

The Southern Sociologist

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Summer 2012



From the President, Donald Tomaskovic- Devey

I am sitting on my front porch in Montague, Massachusetts, writing my first column as president of the Southern Sociological Society. Some explanation may be in order. I was honored, and a little surprised, to be elected to this position. I have been a member of the SSS for a long time, I can't quite tell you how long. I know it was after 1983, when I moved from Boston to Columbia to take a job at the University of South Carolina. I became a card carrying member of the SSS a few years later, after I had moved to NC State. SSS has been my intellectual home since. In 2005 I meandered back to the Northeast, I even tried going to the Eastern Sociology meetings twice, but the SSS meetings felt much more like home. Nothing against us Yankees, but I do love walking in the halls at the SSS meetings, seeing former grad students, colleagues, and folks I have grown up with as a sociologist. I hope you do to.

This year's meeting in New Orleans was a great success. President extraordinaire Beth Rubin and her program committee directed by Stephanie Moller and Elizabeth Stearns assembled an impressive and interesting meeting. The meeting broke the all time attendance record for the SSS. While this is part of a clear upward trend in SSS meeting attendance, this year's meeting was something special. The halls were electric with discussion, the sessions full, and the Presidential address electrifying.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT,

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It is an honor to move into the presidency of the SSS after a string of very successful annual meetings and energetic Presidents. Next year's meeting will be April 17-20, 2013, in Atlanta. As you know the SSS rotates between New Orleans, Atlanta, and other cities in the region. For many years the Atlanta meeting has been held in downtown Atlanta, which truth be told is a little dead at night. Well, no more. This year we are moving to the Grand Hyatt in Buckhead. Buckhead, as many of you know, has great nightlife and multiple attractions, and we are sure will be an even more rewarding venue than past Atlanta meetings. Steve McDonald of NC State will be chairing the program committee, and you will be hearing a lot from him over the next nine months as we prepare for that meeting.

The meeting theme is *Relational Inequality* and will highlight the social production of inequalities in their organizational, spatial and historical context. My conceit is that there are three core insights that sociologists share. 1. Social life is produced by the relations among actors. 2. Inequality is a core dimension of social life, structuring social relations and producing social structures. 3. And that at the core of scientific sociology is the recurring insight that context matters. Which inequalities matter and what work social relations accomplish are profoundly conditioned by their context. Some of us call this social structure, others refer to historical or spatial context, increasingly many of us are turning to more grounded notions of social fields and institutions. The details of the meeting will be forthcoming, but at this point you can expect a mini-conference on teaching as well as one on social psychology and another on social networks, the latter two to highlight the core ideas undergirding relational inequality. Plenary sessions will focus on the issues of inequalities produced in context.

There are two big bits of SSS business the executive committee will be discussing this year. The first is a thorough revision of the by-laws, most of which have been approved by the executive committee already and will be brought before the membership for approval (or not) as part of the annual election this fall. The second is a discussion about founding a new sociology journal associated with the SSS. There is a lot of excitement for this idea on the executive committee, and we even have some interest from a couple of publishers. There is still some serious work to be done to ensure that it is intellectually exciting and financially viable move for the association. Former President Vinnie Roscigno has done a great deal of work to make this conversation possible, and I will keep you posted on any progress we make. If you have ideas, are enthusiastic, or aghast, please send me an email.



tomaskovic-devey@soc.umass.edu

Spring 2012 SSS Meeting

The 2012 Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society had almost 1000 registrants, returning to a level not seen in many years. The Hotel Monteleone provided its usual welcoming venue for the meeting. The Program Committee led by co-chairs Stephanie Moller and Elizabeth Stearns (University of North Carolina-Charlotte) produced a diverse and exciting program. Beth Rubin delivered her Presidential Address on “Shifting Social Contracts,” providing an integrative summary of the meeting theme. The mini-conferences on “Work, Inequality, and Shifting Social Contracts”; Gender and Family,” co-sponsored by Sociologists for Women in Society-South; and “Teaching Sociology,” co-sponsored by the Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges, stimulated considerable discussion. Additionally, plenary speakers Cecilia Ridgeway, ASA President; Ruben Rumbaut; and Joane Nagel discussed shifting social contracts around gender, ethnic inequalities, and the environment respectively. Other plenary panels considered shifting contracts in education, with an emphasis on resegregation of public schools, and shifting social contracts in higher education.



