

Social Psychology

Volume 24

Winter 2020

No. 1

Remarks from the Chair

I am honored to serve as the new chair of the social psychology section.

Transitioning into the chair's role was made much easier thanks to the help and guidance of Brent

Simpson, the past chair. Special thanks, kudos, and recognition to Jody Clay-Warner for her service



Richard T. Serpe

to our section for the past three years as secretary-treasurer and her assistance to Carla Goar who is beginning her three-year term as secretary-treasurer.

The first task that a section chair must do is fill the membership of our standing committees. I'm grateful to the fifty section members who have agreed to serve on our section's twelve committees this year and especially thank our colleagues who have graciously agreed to chair these committees. The complete list of committees and committee membership is included in the newsletter (Page 12).

I want to share with you the accomplishments of three of our committees. The Cooley-Mead Award Committee has completed the work of selecting the 2020 Cooley-Mead Award recipient, Jan E. Stets, University of California Riverside (more about Jan in this newsletter—Pages 8-9). The Nominations Committee has put together an exceptional slate of candidates for the ASA elections held in the spring. The section Program Committee (Tony Love, University of Kentucky, (Chair), Jenny Davis, The Australian National University, and Bianca Manago, Vanderbilt University), have put out the call for papers

for the annual meetings. They will begin building the sessions after the ASA submission deadline on January 29th. More details will come in the Summer newsletter.

At the ASA Annual Meetings in San Francisco, the Social Psychology Section day is Saturday, August 8th, so make your travel plans so you can maximize your engagement in section sessions and activities. The Cooley-Mead Award Session will be on Saturday, as well as our Business Meeting and the Social Psychology Sessions. Our reception will be held jointly with the sections on the Sociology of Emotions and Sociology of Mental Health. Alison Bianchi (Emotions Chair) and Kristen Marcussen (Mental Health Chair) and I are beginning to evaluate possible venues. We assume this year's reception will be held Saturday or Sunday evening.

I would also like to recognize and thank our newsletter editors webmasters, Jon Overton and Nicholas Heiserman, for their outstanding work over the past year and their continued commitment to the section. Jon and Nick are an invaluable resource for the section.

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If you see them in San Francisco, please let them know how much you appreciate their work! They have again put together a very informative Winter newsletter. This issue includes the Cooley-Mead Award Recipient Jan Stets (Pages 8-9), a Voices of Experience interview with Kathy Charmaz (Pages 7-8), a Membership Column by Ashley Reichelman, chair of the membership committee (Pages 3-4), and the SPQ update from editors Matt Brashears and Brent Simpson (Page 10).

The section is doing well with a solid financial footing, and we are managing to maintain our section membership over 600, but just barely. This year we have 603 members (608 last year) thanks to last-minute efforts of the Membership Committee and generous

gifting of student memberships. We must continue to work on maintaining our membership above 600. The Membership Committee's column highlights our membership initiatives for this year. Please do what you can to help us recruit new members. I encourage you to gift student memberships early this year so our students get the most out of a year's membership. Remember the deadline for gifting is July 31st.

Have a great spring. I hope to see you in San Francisco.

- Richard

being done by our fellow social psychologists.

Our thanks to Kathy Charmaz for taking the time to share a little bit about herself in this issue's Voices of Experience Q&A.

We'd like to extend our congratulations to Jan Stets, winner of the 2020 Cooley-Mead Award. Very well deserved, Jan!

Our thanks also to Matt Brashears and Brent Simpson for all their work editing Social Psychology Quarterly. We look forward to meeting the new editor(s) as Matt and Brent finish out their term as editors.

We hope to see you at this year's ASA and Group Processes Conferences in San Francisco.

- Nick and Jon

Remarks from the Newsletter Editors

Hello everyone!

We hope you all had a refreshing holiday season.

We encourage everyone to share the newsletter with whoever might be interested in joining the section, especially the next two pages. It's a series of compelling reasons for non-members to join. Our thanks to the Membership Committee for writing it!

In addition, remember to apply for section awards, seen on the following pages. These are a great opportunity to recognize and promote the excellent work



Nick Heiserman



Jon Overton

Call for Newsletter Contributions

Future issues of the newsletter depend on contributions from members. We welcome submissions of article suggestions for Voice of Experience profiles, announcements of new books, calls for papers, conference announcements and reviews and other material that would be of interest to section members. Please send items for the Summer 2020 issue to Jon Overton at joverto1@kent.edu or Nick Heiserman at heisermn@email.sc.edu.

