

Editor, Ken Kyle

Public Affairs & Administration

California State University, East Bay



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

While the global economic downturn, political and social unrest across the world, natural and environmental disasters, and U.S. elections demand our attention, there is big news afoot in the SSSP and *Social Problems Forum* too. In SSSP news, the Disabilities Special Problems Division celebrates its first year as a full-fledged division. It is joined by our newest division, the Sport Sociology Special Problems Division (see pages 4 & 5). Also, our search for a new SSSP Executive Officer is progressing. Representatives of the Board of Directors are making (have made) site visits to two candidates' home institutions, and we seem to be on track to make a decision in a timely fashion.

In *SPF* news, there is much to report. First, I have been offered another three year term as *Social Problems Forum* editor. I am honored, and I have gratefully accepted the offer to serve the SSSP in this capacity. I was able to satisfactorily negotiate a new budget between the SSSP and my home institution to cover my editorship expenses. However, the new contract does not allow for an editorial assistant. Accordingly, let me extend my thanks to editorial assistant Jenny Lam for her service last year. I learned a great deal from her, hopefully enough to see me through the next

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CALLS FOR APPLICATIONS

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2009 Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship—p. 39

2008 C. Wright Mills Award—p. 40

2009 Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund—p. 41

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2009 Erwin O. Smigel Award—p. 47

2009 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship—p. 48

FUTURE SSSP ANNUAL MEETINGS

August 7-9, 2009
The Stanford Court Hotel
San Francisco, CA, USA

August 13-15, 2010
The Sheraton Atlanta Hotel
Atlanta, GA, USA

August 12-14, 2011
The Blackstone, A Renaissance Hotel
Chicago, IL, USA

***** VISIT THE SSSP WEBSITE – <http://www.sssp1.org> *****

Submission Information:

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 We welcome essays, commentaries, letters to the editor, book review proposals, photo essays, and announcements of interest to SSSP members. Submissions by email or diskette using Microsoft Word or Word Perfect files are preferred. For a list of books available for review, see <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/274>. **The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is January 31, 2009.**

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From the Executive Office — Tom Hood

Decision time! Where do you stand on the issues before the community, state, nation, and world? Who should provide leadership for the organization, at the workplace, in the community or for the country? What is the best plan and who has the strength and persistence to see it implemented? Each year at this time I ask myself, “Why am I a member of SSSP?” Membership in a professional organization is more than simply paying dues, reading the newsletter, profiting from the scholarship published in *SOCIAL PROBLEMS*. Being a member of SSSP is becoming a part of a community of scholars who do their research with a passion for realizing justice in the world.

Members of the Society helped me to understand that truth is not always empirically verified. Justice is not universalistic. Appearances are contrived to send a message beyond “face value.” Our recent meetings in Boston provided many delightful moments and Nancy Naples and her committee are to be congratulated for the exceptional program. THANK YOU Nancy and all those persons who contributed effort to the program. Although attendance was excellent, I regret that not more of our members could attend the annual meeting. SSSP Annual Meetings provide an opportunity for fellowship with other scholars who are pursuing justice in each of their local communities. That shared fellowship continues to inspire me.

We have a new Editor of *SOCIAL PROBLEMS* – send him your best writing. Our journal continues to rank in the top ten

sociology journals in impact through citations and readership.

Good progress is being made in updating the mission statements of each of the 22 special problems divisions. Rather than placing these in a special booklet, each statement appears at the beginning of each division’s web page on the SSSP web site. We take special note in welcoming our two newest divisions, Disability and Sport Sociology. If you have interest in either area, please add them to your division membership list when you renew your membership.

The process of selecting a new Executive Officer is well underway. The Board decided to locate the Administrative Office at the University of Tennessee for the next three years. The contract has been signed and Michele plans to remain as Administrative Officer through that period. Sharon Shumaker, Michele’s half-time assistant and Webmaster is doing excellent work. Sarah Hendricks continues as our Graduate Research Associate while pursuing her Ph.D. The Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee is overseeing the division of labor in the Executive Office. All members may review the job descriptions associated with the positions in the Executive Office by looking at the Society’s Operations Manual on our web site. REMEMBER the Executive Office exists to serve the officers and members of SSSP. We are here for you!

Tom Hood
Executive Officer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor and SSSP Members,

I must ask, why aren't we doing more research focused on the lives of indigenous peoples? For the SSSP 2008 conference, I attempted to organize a session focused on indigenous peoples (in and outside the U.S.). Unfortunately, not enough people submitted papers for this session to "fly." I want to comment on the dearth of scholarship within the field of sociology on indigenous people.

One stereotype of indigenous people is that they only/mostly exist in the past. Thus, historians conduct a significant amount of scholarship on indigenous people from the past. While sociology has produced a sizable body of scholarship on African Americans, and increasingly on Latino/a Americans and Asian Americans, there is little on Native Americans in sociology. Anthropology is the only field (other than Native American Studies) that seems to include much scholarship on contemporary indigenous people both inside and outside the U.S. Yet, anthropology more rarely focuses on African Americans, Latino/a Americans, and Asian Americans in the contemporary U.S. While suggesting no offense to the wonderful field of anthropology, I would like to mention that most anthropologists have historically focused on: people from societies other than their own, "third world" peoples (i.e., poor and non-Western societies), and people within their own society who are considered radically different from the mainstream. So, why have the fields of history and anthropology produced sizable bodies of scholarship on Native Americans, while sociology has not? What does this say about how we view indigenous people (versus other people of color)?

My most important point is this: contemporary indigenous people exist in sizable numbers and face many social problems. In the United States, indigenous people have particularly high rates of poverty, low educational performance, health problems, and the like. Also, there are some problems specific to Native Americans like lack of recognition of sovereignty rights, stolen burial remains, and sport mascots. Thus, I urge members of SSSP (and other sociologists) to do three things: (a) become more familiar with problems faced by contemporary indigenous people, (b) consider undertaking some research on problems faced by indigenous people, and (c) invite scholars who study contemporary indigenous issues to join the SSSP.

Sincerely,

Laurel R. Davis-Delano
Springfield College (MA)

Dear Editor and SSSP Members,

It is our great pleasure to announce the creation of the SSSP's newest special problems division, the Sport Sociology Division. The division's petition for membership was formally approved in late September [see page five], and we'd like to acknowledge all who supported us in our efforts to establish the division. In particular, we'd like to thank the members who signed the petition, Michele Koontz, Tom Hood, Ken Kyle, and the Board of Directors. You have our most heart-felt thanks and gratitude. Thank you one and all!

Because the division was just approved, co-Chair Stephani Williams and I are playing catch up as we work to ensure that the Division fully participates in the 2009 conference. We are greatly in need of assistance, and we encourage SSSP members to join us in getting the division off to a good start. Specifically, we are looking for volunteers to:

- join the division formally;
- encourage colleagues and graduate students interested in the intersection of sports and the social sciences to join the division;
- help organize sessions for the 2009 conference;
- serve as discussants for division-sponsored conference sessions;
- submit work in this area to division-sponsored conference sessions;
- become newsletter editor, or assist the newsletter editor contribute to the newsletter; and
- serve on the student paper competition review committee.

Again, on behalf of Co-Chair Stephani Williams, SSSP Vice President PJ McGann and myself, thank you for your support in creating Sport Sociology Division, and thank you in advance for your assistance in getting the division up and running.

Sincerely,

Katheen Asbury, Co-Chair
Sport Sociology Division



*Public education, not fictitious but real education,
can exist only in a truly equalitarian society.*

—Michael Bakunin



Introduction:

Sport Sociology Division

On September 25, 2008, the SSSP Board of Directors formally approved the establishment of the Sport Sociology Division, our 22nd special problems division. Below are excerpts from the letter of application.

Sport is part of the fabric of everyday life in the US and throughout much of the world. . . . Of course, sport is also a site of exploitation, hierarchy, and the production of images that work to naturalize inequality. Sport has nonetheless played an important role in social movements for racial equality (e.g. Jackie Robinson, Althea Gibson, the 1968 Olympics protest), gender equality (Babe Didrickson, Title IX, Billie Jean King, Women's World Cup soccer), sexual equality (Gay Games, Martina Navratilova), and disability rights (Special and Para Olympics). Nationalism and international politics play out in sport (e.g. Jesse Owens in Nazi Germany, the murder of the Israeli Olympians, the 1972 "Miracle on Ice"). Finally, sport is a post-modern spectacle (Super Bowl, World Cup Soccer), and is implicated in globalization processes (e.g. Cricket and the British Empire, Neo-Colonial diffusion of baseball in the Caribbean, the production of Nike sportswear, and the mass production of "affordable" Third World athletic talent consumed by First World audiences and businesses).

The recent Senate inquiry into the use of performance enhancing drugs in major league baseball, the Imus controversy, and the summer Olympics in Beijing (which saw controversies over Tibetan independence, journalistic freedom, political interference, and sex testing to name but a few), are only the most recent examples of the import and impact of sport on our collective lives. In each example the issues extend well beyond those of individual competitive advantage. MLB's steroid controversy, for instance, includes dynamics of racism, capitalism and illegal economies, the power of government to regulate industry, the culture and structure of professional sport, the role of unions, and the production of a hegemonic form of masculinity too often linked to violence against women, children, and other athletes.

Despite the fact that sport is an important component of modern societies, some scholars overlook (if not dismiss) the study of sport. Even so, rigorous study of sport has grown tremendously in the last 20 years . . . Although sport studies are beginning to flourish, the growth of a vibrant, critical, and theoretically-informed sociological study of sport would benefit from greater visibility and institutional support.

Given sport's social import and its relation to key concerns of the Society, SSSP is an apt home for sport sociology. The creation of a Sport Division in the SSSP would bring together scholars interested in critical analyses of sport and its relation to other social institutions. At the same time, the division would facilitate the diffusion of sociological sporting analyses into other areas of SSSP inquiry thereby enriching their scholarship as well.

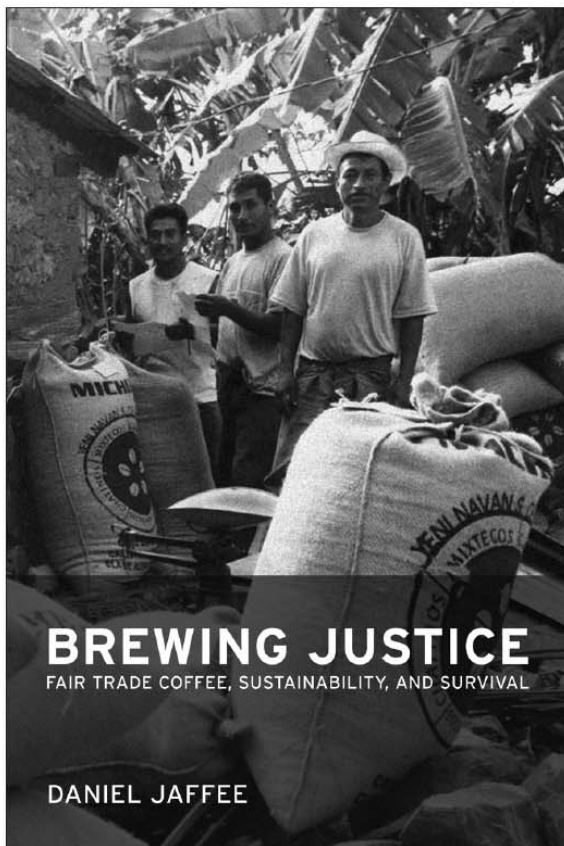
In recent years every annual meeting has included several papers that centered on sports-related fields. At the most recent annual meeting in Boston we found overwhelming interest in and support for a new SSSP division on Sport Sociology. We anticipate that a significant number of members beyond the petition signatories will join the new division; indeed, even scholars who do not currently study sport showed support and recognized the benefits such a division could provide – for sport scholars and SSSP alike.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stephani Williams, Kathleen Asbury and PJ McGann

CONGRATULATIONS TO DANIEL JAFFEE,
author of
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**Winner of the 2007 C. Wright Mills Award, from
the Society for the Study of Social Problems**



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CHRONICLE, Travels

Barbara Katz Rothman, Baruch College, CUNY

I was once trying to explain to my sister what it is I found so enjoyable about my academic travels, trips to give lectures in universities located most often in cities or towns usually not known as tourist destinations. There's the work itself – more on that later – but what I was telling my sister was about what happened after I get finished, after I've given my talk or whatever I had to do, and I let myself into a hotel room – an inn, guest house, a university-run establishment or a standard hotel. It's rarely luxurious, but it's almost always pleasant, quiet. I can order in a snack or bring something up with me, maybe even have a drink, put my feet up and watch a movie on the television. It's just so nice. "Barb," she said slowly, in that sister-laughing-at-you voice, "That's my life."

At that point I had three kids: a toddler, a preteen and one finishing High School. I had a husband, some cats, a brother-in-law next door, parents and in-laws nearby. Dinner often required a head-count – which kids had friends staying, who else was dropping in. I had a busy – lovely, but busy – life, and those quiet evenings in a rented room were my vacations. My sister was a lawyer, living alone in a Boston apartment. Yes, her life looked like my vacations.

I'm down to one kid living at home now, brother-in-law moved to Australia, in-laws have died. It's quieter at home. But I still find those little personal oases of time in hotel rooms, even the time in airports, airplanes and trains – that travel time I'm not working and not expected to work – to be very precious mini-vacations.

If you're afraid of flying or can't sleep in strange beds or whatever other travel-troubles, you probably cannot relate to what I am saying. But for me, who loves to look out the window on the plane, who can sleep anywhere (and even better if I didn't have to wash the sheets and make the bed myself) travel is a joy. If I'm working and getting paid extra to do it, I allow myself little luxuries, really little but luxuries nonetheless. I can buy a brand new paperback mystery at the airport. I can eat frozen yogurt, the big size, and calories do not count at airports.

I also try to see whatever there is to see locally. That's a lesson I learned after a trip I took – or didn't – to Philadelphia. My husband was doing the taxes and asked what my trip to Philly was about. I didn't go to Philadelphia this year I insisted. He smiled, said sure, fine, we weren't going to get into this and it was my business – but he had in hand my signature on receipts for train tickets and two nights of hotel. But I like Philadelphia! Surely I'd have known if I had gone? I checked my appointment book and the mystery resolved: I was an invited guest at a conference held at a hotel near the train

station. I'd never made it more than a block away. I could have been anywhere or nowhere.

I went out and bought a US travel book and have since gotten an additional book called *Stuck at the Airport*, which tells you notable sights at, yes, airports. Did you know that the Columbus Ohio airport has a great Roy Lichtenstein sculpture? If you're stuck there for an extra hour, as I was last night, that's a nice thing to know. Before I go anywhere, I Xerox the relevant pages from those books and make it my business to see something. I pick an art museum, an odd piece of architecture, a local food to try – something to let me know I went somewhere.

Of course I do work when I travel. Most obviously, that's why I'm traveling – I'm going wherever it is to work, and there are notes to be reviewed, last-minute changes to be made when I get there and meet people. Some of that's the 'homework' that gets done last minute on the plane or in the hotel the night

. . . the other part of the work is the visiting, the mingling, networking and schmoozing. When you are a guest, you are being brought in to give a lecture, but also to spend time with students and faculty – and, an often unrecognized latent function – to give students and faculty time to spend with each other.

before the talk. I like doing the talks themselves. That's a big part of why I became an academic. And a new audience, people who haven't heard you before and aren't yet bored with your stories or perspective, what a joy that is. I take pride in the performance part too, being funny, interesting, controversial. I can go and say things that people who have to live there maybe can't – be critical of medical practice in ways that people with joint appointments with the medical school may not be able to be, for example. I

can hope to, try to really teach people something they didn't know, make them think about something they hadn't thought about before.

But there's other work I bring with me when I travel. I don't bring my own research or writing – I can't give that the kind of attention it requires, though of course I always have a pad and pen with me – you never know when the gods will grant you an idea. I don't travel with a laptop. So I have to choose what extra work to bring – usually something both self-contained and not too physically heavy: a couple of dissertation chapters from a student; a book or a book proposal to be reviewed; something just weighty enough, in all senses. A two-to-three hour project that can be done in a plane ride or over a quiet dinner alone – if I get one of those.

Because the other part of the work is the visiting, the mingling, networking and schmoozing. When you are a guest, you are being brought in to give a lecture, but also to spend time with students and faculty – and, an often unrecognized latent function – to give students and faculty time to spend with each other. When else do department members ever go out to eat together? Much less go out with people in different

departments, to sit and talk over a leisurely meal? I've had breakfasts, lunches and dinners in which it was perfectly clear to me that they didn't need me – they had a lot to say to each other, ideas and work to share. I become a catalyst, an opportunity. A young historian meets a senior psychologist who's doing work that intersects and a fruitful conversation gets rolling, emails get exchanged, work gets shared. A community activist in my area – most often for me a midwife or childbirth educator – gets to spend time with the academics when they all take me out for dinner after the talk. The midwife ends up being invited to talk to the Sociology of Medicine class, the childbirth educator shares her birth film collection with the historian.

I've found that's what I really enjoy – being that matchmaker, listening and hooking people up right there in front of me. Of course sometimes I meet people I want to continue to share work and ideas with myself, and people I want to introduce – virtually or at a future professional meeting – to my own colleagues or graduate students. But it's even more fun to introduce people who are local, who should have but haven't really connected.

A visit to give a lecture is much like the job-talk visit, only without most of the angst. It serves those same purposes for the local people, bringing them together, making them talk to each other and think about themselves as a community. But nothing major hinges on it, for them or for me. If I mess up, if I am boring or make a mistake or say something stupid – well,

they won't invite me back again. Probably wouldn't have anyway – these talks are all about bringing in fresh voices. The person in the audience who might have someday invited me somewhere else, well, they won't. That's it – that's the worst that can happen. I'll feel awful if I make a fool of myself, but I'll go home again. I have tenure – home really is where they have to take you in.

And like most travel, academic travel gives you some perspective on home – there's a reason you live where you do and travel is a reminder. My departments have their issues – don't they all? And that's the thing about visiting: you get to see the other problems out there. Think you've got a problem member? Wait till people start telling you about the maniac they have to deal with. Think your dean or provost or president is a problem – just listen to this! Or that! Travel and you get to hear a lot – people want to vent to an outsider. There's a saying that if all the troubles in the world were laid down, most of us would just pick our own right back up again. Travel and you get to see why your own troubles are really not that bad after all. And after a quiet hotel room, a noisy family is a pleasure to come home to.

REFERENCE

Baskas, Harriet. 2001. *Stuck At The Airport: The Very Best of Services, Dining, and Unexpected Attractions for travelers*. New York: Fireside.

Attention:

Annual Auditor's Report Now Published Online and Available for Your Review

Independent Auditors LATTIMORE BLACK MORGAN & CAIN, PC, have prepared the 2007 annual audit of the SSSP's finances. The December 31, 2007 and 2006 report is available online for your review. To review the report, visit:

http://www.sssp1.org/File/2008CommiteeReports/2007_Audit_Report-LBMC.pdf

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News of Note

Call for Articles, Book Chapters, and Teaching Materials

(by submission deadline)

The editors of the *The British Journal of Social Work* seek the submission of abstracts for a special issue on "Risk and Social Work: Critical Perspectives"

Guest editors Jo Warner (University of Kent) and Elaine Sharland (University of Sussex) are soliciting paper abstracts for a special issue, scheduled to be published in Volume 40, No 2, (due out February 2010). The raised risk consciousness that is now especially prevalent in social, political and cultural life means that risk can be regarded as present everywhere but perhaps nowhere properly understood. Interest in the concept of risk in the context of social work research, theory, practice and education has grown almost exponentially in the past ten to fifteen years. This interest has encompassed an increasingly wide range of issues, including: debates about how risk should be defined or understood; the implications of attempts to balance 'risks' with 'rights'; the processes and challenges of risk assessment in relation to specific service user groups; and macro level analysis of social work in the 'risk society'. The picture internationally confirms that preoccupation with risk is not just a 'British disease'.

Papers are particularly welcome from authors from outside the UK who can offer international perspectives on the themes of the Special Issue; that address key questions such as "why risk?" and "why now?", focusing on contemporary concerns about risk in relation to social work; that bring new theoretical perspectives to risk and social work, or apply recognised theoretical perspectives in original ways; and or that address issues that have been under-explored, such as: positive risk taking, risk and the reconfiguration of social work services, risk in social work education, professional identities and risk.

