From the Division Chair

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

Our Division is alive and well, and in this newsletter I will share some interesting news. However, I first would like to express my gratitude to Will Holton of Northeastern University for his service to the TSP Division as past chair. I will endeavor to fill his shoes, and to serve the needs of our Division.

At the Society for the Study of Social Problems 55th Annual Meeting, August 12-14, 2005 in Philadelphia the selected theme is BLOWBACK: THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS SOLUTIONS. TSP will be sponsoring five sessions, and the session organizers are in the process of finalizing the program.

We will again be selecting a winner for the TSP Division Student Paper Competition. The winner will be selected prior to the 2005 annual meetings, and the winner will receive a $100 stipend plus a ticket to the 2005 SSSP Banquet. The award will be presented at the TSP Division reception in Philadelphia. Please encourage promising graduate students to apply for this competition.

Finally, please pay particular attention to one item: I have posted at call for applicants for position of Editor of the TSP Division Newsletter. Regular publication of our newsletter would greatly enhance the communication among the members of our division, especially during the eleven months of the year when we are not able to meet face-to-face.

Glenn W. Muschert
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Teaching Social Problems Division 2005 Students Paper Competition

Deadline: 3/15/05
The Teaching Social Problems Division announces its 2005 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 2005 SSSP 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 2005 SSSP meeting. To be eligible, a paper must meet the following criteria: 1) The paper must have been written between January 2004 and March 2005; 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 five copies of their paper, accompanied by a letter of nomination from a faculty member to: Professor Glenn W. Muschert, Department of Sociology and Gerontology, 366 Upham Hall, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056-1879; W: 513-529-1812; muschegw@muohio.edu. The winner will be announced prior to the 2005 SSSP Meeting.

Student Paper Award Committee:
Patrick F. Gillham, University of Alaska
Stacy McGoldrick, Miami University
Glenn W. Muschert, Miami University
Visiting Assistant Professor Position Available

Miami University’s Department of Sociology & Gerontology seeks applicants for a one-year appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor (non-tenure-track) beginning August 2005. Depending on availability of funds and acceptable performance, the position is renewable for up to 3 years. A PhD in sociology by the start date is preferred; ABD required.

We seek a specialist in medical sociology with additional teaching ability in social problems and introductory sociology.

Miami University is a mid-sized state-assisted liberal arts university, located in Southwest Ohio with close proximity to Dayton and Cincinnati. Emphasizing excellence in undergraduate education, Miami also maintains a productive and supportive scholarly environment. The department offers undergraduate degrees in sociology and gerontology, a Master’s in Gerontological Studies, and is launching a doctoral program in Social Gerontology in Fall, 2005. The sociology program, staffed by 16 full-time faculty members, specializes in the study of social inequalities. For more information, please visit our website at http://www.units.muohio.edu/sociology

Applicants should send a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and three letters of recommendation to: C. Lee Harrington, Chair, Department of Sociology & Gerontology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056, Phone: 513-529-3437, Fax:513-529-8525, Email: harrincl@muohio.edu.

Screening begins March 1, 2005 and will continue until the position is filled. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Miami University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.