

The Publicizer

The Official Newsletter of the Section on Sociological Practice
and Public Sociology, American Sociological Association

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FROM THE EDITOR:

"The best laid plans of mice and men"... as the saying goes, life has a way of getting in the way, and so it has been a challenge getting this newsletter published. However, there is still enough in this newsletter to help you get excited about the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas! Pay particular attention to the SPPS Section's reception and Section Meeting on August 21. Hope to see many of you there—and please bring a friend interested in joining!
JPB

FROM THE CHAIR

I want to thank all of the officers and council members of SPPS. This has been a year of continued consolidation of Sociological Practice and Public Sociology and our success is due to the efforts of the officers, the council, and the membership. First, we have elected to the council and to the officers' position members who represent our new combined profile. Second, we have had submissions and acceptances of regular papers and roundtable papers that reflect our new integration of public sociology and sociological practice. Third, our William Foote Whyte career achievement awards and our Robert Dentler award also reflect our combination although no effort was made to do this. See the announcement of the winners in this Newsletter.

We have sustained our membership numbers even in these tough economic times. I think *expanding* our membership should be an ongoing object. Aiming for 350 members by next year at this time is achievable if we all work hard at it. Bring us one new member from your department or organization, and remember that SPPS will pay the section membership cost of at least 10 students who are already ASA members.

We have redesigned both our SPPS Newsletter and our SPPS Website. Kudos to Carey Sargent, Johanna Bishop and Leora Lawton.

We have had a good fiscal year and a budget that will provide a small surplus that we can use to advance the objectives of the Section in the next fiscal year. Some of the possible ways mentioned have been to consider enhancing the honorarium of the Robert Dentler Student Achievement award and considering an honorarium for the William Foot Whyte Award. Other ideas are welcome.

We are considering the possibility of following up on the well-received SPPS presentations in Atlanta by two senior foundation executives with presentation next year by senior people from NIH, DOJ, DOL and/or other federal sources that fund applied and public sociology. Contact the SPPS program committee with your ideas (first year Council members and three members appointed by the chair).

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We had excellent participation in our monthly Council meetings and aimed for a high level of transparency for as many serious decisions as possible. Meetings were brief, often 35 minutes. When I polled the council members by email, the response rate was extraordinarily high. Committees worked very hard, especially reviewing and selecting the regular and roundtable papers for ASA SPPS.

It has often been difficult to persuade members to run for section office. I can assure you that although it does take some time, working with the officers, council and members has been extremely rewarding. I have also found ASA professional staff, mostly new this year, to be extraordinarily responsive to section needs and requests. Special thanks go to Jamie Arca and Justin Lini at ASA. Members have been extremely supportive when called upon for extra work. I want to thank in particular Johanna Bishop who took over the Newsletter and chaired the roundtable selection committee, and whose broad thoughtfulness and design work you are now perusing; Carey Sargent successfully took on significant changes to our website <http://www.asanet.org/sections/SPPS.cfm> ; Becky Hsu took and distributed the council minutes, maintained our records and kept us updated on our income and expenditures; Yonette Thomas understood the limits of time and graciously facilitated a good transition of SPPS work to a new officer; Augie Diana, a voice of experience, continued to share all of his section and ASA wisdom by phone, email and in person in Washington, DC; Leora Lawton, having devoted many years to section leadership and coordination of section communications, facilitated a terrific transition to our new communications leaders. Other members and their respective organizations have donated funds to the section when there was a need. Thank you all!

Next year, as past chair, one of my major responsibilities is to chair the committee of new council members and three others appointed by the chair, to find candidates willing to run for Council and section officer positions. If you are willing to run for office, please send me an email and/or respond sympathetically and positively when I ask you to run for office.

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I hope to talk with many of you in Las Vegas at the sessions, the business meeting and at our gala reception Sunday night. Talks by Leora Lawton, Tom Pettigrew and Tracy Perkins will be superb.

Roy Feldman, Ph.D.

2010-2011 Chair

ASA Section: Sociological Practice & Public Sociology

JOIN us in Las Vegas for this session:

**229. Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology.
Applied Conflict Studies in Academia and in the Larger
World: Successes and
Challenges
Caesars Palace Las Vegas**

Session Organizer: *Roy E. Feldman*, Behavior Analysis in New York

Invited Session Presenter:
Thomas F. Pettigrew, University of California at Santa Cruz and co-recipient of the 2011 William F. Whyte Career Award, "When Groups Meet: The Dynamics of Intergroup contact and conflict"

Respondents (not confirmed): Mario Small, University of Chicago



ASA 106th ANNUAL MEETING: Caesars Palace, LAS VEGAS



THINGS TO DO & SEE

If you're wondering what there is to do and see in Las Vegas, check out this *New York Times* article:

<http://www.time.com/time/travel/cityguide/article/0,31489,1838100,00.html>

Summarized, the author recommends the following:

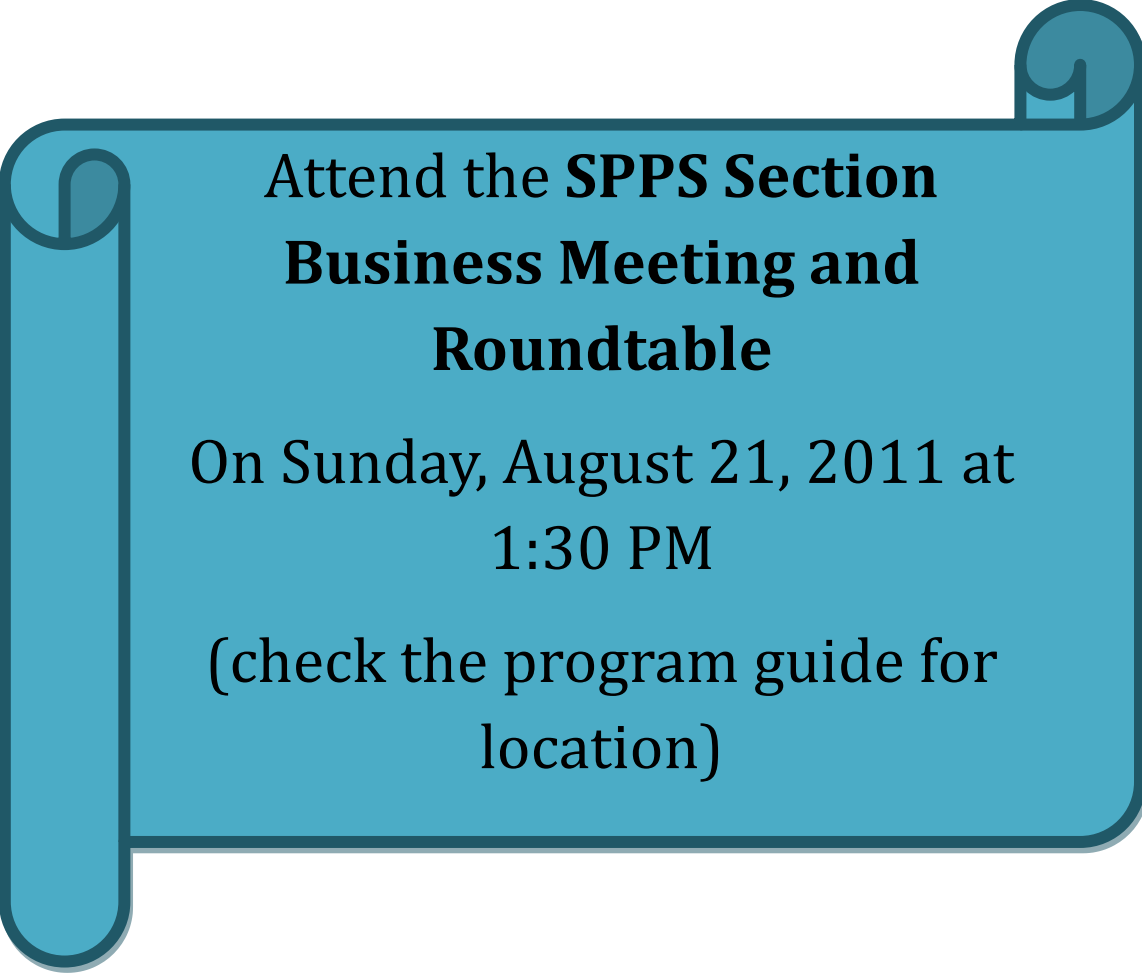
- See the Bellagio Fountains (free)
- See the Cirque de Soleil (pricey ticket but an apparent “must-do”)
- Have a Designer Dinner (best for people with expense accounts)
- Have breakfast buffet at the Wynn
- See the Shark Reef Aquarium at the Mandalay Bay
- Check out some clubs (see the article for recommendations)
- Check out the New York-New York roller coaster at the New York- New York Hotel
- Check out the hotel pools (you may have to pay to get in)
- Check out the Spa at the Bellagio
- Check out Downtown—a tiny, old part of Vegas

So—What Else Can You Do In/ Around Vegas?

Check these out on the web for more information:

- Take a gondola ride at the Venetian
- Red Rock Canyon and Natural Conservation Area
- Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat
- Desert Fox Tours (pricey but received good reviews)
- Sundance Helicopter Tours (very \$\$\$ but rave reviews!!!)

Of course, you can always attend sessions at the ASA meeting at Caesars Palace!!!