Timescale for the publication:

Prospective authors must be in a position to meet the following key deadlines if their abstract is accepted: full drafts of all papers will be due at the latest by March 31, 2009; following peer review, draft papers will be returned to authors by mid-June 2009; final versions of manuscripts from authors must be received by August 31, 2009.

Guidelines for abstract submission:

Abstract proposals not exceeding 800 words in length should be sent by email to arrive no later than **November 14, 2008**, to Dr Jo Warner, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent: j.warner@kent.ac.uk. For more information on abstract preparation, visit: http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/social/2010_special_issue.html.

Book Chapter proposals sought for an edited book: *When Fieldwork Fails: False Beginnings in the Social Sciences and Strategies for Recovery*

Dr. Gregory S. Szarycz, Department of Contemporary Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada will serve as editor for this book, tentatively scheduled for publication by Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

Contributions are sought from authors willing to share their personal experiences with research projects that "got off on the wrong foot." Examples might include: use of inconsistent or inappropriate methodology; challenges in collecting data from "hard to find" populations; difficulties in gaining research approval or access to the field; dealing with funding; time restrictions and/or disastrous interviews. The individual authors will give their personal accounts of how 'real' fieldwork actually gets done along with reflections on how their experiences are linked up with more general questions around research methodologies and findings.

Submission procedure:

Established researchers and postgraduate students are invited to submit on or before **December 15, 2008**, a 2-5 page manuscript proposal clearly explaining the mission and concerns of the proposed chapter. Authors of accepted proposals will be notified on or as soon after January 31, 2009 about the status of their proposals and sent chapter organizational guidelines. Full chapters (5,000-7,500 words) are expected to be submitted by April 30, 2009. All submissions will be reviewed on a double-blind review basis. Inquiries and submissions should be forwarded electronically (Word document preferred) to: Dr. Gregory S. Szarycz, editor, at gszarycz@wlu.ca.

***Disability Studies Quarterly* seeks contributions for a special issue on "Autism"**

Co-editors Emily Thornton Savarese of the University of Iowa and Ralph James Savarese of Grinnell College are looking for completed articles, from a disability studies perspective, on what the medical community refers to as ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). They are especially interested in pieces that engage the so-called "low-functioning" end of the spectrum, where increasingly those presumed retarded and lacking social awareness are writing back to the empire of science. As the field of disability studies has theorized cognitive difference, it has had to refine its cherished social-constructionist approach, making sure to account for physiological distinctiveness in the organ of sensibility, a distinctiveness that has been interpreted in a myriad of ways, most quite prejudicial. The editors are interested in the burgeoning neurodiversity movement, which has self-consciously resisted such prejudicial interpretations, often revealing the "science" of autism to be anything but reliable and objective. How to talk about autistic difference? How to represent it? How to convey its gifts and challenges? Who can talk about it? What role should parents play in this representational arena? What role should teachers, doctors, researchers, therapists, media entities, and academics play? What kind of interdisciplinary approaches are needed to understand, respect, and even cherish autism?

The editors are open to the widest array of progressive approaches and topics. These include, but are not limited to issues of: (a) race/ethnicity, (b) sexuality, (c) self-representation/autobiography, (d) movement and cognition, (e) perceptual acuities, (f) popular cultural representations, (g) internet, (h) blogging, (i) literacy, (j) communication, (k) the arts, (l) treatments, cures, prevention, (m) science/research, (n) eugenics, (o) education/inclusion, (p) disability rights, (q) employment, (r) perseveration, echolalia, and/or (s) independence. The submission deadline is **January 1, 2009**,

with a projected publication date sometime in the summer of 2010. Questions or queries may be sent to emsavarese@hotmail.com or savarese@grinnell.edu.

The *Journal of Organizational Behavior* announces a special issue on “Terrorism” (research with a focus on terrorism, disaster, and organizational management)

Research is needed on organizational efforts to address threats from catastrophic events such as terrorism and natural disaster. To this point, however, the organizational sciences have given relatively little attention to studies aimed at understanding terrorism/disaster prevention and response by either single organizations (be they private- or public-sector or non-profit ones), or by multiple-organization networks. Some theories and models adapted from organizational topics might have some relevance to understanding terror/disaster management, but explicit, systematic examination of the relevance of such theories is necessary. Moreover, the unique dynamics (e.g., near-universal generation of powerful emotions; potential substantial disruption of organizations? surrounding environments) of disaster and terror events are likely to render such catastrophes somewhat distinct in processes, worker outcomes, and organizational effects from other crises. On the other hand, the extreme nature of the dangers and demands that disaster/terror can pose for organizations and their members may allow them to be used to illuminate fundamental organizational strategies, mechanisms, processes and outcomes such that broadly-relevant scientific and practical knowledge results.

The deadline for submissions is **April 10, 2009**. The special issue is intended for publication mid-2010. Papers to be considered for this special issue should be submitted online via <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/job> (selecting “Special Issue Paper?” as the Manuscript Type). Please direct questions about the submission process, or any administrative matter, to Managing Editor, Kaylene Ascough, k.ascough@uq.edu.au. Keith James, the special issue editor is very happy to discuss initial ideas for papers, and can be contacted directly via Email at keithj@pdx.edu.

The *Journal of Management & Organization* seeks papers for a special issue on “Sports Management: Social Responsibility, Philanthropy and Entrepreneurship in the Sports Industry”

The issue’s purpose is to focus attention on how social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship can more generally inform our understanding of management and organizations in the sporting industry. Submissions should focus on the contribution of research to management and organization studies. Many corporations are now shifting from a traditional charity perspective to a strategic corporate social responsibility perspective in which there is an attempt to integrate business operations with corporate donations.

The area of social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship in sports remains a relatively unexplored research area. Corporate social responsibility occurs as “corporations possess the power to control and influence the quality of life of employees, customers, shareholders and residents of local communities in which they operate” (Pava and Krausz, 1997:337). Social responsibility and philanthropy have gained in significance for businesses worldwide but

particularly for those in the sports industry. Sporting organizations are now focusing on efforts to increase their philanthropy through being better social enterprises. By utilizing entrepreneurship, businesses in the sports industry such as the National Basketball Association and Australian Football League have increased their efforts to be seen as caring organizations that help the community.

In this special issue we define entrepreneurship as when an individual or organization tries to be proactive, innovative and risk taking. Social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship offers direction to business leaders who want to increase their company’s social and economic performance. The issue’s objective is to enhance the management and organization literature by examining issues relating to social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship in the sports industry. The aim of this issue is to improve the understanding of social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship within a sport context. Consistent with the objectives of the journal, we seek both conceptual and empirical papers on how social responsibility, philanthropy and entrepreneurship affect the sports industry. We welcome submissions from authors internationally as well as Australia and New Zealand. For more information, visit: <http://jmo.e-contentmanagement.com/archives/vol/16/issue/2/call/>.

Manuscript submissions should observe the author guidelines at <http://www.jmanorg.com/authorguidelines/>. All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process. The issue is expected to be published in volume 16, issue 2, (April 2010). Manuscripts should be submitted no later than **March 30, 2009** via e-mail to either of the guest editors:

Vanessa Ratten
AJ Palumbo School of Business Administration
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
Tel: 412 592 1293
Email: vanessaratten@gmail.com

Kathy Babiak
Sport Management Department
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
Tel: 734 763 6922
Email: kbabiak@umich.edu

Call for Presentations—Other Conferences
(by submission deadline)

The Fifth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (QI2009) will take place at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign from May 20-23, 2009. The theme of the 2009 Congress is “Advancing Human Rights Through Qualitative Inquiry.” This theme builds on recent human rights initiatives taken by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Education Research Association, previous Congresses, the American Anthropological Association, the American Psychological Association, The American Nurses Association, the Center for Indigenous World Studies, Scholars at Risk, and the Society for Applied Anthropology. It is clear that in these troubling political times qualitative researchers are called upon to become human rights advocates, to honor the sanctity of life,

and the core values of privacy, justice, freedom, peace, human dignity, and freedom from fear.

The 2009 Congress will offer scholars the opportunity to form coalitions and engage in debate and dialogue on how qualitative research can be used to bridge gaps in cultural and linguistic understandings. Delegates will address such topics as academic freedom, researcher safety, indigenous human rights, human rights violations, ethical codes, torture, political violence, social justice, racial, ethnic and gender and environmental disparities in education, welfare and healthcare, truth and reconciliation commissions, justice as healing.

Sessions will take up such topics as: the politics of evidence; alternatives to evidence-based models; mixed-methods; public policy discourse; social justice; human subject research; indigenous research ethics; decolonizing inquiry; standpoint epistemologies. Contributors are invited to experiment with new methodologies, and new presentational formats (drama, performance, poetry, autoethnography, fiction). Such work will offer guidelines and exemplars showing how qualitative research can be used in the human rights and policy-making arenas.

May 20 will feature special interest Congress sessions, including A Day in Spanish and Portuguese, followed by professional workshops on May 21. The Congress will consist of keynote, plenary, featured, regular, and poster sessions. We invite your submission of paper, poster and session proposals. Submissions will be accepted online only from October 1 until **December 1, 2008**. For more information, visit: <http://www.icqi.org>.

The Western Social Science Association invites proposals for presentations at the 51st annual conference, April 15-18, 2009, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Its conference theme is "New Era in a New World: Challenges facing the Social Sciences." Organizers welcome proposals for complete panels and individual papers are welcome. Please note the section for which you would like your proposal submitted. The deadline for proposals is **December 1, 2008**.

Scholars willing to serve as moderators or discussants should indicate their interest to the appropriate section coordinator. For additional information, please visit <http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences/default.htm>, consult the Summer 2008 WSSA newsletter or contact the WSSA General Program Chair and President- Elect:

Jack Hou
California State University, Long Beach
Department of Economics
1250 Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
E-mail: jackhou@csulb.edu
Phone: 562-985-4710
Fax: 562-985-5804

The Association of Black Sociologists is holding its 39th Annual Conference at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, June 17-20, 2009, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Its theme is "Black Sociology: Advancing Social Justice and Responsibility Through Teaching, Research, and Activism." All interested individuals are invited to submit formal papers, informal

discussion topics, open refereed roundtables, open informal discussion roundtables, poster topics, and proposals for an organized session (including: Regular Topical Sessions, Author Meets Critics, Regional Spotlight Sessions, Thematic Sessions, Poster Sessions, Workshops, etc.) for inclusion in the 2009 Annual Conference Program. Complete details about organizing program sessions and organizer responsibilities will be e-mailed to those whose requests have been granted. All Presenters, Discussants, and Session Organizers must be members of ABS and must register by the early registration deadline in order to be included in the final printed program. **Deadline to be announced.** For more information on the conference and on the submission deadline, visit <http://www.blacksociologists.org/> Direct all inquiries regarding the 2009 program and submissions to:

Dr. Regina Dixon Reeves
ABS 2009 Program Chairperson
P.O. Box A3502
Chicago, IL 60690
rdixonreeves@blacksociologists.org
773-370-9269

Congratulations!

SSSP member wins acclaim, makes a splash in Greece

Bonnie Berry has been honored with the 2008 Herbert Bloch award for distinguished service to the discipline of Criminology and to the American Society of Criminology. Also, her book, *Beauty Bias: Discrimination and Social Power* (2007, Praeger Publishers), has been translated into Greek (published by Polytropon Publishers, Athens, Greece, 2008), and she was interviewed by *Eleftherotypia*, a national newspaper in Greece, on the topic of appearance bias, August 2008. *Best of luck making an even greater positive impact in the future!*

SSSP member receives prestigious anthropology award

The Boards of the American Anthropological Association and the Society for Applied Anthropology selected **João Biehl** to receive the Margaret Mead Award for 2007. Biehl was selected for his 2005 book, *Vita: Life in a Zone of Social Abandonment* (University of California Press). *Congratulations on winning this acclaim!*

Member honored for contributions to public service

Karen L. Bune was awarded the 2007 Notable Alumni Award from American University's School of Public Affairs for her work in the field of criminal justice and victimology and for her national public speaking and writing. *Congratulations on a job well done!*

Three SSSP members make professional career advances

Shari Dworkin has accepted a faculty position in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UCSF in San Francisco as of September 1, 2008. She is also affiliated with the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) at UCSF.

Nancy Mezey, associate professor of sociology, coordinator of the sociology program, and curriculum coordinator of gender studies at Monmouth University was recently awarded tenure.

Kristen Springer was chosen as a Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholar and is in residence at Columbia University for 2008-2010.

Best wishes to each of you in your future academic advancement!

Member wins acclaim for educational efforts

Jean Elson was named the 2008 University of New Hampshire "Vagina Warrior" by the cast of the UNH "Vagina Monologues." She was honored for "her tireless efforts in educating students and opening up our minds to the important issues surrounding women today." *Congratulations, and keep up the good work!*

SSSP author's books honored

Kathleen Ferraro's book, *Neither Angels nor Demons: Women, Crime, and Victimization*, was named an Outstanding Academic Title by Choice for 2007! *Congratulations on this well-deserved acknowledgment!*

Student member awarded dissertation fellowship

Jordan Lewis received a fellowship from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) to fund his dissertation research on successful aging and rural health in Alaska. The fellowship is the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, which funds cutting edge research in the Arctic in the natural and social sciences. *Best wishes with your research, and congratulations!*

Fellowships & Summer Institutes

The National Poverty Center (NPC) at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan would like to call to your attention the following educational, research, and funding opportunities.

Postdoctoral Fellowships; Deadline: January 9, 2009

The Research and Training Program on Poverty and Public Policy provides underrepresented scholars in the social sciences the opportunity to spend one to two years conducting research and pursuing extensive training at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. During the fellowship period, scholars will receive stipends of \$50,000 per calendar year.

Immigration and Poverty Small Grants Competition; Deadline: February 2, 2009

Through this national competition, the NPC seeks to fund research that will broaden or deepen our understanding of the implications of the increasing foreign born population for American society, public policy, and low-income workers and families. The NPC will fund up to four proposals, up to a maximum of \$17,500 per award.

Workshop: Analyzing Poverty and Socioeconomic Trends Using the American Community Survey (ACS); Deadline: February 27, 2009

The NPC invites applications to attend a data training workshop on the use of the ACS micro-data to understand social and economic issues affecting low-income populations. This workshop will take place June 22-26,

2009 on the campus of the University of Michigan. The NPC will pay the costs of travel, lodging, and meals for participants.

The National Poverty Center (NPC) is a university-based, nonpartisan research center. The NPC conducts and promotes multidisciplinary, policy-relevant research on the causes and consequences of poverty; provides mentoring and training to young scholars; and disseminates findings to the broad policy community. Major funding for the NPC is provided by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

National Poverty Center

Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

University of Michigan

Joan and Sanford Weill Hall, Suite 5100

735 South State Street

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3091

(734) 615-5312

www.npc.umich.edu

The Ohio State University and National Science Foundation are funding a "Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives & Participation" July 6 – 24, 2009

Faculty members pursuing tenure and career success in research intensive institutions, academics transitioning from teaching to research institutions, and faculty members carrying out research in teaching contexts will be interested in this Summer Research Institute. Organized by Lauren J. Krivo and Ruth D. Peterson and funded by the National Science Foundation and Ohio State University, the institute is designed to promote successful research projects and careers among faculty from underrepresented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. During the institute, each participant will complete an ongoing project (either a research paper or grant proposal) in preparation for journal submission or agency funding review. In addition, participants will gain information that will serve as a tool-kit tailored to successful navigation of the academic setting.

The Summer Research Institute will provide participants with: resources for completing their research projects; senior faculty mentors in their areas of study; opportunities to network with junior and senior scholars; workshops addressing topics related to publishing, professionalization, and career planning; travel expenses to Ohio, housing in a trendy Columbus neighborhood, and living expenses.

The institute will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience. Completed applications must be postmarked by **February 6, 2009**. To download the application form, please see our web site (<http://cjrc.osu.edu/rdcj-n/summerinstitute>).

Eligibility: All applicants must hold regular tenure-track positions in U.S. institutions and demonstrate how their participation broadens participation of underrepresented groups in crime and justice research. Graduate students without tenure track appointments are not eligible for this program. Please direct all inquiries to: cjrcinstitute@osu.edu.

Job Announcements

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

CUNY – John Jay College of Criminal Justice (Criminal Justice position, open rank)
 Illinois State University (Criminal Justice Sciences, Chairperson)
 Indiana University, South Bend (Social Informatics position, entry rank)
 Minnesota State University, Mankato (Sociology & Gerontology position, entry rank)
 Ohio University (2 Sociology positions, 1 entry rank, 1 assistant/associate rank)
 University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Socio-Legal Studies position, entry rank)
 University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Criminal Justice position, entry rank)
 University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Public Policy position, advanced rank)
 University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Restorative Justice position, senior assistant rank)
 University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Social Justice and Inequality position, assistant/associate rank)

Position announcements and application instructions are available at the SSSP website. Go to <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm.m/320>

New Journals of Interest

***Visual Studies* (New Feature: NEW MEDIA REVIEWS)**

Visual Studies is a major international peer-reviewed journal. Published on behalf of the International Visual Sociology Association, the journal provides a key resource for all disciplines that engage with images, society and culture. The journal publishes visually-oriented articles in a broad range of areas, and aims to establish a high standard of excellence in the scholarly use of visual material.

The aims of *Visual Studies* are to: provide an international forum for the development of visual research; promote acceptance and understanding of a wide range of methods, approaches, and paradigms that constitute image-based research; reduce the disparity in emphasis between visual and written studies in the social sciences; promote an interest in developing visual research methodology in all its various forms; encourage research that employs a mixture of visual methods and analytical approaches within one study; encourage debate between empirical and symbolic visual researchers in order to enhance mutual understanding; provide an arena for in-depth exploration of various approaches (e.g. social semiotics), particular methods (e.g. photo-elicitation), themes (e.g. material culture), and visual phenomena (e.g. posture and dance).

Visual Studies is interested in considering imaginative reviews of new media applications and initiatives of interest to our readers. Each installment of NEW MEDIA REVIEWS will be subtitled and authored and should be 5000 words in length and take the form of a review essay. Prospective topics might include the following: interactive quantitative social science databases and their applications; websites that visually document various aspects of collective behavior, like religious

apparitions, moral panics, popular mobilizations and the like; websites for various types of classroom instruction in the social sciences; websites that encourage healthy skepticism about rumors concerning current events and mores, like the Urban Legends web page; websites that are centers for sociability and inter-personal communication, like Facebook; archives of visual and other cultural materials like the Smithsonian Institute's American Memory photo collection, the American Folklore site, and the Human Area Resources File of world cultural materials. Articles should briefly describe the websites, how readers of *Visual Studies* might use them, and evaluate their broader cultural, social, political and, if appropriate, educational significance. Prospective authors should contact:

John Grady, Film and Multi-Media Editor for *Visual Studies* (jgrady@wheatonma.edu), with proposals and sample websites.

New Programs of Interest

Arizona State University has a new Master of Arts in Social Justice and Human Rights program

This new degree is designed specifically to offer social justice and human rights approaches to such issues as; health, education, labor, international development, migration, child and family issues, and the environment.

The degree offers two tracks of study – Social Justice and Human Rights Research and Non-Governmental Organizational Management. The research track will prepare students for careers requiring research skills in governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, as well as preparing them for doctoral programs in the social sciences and law. The NGO management track brings together training in the substantive area of social justice and human rights with intensive practical training in non-profit management that will prepare graduates for leadership positions in the rapidly growing NGO sector. For more information, contact:

Tosha Ruggles
 Phone: 602-543-6241
 Email: Tosha.Smith@asu.edu

Other Conferences/Workshops of Interest

(by conference date)

The American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) will hold its eleventh annual meeting February 5– 6, 2009, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The AABSS is an interdisciplinary professional society designed to serve faculty and administrators at four-year colleges and universities. The annual meeting offers a collegial forum for participants to share research, ideas for professional development, and academic concerns in all areas of the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Student participation is encouraged. For more information, visit <http://aabss.org/>.

Recent Books Published by Members

Ronald J. Berger. 2008. *Hoop Dreams on Wheels: Disability and the Competitive Wheelchair Athlete.* Routledge. ISBN: 10: 0415965101

Bonnie Berry. 2008. *The Power of Looks: Social Stratification of Physical Appearance.* Williston, VT: Ashgate Publishing. ISBN: 9780754647584.

