



Volume 39 Number 2

Fall 2007

GET YOUR SUBMISSIONS READY FOR THE 2008 SSS MEETINGS!

Larry Isaac, President

Warm greetings to all! The Spring meetings may seem far away, but we all know how deceptive time can be. Now is the time to begin getting your submission ideas together for the meetings in Richmond. I have several important announcements to make about the upcoming program.

First, I want to introduce and thank some of the key people working to organize the 2008 meetings:

Program Committee: Woody Beck (co-chair), Peggy Hargis (co-chair) Harry Dahms, William Danaher, Douglas Eckberg, Michelle Emerson, Cherise Harris, Dan Harrison, Patricia Martin, Holly McCammon, Angela Mertig, Oscar Miller, Patrick Nolan, Richard Pitt, John Reynolds, Susan Webb.

Local Arrangements Committee: Denise Bissler (co-chair), Sarah Jane Brubaker (co-chair), Ghyasuddin Ahmed, Rachel Bobbitt, Joyce Edwards, Kelly Joyce, Leonda Keniston, Christine Mowery, Elizabeth Ransom, Carrie Sargeant.

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From the Editor:

As the new academic year begins, the SSS leadership is hard at work planning the 2008 Annual Meeting in Richmond. This issue gives information about Richmond and the meeting. The Call for Papers and submission guidelines will be forthcoming through the SSS listserv.

Please send information for future TSS editions to

Bob Freymeyer (mailto: rhfrey@presby.edu)

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FROM THE PRESIDENT, LARRY ISAAC

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Exhibit Coordinators: Carol B. Wortham, Robert Wortham.

[We can always use volunteers and suggestions. Please send a note to the appropriate chair of the above committees (or me) if you would like to volunteer or have a suggestion regarding the meetings. Chairperson emails are: wbeck@uga.edu, hargis_agga@georgiasouthern.edu, dbissler@rmc.edu, sbrubaker@vcu.edu, Rawcbw@aol.com, larry.isaac@vanderbilt.edu.]

Second, chairs of the various SSS committees are being asked to plan sessions, and I have invited some academics/activists whose work and experience relate well to the program theme.

Third, your submissions are the stuff from which sessions and the program are constructed. No submissions, no program. So please get your ideas ready.

Fourth, in case you missed the previous issue of TSS the theme for the 2008 meetings in Richmond will be "**Movement Matters: Vision, Mobilization, Memory.**" Social vision, an imagination of an alternative world, is what often inspires and drives many social activists who become part of movements to change the world. Mobilization focuses on the processes--often mundane, sometimes dangerous--of materially activating the collective force of movement. Social or collective memory is also crucial to movements as they are unfolding and often long after they have declined.

There is plenty of room under the movement tent for us to examine all sorts of key sociological concerns--class, gender, race, age, sexuality, labor, environmental degradation, region, globalization, immigration, and civil rights. I want to encourage a wide array of movement and movement-related work (both academic and activist oriented), and it is my aim that the civil rights movement will have a noticeable presence on the 2008 program. We will be meeting at around the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., one of the greatest movement visionaries in the nation's history. I hope the Richmond meetings will provide a forum for revisiting the long civil rights struggle and the various political projects that have been or might have been launched from visions in and memory-making processes about the movement.

Fifth, **online submissions** will open in September with an announcement on the SSS list serve and at the website that provides members with submission guidelines. Full-session submissions

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I want to encourage a wide array of movement and movement-related work (both academic and activist oriented)

FROM THE PRESIDENT, LARRY ISAAC

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are encouraged, especially in the case of thematic panels or author-meets-critics sessions.

Finally, this is a year filled with SSS transitions. You will confront one of these directly when you submit your abstract or session for the meetings. We have just acquired a new online submission system that will make the work of the program chairs and our own submissions move more smoothly and with less frustration than was the case in the past. Many thanks to the ad hoc committee who did the research for and selection of this new software system: David Brun-sma (chair), Woody Beck, Stephanie Bohon, Peggy Hargis, Linda Treiber, and Donald Wool-ley.

Check out the fascinating Richmond venues featured by the Local Arrangements Committee in this newsletter. This is a SSS meeting you will not want to miss!

Larry Isaac
Vanderbilt University

COMING SOON—**THE 2007 SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL
SOCIETY ELECTION BALLOTS**

**JEANNE S. HURLBERT
VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Nominations Committee is currently winnowing an impressive list of nominations, to select this year's candidates for President-Elect, Vice President-Elect, Executive Committee, and Publications Committee. Please watch for your ballot later this fall; in addition to mailing them to all members, we will post the candidate bios on the SSS website.

Remember, please, that this is your opportunity to participate directly in the governance of the SSS, to keep our society strong and vibrant. We'll post election results on the website as soon as they become available.

I look forward to seeing you in Richmond!

2008 Annual Meeting

Richmond, Virginia April 9-12

The next SSS annual meeting will be held in April 2008 in Richmond, Virginia, a beautiful Southern city, particularly in the Spring. Richmond is the capital of the Commonwealth of Virginia and is 90 miles south of the nation's capital. It is the gateway through I-95 that connects the South to the Northeast of the country. To the south of Richmond is the Virginia Beach and Norfolk (US Naval Base) area.

Richmond's history reflects important social movements. It was a center for slave trade and an important city during the Civil War, and Richmond has done much to preserve this history in a respectful way while also increasing its cultural appeal. The SSS conference hotel, The Richmond Marriott, is nestled in the historic downtown among many of the most historically interesting neighborhoods, which we will be highlighting in *The Southern Sociologist* issues that will be published between now and the meeting.

The conference hotel is within walking distance from the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and the renowned MCV (Medical College of Virginia), the State Capital and Governor Offices, and the Convention Center. A few nearby historic sites are the old renovated Richmond City area, including Shockoe Bottom, home to many restaurants and night clubs and James River Canal Walk areas, and the restored historical Main St. Railway station.

