

Teaching Social Problems

A Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems

Newsletter **Summer 2006**

From the Division Chair

Dear members of the Teaching Social Problems Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems:

The purpose of this Summer 2006 newsletter is invite you to attend the up-coming annual meetings of the SSSP in Montreal, and to inform the TSP Division members of news relevant to teaching social problems. In a nutshell, the newsletter contains information about the following:

- Welcome message from Susan Warner, the new TSP chair-elect.
- The 5 sessions sponsored by the TSP Div.
- The 2006 TSP Div. business meeting.
- Call for nominations for the TSP Div. Committee.
- Call for nominations for editor of the TSP Div. newsletter.
- Call for contributing authors.
- Job announcement.

I invite you all to attend the 2006 SSSP annual meetings, and especially to take part in the activities/meetings sponsored by the Teaching Social Problems Division. I look forward to seeing you all in Philadelphia.

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TSP Div. Chair, 2004-06
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Announcing New Chair-Elect of TSP!

The following is a message from Susan Warner of Cedarville University, our 2006-08 chair-elect:

Welcome from the newly-elected chair of Teaching Social Problems. I look forward to this opportunity to become more involved in this division. Let me first introduce myself. I teach at a mid-size private university in Ohio and have been there for the last eight years. We have a very small group of sociology students in a department that is multi-disciplinary. The advantage of this is that my classes are very small and I get an opportunity to work closely with my students. One of my favorite classes is my Social Problems class that I teach each spring. I find it both challenging and rewarding to introduce students to viewing the issues in society from the sociological perspective. I also find that I am able to bring my research interests into the classroom and combine both teaching and research together in a unique way. This has afforded both the students and myself with great experiences of real-life sociology. This past spring we were able to write three different grant proposals for various social agencies across the nation in an attempt to make an impact on the social issues we study. My research areas focus mainly social issues impacting women in society. I am currently involved in qualitative studies on homeless women and women who recover memories of sexual abuse. I have also had an opportunity to develop a model for a multi-cultural learning community for incoming freshmen students. I have been privileged to work with all our incoming freshman minorities for the last two years in creating an environment that supports them both within the classroom and in social activities with other students and faculty. I look forward to chairing this division and sharing ideas that we bring from all areas of our expertise. I hope to meet all of you at our meetings in Montreal. Susan

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TSP Division Business Meeting

The TSP Divisional Business meeting will occur on Thursday, August 10, 2006 from 4:30pm to 6:10pm in Fontaine C. Division members are encouraged to attend to discuss business matters. The agenda has not yet been finalized, and those wishing to add items to the agenda, may forward proposals to the division chair until July 15, 2006. Please plan to attend, in order to discuss issues relevant to the TSP Div., including future sessions, divisional resolutions, the divisional budget, and other activities.

Call for Nominations for Editor of the TSP Division Newsletter

The TSP Committee welcomes applications and nominations for the position of editor of the TSP Division Newsletter.

Call for Submissions to TSP Division Newsletter

The editor of the division newsletter welcomes essays, reviews, and announcements. Please submit suggestions and materials for future TSP Division Newsletters to:

Susan C. Warner
TSP Chair-Elect 2006-08
Assistant Professor of Sociology
Department of Social Sciences & History
Cedarville University
Cedarville, Oh 45314
937-766-7632

Speed Mentoring Session

This year's SSSP annual meeting in Montreal will feature a "speed mentoring" session that will offer graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists ("mentees") the opportunity to sit one-on-one with a stellar group of senior faculty ("mentors") to get feedback on dissertations and/or research projects that are underway or still in the planning stages. These meetings will each last 20 minutes, and there will be time for four such meetings within the speed mentoring session time block of 100 minutes. Senior faculty mentors include Joel Best, Richard Caputo, Kimberly Cook, Elizabeth Ettore, Kathleen Ferraro, Gregory Hooks, Valerie Jenness, Nancy Jurik, Barbara Katz Rothman, Kathleen Lowney, Nancy Naples, Mary Romero, and Richard Wilsnack.

Complete details about the speed mentoring session and how to participate as a mentee will be included in the SSSP preliminary program and will also be posted in May on the SSSP web site. Although this session is primarily intended for graduate students, untenured faculty, and applied sociologists, tenured faculty are also welcome to indicate mentor preferences and will be accommodated as space permits.

