

ASA SECTION ON SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

2009-2010 Annual Report

Submitted by Dawn T. Robinson, Past Chair

I. Review of 2009-10 Section Activities

This year the Social Psychology section made a push to build more cross-cutting ties with sociologists outside the section, with scholars outside of sociology, and with other organizations. We instituted a new *ad hoc* Committee on External Affairs composed of members with ties to ISA, APA, NSF, NIMH, and many of ASA's other sections. During its inaugural year, this committee helped to keep the section informed about opportunities and happenings in these other organizations and engaged in discussions about the optimal scope of duties for such a committee in the future. In future years, we anticipate that this committee may also coordinate events such as joint receptions and joint paper sessions.

The section committees and council kept the section running smoothly this year, developing a strong slate of candidates for the 2010 election, awarding the 2010 Cooley-Mead Award to Peggy Thoits, awarding the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to Sarah Thébaud, considering various new section initiatives including a new committee, new award, and the possibility of an awards dinner. The details of those efforts appear in the reports below.

The section had an engaging, high quality, and intellectually diverse presence on this year's ASA program. An invited panel of top scholars discussed cutting edge research on the "Sociology of Good and Evil." An open submission paper session on Social Psychology, organized by Robin Simon, generated fabulous and diverse set of papers. A session co-sponsored with Crime, Law, Deviance, organized by Jody Clay-Warner, featured work from members of both sections focused on micro-dynamics of crime and deviance. This was the first of a two-year co-sponsorship agreement with the Crime, Law, and Deviance section. Another co-sponsored session with the Culture section, organized by Omar Lizardo, focused on the ways in which social psychology research might be enriched by greater attention to cultural sociology. This session was a follow up to a terrific session at the San Francisco ASA meetings, organized by Melissa Milkie, that focused on what sociologists of culture could learn from social psychology research. Both sessions were well attended by members of both sections. Finally, roundtable session, co-sponsored with the Sociology of Emotion section and organized by Reef Younggreen and Jessica Collett, continued a tradition of joint activities with that section.

II. 2009-2020 Section Officers and Committee Members

Chair

Dawn T. Robinson, University of Georgia

Chair Elect

Jane McCloud, Indiana University

Past Chair

Karen Hegtvedt, Emory University

Council

Deborah Carr, Rutgers University

Martha Foschi, University of British Columbia

Matthew Hunt, Northeastern University

Timothy Owens, Purdue University
Shelley Correll, Stanford University
Rebecca Erickson, University of Akron
Celeste Campos, University of Iowa (student)

Standing Committees

Professional Affairs

Carmi Schooler (Chair) (07-10), NIH
Amy Fasula, (08-11), Center for Disease Control
Doug Maynard, (07-10), University of Wisconsin, Madison
Dave Willer, (07-10), University of South Carolina
Elaine Wethington (09-12), Cornell University

Graduate Student Affairs

David Rohall (chair), Western Illinois University
Ellen Granberg, Clemson University
Andre Christie-Mizell, Kent State
Alexander Watts (student), Stanford
Alexandra Gerbasi, California State University-Northridge

Nominations

Tyrone Forman (chair), Emory University
Laura Aufderheide Brashears, Cornell University
Kimberly Rogers (student) Duke University
Melissa Milkie, University of Maryland
Shane Thye, University of South Carolina

Cooley-Mead Award Committee

Brian Powell (Chair), Indiana University
Edward Lawler, Cornell University
Kathryn Lively, Dartmouth
Karen Hegtvedt, Emory
Richard Serpe, Kent State University

Program Committee

Dawn T Robinson (Chair), University of Georgia

Session Organizers

Jody Clay-Warner, University of Georgia
Robin Simon, Wake Forest University
Reef Youngreen, University of Massachusetts-Boston
Jessica Collett, Notre Dame University

Ad Hoc Committees

Membership Committee

2009-10 Committee

Will Kalkhoff (Chair), Kent State University
Carla Goar, Northern Illinois
Vernon Woodley (student), University of Iowa