In addition to the many fascinating sites to visit in Richmond, the outlying areas also have much to offer. An hour drive will take you to Colonial Williamsburg (bus tours will be available) and Jamestown, which recently celebrated its 400th Anniversary. An hour in the other direction will take you to Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson and the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. Last but not least, Virginia Beach is about 2 hours by car.

Please don't underestimate this SSS venue! Richmond has much to offer and we look forward to having you visit, present, and/or organize/preside over a session. If you are interested in more information, please see the website <http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/> and/or our blog <http://sss2008meeting.blogspot.com/> -- to make a comment, click on "# comments" - sign in to Google. Otherwise, if you have any questions concerning local arrangements, please contact one of the co-chairs:

Denise Bissler (dbissler@rmc.edu)
Sarah Jane Brubaker (sbrubaker@vcu.edu)

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Richmond Neighborhood Spotlights

Jackson Ward

Jackson Ward is the nation's largest National Historic Landmark District associated with African American History and one of Richmond's most valuable and significant neighborhoods. Originally constructed as home to Richmond's white working class, Jackson Ward was officially named in 1871. By the turn of the century, previously free blacks joined by freed slaves and their descendents made Jackson Ward their home. Owing to established Jim Crow laws that segregated blacks from whites, the large number of blacks who settled into the area considered Jackson Ward "a city within a city." By 1920, its residents had become mostly professional, home-owning blacks who developed their own economic and social infrastructure. As the center of black enterprise, many banks, black-owned restaurants, insurance companies, barber-shops, medical practices and civic organizations were established to serve the needs of the community's black residents. Jackson Ward was made the largest African American entrepreneurial district in the South during the first half of the 20th century. It became known as the birthplace of Black Capitalism, also earning it the nickname as "America's Black Wall Street." Maggie L. Walker, a Jackson Ward resident, was the first woman to charter and serve as president of an American bank.



Maggie L. Walker – founder and president of St. Luke's Penny Savings Bank.

Chartered in 1903, St. Luke's Penny Savings Bank later merged with two other prominent African American banks to form **Consolidated Bank and Trust Company**, the nation's oldest surviving black-operated bank.

Jackson Ward was also known as a cultural and entertainment mecca. Local legend Bill "Bojangles" Robinson began his career in the "Ward" by performing for pennies on street corners while still a child. The famed



Jackson Ward resident **Bill "Bojangles" Robinson**

Second Street hosted many prominent black entertainers such as Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington. From the late 1920s to the 1940s, the Hippodrome Theater, one of three performance sites gave Jackson Ward its nickname, "the Harlem of the South."



The Hippodrome Theater without its famous marquee

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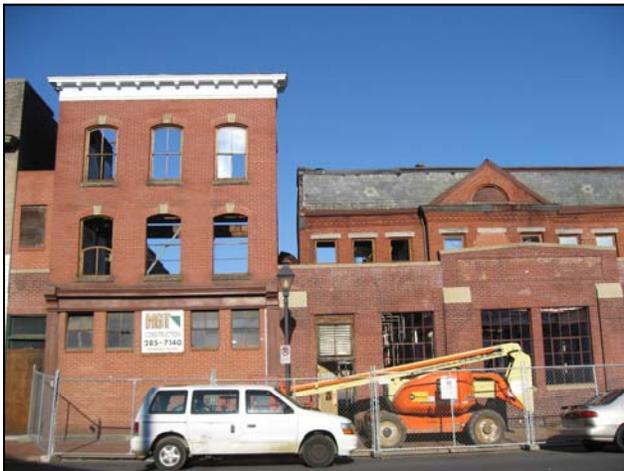
Beginning in the 1940s, the unity of Jackson Ward was threatened with the proposed federal interstate highway system and a federally sponsored proposal to build low-income housing. Hundreds of homeowners were displaced, the housing stock deteriorated and Jackson Ward became the victim of urban renewal efforts.

Ironically, the Civil Rights Movement ushered in further demise of Jackson Ward. As desegregation in the early 1960s opened up all of Richmond to African Americans, the once thriving businesses of Jackson Ward had to compete with businesses in the entire city. Most could not survive.

Today, Jackson Ward is still a great asset. Though smaller in size, aggressive revitalization efforts and gentrification have displaced former residents and have brought a renewed but different vitality to the neighborhood. With the expanded Convention Center and other businesses, it is a diverse community and the primary residential component of Richmond's downtown with the construction of trendy lofts, condos and other high-end real estate.



Gallery 5, a new performing arts space and gallery in the Fire and Police Museum



Re-Construction of historic buildings on Marshall Street

New upscale condos, gates and security systems



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Places of Interest in and around Jackson Ward:

Historic Sites:

Maggie L. Walker House - 110 East Leigh Street
Empire Theatre – 114 West Broad Street
Black History Museum and Cultural Center – 00 Clay Street
Amory Building – 200 West Leigh Street
Bill “Bojangles” Robinson Statue – Adams Street at West Leigh Street
Ebenezer Baptist Church – 216 West Leigh Street
Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church – 14 West Duval Street

Restaurants:

Croaker’s Spot Seafood Restaurant – 119 East Leigh Street
The Jackson Ward Deli --323 N. Adams Street
Lift Cafe - 281 Broad Street
Comfort - 200 W Broad Street
Crossroads at 217 W Clay Street

Shockoe Bottom

While attending the SSS conference in Richmond, be sure to visit one of Richmond’s historic neighborhoods near the conference hotel: Shockoe Bottom. Rich in history and culture, in its early incarnation it is estimated that tens of thousands of slaves were transported through the area, making it one of the most central slave trading centers in the United States. Richmond was considered to be part of a main slave trade route called “the triangle” – a route from England, to West Africa, and then Richmond. Even after the ban on importation, Shockoe Bottom served as a port to send enslaved Africans in Virginia to plantations further south (<http://defendersfje.tripod.com/id33.html>).



