From the President, Charles Tolbert: 
Looking Forward to Atlanta in 2004

There can be little doubt that the also of Atlanta in spring time with highlight of this semester for dogwoods and azaleas in full bloom. most of us was the splendid Society. Most importantly, think of a fine meeting in New Orleans. President new meeting venue in mid-town Atlanta, Pat Martin and Program Chair Idee I lanta, situated between the High Winfield put together a wonderful Museum and Piedmont Park. The program. Even for New Orleans, the Sheraton Colony Square hotel afforded us this great location. We hope to make the most of it.

With this hard act to follow still much in mind, let me encourage you to think ahead to Atlanta in 2004. With this hard act to follow still much in mind, let me encourage you to think ahead to Atlanta in 2004. Yes, for the 17th time, the Society will gather in Atlanta. But, think of a fine meeting venue in mid-town Atlanta, situated between the High Museum and Piedmont Park. The Sheraton Colony Square hotel affords us this great location. We hope to make the most of it.

The theme for next year's meeting will be “Southern Sociology: Legacy and Promise.” As we gather in the capital of the New South, we aim to think ahead to Atlanta in 2004. design a program with a theme that Yes, for the 17th time, the Society challenges us to appreciate the his will gather in Atlanta. But, think

(Continued on page 2)
President Tolbert’s Column

(Continued from page 1)

tery of our organization, the richness of the membership over the years, the ways our regional context shaped the Society, and the contributions of the Society to the South. We also hope the program is forward looking, and that it recognizes the contemporary strengths of our organization, the present membership, and the strengths of sociology in the South.

The first annual meeting of the Society was in Atlanta. Ida Simpson’s history of the SSS tells us that much work went into securing a hotel (the Biltmore) that would allow integrated meetings (at least in the daytime). While it could be argued that the efforts of our predecessors were insufficient, it is safe to say that much energy and angst went into planning meetings where all the members could participate. This was not confined to a handful of elected officers and committee members. Quite a few SSS members were active in their communities and across the South. Part of our legacy, then, is regional leadership aimed at social change. But, I also think that leadership is part of our promise. In Atlanta in 2004, let’s also consider sociology’s role in the South’s future. What is southern sociology’s role in the national disciplinary discourse? To what extent is cutting-edge sociological work of national significance going on in the South? Can we once again bring the strengths of southern sociology to bear on the region’s problems? What do we have to offer for national and global problems?

I confess to being very positive about southern sociology and our organization in particular. In my fall column, I will suggest some answers to the questions just posed. In the meantime, consider the theme and make plans to participate on the Atlanta program. Mark your calendars: April 14-17, 2004. Using our e-publication, TSS, we will be back in touch soon with a call for participation and instructions for submission to the program.

Charles M. Tolbert, II
Baylor University

Coming Soon: 2004 Call for Participation

Watch for a special edition of TSS this summer on new submission procedures for the 2004 meeting. In the meantime, send ideas and suggestions to Program Committee Co-Chairs:

Michael Irwin  Dawn Robinson
Duquesne University  University of Iowa

Program e-mail address: sss-prog@uiowa.edu
From: Patricia Yancey Martin, Immediate Past President

I appreciate this opportunity to thank SSS members and friends from around the nation for their part in the 2003 New Orleans meetings. People from outside the region who had never attended an SSS meeting made comments like, “Gosh, you have really good sessions!” and “People actually attend sessions here!” Yes we have good sessions and, yes, we attend. And we have fun. For me, the best comment of all was made by an outside-the-region person who emailed me that these were the “happiest” sociology meetings she’d ever attended. Sociologists happy? How quaint. Attendance was good, with over 700 registrants, and despite the absence of two plenary speakers (due to personal or family illness), the plenary sessions went well. Thanks (again) to Walter Allen, John Hagan, Judith Lorber and Jill Quadagno for their excellent presentations.

The meetings succeeded due to the hard work of many people. First among them is Idee Winfield, Program Chair, who assembled a Program Committee that came through in every respect. Assembling a program where people are in only one session at a time is a Herculean task but Idee somehow managed. Furthermore, creating sessions that reflect the meeting’s theme is hard work and Idee surpassed recent memory in that regard. Finally, she did this work without ceasing to be responsive to emails and requests for help and while maintaining a sense of humor. I also thank Shirley Laska for her Local Arrangements work with all the minute-by-minute and sometimes emergency duties this function entailed. Her “restaurant guide,” admittedly purloined (with permission) from geographers, was first rate; thanks Shirley. Third, thank you to David Gay and the Committee on the Status of Students for raising funds and organizing a graduate student event that, he hopes (as I do) communicated to our graduate student members their value to SSS. Allegedly, the session ‘ran out of food’ (surprise, surprise) but we can learn from this first attempt about how to do things differently in coming years. As anyone who has worked in a voluntary organization knows, someone who raises money for a good purpose is exceptional (and exceptionally valuable). I thank Chardie Baird who served as my Presidential Aide-de-camp. This position, established several years ago by Maxine Atkinson, is crucial for people who do not have administrative support (e.g., as chair of a department or with other such resources). Chardie kept me on track, reminded me about what to do and by when, corresponded with committee chairs, reminded people that reports were due, maintained lists (email lists of all committee chairs, committee members, etc.), and so on. While the job was not “daily,” it almost was. I could not have made it through the year without her help.