Committee on External Affairs

Michael Flaherty (chair), Eckerd College
Linda Francis, Case Western Reserve
Cecilia Ridgeway, Stanford University
Jan Stets, National Science Foundation and University of California-Riverside
Steve Hitlin, University of Iowa

III. 2010 Section Budget Report

As of June 30th, we had \$13,778 in the budget. That figure does not include ASA related expenses (reception, council meal, travel money for graduate student paper winner, plaque expenses for Cooley-Mead and student award winners). Those expenses will amount to at least \$3,000. Still, we have a reasonable surplus in the budget. Also, despite the general decline in ASA membership, our section's membership has remained fairly stable. As of June 30th, we had 609 members and last year at this time we had 622 members, so our membership drop has been small. This stability means that this year's dues income (\$360) and section budget allocation (\$2,326) are highly similar to last year's dues income and section budget allocation. In addition to our steady membership based income, we have had royalty donations. Between July 2009 to July 2010, we received \$202 in royalty donations (from Peter Burke).

IV. Nomination Procedures

The section's nominations procedures for awards and elected offices are described in our "Committee Guidelines" that are posted on the section website. Below is the description of the nomination procedures for elected offices, as excerpted from the online guidelines for the Nominations Committee (last revised 10/09/09):

Compile initial roster of candidates, by position.

1. In November, the ASA sends the nominations chair a list of section offices to be filled. As soon as you have this information, e-mail each of the committee members (who are appointed by the section chair) and request nominations for each open position. In addition, request that the section chair post a call for nominations to the listserv. The posting should indicate that section members may send nominations to the nominations committee chair by a certain date. The requests for nominations sent to committee and section members should, remind people that there is a great deal of diversity in a section of 600 members and that they may consider diversity in making their nominations. In addition, each nomination should include the following: name of candidate, position (e.g., assistant, associate, full professor), university affiliation, and main research area (e.g., group processes, symbolic interactionism, social structure and personality). The information is intended to allow the committee members to be able to assess the diversity of the pool of candidates prior to their decision-making. Committee and section members are allowed to submit multiple nominations and may nominate the same person for more than one category.

2. Have each committee member (including the chair) provide a list of potential candidates, by position, in late November.

3. By early December the chair should combine and alphabetize nominations made by committee members as well as those from the section membership. This combined list should be returned to the committee. Each committee member (including the chair) should assign each candidate a numerical priority rating (1=highest).

4. Candidates who are not section members are dropped from further consideration, per ASA rules. You may include people who were in the section the prior year but have not yet renewed

their membership in the ASA (many people do not pay their dues by January). Persons who have renewed their current ASA membership but have not selected the social psychology section for membership need to be dropped from further consideration. (This information is available from the ASA governance coordinator. The coordinator will send the nominations chair a complete list of members as of October 1. The list can be offered to all the committee members for reference.)

5. If people who are currently serving on the nominations committee are nominated by others to fill one or more positions, they must be dropped from further consideration, per ASA rules.

6. In mid December, everyone on the committee should return their ratings to the nominations chair.

Select the slate.

1. With scores in hand (lowest scores indicating the top candidates), construct an initial list of candidates. Share this list with committee members. Then begin contacting the candidates.

2. Build the slate with at two candidates for each vacancy; e.g., for two council vacancies, there should be four candidates.

3. When contacting potential candidates, simply work down the priority list as you inquire whether people want or do not want to run. If a person chooses not to run, contact the next person on the list until all vacancies have a competitive slate.

V. Plans for 2010-11 Section Activities

The sessions for the 2011 meetings continue the efforts of past section chairs to build bridges between the social psychology section and other sections within ASA, and to make the contributions of social psychology to the broader discipline more visible. We will offer two co-sponsored sessions, one with the Section on the Sociology of Mental Health (organized by the 2010 Cooley-Mead Award recipient, Peggy Thoits) and one with the Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance (organized by Ross Matsueda). These sessions will highlight the relevance of social psychological theories and research to understanding major social issues. We will also offer two invited sessions. The first, organized by Doug Maynard, is on “Managing Conflict in Settings of Everyday Life: Interaction and Practices.” It will feature the work of social psychologists from diverse theoretical and methodological traditions all of whom focus on conflict in interpersonal interaction. (You may recall that the theme of the 2011 meeting is “Social Conflict: Multiple Dimensions and Arenas”). The second, organized by Cecilia Ridgeway, is on “Social Psychology, Microsociology, and Sociology.” Panelists will offer comments about the current varieties of sociological social psychology, how they relate to one another, as well as how the whole enterprise of social psychology is perceived by the broader discipline. The final two sessions include an open paper session on “New Directions in Social Psychology,” organized by Alicia Cast, and our annual roundtable session, co-sponsored with the Section on Emotions and co-organized by Justine Tinkler and Christopher Moore.