As you make your way through Shockoe Bottom, take note of the streets surrounding the conference hotel. These streets are rich with history, albeit unfortunate. Slaves were housed in Lumpkin’s Jail near Main Street Station. Enslaved Africans were auctioned at houses that line 15th Street. The Farmer’s Market on 17th Street held the town whipping post (defendersfje.tripod.com/id33.html). The cemetery was north of E. Broad and 15th Street. VCU students and faculty now park where the town gallows were located (<http://defendersfje.tripod.com/id33.html>).

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Shockoe Bottom is now home to various art galleries and the Farmer's Market. Today, there stands a statue dedicated to the memory of this era of history, as well as the historical sites such as the Richmond Slave Trail, which runs from Ancarrow's Landing to Shockoe Bottom.

While the area makes tribute to its past, today's Shockoe Bottom and adjoining strip offer an exciting nightlife that serves as one of the central gathering places in Rich-

mond. Those interested in dining may check out some of the notable restaurants in the Bottom, including long-standing favorites, **Richbrau's Restaurant**, Richmond's first brew-pub with adjoining taphouse, dinner dining, and late-night club and **The Tobacco Company**, a 30-year-favorite for casual fine dining. The Bottom is known for its variety of eating establishments from **Poe's British Pub**, **Sine's Irish Pub**, Italian at **La Grotta**, Mediterranean foods at **Europa's**, seafood at the **Hardshell**, famous pizza at **Bottom's Up Restaurant**, to some old-style southern cooking at **Julep's**.

Music fans gather to hear live music at **Alley Katz**, the **Canal Club**, and the newly opened **Toad's Place**. Dancing and the 'club' scene can be found at the **Bank**, **Have a Nice Day Café**, **Catch 22's**, or **Big Daddy's**. Those interested in wine, books, and poetry readings find themselves hanging out at **Café Gutenberg**.



An exciting nightlife is not all the Bottom has to offer. During the day many will grab lunch in the Bottom or take a stroll through the daily **17th Street Farmer's Market** where everything from fresh produce, to unique crafts can be found. Others frequent the scene along the James River, following along the scenic **Canal Walk**, or traveling back up to **Brown's Island** to enjoy trails along the river.

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Family Fun

For those of you considering bringing children to Richmond (the conference often coincides with schools' Spring Breaks), the city offers a number of great activities, just a few of which are highlighted below:

(The first two are conveniently located next door to each other!)

- **Science Museum of Virginia/IMAX** <http://www.smv.org/>
- **Children's Museum of Richmond** <http://www.c-mor.org/>
- **Maymont Park** (A 100-acre park with museums, live animal exhibits/petting zoo, Italian, Japanese and other specialty gardens) <http://www.maymont.org>
- **Children's Theater** <http://www.theatreiv.org/>
- **17th Street Farmer's Market** <http://www.richmondgov.com/econdev/farmersmarket/default.htm>
- **Meadow Farm Museum** (An 1860 living history farmsite and museum, presents programs and exhibits on the culture of the rural South. Costumed interpreters demonstrate seasonal activities in the farmhouse, barn, doctor's office, blacksmith forge, kitchen, fields, and pastures.) http://www.co.henrico.va.us/rec/current_programs/meadow_farm.html
- **And many, many more!**

For additional information on Richmond's attractions, visit

<http://www.richmondgov.com/visitor/thingstodo.aspx>.

We hope to see you in Richmond in April 2008!

2008 Annual Meeting

April 9-12, 2008
Richmond Marriott
Richmond, Virginia



2008 SSS Awards

IDA HARPER SIMPSON NAMED TO ROLL OF HONOR

At the 2008 SSS meeting, Ida Harper Simpson will be formally listed on the SSS's Roll of Honor. Ida is a professor emeritus at Duke University, the home of most of her career. In 1951, she attended her first meetings of the American Sociological Society (later renamed ASA) and of SSS. Her commitment to each society grew over the years along with her service. She was Editor of the *ASA Arnold and Caroline Rose Monograph Series* (1974-77) and of *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* (1987-91). She wrote *Fifty Years of the Southern Sociological Society: Change and Continuity in a Professional Society* (1988), and was president of SSS in 1987-88. She helped to launch the North Carolina Sociological Association, and has served two terms on its board of Directors (1976-78; 2003-2006), and has vigorously encouraged undergraduates' participation in NCSA and SSS.



Ida grew up during the Great Depression on a farm in southeastern Alabama that was settled by her forefathers in 1832. Those were hard times, but times that implanted a collective orientation, a view that the farm (i.e., work organization), the family, and neighbors (who came Saturday nights to listen on the radio to the *Grand Opry*) were the chief social units of her life. Looking backward, Ida sees those hard times as having laid the foundation of her formative years. She learned that work served others and that through service one gained confidence and initiative. She remembers the acclaim she received from German prisoners of war, who worked in this country as farm laborers during WWII, when she picked 500 pounds of field peas in five hours while each prisoner, at most, picked 100 pounds.

Following graduation in 1946 from Ashford High School, one of three consolidated high schools in Houston County, she entered the University of Alabama and graduated in 1949 with a major in Sociology, and stayed for graduate work. Two years later after completing her M.A. in 1951, she began doctoral study at the University of North Carolina, receiving her Ph.D. in 1956.