Attend the **SPPS Section Business Meeting and Roundtable**

On Sunday, August 21, 2011 at
1:30 PM

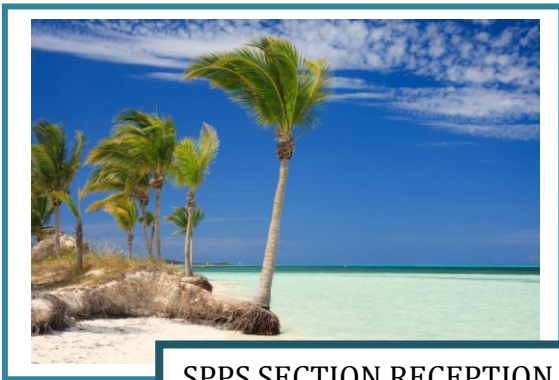
(check the program guide for
location)

SPPS SECTION RECEPTION

ANNUAL RECEPTION: SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2011 at 7:30PM

Location: **Bahama Breeze restaurant**

We have just finished arrangements for our annual reception and are pleased to announce that we will be providing a *real* food at our section reception (not just carrots and dip like other sections). Come hear Leora Lawton and Tracy Perkins, winners of our section awards this year, speak about their work. Remember to invite friends who may be interested in joining our section to come!



THEME: CARIBBEAN COCKTAIL PARTY!!!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 7:30 PM

Bahama Breeze Restaurant

Served buffet-style. Includes coffee, tea or soft drink.

SPPS SECTION RECEPTION MENU:

- Coconut Shrimp (Large crispy shrimp with yellow rice and fresh broccoli)
- Fresh Vegetable Quesadillas (Golden-grilled and served with tomato salsa and sour cream)
- Jamaican Grilled Chicken Wings (Authentic jerk seasoning; served with a tangy dipping sauce)
- Island Flatbreads (Baked thin, crispy herb-cheese crust with tomato-basil sauce, Parmesan, mozzarella, Roma tomatoes, fresh basil)
- Choice of:
 - ✓ Vine ripened tomato
 - ✓ Grilled chicken
 - ✓ Shrimp
- Spinach Dip and Island Chips (A breezy blend of spinach, artichokes and cheese)
- Roasted Cuban Bread (Fire-toasted with tomatoes, Parmesan cheese, cilantro and basil)
- Island Onion Rings (Thick-cut and coconut breaded with chili-horseradish and citrus-mustard dipping sauces)

ROUNDTABLE SESSION

2011 Las Vegas SPPS Roundtables: Sunday, August 21, 1:30 pm

The roundtables will be held for one hour. The remaining time will be used for the SPPS section business meeting. Please refer to the ASA Preliminary Program for Roundtable listings.

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<p>Table 1. The Arena of Public Sociology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Pragmatic Public Sociology: Theory and Practice after the Pragmatic Turn. <i>Eric Lybeck</i>, University of Tennessee - Knoxville • Imagining the Spaces of Regional Action Framing Youth Problems and Solutions. <i>Michael Rios</i>, UC Davis; <i>Dave Campbell</i>, UC Davis; <i>Mindy S. Romero</i>, University of California, Davis • Networks, Capital, and Organizational Growth: A Pilot Study of OPERA. <i>Meg Wilkes Karraker</i>, University of St. Thomas; <i>Sarah A. Zimmerman</i>, University of St. Thomas • Positionality, Privilege, and Reciprocity: Becoming Public Sociologists. <i>Aurelia Lorena Murga</i>, Texas A&M University 	<p>Table 2. The Arena of Applied Sociology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhythms and Reason Giving: A Preliminary Look Academic Involvement in Canadian Policy Institutes. <i>John VP McLevey</i>, McMaster University • Sociology's Icebergs: Jobs, Workplace Change the Applied Imperative. <i>Marv Finkelstein</i>, Southern Illinois Univ. Edwardsville • The "Green Dot" Data Collection Project: Incorporating Public Sociology into an Applied Research Course. <i>Kristin Kenneavy</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Camel Drummond</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Erich Jost</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Francisco Montes</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Apollonia Pinzas</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Christina Rath</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey; <i>Katie Zuretti</i>, Ramapo College of New Jersey
<p>Table 3. The Arena of Conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster Risk, Society, and DPSIR. <i>Hsiang-Chieh Lee</i>, National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction • Gaming Revenue and Health Care Spending in Iowa Counties, 1997-2003. <i>Lori Wiebold</i>, Bradley University • Homogeneity of University Students With Respect to Hurricane Perception and Preparedness. <i>Maggie Kusenbach</i>, University of South Florida; <i>Jason L Simms</i>, University of South Florida; <i>Graham A Tobin</i>, University of South Florida • The Contested Terrains of Public Sociology: An Auto-ethnographical Account of the Movement to Defend Public Housing. <i>John D. Arena</i>, College of Staten Island 	<p>Table 4. Additional Papers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureaucrats Behind Bars: How Work Environment and Job Stress Affect Prison Officers' Attitudes Toward Prisoners. <i>Sarah K.S. Shannon</i>, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; <i>Joshua Aaron Page</i>, University of Minnesota • Contexts of Cultural Diffusion: A Case Study of "Public Intellectuals" Debates in English Canada. <i>Neil G. McLaughlin</i>, McMaster University; <i>Eleanor Townsley</i>, Mount Holyoke College • Contractors of the New Welfare Bureacracy. <i>Gregory Harris</i>, University of Pennsylvania • Student Growth and Stable Program Size: Results and Implications of an Evaluation of Student Services. <i>James G. Houglan</i>, University of Kentucky