The new council is busy at work on several items of business that were introduced at the business meeting: a proposal for a section publication award (with David Willer’s help); a

proposal to merge the Professional Affairs and External Affairs committees (from Linda Francis and Elaine Wethington); and a proposal to allow for additional members to be added to the Graduate Affairs committee. These proposals will come to membership for a vote this spring. Prior to the vote, the full proposals and their rationales will be posted on the Section website and publicized to Section members.

VI. Report on Section Council Meetings

The Social Psychology Section Council met electronically as needed throughout the year to discuss policy and section initiatives. We had our annual meeting at 7:00 am on August 16, 2010 in the conference hotel. The agenda and minutes from that meeting are below.

ASA SECTION ON SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome, Introduction, Announcements
2. Highlights of 2009-2010
3. Brief Report on Committee Activities
4. Sec/Treasurer's Report (Amy Kroska)
5. Newsletter Report (Laura Auf der Heide Brashears)
6. Update from SPQ Editors
7. Old Business
 - Graduate Student Paper Section
 - Section Awards - motion from the council?
 - Awards dinner (Jane McLeod)
 - Guidelines revisions
8. New Business
9. Remarks and Announcements from Chair-Elect (Jane McLeod)

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 7:00am and adjourned at 8:20. Minutes taken by Amy Kroska, Secretary-Treasurer.

In attendance: Dawn Robinson (chair), Laura Aufderheide Brashears, Philip Brenner, Deborah Carr, Celeste Campos -Castillo, Rebecca Erikson, Karen Hegtvedt, Matthew Hunt, and Will Kalkhoff, Amy Kroska, Jane McLeod, and Brian Powell.

REPORTS

Newsletter: Laura Aufderheide Brashears urged council members to send her contributions to newsletter. Laura Aufderheide Brashears is joining Christabel Rogalin as the new co-editor of the newsletter. She is replacing Shirley Keeton who stepped down after taking a job in Afghanistan.

Website: Philip Brenner, the webmaster for the section, explained that he does not look for items to post, so we should send him updates and information relevant for the website.

SPQ: Karent Hegtvedt, the incoming co-editor of *Social Psychology Quarterly*, reviewed new features of the journal: (1) The review system for the journal will now be handled through the

on-line Scholar-One program, so reviewers will be receiving an email from Scholar-One asking them to provide their contact information and research areas. (2) She and Cathryn Johnson, the other co-editor, will be fostering connections with the press. This effort will include sending a letter to authors once a paper appears in print asking them for brief summaries suitable for dissemination to the press. (3) Karen Hegtvedt and Cathryn Johnson also plan to edit the journal's two websites (the ASA website and the Sage website) to make them more user friendly. The council discussed the value of providing a link between the section website and the journal websites. (4) The journals current allotment is 391 pages and their acceptance rate is 10.4%. Given their low acceptance rate, they will be requesting a greater page allotment.

Budget: Amy Kroska reported that as of June 30th, we had \$13,778 in the budget. However, that does not include ASA related expenses (reception, council meal, travel money for graduate student paper winner, plaque expenses for Cooley-Mead and student award winners). Those expenses will amount to at least \$3,000. Still, we have a reasonable surplus in the budget. Also, despite the general decline in ASA membership, our section's membership has remained fairly stable. As of June 30th, we had 609 members and last year at this time we had 622 members, so our membership drop has been small. This stability means that this year's dues income (\$360) and section budget allocation (\$2,326) are highly similar to last year's dues income and section budget allocation.