C. Anne Broussard & **Alfred L. Joseph** (Eds). 2008. *Family Poverty in Diverse Contexts.* New York: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0-7890-3741-1

Jack Levin. 2008. *Serial Killers and Sadistic Murderers—Up Close and Personal.* New York: Prometheus. ISBN: 10: 1591025761

Nancy J. Mezey. 2008. *New Choices, New Families: How Lesbians Decide about Motherhood.* Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press. ISBN: 10: 0801889995

Wendy Chapkis and Richard J. Webb. 2008. *Dying to Get High: Marijuana as Medicine.* New York: New York University Press. ISBN: 10: 0814716679

Michael Peter Smith & **Matt Bakker.** 2007. *Citizenship Across Borders: The Political Transnationalism of El Migrante.* Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. ISBN: 10: 080147390X

SSSP Matters

***Social Problems* is ranked fourth among general sociology journals!**

Once again, *Social Problems* has demonstrated its influence and importance within the discipline of sociology. The 2007 ISI ranking for *Social Problems* placed it among the leading journals in sociology, with an impact factor of 1.577 and a overall ranking of #10 among all sociology journals. *Congratulations to everyone who made this achievement possible. To Amy Wharton and the editorial staff, to Social Problems' reviewers, and to its contributors, job well done!*

The 58th Annual Meeting, "A huge success!"

The conference this summer had the third highest annual conference attendance on record, with 757 registered participants on record. *Congratulations to President Nancy Naples, 2007 Program Committee members, Division Chairs, and session organizers for a job well done!*

AIDS Fundraiser Benefit raises \$2,019.

The SSSP raised \$2,019 for Cambridge Cares About AIDS (CCA) at the 8th Annual AIDS Fundraiser. CCA is a non-profit organization that provides service to over 3,000 people in eastern Massachusetts. CCA provides advocacy, support, education, and prevention services to people living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS who are most effected by social and economic inequality. For more information, visit <http://www.ccaa.org/aboutus.htm>.

SSSP Gains New Special Problems Divisions

Two Special Problems divisions have joined our ranks, making 22 in all. The **Disabilities Division** was formed last year and was able to participate in the 2008 annual conference. The **Sport Sociology Division's** application was just approved (*see p. 5 for more details*). Look for more from these divisions in the future, and think about lending a hand or chairing a session or submitting a paper proposal.

NEW! *Social Problems Journal* is now available online gratis to all SSSP members.

SSSP is pleased to announce that *Social Problems* is now available online for all SSSP members. Currently all issues since 2001 to present are available. The rest of the archived issues will be made available this Fall. To access these archives, visit: <http://caliber.ucpress.net/loi/sp>.

PENNSTATE



Penn State Schuylkill

Penn State Schuylkill invites applications for an Assistant Professor of Sociology starting August 2009. **Responsibilities:** Teach three courses each semester using traditional and hybrid delivery modes. Courses will include introductory sociology, social problems, and areas of research specializations. Research and service expected. To learn more about the campus and Penn State University, visit <http://www.psu.edu/ur/cmpcoll.html>.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in Sociology or related discipline preferred; ABD considered. To learn more about the position and how to apply, visit <http://www.psu.jobs/Search/Opportunities.html> and follow the "Faculty" link. AA/EOE.

Job Talk...

Our Early, and not so Early, Academic Careers: Reflections, Insights, Advice 2007 BODEAPCEO Volunteer Collective

During the 2007 annual conference *SPF* asked members of the 2007 Board of Directors, the 2007 Editorial and Publications committee, and elected officers in attendance at the Board of Directors meetings if they would be willing to participate in an unscientific survey that might serve as the basis for a future Student Column and or Job Talk column. Participants were encouraged to respond with the first thing that came to mind. Although not everyone chose to participate in the survey, a good number did.

Some survey responses were used in a Student Column entitled “Things I Wish I’d Known Before I Left Graduate School” that appeared in the Winter 2008 issue (vol. 39, no. 1, pp. 30- 32). What follows are selected responses to five other survey items. The responses are presented in no particular order. Some responses were not included and some others were slightly altered in order to protect the identity of the respondents. We invite readers to analyze and or use comments as they will.

What is the most surprising thing about your current position?

- ◆ How hard I work and how much I love it.
- ◆ How quickly the university changes and, along with that change, the games rules of the academic life change.
- ◆ I don’t know if this is surprising, but I’m finding out that my workload increased after receiving tenure. At the same time, of course, my anxiety decreased. Perhaps my workload has increased because I am a more invested member of my community, and because I love my job. But nobody told me that tenure would yield more work.
- ◆ Still the same thing as at my first position actually — a student came up to me after an Intro class session on deviance and said, “This is really interesting but why would we need to know this?” What surprises me, as much or more than his not being able to think deviance and sociology might have value in his life, was his cheerful matter-of-factness in telling this to me.
- ◆ The fact that colleagues have such different understandings of the relationship between teaching and research.
- ◆ I am continuously surprised by how much I am disliked, as a woman, in a man’s (non-social science) environment.
- ◆ Contrary to what many faculty members may think, I find most administrators are pro-faculty and pro-scholarship. I have discovered, however, that I never knew what really went on to make the university function on the macro level and never knew the level to which the administration had to address state and federal bureaucracy to enable higher education to take place.
- ◆ What passes for graduate level education in our program isn’t up to the undergraduate education I received at a so-so state university, yet many of my colleagues and the university administration don’t seem to have a problem

with this. What’s worse, many seem to have very low expectations for our students and too few seem committed to challenging our students.

What thing most surprised you in your first-post graduate degree job?

- ◆ I found that at a primarily teaching institution, some of my colleagues gave up any aspirations to stake out a professional role in their respective disciplines.
- ◆ Just how petty and vindictive some academics can be.
- ◆ That the students (I’m not in a sociology program) were so clear and open about not being remotely interested in sociology, just needing three credits.
- ◆ I was surprised that the expectations were other than (less than) what I experienced in graduate school.
- ◆ The historical legacy of the department I was in — that is, how the historical relationships and experiences of the department I was in continued to haunt and guide us even though the people who created those relationships and experiences were long gone.
- ◆ I was surprised by the extent that other issues other than scholarship and teaching seemed to concern my colleagues.
- ◆ What most surprised me was the sense of isolation that came from being in a small university without a university culture coupled with living in a conservative, mostly rural, anti-intellectual area. I never even imagined the possibility that a university wouldn’t sustain its own intellectual and student cultures. Foolish me.
- ◆ I work at a college that emphasizes teaching, and I’m surprised that I can keep thinking of research projects to do. But I’m not surprised by the lack of time available to do them. This is because teaching is a priority, and research is reserved for summers and sabbaticals only.

What's the best thing about your current job?

- ◆ My doctoral students.
- ◆ The autonomy to do the research I want to do and, for the most part, teach the classes I want to teach.
- ◆ I like the opportunity to do my work. It has nothing to do with my job.
- ◆ Teaching really bright students, who keep me on my toes. I've learned more about sociology since becoming a professor than all the years beforehand. Of course, my years post-graduate school are now greater than the number of years I spent in graduate school.
- ◆ Within certain parameters, I can pursue whatever academic interests I damn well please.
- ◆ There are two things. First, the collegiality of my department. I hear many stories from colleagues at other universities about in-fighting in departments and "turf" battles, about sexism and racism, heterosexism and ageism. I could not go to work everyday if I had to deal with that. It's not that we all agree on everything. We have plenty of disagreements. But I truly feel that we respect each other, that we genuinely support each other, and that we like each other. The second thing I like about my job is a characteristic of academic jobs generally: the autonomy. I don't think there are many jobs that afford a person as much freedom as an academic position does. I hear lots of complaining by academics and that in itself is a manifestation of the freedom that we enjoy; I doubt one would get away with that kind or level of complaining in business or industry. I really wish we academics would be more appreciative of the autonomy our jobs afford us.
- ◆ The location. I'm in a cosmopolitan, international city that more or less makes up for the failings of my current position.
- ◆ I teach, have some administrative responsibilities, I have lots of opportunities to help my department, the university, and myself grow.

What's the worst thing about your current job?

- ◆ Grading papers and working long hours.
- ◆ The teaching conditions. We have too many students in every class; we teach too many classes; and too many of our students don't appear to want to be challenged.
- ◆ I don't like the lack of autonomy I ought to have.
- ◆ My undergraduate would-be accountants.
- ◆ I teach at a college where the faculty is self-governing, which means lots of committee work.

- ◆ Some of my colleagues don't appear to understand that faculty governance demands responsibility.
- ◆ An implosion of service work and lack of cost of living raises.

If you could give junior colleagues just entering new positions one piece of advice, what would it be?

- ◆ Find a senior colleague to be a mentor. Seek out people who understand administrative tasks, and who seem to be level-headed and not too soured by the system, and ask them questions about what has made them successful and happy. Navigating the review and tenure processes requires administrative savvy that may not be automatic. So befriend someone who can help you with this. Buy them coffee. Then, when you get tenure, be that mentor for a junior colleague. Buy them coffee, too.
- ◆ Take on new tasks because they are ones you will enjoy or that will add to your professional or personal growth; be careful not to say "yes" too many times, and keep a focused and manageable research agenda.
- ◆ Work hard, play hard, don't let the bastards bring you down.
- ◆ Same advice that was given repeatedly to me: concentrate on your own research and publications, not your teaching. Your youth/newness at this, which feels like a disadvantage, is really your advantage in undergraduate teaching.
- ◆ Remain true to your substantive interests, especially when "push" and "pull" factors would encourage you to abandon them.
- ◆ Try not to get overly involved in university politics and stay as focused as you can on your own research, on teaching, and on broader social activism. Choose your battles carefully.
- ◆ Don't jump at the first job that looks good, that offers you a nice deal, and so forth. Think about where you would like to be in 10 years.

Make sure to actually schedule time for research and schedule some time (but not too much) for your personal life.

- ◆ Make sure you know what counts as merit in the place where you work. Don't expect to be promoted for doing activities that don't count.
- ◆ Get the skinny on what is really needed for promotion and tenure, and concentrate on that. I had colleagues who misunderstood what was expected of them, and they didn't. Too many people will want too much of your time.
- ◆ Make sure to actually schedule time for research and schedule some time (but not too much) for your personal life.

2009 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS AND OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

*Sponsored by the Special Problems Divisions
of the Society for the Study Social Problems*

The Special Problems Divisions are pleased to announce the 2009 Student Paper Competitions and Outstanding Scholarship Awards. Please note each division has a unique deadline and submission process.

COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Deadline: 4/1/09

The Community Research and Development Division announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. The goal is to encourage scholarly endeavors which enhance our understanding of issues affecting the community. Paper topics can focus on various aspects of the community including its capacity (i.e., social capital), development, design, empowerment, renewal, and its relationship with other social issues or problems. Qualitative and quantitative empirical analyses and theoretical papers are welcome, as are evaluations of the effectiveness of community-based programs. To be eligible for submission, a paper must not be published or accepted for publication. Papers must be student-authored; they may be authored by a single student or co-authored by more than one student, but may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student. Papers must not exceed 30 pages including all notes, references, and tables. To be considered for the award, the author must make a commitment to present the paper at a Community Research and Development Division session during the 2009 SSSP meeting. Send two copies of the paper and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the Community Research and Development Division Graduate Student Paper Competition to: Kim Kennard, Department of Human Services, Modesto Junior College, 435 College Avenue, Modesto, CA 95350, kennardk@yosemite.cc.ca.us. A brief letter from each author's advisor should be included. This letter should certify the person's status as a student and include some comments about the research. Papers may be sent beginning on January 1, 2009 but no later than April 1, 2009. The winner will be announced no later than May 1, 2009 and will receive a \$300 cash award at the SSSP 2009 Annual Meeting August 7-9, 2009, registration for the meetings, a ticket to the SSSP Awards Banquet, and the opportunity to present her/his paper at the SSSP meetings to be held at the Stanford Court Hotel, San Francisco, CA.

CONFLICT, SOCIAL ACTION, AND CHANGE DIVISION

Deadline: 4/1/09

The Conflict, Social Action, and Change Division encourages graduate students to submit theoretical or empirical papers that address some aspect of the interrelation of conflict, social action, and change. The winner will be offered the opportunity to present the winning paper at the SSSP 2009 meeting in San Francisco, in addition to receiving a \$100 monetary prize, SSSP conference registration, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. The paper should be sole-authored and not exceed 30 double-spaced pages in length (including all notes, tables, and references). Please send an electronic copy of the paper prepared for blind review and a cover letter to: Suzanne Kurth, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower, Knoxville, TN 37996-0490, skurth@utk.edu.

CRIME AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY DIVISION

Deadline: 3/15/09

The Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of crime, deviance, and/or social control. To be eligible, a paper must have been written during 2008, and at the time of submission it may not be published, accepted for publication, or under review for publication. Papers which have been presented at a professional meeting or accepted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible. Papers must be student-authored; they can be single-authored or co-authored by students, but may not be co-authored with a faculty member or other non-student. There is a 25-page limit, including all notes, references, and tables. Send papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered in the SSSP Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division Graduate Student Paper Competition to: Dr. Paul Colomy, University of Denver, Department of Sociology, 2040 S. Race Street, Denver, CO 80208. Submissions may also be submitted electronically to: pcolomy@du.edu. The winner(s) will be announced in Spring 2009, will receive a \$300 stipend, and is eligible to present the paper at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting.

DISABILITIES DIVISION

Deadline: 7/1/09

The Disabilities Division is pleased to announce its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. An important goal of the Disabilities Division is to encourage, recognize, and reward the work of graduate students. Papers may be empirical or theoretical and may concern any aspect of disability. Papers must not be either published or under review, although they may have been presented. A paper must be co-authored only by a student or students, not by a faculty member or other non-student; the student must be currently enrolled in a graduate program; the student must be sponsored by a faculty member who submits a cover letter of sponsorship attesting to the student's eligibility and the paper's originality. The paper must be no longer than 40 pages, including title page, notes, references, tables, and figures, and written in 12-point Times New Roman type. Five copies of the paper, written without identifying information of any kind, should be sent to Carol Brooks Gardner, Department of Sociology, IUPUI, 425 University Blvd, Cavanaugh 303E, Indianapolis, IN 46202, cgardne@sbccglobal.net; in addition to the sponsor's letter, the student should include a cover letter of submission, requesting acknowledgment of receipt. Papers that do not meet the criteria will not be read. Papers will be evaluated by a committee of at least three Disabilities Division scholars. Those who submit papers should be prepared to attend the conference. The winner will be announced in Summer 2009 and will receive a stipend of \$250, conference registration, the opportunity to present the paper at a SSSP Annual Meeting session in 2009, membership dues, and a ticket to the 2009

awards banquet.

DRINKING AND DRUGS DIVISION

Deadline: 3/15/09

The Drinking and Drugs Division is holding its 2009 Student Paper Competition. First place winner will receive a \$100 stipend and be recognized at the 2009 meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Papers must present original research (empirical and/or theoretical) related to drinking and/or drugs from a social problems perspective. To be eligible, participants must be currently enrolled in a graduate degree program and have not yet received a Ph.D., J.D., or M.D. degree at the time of submission. Participants must have had responsibility for preparation of the paper. The paper should be no longer than 30 pages in length. All entries must be endorsed by a sponsor who is a current (2009) member of SSSP. The division reserves the right to identify additional prizes or to not award a first place winner at its discretion. Send an electronic copy of the paper and a brief cover letter identifying your graduate program and signed by your sponsor to: Alice Cepeda, Ph.D., Dept of Sociology, University of Houston, aacepeda@central.uh.edu.

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS DIVISION

Deadline: 5/15/09

The Educational Problems Division announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers must address a contemporary educational problem and may be empirical or theoretical in nature. Authors must be current graduate students or recent graduates with conferral dates no earlier than January 2009. Only unpublished, single-author papers will be considered. Papers must not exceed 30 double-spaced pages (excluding notes, references, tables and figures). All papers must include a 150-200 word abstract and be prepared for anonymous review with the author's name and institutional affiliation appearing only on the title page. Winners will receive a small monetary prize, student membership in the SSSP, conference registration to the 2009 SSSP annual meeting and a complimentary ticket to the awards banquet at which all winners will be recognized. The recipient will also have the opportunity to present the paper at the 2009 SSSP conference held in San Francisco, CA. All papers must be submitted electronically (as an attachment) to the Division Chair, Otis Grant (ogrant@iusb.edu), by the above deadline. Please include your name, institutional affiliation and contact information in the body of your email.

ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Deadline: 3/15/09

The Environment and Technology Division is pleased to announce its 2009 graduate student paper competition. Beginning this year, the award has been renamed The Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award to honor the late Brent Marshall's (1965-2008) personal and professional commitment to the Division and encouragement of student engagement in academic scholarship and research. In keeping with previous year's, papers may be theoretical and/or empirical and may be on a topic relevant to environment and technology, including environmental movements, technology and risk, political economy and the environment, or environmental justice, among others. The winner will receive a \$200 cash award, membership dues, conference registration, and a ticket to the annual SSSP awards banquet. The winner will also be offered the opportunity to present this paper at one of the Environment and Technology sessions held at the 2009 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, the paper must meet the following criteria: 1) the

paper must have been written between January 2008 and March 2009; 2) the paper may not have been submitted for publication (papers presented at other professional meetings or that have been submitted for presentation at other meetings are eligible); 3) the paper must be authored by one or more students and not co-authored by faculty or a colleague who is not a student; 4) the paper must be 25 pages or less, including notes, references, and tables; and, 5) the paper must be accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's university nominating the work for The Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award (formerly the Environment and Technology Division Graduate Student Paper Competition). Students should send one copy of the paper accompanied by a letter of support via snail mail or e-mail with attachment to: Christine Bevc, Department of Sociology, University of Colorado at Boulder, UCB 327, Boulder, CO 80309-0327, christine.bevc@colorado.edu. Submissions must be received no later than midnight on March 15, 2009.

FAMILY DIVISION

Deadline: 1/16/09

The Family Division announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers should be of professional quality and may relate to any aspect of sociology of the family. Authors should be currently enrolled as graduate students, or individuals who received their Ph.D's May 2008 or later. To be eligible, a paper may not be published, accepted, or under review for publication. Papers that have been presented at a professional meeting or submitted for presentation at a professional conference are eligible. Papers must be student authored; they can be authored by one or more students, but may not be co-authored with a faculty member or non-student. Papers should be no more than 35 pages in length, including all notes, references, and tables. Please email papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered for the Family Division Graduate Student Paper Competition to: Dr. Mary Ann Kanieski, kanieski@saintmarys.edu. Alternatively, papers may be sent via snail mail to Dr. Mary Ann Kanieski, Department of Sociology, 20 Spes Unica Hall, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN 46556. The winner and any runners-up will be announced in Spring 2009. The winner(s) will receive a modest cash stipend, registration fees, and an opportunity to present her/his paper at the SSSP conference, held August 7-9, 2009 in San Francisco, CA.

GLOBAL DIVISION/CRITICAL SOCIOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

Deadline: 5/5/09

The Global Division in cooperation with the Sage journal *Critical Sociology* announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. The goal is to encourage critical scholarship in the areas of global studies and social problems. Suggested paper topics include but are not limited to the following themes being featured at the 2009 Annual SSSP meetings: Global Dynamics in the Pacific Rim; Human Rights: The Politics of Race and Ethnicity and Immigration; Race, Ethnicity and Global Conflict; Neo-liberal Articulations of Imperialism; The Globalization of Service Work: Comparative Perspectives; Neoliberalism, Global Inequality, and Resistance; Globalization and Environmental Justice; Alternative Globalizations; Politics of Inclusion/Exclusion in the Neo-liberal Agenda, Indigenous Communities, and Participatory Development; and Global Intersections of Gender, Race and Class. Jointly-authored papers are accepted, but all contributing authors must be current graduate students or have graduated not prior to January 1, 2009. The award recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$460, student membership in the SSSP, conference registration at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, and a ticket to the SSSP awards

banquet. Award recipients will be expected to present their paper at the 2009 Annual Meeting and will also be invited to participate in the 2009 Critical Sociology conference held the day following the SSSP Conference. Papers must be submitted electronically in a format compatible with MS WORD and authors should ensure that they receive a confirmation of receipt for their submission. Although faculty sponsorship is not formally required to enter the competition, participants are invited to request a note from a faculty member or independent scholar that speaks to the academic quality of the submission and they should be emailed directly to the addresses below. Note: Previous winners of this award are ineligible to compete. Papers of up to a maximum length of 30 double-spaced pages may be sent beginning on January 31, 2009 but no later than May 5, 2009 to both Co-Chairs of the 2009 Global Division Graduate Student Award Committee: Dr. John G. Dale, jdale@gmu.edu and Dr. David A. Smith, dasmith@uci.edu. Winning papers will be invited to submit their paper for publication in *Critical Sociology*.