ASA Conference Submissions

The 2020 ASA Meeting will be in San Francisco August 8-11. Submit your work to the ASA Meeting [here](#). Dave Melamed is organizing a Group Processes session and invites questions: send to melamed.9@osu.edu.

Group Processes Conference

The Group Processes Conference is organized by a team of researchers in the UC system and is scheduled for August 7th. Submit your work [here](#).



I WANT YOU
GEORGE HERBERT MEAD
 wants **YOU** to join the
ASA Section on Social
Psychology
JOIN TODAY

The 10,000 Reasons to Become a Member of the Social Psychology Section

The ASA Section on Social Psychology offers immense benefits to members. While there are 10,000 reasons to become a member, we are only going to share eight, and you will have to join to find out the rest.

Why should **YOU** join the section?

1. Social psychology is everywhere!

Every theory needs a mechanism. Your work will benefit from a social psychological understanding of why people behave the way that they do.

2. Stay up-to-date with social psychology

Our regular newsletter features news about cutting-edge research from section members and an interview series featuring senior social psychologists.

3. Meet collaborators

Through attending paper sessions, roundtables, business meetings, and receptions at ASA, members become intimately networked with a range of potential collaborators.

5. Job and conference news

Through the newsletter and regular emails from the chair, all members receive up-to-date information on relevant conference and job opportunities that might be of interest.

4. One-on-One Expert Mentoring

The faculty mentoring program pairs junior and senior faculty members on mutual areas of interest across research, service, teaching, work/life balance, or a combination of these areas. The program's goal seeks to give junior faculty critical and constructive criticism on their work to achieve their next goal/career phase.

6. See old friends and make new ones

Aside from academic networking, social psychologists are the nicest sociologists (from our experience, of course)! We understand the importance of friendships and the Section provides a comfortable space that many of us call our academic home.

7. The thought-provoking Cooley-Mead Address

Each year, the section honors a scholar for lifetime achievement in the field. During the ASA meetings, that scholar delivers an address to the membership about their own work, its impact on the field, and where we all need to go from here.

8. Your participation keeps social psychology vibrant and visible in the ASA

The number of regular sessions any section is allowed to hold at ASA is dependent upon the membership numbers. Therefore, every member matters in keeping social psychology a robust and prominent section in ASA!

If you are the recipient of this newsletter, you already know how valuable membership in the Social Psychology Section is. Therefore, **we strongly encourage you to [renew your membership](#)** in the new year .

The membership dues are:

- Student: \$5
- Regular: \$12

Perks for Grad Students

9. Mentoring program

Interested graduate students are paired with a faculty mentor from another institution who shares the student's interests. The relationship allows the student to expand their network of professional contacts and seek confidential advice and feedback from a scholar in addition to their adviser.

10. Research funds

Graduate student members are eligible to apply for the Graduate Student Investigator Award, a competitive honor that financially supports a research proposal. The added bonus is the entire membership's exposure to the awardee's work, providing an important platform for the job market.

11. Meet experts in the field

The sheer size of the section exposes graduate students to a diverse array of experts in the field. As of November 2019, the section had over 600 members hailing from approximately 150 colleges and universities across the globe. Membership provides graduate students the chance to learn from knowledgeable scholars on how to best develop, refine, and present their own research.

We also want to challenge our readers:

Identify at least two people, either interested students or faculty, who might benefit from all that Social Psych has to offer. Forward this newsletter to them, **highlighting this [membership link](#)**. You can also share the newsletter with a listserv or email list in order to help us cast a wider net. Graduate students are eligible for sponsored memberships. If you are interested in sponsoring a graduate student membership or receiving one, please contact Ashley Reichelmann at avr@vt.edu.

Thank you for helping us keep social psychology a vibrant voice within ASA!

Warmest regards,

The Membership Committee

Ashley V. Reichelmann | Daniel Burrill | Long Doan | Janice McCabe | Mark Walker

Message from the Members of the ASA Committee on the Status of LGBTQ People in Sociology

The [ASA Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer People in Sociology](#) seeks feedback from all ASA members on issues that may be faced by LGBTQ people within the association or the broader discipline. Such issues may be within the areas of education, workplace, research, visibility, and others. Historically, we have engaged in educational outreach efforts, conducted research on specific questions or problems, and proposed policy initiatives based on ASA member concerns. However, we are open to all feedback and new ways to support LGBTQ people within the discipline. In addition, if you are just interested in learning more about the committee, please feel free to reach out. To provide feedback, make us aware of an issue, or express interest, please email our ASA staff liaison, Jean Shin (ASA's Director of Diversity and Inclusion) at jshin@asanet.org. Jean will forward the information to the committee.