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IDA HARPER SIMPSON NAMED TO ROLL OF HONOR



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Ida credits her undergraduate education, in particular the field work assignments on the observation of social interactions given by the social anthropologist, Solon T. Kimball, which taught her to conceptualize primary social relations, and the mentoring by Morris Caldwell, a criminologist, who introduced her to James Bennett, Director of the US Bureau of Prisons. Mr. Bennett encouraged her to take an internship in the summer of 1949 at the Federal Reformatory for Women in Alderson, West Virginia. This internship transformed her idealist desire to remake prisoners in her own image to wanting to understand their coping strategies in prison – an archetypal total institution (Goffman). Her M.A. thesis extended her earlier work on the organization of women's prison life through six months of field work in a state prison for women (*Social Forces*, 31 (1952):53-60).

Ida's doctoral work expanded her knowledge of the literature and methods for studying social life (e.g., Dan Price's statistics assignments). Her dissertation research was a participant observation field study on the occupational socialization of student nurses, directed by Harvey Smith, a student of Everett C. Hughes. This work enabled her to appreciate the impact of training in work techniques on occupational maturation (*Sociological Inquiry*, 1967), from which she later drew on at Duke to help develop a five-year study of the professional socialization of Duke student nurses (*From Student to Nurse*, 1979). Her UNC Ph.D. cohort was sizable and, for the first time, she had a stable student colleague group, who through talking shop and routinized weekly study meetings, especially those with Tad Blacklock, refined her theoretical understanding and its relation to research (cf. Everett C. Hughes' work). Her classmates were powerful teachers, as were her professors, and together they provided enduring professionalizing experiences.

Ida took her first academic job, at William and Mary (1954-55), a year in advance of completion of her dissertation and also before her marriage. In the summer of 1955, after having resigned from William and Mary and having married Dick Simpson, she returned to UNC to write her dissertation. About a fourth of her UNC cohort were women, none of them married. Most of these completed their degrees and took jobs. A few then married. But the minority who married during their graduate education withdrew from school, except Ida. As far as she knows, Ida was the first female sociology graduate student at UNC to marry during doctoral studies and to go on without interruption to complete her degree.

Gender, marriage, and sponsorship via "weak social ties" (Granovetter, *AJS*, 1974) have shaped Ida's academic career. The influence of gender became evident with her appointment at William and Mary. Her application consisted of a curriculum vitae. Letters of recommendation were not requested. Unbeknownst to her, a letter from Howard W. Odum to Wayne Kernodle, chair at William and Mary and a Carolina Ph.D., appears to have been decisive. (Kernodle sent Ida the letter in 1987, when on retirement he cleared his office files.) Odum wrote:

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IDA HARPER SIMPSON NAMED TO ROLL OF HONOR



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“There are factors to her credit which you might wish to consider. She is one of the most indefatigable and persistent students we have had[with] very high motivation toward doing a good job. She believes in her work and envisages a high standard of professional effort.....[Her] facility in applying theory to a problem will serve her well This does not mean that I think any less of [male applicants from UNC], but I believe that at this time an added woman member of your faculty, in light of your women students, might be a decisive factor.” Howard W. Odum, April 1954.

Following her Ph.D., the influence of gender, marriage, and sponsorship via social ties became more decisive. Her first three appointments after her doctorate and marriage were as a research associate at Penn State (1956-57), as a lecturer at the University of Illinois School of Nursing in Chicago (1957-58), and as a research associate at Duke (1958-1960), all of which were successively initiated by her husband’s department chairs at Penn State, Northwestern, and UNC. Her research position at Duke provided the opportunity to participate in a large survey project studying retirement and to her promotion in 1960 to assistant professor.

At the end of the 1962 fall semester, Ida took leave to prepare for motherhood; then she resigned two years later in favor of a research associateship that enabled her to work at home. As a “stay-at-home working mother,” she continued to do research and publish. She kept her eye on the marketplace and observed that faculty hiring had become rationalized with publications given considerable weight. During the eight years of her stay-at-home research, she co-authored two books and two articles and single authored three others. During this interim, the women’s movement progressed and academic hiring was increasingly democratized. Together, these processes opened opportunities for female sociologists in research-oriented departments. In 1971, Ida successfully applied for a position at Duke and was appointed associate professor. Thereafter the earlier structural impacts of gender, marriage, and motherhood on her career receded.

Reflecting on the launching years of her career, Ida sees that at the same time that gender, marriage and motherhood closed opportunities, they provided access to ones that otherwise would have likely been beyond her reach. Women sociologists, married or single, rarely held tenure-track positions in universities. Their market was colleges, co-ed as well as female. In that period of the 1950s and early 1960s, female sociologists were expected to embody feminine qualities – nurturance, devotion, duty, steadfastness – that would advantage them as teachers. Had Ida not married and had the sponsorship of Dick’s department chairs, she doubts that she would

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IDA HARPER SIMPSON NAMED TO ROLL OF HONOR



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have had the research opportunities that her research associateships provided, especially those at Duke. She might have been good at “applying theory to the structure of a research problem,” but academic gender barriers were too engrained in the structure of higher education for a research-oriented department to see, let alone consider, female and male applicants as *one* pool of candidates.

The most lasting influence of her female-linked statuses is that they motivated and continue to motivate some of her research interests. During her long career, Ida has studied female institutions (prisons), women’s occupations (nursing and other traditional semiprofessions), women’s career choices, conjugal roles, class identification of married men and women, and farm families and their sexual division of labor. Her other interests have included work and occupations and the “sociology of sociology,” the latter having been stimulated by her writing of the history of the Southern Sociological Society and her “participant observations” of the SSS, ASA, and NCSA. She is currently writing a history of Duke’s Department of Sociology from the view of its integration into Duke University, the discipline, and the profession, with special attention to its position within the prestige market of sociology. She also looks forward to completing a work on institutional shifts in the status of children, an interest generated by her many years of teaching a course on children. Though she is now retired, her zest for sociology has not waned.