For further information, please contact the speed mentoring session organizer, Steve Barkan (barkan@maine.edu).

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Sessions Sponsored by the TSP Div.

I am happy to announce that the Division will be sponsoring, or co-sponsoring, 5 panels in Montreal. I am looking forward to attending each of these sessions, each of which promises to be interesting.

Thursday, August 10
12:30pm - 2:10pm

Session 20: Challenges to Teaching Social Problems Courses for Beginning Faculty

Room: Westmount

Sponsor: Teaching Social Problems Division

Organizer &

Presider: Stephanie Medley Rath, University of West Georgia

Discussant: Anna Leon-Guerrero, Pacific Lutheran University, author of *Social Problems: Community, Policy, and Social Action*

Papers:

“How to Make Social Problems a Course that Empowers (Rather than Depresses) Students,” Kathleen Korgen, William Paterson University and Jonathan M. White, Colby College

“Confronting Barriers to Teaching War-Related Social Problems: Public Space and Student Free Speech Issues,” Lisiunia (Lisa) A. Romanienko, Wroclaw University

“Unpacking the Disparity Between the Racial Reality of Children’s Lives and the Colorblind Perspectives of Beginning Teachers,” Elisabeth Valenzuela, University of New Mexico, Kiran Katira, University of New Mexico and Yih Yeh Pan, Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, Taiwan

“Race-ing the Classroom: Political Implications of Teaching for Resistance,” Amanda Moras and Guillermo Rebollo-Gil, University of North Florida

“Globalizing the Social Problems Classroom: A Comparison of Problems with the Japanese and the U.S. Education System,” Stephanie Medley Rath, University of West Georgia and Saori Yasumoto, Georgia State University

Thursday, August 10
2:30pm - 4:10pm

THEMATIC

Session 30: Teaching for Global-Local Problem Solving: Curriculum Transformation and Social Change

Room: Westmount

Sponsors: Global Division
Teaching Social Problems Division
Project South
Sociologists without Borders

Organizers &

Presiders: Walda Katz-Fishman, Howard University and Project South
Jerome Scott, Project South

Papers:

“Babies are God’s Gift of Love...Abortion is Murder,” Natalia Deeb-Sossa and Heather Kane, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“Gender, Race, Ethnicity, Citizenship, Class and Sexual Orientation (GRECCSO): Intersecting Locations of Privilege, Power and Domination,” Heather Dalmage, Cherise Harris and DaShelle Frazier, Roosevelt University

“Thinking Outside the Border: Using Cross-National Comparisons in Teaching Social Problems,” Tim Bower and Janine Ralston, Western Michigan University

“Globalizing the Curriculum: Teaching About the UN, Peace-building and Human Rights,” Diana Papademas, SUNY/Old Westbury

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Friday, August 11
4:30pm - 6:10pm

THEMATIC

***Session 78: Teaching Justice and Compassion:
Learning through the Inclusion of Animals into our
Sense of Community***

Room: St-Pierre

Sponsors: Environment and Technology Division
Teaching Social Problems Division

Organizer, Presider

& Discussant: Lisa Anne Zilney, Montclair State
University

Papers:

“Utilizing the Idea of the Moral Community in a
Science, Technology and Science Program to Increase
Compassion for Animals and Nature,” Nell Kriesberg,
North Carolina State University

“I Never Thought About Any of It Until Taking This
Class:’ Pro-Animal Pedagogy and Student Attitudinal
Shifts,” Tracey Smith-Harris, Cape Breton University
and Shauna MacDonald, Southern Illinois University
Carbondale

“Integrating Virtual Animals in Humane Education
Curricula: The Experience of the College of Veterinary
Medicine at WSU,” Francois Martin, Washington State
University

“Animals as Facilitators of Social Capital and Character
Education,” Phil Arkow, Animal Abuse and Family
Violence Prevention Project, The Latham Foundation,
Alameda, CA and Human-Animal Bond, American
Humane Association, Englewood, CO

Friday, August 11
4:30pm - 6:10pm

THEMATIC

***Session 80: Service Learning for Building Just,
Diverse, and Democratic Communities***

Room: Longueuil

Sponsor: Teaching Social Problems Division

Organizer, Presider

& Discussant: Will Holton, Northeastern University

Papers:

“Social Capital in the Classroom: Service Learning and
Community Change,” Kristine DeWelde, Flagler
College

“Enacting Critical Pedagogy: Praxis in the
Undergraduate Classroom,” Lyndi Nicole Hewitt and
Heather Laine Talley, Vanderbilt University

“Sociological Practice Lessons Learned: Comparing
Service-learning and Internships with Graduate Field
Education,” Ginger E. Macheski, Valdosta State
University

“Power to the People: Service Learning and Social
Justice,” Robert Stanley Oden, California State
University, Sacramento and Thomas Amar Casey, San
Francisco State University

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Saturday, August 12
10:30am - 12:15pm

Session 95: Teaching and Social Problems
Room: Fontaine C

Sponsors: Social Problems Theory Division
Teaching Social Problems Division

Organizer, Presider
& *Discussant:* Susan Warner, Cedarville University

Papers:

“Teaching Social Problems Theory in a Feminist Classroom: Theory for Praxis,” Joanne Ardovini, Metropolitan College of New York

“Beyond Funny: Using Joke-Texts to Make Aspects of Alienation Real, Recognizable, and Categorically Distinct,” R. Kirk Mauldin, University of Wisconsin, Stout

“Theory as the Starting Point: Teaching about Peace,” Kathryn M. Feltey, University of Akron

“Using Service Learning to Teach Social Problems: The Question of Social Justice,” Katherine Rowell, Sinclair Community College

“Innovating the Liberal Arts Core in Light of New Challenges,” Joanne Ardovini and Anne Lopes, Metropolitan College of New York

Call for Contributing Authors

Sage Publications has announced that it will publish in 2007 a two-volume, multidisciplinary *Encyclopedia of Social Problems*, a premier reference tool for students, scholars, and professionals with a wide variety of specialties. General Editor Vincent N. Parrillo invites author contributors for the 700 entries of varying lengths (500, 1,000, 1,500, or 2,500 words). If you are interested in writing an entry (with a byline), send an e-mail to parrillov@wpunj.edu, giving your name, affiliation, address, phone number, c.v., and a short list of subject areas of greatest interest to you.

If you have any questions, or require additional information about this request, please let me know.

Thanks for your willingness to help out.

Best regards,
Vince Parrillo

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Job Announcement

Santa Clara University, CA: The Department of Sociology invites applications for a full-time tenure track position in Sociology to begin Fall 2007. Rank: Assistant Professor; Ph.D. in Sociology required at the time of appointment. Specialty areas: Criminology with an emphasis on Criminal Justice organizations and issues, particularly as they impact communities of color.

Santa Clara is a Catholic Jesuit university that offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology. We seek a sociologist who will: engage in quality scholarship; demonstrate a commitment to superior undergraduate teaching, including mentoring student research and working with a diverse student body; establish a viable program of involvement with community organizations (such as setting up internships), particularly those that deal with groups from diverse backgrounds, including but not limited to communities of color; and work cooperatively with other faculty. Appreciation of quantitative and qualitative methodologies is a must. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and develop courses in the criminology/criminal justice course cluster of the major (such as deviant behavior, crime, criminal justice system, and law in a changing society) as well as courses that the department needs, including lower division introductory level classes, upper division quantitative and/or qualitative methods, and research practicum courses on a rotating basis.

Please submit a letter of application that includes a statement of teaching philosophy as it applies to undergraduate education, summarizes relevant teaching experience and potential contributions to our multiple methods research sequence, outlines an anticipated research agenda, and discusses one's professional experience working with diverse communities. As support documents, we require: a curriculum vita; two sample course syllabi, teaching evaluations and other evidence of

teaching effectiveness; two sample publications; and three letters of recommendations (to be sent directly to the department chair). Send documents to: Marilyn Fernandez, Chair, Department of Sociology, Santa Clara University, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053-0261. Email: mfernandez@scu.edu. Application deadline is September 30, 2006.

Santa Clara University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, committed to excellence through diversity, and, in this spirit, particularly welcomes applications from women, persons of color, and members of historically underrepresented groups. The University will provide reasonable accommodations to all qualified individuals with a disability.