Role-Taking Fellows Selected

Jenny Davis and Tony Love would like to announce the 2020 Role-Taking Fellows:

- Cerenity Collins (University of Georgia)
- Will Fisher (University of Kentucky)
- Brennan Miller (Kent State University)
- Katie Gary (Kent State University)
- Hannah Read (Duke University)

The Fellows will travel to the Australian National University and work with Jenny and Tony on their projects studying role-taking behaviors, as well as the antecedents and consequences of role-taking.

Learn more about the fellows and their projects [here!](#)

Section Member Wins Awards

Paul Joosse received the 2019 Outstanding Article Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems for his article "Expanding Moral Panic Theory to Include the Agency of Charismatic Entrepreneurs" in the *British Journal of Criminology*. You can read the article [here](#).

Paul also received an Honorable Mention for the Religion Section of ASA's 2019 Distinguished Article Award. You can read the article [here](#).

Congrats Paul!

Who We Are

The Social Psychology Section of the ASA works to keep the spirit of social psychology vibrant in sociology. We are over 600 scholars whose interests include self-conceptions and identity, social cognition, the shaping of emotions by culture and social structure, the creation of meaning and the negotiation of social order in everyday life, small group dynamics, and the psychological consequences of inequality.

While we also identify with other areas of sociological research, we all bring to our research and teaching a special interest in the individual as both a social product and a social force. Our common desire is to understand the many connections between individuals and the groups to which they belong.

We invite all sociologists who are interested in social psychology, or who take a social-psychological approach to some other area of research, to join the Social Psychology Section and to get involved in Section activities.

New Encyclopedia Article

Guillermina (Willie) Jasso authored the [article on distributive justice](#) in the 2019 Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology.

Great work, Willie!

Upcoming Conference Roundtable

Pamela Hunt is hosting a roundtable at Southwest Pop/American Culture Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico February 19-22, 2020 on the television series *Shameless* and will accept submissions anytime before the conference. [Email Pam](#) or see [the website](#) for more information.

NOMINATE

your work or a
colleague's work for
the....

**Outstanding
Recent
Contribution in
Social
Psychology
Award**

DEADLINE:

March 1, 2020

ACCEPTING:

Articles or chapters
published

Jan. 1 2017—Dec. 31, 2019

[Learn More Here!](#)

ATTENTION:**GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Need funding for your research?

**APPLY for the Graduate Student
Investigator Award **\$1,000 Prize****

DEADLINE:

March 13, 2020

[Learn More Here!](#)

**WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, YOU
SHOULD ALSO...**

**SUBMIT your papers for the
Graduate Student Paper Award
\$500 Prize**

DEADLINE:

March 1, 2020

[Learn More Here!](#)

Featuring Kathy Charmaz, Sonoma State University

Kathy Charmaz is Professor Emerita and Director of the Faculty Writing Program at Sonoma State University, where she has served on the faculty of the Sociology Department since 1973. She received her PhD from the University of California, San Francisco. She is well-known for her role in developing and teaching grounded theory approaches to qualitative research, as well as her work on social psychology, illness, and aging.

*Her work, which includes more than a dozen books, has garnered much recognition, including the George Herbert Mead Award from the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, the Leo G. Reeder Award for distinguished contributions from the Medical Sociology Section of ASA, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Her book *Constructing Grounded Theory* (now in its second edition), received a Critics' Choice Award from the American Educational Studies Association.*

Kathy has served in a variety of leadership roles, including as President of the Pacific Sociological Association and Chair of the Medical Sociology Section of ASA. She has disseminated her work and techniques widely, teaching classes and workshops on qualitative methods and publishing across the United States and abroad.



What life experiences have contributed to your interest in social psychology and qualitative methods in general and/or your specific research areas?

I grew up in a family among chronically ill adults and was a sickly kid myself. Constant medical crises and the subsequent spiral of problems became a part of everyday life. By the early 1960s, I had become an occupational therapist who worked in physical rehabilitation. Witnessing firsthand how illness and disability affected people's self-concepts fascinated me. I was also concerned with how well-meaning therapists' lacked understanding of many of their patients' lives. These therapists seemed oblivious to the implications of poverty and prejudice. So, I decided to pursue a Master's in sociology and then go back and teach occupational therapy students. But sociology hooked me.

Can you tell us about where you spent the early part of your sociological career (first as a student and then as faculty)?