GREGORY L. WEISS TO RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING AWARD



Greg Weiss grew up in Canton, Ohio. He did his undergraduate work at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and graduated from there in 1971. While he considered several possible majors during his early years there, friends told him that he should try out sociology. He took Introduction to Sociology in spring term of his junior year and immediately recognized that he had found an intellectual home. The sociology faculty enabled him to complete the major in that summer and his senior year.

While considering graduate schools, Robert Eichhorn, a medical sociologist who was just returning to Purdue University after working for the federal government, offered Greg a United States Public Health Service fellowship to focus on medical sociology. After reading several

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GREGORY L. WEISS TO RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING AWARD



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recommended books in the field, Greg realized that it offered him the three things he wanted most in a specialty area: an interesting field in which to teach and to do research and a field that could be used as a conduit for community participation. He accepted the offer and began graduate classes the day after he graduated from Wittenberg.

Greg's admiration for the faculty at Wittenberg had convinced him that he wanted to be a faculty member at a small, liberal arts college. Having grown up in a snow belt, he also wanted to move as close to the equator as possible. Roanoke College was not as far south as he had envisioned, but it offered a good liberal arts setting, so with Ph.D. in hand, Greg headed to Virginia in 1975. And, has been there ever since.

Working at a small college and with undergraduate students have been as fulfilling as he envisioned. The college has offered opportunities to create courses on a wide variety of sociological topics, to serve as department chair, to establish a research center, to accompany students on five study abroad trips and two trips to the Navajo and Hopi reservations, to work with health professions students as well as sociology students, to supervise more than 100 community internships and more than 50 independent studies, and to develop the college's assessment program.

Greg's professional activities have occupied a somewhat larger role in his career than he had anticipated. He has been active in the ASA (especially the Section on Teaching and Learning in Sociology and the Department Resources Group), SSS, and the Virginia Social Science Association. He is author of three books, *The Sociology of Health, Healing, and Illness* (co-authored with Lynne Lonnquist)(6th edition forthcoming); *Experiencing Social Research* (co-authored with Kerry Strand), and *Grass Roots Medicine: The Story of America's Free Health Clinics* and more than 30 journal articles related to health-related behaviors, attitudes and behaviors related to end-of-life decision making, and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Greg's hopes of being involved in the local community have been realized in his participation with a free health clinic and Planned Parenthood and, in the most recent years, volunteering with his wife, Janet Jonas, and golden retrievers, Lacy and Emmy, in pet therapy programs, for a no-kill shelter for abused and abandoned dogs and cats and for the St. Francis of Assisi Service Dog Program.

Greg has been honored with the teaching and professional activity awards at Roanoke, with the Hans Mauksch Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Sociology, and with a State Council of Higher Education Outstanding Virginia Faculty Award.

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LARRY J. GRIFFIN NAMED 2008 DISTINGUISHED LECTURER

Larry J. Griffin is the Reed Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Professor of History and of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Professor Griffin previously taught at Indiana University, the University of Minnesota, and Vanderbilt University, and served as a visiting professor at the College of William and Mary and Berea College. His research and teaching interests center on collective memory, race, and social inequality, especially in the context of the American South. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Mental Health, and the U.S. Department of Labor. He has published over 60 articles and essays and edited several books.



Professor Griffin is a fellow at UNC's Center for the Study of the American South and has been a fellow at the Center for the Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences and distinguished visiting scholar at the University of Notre Dame. Currently co-editor of the journal *Southern Cultures*, he has also served on the editorial boards of 11 journals in sociology and history, including a stint as the deputy editor of the *American Sociological Review*.

With Larry Isaac, he was the recipient, in 1990, of the Barrington Moore Award, given by the American Sociological Association's Comparative-Historical Section for best article in the area. While at Indiana and Vanderbilt, he won numerous awards for his graduate and undergraduate teaching and occupied, at the latter institution, the Chair of Teaching Excellence from 1997 to 2000. He has been a member of the SSS for most of his career, serving on the Publications, Program, Executive, and Nominations committees.

CLIFTON D. BRYANT RECEIPT OF 2008 MARTIN L. LEVIN AWARD

Clifton D. Bryant, Professor of Sociology at Virginia Tech University was named as the recipient of the Martin L. Levin Distinguished Service Award for his career service contributions to the SSS and to sociology in the South. This award will be presented to him at the Spring Meeting of the SSS in Richmond.

In this connection he served as Editor of *The Southern Sociologist* for the years from 1970 to 1974. When he assumed the Editorship, he expanded the newsletter from 4 to 6 pages to 25



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CLIFTON BRYANT RECEIPT OF 2008 MARTIN L. LEVIN AWARD



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pages as a semi-journal. In 1972 he was elected as a member of the Executive Committee and served in this capacity until 1975. Because of his subsequent election as Vice President, and then President of the SSS, he served continuously as a member of the Executive Committee for a total of 10 consecutive years, one of the longer tenures in a leadership role in the organization. He also served as a member of other committees, such as Chair of the Nominations Committee. Over his career, he chaired numerous paper sessions and read papers or served as a panelist in many sessions.

In 2002, he was named as the first recipient of the newly established Southern Sociological Society Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award. The SSS honored Bryant with that award for his career contributions to the teaching enterprise. His contributions to this effort include books on military crime, deviant behavior, sociology of work, and other subjects used in sociology courses across the country, his classroom teaching of undergraduate and graduate students and the development of curricula for academic programs in sociology at several institutions, where he served as Department Head. He also made contributions to the dissemination of sociological knowledge by founding and/or editing the journals, *Deviant Behavior* and *Sociological Symposium*, and through his Editorship of the four-volume *Encyclopedia of Crime and Deviant Behavior*, the two-volume *Handbook of Death and Dying*, and Co-Editorship (with Dennis Peck) of the two-volume *Handbook of 21st Century Sociology*. Bryant also appeared as a guest authority in an episode of the nationally broadcast series, *Ancient Mysteries*, on the A&E channel, sociologically informing millions of viewers

During his 30 years at Virginia Tech, he has received 6 teaching awards for instruction at both graduate and undergraduate level.