GLOBAL DIVISION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

Deadline: 5/5/09

The Global Division announces its 2009 Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. The goal is to encourage critical scholarship in the area of social problems that contain a global perspective. Suggested paper topics include, but are not limited to, the following themes being featured at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting: 1) Global Dynamics in the Pacific Rim; 2) Human Rights: The Politics of Race and Ethnicity and Immigration; 3) Race, Ethnicity and Global Conflict; 4) Neo-liberal Articulations of Imperialism; 5) The Globalization of Service Work: Comparative Perspectives; 6) Neoliberalism, Global Inequality, and Resistance; 7) Globalization and Environmental Justice; 8) Alternative Globalizations; 9) Politics of Inclusion/Exclusion in the Neo-liberal Agenda, Indigenous Communities, and Participatory Development; and 10) Global Intersections of Gender, Race and Class. Jointly-authored papers are accepted but all contributing authors must be current undergraduate students or have graduated not prior to January 1, 2009. The award recipient(s) will receive a \$100 prize, student membership in the SSSP, conference registration at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. Award recipient(s) are expected to present their paper at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting. Papers must be submitted electronically in a format compatible with MS WORD and author(s) should ensure that they receive a confirmation of receipt for their submission. Undergraduates may receive the award for this competition only once. Papers of up to a maximum length of 30 double-spaced pages may be sent beginning on January 31, 2009 but no later than May 5, 2009 to both Co-Chairs of the 2009 Global Division Undergraduate Student Award Committee: Dr. Tony Samara, tsamara@gmu.edu, and Dr. David F. Steele, steeled@apsu.edu.

GLOBAL DIVISION OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

Deadline: 4/5/09

The Global Division announces its 2009 Outstanding Book Award. The goal of this award is to encourage critical scholarship in the areas of global studies and social problems. Books on a variety of topics and themes will be reviewed, including but not limited to the following global themes: Neo-liberalism and Global Conflict; Globalization and Transitional Politics; Alternative Forms/Models of Globalization; the Post-Washington Consensus Era in Latin America, Asia, Africa, or the Middle East; Global Cities; Transnational Communities;

Transnational Social Movements; Gender, Globalization, Migration and Human Rights; Globalization and Indigenous Communities; Global Dynamics in the Pacific Rim. Eligible books must have been published within 3 years of the meeting (2006-2009 for this year's award). Single or multiple-authored books will be accepted; however, at least one of the authors must be a member of the SSSP. The award recipient(s) will receive one or two tickets to the SSSP awards banquet. Award recipients are not required to present a paper at the 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA in order to qualify for this award. Authors are encouraged to nominate their own work. Nominations may also be made by other members of the Global Division, as well as from publishers. Nominees should send full publication information and a paragraph explaining why this book is recommended. Contact information for the author should be included if available. Authors will be requested to facilitate with their publishers that copies of the nominated book be sent to each of the Award Committee co-chairs. Nominations are now being accepted but must be received no later than April 5, 2009. To nominate a book for this award, please copy your message to both Co-Chairs of the 2009 Global Division Outstanding Book Award Committee: Dr. Howard Lune, luneh@wpunj.edu and Dr. John Dale, jdale@gmu.edu.

HEALTH, HEALTH POLICY, AND HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION

Deadline: 5/1/09

All graduate students are encouraged to apply for this annual paper award competition. The paper should be related to the broad Division interest, including health and illness, health policy, and health services. The paper submission should not exceed 30 double-spaced pages and should be prepared for anonymous review (with the author specified on a title page but not referred to in other parts of the text). Current graduate students and recent graduates (who received their degrees after January 2008) may submit a paper if it was written while still a student. Papers based on theses or dissertations are acceptable. (Please do not submit the thesis or dissertation itself.) Co-authored papers are acceptable as long as all the listed authors are current graduate students. Double submission to other SSSP award competitions will be disqualified. The award recipient will be required to present the winning paper at the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Thus it is strongly recommended that an abstract of the paper be submitted to any Health Division session organizer or the roundtable organizer by the January 31st deadline. The recipient will receive a monetary prize of \$100, student membership to SSSP, SSSP conference registration, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. Send an electronic copy of the paper (in Word format) and a cover letter identifying your graduate program to: Professor Elizabeth Ettorre, e.ettorre@liverpool.ac.uk.

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY DIVISION GRADUATE STUDENT COMPETITION

Deadline: 5/1/09

The Institutional Ethnography Division solicits papers for its 2009 George W. Smith Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers should advance institutional ethnography scholarship either methodologically or through a substantive contribution. Authors must be currently enrolled graduate students or have completed their degree since September 2008. Prizes include a \$100 cash award, registration fees and an opportunity to present the paper at the 2009 SSSP meetings, and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet. Students who submit papers should be prepared to attend the conference. Send one copy each to:

Paul Luken (pluken@bellsouth.net) and Naomi Nichols (Naomi_Nichols@edu.yorku.ca). (For an overview of institutional ethnography and the purposes of the IE Division, see <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/1236>.)

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY DIVISION DOROTHY E. SMITH AWARD FOR SCHOLAR-ACTIVISM

Deadline: 5/1/09

The Institutional Ethnography Division is pleased to solicit nominations for the 2009 Dorothy E. Smith Award for Scholar-Activism. This award recognizes the activities of an individual or group who has made substantial contributions to institutional ethnographic scholar-activism in either a single project or some longer trajectory of work. The contributions may involve IE research conducted and used for activist ends, or it may involve activist efforts which have drawn upon or contributed to IE scholarship. The award committee invites members of the division to send one-page statements describing the contributions of nominees to Liza McCoy (mccoy@ucalgary.ca). The honoree will be recognized with a certificate at the Institutional Ethnography business meeting during the Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

LABOR STUDIES DIVISION

Deadline: 5/1/09

One of the most important activities of the Labor Studies Division is to recognize the work of graduate students. As in the past, the division is soliciting graduate student papers that build on the legacy of the late Harry Braverman. The Award consists of a \$200 cash prize and a ticket to the annual SSSP awards banquet. The Braverman tradition includes work in a variety of areas, including (but not limited to): labor process studies, critical organization studies, research on the intersections of gender, race, and class at work, technical and organizational change and its impact on work culture, labor movements and resistance in the workplace, critical perspectives on labor markets and occupational transformation. Papers co-authored with faculty members will not be accepted. Single authored papers by graduate students and papers co-authored by graduate students are welcome. All papers will be evaluated by a committee composed of at least three Labor Studies Division faculty scholars. E-mail your paper and a short letter of submission identifying your graduate program to: Dr. Chris Baker, chris.baker@ws.edu or 'snail-mail' to Dr. Chris Baker, Professor of Sociology, Walters State Community College, 500 Davy Crockett Parkway, Morristown, TN 37813.

LAW AND SOCIETY DIVISION

Deadline: 4/1/09

The Alfred R. Lindesmith Award is annually given to the best paper that is law-related and written by one or more untenured faculty and/or graduate students(s) and has not been accepted for publication prior to the April 1 deadline. We welcome nominations, including self-nominations for papers that meet these criteria. Please email papers to: Dr. Suzanne Lea, Department of Criminal Justice, Trinity University (Washington, DC), e-mail address: goodneyleas@trinitydc.edu. The winner will receive a plaque and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet.

MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Deadline: 5/15/09

The Mental Health Division announces the 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers should involve an

empirical analysis, either qualitative or quantitative, dealing with any aspect of the sociology of mental health. To be eligible, a paper must have been written during 2008 or 2009, and it may not be published or accepted for publication. Papers that have been presented at a professional meeting, submitted for presentation at a professional conference, or are under review for publication are eligible. Papers must be student-authored. They may be single-authored by the student or co-authored by more than one student, but may not be co-authored by a faculty member or other non-student. Paper must not exceed 28 pages including all notes, references, and tables. To submit your paper for consideration, send two paper copies OR an electronic copy to: Dr. Richard Carpiano, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, 6303 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z1, carpiano@interchange.ubc.ca. Please include: 1) a cover letter indicating that you are submitting your paper for the competition; and 2) a letter from your advisor that certifies your graduate-student status and offers some brief comments about your work. The winner will be announced at the 2009 Annual Meeting and will receive a \$150 cash award, plus a ticket to the SSSP banquet where the award will be presented, conference registration and student membership.

POVERTY, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY DIVISION

Deadline: 2/1/09

The Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division (PCI) Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) announces its 2009 Student Paper Competition. This year, the PCI division would like to reward student work that holds the potential for addressing alternative economies. Papers should be original empirical works of professional quality that have been completed during their studies as either a graduate or an undergraduate student. Papers must be student authored; they can be authored by one or more student, but may not be co-authored with a faculty member or non-student. **There will be a small cash award for the winner of the contest.** Papers should be no more than 30 pages in length, including notes, references, and tables. Send papers and a cover letter specifying that the paper is to be considered for the Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division Student Paper Competition to: Shawn A. Cassiman, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, Joseph's Hall, Rm. 403, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-1442, 937-229-4243, cassimsa@notes.udayton.edu.

POVERTY, CLASS, AND INEQUALITY DIVISION COMMUNITY ACTION AWARD

Deadline: 2/1/09

The Poverty, Class, and Inequality Division invites nominations for the 2009 Michael Harrington Award for Community Action. This award can be granted to an individual or an organization. Work that is done in the spirit of Harrington's commitment to social change is particularly appropriate. The 2009 Community Action award recognizes the contribution that progressive organizations and/or individuals make in challenging the structures that foster class polarization and poverty. Attention will also be paid to efforts to alter institutional practices and/or provide social services that empower disenfranchised populations. Self-nomination is acceptable. The awards will be presented at the 2009 SSSP meetings in San Francisco. The winner will receive a plaque at a special session honoring the work of Michael Harrington. One-page nomination letters should be sent to John C. Alessio, Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Minnesota

State University, Mankato, MN 56001, john.alessio@mnsu.edu. Supplemental materials may be requested.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES DIVISION

Deadline: 3/13/09

The Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division invites graduate student papers that cover any aspect within the field of race and ethnic relations. Papers may be empirical or theoretical. To be eligible, a paper must have been written in 2008, may not have been accepted for publication, or currently under review. Papers which have been presented at previous meetings or conferences are eligible. Papers must be single authored by the student and must not exceed 25 pages, including notes, tables, and references. Papers should be sent electronically with a cover letter specifying their submission as consideration for the graduate student paper competition to: Erica Chito Childs, Hunter College/CUNY at echitoch@hunter.cuny.edu. The winner will be announced in the Spring 2009 and will receive a \$100 stipend and a ticket to the SSSP awards banquet.

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, POLITICS, AND COMMUNITIES DIVISION

Deadline: 5/1/09

The Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division announces the 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of sexuality, including sexual behavior, sexual identity, sexual politics, sex law, political activism, or sexual communities. The winner will receive a stipend of \$100, payment of the winner's SSSP registration fee for the 2009 SSSP meeting (to help the winner attend the meeting), and a ticket to the awards banquet. The winner will be expected to present their winning paper at one of the SBPC sessions being held as part of the 2009 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria: 1) The paper must have been written between January 2008 and March 2009; 2) The paper may not have been submitted or accepted for publication (papers that have been presented at a professional meeting or that have been submitted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible); 3) The paper must be authored by one or more students, and not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student; 4) The paper must not exceed 35 pages including notes, references, and tables; 5) The paper must be typed using 12 point font in either Times New Roman or Courier; and 6) The paper must be accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's college or university nominating the paper for the SBPC Division Student Paper Competition. Students should send five copies of their paper, with no identifying information on any part of the paper; and a letter of nomination from a faculty member to: Dr. David Foster Steele, steeled@apsu.edu, Austin Peay State University, Department of Sociology, Clement 151 (P.O. Box 4566), Clarksville, TN 37044, (931) 221-7519.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS THEORY DIVISION

Deadline: 4/15/09

The Social Problems Theory Division invites papers for its annual Student Paper Award Competition. To be eligible, papers must be authored or co-authored by students, have relevance to social problems theory, and cannot have been accepted for publication. Papers co-authored with faculty are not eligible. Self-nominations are welcome. Please limit manuscripts to 8,000 words (not including references). Subject to budgetary approval, we anticipate that the winner will

receive a cash prize, membership dues, meeting registration fees, and a banquet ticket for the 2009 annual meeting. The winner will also be invited to present her or his paper at the 2009 SSSP meetings. Please send submissions as email attachments to the Student Paper Competition Committee Chair, Mark Cohan (Seattle University) mcohan@seattleu.edu. The other committee members are Tim Berard (Justice Studies, Kent State University) and Amir Marvasti (Penn State Altoona).

SOCIAL PROBLEMS THEORY DIVISION OUTSTANDING ARTICLE AWARD

Deadline: 2/15/09

The Social Problems Theory Division announces its inaugural Outstanding Article Award. The goal of this award is to encourage and recognize scholarship in the area of social problems theory. Eligible articles must have been published within three years of the meeting (2006-2009 for this year's award). Single or multiple-authored articles will be accepted. Authors are encouraged to nominate their own work. Nominees must be members of SSSP. Electronic submissions are preferred if possible. Please send full publication information along with a copy of the article to the Chair of the Outstanding Article Award Committee, Joel Best (University of Delaware) joelbest@udel.edu, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, University of Delaware, 322 Smith Hall, Newark, DE 19716. Other committee members include Wayne Brekhus (University of Missouri) and Kendal Broad (University of Florida).

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WELFARE DIVISION

Deadline: 4/1/09

The Sociology and Social Welfare Division announces its 2009 Student Paper Competition. The goal is to encourage scholastic endeavors that enhance our understanding of issues related to sociology and social welfare. Relevant papers might focus on social activism, social justice, empowerment, policy or any welfare-related issues. Qualitative and quantitative empirical analyses and theoretical papers are welcome. To be eligible for submission, papers must be: 1) written between January 2008 and April 2009 and not published or submitted for scholarly review; 2) authored by one or more students and not co-authored by faculty or a colleague who is not a student; 3) 25 pages or fewer, including references and tables; 4) accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's university nominating the paper for the competition. To be considered for the award, the author must make a commitment to present the paper at a SSWD session during the 2009 SSSP meeting. Send two copies of the paper along with the letter of support to either Richard K. Caputo, Wurzweller School of Social Work, Yeshiva University, Wilf Campus, 2495 Amsterdam Ave., Belfer Hall, Rm 907, New York, NY 10033, caputo@yu.edu; or Sondra Fogel, School of Social Work, University of South Florida, 4202 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33620, sfogel@cas.usf.edu. The SSWD competition winner receives a cash prize of \$150 plus 2009 SSSP conference registration and a banquet ticket.

SPORT SOCIOLOGY DIVISION

Deadline: 4/1/09

The Sport Sociology Division announces the 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be empirical and/or theoretical, and they may be on any aspect of sports. The winner will receive a stipend of \$100, payment of the winner's SSSP registration fee for the 2009 SSSP meeting (to help the

winner attend the meeting), and a ticket to the awards banquet. The winner will be expected to present their winning paper at one of the Sport Sociology sessions being held as part of the 2009 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria: 1) The paper must have been written between January 2008 and March 2009; 2) The paper may not have been submitted or accepted for publication (papers that have been presented at a professional meeting or that have been submitted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible); 3) The paper must be authored by one or more students, and not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student; 4) The paper must not exceed 30 pages including notes, references, and tables; 5) The paper must be typed using 12 point font in either Times New Roman or Courier; and 6) The paper must be accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's college or university nominating the paper for the Sport Sociology Student Paper Competition. Students should send five copies of their paper, with no identifying information on any part of the paper; and a letter of nomination from a faculty member to: Dr. Kathleen Asbury, 8217 Rowland Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19136, asburykathy@comcast.net, 267-901-7855 and 215-687-0143.

TEACHING SOCIAL PROBLEMS DIVISION

Deadline: 3/15/09

The Teaching Social Problems Division announces its 2009 Graduate Student Paper Competition. Papers may be on any aspect of teaching about social problems. Topics for papers can include "best practices" in the classroom, service-learning courses, using technology, using media, assessment of learning, and other areas. The winner will receive a stipend of \$100 plus a ticket to the 2009 SSSP awards banquet. The winner will be offered an opportunity to present this paper at one of the Teaching Social Problems Division sessions being held as part of the 2009 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria: 1) The paper must have been written between January 2008 and March 2009; 2) The paper may not have been submitted or accepted for publication (papers that have been presented at a professional meeting or that have been submitted for presentation at a professional meeting are eligible); 3) The paper must be authored by one or more students, and not co-authored with a faculty member or colleague who is not a student; 4) The paper must be 25 pages or less, including notes, references, and tables; and, 5) The paper must be accompanied by a letter from a faculty member at the student's college/university nominating the paper for the Teaching Social Problems Division Student Paper Competition. Students should send three copies of their paper, accompanied by a letter of nomination from a faculty member to the Student Paper Competition Chair: Dr. Susan Warner, Cedarville University, Department of Social Work, Criminal Justice, and Sociology, 251 N. Main Street, Cedarville, OH, 45314, W: 937-766-7632, warners@cedarville.edu. The winner will be announced prior to the 2009 SSSP Annual Meeting.

YOUTH, AGING, AND THE LIFE COURSE DIVISION

Deadline: 5/1/09

All graduate students are encouraged to apply for the annual Youth, Aging, and the Life Course Division Graduate Student Paper Award Competition. Papers should be able to contribute broadly to the sociology of youth, the sociology of aging, or the sociology of the life course. One award will be made, and the winner will receive a monetary prize, student membership in SSSP for one year, 2009 conference registration, and a complimentary ticket to the 2009 SSSP awards banquet in San

Francisco, CA, where the award will be made. To be eligible, the paper must meet the following criteria: 1) the paper must have been completed between January 2008 and May 2009; 2) the paper must not have been accepted for publication (papers submitted for publication are eligible, as long as they are not already accepted; papers based on theses and dissertations are eligible as well); 3) all authors of the paper must be graduate students and the student who submits the paper must be first author; 4) the paper must be no longer than 30 double-spaced pages, including all notes, references, and tables; and 5) the author of the winning paper must be ready to present this paper at the 2008 SSSP meetings in San Francisco, CA in August 2009. To be considered for this award, graduate students should submit their papers electronically to the Chair of the Division. Email two copies of the paper (i.e., one blind copy and one copy that includes a title page with all contact information), along with a brief letter of submission confirming your graduate student status, to Heather Dillaway, Division Chair, dillaway@wayne.edu.

YOUTH, AGING, AND THE LIFE COURSE DIVISION ACTIVISM AWARD

Deadline: 5/1/09

The Youth, Aging, and the Life Course Division is initiating an annual Activism Award. This annual award will be presented to an outstanding community activist, an outstanding community organization, or an outstanding scholar-activist whose work represents a clear commitment to social justice and positive social change around issues of youth, aging, or the life course broadly defined. If you know of a community activist, activist organization, or activist-scholar whom you feel should be considered for this award, please mail or e-mail the nomination to: Hava Gordon, Department of Sociology and Criminology, University of Denver, Denver, CO 80208, or hava.gordon@du.edu. Please be sure to include the name of the community activist, organization, or scholar-activist, as well as a brief statement describing the activist and/or advocacy work of this person or organization and an explanation of why you feel this person or organization should receive the Youth, Aging, and Life Course Division's Activism Award. We are purposely leaving this call for nominations open to nominations from both scholarly communities and activist communities and expect that the recipient of this award will rotate between these two groups over time. The winner of the 2009 Activism Award will receive recognition at the Awards Banquet of the Society for the Study of Social Problems in August 2009 in San Francisco, CA. Any questions about the nominations process or the award itself should be directed to Hava Gordon.

For additional information, contact:

Michele Smith Koontz
Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager
901 McClung Tower, University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
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Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter Reader Survey
Preferences for Items to Remain in the Print Edition of *SPF*
 (available online at <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/1279>)

1. If *SPF* could keep only one of the following items in its print edition, which feature would you want it to be? (Please check appropriate box)

- ☐ Annual Budget
- ☐ Detailed version of the Division-sponsored Paper Competition and Outstanding Scholarship Awards Announcement
- ☐ Extended version of the News of Note feature (with reference to outside conferences, fellowship and institute opportunities, paper calls, etc.)
- ☐ Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings and Annual Business Meeting

2. If *SPF* were to remove only one of the following features from its print edition, which feature would you prefer it to be? (Please check appropriate box)

- ☐ Annual Budget
- ☐ Detailed version of the Division-sponsored Paper Competition and Outstanding Scholarship Awards Announcement
- ☐ Extended version of the News of Note feature (with reference to outside conferences, fellowship and institute opportunities, paper calls, etc.)
- ☐ Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings and Annual Business Meeting

3. Please rank order the following items in terms of your desire to see them kept in the print edition of *SPF* (1 is most desired, 4 is least desired)

- _____ Annual Budget
- _____ Detailed version of the Division-sponsored Paper Competition and Outstanding Scholarship Awards Announcement
- _____ Extended version of the News of Note feature (with reference to outside conferences, fellowship and institute opportunities, paper calls, etc.)
- _____ Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings and Annual Business Meeting

Please offer any comments or suggestions you have below, and mail to the *SPF* editor (see page 2 for mailing address), or visit <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/1279> to complete an online survey. Thank you for sharing your preferences.