As I was finishing my master's degree, I decided to switch areas from seeking a doctorate in political sociology to social psychology and wished to study with renowned qualitative social psychologists on the West Coast. At that time, Erving Goffman was leaving University of California, Berkeley, so I was fortunate to be the last student chosen amongst stiff competition for the first doctoral cohort at the University of California, San Francisco. I had loved Anselm Strauss's essay on identity, *Mirrors and Masks: The Search for Identity* and was impressed by his empirical studies such as *Images of the American City*. Fred Davis's work on physical disabilities also captivated me. The doctoral program at UCSF was a perfect match for me with my interests in social psychology and medical sociology and the program's six quarters of training in qualitative research. I also took advanced tutorials in classical theory. When I began my doctoral studies in 1968, jobs in sociology were plentiful for white males. When I completed my degree in 1973, only a handful of jobs in California were available and I needed to stay there. By that time, however, universities were implementing new affirmative action policies of which I was a beneficiary. I received a temporary position at Sonoma State College because I could teach classical theory, not grounded theory. Despite years of tenuous employment, I managed to stay at Sonoma State.

VOICES, Continued from Page 7

How have you approached disseminating your ideas and communicating across disciplinary boundaries?

Although I had no strategy for disseminating my ideas, on reflection, I have several suggestions. In addition to your regular conference schedule, occasionally present at multidisciplinary conferences that fit your substantive expertise. If the conference organizers plan a special journal issue or edited volume, revise and submit your paper. Publishing in an international journal will also give your work a wider audience. Turn methodological innovations and insights from conducting your research into methods papers. An imaginative or provocative methods paper attracts readers and can serve as a vehicle for introducing your substantive contributions. When possible, make use of social and professional media to disseminate your work.

What one piece of advice would you give a graduate student? What about an assistant professor?

Follow your passions! Even if more lucrative research opportunities come your way. Your passionate interests will keep inspiring you and carry you through the rough spots. Following your passions as a graduate student eases the trials of being an assistant professor. You'll have something original to say and will have gained the confidence to say it. Don't let time management prescriptions from privileged professors and writing handbooks discourage you. As writing expert Helen Sword discovered, many productive scholars do not write every day. Do what you can. Study how you spend your time and evaluate it with candor. Make changes to allow more writing time but forgo the guilt when your situation precludes living by other people's schedules. And, most of all, enjoy your work.

Congratulations, Jan Stets, Winner of the 2020 Cooley-Mead Award!

From among a handful of impressive nominees, this year's Cooley-Mead committee has chosen Jan E. Stets as the recipient of the Section for Social Psychology's 2020 Cooley-Mead Award. Congratulations, Jan!

Although the committee agreed that all the nominees were outstanding, Jan rose to the top with an exemplary career that combined important contributions to theory and research, alongside tremendous service to the discipline and focused mentoring of graduate students and early-career academics. Her nominators wrote letters noting her accomplishments and her impact on both them, personally, and social psychology more broadly. Here is a selection of only a few of the praises from those nomination letters that cover just a few of Jan's significant contributions to research, teaching, and service:

- "A truly great scholar conveys the canon, passes the enthusiasm, sets the high expectations, provides the support to meet those high expectations and generally models what it is like to be an outstanding scientist. Jan does this."

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COOLEY-MEAD, Continued from Page 8

- “Jan is one of the world’s foremost authorities on identity processes, and her research has systematically advanced the development of the identity model. Particularly praiseworthy is her thorough treatment of emotions in identity theory. Because of her research...we now better understand how the (non-)verification of various identities give rise to a host of different emotions, as well as how these emotions motivate behaviors aimed at confirming one’s identity standard. Jan’s research on the moral identity illustrates her unique ability to advance identity theory while also addressing an important social concern [and] is an excellent representation of Jan’s more general research program into the social psychological mechanisms that account for human emotion.”
- “During her academic tenure, Jan has been an incredibly active and productive scholar and is a major reason that identity theory has flourished in the last thirty years, helping to ensure that structural symbolic interactionism continues to be a dominant theoretical and empirical research program in sociological social psychology.”
- “I have enormous admiration and respect for Jan’s professional contributions...Besides the publications’ scientific merit, many of them reach audiences beyond social psychology, including general sociological journals, e.g., *American Sociological Review* and *Social Science Research*, and specialized journals, e.g., *Journal of Marriage and the Family*. Jan is an ambassador, showing the best of our discipline to those wider audiences.”
- “Jan’s body of work displays an impressive professional collaboration with colleagues and students, and serves as a testament to her selflessness and generosity.”
- “I cannot emphasize enough the deep respect Jan had for my research interests. Her mentorship was centered around preserving my passion for the topics I deeply care about, yet enhancing the quality of my scholarship through theoretical development.”
- “In addition to her research accomplishments, Jan has made tremendous contributions to the discipline through her editing, service work, and mentorship. She co-edited *Social Psychology Quarterly* for three years (2015-2017), edited or co-edited seven books (1988, 1989, 2006, 2014, 2016, 2019, and Forthcoming), and has served on eight different editorial boards. She has also served on six different grant panels for the National Science Foundation and served its Sociology Program Director from 2008 to 2010. She has also been highly active in the ASA, serving as chair, council member, and/or frequent committee member for the Social Psychology, Emotions, and Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity sections.”
- “Jan is not only successful, but exceptional. Jan’s scholarly character undergirds her robust contributions and represents a standard of professional practice that we would all do well to emulate.”