FEATURE ARTICLE # 1:

Engaging with a Community through Conference Planning Partnerships

By Susan Stahl, Professor and Chair Department of Sociology and African & African American Studies, Latino & Latin American Studies and Women's Studies Programs, Northeastern Illinois

From March, 2010 through April, 2011, I was the coordinator, with co-coordinator Andreas Kourvetaris, of a unique year-long conference planning process developed between scholars at two urban universities—Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) and North Park University (NPU). We worked in partnership with urban leaders, professionals, activists, and other scholars working and often living in one Chicago neighborhood—Albany Park. The conference, entitled, *Experience the World in Albany Park—Globalization in Our Backyard*, was inspired by our hypothesis that the concept of “globalization” might be better understood—or understood in new ways--through an examination of how the globalization process is actually experienced on the ground.

The major goals of this conference project were to stimulate public discussions about possible meanings of the concept of “globalization”—asking: What does globalization on the ground in one diverse urban community look like? Along with creating new university partnerships with specific individuals in community-based organizations and institutions in Albany Park, and build upon and strengthen existing or past collaborative ventures between the university and the community. In addition, we wanted to utilize Albany Park to augment students’ service-learning and internship placements in Albany Park and also ignite new participatory research opportunities.

The conference themes, panels and workshops were developed through a qualitative data gathering process in which key grassroots community developers and service providers identified community issues that they concurred needed to be addressed. Also, identified by community activists were numerous accomplishments they believed essential to highlight in order to counter stereotypes of their neighborhood as a blighted, crime-ridden location. We wanted the conference events to be--first and foremost—of real value for members of the community.

The conference was neither limited by time or location, since conference-related events occurred over a six month period (November, 2010—April, 2011). And while most events took place at the universities, some were held in strategic locations within the neighborhood (e.g. at non-profits, school sites, etc.). Conference events included the “expertise” of service-providers, urban planners, community organizers, researchers,

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clients and residents. The arts, a public installation, and the creation of four topical videos were also integral to this conference project

Why Albany Park? Albany Park is one of the most ethnically diverse neighborhoods in Chicago and the US. A residential and commercial neighborhood on the Northwest Side of the city of Chicago, it has one of highest percentages of foreign-born residents of neighborhoods in Chicago with over 40 different languages spoken in its public schools. It remains an active Gateway to America for immigrants and refugees from developing countries.

We also elected to work with Albany Park for its strategic location. Our university, Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU), is located just above Albany Park's official northern boundary. While North Park University, a smaller private university, is located within the official boundaries of Albany Park.

In order to get real buy-in from the community for this conference and to augment community engagement we invited 15 individuals, 10 representing key community-based organizations in Albany Park, 1 representative from North Park University—who represented and negotiated the partnership between NEIU and NPU, and 4 individuals from NEIU who represented diverse constituencies on campus, to become part of a working board. The Advisory Board met 7 times, with 2 hour meetings from August, 2010 through this past March.

This was a working board, with about a core of 9 of us who regularly attended nearly all of the meetings. It was at these meeting sessions (shared with others through detailed meeting minutes) that the real “meat” or content of the conference was first proposed, then debated and negotiated.

In the end, we identified 7 major themes threaded throughout the conference's 40 sessions.

1. Immigration & Cultural Diversity in a Changing Albany Park
2. Global Competition, Work, & Social Justice
3. Environment, Waterways, & Common Causes
4. Holistic Community Health & Interventions
5. Cultural Geography, Planning, & the Politics of Mapping
6. Cultivating Civic Hospitality: Responses & Challenges
7. Performing Arts & the Media in Our Backyard

The results of the conference, *Experience the World in Albany Park—Globalization in Our Backyard*, are still being analyzed, but there are some obvious markers of success. Because of the preliminary research conducted by myself and Andreas Kourvetaris, and the hands-on involvement of a dynamic Conference Advisory Board, the conference sessions and the

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over 70 community activists' presentations mirrored the issues experienced and the initiatives spearheaded by Albany Park community actors and groups. At NEIU, conference events involved representatives from NEIU's 3 colleges, 2 of our campuses, and 21 departments and programs in partnership with the organizational actors from Albany Park. Approximately 1700 Albany Park residents and organizational activists, and NEIU and NPU faculty, administrators, students and staff attended the conference sessions. Many of these sessions highlighted academy-community partnerships or the potential for such partnerships, and attendees were exposed to local professional leaders in education, the social services, urban planning and health, business and economic development, and in the arts.