President Rubin delivers her Presidential Address, “Shifting Social Contracts.”

Beth Rubin passes the symbols of “power” to new President Donald Tomaskovic-Devey.



2012 Annual Meeting a Success

Enjoying the Presidential Reception



The Registration Desk

Sharing scholarship at roundtables



2012 SSS Awards

Distinguished Lecturer Award

James Wright, Chair of the Committee on Honors, presents the Distinguish Lecturer Award to Shirley Laska.

The Honors Committee designated three campuses as hosts of the 2012 SSS Distinguished Lecture delivered by Dr. Laska: Samford University, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and East Carolina University. By her own choice, Dr. Laska also presented her lecture to Auburn University, the University of Alabama, Birmingham, and North Carolina State University.



Roll of Honor



Christopher Wimberely expresses appreciation to the Southern Sociological Society for adding his father, Ronald Wimberely, to the Roll of Honor.

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Odum Student Paper Awards

Undergraduate Award



Kristen McCollum, Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, receives the Undergraduate Odum Award for her paper “The Art of Collective Identity: How an Art from the Streets Program Fosters a Sense of Community among the Homeless.”

Graduate Award



The Graduate Odum Award is presented to **Regina Baker**, Duke University, for her work on “The Declining Significance of Marriage and the Increasing Significance of Work for Child Poverty in the U.S.”

2013 SSS Awards

John Shelton Reed to be Added to the 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. **John Shelton Reed**, William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, will be added to the Roll of Honor in 2013.

Rebecca Bach to be Given Distinguished Teaching Award

The purpose of the Distinguished Teaching Award is to honor individuals, departments, schools, institutions, or other collective actors for their outstanding contributions to the teaching of sociology at the undergraduate and/or graduate level. The award may recognize contributions over the course of a career, over the history of a program, or for a specific project or projects.

Teaching is broadly defined to include: classroom instruction, curriculum design, directing and mentoring students, developing instructional materials, producing educational films or videos, creating educational software or web sites, writing or editing textbooks or teacher manuals, conducting workshops on pedagogy, training student teachers, and publishing teaching-related research. Recipients of the award are expected to have excelled in one or more of these areas, and have a minimum of five years teaching experience (or be a program that has been in existence for at least five years). This is not an award simply for being an outstanding classroom teacher at one's own institution, but is intended to honor individuals or collective actors whose contributions, though they may result from classroom teaching, go beyond their institutions to benefit the discipline as a whole. The Distinguished Teaching Award for 2013 will be presented to **Rebecca Bach**, Duke University.

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Karen Campbell to Receive Katherine Jocher-Belle Boone Beard Award

The Katherine Jocher-Belle Boone Beard Award recognizes distinguished scholarly contributions to the understanding of gender and society. The award honors a single work, several pieces of work, or a significant career of professional achievements. **Karen Campbell**, Vanderbilt University, will receive this award in 2013.

The Martin L. Levin Distinguished Service Award to be Presented to Robert Freymeyer

The Martin L. Levin Distinguished Service Award honors 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. The 2013 Martin L. Levin Distinguished Service Award will be presented to **Robert Freymeyer**, Presbyterian College.

Southern Sociological Society

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer Stephanie A. Bohon

June 30, 2012, marks the end of my five-year term as Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Sociological Society. I will be replaced by David Brunsma (Virginia Tech), and I will assume a new duty as Recording Secretary for the Society. With the transition of the office, the Society will also be getting a new webmaster, as James Maples will be moving with his family to Martin, Tennessee, to begin a position as Assistant Professor. James has been outstanding in managing the general operations of the Society and in maintaining our website for the past five years.