I thank members of the SSS Executive Committee who were responsive in every way, including making our three-hour sessions dealing with SSS business lively and fun. Special thanks to Marty Levin for his leadership in keeping the Society functioning like a well-oiled machine. His institutional memory and guidance, particularly in regards to hotels and the annual meeting, are invaluable. We owe a special debt to Bob Freymeyer for taking over TSS from George Rent and Jim Jones and setting it on a new course as an electronic medium. While we worry (still) that some folks may fail to receive it, the Executive Committee pledged (again) to assure that people who are not...
“online” will receive a copy. If you know of people in this situation, perhaps you can notify Bob so he can mail them a ‘printed’ copy. I also thank my department, both faculty and graduate students. To my delight, nearly all of them participated in the meetings and, in addition, my chair provided financial support for the reception after the Presidential address. SWS-South contributed to that event also, for which I am grateful.

I am deeply grateful to all who served on an SSS committee this year, particularly those who served as chair. Since we meet only once a year, our “work” must be accomplished in the 361 days when we are far-flung from each other, unable to work together face-to-face on the Society’s business. Email, faxes and telephones make this task possible but it is still time-consuming and energy-demanding and since we all have too much to do, working for SSS entails sacrifice. To all who served on an SSS committee, please know that your contribution is appreciated. Your work makes this organization “work.”

I want to particularly thank the 2002-2003 Honors Committee for recommending a new award, the Southern Sociological Society Distinguished Lecturer Award, which the Executive Committee tentatively approved. If all goes as planned, nominations for the new award will be requested in the coming year. The award, modeled on the Eastern Sociological Society’s Robin Williams Lectureship, will be open annually for nominations, with details to be provided in a future TSS issue by Honors Committee Chair, Kathleen Slevin. The Honors Committee made other recommendations as well (that the Executive Committee also approved) which Kate will review in an upcoming Honors Committee news update.

Professional meetings like ours are held so we can assemble, share research findings and theoretical ideas, visit with each other, and create intellectual and scholarly bonds, not to mention renew old friendships and make new friends. To everyone who presented a paper, participated on a panel, presented a poster, served as a discussant, chaired a session, organized a session, or attended a session: Thank you. The SSS succeeds because of you. Lastly, I thank you for the support you gave me during my presidential year and I offer all best wishes to Charles Tolbert for his presidential term.

Patricia Yancey Martin
(ESS President 2002-2003)
Spring is my favorite season in Atlanta. In April, the landscape is filled with bright blooming azaleas. Fragrant wisteria drips from the flowering dogwood trees. Everything looks and smells wonderful. What better place to experience this beauty than Midtown Atlanta, the new site of the 2004 SSS meetings. The Sheraton Colony Square Hotel, where we’ll meet, is located near both Piedmont Park and the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

Piedmont Park is a great place to people and dog watch, feed ducks, rollerblade, bicycle, or have a drink with a lovely view of Midtown’s skyline. The Atlanta Botanical Garden is a jewel. The latest addition to the Garden is a world-class orchid house. You can also enjoy a walk through a hardwood forest, a wonderful children’s garden, and a collection of endangered plants in the Conservatory. To get to the garden you could walk through Ansley Park, one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Atlanta, full of carefully restored old homes.

Our Midtown location also affords us immediate access to the heart of the Atlanta arts district. You can walk to the Richard-Meier-designed High Museum of Art, tour or attend a show at the historic Fox Theatre, and watch a performance at the Woodruff Arts Center (home of the Atlanta Symphony and the Alliance Theater). The Fox Theatre (http://www.foxtheatre.org) was built in the
1920s in a Moorish ornate style, complete with twinkling “stars” in the ceiling. You’ll be able to see plays, movies, or concerts in this opulent Midtown venue.

And when you’re hungry, you’ll be able to eat at a variety of restaurants with patios near the park--great for Springtime in Atlanta—or head over to the most famous of the Krispy Kreme doughnut locations in Atlanta (watch for the “Hot Now” sign).
Midtown Atlanta means outdoor beauty, arts, great food, and easy access to many Atlanta landmarks. Please plan on joining us next Spring!

Interested in learning more about Midtown Atlanta? Check out these links:

http://www.midtownatlanta.org
http://www.midtownatlanta.us
http://www.midtownalliance.org/arts/culture/htm
http://www.sheratoncolonysquare.com

We’ll share more information on greater Atlanta attractions in future articles.