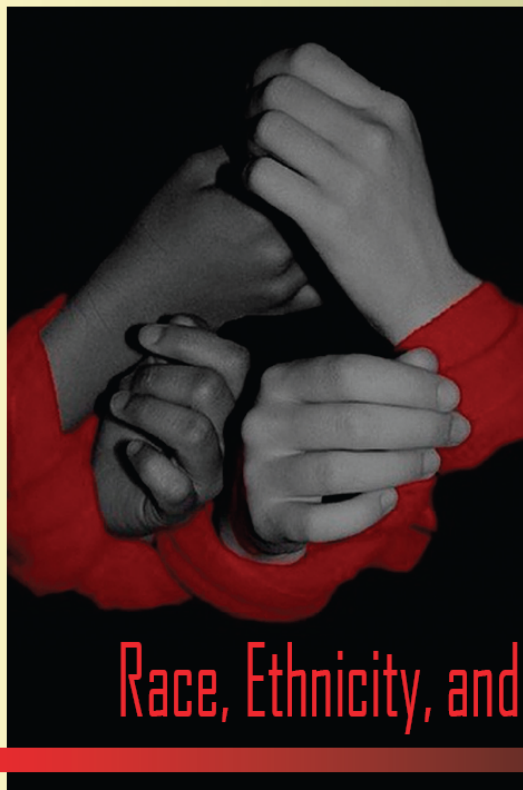
The Society for the Study of Social Problems

59th Annual Meeting

August 7-9, 2009
The Stanford Court Hotel
905 California Street
San Francisco, CA



Call for Papers



In 1903 W. E. B. DuBois famously wrote, "The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line." More than one hundred years have passed since his prophetic statement, yet the color line remains a major problem of the twenty-first century.

The theme of the 2009 Annual Meeting of the SSSP will afford participants the opportunity to discuss the place of race and ethnicity in the United States and to rededicate ourselves to addressing racial and ethnic issues in our professional work, political and social activism, and daily lives.

Papers are invited that address many topics of interest to the Divisions of the SSSP. In addition, papers are invited that address the following questions: (1) What are the sources of racial and ethnic inequality in contemporary society? (2) How, why, and with what consequences do racial and ethnic prejudice and discrimination manifest themselves in social institutions and in everyday life? (3) What are the racial and ethnic dimensions and impact of the social problems studied by SSSP members? (4) Perhaps most important, what social programs and policies and political strategies, ranging from conventional political activity to protest tactics, offer the most hope for reducing racial and ethnic inequality?

Steven E. Barkan, SSSP President, University of Maine

Race, Ethnicity, and the Continuing Problem of the Color Line

Call for Student Paper Competitions and Outstanding Scholarship Awards

Awards will be given to outstanding student papers by each of the SSSP Special Problems Divisions, which are: Community Research and Development; Conflict, Social Action, and Change; Crime and Juvenile Delinquency; Disabilities; Drinking and Drugs; Educational Problems; Environment and Technology; Family; Global; Health, Health Policy, and Health Services; Institutional Ethnography; Labor Studies; Law and Society; Mental Health; Poverty, Class, and Inequality; Racial and Ethnic Minorities; Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities; Social Problems Theory; Sociology and Social Welfare; Sport Sociology; Teaching Social Problems; and Youth, Aging, and the Life Course.

For information on how to submit a research
or student paper, visit <http://www.ssspl.org>

BOOK REVIEW ESSAY:

Best, Joel. *Social Problems*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2008, Pp. 320. \$37.50 (paperback)

Reviewed by Michael C. Adorjan, McMaster University*

When Spector and Kitsuse published *Constructing Social Problems*, they argued that there had yet to be formulated a “sociology of social problems” (Spector and Kitsuse 1977, p. 1, my emphasis). Joel Best’s *Social Problems* (2008), which he dubs “not your parents’ social problems textbook” (2008, p. xiii), elaborates this analysis, examining the sociological processes involved in constructing social problems, whereby claims makers, policy-makers and social problems workers dynamically, and often unpredictably, interact to shape the social problems landscape. This book is geared at undergraduate students being introduced to a social constructionist approach to the study of social problems, though it is easily recommendable to both graduate students and other researchers. Unlike other contemporary textbooks on social problems, Best’s focus is not on any particular substantive area; rather he explores how empirical content can be linked to a comprehensive form and process which social problems formulations take.

His analysis ranges from initial grassroots formulations from both ‘outsider’ and ‘insider’ claimsmakers (2008, pp. 64, 65); to the front-line experiences of social problems workers, who have to interact with people on the job; to policy outcomes, argued to be “products of compromise, as policymakers try to placate both claimsmakers who are calling for action and opponents who want to do nothing, or as little as possible, or perhaps something very different” (2008, p. 273). Best’s analysis leaves open analyst’s own interpretations of social problems processes; a ‘strict’ constructionist or a critical theorist may find equal solace given Best’s attention to both the whats and hows of process but also implications for systems of power vis-à-vis policy making and active resistance.

Best takes up and reconfigures the application of natural history to the study of social problems. ‘Natural histories’ are sometimes generally adopted in sociological studies in order to track the (usually chronological) progression of a ‘career’ or series of events and/or circumstances. Spector and Kitsuse suggested that “history is the portrait of the individual example; natural history is the collective portrait of the type” (1977, p. 135). Earlier formulations included Herbert Blumer’s five-stage model natural history, which focused on emergence, legitimation, mobilization, plan formation, and plan implementation (1977:139 [1971]). Blumer’s model emphasized the unpredictable aspects of *contingency* (Spector & Kitsuse 1977:139); that successful movements from one ‘stage’ to another should not be assumed – advocacy fails, campaigns falter, policies are cast as ineffective and replaced.

Honing this focus, Spector and Kitsuse suggested tracking four phases:

1 – group(s) attempting to assert the existence of some

condition; 2 – recognition of the legitimacy of these group(s) by some official organization, agency or institution; 3 – reemergence of claims and demands by the original group(s) ...expressing dissatisfaction with the established procedures for dealing with the imputed conditions; 4 – rejection by complainant group(s) of the agency’s or institution’s response (1977:142).

They go on to argue that multiple cases are needed to reveal the fabric upon which individual cases are built. Natural histories are based on “sequences of events common to the histories of particular cases whether they are persons or institutions” (1977, p. 137), and are always hypothetical in nature (1977:141) – to be *empirically examined* and explored. Spector and Kitsuse also refute earlier models that assume that after an official or institutional response (such as policy formulation) the natural history has concluded. They ask, rhetorically, “when does the social problem cease to exist” (1977:142)?

Best’s contemporary coat of natural history paint involves: 1 – claimsmaking; 2 – media coverage; 3 – public reaction; 4 – policymaking; 5 – social problems work; 6 – policy outcomes (2008:17). Each stage is given a detailed treatment in a separate chapter. This model allows analysts to track grassroots claimsmaking on up through the echelons of power and social forces. My own dissertation (in progress), examining youth crime/justice debates in Canada, greatly enjoyed being introduced to Best’s formulation. My analysis addresses every phase of Best’s natural history, paying particular attention to media coverage, public reaction, and policy formulation. However, picking up where Spector and Kitsuse left off, what Best emphasizes throughout his book is the *non-linearity* of this process. At *each* stage, with a nod also towards Blumerian contingency, is the potential for “feedback” (2008, p. 26) and agency. Best suggests that “actors at the various stages ... don’t just act, but also pay attention to how others react to what they have done, and then respond to those reactions by adjusting what they’re doing” (2008, p. 27 – a useful illustration of feedback is provided on page 24).

Best begins by outlining the ‘social problems process’ and introducing his contemporary version of a natural history geared towards the analysis of social problems. Each chapter underscores the importance of rhetoric as well as power and social forces. In his chapter on ‘claims’ Best introduces some basic components of claims, such as grounds, warrants and conclusions (p. 31). This introduction springboards the discussion into a number of areas Best is recognized for: statistics as rhetoric (p. 33), domain expansion (p. 47) and ‘piggy-backing’ (p. 48).

His chapter on ‘activists as claimsmakers’ delineates between ‘insider’ and ‘outsider’ claimsmakers, with insider

claimsmakers getting more detailed treatment later on within chapters examining policymaking. Best suggests that outsider claimsmakers, while often catalysts for grass-roots social movements, ultimately do not have the same ability to mobilize resources as insider claimsmakers do (p. 64). He argues that insider claimsmakers have more power and thus access to a “more direct route to successful claimsmaking” (p. 65). Best details the strategies of framing, fund-raising, and garnering media attention that outsider claimsmakers tend to employ. Best does not imply that outsider claimsmakers are *always* perpetually frustrated and peripheral to the social problems process, but he does suggest that the success of individual members is contingent upon the right “cultural and political opportunities” (p. 83) developing before any progress is made. Evidence of this formulation’s usefulness can be found in my own work. I explicitly drew on this chapter in my research, interviewing youth justices and lawyers who were ‘insider’ claimsmakers but simultaneously activists who wanted to reform youth justice policy.

In the following chapter Best introduces how ‘experts’ are consulted by the public, media and policy makers alike, exploring the issue of authoritative knowledge, including how social scientists themselves are experts (p. 115) frequently consulted to comment and provide solutions to social problems. Again, this corresponds with my own experience in the field. The opinions of experts feature prominently in my examination of youth crime and justice debates in the Canadian media. Not only are police and statisticians often consulted, but criminologists and sociologists who make claims themselves; e.g., either that youth crime is a moral panic blown out of proportion compared to reality, or that youth crime rates are rising out of control based on statistically demonstrable evidence.

Best’s introduction to ‘the media and claims’ surveys some traditional territory: media bias (p. 129), media work as an ‘arena’ (p. 131), typification and crime waves (pp. 134, 135), and media decontextualization and individualization of social problems (p. 151). However he does not dilute his analysis of media, problematizing the processes through which media operates and manifests ideological practices. We need to heed how those who work within media experience their lived realities; those who are subject to deadlines and constraints, including limits on space/time and pressures to entertain (p. 130). The *unintended consequences* are ideological, and Best problematizes where some may impute intentionality. Best goes on to “caution against exaggerating the media’s influence” (p. 132); “they do not have a completely free hand” (p. 148), he argues.

The following chapter, ‘public reaction’, is well placed between Best’s preceding discussion of media and subsequent treatment of ‘policymaking’. The chapter focuses on public opinion polls and focus groups as primary methods of assessing public attitudes towards social problems. The two chapters that follow, ‘policymaking’ and ‘social problems work’, nicely highlight aspects of the social problems landscape from macro and meso down to front-line micro levels of analysis. Best reminds us that lobbying efforts derived from public reactions

Best provides . . . a toolkit of sensitizing concepts intended to facilitate movement away from case studies and towards a more integrated social problems theory. Students and analysts are encouraged to focus on the stage of Best’s natural history that most directly pertains to their subject matter, but at each turn Best underscores the importance of seeing all of it in its proper context. His goal . . . is not to tell the reader what to think but how to think about the social problems process . . .

to social problems do not necessarily have an impact on policy; and that policymakers’ reactions are never certain (p. 208). The symbolic and rhetorical aspects of policymaking, always with an eye to public reaction, are highlighted. Best argues that “policies enacted with an eye toward symbolic politics are often vulnerable to critiques that are themselves grounding in symbolic arguments” (p. 220). Although Best suggests, and I agree, that “policymakers often follow poll results” (p. 170), I found that in Canadian youth justice policy debates, some politicians were more guarded regarding whether or not to follow polls and react to public

pressure to change youth crime legislation. Other conservative and reformist politicians felt that they were simply representing their constituency when they lobbied for changes to ‘get tough’ on youth crime. These various responses are anticipated by Best, who continually reminds the reader of the dynamic nature of social problems claims-making.

Best’s analysis of the implementation of policy is examined in the following chapter, ‘social problems work’. He explicitly sets apart this chapter from the previous ones, which all had a more macro-sociological perspective. The examination of those who carry out, on a day-to-day basis, social policies reveals several telling insights. Best suggests that “social problems workers find themselves squeezed between great expectations and mundane reality” (p. 228); acute expectations from immediate staff and supervisors, as well as policymakers and the public generally. Best does not neglect his emphasis on contingency here, underscoring the novelty and spontaneity of working on the front lines. He suggests that “the people whom social problems workers actually meet on the job present more variety, complexity, and ambiguity than most social problems constructions promise” (p. 235). The significance of individual agency, both for social problems workers and the people they are contracted to process, as well as the impact of the work on subjects’ identities (p. 242) is clearly in line with Gubrium and Holstein’s own emphasis on selfing processes and agentic resistance to going concerns (institutional practices) (2001). This chapter is particularly important in respect to my analysis of Canadian youth crime and justice debates. Youth social workers, as well as lawyers and judges who work within the youth justice system, must balance competing demands for

punishment as well as the desire for rehabilitation of deviant youth.

Novel and often unpredictable permutations of action are highlighted in the following chapter, 'policy outcomes'. Three general possibilities are highlighted – that the policy is insufficient, excessive, or erroneous (pp. 262-264). Funding issues are also frequent concerns. Best once again offers some great insights, arguing that "social policies are often products of compromise, as policymakers try to placate both claimsmakers who are calling for action and opponents who want to do nothing, or as little as possible, or perhaps something very different" (p. 273). Despite this being the 'final stage', Best leaves open the possibility that a new round of claimsmaking is possible (p. 286), setting alight any or all of the previous stages. For instance, consider my research on the Canadian Youth Criminal Justice Act. It places an emphasis on diversionary programming for youth, rehabilitation and 'proportionate' sentencing. Studies have shown that overall youth crimes rates have decreased and that the majority of youth caught up in the criminal justice system, who are accused of relatively minor offences, are diverted from formal sanctioning. Yet earlier in 2008 the federal Conservative government wanted to once again 'toughen up' the legislation, arguing that it wasn't doing its job. Policies may be in place, but debates around social problems such as youth crime tend to come in cycles.

The final two chapters, 'claims across space and time' and 'the uses of the constructionist stance' are not to be neglected; they act to stress how empirical examples of social problems can be explicated through social constructionism. Crime waves and concerns over youth gangs can be traced back to the 1920s, and many social problems are the products of cycles of concern (p. 307) – the new is old. Best's intention is to move beyond the limitations of case studies (p. 294) and underscores the importance of comparative analyses involving geography, time, similar conditions (p. 295), similar constructions, and other bases for comparison (p. 296). Best leaves the reader with no doubt that the old linear model of the social problems process is outdated. He places emphasis on the idea that social problems are not *conditions* but *concerns* (p. 326), and that the social problems process is *interactional* in nature (p. 327). On page 329 he presents a graphic with so many variegated arrows pointing at the various stages he presented in his natural history model, that the reader is forced to simply acknowledge that, as Michel Foucault observed, power/knowledge is everywhere and emanates from every direction, micro, meso, and macro. In the case of Canadian youth justice topographies, the landscape is both shaped by claimsmaking from below, and sedimented social forces from above. These are far from static; both dialectically shape ongoing debates regarding youth justice. Policies undergird the stages on which claims-makers perform; simultaneously claims-makers resist and retool the instruments that policy-makers utilize and employ.

Throughout *Social Problems* Best offers numerous side-bar case studies which clearly explicate the theoretical discussion. Examples include health care costs (p. 38), claims about gay marriage (p. 60), expert disputes over global warming (p. 109), joking about Hurricane Katrina (p. 185), professionals helping battered women (p. 233), and national differences in the diffusion of laws against female genital cutting (p. 303).

Empirical examples are never more than an arm's-length away. However Best's book is best employed in the classroom alongside its supplementary social problems reader *Social Problems Readings*, by Ira Silver (2008). In just under 400 pages Silver compiles a series of papers explicating the social constructionist approach to the study of social problems. Also recommended to accompany Best's book is *Teaching Social Problems from a Constructionist Perspective*, by Kathleen S. Lowney (2008).

That Best's *Social Problems* is not geared towards elaborating any specific substantive area of social problems, opting to focus instead on the sociological processes involved, yet having the goal of capturing the sociological imagination of undergraduate students presents it with a challenge that may become its greatest pedagogical weakness. Unless instructors are vigilant in their linkages of sections of Best's book with empirical materials in other textbooks and sources, students may quickly lose their focus. The case studies strewn throughout the book certainly go a long way to identify the sociological processes with specific case studies. However the book's theoretical focus may be lost on students unless carefully tempered by empirical elaborations offered in other textbooks. The Society for the Study of Social Problems has five textbooks listed in its SSSP Presidential Series that are also ideal to *complement* Best's book. Each is specifically focused on one substantive social problems area such as law and society, social problems across the life course (Lopata and Levy 2003), health and health care (Conrad and Leiter 2003) drugs and alcohol (Orcutt and Rudy 2003), and violence against women (Renzetti and Bergen 2004).

Another potential weakness is the title itself, which seems too generic given a publishing environment suffused with titles including the words 'social problems'. The book clearly wants to be 'not your parent's social problems text', but this is not alluded to by the title. The book could also benefit from links to websites and online resources, as well as visual imagery (there are no photos/illustrations save for the graphics summarizing the natural history and claims-making models). Today's students are cued to multimedia, and while providing stimulating material, *Social Problems* ends up relying on accompanying textbooks to provide this imagery.

The sheer breadth of the book creates the potential vulnerability of stretching too far an analysis that, for every chapter, could easily produce a full text in and of itself. Best, however, acknowledges this at the beginning, and a critique of whether the book tries to do too much must be gauged against the goals Best set out for himself. The chapters are, indeed, brief. The reader may be left with wanting more detail on a particular area. However the goal of the book is a general orientation for students new to the examination of the social problems process, and also for advanced students and analysts who may benefit from a book that draws connections between areas formerly thought disparate.

Overall, Best's approach is unique and important. *Social Problems* heeds the call of Durel (1982) who argued social problems texts require greater theoretical integration (at least constructionist theory integration here). Implied by his idea of 'feedback' in the social problems process is spontaneity and unpredictability at the micro level, and unintended

consequences at the meso to macro levels. Best provides not a roadmap but a toolkit of sensitizing concepts intended to facilitate movement away from case studies and towards a more integrated social problems theory. Students and analysts are encouraged to focus on the stage of Best's natural history that most directly pertains to their subject matter, but at each turn Best underscores the importance of seeing all of it in its proper context. His goal, stated at the end of the book, is not to tell the reader *what* to think but *how* to think about the social problems *process* (p. 336). His goal is a success: a book that offers a concise and truly sociological take on the social construction of social problems.

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2008 SSSP Conference Minutes Boston, MA, USA

Minutes of the SSSP Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, July 30, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Naples. Those present introduced themselves: Nancy Naples, President; Steve Barkan, President Elect; Cary Yang Costello, Vice President; Cheryl Boudreaux, Vice President Elect; Keith Kilty, Past Vice President; David Rudy, Treasurer; JoAnn Miller, Secretary; Gray Cavender, Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee Chair; Wendy Simonds and Hector Delgado, Program Committee Co Chairs, Luis Fernandez, Tracy Dietz, Alison Griffith, Michelle Janning, and Carolyn Perrucci, Board Members; Antwan Jones, Student Representative to the Board; Nancy Mezey, Chair of Chairs; Amy Wharton, Outgoing Editor of *Social Problems*; Ted Chiricos, Incoming Editor of *Social Problems*; Ken Kyle, Editor of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*; Tom Hood, Executive Officer; Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager; Rebecca Simon and Rebekah Darksmith, University of California Press.

The agenda was adopted.

Tom Hood announced the results of the election and the bylaws results.

The minutes from last year were amended to reflect the \$500 payment to Michele Koontz, and not SSSP, for organization of the ICASH meeting.

JoAnn Miller was appointed to serve on the Nominations Committee.