I have been fortunate to work with an exceptional slate of elected and appointed members who have labored at length for the continuing improvement of our society. These members include past presidents Beth Rubin, Vinnie Roscigno, Angie O'Rand, Kate Slevin, and Larry Isaac. My job was also made much easier by the exceptional assistance I have received by the past two recording secretaries, David Brunsma and Lynne Cossman (Mississippi State). I would also be remiss if I did not mention Denise Bissler (Randolph Macon), from whom I have received constant assistance, and Bob Freymeyer (Presbyterian), without whom, I would forget to do a lot of things.

The job of Secretary-Treasurer is known to be a difficult job. Less well known is that it is an extremely interesting and rewarding job. I will miss serving as Secretary-Treasurer, but I have every intention of remaining active in this great organization. Thanks to everyone in the society for the faith they have placed in me by allowing me to take this important position.

Finances

Operating revenues of \$97,444 failed to exceed operating expenses of \$99,260 by \$1,816 for FY 2010-2011. This year's loss is the first after three straight years of gain in a longer term trend of gain; however, this year's loss is not entirely unexpected. The increase in operating expenses largely reflects an escalation in the cost of *Social Forces*, thus, the Finance Committee had projected that expenses would exceed revenues for the 2010-2011 period and possibly the current (2011-2012) term.

The fund balance due to market investments evaluated at the end of the fiscal year gained \$29,238. The value of the fund was \$216,054 on June 30, 2011. Overall, our fund balance has recovered from the market crash in 2008 and now exceeds the fund peak in 2006-2007.

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Southern Sociological Society

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As of December 31, 2011, the total reserve fund balance (a liquid account that we can draw upon if necessary) had \$46,088.32 cash in a money market, of which \$9,549.64 is in the audio-visual amortization account and \$9,362.70 is in the computer amortization account. Given current market conditions, growth in this account has been slow, and it is fair to say that we can expect slightly faster but not great growth in this account in the coming year. In addition, we have \$2014.45 in the Gomillion Fund.

The constitution requires we maintain a reserve fund equal to 1/3 of our operating budget. Currently that minimum is \$32,756. As of December 2011, our reserve fund was 47 percent of our 2010-2011 operating expenses.

Membership and Annual Meeting Statistics

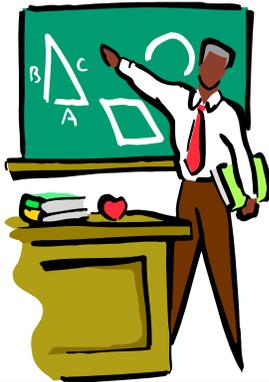
As of March 23, 2012, our membership consisted of 1341 members, of whom 647 are regular members, 541 are student members, 144 are emeritus members, and 9 are associate members. At the end of our 2010-2011 membership year, we had 1146 members.

The annual meeting in New Orleans attracted 941 conference registrants. This includes 429 regular members, 475 student members, 5 associate members, 11 emeritus members, and 21 non-members. Our electronic database records go back to 1991. According to these records, registration in New Orleans broke our previous attendance record of 833, which occurred in New Orleans in 2009. Membership is also at the highest level it has been since 2001. This is obviously good news. At the end of the 2010-2011 meeting in Jacksonville, we had registered a total of 726 attendees.

2012 Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and annual Business Meeting are available at

<http://www.southernsociologicalsociety.org/documents.html>



The Teaching Corner



Christine Wernet, Ph.D.