Mindy Stombler
stombler@gsu.edu

Historic Atlanta neighborhood in Spring
2003 Annual Meeting Successful

Almost 700 people registered for the 2003 Annual Meeting held in New Orleans at the Monteleone Hotel. The Program Committee led by Idee Winfield, College of Charleston, produced a diverse and exciting program. The program included a stimulating Presidential Address by Patricia Yancey Martin entitled “Gender as Social Institution: A Radical or Reactionary Notion.” The program also featured two plenary sessions: The first plenary on Disrupting Inequality/ies Associated with Race, Healthcare, and International Law included presentations by John Hagan, Northwestern University and American Bar Foundation; Walter R. Allen, University of California Los Angeles; and Jill Quadagno, Florida State University and was presided over by Ramiro Martinez, Jr., Florida International University. Florence Bonner, Harvard University presided over the second plenary on Disrupting Inequalities in the Institutions of Law, Gender, and Marriage that included a presentation by Judith Lorber, City University of New York--The Graduate Center. Furthermore, there was a session honoring Rachel Rosenfeld, immediate Past-President of SSS.
Students wait to receive their awards at the Presidential Session

Odum Award Winners

Undergraduate Award:
Harmony Newman, Centenary College
“To Escape or Endure Adolescent Pregnancy: The Impact of Agency on Sexual Decision-Making”

Graduate Award:
Edward W. Morris, University of Texas at Austin
“From ‘Middle Class’ to ‘Trailer Trash’: How Teachers Perceive and Interact with White Students in a Predominately Minority School”
2003 Awards

Mary Lou Wiley accepts the Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award from President Martin on behalf of James Madison University’s Sociology Department.

Clifton Bryant receives the Distinguished Contribution to Teaching Award from President Martin.

Ronald Akers’ name was added to the Roll of Honor.

President Martin presents the Charles S. Johnson Award to John Moland.

Martin L. Levin, SSS Secretary-Treasurer, received the first Distinguished Service Award.
Scenes from New Orleans

SSS Committees meeting on Saturday morning

Enjoying the Welcome Bluegrass Reception on Thursday

Undergraduate students from the College of Charleston prepare for their paper presentations
Scenes from New Orleans

Past-Presidents Shirley Laska and Maxine Atkinson enjoy a relaxing moment on Saturday afternoon

The Bluegrass Band tunes up at the Welcome Reception

Sociologists for Women—South officers (from left to right) Susan Hinze, Diane Everett, Angela Lewellyn Jones
Many Thanks to All, from the Committee on the Status of Students

Nicole Flynn for COSS

As many of you know, the Committee on the Status of Students hosted the first Official SSS Graduate Student Reception on March 27th at the Hotel Monteleone. Although there have often been graduate student events, to our knowledge this was the first official attempt to provide this opportunity for student members. We extend our heartfelt thanks once again to all organizations that contributed to the reception, including Auburn University, Baylor University, University of Central Florida, Duke University, Florida State University, Georgia State University, Louisiana State University, University of Louisville, University of Miami, Mississippi State University, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, North Carolina State University, University of South Alabama, University of South Carolina, Texas A & M University, University of Tennessee, Tulane University, and the Journal of Social Science Research. Additionally, we would also like to recognize members of the COSS for their work in this event, including David Gay (chair), Chardie Baird, Nicole Flynn, Charles Kurzman, Saundra Westervelt, and Matt Hembree.

As a result of the contributions, we were able to serve a substantial buffet with unique Cajun dishes, including fried turkey, blackened catfish, and seafood beignets. However, since the rooftop room at the Monteleone was filled, we ran out of buffet items sooner than we expected. Creating a comfortable environment for graduate students to meet, network, and relax at the meetings is certainly good for the SSS and the discipline. Additionally, during challenging budgetary times, it is a gesture of good faith by the SSS towards our graduate students.

We are especially grateful for the donations and support of this event. Additionally, we encourage all SSS members to work together to make sure this event, and the giving required, becomes institutionalized. To this end, we are much better prepared this year, and enjoy the experience of committee member Chardie Baird who worked tirelessly during the fall and winter of 2002-03 to navigate the needs of many different bureaucracies. We will again be asking for your support during the early fall, and look forward to offering another exciting evening in Atlanta in 2004!
News About Members

Book by Bankston and Caldas wins Award

*A Troubled Dream: The Promise and Failure of School Desegregation in Louisiana*, by Carl L. Bankston, III of Tulane University and Stephen J. Caldas of the University of Louisiana, has received the Literary Award of the Louisiana Library Association.

Judith Blau appointed Coeditor of *Social Forces*

SSS Publication Committee Chair Cathy Zimmer recently announced that, starting this summer, Judith Blau will join Richard Simpson as Coeditor of *Social Forces*. Judith Blau is Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in Social & Economic Justice at UNC-Chapel Hill. Prior to her arrival at UNC-Chapel Hill in 1988, Dr. Blau was on the faculty at SUNY-Albany. She is widely recognized for her professional accomplishments, which include more than 10 books and monographs and more than 70 publications.

Maxine Atkinson Wins Award

Former SSS President Maxine P. Atkinson is the recipient of the First Year Student Advocate Award at North Carolina State University.

Call for Nominations of Officers of the Southern Sociological Society for 2004

President, Vice President, Executive Committee (2), and Publications Committee (1)

Please send nominations by email to:

Angela O’Rand, Vice President of SSS
mailto:aorand@soc.duke.edu
Department of Sociology
Duke University
(919) 660-5629
Deadline: August 15, 2003
The undergraduate research conference provides students a place to present their research in a supportive environment. These research conferences offer opportunities for professional involvement for undergraduates. This issue of The Teaching Corner reports on one recent undergraduate symposium.

Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium

The Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium was held at the University of South Carolina Aiken on April 24-24, 2003. The University of South Carolina Aiken Department of Sociology, Pi Gamma Mu Theta Chapter, Presbyterian College, and the South Carolina Sociological Association sponsored the event. Dr. Isaac W. Eberstein, Charles Meade Grigg Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology at Florida State University presented the keynote address entitled “Unequal in Death as in Life: Ethnic Differentials in Infant Mortality.” On Friday, forty undergraduate students from twelve colleges and universities throughout the southeast shared their scholarship with peers and faculty many marking their first professional presentation. The South Carolina Sociological Association recognized the best student papers. This year the award winners included: 1st Place: “Upward Mobility of Women” Brittany Turner, Newberry College. 2nd Place: “Region X: Protecting Privacy While Combating Terrorism” Jeff Storm, Davidson College. 3rd Place: “Gendered Views of Crime” Jason O’Dell, Presbyterian College.

Barbara Johnson—University of South Carolina Aiken
Committee on Small and Community Colleges

Paper competition winners (from left to right) Jeff Storm, Davidson College; Brittany Turner, Newberry College; Jason O’Dell, Presbyterian College
Opportunities

Society for the Study of Social Problems Meeting

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) will hold its 53rd Annual Meeting in Atlanta in the Wyndham Hotel from August 15-17, 2003. This year’s theme is “Justice and the Sociological Imagination.”

The Conference will offer special workshops for graduate students and new professionals on job search, publishing, and tenure. There is a new member/student reception and AIDS fundraiser dance on August 15 (Festivities start at 8 p.m.). A plenary session on August 15, “Universities and Communities: Partnerships for Justice and Social Change”, features noted media expert, Frank Gilliam of UCLA, and feminist legal scholar Jane Harris Aiken of Washington University St. Louis.

There are also thematic sessions on the following topical areas:

1) Feminism and Justice (featuring Patricia Yancey Martin, Mary Romero, Valerie Anne Moore, and Dana Britton).

2) Masculinities and Justice (featuring James Messerschmidt, Michael Messner, Stephen Tomsen, Marino Bruce, and Martin Silverstein).

3) Institutional Ethnography (two sessions that include Paul Luken, Dorothy Smith, Suzanne Vaughan, and Liza McCoy).

We will also have an art exhibit: “Imagining Justice Through Art” and an accompanying session as well as a film viewing and discussion session of “Brother Outsider: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin.”

If you are not a member, consider joining. SSSP’s goal is “scholarship in pursuit of a just society.” The journal Social Problems comes with membership. SSSP offers a LOW INTRODUCTORY RATE OF $35 FOR FIRST-TIME PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS AND A RATE OF $20 FOR STUDENT MEMBERS.

Please join us now and in Atlanta!

Nancy Jurik, President, Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)

http://www.sssp1.org/
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North Carolina Sociological Association
Announces New Journal

The North Carolina Sociological Association is proud to announce a new refereed Web-based journal, *Sociation Today*. The journal can be reached from the association's home page, [www.ncsociology.org](http://www.ncsociology.org). The ISSN is 1542-6300. The editor is George H. Conklin at North Carolina Central University. Members of the board include Richard Dixon (UNC-Wilmington), Chien Ju Huang (NCCU), Ken Land (Duke University), Miles Simpson (NCCU), Ron Wimberley (N.C. State University) and Robert Wortham (NCCU).

The North Carolina Sociological Association has been a leader among sociological societies in a variety of areas, according to the National Association of State Associations. By becoming the first professional sociological association to launch a web-based journal, the NCSA leads in the information revolution by recognizing that the web has become the main source of information for the majority of Americans. NCSA wishes to make key sociological concepts available to students, faculty and especially the public in a user-friendly format.

The goal of *Sociation Today* is not to replicate a paper-based journal, but rather to concentrate on articles of six or seven pages which emphasize key sociological concepts. For example, in the first issue *Sociation Today* shows that urban crime is not randomly distributed and can be predicted largely by urban location and design. This empirically-based finding is of interest not only to sociologists, but also to urban planners interested in designing a safe urban environment. Rather than reviewing books, which are often over expanded articles, *Sociation Today* will review important articles which have not been turned into books, but perhaps should be.

*Sociation Today* invites contributions for the second issue, due out in Fall 2003. Please address correspondence to George H. Conklin at [george@ncsociology.org](mailto:george@ncsociology.org)

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**Call for Presentations and Proposals**

November 2003 Annual Meeting of the Georgia Political Science Association

November 14-15, 2003
The Callaway Inn at Callaway Gardens
Pine Mountain, Georgia, USA

Theme: Consequences of Institutions and Cultures

The meeting is interdisciplinary and is open to all interested persons from all academic fields worldwide.

For information about submitting proposals, registration and lodging, go to our web site at [http://web2.mgc.edu/gpsa](http://web2.mgc.edu/gpsa) or contact Harold Cline at [hcline@mgc.edu](mailto:hcline@mgc.edu)
Southern Demographic Association
Call for Papers

We invite submissions of paper proposals and proposed sessions for the 2003 annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association. This year's meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia, on October 23-25.