The Program Committee reported that the number of sessions was the largest in SSSP meeting history. They made three recommendations pertaining to program registration fee exemptions, the connection of a database to the electronic submission process; and limiting sessions to no more than four papers with a discussant and no more than five papers without a discussant.

Michele Koontz reported on Local Arrangements. A site visit took place, Jan 17 – 19. "Welcome to Boston" statements were prepared by Will Holton and Tim Stablein. Cambridge Cares About AIDS will be the recipient of the AIDS Fundraiser.

Michele Koontz presented the Meeting Manager's report. A total of 731 preregistered for this year's meeting. Accessibility services were requested and found to be adequate, but not outstanding. A total of \$550 in advertising in the Final Program was sold. All audio-visual requests were met. The Scholar's Choice once again organized and managed the book exhibit. To reduce catering costs, Nancy Naples combined her presidential party with the past presidents' reception. The Lee Student Support Fund Committee coordinated the Meeting Mentoring Program and 44 attendees requested a mentor. Michele Koontz thanked Nancy Naples, the Program Committee Co-Chairs, Local Arrangements, and others for their assistance in preparing an excellent meeting. One continuing issue is the demand for LCD projectors in meeting rooms.

MOTION: ALL MEETING ROOMS, NOT SPACES FOR POSTER SESSIONS OR ROUNDTABLES, WILL HAVE

LCD PROJECTORS AND OVERHEAD PROJECTORS.
SECONDED. PASSED.

Rebekah Darksmith and Rebecca Simon reported a slight decrease in paper subscriptions to *Social Problems* that is offset by an increase in electronic subscriptions. University of California Press is focused on consortia sales and international sales. Upon consultation with Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee, Rebecca Simon suggested a 9 percent increase in subscription price for nonmember 2010 subscriptions.

David Rudy presented the Treasurer's report. The financial condition of the Society continues to be good. Income and expenses were generally as expected. SSSP investments in socially responsible mutual funds earned more than \$32,000. Lattimore Black Morgan and Cain conducted the annual audit.

MOTION: TO ADOPT THE AUDITOR'S REPORT.
SECONDED. PASSED.

Gray Cavender presented the 2008 Amended Budget. He noted that online submission fees for *Social Problems* will generate more revenue than expected. Online proposed submission costs cost more than expected. These fees are necessary for the transition to Manuscript Central by the Editorial Office. Meeting pre registration generated less than expected. The Budget, Finance, and Audit committee recommends a higher increase (10 percent) in 2010 *Social Problems* subscription. The rate would be \$216.

MOTION: THE NONMEMBER SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR
THE 2010 VOLUME OF *SOCIAL PROBLEMS* WILL BE
INCREASED BY 10 PERCENT, TO \$216. SECONDED.
PASSED.

MOTION: THE ADVERTISING RATE WILL BE
INCREASED BY 10 PERCENT FOR A HALF-PAGE AD,
AND BY 7 PERCENT FOR A FULL-PAGE AD IN *SOCIAL
PROBLEMS*. SECONDED. PASSED.

Gray Cavender also noted that the Gittler fund will generate more than the annual award level. He suggested many options for how to handle the funds. David Rudy asked the Gittler Award Committee to recommend how to use the earnings.

MOTION: THE REVISED BUDGET SHOULD BE
ADOPTED. PASSED.

Cary Yang Costello agreed to design a mail-out poster that will promote both the Call for Papers and the Student Paper Competitions and Outstanding Scholarship Awards for next year's meeting. This will save SSSP the cost of mailing 2 large flyers. This poster will be followed by 2 separate emails (PDF files) sent electronically to all current members. One will detail the paper sessions and the other will detail the student awards.

Tom Hood read the Executive Officer's report. He announced staff changes and noted some of the challenges that SSSP will face in the future.

Amy Wharton gave the *Social Problems* editorial office report. She reported a very smooth transition to Florida State University. Her office operated within budget and saw a 12

percent increase in submissions this year. The acceptance rate is 8.8 percent and the production of all issues occurred with no problems.

Ken Kyle reported on *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*. He wants to work with students to get their rough drafts into publishable form.

Steve Barkan reported on the Ad Hoc Retreat Implementation Committee. He said that three themes emerged: membership, outreach, and administration. No actions were taken by the board. Nancy Mezey agreed to summarize a number of actions the board could take.

The 2007-2008 board was adjourned by Nancy Naples.

Minutes of the SSSP Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, July 31, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Naples.

Those present introduced themselves: Nancy Naples, President; Steve Barkan, President Elect; Cary Yang Costello, Vice President; Cheryl Boudreaux, Vice President Elect; David Rudy, Treasurer; JoAnn Miller, Secretary; Luis Fernandez, Tracy Dietz, Alison Griffith, Michelle Janning, and Carolyn Perrucci, Board Members; Antwan Jones, Student Representative to the Board; Nancy Mezey, Chair of Chairs; Amy Wharton, Outgoing Editor of *Social Problems*; Ken Kyle, Editor of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*; Liat Ben-Moshe, Chair, Accessibility Committee; Gabriel Aquino, Chair, Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee; Susan Carlson, Chair-Elect, Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee; Tom Hood, Executive Officer; Michele Koontz; Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager; Wendy Chapkis, Chair, Elections Committee; Kimberly Cook, Chair, Membership Committee.

The agenda was adopted.

Gabriel Aquino, Chair of the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee, presented two candidates for the Executive Officer position (to replace Tom Hood, when he retires). The Board discussed both candidates at length. One has far more experience with SSSP than the other, but his West Coast location may result in unanticipated expenses for SSSP. The other has very little experience with SSSP but his location would probably result in a small cost savings to SSSP during the transition.

The Board met with both candidates. Gabriel Aquino recommended that separate contracts should be pursued with the universities that host the Executive Officer and the Administrative Officer and the administrative staff. He also agreed with the Board as members discussed the need for more information and site visits at both candidates' universities. The Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee needs to be consulted. The Board concluded that it would be premature to make a decision or an offer at this point.

Committee Reports followed the Board's discussion about the Executive Officer.

The Accessibility Committee requests more travel funds for students with accessibility needs.

The C. Wright Mills award was made to Daniel Jaffee for his book *Brewing Justice: Fair Trade Coffee, Sustainability, and Survival* (University of California Press).

Wendy Chapkis presented the Elections Committee report. The electronic balloting went smoothly. More members (19.13 percent) voted electronically this year, compared to those casting paper ballots last year (13.16 percent).

The Erwin O. Smigel Award Committee distributed funds to Ms. Marlene Chait to enable attendance at the annual meeting.

The Lee Founders Award was made to David Snow.

The Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund Committee reviewed nine applications for this year's awards (with \$4,000 to allocate). Five awards were made and two deferred awards (persons who could not attend last year's meeting) were made.

The Lee Student Support Fund Committee reviewed 35 applications. Thirty-two received funds to travel to the Boston meetings. The requests for funds far exceeded the allocation.

MOTION: LEE STUDENT AWARDS SHOULD BE CAPPED AT \$500. SECONDED. PASSED.

MOTION: ONLY COMPLETE LEE STUDENT AWARD APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. SECONDED. PASSED.

The Membership Committee reported that the committee works more effectively without regional representatives. This would require a bylaws change. Thus the board recommended that the discussion continue with the incoming committee chair.

Gabriel Aquino (Chair) and Susan Carlson (incoming Chair) reported on the Permanent Organization and Strategic Planning Committee. The Executive Office site visit focused on six items of business: an evaluation of the executive and administrative office; a review of the Operations Manual; an assessment of the website and electronic balloting; the development of a paper ballot bylaws amendment; a discussion of the 2009 contract with the University of Tennessee; and recommendations for salaries for the Executive Officer, the Administrative Officer, the Meeting Manager, and the Graduate Research Associate. The Operations Manual must be revised to reflect the following items. The description of the administrative assistant and webmaster positions must be added; the administrative assistant's duties include annual meeting responsibilities to assist the meeting manager; the working relationship between the Administrative Officer and the administrative assistant should be specified; the language in Part IA. Executive Office, must reflect the new contract with the host institution.

The Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee, Social Action Award Committee, Joseph B. Gittler Award Committee, and Justice 21 Committee reports were not discussed.

Nancy Mezey discussed concerns of the Special Problems

Divisions. Not all division chairs attend meetings; questions were raised about winning papers and their availability on the SSSP webpage; resolutions must be introduced two weeks prior to the annual meeting; division budgets were not increased this year.

Nancy Naples adjourned the 2007-2008 Board.

Minutes of the SSSP Annual Business Meeting **Friday, August 1, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Naples. The agenda was adopted.

JoAnn Miller, Secretary, reported on the minutes from last year's meeting, as printed in *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*. One correction to the minutes was announced: ICASH paid \$500 to Michele Koontz to help organize their meetings. The payment was not made to SSSP.

JoAnn Miller summarized Board actions taken by the 2007-2008 Board on July 30 and July 31, 2008. The Board, at its July 30th meeting, decided to make LCD projectors available in all meeting rooms where paper sessions are held. SSSP will not purchase the projectors. The Meeting Manager will rent equipment in the host city. Non member subscription rates for *Social Problems* will increase by 10 percent for the 2010 volume. The Board took action to save money in preparing for the meetings. One poster with the program announcement and the student paper announcement will be mailed. Cary Yang Costello will design the poster. Email (PDF files) will be sent to all current members to provide details for the call for papers and the student paper awards.

At its July 31st meeting, the Board took action to prepare for Tom Hood's retirement as Executive Officer. It decided to engage in two separate negotiations: (1) With the University of Tennessee, it will negotiate to keep the Administrative Officer and Meeting Manager and staff at the University of Tennessee, and (2) It will negotiate with a College or University to hire a new Executive Officer. The Board met with two finalists for the Executive Officer position. It decided more information was needed from both candidates and from the Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee before making a selection.

Amy Wharton reported on the *Social Problems* editorial office activities. The acceptance rate is 8.8 percent. On June 1, the incoming editor, Ted Chiricos, met with Amy Wharton to plan the transition to Florida State University. Amy thanked her staff and SSSP for the strong support she received.

Ted Chiricos announced that *Social Problems* will use Manuscript Central for electronic submission and reviewer database management.

Tom Hood thanked the members of the Society for their support and their work. He will help negotiate the contracts for his successor and his or her University over the next few months and he will help negotiate the contract for the Administrative Office and the University of Tennessee.

Michele Koontz, Meeting Manager, thanked Nancy Naples and

her Program Committee for their work. The attendance for the 2008 meeting is 757. The AIDS Fundraiser raised \$2,019 for Cambridge Cares About AIDS. Michele introduced Sharon Shumaker, Administrative Assistant & Webmaster, and Sarah Hendricks, Graduate Research Associate. They will stay on with SSSP and provide more of their superb talent and work for the Society this coming year.

Tom Hood reported on the by laws changes. Now, all voting can be completed electronically.

Cary Yang Costello reported on the Resolutions Committee. Seven resolutions were presented to the membership and all were passed.

Resolution #1: Expression of Gratitude

Our sincere appreciation is expressed to all of the officers, committee chairs and members who have made this program possible and whose efforts maintain the vitality of the SSSP. First, we thank President Nancy A. Naples for her outstanding leadership in developing this 58th Annual Meeting and its Theme: Crossing Borders: Activist Scholarship, Globalization, and Social Justice. We also thank this years Program Committee: Co-Chairs: Héctor Delgado and Wendy Simonds and committee members Alison Griffith, Adia Harvey Wingfield, Charlotte Ryan and Clare Weber; Local Arrangements Committee Chair: Gordana Rabrenovic and committee members Sarah Bakanosky, Silvia Dominguez, Amy Finnegan, Will Holton, Cheryl G. Najarian, Lorna Rivera and Timothy Patrick Stablein. We thank the staff of The Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers for good accommodations and we particularly want to recognize the efforts made by Heather Kasday, Senior Convention Services Manager and John Riley, Account Director.

The Society wishes to express its gratitude to Past President Valerie Jenness for her years of leadership; Vice-President Carrie Yang Costello for managing the resolutions process; JoAnn L. Miller for her service as Secretary; and David Rudy for his service as Treasurer. The Society also thanks Steven E. Barkan, President-Elect; Cheryl Boudreaux, Vice-President Elect; Board of Directors John F. Galliher, Michelle Y. Janning, Carolyn C. Perrucci, Luis Fernandez, Alison Griffith; outgoing members Donald Cunnigen and Tracy L. Dietz; Naomi Nichols (outgoing) and Melanie Carlson, student representatives of the Board; Nancy Mezey, Chair of the Council of Special Problems Divisions; Amy S. Wharton, outgoing Editor of *Social Problems*; Ken Kyle, Editor of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*; Gray Cavender, outgoing Budget, Finance and Audit Committee Chair and committee members Frances G. Pestello, Anna Santiago and Susan M. Carlson; James A. Holstein, Editorial and Publications Committee Chair and committee members Peter J. Kivisto, A. Javier Treviño, Suzanne Vaughan, Lora Bex Lempert, Barbara Katz Rothman, Amy S. Wharton, Ken Kyle and Gray Cavender; the University of Tennessee and the Department of Sociology for hosting the SSSP Executive Office; the Office of the Vice Provost for Multicultural and International Affairs, College of Liberal Arts and

Sciences, Department of Sociology and the Women's Studies Program at the University of Connecticut for their generous financial contributions to the reception honoring our past presidents and the awards banquet; and the University of California Press for their financial contribution to the registration bags.

Finally, the Society wishes to thank Executive Officer Thomas C. Hood, Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager Michele Smith Koontz, Administrative Assistant & Webmaster Sharon Shumaker, and Graduate Research Associate Sarah Hendricks for continuing to make the organization run and do all that it does year in and year out.

Resolution #2: Gender-Neutral Restrooms

From: Family Division

WHEREAS many parents wish to bring children who do not share their gender with them to use the restroom, and can face resistance from other individuals using single-sex bathrooms; AND

WHEREAS elders and people with disabilities may rely on assistance from other-gender family members or other care providers in order to use the restroom, encountering resistance from others using single-sex bathrooms; AND

WHEREAS other individuals face objections and harassment when using single-sex restrooms, due to gender identity or expression, physical appearance, or medical condition; AND

WHEREAS difficulties in finding a safe restroom space limit the abilities of these families and individuals to use public spaces;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Society for the Study of Social Problems calls upon all federal, state, and local government agencies to require public buildings to provide a gender-neutral restroom option; AND

BE IT RESOLVED that the Society for the Study of Social Problems calls upon private commercial entities to provide a gender-neutral restroom option in spaces used by the public, including restaurants, malls, movie theaters, and private schools; AND

BE IT RESOLVED that the Society for the Study of Social Problems will itself seek to hold its Annual Meeting at a hotel which provides gender-neutral bathrooms (sometimes called unisex washrooms or family restrooms), and, in cases where the Society considers a hotel and finds that it does not provide a gender-neutral restroom option, will send a letter to the hotel management stating that this fact is considered as a serious negative factor impacting the Society's decision making regarding accommodations.

The SSSP staff will forward this resolution to all federal legislators, state governors' offices, and the corporate

headquarters of hotels considered during the past ten years in siting the Annual Meeting.

Resolution #3: Provision of Day Care to Preschool Children

From: Family Division

WHEREAS two-thirds of mothers and four-fifths of fathers with preschool-aged children are employed outside the home, necessitating the use of child care; AND

WHEREAS research shows that high quality childcare increases school success and decreases juvenile delinquency; AND

WHEREAS research shows that many childcare arrangements offer limited social or educational development and in some cases lack basic physical safety; AND

WHEREAS research shows that the low pay and limited benefits given to day care providers leads to an annual staff turnover rate of 30% in child care centers, leading to a negative impact on the quality of care provided and on the workers; AND

WHEREAS providing a targeted high-quality voluntary preschool program for 3 and 4 year olds in the bottom 25% of the national income distribution would pay for itself by the sixth year and lead to savings of \$315 billion annually by 2050; AND

WHEREAS providing high-quality voluntary day care to all 3 and 4 year olds in the U. U.S. would pay for itself by the ninth year and lead to savings of \$779 billion annually by 2050;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Society for the Study of Social Problems calls for substantially increased investment in high quality day care by federal, state and local governments sufficient to provide high quality care to all preschool children.

This resolution should be copied to federal and state legislators, and to federal and state departments of education.

Resolution #4: Medical Marijuana

From: Health, Health Policy, and Health Services Division

WHEREAS the Society for the Study of Social Problems finds the following:

1. Federal drug policy on marijuana threatens the health and well being of thousands of Americans by prohibiting even the medicinal use of cannabis under physician supervision in states with medical marijuana laws. The federal government has actively impeded research on the medical use of marijuana despite patient and physician

reports that it may help to relieve such debilitating symptoms as nausea, pain, and loss of appetite associated with serious illnesses.

2. In February of this year, the American College of Physicians – representing 124,000 oncologists, neurologists and other doctors of internal medicine – released a position paper declaring that the scientific evidence “supports the use of medical marijuana in certain conditions” and calling on the federal government to reclassify marijuana to permit medical use. In addition, the American Nurses Association, American Public Health Association, American Academy of HIV Medicine, and many other national organizations are on record supporting safe and legal access to medical marijuana for patients whose doctors recommend it.

3. The American public, too, overwhelmingly supports patients’ rights to use medical marijuana; national polls show that more than three out of four Americans favor its legal use. Already twelve states – Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Washington – have enacted medical marijuana laws.

4. However, until there are changes in federal drug policy, the threat to patients and caregivers of arrest by federal agents continues. There are now two pieces of federal legislation pending that would help to alleviate this threat:

A. The Hinchey-Rohrabacher medical marijuana amendment. The DEA has conducted dozens of raids on legal and registered medical marijuana patient collectives and dispensaries in states such as California where the medical use of cannabis is legal under state law; the Department of Justice (DOJ) is currently prosecuting more than three-dozen licensed medical cannabis patients and care providers. The Hinchey-Rohrabacher Amendment would limit the ability of DOJ to arrest and prosecute patients and providers who are acting within the limits of their state law by prohibiting the DEA from using any funds to interfere with state medical marijuana laws. The amendment, which has been proposed in each of the past several sessions, will once again be voted on this summer.

B. The Medical Marijuana Patient Protection Act. H.R. 5842 would end marijuana’s classification as a Schedule I drug to allow doctors to prescribe it for medical use.

Additionally, this bill would protect medical marijuana patients who use marijuana legally under state law from arrest and jail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the SSSP supports both the Hinchey-Rohrabacher medical marijuana amendment and the Medical Marijuana Patient Protection Act.

The SSSP membership directs that copies of this resolution be sent to all federal legislators and the administrative offices of the DEA and DOJ.

Resolution #5: Labor Rights and Social Justice for Migrant Workers

From: Labor Studies Division

WHEREAS the U.S. is now the home of some 12 million documented and undocumented migrant workers, who are an essential part of the economic and social fabric of the nation, employed in manufacturing, service, agricultural, health and other segments of our economy; AND

WHEREAS migrant workers in both the "guestworker" programs and immigrants in the informal economy play a key role in filling labor market demands, while experiencing regular conditions of unpaid and substandard wages, hour of work well in excess of legal maximum, frequent workplace injuries, an absence of health and safety protection, and an overall lack of enforcement of applicable workplace laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the SSSP calls for the for the following actions:

1. State Departments of Labor should disseminate labor rights information, in the first language of workers, to employers of migrant workers for posting in workplaces.
2. The U. S. Department of Labor should enforce basic labor standards for migrant workers, and create work visas that permit labor market mobility.
3. The U.S. Congress, working with counterparts in Mexico and Canada, should strengthen of the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation.
4. The U.S. Congress should ratify and implement three major international conventions pertaining to the rights of migrant workers: UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families; International Labour Organization Convention Concerning Migration for Employment (No. 97, Revised); and the International Labour Organization Convention Concerning Migrant Workers (No. 143).

This resolution should be copied to federal and state legislators, and to the state and federal departments of labor.

Resolution #6: Support of the Black Men Against the Exploitation of Black Women Petition

From: Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division

WHEREAS the rape and exploitation of Black Women is depicted and commodified throughout U.S. media and popular culture.

WHEREAS the consumption of these media artifacts perpetuates the market for these exploitive materials.

WHEREAS the consumption of these exploitive materials can impact the viewer's attitudes towards rape and exploitation.

WHEREAS Black males are organizing against these

negative media artifacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSSP calls for support of the goals and sentiments of the Black Men Against the Exploitation of Black Women petition, to wit: that the SSSP and its members call for an end to rape, domestic violence, and the casual sexism that permeates our culture (<http://www.petitiononline.com/rkelly/petition.html>).