OLD BUSINESS

Increase Size of Graduate Student Affairs Committee: Dawn Robinson reported that the committee received 48-49 paper submissions this year. The committee chair (David Rohall) did follow the newly established rules, allowing the chair to screen out papers that are not sufficiently focused on social psychology. Nonetheless, the committee's workload was considerable. Therefore, Dawn Robinson proposed a change to the committee guidelines and by-laws that would allow the chair to increase the number of committee members in years when there is a very high number of submissions. The committee voted to use the range of 5-7 members in the guidelines and by-laws to accommodate such years. Also, Brian Powell recommended that the guidelines be changed so that the chair of the committee is given the option of notifying the students who make the final list. The council also supported this change.

New Publication Award. Dawn Robinson began a discussion of a new publication award over email in the spring, and revisited the discussion at the meeting. As Dawn noted over email, last fall, a member queried us about why we do not have any section awards for scholarship (other than the lifetime scholarship award, the Cooley Mead). We began a discussion of whether we should consider instituting any new awards and decided to bring it up at the ASA business meeting for discussion.

ASA allows sections to give up to 5 awards per year. If a section has any awards, at least one must be for students. Most sections seem to have at least 3 awards; many have the full 5 allotted. After discussion on both email and at the council meeting, the council supported the idea of proposing an award that rotated each year between a book and an article, with a two to three year window of eligibility so that all publications are eligible. Karen Hegtvedt moved to bring to the membership a proposal for a rotating award to the membership at the business meeting. The motion was seconded and the council voted unanimously to support the motion. Dawn Robinson

noted that if there is favorable vote in the business meeting, someone will have to develop a proposed set of changes to the bylaws, which the membership will vote on next spring. If supported, we would implement the award in 2011-12. Dawn Robinson suggested giving the new council member, Robb Willer, the task of writing up the guidelines for the award. The guidelines can include a recommendation for a name for the award.

Plaque Purchasing Task. Dawn Robinson reminded the council that they voted over email to give the task of buying plaques to the secretary-treasurer. Dawn noted over email that our current committee chair guidelines place responsibility for acquiring award plaques in the hands of the committee chairs. Some sections (including the Sociology of Emotions) have the secretary-treasurer do this instead. This procedure seems more efficient to me. Since the secretary-treasurer has the position for multiple years and can do it for multiple committees, there is a mild benefit of scale (getting to know a trophy shop, standardizing the look of the plaques, etc.). Also, having the secretary-treasurer do this skips a layer of receipt handling, which also seems more efficient. Also, given the possibility that we establish another section award, purchasing all of the plaques may be simpler for the secretary-treasurer than arranging reimbursements for several different committee chairs. The council voted over email to support this change, and the vote was reiterated at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Awards Dinner. Dawn Robinson began a discussion of an awards dinner over email and revisited the discussion at the council meeting. As Dawn noted over email, some sections (including Medical Sociology and Sociology of Mental Health) have a dinner to honor their award winners at ASA. Traditionally, our section has used the reception for this purpose. This year there will be a dinner for the Cooley-Mead and graduate student paper award winners, their guests, and the council. The section will pay for the dinner of the two award winners and all the other invitees will cover their own costs. Dawn asked if we should make this a more permanent tradition. After some discussion, Shelley Correll proposed asking previous Cooley-Mead winners if they thought this was a good idea.

Jane McLeod reported at the meeting that contacted ten of the previous Cooley-Mead award winners and heard back from nine of them, and eight of the nine thought we should not institute the dinner. The council voted to table the discussion of a dinner, although we may revisit the discussion in future years, particularly if we establish additional awards.

Professional Affairs Committee. Dawn discussed the merits of maintaining a Professional Affairs Committee. The committee was established in the 1980s when it was needed for disseminating statements regarding the legitimacy of social psychology courses and programs within departments of sociology. Now the committee only requires work if an issue arises. Dawn repopulated the committee according to the bylaws and asked the committee to determine if they should exist and what they should be doing. We did not get such a report, so Dawn asked the council if they thought we should drop the committee and just recreate an ad hoc committee if something comes up. She also proposed the idea of moving the tasks carried out by the External Affairs Committee over to the Professional Affairs Committee. The External Affairs Committee is an *ad hoc* committee that makes recommendations about how the section can connect to other

sections, get more slots on the ASA program and co-sponsor sessions. The council voted to wait until Jane repopulates that committee to decide how to proceed.