Presentations of research in both applied and theoretical demography are welcome, as are related topics in economics, sociology, geography, political science, health, government, and psychology. Although SDA is known for regional emphases and membership, we encourage membership and participation of individuals from any region or country, and international or area-specific study of demographic topics. The structure of meeting presentations is flexible: potential contributors are encouraged to organize standard sessions, thematic sessions, panel discussions and roundtables, and software demonstrations.

SDA meetings are particularly good venues for student participation. We encourage presentations by students, and we make monetary awards for the best student undergraduate and graduate papers.

Please send all proposals and abstracts by June 30, 2003 to:

Karen A. Woodrow-Lafield
Institute for Latino Studies
University of Notre Dame
250 McKenna Hall
P.O. Box 764
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-0764
Fax: 574-631-3522

Electronic submissions are preferred to:
mailto:klafield@nd.edu or mailto:KarenWLafied@cs.com

Please be sure your submission includes your name, title, institutional affiliation and complete contact information (telephone, fax, email, and mailing address).
Florida State University. The Department of Sociology invites applications for two Assistant Professor positions, effective August 2004. Areas of specialization are open. Successful candidates should demonstrate significant research accomplishments, including the promise of external grant support, as appropriate to specialization. The department is organized into four major areas (Aging & Health, Demography, Inequality, and Social Organization), with substantive emphases in Aging, Epidemiology, Gender, Health, Social Movements, and Social Psychology. Depending on personal interest, affiliations may be arranged with research centers in Aging (Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy, www.pepperinstitute.org) or Demography/ Epidemiology (Center for Demography and Population Health, www.fsu.edu/~popctr). Applications must be postmarked by September 15. Applications should include a letter describing research and teaching interests, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and one writing sample. Address to: Isaac W. Eberstein, Chair, Department of Sociology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2270, or Sociology@fsu.edu. For more information visit www.fsu.edu/~soc. Florida State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
Demographic Transitions

Jeffrey K. Hadden, 1936-2003, Past-President of SSS

Jeffery K. Hadden, Professor of Sociology and Religious Studies at the University of Virginia and a prominent authority on religious movements, died at his home in Charlottesville on January 26, 2003 from pancreatic cancer.

Born in Salina, Kansas, on August 22, 1936, Jeff received his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Kansas and his Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Wisconsin in 1963. Before joining the UVA faculty in 1972, he held faculty positions at Purdue University, Case Western Reserve University, and Tulane University.

Dr. Hadden’s prolific scholarship quickly gained wide acclaim. Writing and researching in various fields of sociology, including urban studies, the family, civil rights, race relations, and most notably, religious movements, he published 25 books and dozens of articles. In addition, he provided leadership in numerous professionals organizations, serving as vice president and president of the Southern Sociological Society, the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and the Association for the Sociology of Religion. He also served as chairman of the committee on publications for the American Sociological Association, associate editor of *Sociological Analysis, Social Forces, and Social Inquiry*, and as longtime book review editor of *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

In 1969, Jeff published *The Gathering Storm in the Churches*, a landmark study of Protestant clergy in the civil rights movement. This study defined the trajectory of his future sociological work, kindling a long professional interest in the study of religion in American and beyond.

Best known for his studies of religious broadcasters and the emergence of the Christian Right in America during the 1980s, Jeff turned to website development in the mid-1990s. In conjunction with his UVA course on new religious movements, he developed a website that continues to receive international attention as the premier resource for comprehensive and balanced information on more than 150 religious movements.

Dr. Hadden’s professional interest cannot be separated from his profoundly personal interest in the promotion of religious freedom and religious tolerance as the foundational values for the maintenance of human dignity and democracy.

Jeffrey Hadden’s intellectual curiosity and personal vigor inspired a generation of students and helped shaped the course of sociology at the University of Virginia. His leadership in the profession had a profound influence on the direction of the sociology of religion in America. He will be

(Continued on page 21)
missed by his colleagues, by his former students, and by those who continue to profit from his research.

Survivors include his wife, Elain McQueen Hadden, and his daughters, Nora Marie MacIntyre and Donna Sarah Hadden.

(Adapted from a Memorial Resolution presented to the University of Virginia faculty.)