We look forward to honoring Jan Stets with this award as we celebrate her contributions (and add to her impressive lists of accomplishments) at the American Sociological Association Meeting this August in San Francisco. We hope you will join us.



Social Psychology Quarterly

An Official Journal of the
American Sociological
Association



Happy New Year from Social Psychology Quarterly! This will likely be the last piece we write for the social psychology newsletter as SPQ editors. While our term as editors of the journal won't officially end until the end of this year, we will begin turning over the reins to the yet-to-be-selected next editors in July or August of this year. We appreciate all those who submitted applications to edit SPQ and are eager to see what the future holds in store for the journal.

2019 was a great year for SPQ. Once again, the number of submissions to SPQ grew in number. We had a total of 202 new submissions to the journal last year. And again, the increasing number of submissions has not resulted in longer decision times; in the past year, our average time to initial decision has been 32.9 days. Once again, we would want to thank the willingness of our reviewers and editorial board members to turn around excellent reviews so quickly. And, as usual, we greatly appreciate the efforts of our Deputy Editors (Jessica Collett, Monica Kirkpatrick Johnson, and Douglas Maynard) and Managing Editor (Laura Aufderheide Brashears) for their countless contributions to the journal.

In addition to our regular issues, a special issue on creativity, guest edited by Ugo Corte, Gary Alan Fine, and John Parker, was just published. And another special issue on Social Networks and Social Psychology (Cathryn Johnson, Weihua An, and Matthew Brashears, Special Issue Editors) is in the works and will be published as our final issue (December 2020).

We hope it goes without saying what an honor it has been to edit SPQ these past few years. We have learned so much from reading your papers and reviews, and look forward to continuing to do so for the remainder of our term.

- Matthew E. Brashears and Brent Simpson

Social Psychology

Special Journal Issue

Michèle Lamont invites Social Psychology Section members to check out the summer 2019 issue of *Daedalus*, "Inequality as a Multidimensional Process," co-edited by Lamont and Paul Pierson.

The special issue "draws on a wide range of expertise to better understand and examine how economic conditions are linked, across time and levels of analysis, to other social, psychological, political, and cultural processes that can either counteract or reinforce durable inequalities."

Contributors include Irene Bloemraad, David Grusky, Peter Hall, Hazel Markus, Will Kymlicka, Patrick Le Gales, Francesca Polletta, Leanne Son Hing, Anne Wilson and many more.

Check it out [here](#) or [here](#).



ASA Award Nomination Calls

Please consider nominating a colleague for one or more of these awards:

[Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award](#)

[Dissertation Award](#)

[Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology](#)

[Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award](#)

[Distinguished Scholarly Book Award](#)

[Excellence in the Reporting of Social Issues Award](#)

[Jessie Bernard Award](#)

[Public Understanding of Sociology Award](#)

[W.E.B. Du Bois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award](#)

See the full text of the award nomination calls [here](#).



New Books by Section Members

Ridgeway, Cecilia L. 2019. Status: *Why is it Everywhere? Why Does it Matter?* NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

This book argues that status hierarchies are a cultural invention by people to organize and manage social relations in a fundamental human condition: cooperative interdependence to achieve valued goals with nested competitive interdependence to maximize individual outcomes in the effort. The book proposes a cultural schema theory of status based on this argument. It then shows how this theory can account for how status goes from a hierarchy among individuals to a hierarchy of groups of people in society based on social differences like gender, race, or class, and to organizations in a field or products in a market and how, in the process, status contributes to durable patterns of inequality based on social differences.



Keep an eye out!

Forthcoming edited volume, *Shameless Sociology: Critical Perspectives on a Popular Television Series*, Edited by Jennifer Beggs Weber and Pamela M. Hunt.

Officers

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Thank you all for the important work
 you do for the section!