Dr. Bryant served as President of the Southern Sociological Society in 1979. Bryant has been a faculty member at six U.S. colleges and universities (Department Head at three), held Visiting Scientist appointments at two other organizations, and was a Visiting Exchange Professor at Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro, in the Philippines, and Fulbright Visiting Professor at National Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan.

Bryant also served as President of the Mid-South Sociological Association in 1982. In 1991, he was the recipient of that organization's Distinguished Career Award. In 2001 the MSSA presented him with their Distinguished Book Award for his *Encyclopedia of Criminology and Deviant Behavior*, and in 2004, they presented him with the Distinguished Book Award for his two-volume *Handbook of Death and Dying*. Bryant has authored or edited 13 books, and more than 65 journal articles and book chapters. He is currently Co-Editing (with Dennis Peck) a new, multi-volume, reference work, *The Encyclopedia of Death and the Human Experience*.

Call for Nominations for SSS Awards

Please consider nominating sociologists for the SSS Honors described below. All nominations and supporting documents should be sent electronically (where possible) to Jammie Price, mailto: PRICEJL@appstate.edu; Sociology and Social Work, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608-2115.

Roll of Honor

The greatest recognition given by the Southern Sociological Society is an appointment to the Roll of Honor. This award recognizes a career of distinguished intellectual contribution to Sociology. Awardees must be members of the Southern Sociological Society (or made significant contributions to Sociology while a member of SSS) and have made stellar contributions to the discipline across their career.

Nomination Procedure: 1) Nominations can be submitted by any member of the Society to the chairperson of the Honors Committee; 2) At least five letters of nomination, the majority being from current members, shall be received and reviewed by the Honors Committee. These letters should address the purpose and qualifications stated above and should be accompanied by supporting documentation. The letters of nomination will be presented to the honoree when the award is made; 3) Nominations may be made at any time during the year. To be considered for an award to be made at the next meeting of the Society, they must be complete by **January 15**.

Charles S. Johnson Award

This award recognizes distinguished scholarly contributions on race and the South. The individual's contribution may be an exceptional single work, several pieces of work, or a significant career of professional achievement. This award includes the opportunity for the recipient or others on their behalf to arrange a session at the next annual meeting if appropriate and desired.

Nomination Procedure: Any member of the SSS may submit a nomination but self-nominations are not accepted. The primary nominator should submit a package including several letters endorsing the nomination (the majority of them from current SSS members), the nominee's curriculum vitae, particular publications and/or other supporting documentation. Nominations must be submitted by **January 15**.

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SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
 1201 N. UNIVERSITY AVENUE
 SUITE 100
 TAMPA, FL 33606-5000
 TEL: 813-974-1111
 FAX: 813-974-1112
 WWW.SSASOCIATION.ORG

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Odum Awards for Undergraduate and Graduate Papers

The Odum Award recognizes outstanding research papers by undergraduates and graduates in the southern region or by students outside the region whose work is mentored by current SSS members. The award carries a cash prize of \$100 and up to an additional \$200 toward expenses of attendance at the SSS meeting. One annual award may be given each year for the best undergraduate paper and best graduate paper submitted on any sociological topic.

Eligibility: The paper must have only one author and conform to the style guidelines and length conventions of *Social Forces*. The student author need not be a member of the SSS. It is expected that the author will not have presented the paper at another professional meeting. Papers will be judged on the basis of originality, clarity of exposition, conceptualization, and analysis. Faculty are asked to nominate no more than one student paper in each category per year. Students who have gone on to graduate or professional school are eligible for the undergraduate paper award if the paper was written when they were enrolled in an undergraduate degree program.

Authors of the Odum award-winning papers are expected to attend the SSS Annual Meeting to receive their award. Students are expected to present their papers at the annual meeting. If the winning paper had not previously been submitted and accepted for presentation at the time the committee makes its award decision, the paper will be added to the program.

Nominating Procedure Undergraduate Papers: The undergraduate papers should be submitted by a member of the SSS who attests that the author meets the conditions of eligibility. The paper should be submitted by **December 15**.

Nominating Procedure for Graduate Papers: Graduate students may submit their own papers. Their submission should come with the endorsement of a member of their graduate institution's faculty who is a member of the SSS and who attests that the author is a student in good standing. The paper should be submitted by **December 15**.

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Nomination Procedure: Nominations should include: 1) the name(s) and address (es) of the nominee; 2) three letters of recommendation (one of which is from the nominator) explaining how the nominee has excelled in the teaching of sociology; 3) the nominee’s curriculum vitae or, in the case of collective actors, program description, which includes a list of activities that fall under the areas above; and 4) relevant supporting materials (syllabi, student evaluations, textbooks, manuals, and any other evidence that demonstrate contributions to the teaching of sociology). Nominees may also independently send supporting materials. Both the nominee and the nominator must be members of the Southern Sociological Society.

***The Martin L. Levin
Distinguished Service Award***

The purpose of the award is to honor outstanding service to the Southern Sociological Society. This honor recognizes those members who have made exemplary contributions to the Southern Sociological Society through direct service over a lifetime or significant portion of their professional careers. Their contributions should have been vital in fulfilling the Society’s mission and sustaining its annual meetings. Their record may include serving in major fiduciary and organizational leadership roles, either as an officer or chair/member of committees, or as a program chair, session organizer, discussant, etc.; or it may involve providing leadership for innovative changes in the organization and functioning of the Society, in building the Society’s membership, or in other ways. Recipients of this award are expected to have been members of the Society for a considerable portion of their careers.