This resolution should be copied to federal, state and appropriate legislators as well as U.S. college and university leadership.

Resolution #7: Support of Affirmative Action and Desegregation

From: Racial and Ethnic Minorities Division

WHEREAS efforts to limit affirmative action and desegregation have been successful at the legislative level.

WHEREAS the inequities that were to be addressed by affirmative action and desegregation have not been fully resolved.

WHEREAS the issues of affirmative action and desegregation have lost visibility and support among legislators and academics.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT SSSP calls for legislators and academia to reaffirm its support of affirmative action and desegregation efforts or propose new efforts to resolve the inequities that these methods were designed to ameliorate.

This resolution should be copied to federal, state and appropriate legislators as well as US college and university leadership.

David Rudy, Treasurer, reported on the fiscal condition of the Society. He noted the costs of implementing the retreat suggestions, the outstanding job Susan Carlson has done in managing the Society's investments, and the clean audit. The 2008 preliminary budget shows an increase in revenue as a function of dues increases, and as a result of the successful negotiations, led by Jim Orcutt, with the University of California Press.

Steve Barkan reported that the Retreat Implementation Committee gathered information and gave advice to the Society. The board will consider concrete proposal.

Nancy Naples introduced Steve Barkan as the incoming President of SSSP. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes of the 2008-2009 SSSP Board of Directors meeting held Saturday, August 2, 2008, will be published in the next issue of *Social Problems Forum: The SSSP Newsletter*.

Board Approved 2008 Budget

MEMBERSHIP DUES

4110	Membership Dues, Current Year	\$138,000	4450	Contributions - Erwin Smigel Fund	75
4111	Membership Dues, Life Members	200	4460	Contributions - Lee Founders Award Fund	250
4115	Departmental Memberships	1,845	4470	Contributions - Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund	1,000
4118	Extra Division Fees	1,100	4480	Contributions - Joseph Gittler Bequest	25
4120	Mailing Fees	1,050	4698	Transfer From - Restricted Life Memberships	0
4125	\$35 Student Membership Carry-Over (1 year)	175			
Total Membership Dues Income		\$142,370	Total Contributions Income		\$4,400

JOURNAL AND PUBLICATIONS

4205	Back Issues - Single Copy Sales	\$2,100	4710	Dividend Income - Domini Money Market	\$2,500
4210	Advertising - Social Problems	5,050	4715	Interest - Liberty Bank CD-2.5% (Joseph Gittler Bequest)	1,250
4215	Reprint Permission Fees - Subsidiary Rights	28,000	4725	Dividend Income - Parnassus Equity Fund	500
4216	Non-Journal Royalty Income	0	4730	Dividend Income & Capital Gain-Pax World Fund/Minority Scholarship	6,182
4220	Sale of Membership Subscription List	1,800	4735	Dividend Income & Capital Gain-Pax World Fund/Lee Legacy	300
4224	Online Submission Fee (MsCentral)	3,940	4740	Dividend Income & Capital Gain-Pax World Fund/Life Members	736
4225	Editorial Processing Fee	1,200	4745	Dividend Income & Capital Gain-Parnassus Equity Fund/Lee Founders	300
4226	Offprints	200	4750	Interest - Checking Account	100
4230	Gross Subscription Income - UC Press	286,000	4800	Interest - Tulip Cooperative Credit Union CD-2.35%	1,265
4235	Presidential Series-Rowman & Littlefield	500	4805	Interest - Winthrop Federal Credit Union CD-2.50%	1,250
Total Journal and Publications Income		\$328,790	4810	Interest - C. Wright Mills Award Fund	50

ANNUAL MEETING

4305	Pre-Registration - Member - \$105	\$38,535	4815	Interest - Joseph B. Gittler Bequest (Home Federal Bank)	5
4310	Pre-Registration - Student/Underemployed/Emeritus - \$25	6,100	4820	Interest - Lee Student Support Fund	10
4311	On-Site Registration - Student/Underemployed/Emeritus - \$45	1,350	4830	Interest - Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund	5
4315	On-Site Registration - Member - \$120	6,000	4870	Interest - Erwin Smigel Fund	35
4317	One-Day Registration - \$45	765	Total Investment Income		\$14,488
4318	Exempt Conference Registration - \$50	1,500	<u>OTHER INCOME</u>		
4319	Guest Registration - \$10	550	4890	Gain/Loss on Retirement of Fixed Assets	\$0
4320	Program Advertising	550	4900	Miscellaneous Income	350
4321	Critical Sociology Conference Registration - \$45	1,170	Total Other Income		\$350
4322	Non-Member Registration - \$50	2,300	<u>TOTAL REVENUE</u>		
4340	Awards Banquet - \$65	13,520			
4341	Donate a Banquet Ticket Program - \$65	780	<u>FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</u>		
4342	Annual Meeting Contributions	5,050	<u>EXECUTIVE OFFICE</u>		
4343	AIDS Raffle Ticket - \$5	450	5105	Executive Officer - Salary	\$6,427
4344	AIDS Fundraiser Ticket - \$15/Auction Items	2,000	5106	Administrative Officer - Bonus Pay - Univ of TN	0
4345	Audio-Visual Equipment Fees	0	5107	Administrative Officer - Longevity Pay - Univ of TN	1,600
4346	SSSP Lapel Pins	0	5108	Administrative Officer - Salary	51,008
4347	SSSP Registration Bags	66	5109	Administrative Officer - Travel Reimbursement	500
4348	Book Sales	0	5110	Administrative Assistant & Webmaster - 50% (12 months)	20,000
4349	Red Sox Ticket Sales	520	5111	Graduate Assistantship - 50% (12 months)	19,000
4350	Tour Ticket Sales	600	5115	Department Compensation	6,000
Total Annual Meeting Income		\$81,806	5120	Executive Officer - Fringe Benefits	200

			5121	Administrative Assistant & Webmaster - Fringe Benefits (UT-22.26%)	3,400
			5122	Graduate Research Associate - Fringe Benefits (UT-\$80 per month)	960
			5123	Administrative Officer - Fringe Benefits (UT-42%)	21,423

4400	Contributions - General Fund	\$500			
4405	Contributions - Justice 21 Project	1,000			
4410	Contributions - Lee Student Support Fund	500			
4420	Contributions - Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund	250			
4430	Contributions - C. Wright Mills Award Fund	400			
4440	Contributions - Social Action Award Fund	400			

5370	Travel Expenses - Executive Office	2,500	5485	Poverty, Class, & Inequality	700
5375	Reception & Catering	15,000	5486	Mental Health	700
5377	Annual Meeting - Transportation	0	5487	Racial & Ethnic Minorities	700
5378	Annual Meeting - Restaurant Guides - ASA	250	5488	Sexual Behavior, Politics, & Communities	700
5385	Annual Meeting - Insurance	305	5489	Social Problems Theory	700
5386	Tour Tickets	300	5490	Sociology & Social Welfare	590
5387	Red Sox Tickets	530	5491	Youth, Aging, & the Life Course	690
5388	Meeting Manager - Fringe Benefits - 17.65%	2,261	5492	Law & Society	700
5389	AIDS Fundraiser Expenses	3,000	5493	Teaching Social Problems	695
5390	Meeting Promotion & Management	12,812	5494	Institutional Ethnography	700
5391	Graduate Student Meeting w/Board Representatives	750	5495	Global	700
5392	Site Visit - 2012	1,500	5496	Disabilities	695
5393	Hotel Expenses - Executive Office	2,000			
5395	Meals Expenses - Executive Office	1,000		Total Committees & Program of Divisions Expenses	\$38,120
5396	Pre-Meeting Conference	1,381		<u>BOARD GOVERNANCE</u>	
5397	Miscellaneous Annual Meeting	1,000	6000	Board Information Materials	\$400
5398	SSSP Lapel Pins	0	6005	Governance Mailing-Ballots	1,850
5399	Promotional Registration Materials/Bags	2,304	6010	Travel Expenses - Student Board Representatives	500
			6020	Airline Ticket - Secretary	0
			6030	Hotel Expenses - Board & Officers	1,500
			6040	Meal Expenses - Board & Officers	5,500
			6050	Board & Officer - General	200
			6060	Operations Manual	200
				Total Board Governance Expenses	\$10,150
				<u>INVESTMENT GAINS AND LOSSES</u>	
			7000	Unrealized Loss on Investments	\$0
			7010	Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	0
			7020	Unrealized Gain on Investments	0
			7030	Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments - Temp Restrict	0
				Total Investment Gains and Losses	\$0
				<u>BOARD RESTRICTED EXPENSES</u>	
			8000	Lee Founders Award Committee	\$200
			8010	Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund	4,000
			8020	Lee Student Support Fund	7,500
			8030	Social Action Award Fund	1,000
			8040	Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund	12,000
			8050	Travel Expenses - Minority Scholarship	1,000
			8060	Erwin Smigel Fund	500
			8070	Lee Scholar-Activist Carryover (1 year)	2,142
			8080	Beth Hess Memorial Scholarship	570
			8085	Joseph B. Gittler Award	500
			8998	Transfer Out - Restricted Life Memberships	0
			9999	Suspense	0
				Total Board Restricted Expenses	\$29,412
				<u>TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</u>	\$613,031
				TOTAL PROPOSED INCOME FOR 2008	\$572,204
				TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENSES FOR 2008	\$613,031
				TOTAL PROJECTED DEFICIT FOR 2008	-\$40,827

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2009 JOSEPH B. GITTLER AWARD

Members of the Society are urged to submit the names of nominees for the 2009 Joseph B. Gittler Award.

Established in 2007 at the bequest of Joseph B. Gittler, this award is made in recognition of the significant scholarly achievements that a SSSP member has made in contributing to the ethical resolution of social problems.

PREVIOUS WINNER

2008 Valerie Jenness, University of California, Irvine

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

The 2009 award will be presented at the 59th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, August 7-9, 2009. Nominations and supporting documents should be sent no later than April 15, 2009 to:

Dr. Thomas C. Hood
 Department of Sociology
 University of Tennessee
 901 McClung Tower
 Knoxville, TN 37996-0490, USA
 Work: (865) 974-7026; Fax: (865) 689-1534
 Email: tomhood@utk.edu

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

Any member of the Society may nominate one or more persons for the award. Members of the Joseph B. Gittler Award Committee are encouraged to nominate.

All nominations must be accompanied by supporting evidence sufficiently detailed for the committee to render a decision (e.g., a resume; media accounts of activist activities inspired by the nominee's

scholarly efforts, testimonials from grass roots organizations or advocacy agencies; or additional supporting description of the nominee's work, demonstrating that the contributions meet the criteria for nomination). Please include supporting information not covered in a resume. List names of colleagues who would be willing and able to write supporting letters upon the request.

CRITERIA FOR THE JOSEPH B. GITTLER AWARD for the most scholarly contributions in the area of "Ethical Components in the Resolution of Social Problems"

1. The nominee must have been an active member of the Society for the Study of Social Problems for at least three years prior to receiving the award.
2. The nominee must have produced and disseminated scholarship promoting ethical solutions to social problems over the preceding three or more calendar years. *Ethical solutions* entail scholarship that promotes awareness and/or activism to increase public recognition that social problems and social injustices are ethical issues; and/or scholarship that identifies and promotes societal level responses to social problems and injustices. *Scholarship* may be undertaken from a wide variety of perspectives, including both applied research (qualitative or quantitative research) and normative work (e.g., argumentative, historical, philosophical, textual or theoretical analyses).

THE 2009 BETH B. HESS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a continuing graduate student who began her or his study in a community college or technical school. A student in an accredited PhD program in sociology in the United States is eligible to apply if she or he studied for at least one full academic year at a two-year college in the US before transferring to complete a BA.

The Scholarship carries a stipend of \$3500 from Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) to be used to support the pursuit of graduate studies as well as a one-year membership in SWS (including a subscription to *Gender & Society*). The Scholarship will be awarded at the Summer Meeting of SWS. Recognizing Beth Hess's significant contributions to SSSP and ASA as well, these organizations join SWS in supporting and celebrating the awardee at their Annual Meetings, August 8-11, 2009 in San Francisco, CA. The awardee's economy class airfare, train fare or driving mileage/tolls will be paid jointly by SSSP and SWS; ASA also supports applicants for this award via their student travel award program (more than one such award may be given, but students must apply to ASA separately). Each association will also waive its meeting registration and provide complementary banquet and/or reception tickets for the awardee.

To honor Beth Hess's career, the committee will be looking for:

- Commitment to teaching, especially at a community college or other institution serving less-privileged students.
- Research and/or activism in social inequality, social justice, or social problems, with a focus on gender and/or gerontology being especially positive.
- Service to the academic and/or local community, including mentoring.
- High quality research and writing in the proposal and letter of application.

An application for the award should contain:

1. a letter of application (no more than 2 pages) that describes the student's decision to study sociology, career goals, research, activism and service that would help the committee to see how the Scholarship would be a fitting honor
2. a letter confirming enrollment in or admission to a sociology Ph.D. program (and aid award if any)
3. a letter of recommendation from a sociologist (original and five copies in a sealed envelope, signed on the seal)
4. full curriculum vitae, including all schools, degrees awarded, years of study, and full or part-time in each
5. (Optional) a one-page letter describing a community college faculty member who particularly contributed in a significant way to the decision to study sociology or pursue higher education
6. A cover sheet with:
 - Name and full contact information, including phone and email
 - Current academic or organizational affiliation, with years
 - If not currently enrolled, future Ph.D. program and date of entry
 - Community college attended, with years and credits taken OR transcript
 - Name and contact information for graduate faculty reference
 - If included, name of honored faculty member

Six complete copies of the application should be submitted to:

Prof. Myra Marx Ferree
Department of Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1180 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706, USA

To be considered applications must be postmarked no later than March 30, 2009

For further information contact Myra Marx Ferree — mferree@ssc.wisc.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2008 C. WRIGHT MILLS AWARD

Nominations are now open for the 2008 C. Wright Mills Award. **Members of the Society are encouraged to submit letters of nomination for this prestigious annual award.** Edited volumes, textbooks, fiction and self-published works are not eligible.

The C. Wright Mills Award, established in 1964, is made annually and carries with it a stipend of \$500 for the author(s) of the winning book. **The deadline for the 2008 award nominations is January 15, 2009.** The 2008 award will be presented at the 59th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, August 7-9, 2009.

C. Wright Mills wrote in *The Power Elite* that: “Only when mind has an autonomous basis, independent of power, but powerfully related to it, can mind exert its force in the shaping of human affairs. This is democratically possible only when there exists a free and knowledgeable public, to which [people] of knowledge may address themselves, and to which [people] of power are truly responsible.” Consistent with Mills’ dedication to a search for a sophisticated understanding of the individual and society, the award will be given for that book published in 2008 that most effectively:

- 1) critically addresses an issue of contemporary public importance,
- 2) brings to the topic a fresh, imaginative perspective,
- 3) advances social scientific understanding of the topic,
- 4) displays a theoretically informed view and empirical orientation,
- 5) evinces quality in style of writing,
- 6) explicitly or implicitly contains implications for courses of action.

Please submit nominations to:

Professor Heather Dalmage, Chair
C. Wright Mills Award Committee
c/o Niel Naidoo
Sociology Programme
1st Floor, Room F124, Memorial Tower Building
Howard College Campus
Durban, 4041, South Africa
Email: hdalmage@roosevelt.edu

For further information, contact:

Michele Koontz, Administrative Officer
Work: (865) 689-1531; Fax: (865) 689-1534; Email: mkoontz3@utk.edu

TRAVEL FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund Committee announces funds available for Foreign Scholar-Activists to participate in the 2009 Annual Meeting, August 7-9, San Francisco, CA, USA.

The Society for the Study Social Problems established the Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund to help bring foreign scholar-activists to the Annual Meeting. The specific purpose is to facilitate scholarly participation by persons engaged in research related to labor, gender, race-ethnicity, less advantaged countries, and other struggles. More generally, the purpose of this fund is to foster cooperative relations among persons and organizations engaged in applying sociological findings to confront social problems and create social change. Consistent with past practice, some preference may be given to applicants from less advantaged countries where access to foreign exchange is often more limited.

Application (see next page) should be sent no later than March 16, 2009 to:

Lisa Anne Zilney
Justice Studies Department
Montclair State University
Dickson Hall 349, 1 Normal Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043, USA
W: (973) 655-7225; F: (973) 655-4186; Email: lisa.zilney@montclair.edu

Other Committee Members:

Richard A. Dello Buono, Chair-Elect, New College of Florida
Kathleen Asbury, Community College of Philadelphia, Rutgers University

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The Lee Student Support Fund Committee announces funds available for Undergraduate and Graduate Students to participate in the 2009 Annual Meeting, August 7-9, San Francisco, CA, USA.

In recognition of Al Lee's commitment to social justice and his history of critical contributions to the Society for the Study of Social Problems, SSSP established the Lee Student Support Fund. The fund provides up to \$500.00 in travel support for undergraduate and graduate student conference participants. Awards are allocated by committee. In addition to need, the Committee may recognize among other factors, the Society's commitment to diversity, as well as consider the applicant's commitment to scholar-activism, and interdisciplinary work. Only complete applications will be reviewed, and there is only one award per applicant.

Application (see next page) should be sent no later than March 16, 2009 to:

Phoebe Morgan
The Faculty Ombuds Program
Northern Arizona University
P.O. Box 15010
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5010, USA
W: (928) 523-8767; F: (928) 523-8011; Email: phoebe.morgan@nau.edu

Other Committee Members:

Tracy Dietz, Chair-Elect, University of Central Florida
Jennifer M. Santos-Hernández, University of Delaware

Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund or the Lee Student Support Fund Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE–MIDNIGHT (EST) MARCH 16, 2009

Minimum eligibility requirements:

current SSSP membership at the time of application
if applying for the student support fund, documentation of student status (a photocopy of current student ID)

Applicants are advised of these limitations:

only complete applications will be reviewed
applications postmarked/faxed/emailed after March 16 are ineligible for review
a maximum of \$500 dollars will be granted to any one recipient for the student support fund

Please indicate which fund you are requesting assistance from (select only one):

_____ Lee Student Support Fund

_____ Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund **(In what way do you consider yourself not only a scholar but also an activist?)**

Name:

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Current Mailing
Address:

(Street)

(City)

(State/Province & Zip Code/Postal Code)

Phone:

(include area code) (Home)

(Work)

Email:

And country code, if applicable)

Address where you can be reached after the May 15 announcement date:

(Street)

(City)

(State/Province & Zip Code/Postal Code)

Please indicate how you plan to travel to the meeting:

SSSP will support estimated air coach fare; auto travel at \$.46 per mile; and travel by bus or train **ONLY**.

Please provide a breakdown of your anticipated costs to attend the meeting. Registration fees and dues will not be funded, and not all of the expenses for attending the meeting can be paid from these funds. **SSSP strongly suggests that other sources of funds be sought to supplement your participation.** Pre-registration for the meeting must be paid before funds will be disbursed to the applicant. Persons unable to attend the meetings **MUST** return all monies to SSSP.

Estimated Expenses:

Travel cost:

_____ The committee will use the lowest available fare as the basis for its estimates of travel costs.

Room cost:

_____ SSSP will support a shared room at the SSSP conference hotel (roommate matching service will be available). Our room rate is \$219 (U.S.) plus tax per night. Exceptions will be made if extraordinary personal circumstances justify an individual room.

Meal cost:

_____ SSSP will support up to \$15 U.S./per day

Grand total:

State your accepted contributions to the meeting. **ONLY** SSSP members who have been accepted for program participation will be considered.

Applicants will receive an email confirming the receipt of their application. If you do not receive an email within two weeks of submitting your application, please contact the appropriate chair. Applicants will be notified by the chair if their application was accepted/rejected no later than May 15, 2009.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2009 SOCIAL ACTION AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2009 Social Action Award. **Members of the Society are urged to submit names of organizations as nominees for this award.**

The Social Action Award, established in 1991, is awarded to a not-for-profit organization in the city/area hosting the annual meeting. The award carries a stipend of \$1,000.

The award is a fitting expression of the overall purpose of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, which is concerned with applying scientific methods and theories to the study of social problems. SSSP aims to bring together scholars, practitioners, and advocates to examine and understand social problems in order to further solutions and develop social policy based on knowledge.

When this award was established, SSSP described its purpose as follows:

The organization selected for this recognition should have a history of challenging social inequalities, promoting social change, and/or working toward the empowerment of marginalized peoples. Its work must demonstrate sensitivity to and respect for cultural diversity.