James Davison Hunter
University of Virginia

Donna K. Darden, 1941-2003

On the evening of April 3, 2003, a series of postings appeared on “SSSITALK,” the online discussion list of the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, following the announcement of Donna K. Darden’s death. Subscribers to the discussion list had been waiting for word about Donna since they received the news earlier in the week that a stroke had hospitalized her. She went fast. Donna always went fast. And her wit and enthusiasm and generosity and irreverence always went with her. News of Donna’s passing flashed through the electronic internets linking members of the socio-logical organizations in which her presence was so prominent: SSSI, MSSA, SSS, ASA’s TeachSoc. Over the next several days, Donna’s colleagues remembered her, honored her, and lamented her loss. Now several weeks later, it’s hard not to hear the silence in the spaces where Donna used to speak:

From SSSITALK, 10/23/02
Dear SSSI folk:
What is the correct citation and/or best treatment of the notion of the "problematic situation"? Thanks in advance,
Naomi
Stay away from them.
Donna

Donna Kelleher Darden received a B.A. in French from Agnes Scott College in 1963, an M.A. in Linguistics from Louisiana State University in 1969, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from University of Georgia in 1973. Her interests, talents, and scholarship reflected the breadth of her educational background. She could speak French, deconstruct the subtleties of spoken and social discourse, and talk straight. In dozens of books and articles Donna directed her scholarly attention to the social underpinnings and operation of a broad set of topics including consumerism, cosmetics, and cockfighting. Donna’s professional life expanded beyond scholarly production into serious service and even more serious teaching and mentorship. Donna Darden frequently was selected for positions of leadership by her colleagues: she was president of SSSI, the Mid-South Sociological Association, the Arkansas Sociological Association, the National Council of State Sociological Associations, and Al...
pha Kappa Delta, the sociology international honor society; she chaired countless committees and sessions and served on executive committees and editorial boards in these and other professional organizations including the Southwestern Sociological Association, the SSS, and the ASA. Donna was a member the faculties of the University of Georgia, University of Arkansas, University of Tampa, and Tennessee Technological University, where she served as Sociology department chair from 1993-2000. This distinguished record of service to our discipline, extensive as it is, is overshadowed by Donna Darden’s active and committed work as a teacher and mentor. On April 25, 2003, in the semester’s final issue of The Oracle, TTU’s student paper, Shannon Terry, the Oracle’s editorial editor, spoke for dozens of students whose words I have heard and read in the more than a decade I have known Donna Darden. Shannon met Donna while working as a waitress at Spankies, a restaurant in Cookeville, Tennessee where Donna often had lunch with her students. Donna’s interest in Shannon and her approachability impressed the young woman and inspired in her the confidence to attend the university:

I did not meet Donna at Tech, but she was one of the people who encouraged me to come to school here, and she probably never knew it….Donna Darden was one of those people who didn’t fit neatly into any category. Before coming to Tech, I was somewhat intimidated. Donna eased that intimidation. I thought to myself, if this is the kind of professors Tech has, then I am there! Of course, there could never be another professor or person like Donna.

Donna’s commitment to teaching and to mentorship—of undergraduates, graduate students, and colleagues—touched many of our lives. She was quick to look up a topic, find a reference, think of an example, offer a word of encouragement. When she discovered among her large introductory sociology class, students who could not visually access the textbook, she first approached the university to have the text converted from print to voice format. When that failed, she contacted AT&T, convinced them to donate the software needed, scanned the hundreds of pages of printed text (with the author’s generous permission), refined and corrected the audio file, and made a CD version of the textbook available to students who needed it. This sort of extraordinary effort was typical of Donna’s indefatigable commitment to teaching. She never gave up the struggle to open the minds of students to sociology’s unique perspective and the liberating insights we have all experienced as sociologists. As Angus Vail expressed on SSSITALK on the eve of Donna’s death, her work and life constituted an affirming “celebration of the power of education and the fundamental nobility of our chosen profession.”

Donna Darden is survived by her partner of many years (and fellow “consenting adult”), Coy Van-Meter, her two sons Patrick and Kelly, three grand children, and hundreds of students, most of whom will never forget her. Nor will we, her friends and colleagues, fans and confidants, fellow travelers and co-conspirators. Donations in Donna’s name can be sent to the National Organization for Women, 733 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005, 800-507-7007, http://www.now.org.

Joane Nagel, University of Kansas & National Science Foundation
Southern Sociological Society Business Meeting
Secretary-Treasurer Report: Martin L. Levin
March 23, 2003

Overview

The Society’s fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. The books were examined by the firm of Christopher and Grogan, P.C., Certified Public Accountants and an extract of that report published in the Volume 34, Number 3, Winter 2003 issue of The Southern Sociologist and the complete version and full text of the report may be found on line (http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/Financial/2001-2002 Financial Statement.pdf). Full copies of the report are also available for examination at the Registration Desk. According to the report, revenues of $66,091 were below expenses of $75,098 for FY 2001-2002 by $9,007. This is the fourth year in a row we had either an operating deficit or close to an operating deficit and is, in my opinion, a matter of some concern. The shortfall across the four years was $19,798. The fund balance, moreover, due to market investments evaluated at the end of the fiscal year, lost $8,007 less $822 in dividends and interest or a total of $7,185. The value of the fund was $93,190 compared with $102,197 for the comparable period last year and $110,685 the year before. It is important to note that the fund balance is not all cash, but includes $3,962 dollars in equipment.