Moreover, throughout the spring semester, 2011, numerous NEIU faculty linked with the conference by assigning course-related research projects in Albany Park, taking students on field trips to Albany Park-based organizations, and hosting organizational actors and professional experts from the Albany Park community in their classes. As two examples, Sociology instructor, Barbara Sherry, both assigned Albany Park advocacy-related research in her Social Demography course, but also moderated and helped organize a conference course-related session entitled: "Remapping Albany Park—What Can We Learn?" Also, an avid supporter of engaged scholarship, Communication, Media & Theatre Associate Professor, Cyndi Moran, worked with her Introductory Video Production students throughout the spring semester to produce 4 original short videos on various themes related to Albany Park concerns. These videos, first showcased at the conference, were shown at the Albany Park Arts Festival in June, 2011, and will soon be available on our website for use by Albany Park groups and for classroom applications.

More recently, NEIU has signed on to become a paying lead partner with one of the leading Albany Park community-based organizations, the North River Commission. And for the first time the new faculty orientation at NEIU will include a CBO-led neighborhood tour of Albany Park this August. Finally, the Community-University Advisory Board, created for the conference planning, will reconvene in August and discuss "next steps."

For more information visit our website: neiu.edu/~sociology/confIndex or contact Susan Stall, Professor and Chair Department of Sociology and African & African American Studies, Latino & Latin American Studies and Women's Studies Programs, Northeastern Illinois University, s-stall1@neiu.edu

FEATURE ARTICLE # 2:

Achieving More Civility in the Agriculture Sector

George K. Floro

Adjunct Professor of Sociology at Sul Ross State University

(Note: This article was first presented at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Sociological Association at Milwaukee, Wisconsin on October 5, 2010)

Introduction

An extension of Sociological Practice was attempted through studying the relationships between exhibited animals and people attending public exhibits (1988 through 2010). Photos included in this poster come from Courthouse Lawn exhibits as well as city park exhibits on Fourth of July. The courthouse celebration was to bring the Hispanics and the Anglos together since both segments traditionally had the experience of growing up with goats. Realities in this are complex and may overshadow the relationships. Bullying and boredom are viewed as resolvable social problems. What is to be learned is when and how the specter of abuse is overcome by positive volitional alternatives. Important factors are: age of the participants and whether children have entered the public school (are not yet exposed to disruptive impact of sets of regional ethnic realities and reward systems.)

Relationships Between Animals and People

The information for this poster comes mainly from



that part of the group's mission related to its service commitments. Grassroots producers were to strive to bring producer contributions together with those from the experts. Early in its history it was one of the sponsors for a USDA financed regional dairy and cheese making project. It supplied staff personnel as well as a co-administrative director. This project ended on schedule but was not renewed until some years later with a

director from the national USDA office, and BBPG personnel were disenfranchised on the grounds of places of residence. The project again failed to achieve a production stage.

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Requests for official records for this second attempt were turned down at the Washington level on the grounds that none could be found. Records at the state level had been obtained before the second attempt had been made. Interpretation of these disappointments incidentally are found in other participatory ventures as well where what became recognized as internal organization problems that are common and need more time to resolve. Some participatory programs do not start as such. At Ojos, New Mexico, where sheep were to be restored to the Chama Valley, found its way out of intense inner conflict only after five years. At Findhorn Foundation in Scotland the development program, which included gardening, did not begin with a participatory system. At San Miguel Tzinacapan,



Pictured here is Leo N. Uher, who retired early from a successful business career due to a threatening health problem, has had a prominent research role from early years of BBPG. His current garden research project is in its seventh year. Drawing upon traditional farming practices he features regional alternatives that tend to be ignoring practices that reflect successful generations-old methods in agriculture.

Mexico a professional staff person was brought in to cope with internal conflicts among professional staff.

External resistance to industrial development is also encountered. Perhaps it is more formidable and ventures like BBPG might still build up their herds for mainly homestead operations and give up possibilities for industrial operations. In external relations much depends upon establishing a social movement of massive resources for change. Most unprepared for such realities are staff people for whom being participatory is an ideology rather than a goal to be achieved.

Who Are We?

Participants and their sponsoring friends are people who “can do something,” that is, there is sufficient craft in their production and inquiry that they know what they are looking at and what they are doing. The complexities in what they are doing are not barriers! There is an abundance of craft and a commitment to art that is not over professionalized. We placed goats with the artist A. Kelley Pruitt and gave him an award for the care he provided them but what appealed to us the most was that he knew from an abundance of experience what he was sketching and painting.

Let it be known that we are people who can do something. One can look for it wherever it is.

Examples of this are presented regularly in annual publications of the Goat Bulletin. Achievements are in construction of their own houses, gardening, and the repair of farm equipment. Perhaps a background for this is an acceptance of different kinds of work that can be adopted if necessary to remain in the area. People in the area can be known for the craft they exhibit.

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A theme in this poster is that forming relationships with goats (and some other farm animals) can be done in such ways that what is learned is how to do something. Also, parents and participants may discover it can make better people out of themselves. Even losses may be more likely to be endured without bitterness.