University of South Carolina Aiken

Chair, Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges

Committee Members

Chair: Christine Wernet, University of South Carolina Aiken, christinew@usca.edu

Sandra Godwin, Georgia College and State University, Sandra.godwin@gcsu.edu

Sandra Weissinger, Southern University of New Orleans, sweissinger@suno.edu

Jeannie Haubert, Winthrop College, haubertj@winthrop.edu

Debra Mitra, Delta State University, dmitra@deltastate.edu

Matthew Cazessus, University of South Carolina, Matthew.Cazessus@glvtec.edu

Work of the Committee

This year the Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges (CSCSC) once again sponsored The Teaching Sociology Mini-Conference. It was a great success with 14 sessions. CSCSC worked with two co-sponsoring organizations, Sociologists for Women in Society-South and the Committee on the Status of Women, in organizing this event. The sessions included Experiential Learning, Feminist Pedagogy, Technology and Learning Outcomes, Working in Small and Community Colleges, Student Apathy and Curiosity, and many more. The session provoked lively discussions, and they were well attended with 15 to 30 attendees per session. I would like to thank everyone involved with the Mini-Conference. We hope to continue this event next year in Atlanta. If you have any suggestions for session topics or if you are part of an SSS organization that would like to co-sponsor a session, please contact me at christinew@usca.edu, I would love to have your input.

The Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges held our Annual Networking Dinner at the Riverfront Restaurant in New Orleans. This dinner provides another opportunity for our committee to reach out to faculty and graduate students who are either working at or in-

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The Teaching Corner

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terested in working at small or community colleges. This event is a great way for likeminded individuals to interact, share, and brainstorm. I was amazed that for the third year in a row we had approximately 20 members in attendance. I was also quite glad to see a number of attendees from last year's event return. This event has grown tremendously under the leadership of our previous chairs, Denise Bissler from

Randolph-Macon College and Amie Hess from Meredith College.

I would like to thank my committee members, two of whom enthusiastically joined our ranks after attending the Annual Networking Dinner. I would also like to thank Amie Hess for her work last year on the committee and for her guidance as she has passed on the reins to me.

Teaching Exercise

Teaching the Housing Crisis of 2008

Nathan Palmer, Georgia Southern University

Standing in the wake of the economic devastation created by the 2008 housing crisis, the world wanted a neck for the noose. The way the rich and socially powerful parried the responsibility for the sub-prime meltdown onto low income homeowners, especially homeowners of color, is one of the most illustrative examples of hegemony and how our problems are socially defined. I feel a moral obligation to teach these ideas in my social problems courses.

After the crash of 2008, the question on everyone's mind was "how on earth did this financial crisis happen?" One popular answer, if not the most popular, was "people who have no business owning homes bought houses they couldn't afford with sub-prime mortgages." In a sense this logic is saying the economy fell apart "because of the greed of irresponsible poor people."

Teaching the Housing Crisis of 2008

Another answer to the "why did this happen" question should be because banking regulations, loan practices, etc. are mind-numbingly boring. They are supremely important, but painfully boring. Thankfully, there are some fantastic resources to help you teach your students about the 2008 housing crisis. There are many, many more, but I feel *Griftopia* and *Inside Job* balance depth of coverage with approachability best.

GRIFTOPIA

Matt Taibbi is one of my favorite writers and political reporters. He wrote an astoundingly approachable book on the banking shenanigans leading up to the 2008 financial crisis. I read it cover-to-cover, and as a financial layperson, I felt I understood the crisis to a depth I couldn't have previously imagined.

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I used the third chapter, "Hot Potato: the Great American Mortgage Scam," because it connects the individual level story of a man, with the pseudonym EljionWillams, to the practices of large banking firms such as AIG and Goldman Sachs. Each step along the way Taibbi shows how all players in the financial system were incentivized to "put a torch" to the players one rung beneath

them. Taibbi asserts that the answer to "how on earth did this financial crisis happen?" should be, "because it was profitable for the socially powerful actors and institutions." Taibbi connects the individual level with the macro level and at the same time shows us how decisions at the institutional level had a cascading series of consequences at every level of our society. For this reason alone, it's a must read/teach.