As of March 22, 2003, the fund balance had $31,504 cash in a money market, of which $7,930 is in the audio-visual amortization account and $4,063 in the computer amortization account. This compares with $33,804 at this time last year, $40,435 the year before that and $48,479 the year before that. Part of the reason for the reduction is that we had to buy a new computer and printer over this period. In addition, we also have $1,521 in the Gomillion fund. So far we have invested $60,000 in the Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Fund (VTSMX) and $5,000 from the bequest from the Himes estate in the same fund. As of March 22nd, our holding was worth $51,024 compared with $62,948 at this time last year. Two years ago, we had invested only $48,000 and the value stood at $50,336 and the year before that the value of the fund stood at $66,807. So the market has been no kinder to us than to anyone else. The Himes fund has been hit equally hard, declining from the $5,000 initial investment to $3,324. The constitution requires we maintain a reserve fund equal to 1/3 of our operating budget.

This was the year we went to an electronic only version of The Southern Sociologist which is now archived on the Web in Acrobat format. I had only one request for hard copy, though Bob Freymeyer, the Editor, may have received more. On the other hand, I have received a lot of favorable comment on the new format and must congratulate Bob for doing an outstanding job in formatting TSS. The savings to the Society of doing only an electronic version of TSS are approximately $12,500 per year.

Another major innovation added to the web site the year before last was a searchable membership directory. We have placed this on the web as an alternative to the constitutionally mandated requirement that we publish a list of members every year. In fact, we have been publishing a directory every two years, in apparent violation of that mandate. The new searchable directory is very flexi-
ble. It is updated frequently, often weekly and certainly at least once a month. One may search by name, by city, by state, by professional specialty or by combinations of the above. The savings to the Society is approximately $6,500 every two years. I have also received favorable comment on this searchable feature.

Membership and Annual Meeting Statistics

Obviously a report on the Annual Meeting will have to be tentative and will be constantly changing. The same is true of membership data, as the Annual Meeting is a major source of new members and a motivator for existing members to pay their dues. As of March 22nd, our membership consisted of 779 Regular Members, 417 Student Members, 97 Emeritus Members, and 3 Associate Members and we had collected approximately $47,347 in dues. This compares with the same time last year where our membership consisted 771 Regular Members, 356 Student Members, 103 Emeritus Members, and 6 Associate Members and we had collected approximately $47,976 in dues.

So far this year, we have enrolled 58 new regular members, 191 new student members, and 0 new associate members. This is more than last year when we enrolled 52 new regular members, 126 new student members, and 3 new associate members. However, 182 regular members, 167 student members, and 2 associate members who were current last year have not as yet paid dues for this year. Consequently, we have potentially lost more than we gained. This of course will change through the meeting.

Also as of March 22nd, we had preregistered approximately 537 attendees and had collected approximately $22,120 in registration fees and $1,430 in book exhibitor fees and advertising. Last year at this time, we had preregistered approximately 357 attendees and had collected approximately $19,725 in registration fees and $1,430 in book exhibitor fees and advertising. Comparison of this year to last, at this point, clearly indicates that the ratio of regular members attending to student members has declined significantly.

Kudos

Finally, I would like to take a moment to extend my personal thanks to all the people who have helped me this year. Jan Wells continues to do an outstanding job on our day-to-day operations. Maggie Stephens, my loyal retainer of previous years who has also given us a great deal of volunteer assistance, was unable to be with us this year and was sorely missed. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences of the Mississippi State University, Dr. Philip Oldham, for taking such an enlightened view toward service to the profession that I am not only allowed to continue my role as Secretary-Treasurer, I am strongly encouraged to do so. Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to all those with whom I worked this year directly on Society business—the officers, the Executive Committee, the Editors of The Southern Sociologist and Social Forces, the Program Chair and Local Arrangements Committee, and the many volunteers, all of whom made my job challenging and interesting.
President Martin called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Observed a moment of silence recognizing the passing of Rachel Rosenfeld, immediate past President of SSS. President Martin asked that if anyone knew of others that had died in the past year to notify Bob Freymeyer, editor of TSS.

Resolution: The Executive Committee passed a resolution expressing our profound appreciation to Jim Jones and George Rent for their service to SSS as editors of TSS by writing letters to the President, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department Chair at Mississippi State University.

President Martin introduced President-Elect Charles Tolbert, Vice President-Elect David Maume and two new members of the Executive Committee Chris Ellison and Rodney Coates.

President Martin also noted that five people were leaving the Executive Committee and thanked them for their service to the Society. They are Maxine Atkinson, Rhonda Zingraff, Chardie Baird, Jeanne Hurlburt, and Dan Cornfield.

President Martin also thanked the chairs of the various SSS committees for their work over the past year. This included Idee Winfield, Shirley Laska, David Gay, Kate Slevin, Lee Bidwell, Marilyn Chamberlin, Don Bogie, Greg Dunaway, Charles Jaret, Marty Levin, and Marieke Van Willigan.

President Martin also expressed her thanks to the faculty in her department at Florida State University for their support.

President Martin then briefly reviewed some of the work of the Executive Committee and noted that it had approved a new award, an award for Distinguished Service to the Society, a Distinguished Lectureship Award for which the SSS will subsidize travel, and voted to annualize all SSS awards. This latter point means that no awards will be given on an odd and even year basis but all awards may be given every year.
Secretary-Treasurer Levin read his report to the membership full copies of which are on the SSS website and printed elsewhere in this edition of TSS. He also provided some tentative numbers on current membership and attendance at the meetings this year. The total figures for both categories are up compared to recent years.