Nomination Procedure: Nominations should include: 1) the name and address of the nominee; 2) three letters of recommendation (one of which is from the nominator) highlighting the nominee’s service to the Southern Sociological Society; 3) the nominee’s curriculum vitae; 4) relevant supporting documents illustrating contributions to service. Both the nominators and the recipient must be members of the Southern Sociological Society. This award need not be presented annually but

will be offered in years when the Honors Committee determines that a nominee truly merits this recognition. The deadline for nominations is **January 15**.

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SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGISTS

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Distinguished Lectureship Award

A new award, The Southern Sociological Society Distinguished Lectureship Award, may be awarded annually to a member of the Southern Sociological Society in recognition of his/her excellence as a scholar and lecturer. This award has three key goals. First, it allows the Society to honor one of its distinguished scholar/teachers in a public manner. Second, it allows SSS to provide a much-needed resource to departments that typically lack the resources to bring distinguished scholars to their campuses. Third, it serves to promote SSS.

The criteria are twofold: first, the nominee must be a distinguished scholar who is recognized as having made a significant contribution to the discipline through major publications. Second, evidence must be provided which demonstrates that the nominee is an excellent lecturer. The honoree, who receives an honorarium of \$500 and the honorific title of Southern Sociological Society Distinguished Lecturer for the year awarded, must commit to giving a minimum of two public lectures at SSS region colleges/universities in that year. As with similar awards, the location of the lectures will be chosen on a competitive basis by a selection committee; institutions with fewer resources will be given priority. Ideally, expenses will be shared by institutions and SSS. The latter will help support the lecture series by contributing up to \$1,000 to subsidize travel and other expenses. The honoree may also deliver a lecture in a special session dedicated to that end at the SSS annual meeting in the year following his/her designation.

Nomination Procedure: Any member of the SSS may submit a nomination but self-nominations are not accepted. The nominee must be a member of SSS. The primary nominator should submit a packet of materials including several letters endorsing the nomination (the majority of them from current SSS members), the nominee's curriculum vitae, particular publications and evidence of excellence in teaching (student evaluations, syllabi and other supporting documentation). Nominations must be submitted by **January 15**.

New SSS SECRETARY-TREASURER

Stephanie Bohon, Associate Professor, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, replaced Marty Levin as Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Sociological Society on July 1, 2007. Along with the change in personnel, we have also changed and updated much of our software. Please bear with us as we work out the bugs.

The new contact information for the society is:

Southern Sociological Society
PO Box 16239
Knoxville TN 37996

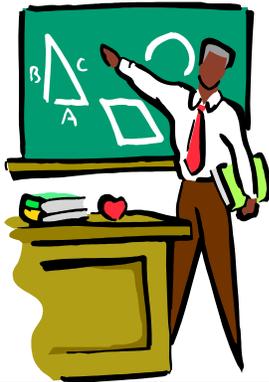
Phone: 865-974-2620

Fax: 865-974-2714

Email: sss@southernsociologicalsociety.org

New Website

We have a new website! Check it out at <http://www.southernsociologicalsociety.org>. This is still a work in progress, and we encourage any suggestions for changes or additions. Please send your ideas to webmaster@southernsociologicalsociety.org. Thanks to SSS member, James Maples, for all of his hard work in putting this together.



The Teaching Corner



Carrie L. Cokely, Chair

Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges

The following individuals will be serving on the committee for sociology in community colleges and small colleges:

- Chair, Carrie Cokely, Meredith College cokelyc@meredith.edu
- Thomas S. Plaut, Mars Hill College, tplaut@mhc.edu
- Karen Mundy, Lee University, kmundy@leeuniversity.edu
- Caroline Whitehead, Craven Community College, cwhitehead@csc.craven.cc.nc.us
- Daniel Harrison, Lander University, dharrison@lander.edu
- Lisa Peloquin, Elon University, artemis@elon.edu

We are currently working on ways to increase participation of individuals at community colleges and small colleges in the SSS. If you have any suggestions or comments on this or other issues related to teaching at community colleges and small colleges, please direct your feedback to one of the committee members.

Information Needed

The information in the teaching corner comes from YOU!

This year we would again like to feature teaching exercises and assignments from individuals in the society. If you have an exercise or assignment to share please forward it along with objectives of the assignment and a short commentary on how it has worked in your class to Carrie Cokely cokelyc@meredith.edu.

Additionally we would like to highlight the achievements of undergraduate students at your institution who are engaged in research and/or activism. If you have a student or group of students that you would like to see recognized in the newsletter for their work, please send a short write up along with a picture to Carrie Cokely cokelyc@meredith.edu.

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The Teaching Corner

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Teaching Exercise: Using Photos to Think about Families

I use this exercise in my Sociology of Families course as a way to get students thinking about the ways in which social forces and events may impact families and to have them think about the assumptions that each of us make about families.

Materials needed: Variety of photographs/postcards of families representing various time periods in history; I use ones from my own family and friends and also encourage students to bring in their own to add to the activity.

Procedure: Students are put into groups of 3-4 students and each group is given 3-4 photographs to examine. If students bring in photos, they do not analyze their own photos. In completing the activity, students are asked to discuss the following questions:

- ★ What historical period might this photo depict? What impact might this period have on the family pictured?
- ★ What is occurring in the photograph(s)?
- ★ What were the attitudes/beliefs about families at this time?
- ★ What can you tell about the relationships between spouses, children, parents and children, nuclear and extended family from the photograph(s)?
- ★ What can you tell about the roles of the family members that are present in the photograph(s)?
- ★ What theories used by sociologists who study families could be used to explain the family and relationships depicted in the photograph(s)?

After the small group discussions end, each group shares its analysis of at least one photo. We then use the various analyses to discuss how history may have impacted the families and how the assumptions that each group made about the family in the photo are related to larger social forces and societal definitions of family.