Preference is given to small, local agencies in the **San Francisco area** rather than large organizations or chapters of nationally-based organizations. The main criterion is the extent to which the organization reaches out to the disadvantaged in the community and uses innovative means for dealing with local social conditions.

The award will be presented on August 8, 2009 at the SSSP Awards Banquet in San Francisco, CA. **Deadline for nominations is April 1, 2009.**

PREVIOUS WINNERS INCLUDE:

2008	Boston, MA	We're All in This Together (WAITT House) Haley House
2007	New York, NY	CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities
2006	Montréal, Québec, Canada	Action Réfugiés Montréal
2005	Philadelphia, PA	Alliance for a Clean Environment (ACE)
2004	San Francisco, CA	Free Battered Women
2003	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Harm Reduction Center
2002	Chicago, IL	Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers (CLAIM)
2001	Anaheim, CA	Innecity Struggle
2000	Washington, DC	Council of Latino Agencies
1999	Chicago, IL	Rogers Park Community Action Network
1998	San Francisco, CA	People Organized to Win Employment Rights
1997	Toronto, Canada	Heritage Skills Development Center
1996	New York, NY	SAKHI
1995	Washington, DC	Foundation for Youth at Risk Friends and Jr. Friends of the Southwest Branch Library
1994	Los Angeles, CA	Coalition for Human Immigration Rights of Los Angeles
1993	Miami, FL	Women Will Rebuild P.A.C.E Center for Girls Haitian Refugee Center
1992	Pittsburgh, PA	Pittsburgh Jobs with Peace Campaign
1991	Cincinnati, OH	Ohio Welfare Rights Organization ReSTOC Inc.

2009 SOCIAL ACTION AWARD NOMINATION FORM

(Please include the following information when making a nomination.)

Your name, address, phone number, and email address.

The name and address of the organization you wish to nominate.

The name, address, phone number, and email address of the organizational contact person.

Give an overview of the organization's work.

Indicate why you believe that the nominee merits the award.

Please submit any supportive materials in electronic form (as attachments) you believe would be helpful to the committee.

Nominations should be sent no later than April 1, 2009 to:

**Wendy Simonds, Co-Chair & Chair-Elect
Department of Sociology, PO Box 5020
Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA 30302-5020**

W: 404-213-6512; F: 404-213-6505; Email: wsimonds@gsu.edu

Other Committee Members:

Kimberly Richman, Co-Chair, University of San Francisco

Stacy L. Burns, Loyola Marymount University

Airin D. Martinez, University of California, San Francisco

Stephen J. Morewitz, Morewitz and Associates, IL & CA, California State University, East Bay

Christine Oh, University of California, Los Angeles

Cynthia Siemsen, California State University, Chico

Kristin J. Wilson

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2009 LEE FOUNDERS AWARD

Nominations are now open for the 2009 Lee Founders Award. **Members of the Society are urged to submit the names of nominees.**

Established in 1981, this award is made in recognition of significant achievements that, over a distinguished career, have demonstrated continuing devotion to the ideals of the founders of the Society and especially to the humanist tradition of Alfred McClung Lee and Elizabeth Briant Lee.

PREVIOUS WINNERS INCLUDE

- 2008 David A. Snow, University of California, Irvine
- 2007 Peter Conrad, Brandeis University
- 2006 Barbara Katz Rothman, Baruch College, CUNY
Graduate Center
- 2005 Robert Perrucci, Purdue University
- 2004 Mary A. Romero, Arizona State University
- 2003 Walda Katz-Fishman, Howard University and Project
South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty &
Genocide
- Jerome Scott, Project South: Institute for the
Elimination of Poverty & Genocide
- 2002 Thomas J. Scheff, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2001 Valerie Jenness, University of California, Irvine
- 2000 Beth B. Hess, County College of Morris &
Norma Williams, University of Texas at Arlington
- 1999 Gary L. Albrecht, University of Illinois, Chicago
- 1998 John I. Kitsuse, University of California, Santa Cruz
- 1997 Irwin Deutscher, University of Akron
- 1996 No Winner Chosen
- 1995 Gideon Sjoberg, University of Texas
- 1994 Joyce A. Ladner, Howard University
- 1993 Irving Kenneth Zola, Brandeis University
- 1992 Marvin B. Sussman, University of Delaware
- 1991 Richard Cloward, Columbia University &
Francis Fox Piven, CUNY, Graduate Center
- 1990 Louis Kriesberg, Syracuse University
- 1989 Arlene Kaplan Daniels, Northwestern University
- 1988 James E. Blackwell, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- 1987 John Useem, SSSP Life Member &
Ruth Hill Useem, SSSP Life Member
- 1986 Jessie Bernard, Pennsylvania State University
- 1985 Butler Jones, Cleveland State University
- 1984 Elliot Liebow, National Institute of Mental Health
- 1983 Charles V. Willie, Harvard University
- 1982 S. M. Miller, Boston University &
Joan Moore, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

The 2009 award will be presented at the 59th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, August 7-9, 2009. Nominations and supporting documents should be sent no later than April 15, 2009 to:

Dr. Carolyn C. Perrucci
Department of Sociology, Purdue University
700 W. State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059
Work: (765) 494-2019; Fax: (765) 496-1476
Email: perruccic@purdue.edu

CRITERIA FOR THE LEE FOUNDERS AWARD

1. The nominee must have been an active member of the Society for some years prior to receiving the award.
2. The nominee must have made significant achievements embodying the ideals of the founders of the Society. These achievements may be in the areas of scholarly research, teaching, or service leading to the betterment of human life. Nominees for the award must have demonstrated a commitment to social action programs that promote social justice.
3. The nominee's achievements should reflect the humanistic tradition of sociology, as exemplified in the contributions of Alfred McClung Lee and Elizabeth Briant Lee, for whom the award is named.
4. The nominee's achievements may be expressed in a body of work that provides understanding and insight for practical application and the development of social conflict, including one or more of the following.
 - a. Studies of peace and war, ethnic and/or racial conflict and social movements.
 - b. The role of mass media as related to social problems.
 - c. The role of propaganda in the creation of and the persistence of social problems.
 - d. The systematic study of social inequality (for example, problems of poverty, discrimination, racism, sexism and unequal distribution of wealth).
5. The achievements should include substantial community service at the local, state and/or national level.
6. It is assumed that the above achievements will have been accomplished by the nominees over a distinguished career and that they will reflect a long-term commitment to the ideals of the Lees.

GUIDELINES

1. Any member of the Society may nominate one or more persons for the award. Members of the Lee Founders Award Committee are encouraged to nominate.
2. All nominations must be accompanied by supporting evidence sufficiently detailed for the committee to render a decision (e.g., a resume; additional supporting description of the nominee's work, demonstrating that the contributions meet the criteria for nomination). Please include supporting information not covered in a resume. List names of colleagues who would be willing and able to write supporting letters upon the request of the committee or include letters of support with your nomination.

TRAVEL FUNDS AVAILABLE

**The Erwin O. Smigel Award Committee announces
funds available for Unemployed and Underemployed Sociologists
to participate in the 2009 Annual Meeting, August 7-9, San Francisco, CA.**

The Erwin O. Smigel Award was established in 1975 to provide assistance to unemployed and underemployed sociologists. Applicants should be sociologists with an advanced degree who are not full-time students and who are not fully employed. Erwin O. Smigel was a professor and Chair of Sociology at New York University, and the author of *The Wall Street Lawyer* as well as other works. He was the second editor of *Social Problems*; serving from 1958-61. He was also a friendly and good humored man who supported colleagues exceptionally well. The fund was established in Erwin's honor the year he passed away.

Erwin O. Smigel Award Guidelines: 1) the Smigel Fund monies are to be used to help pay for three or four unemployed or severely underemployed sociologists' transportation to and registration fees for the SSSP meeting; 2) applicants must be SSSP members who are presenting a paper at the main SSSP meeting (rather than at an adjacent workshop or meeting) or participating as a SSSP elected or appointed officer or committee member; 3) a maximum of \$500 dollars is to be granted to any one recipient. **Application (see next page) should be sent no later than March 16, 2009 to:**

PJ McGann
Department of Sociology
University of Michigan
Room 3001 LSA Bldg, 500 S. State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382, USA
W: (734) 764-6321; F: (734) 763-6887; Email: pjmcgann@umich.edu

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR, CONTINUED

three years. I am much obliged. Also, I want to thank everyone who aided me in my efforts and made my first term so meaningful, especially Michele Koontz, Tom Hood, Sarah Hendricks, Sharon Shumaker, Virginia Ellen, Jenny Lam, the 2005-2008 Editorial and Publications committee members, and the 2005-2008 Board of Directors members. Thank you one and all.

Second, given the increasing quantity and quality of submissions, I have secured permission to forego publishing a number of business-related features in the newsletter's print edition. Specifically, the Annual Budget, Annual Business and Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, Auditor's Report, a detailed version of the Call for Papers, and a detailed version of the Student Paper Competition and Outstanding Scholarship Awards Announcement may be dropped from the print edition. Accordingly, the annual Auditor's Report and the detailed version of the Call for Papers do not appear in this issue (see page 8 & 25). Another way to make room for more of your submissions might be to greatly reduce the News of Note feature. For future reference, I would like your opinion on which features to drop from and or reduce in the print edition as

need arises. Accordingly, with the assistance of Sharon Shumaker, I have prepared a readers' survey. I ask you to take a few moments to share your thoughts on this matter by visiting <http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/1279> where you may complete the survey. Or if you prefer, you may mail in your preferences. A hard copy of the survey form appears on page 24. Thank you in advance for your thoughts and feedback.

One final note. This issue includes the 2008 Annual Business Meeting Minutes but not all of the 2008 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. The minutes from the August 2, 2008 meeting are not available at this time, a victim of Hurricane Ike's wrath. These will be included in a future issue of *SPF* once they are available.

Please keep sending in those unsolicited essays, book review proposals and noteworthy news items. And if you haven't thought about it, consider submitting a photo-essay, Preliminary Findings or Convergences/Divergences feature. Information on these and other features are available at our website.

Have a wonderful Autumn!

Ken Kyle, Editor

Applicants will receive an email confirming the receipt of their application. If you do *not* receive an email within two weeks of submitting your application, please contact the chair, PJ McGann, pjmcgann@umich.edu. Applicants will be notified by the chair if their application was accepted/rejected no later than April 1, 2009.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2009 RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are being accepted for the 2009 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Members of the Society should urge qualified candidates to apply for this award. **Applications are due by and must be received on February 2, 2009.** Applicants will be notified of the results by July 15, 2009. **All applicants must be current SSSP members when applying.**

SCHOLARSHIP PURPOSE

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), in keeping with its philosophy of active engagement with social problems, participation in social problem solutions, and advancement of knowledge through study, service and critical analysis, established the Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship at its annual meeting in August 1993. The purpose of the scholarship is:

- To identify and support developing minority scholars who exemplify and give fresh voice to the SSSP history and commitment to scholar activism
- To give renewed energy and wider lenses to diversity in scholarship
- To increase the pool of minority social and behavioral scientists
- To establish a formal commitment to diversity through support of a minority doctoral student in the social and/or behavioral sciences inclusive of course work or dissertation research support who demonstrates a commitment, through his or her scholarly examination, of any aspect of inequality, injustice and oppression.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- A person identified as either Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Asian-American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or American Indian or Alaska Native accepted into an accredited doctoral program in any one of the social and/or behavioral sciences so as to expand their perspectives in the pursuit and investigations into social problems
- Submission of a dissertation proposal of 15 or more pages. The student's dissertation advisor's letter should note that s/he expects the student to have defended the dissertation proposal and have achieved advanced status in the doctoral program (completed course work, examinations, and approval of their dissertation prospectus) by the end of the Spring 2009 academic year
- A grade point average or equivalent of at least 3.25 in one's current graduate program [of study]
- Evidence, through scholarly work and/or commitment to a career of scholar activism as demonstrated by: course work and research, activism in school and/or community, and career plans
- Statement of financial need as expressed by the applicant and Graduate Program Director or Advisor
- Applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States

FUNDING

A \$12,000 scholarship will be funded to one student with an additional \$500 awarded for attendance at the annual meeting. Payments will be made in equal installments in September 2009 and January 2010. SSSP believes that the support of students will foster the commitment required to enable the student to fund living arrangements as well as academic or research costs.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECIPIENT

- Attend the annual meeting to receive the award. A \$500 stipend will be available to the winner for this purpose.
- Submit a brief final report (three pages maximum) on the work sponsored through the award, at the end of the award year.
- Following year, present work (described above) at an appropriate division session. A \$500 stipend will be available to the winner for this purpose.
- Following year, serve on the Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee and attend the scheduled meeting of the committee.

STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete application packets should be sent to the SSSP Executive Office. **Incomplete packets will not be reviewed.** Each packet must include the following:

- 1) Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Application (**complete and print the application and send it in with the rest of your application**);
- 2) An Official Transcript with seal from the student's Graduate Program Registrar;
- 3) Resume or Curriculum Vitae;
- 4) Three letters of recommendation addressing the student's work and progress in program, including one from the student's dissertation Advisor. The letter from the Advisor should address the financial need of the applicant, and should also note that the student will have defended the dissertation proposal and have achieved advanced status in the doctoral program (completed course work, examinations, and approval of their dissertation prospectus) by the end of the Spring 2009 academic year. Each letter should be placed in a sealed envelope with author's signature over the seal. **Letters not included in the packet will not be accepted.**);
- 5) Personal statement of commitment to a career of scholar activism;
- 6) Submit 15 or more pages of your dissertation proposal

Contact Adriana L. Bohm, Chair, Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee with all questions (W: 610-359-5269; F: 610-325-2813; abohm@dcc.edu).

Visit www.sssp1.org to download an application. Complete application packets should be sent to:

**The Society for the Study of Social Problems
University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534; sssp@utk.edu**

RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications are due by and must be received no later than February 2, 2009.

All applicants must be current SSSP members when applying. (Masters level students are not eligible.)

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Current Mailing Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State & Zip Code)

Phone: _____
(Home) (Work)

Social Security #: _____ Email Address: _____

Address where you can be reached after the announcement date:

(Street)	(City)	(State & Zip Code)
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Sex (Circle One): Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Racial/Ethnic Identification as used in the U.S. Census (check all that are relevant): Applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.)

Black or African American _____ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander _____

Hispanic or Latino _____ American Indian or Alaska Native _____

Asian or Asian American _____

Marital Status (Circle One): Single Married Divorced Widowed Separated

Number & Age of
Dependent Children: _____

Your Current Educational Status:
Degree Program: _____ Year in Degree Program: _____

Your Education Background:			
Institution	Location	Dates Attended	Degree

Have you completed the major requirements for the Ph.D. (i.e., course work, examinations, and submission of a dissertation prospectus?) (Circle One) Yes No

Please submit a copy of your dissertation prospectus.

How are you financing your graduate education? (Please list all sources of support including current scholarships, fellowships, assistantships, loans, and outside jobs.) Have you received/can you receive financial support from family members?

Please explain how receiving this scholarship would assist you in completing your program. (A very detailed budget would assist the committee in its deliberation; it is appropriate for the award to be used to support dissertation writing.)

What is your parents' highest educational level? _____

STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete application packets should be sent to the SSSP Executive Office. **Incomplete packets will not be reviewed.** Each packet must include the following:

- 1) Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Application (**complete and print this application and send it in with the rest of your application**);
- 2) an Official Transcript with seal from the student's Graduate Program Registrar;
- 3) Resume or Curriculum Vitae;
- 4) Three letters of recommendation addressing the student's work and progress in program, including one from the student's dissertation Advisor. The letter from the Advisor should address the financial need of the applicant, and should also note that the student will have defended the dissertation proposal and have achieved advanced status in the doctoral program (completed course work, examinations, and approval of their dissertation prospectus) by the end of the Spring 2009 academic year. Each letter should be placed in a sealed envelope with author's signature over the seal. Letters not included in the packet will not be accepted.;
- 5) Personal statement of commitment to a career of scholar activism;
- 6) Submit 15 or more pages of your dissertation proposal

Contact **Adriana L. Bohm, Chair, Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee** with all questions (W: 610-359-5269; F: 610-325-2813; abohm@dccc.edu).

Visit www.sssp1.org to download an application. Complete application packets should be sent to:

The Society for the Study of Social Problems
University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534; sssp@utk.edu

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How can I find more information about the SSSP's Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship?

You can download an application and find out more information by visiting www.sssp1.org. (Follow the link to "Awards and Scholarships." If the information there does not answer your questions, you may contact the 2009 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee Chair, Adriana L. Bohm, abohm@dccc.edu or 610-325-2813).

Do you have to be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident to apply for the SSSP Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship?

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident at the time that you apply for the scholarship.

How many students apply for the scholarship each year?

About 40 students apply each year; however, 16 students applied in 2008 (56 students applied in 2007). Only 1 fellowship is awarded each year.

How far along in a graduate program should applicants be?

By the time of the award (September 1, 2009), the student should have defended the dissertation proposal and have achieved advanced status in the doctoral program (completed course work, examinations, and approval of the dissertation prospectus). Masters level students are not eligible for this scholarship.

Can the award be used to support the dissertation writing process after the research stage is completed?

Yes, the scholarship may be used to support the dissertation writing process after the research stage is completed. The ideal candidate is a student who is in the process of completing a dissertation, whether that be data collection, data analysis, or writing.

Does an applicant need to be a student throughout the entire time for which the scholarship applies (2009-2010 academic year)?

Yes, the distribution of the award occurs twice during the academic year (September 2009 and January 2010). Applicants enrolled in their respective graduate programs during this period may receive the scholarship.

How formal should the dissertation proposal be? How long does it need to be? Does it need to be the official prospectus approved by the graduate program?

The dissertation proposal should be as formal as possible. The length of this document will vary dependent upon the protocol of an applicant's graduate program; however dissertation proposals are usually at least 15 pages in length. A document approved by a doctoral committee or graduate program is appropriate. While the proposal need not be formally approved by the time of application, it should be approved by the time of the award (September 1, 2009).

Is there a requirement to the length of the personal statement?

There is no requirement for the length of the personal statement. It should be long enough to convey an applicant's commitment to a career in scholar activism. The average personal statement is around 3-6 pages.

Is there a specific form for the letters of recommendation or does it have to be on letterhead?

There is not a specific form for the references. References written on letterhead are standard. The letter of recommendation from the advisor should note either that the student already has or should have defended the dissertation proposal and have achieved advanced status in the doctoral program (completed course work, examinations, and approval of the dissertation prospectus) by the end of the Spring 2009 academic year.

Should letters of recommendation be sent along with or separate from other application materials?

All letters must be included within the application packet. They must be in sealed envelopes and signed over the flap by the authors of the letters.

How many copies of the application does SSSP require?

One copy is required.

Do application materials need to be sent all together in one packet?

Yes, all components of an application must be received together in one package. A complete application includes:

- the application form (obtained online, completed, and then printed out),
- three sealed reference letters,
- personal statement,
- resume or curriculum vitae,
- graduate transcript from doctoral program, and dissertation proposal (if completed).

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Where should an application be sent?

Completed applications must be sent to: The Society for the Study of Social Problems, University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower, Knoxville, TN, 37996-0490. The Executive Office will forward applications to the Scholarship Committee.

Do applications need to be received by the due date or just post-marked by the due date?

Applications must be received by the due date. Applications post-marked before or on the due date that do not reach the Executive Office by February 2, 2009 will not be considered. It is advised the applicants mail their packets no later than mid-January to ensure a timely submission.

When will applicants learn of the Scholarship Committee's decision?

Applicants will learn whether they were selected for the scholarship by July 15, 2009.

Is membership in SSSP required to receive the scholarship?

Yes, membership in SSSP is required in order to be eligible for the scholarship.

Is conference participation required at the SSSP annual meetings?

Yes. The award recipient should plan on attending both the 2009 and 2010 SSSP annual meetings (normally scheduled in early to mid August) as the award will be formally given at the SSSP awards banquet in 2009 (award recipient will be provided two complimentary banquet tickets) and will be required to present work that was supported during the award year at the 2010 meeting (award recipient will be provided \$500 to offset travel expenses for the 2009 and 2010 annual meetings).

If I am not selected, can I apply next year?

Yes, applicants not selected are encouraged to re-apply the following year.

Contributors sought for a Student Column on

Letting Go and Leaving Academia:
Deciding to Stop or Forgo the Dissertation
(... and accepting that decision)

Contact the editor with ideas for a column on this topic, or with ideas for other Student Columns to appear in a future issue of *Social Problems Forum*.

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS
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901 McClung Tower
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-0490

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