Learning from photos, as was attempted in this study, requires a background of experience as a goat raiser and an openness to further developments in what may yet occur. It also requires an anticipation of further developments as in those already explored in earlier cases featured in photos. Some of these further developed cases will be cited in the poster as well. What is required is craft in analysis based upon an abundance of experience. Here is an outline of forms of adaptations people make in social relationships with the farm animals: petting relationships which may be established as a source of entertainment, but also much more toward depth in interpersonal relations. Included in this category for the overall analysis are photos that exhibit people showing off the goats and/or themselves.

Much more important in the agricultural analysis are photos that exhibit a relationship in which an attempt is made to establish an interactive (mutually sought) relationship. This has the potential of lasting effects – transforming impacts in agriculture. The effects may become much more service oriented than highly competitive financial rewards which are provided in mainstream youth programs in agriculture. Captions in the text will often suggest on which side (farm animal or people) such a relationship is being avoided.

Some researchers in animal agriculture may think that the desired outcomes (with an impact upon agriculture) is unique to goat raising. Jim Corbett in his book *Goatwalking* (1991) recognizes goats as “friends” of people for historically when the shift occurred to farming, the goats remained with people who stayed in mountain and desert country. Researchers may want to look for similar relations with other farm animals. In one of the



Alpine, Texas farmers markets a youngster exhibits the expanded relationship with chickens. Portrayed here she is carrying one of her chickens. She can talk to you at length about how the chicken has become known in her family and in her own social life as a person. Missing is boredom or any bullying other people.

What follows are mainly photos of the people/goat relationship. Interspersed throughout are some photos identified as Situational Context



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that provide area and social background, mainly by Martha Josephine Ford Floro who had become a skilled photographer with her background of training and work as a journalist.

Conclusions

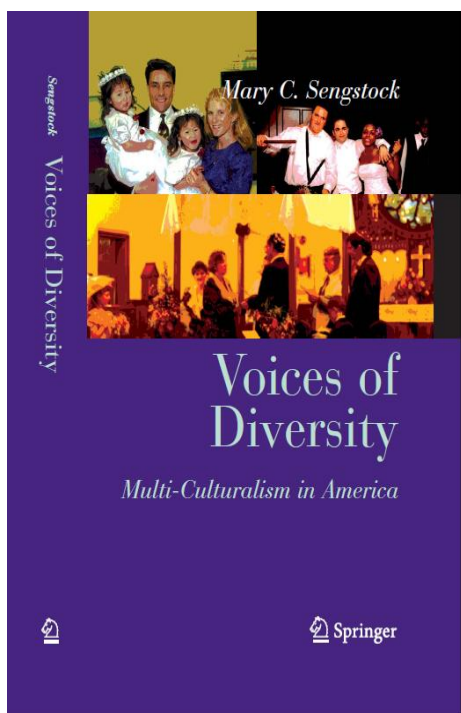
This inquiry with photos tells a story about relationships between people and a domesticated agricultural animal that has survived in the region for many generations. The presentation confirms strong and enthusiastic relationships between people and animals despite local complexities that may reduce or overwhelm these long established social relationships. The public exhibits provide an opportunity for them to be restored and acknowledged.

The analysis of relationships proposes two forms that may at times be seen as distinct in their consequences. One builds upon appearances and the other upon more complex interactive processes. The one shows off self, others, or animals and the second is a more complex exchange with one another and opens the way toward more permanent relations and commitments. It is the second form that is proposed as a source of revitalizing agriculture. Nonetheless, the showing off relationships may be related to personal depths of their own. They too may be a challenge, benefiting from the experience of goat raising. They can be much more than entertainment.

To increase opportunities to get more cooperation between participants with competitive backgrounds it might have been strategic to introduce additional activities not already claimed by one side or the other. We had done that with goat racing, which was introduced from France. New management of the feed store, where most of our public meetings were held, did not provide sponsorship for that program, yet wide participation was achieved.



NEW PUBLICATIONS



Dr. Mary Cay Sengstock's 2009 book, *Voices of Diversity: Multi-culturalism in America*, published by Scribner, recently received the Wayne State University Board of Governor's Faculty Recognition Award, the University's most prestigious award for faculty. *Voices of Diversity* is an analysis of "assimilators," people whose parents came from mixed backgrounds: multi-racial, multi-religious, or multi-national. While our society claims to want its members to assimilate and become "just American," it is often quite inhospitable to persons who do not fit neatly into pre-determined social categories. Hence these individuals had many problems growing up

as "multi-cultural" individuals. This book analyzes these problems. Since it is an applied sociology book, it also suggests ways in which society could make life easier for multi-cultural individuals. Mary Cay is one of the few Wayne State faculty members to have received the award twice. She also received the award in 1984 for *Chaldean-Americans*, published by Center for Migration Studies.