This exercise has worked well in my own class and allows students to begin to understand the course material surrounding family as an institution and historical changes in family in a new way. When utilizing photos of families that one knows, it is also interesting to discuss what is really going on in the photo and compare that with what the students assumed was going on in the photo and why they made those assumptions.

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The Teaching Corner

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Websites of Interest:

Social Explorer <http://www.socialexplorer.com>

This website contains a public version that is accessible for free through the above address and also has a more in depth version available by subscription. It contains demographic information about the United States beginning in 1940 and extending through 2000. Using data from the US Census, users can create reports or see visual representations on an interactive map.

This American Life Radio Archive <http://www.thislife.org>

This radio show broadcast on Chicago Public Radio gives listeners short reflections on a variety of topics related to life in the United States. Each week the host of the show picks a topic and then interviews a variety of people who have some relation to the topic. There are clips on topics ranging from inequality, education and family to health care, environmental issues and terrorism.

Opensecrets.org <http://www.opensecrets.org>

This is an organization, sponsored by the Center for Responsible Politics, that tracks campaign contributions and their impact on elections and public policy. Currently on the website are the reports filed by lobbying and special interest groups as well as the percentage of money that each member of Congress receives from individual contributions, PAC contributions, as well as how much of a campaign was self-financed by the candidate.

Member News

Marty Levin, long-time SSS Secretary-Treasurer, has moved from Mississippi State University to the University of Memphis where he is now Chair of the Department of Sociology. Dr. Levin's new email address is Martin.Levin@Memphis.edu.

Job Opportunities

University of Memphis. The Department of Sociology invites applications for two tenure track faculty positions: one to be filled at the assistant professor rank and one at the associate or full professor rank. Employment begins August 2008. The candidates should have a primary specialty in social inequality, comparative social change, organizations, or an institution (such as medical, family, or religion). Applicants must complete a PhD in sociology no later than August 2008. We seek candidates with exceptional commitment to research and teaching. Please send a letter of application, a curriculum vita, publications or samples of written work, a statement describing teaching interests and research plans, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and three letters of recommendation to: Larry Petersen, Chair, Search Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Memphis, Clement Hall 231, Memphis, TN 38152. Screening will begin October 1, 2007, and may continue until the position is filled. The successful candidate will join an exciting and growing department in a dynamic urban university. The University of Memphis is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. We strongly encourage applications from women and racial minorities.

Mississippi State University. The Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work seeks a Department Head at the rank of Professor, beginning July 1st 2008. Candidates must have a PhD, an established research and extramural funding record, a commitment to academic excellence, and strong administrative skills. Substantive area is open. The successful candidate will join a large multidisciplinary department. Programs offered include BA, MS, and PhD in Sociology, BA and MA in Anthropology, and BSW in Social Work. The department consists of 23 faculty members (16 in Sociology, 7 in Anthropology and Social Work), more than 200 undergraduate majors and more than 50 graduate students. The Department has strong ties to several research centers including the Social Science Research Center, the Cobb Institute of Archaeology, and the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision. More information on the department and the programs embedded within can be seen at <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/sociology>.

Applicants or nominees should have significant publications warranting appointment at the rank of Full Professor with tenure. The Department Head will guide curricular revision and programmatic assessment; encourage strong scholarship; guide junior faculty through the tenure and promotion process; oversee all personnel matters, including the annual review of faculty; manage the budget; cooperate with the College of Arts and Sciences in pursuing research grants and external funding; and serve as a liaison between faculty and administration, providing timely reports to both audiences. Documented experience in departmental or college leadership positions desirable. Teaching assignment is negotiable; the salary will be competitive.

THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<http://www.southernsociologicalsociety.org>

The Southern Sociological Society (SSS) is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the development of sociology as a profession and scientific discipline by the maintenance of high academic professional and ethical standards and by encouraging:

- (a) effective teaching of sociology;
- (b) valid and reliable methods of research in the study of human society;
- (c) diffusion of sociological knowledge and its application to societal problems;
- (d) cooperation with related disciplines and groups;
- (e) recruitment and training of sociologists; and
- (f) development of sociology programs in educational and other agencies.

Members receive *Social Forces* and online access to *The Southern Sociologist* and to a membership directory. An annual meeting is held in the spring, usually mid-April. Membership is open to any person who can assist in promoting the objectives of the society. Persons wishing to join SSS may send dues directly

to the Secretary-Treasurer. Please include your first middle and last name, address, phone number, where employed, and gender. For statistical purposes, we also ask you to include your race and/or ethnic group and three areas of specialty.

The membership year is July 1 through June 30. Membership classes, annual charges and dues are:

Regular	50.00
Emeritus	
with <i>Social Forces</i>	28.00
without <i>Social Forces</i>	no cost
Associate (non-voting)	48.00
Student	25.00

Dues, subscriptions, membership inquiries and address changes should be addressed to:

Southern Sociological Society
PO Box 16239
University of Tennessee
Knoxville TN 37996

<http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/Creditcards/Creditcards.htm>

THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGIST

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The Southern Sociologist (TSS) is the official publication of the Southern Sociological Society. It is typically published electronically four times a year in the months of May, September, January, and March. The purpose of TSS is to report the news, announcements, and information of interest to the profession and to serve as a medium of communication for the SSS membership on issues affecting the profession.

INFORMATION WANTED. . .CONTRIBUTE TO TSS

To bring you the news, I need your news! Please send any news of your department and/or colleagues for possible publication in TSS. Articles pertaining to the state of the profession or the discipline are also welcome. To appear in the next issue, submissions must be received by the deadline below.

In addition to news and other information, I am also interested in any thoughts you may wish to suggest regarding the format and/or content of TSS.

TSS

The editor reserves the right to publish or not to publish any submission. Also, there may be times when submissions need to be edited. This will be done where appropriate, but in no case will the substance of any submission be changed without the prior consent of the author.

Next Issue Deadline: December 15, 2007