In this discussion, council members noted that getting a social psychologist on the ASA Program Committee could help increase the number of social psychology sessions on the program.

Committees and Programs for Next Year: Jane distributed the list of current committee members that she has put together for next year. She also reviewed her plans for the program for next year, which include a joint roundtable session with the Sociology of Emotions Section and joint session with the Mental Health Section and the Law and Crime Sections.

VII. Report on the Annual Section Business Meeting.

The section held its 2010 Business meeting and Cooley Mead Award Ceremony on August 16. The business meeting portion of the session convened at 11:30 am and adjourned at 12:20 pm. 83 people attended. 82 were ASA members, and 76 were section members. The agenda and minutes from that meeting are below. Minutes were taken by Amy Kroska.

COOLEY MEAD AWARD CEREMONY AND BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Cooley Mead Ceremony

1. Welcome (Dawn Robinson)
2. Presentation of the Cooley Mead Award (Brian Powell)
3. Introduction to the Cooley Mead Address (Kathryn Lively and Ellen Granberg)
4. Cooley Mead Address
Peggy A. Thoits, Virginia L. Roberts Professor of Sociology, Indiana University

Business Meeting

5. Announcements and Highlights of 2009-2010 (Dawn Robinson)
6. Sec/Treasurer's Report (Amy Kroska)
7. Update from SPQ Editors
8. Webmaster Report (Philip Brenner)
9. Newsletter Report (Christabel Rogalin)
10. Committee Reports
 - Cooley Mead Award Committee (Brian Powell)
 - Graduate Student Paper Award Committee (David Rohall)
 - Nominations Committee (Tyrone Forman)
 - Professional Affairs Committee (Carmi Schooler)
 - ad hoc* Membership Committee (Will Kalkhoff)
 - ad hoc* Committee on External Affairs (Michael Flaherty)
11. Old Business
12. New Business
 - Section Awards
13. Remarks and Announcements from Chair-Elect (Jane McLeod)

MINUTES

HIGHLIGHTS

Dawn Robinson noted several upcoming events on the ASA program. She also noted that the council is revisiting the value of maintaining the Professional Affairs Committee.

REPORTS

Cooley-Mead Award Committee: Brian Powell (chair), Edward Lawler, Kathryn Lively, Karen Hegtvedt, and Richard Serpe. Brian introduced Peggy Thoits, the winner of the 2010 Cooley-Mead Award. Two former students, Ellen Granberg and Kathryn Lively, gave statements regarding Peggy's contributions to social psychology.

Budget: Amy Kroska reported that as of June 30th, the section had \$13,778 in the budget. However, that figure does not include ASA-related expenses (reception, council meal, travel money for graduate student paper winner, plaques for Cooley-Mead and student award winners), which will amount to at least \$3,000. Despite the general decline in ASA membership, our section's membership has remained fairly stable. As of June 30th, we had 609 members and last year at this time we had 622 members, so our membership drop has been small. This stability means that this year's dues income (\$360) and section budget allocation (\$2,326) are highly similar to last year's dues income and section budget allocation. We had \$108 in royalty income.

SPQ: Gary Fine, outgoing editor of *Social Psychology Quarterly*, reported that the new editors, Karen Hegtvedt and Cathryn Johnson, are in the process of transitioning in. The transition date for both new manuscripts and revisions was August 1, 2010. Sage is taking over as the publisher of the journal.

Karen Hegtvedt and Cathryn Johnson, the incoming co-editors of *Social Psychology Quarterly*, noted that the review system for the journal will now be handled through the on-line Scholar-One program, so reviewers will be receiving an email from Scholar-One asking them to provide their contact information and research areas. They will also be putting links to the journal website on the section website.