INSIDE JOB

The Oscar award winning film *Inside Job* explains the complexities of the credit crisis in a simple yet compelling manner that feels closer to a "who done it" mystery than a film about financial deregulation. Narrated by Matt Damon, the film interviews some of the industry leaders and decision makers who were in the driver's seat as the economy went over the cliff.

At times I writhed in my seat as the filmmaker scathingly interrogated the reckless leaders and decision makers. At other points in the film we hear from the academics and analysts who warned of the unsustainability of the deregulated market (who were at the time dismissed as Chicken Littles).

Given that I showed this film at the university level, my class and I were most interested in the film's argument that the economics/finance/business side of higher education has been co-opted by corporate America. To quickly summarize the point, these professors are highly compensated to serve on boards or in another advisory capacity for the big banks, and then they publish research that legitimates the practices that best suit the needs of these same big banks. After viewing the film, my students were on the edge of their seats, ready to vent their frustration and particularly the frustration they felt about the role academia played in the collapse.

Teaching How Power Hides In Plain Sight

In my search for videos about the housing crisis I received a recommendation for a video called the *Crisis of Credit Visualized* (which can be viewed online at <http://vimeo.com/3261363>). The video was featured on NPR's Planet Money and received nearly 3 million views. I watched the first few minutes of it and was enthralled. I decide to use the video, but not because it does a fantastic job of explaining the credit crisis in simple terms. In fact it's not what the video is overtly teaching that interested me, but rather what it teaches subtly.

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I told my class I wanted them to watch the video closely and I was going to ask them a peculiar question afterwards. As the film ended, I asked them if anything they saw in the video seemed incongruent with what they read about in *Griftopia* or what they learned from *Inside Job*. They sat perplexed and answerless. So I offered 10 extra credit points to anyone who could analyze the film to find thematic

discrepancies between the clip and our other class materials.

The class struggled to find any discrepancy. When they came back the next day, many of my students protested saying they "watched the video over and over and there's nothing." I turned on the projector and fast forwarded to the seventh minute. Here the video posits that the "turning point" of the credit crisis was "irresponsible" home buyers who bought a "big house" they "not surprisingly" defaulted on.

The video seems to suggest that the sub-prime home buyers purchased homes they couldn't afford because they were greedy and/or irresponsible. It doesn't acknowledge that many of these sub-prime home buyers were victims of predatory lending practices (check out *Broke U.S.A.* by Gary Rivlin for more on this) or that many sub-prime borrowers actually had credit scores that warranted a prime loan (which would have saved them loads of money). Finally this presentation ignores that predatory bankers often sold loans at one rate and then used a variable interest rate to ratchet up the rate quickly; in doing, so they would "put a torch" to the family, as Taibbi puts it, to collect on the insurance money. All of these behaviors were incentivized by our social institutions and that is painfully overlooked in this film. This argument is not to say there was no greed or irresponsibility at the lowest level of the banking system, of course there was, but to tell half the story is... wait for it... irresponsible.

And that's just what was said. Given that this video was supposed to be a "visualized" accounting of the crisis, we should expect that a great deal of intent went into the selection of the images used to depict it. I put the slide below up on the screen and asked my class to break it down: They quickly noticed that "irresponsible" home buyers were fat, had lots of kids, smoked and drank alcohol. If you look closely at the video, the children of the irresponsible home buyers wiggle on screen, which could be interpreted as they are less well behaved. Again, if you find yourself saying, "who would put that level of attention into something like this?" I would argue a graphic designer who was visually depicting a story.

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What's remarkable about the video is how easily the mischaracterization of the poor went unnoticed. Some of my students reported watching the video "over and over," but couldn't find a thing. After our discussion they saw it clear as day. We then talked about conflict theory's argument that power hides in plain sight, and they got it. We finished by talking about the tenet of conflict theory

that argues that those with social power use it to deflect blame away from themselves and onto the less powerful. It was a fantastic conversation to end our discussion of the housing crisis.



Good

Vs.



[Originally published at www.SociologySource.com](http://www.SociologySource.com) a site for sharing resources and ideas for teaching sociology.