SECTION NEWS

The result of the recent election of officers for the section's new officers is as follows:

CHAIR-ELECT:

Henry Brownstein, University of Chicago

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Angela Aidala, Columbia University

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Becky Hsu, Princeton University

Harry Perlstadt, Michigan State University

MEETING NEWS

"The Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS) holds its 2011 annual meetings in New Orleans October 13 - 15 at the Le Pavillion Hotel. This year's theme "Applied and Clinical Sociology: Making a Difference and Loving It" is designed to highlight the enthusiasm with which sociological practitioners engage their world. Session, workshop and paper proposals are due July 15 and should be submitted to Augie Diana at dianaa@nide.nih.gov. For additional information regarding AACCS and/or the conference, please visit our website at <http://www.aacsnet.net/>.

Hope to see you in New Orleans!

Mike Hirsch

President, Association of
Applied and Clinical Sociology"



UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL MEETING & CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

Section member Esteban Calvo would like to remind us that the upcoming ISA 2012 forum is to be held in Buenos Aires:

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/buenos-aires-2012/>.

Check it out for future planning!



In addition, please check out RC11 call for session proposals: <http://www.rc11-sociology-of-aging.org/conferences>.

Esteban can be reached at www.esteban-calvo.com

AWARDS

Tracy Perkins, University of California at Santa Cruz, has won the 2011 **Robert Dentler Student Achievement Award** given by the ASA Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology. This award is given to a graduate student “who has made a promising contribution to the field, such as a project or paper in the areas of sociological practice and public sociology. ...Products of graduate-level classes, internships, or independent projects are eligible. Perkins’ project, *“25 Stories from the Central Valley”* was judged to be a *superb achievement*. Designed “to make the environmental justice movement more visible to the general public through theater, photography, teaching tools and oral history” it is creative and complex.

The winners will receive the awards and speak briefly at the Section Reception at 7:30 PM Sunday evening at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant. Thomas Pettigrew is also the invited speaker for the SPPS invited session (ASA Session #229) on Sunday.

The Co-Recipients of the William Foote Whyte Career Award are Leora Lawton and Thomas F. Pettigrew.



Leora Lawton is president of TechSociety Research in Berkeley CA, and Executive Director of the Berkeley Population Center and a member of the Sociology Department at the University of California, Berkeley. TSR serves the high tech industry, social service organizations, public utilities and other organizations in California and nationally. She has been a leader and treasurer of the Society for Applied Sociology and its Webmaster. She has also been a key leader of the ASA Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology and our chair, our Webmaster and Newsletter editor for many years. Her scholarly papers, conference presentations, book reviews, trade publications and academic administrative work over a quarter of a century have covered the

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areas of consumer behavior and consumer attitudes, parent-child relations, family relations, divorce, disability, religious identity and the impact of religious commitment on fertility among other topics. What an extraordinary career, and she is only mid-career.

Thomas F. Pettigrew is Research Professor of Social Psychology at the University of California, Santa Cruz where he has been a full professor since 1980. Before appointments at Santa Cruz, Thomas Pettigrew was Professor of Social Psychology and Sociology at Harvard University. from 1968 to 1980. He held other appointments at Harvard from 1953 to 1968. Pettigrew's career continues a focus upon intergroup relations, prejudice, intergroup contact and relative deprivation. He has been an Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Social Issues, and the Journals: Integrated Education, the Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology, Phylon, Education and Urban Society, Race, Policy Studies, Political Behavior (plus six other journals; he is *currently* an on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, the *21st Century Afro Review*, the *International Journal of Conflict and Violence (Germany)* and a number of other Journals.

He has been a consultant for the U.S. Office of Education and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and for State Education Departments in California, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington, and for various organizations including Abt Associates in Cambridge, ETS in Princeton, The Rand Corporation in Santa Monica and the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation in New York City, among many others. Thomas Pettigrew's resume covers 40 single-spaced pages (forty! not a typo) of single spaced pages of books and refereed journal articles. An early practitioner of public sociology, he prepared a 15 show course for National Educational Television, WBGH-TV and Harvard University titled "Epitaph for Jim Crow: The Dynamics of Desegregation". He has been an expert witness in three key public school desegregation cases and a court appointed expert in a key case involving the Los Angeles public Schools (*Crawford v. LA Unified School District*). He has 10 papers currently in press or under review and at least four papers in preparation.

SECTION MEMBER NEWS

Johanna Bishop, Director of Behavioral Science Programs at Wilmington University, and SPPS Section Newsletter Editor, was appointed to the New Castle County, Delaware Ethics Commission in April 2011. The approval process included interviews and New Castle County Council approval as well as the approval of the New Castle County Executive. The appointment is a three-year term expiring in April 2014. Johanna 's contact information is Johanna.p.bishop@wilmu.edu

Becky Hsu, (SPPS Section Secretary-Treasurer) will be assistant professor in the Sociology Department at Georgetown University starting in September 2011.