Website: Philip Brenner, the webmaster for the section, explained that he does not look for items to post on the website, so we should send him updates and information relevant for the website.

Newsletter: Laura Aufderheide Brashears is joining Christabel Rogalin as the new co-editor of the newsletter. She is replacing Shirley Keeton who stepped down after taking a job in Afghanistan. Laura Aufderheide Brashears asked for newsletter contributions and emphasized the need for bios on graduate students who are on the market.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Graduate Student Affairs Committee: David Rohall, committee chair, gave the Social Psychology Section Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to Sarah Thébaud. He also recognized the hard work of the other committee members: Alexandra Gerbasi, Ellen Granberg, André Christi-Mizell, and Alec Watts (student member).

Dawn Robinson reported that the council voted to reword the by-laws for the Graduate Student Affairs Committee so that its size can range from 5-7. The default size will be 5 members, but if there is a large number of submissions, the committee chair can request that the section chair appointment one or more members to the committee to reduce the workload for committee members.

Nominations Committee: Dawn recognized the good work of the nominations committee: Tyrone Forman (Chair), Laura Aufderheide Brashears, Melissa Milkie, Kim Rogers (student member), Shane Thye.

Professional Affairs Committee: Carmi Schooler (chair) reported that this committee had no work this year. However, clinical sociologists have sought licensure this year.

Ad hoc Membership Committee: Will Kalkhoff (chair) reported that they met their objective of keeping the membership above 600. Therefore, we will not lose any sessions at next year's ASA. He thanked the work of the other committee members: Carla Goar, Chris Moore, Vernon Woodley (student).

Ad hoc External Affairs Committee: Michael Flaherty (Chair), Linda Francis, Cecilia Ridgeway, Jan Stets, Steve Hitlin. The committee reported that this new committee is charged with making recommendations on how to develop more joint sessions and joint receptions and foster connections with organizations outside the ASA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

John DeLamater requested feedback on the level of interest in a new edition of his *Handbook of Social Psychology*. His first edition was published in 2003 and that same issue was reprinted in 2006. He gives the royalties from this book to the section, so the section benefits from sales of the text. Springer is interested in publishing a new edition, so he wants to know: (1) Is there an interest in continuing that tradition and publishing a second edition? (2) Would they like him to put together another edition? He requested input from the council and/or from individuals. Members can email him at delamate@ssc.wisc.edu. A brief discussion followed during which members expressed a strong interest in an updated version of the text.

Carmi Schooler noted that he felt disenfranchised by the *Social Psychology Quarterly* subtitle "The Journal of Microsociologies," which is on the cover of *SPQ*, because it excludes work on the connections between the macro and the micro. Gary Fine said in four years no one has said that. Gary explained that they instituted that subtitle to make the journal more inclusive. He said it's an umbrella term designed to encompass a range of methodologies, including experiments, surveys, ethnography, ethnomethodology, conservation analysis, and visual sociology. Karen Hegtvedt, incoming co-editor, noted that this phrase was added not as an add-on to the title but as a tagline on the cover. She and Cathy Johnson will not have the tagline on the cover.

Dave Willer encouraged members to join the Rationality and Society section, because the interests of this section are similar to those of the Rationality and Society section. They have 149 members so they are 49 members from losing their status as a section.

NEW BUSINESS

Publication Award: Dawn Robinson noted that the council voted today to propose to the membership that the section establish a publication award that rotates each year between a book and an article, with a two to three year window of eligibility so publications do not miss eligibility. A committee will be charged with developing the details and bringing them to the membership next year. If you have ideas, give them to Jane, the incoming chair. Linda Francis noted that because there are so many more articles than books, it may make more sense to do two articles and one book—i.e., have a book every three years. David Willer volunteered to chair a

committee to develop a formal proposal for the new award guidelines.

Committees and Programs for Next Year: Jane McLeod reviewed her plans for the program for next year, which include a joint roundtable session with the Sociology of Emotions Section and joint sessions with both the Mental Health and the Law and Crime Sections. We are scheduled for the last day next year, so we will get an extra session.

VIII. Copies of Newsletters Published Electronically

(see next page)