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The Teaching Corner

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Faculty Spotlight

Amie Hess, Meredith College

Amie Hess is completing her fourth year at Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina. She completed her graduate work at New York University in New York City. Amie grew up in California and went to University of California Santa Barbara where as an undergrad she majored in Sociology and Communications. She is proud that she has lived on the West coast, the Northeast, the Midwest, and now the South.

Amie teaches a little bit of everything, including Research Methods, Theory, Intro, Social Problems, Gender and Society, Deviance, Social Interaction, Families, and classes she has not even thought about yet. “It’s hard to choose a favorite,” says Hess, but when pressed, she names “Deviance and Social Interaction.” Both of these are relatively new courses for Amie, and she has built in very interactive paper assignments that send her students out of the classroom. These projects, according to Hess, are fun for the students, “and fun for me to read!” One of the things Amie most loves about teaching sociology is the moment when students *see* sociology in the “real world.”

Amie spent the past three years serving on the Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges. As part of her work on the CSCSC she regularly attends (and organizes!) teaching-oriented sessions at the Southern meetings. She says that what she has learned at these sessions has reinvigorated and improved her courses. She plans to try out some new ideas in her Intro class this fall. Amie recommends that everyone attend at least one session in the Teaching Sociology Mini-Conference in Atlanta to get your teaching batteries recharged.



The Teaching Corner

2012 Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium

The 2012 Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium was hosted by the University of South Carolina Aiken on April 20. Approximately 100 students and faculty from colleges and universities throughout the region participated in this annual event.



Dr. Barbara Johnson, USC Aiken presents the awards for best posters to Amanda Hunter, Newberry College, for her work on “Fear of Homosexuality: Between the Lines” and to Khadira N. Washington, Claflin University for her poster “HIV/AIDS Epidemic among the African American Youth: The Moral Culpability of Young African American Individuals Diagnosed with HIV/AIDS: Who’s to Blame Self or Society?”

Lane Riley, Lander University, received the Best Paper Award for “Race as an Influence on Dating and Relationships in College.”

Member News



Michael Schulman, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor at North Carolina State University, received the Lifetime Mentorship Award from the Sociology Graduate Student Association at North Carolina State University. The Association recognized him for over 30 years of outstanding mentorship to graduate students in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at NCSU.

Demographic Transitions

Mohamed El-Attar

Mohamed El-Attar, a former professor emeritus at Mississippi State University, died February 28, 2012.

He was born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1931 and immigrated to the United States in 1963. Receiving his master's degree in demography from the University of Pennsylvania followed by his Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Georgia, Dr. El-Attar began his career as a professor with Mississippi State University's sociology department in 1970. He also worked for the United Nations, published several nationally and internationally recognized papers, and created new curricula for his college.

Dr. El-Attar is survived by his wife, Sanabel, and three daughters: Sumaya of Ashville, North Carolina; Sarah and Suehyla of Atlanta, Georgia. He is also survived by two sisters, Fatima and Suaad, as well as a large extended family, all in Egypt.

(from: <http://www.starkvilledailynews.com/node/9385>)

Opportunities

SOCIATION TODAY

Call for Papers: Student Papers Issue

SOCIATION TODAY

Fall/Winter 2012

Volume 10, Number 2

Guest Editor: Cameron D. Lippard

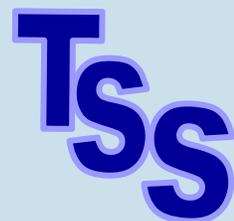
Appalachian State University

Traditionally, the North Carolina Sociological Association has emphasized and championed student research and writing as a pivotal part of the future of sociology. Much of this emphasis has focused on paper competitions through the Himes Paper Awards. During the 2012 NCSA meetings, members agreed that to further the association's emphasis on quality student research and writing, *Sociation Today* would set aside a special issue dedicated to showcasing student writing

Therefore, *Sociation Today*, the official peer-reviewed, web-based journal of the North Carolina Sociological Association (ISSN 1542-6300), invites undergraduate and graduate students to submit articles for publication that broadly represent excellence in sociological research on topics focusing on social problems in America and North Carolina.