Douglas Klayman, President of Social Dynamics, LLC is the Project Director of the evaluation of the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI). This is a comprehensive implementation/process, outcome, and impact study. The DEI Evaluation is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy.

The implementation component includes the collection of information on systems change and the strategies implemented by each of the DEI grantees. The outcome evaluation provides findings on customer level outcomes, while the impact evaluation focuses on comparing results between DEI sites and comparison sites. The evaluation will use covariates from the implementation/process evaluation to identify the effect of specific strategies on program outcomes. The implementation/process evaluation also will document the strategies implemented by DEI sites, obtain stakeholder assessments about their value, and identify promising practices. Because site characteristics and customer characteristics may have significant influence on program effects, data regarding these characteristics will be collected to measure their influence on program outcomes.

The proposed study aims to answer six main questions: (1) What start-up issues were identified? How were these issues resolved? (2) What are the impacts of the DEI grants on customer utilization and disability employment outcomes for key groups including Ticket to Work customers, SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, and Disability Resource Coordinator DRC customers. (3) What

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services and strategies appear to be the most successful? (4) What are the challenges that need to be addressed to improve employment outcomes of individuals with disabilities? (5) What system changes need to be made to overcome these challenges? And finally, (6) What best practices have the demonstration projects identified that addresses these system changes?

In order to assess the impact of the DEI program on relevant participation and employment outcomes, each participating Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIB) was randomly assigned to either the DEI pilot or comparison group. This process ensured that on average, DEI and comparison sites would have been similar in the absence of the program, enabling the analysis to attribute any significant differences in systems and customer-level outcomes to the DEI. The stratified random assignment procedure minimized differences between DEI and comparison sites, thereby increasing the precision of the analysis. The study also includes comprehensive site visits to DEI grantees, including interviews with staff and stakeholders, customer focus groups and observational activities. Doug can be contacted via email:

DKlayman@socialdynamicsllc.com

Bryce Merrill, Ph.D. has taken a position as the Associate Director of the Western States Arts Federation in Denver, CO. He has joined as a sociologist and ethnographer an interdisciplinary research team exploring the impact of the arts on urban and rural creative economies. He also coordinate with policy experts to create empirically informed cultural policy and to construct research-driven arts advocacy efforts at the local, state, and national levels. His work will also be directed at creating and evaluating technology-based research in the arts.

Dr. John Picou, Ph.D. of the University of Alabama (Mobile) was quoted in a New York Times article about the disaster in Japan. According to Picou, over the last 50 years the absolute number of natural and technological disasters have dramatically increased. This observation becomes more significant when one takes into consideration the emerging synergistic relationship between these historically recognized types of disasters. Given the fact that numerous

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industries, refineries ,nuclear power plants and other production systems have been built in geographically hazardous areas , the potential for "natech" catastrophes serves as a source for future human tragedies. Hurricane Katrina released 9 million gallons of oil into the environment and the recent Japanese Earthquake and Tsunami continues to release dangerous and unforgiving levels of radiation into the air, water and soil. Similar to human-caused technological disasters , the natech ,or natural-tecnological catastrophe, poses long -term ecological, economic and social psychological consequences for survivors. Exposure to oil, dioxins, radiation and chemical dispersants cannot be "taken back", creating a sense of fear and dread that shreds the social fabric , dominates the psyche and condemns survivors to an uncertain future. This sociological abyss portends a serious threat to life in the 21st century.

Check out the article:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/20/weekinreview/20psyche.htm>

Dr. David Schleifer defended his dissertation at New York University in May 2010, and now has a position as an Associate Research Scholar at the Institute on Medicine as a Profession at Columbia University Medical School. In this position Dr. Schleifer gets to do research and academic writing, and will also be developing "applied' programs that aim to reduce the inappropriate use of medical technology. David's contact information is ds3029@columbia.edu

Want to know more about us?

CHECK OUT THE SPPS SECTION WEBSITE:

<http://www.asanet.org/sections/SPPS.cfm>

PLANNING YOUR FUTURE: ASA ANNUAL MEETINGS

If you're wondering where ASA will go next, see the dates and locations for future annual meetings:

Year	Dates	City	Facilities
2012	August 17-20	Denver	Colorado Convention Center & Hyatt Regency
2013	August 10-13	New York City	Hilton New York & Sheraton New York
2014	August 16-19	San Francisco	Hilton San Francisco & Parc 55 Hotel
2015	August 22-25	Chicago	Hilton Chicago & Hilton Palmer House
2016	August 20-23	Seattle	Washington State Convention Center & Sheraton Seattle Hotel
2017	August 12-15	Montreal	Palais des Congrès de Montréal
2018	<i>tbd</i>	<i>tbd</i>	<i>(open for central sites)</i>
2019	August 17-20	San Francisco	Hilton San Francisco & Parc 55 Hotel

FALL Newsletter Submissions should be sent to Johanna.p.bishop@wilmu.edu on or before October 15, 2011

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