members, Emeriti, before 1989 $0 $25,000-$34,999 $65
□ “New” Emeriti, beginning in 1989 $35 $35,000-$44,999 $75
□ Students $20 $45,000-$54,999 $90
□ Unemployed $20 $55,000-$64,999 $105
□ First Year Employment after Ph.D. $35 $65,000-$74,999 $120
□ First Time Professional Member $35 $75,000 & up $135
□ $24,999 and under $50 $1,200
□ Sustaining Membership

OVER GRAND TOTAL (from all above selections) $1,200

Make check or money order payable, in US DOLLARS to SSSP or provide credit card authorization below.
DEADLINE: Forms and payments must be postmarked by/faxed no later than July 15 to be eligible for the preregistration discount. Preregistration ends on July 15. Any forms received after July 15 will be processed at the on-site rate. All program participants must preregister by May 31 in order to have their names listed in the final program.

REFUND POLICY: Registration fees will be refunded to persons who notify us prior to July 15. Once the final program is printed and participant packets have been prepared, the cost of processing the participant has occurred. Unfortunately, under no circumstances will SSSP issue refunds for no-shows.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES: Registrants with disabilities may request accessibility services such as sign language interpreters, sighted guides, accessible accommodations, etc., to facilitate their full participation in the Annual Meeting. If you need accessibility services, please check the box below. The Administrative Officer will contact you about service arrangements.

DONATE A BANQUET TICKET PROGRAM: Some members purchase extra banquet tickets for graduate students, foreign scholars and scholar-activists. Please check the box below if you are interested in applying for a complimentary ticket. Donated tickets will be distributed on a first come/first served basis. SSSP will notify all recipients no later than July 15.

I would like to be considered for a complimentary banquet ticket.

Please indicate your classification.

☐ Graduate Student  ☐ Foreign Scholar  ☐ Scholar-Activist

MEETING MENTOR PROGRAM: Would you like to participate in the meeting mentor program? If so, please submit your mentoring request no later than June 15. The Lee Student Support Fund Committee will pair you with a mentor and provide you with contact information no later than June 30.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  If yes, list your areas of interest: ________________________________

Would you be willing to serve as a mentor for a graduate student or new faculty member?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  If yes, list your areas of interest: ________________________________

ROOMMATE MATCHING SERVICE: Would you like to participate in the roommate matching service? If so, the Executive Office will send you a list of those who are interested in sharing a room no later than June 30. Please indicate your smoking preference.

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Smoking  ☐ Non-smoking

RETURN FORM WITH PAYMENT IN US DOLLARS TO:
SSSP, University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
or fax to 865-689-1534 (credit card payments only)
or register online at http://www.sssp1.org (credit card payments only)

GENERAL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:
Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534; Email: mskoontz3@utk.edu

*Requests for exemption from meeting registration and membership dues must be approved by one of the following people. When sending an email, please place SSSP in the subject line.
Phoebe Moqun, Program Co-Chair: phoebe.moqun@asu.edu
James Gruber, Program Co-Chair: jegruber@unich.edu
Claire M. Renzetti, President: claire.renzetti@notes.udayton.edu.
MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION TODAY!
CALL TOLL-FREE: 1-800-267-2575

GROUP: THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS

DATE: AUGUST 7 - 15, 2006

RATE: $189 (CAD) per night, deluxe accommodation (Single/Double occupancy)
$209/$229 (CAD) per night, (Triple/Quadruple occupancy)
$229 (CAD) per night, Executive floor accommodation (single occupancy)*

*Includes access to the private lounge which offers complimentary continental breakfast, evening hors d'oeuvres and honor bar (5:00pm - 7:00pm). Free wireless high speed Internet access.

All rates are quoted in Canadian dollars and exclusive of all taxes. Actual hotel rate of exchange at time of stay will apply.

Hotel:
Unique penthouse oasis located in the heart of the city amidst 2 ½ acres of landscaped gardens alive with playful ducks and winding brooks and spectacular outdoor heated pool.

Hotel Guestrooms:
Each of our 395 guestrooms (including 25 suites) features windows that open for fresh air access, double/double or king size, individual climate control, high speed Internet access, cable television with On-Command Video movies and video games, coffee maker, digital clock radio, large work desk, marble bathrooms with deluxe amenities, hair dryer, iron and ironing board

How to Make a Reservation:
Please call 1-800-267-2575 or 514-878-2332 (ask for the reservation department) to make your reservation. Be sure to request The Society for the Study of Social Problems' room rate. Kindly note, guestrooms reservation must be guaranteed with a credit card. Check-in is 3:00 pm and Checkout is Noon. Cancellation policy is 4:00 pm of arrival day.

Cut-off Date:
Reservations must be confirmed by Sunday, July 09, 2006 to guarantee our negotiated group rate. Reservations received after or if the room block is filled prior to that date, are subject to availability.

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