Papers should be original, unpublished manuscripts of about 5,000 words in length, excluding footnotes and references. These articles should be accessible to professionals, students, and the general population. Submissions must be written in English and should be sent by e-mail no later than May 31, 2012, to the Guest Editor, Cameron Lippard at lippardcd@appstate.edu. Additional submission guidelines may be found at <http://www.ncsociology.org/sociationtoday/>.

Send your comments, suggestions, or materials for *The Southern Sociologist* to the editor Bob Freymeyer rhfreym@presby.edu.





Southern Demographic Association Call for Papers

2012 Annual Meeting of the Southern Demographic Association

October 10-12, 2012

Williamsburg Hospitality House and Conference Center
Williamsburg, Virginia

Potential contributors are encouraged to send abstracts for individual research papers and posters, as well as proposals for complete paper and poster sessions, thematic sessions, panel discussions, and software demonstrations. Presentations of research in both applied and academic sociology are welcome, as well as related topics in economics, political science, public health, epidemiology, and psychology.

SDA also awards the Everett S. Lee Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award (http://sda-demography.org/sda_lee_award.php) and an outstanding undergraduate paper award (http://sda-demography.org/sda_undergrad_award.php). In addition, the Walt Terrie Award is given to recognize the best paper presented at the SDA meeting on an applied topic, especially one relating to state and local demography (http://sda-demography.org/sda_terrie_award.php).

All submissions must be made by **June 1, 2012**, through the SDA website (<http://sda-demography.org/SDA2012.php>).

Please contact Kathryn Tillman (ktillman@fsu.edu), program chair, with any questions regarding a potential submission.





Call for Papers: Special Issue of the *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*

The *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography (JCE)* solicits papers for a special edition on Global Ethnography and Transnationalism, building on work that explores global connections in society. Papers should examine the lived experiences of local peoples directly affected by globalization (understood as the movement of populations, information, mass media, culture, capital and goods across national borders). We welcome papers that use global ethnography to examine processes that encompass the entire globe and how these affect local societies. Papers focused on Transnationalism are expected to examine cross-border social processes and connections between two nation-states and how they affect both societies simultaneously. We welcome use of a variety of levels of analysis and different methodologies, including multi-sited and bifocal research approaches, from all social science disciplines.

We are interested in ethnographic papers written from a global or transnational perspective that address:

- The impact of global capitalism and transnational corporations on local societies and people
- The migration of peoples across national borders and the development of transnational connections between receiving and sending societies
- New transnational or hybrid forms of cultural production that result from transborder or global processes
- Transformations of identity, gender/sexuality, citizenship, and/or race/ethnicity from a global or transnational perspective
- New transnational social movements enabled by globalization or that respond to the inequalities created by globalization

Articles will be selected for publication based on topical relevance, clarity of argument, ethnographic quality, and significance for an interdisciplinary audience with a broad interest in global ethnography and transnationalism.

Manuscripts should be submitted by July 1, 2012, to the *JCE* website (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/joce>). Please indicate in your cover letter that you would like to have your manuscript considered for this special issue.

Guest editors for special issue:

Dr. Xavier Escandell, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, University of Northern Iowa, 363 Baker Hall, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0513, Phone: 319-273-3932, E-mail: xavier.escandell@uni.edu; Dr. Maria Tapias, Department of Anthropology, Grinnell College, 1118 Park Street, Grinnell, IA 50112-1670, Phone: 641-2693137, E-mail: Tapias@grinnell.edu; Dr. Takeyuki (Gaku) Tsuda, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University, PO Box 872402, Tempe, AZ 85287-2402, E-mail: takeyuki.tsuda@asu.edu.

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.

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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: August 15, 2012