The new editor of TSS Bob Freymeyer invited members to send articles and pictures to him for publication, provide suggestions about TSS, and indicated it was nice not to be limited by page numbers (this due the fact that TSS is almost totally electronic.

Old Business: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of last year's SSS business meeting as published in TSS be approved. The vote was unanimously in favor of approval.

Vice President Rhonda Zingraff, also chair of the Nominations Committee, spoke of the need to get more candidates to run for the various SSS offices. She said she thought the committee could be more effective if committee members wore a ribbon that identified them at the annual meeting so members could talk with them about possible nominations/candidates.

Rebecca Adams made the observation that there appears to be a decline in diversity in SSS and that this ought to be addressed in some manner.

A resolution to thank the hotel and staff was approved unanimously.

At this point in the meeting President Martin passed the gavel to President-Elect Tolbert.

President Tolbert reflected on this year's meetings stating that he thought they were spectacular. Most of the membership showed their agreement with applause.

President Tolbert then spoke about next year's meetings in Atlanta. We will be in a new hotel and the theme for the meetings will be “Southern Sociology”. Mike Irwin and Dawn Robinson will be the Program Co-Chairs.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 a.m.

James Jones, Recording Secretary

Watch for 2004 Call for Papers Coming Soon!
Southern Sociological Society

Annual Meeting Registrations as 5/1/2003

Martin L. Levin, Secretary-Treasurer
Mississippi State University
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Fund Balance</th>
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<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>$61,589</td>
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</table>

(Continued on page 29)
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**Web Page**

The Society's Web Page continues to receive favorable comment and, apparently receive heavy usage. Items included on the page were, the By-Laws and Constitution, the Biographies of the Candidates for Election, the announcement of the winning candidates and their biographies, links to the Preliminary Program for the Annual Meeting, convention hotel information for the meeting, air travel information for the meeting, direct E-mail links to the Program Chair and E-mail links associated with pictures of all officers and members of the Executive Committee, a list of all members of all Society committees with associated E-Mail links, hypertext links to informational sites for the New Orleans area and information about *The Southern Sociologist* along with direct E-mail links to the editor. We also placed information about the Society's Honors Award Programs on the web.

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We still accept membership applications on the web. Persons can fill out the Society's membership
application conversationally. Upon completion, an email message is generated with the information they recorded and sent automatically to me. The potential new member is then instructed to mail a check to the Society, automatically by email.

Another major innovation added to the web site the year before last is a searchable membership directory. We have placed this on the web as an alternative to the constitutionally mandated requirement that we publish a list of members every year. In fact, we have been publishing a directory every two years, in apparent violation of that mandate. The new searchable directory is very flexible. It is updated frequently, often weekly and certainly at least once a month. One may search by name, by city, by state, by professional specialty or by combinations of the above. The savings to the Society is approximately $6,500 every two years.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Regular Member</th>
<th>Joint Member</th>
<th>Student Member</th>
<th>Emeritus Members</th>
<th>Associate Members</th>
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<td>354</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$36,432</td>
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(Continued on page 31)
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Registered</th>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>Book Exhibits</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>427</td>
<td>$11,760</td>
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<td>$14,160</td>
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</table>
Secretary-Treasurer Report

(Continued from page 31)

the School of Arts and Sciences of the Mississippi State University, Dr. Philip Oldham, for taking such an enlightened view toward service to the profession that I am not only allowed to continue my role as Secretary-Treasurer, I am strongly encouraged to do so. Finally, I'd like to express my thanks to all those with whom I worked this year directly on Society business--the officers, the Executive Committee, the Editors of The Southern Sociologist and Social Forces, the Program Chair and Local Arrangements Committee, and the many volunteers, all of whom made my job challenging and interesting.

Minutes of Wednesday, March 26, 2003, Meeting


The meeting was called to order by President Martin at 2:06 p.m.

All members of the Executive Committee introduced themselves and the President announced the agenda for the Thursday and Saturday meetings of the Executive Committee.

A moment of silence was observed for SSS members that had passed away in the last year.

Summaries of the committee reports were presented by Jones. (Committee Reports are reprinted elsewhere in this issue of TSS). The report from the COSSA Representative and Organizational Liaison suggested that there was some confusion about the nature of the two roles. After some discussion on this issue it was agreed that the two roles be separated by the President.

The Election Committee report was briefly discussed and no action was needed.

The report of the Email Listserv Coordinator was reviewed briefly. It was suggested that a brief statement about the SSS listservs be put in an issue of TSS.

The report of the Local Arrangements Committee suggested that the Society could not afford to use PowerPoint for paper presentations as it would be too costly to do so. Further discussion of this report was postponed until the Local Arrangements chair will be present at an Executive Committee meeting.

The response of the Executive Committee members to the report of the Membership Committee chair was positive and appreciative of their attempts to reach different audiences and extend membership boundaries. The committee felt it was a good report and that the activities were proactive

(Continued on page 33)
and enthusiastic approaches to a real problem (the decline in membership in SSS).

The report of the Nominations Committee was discussed by the chair of that committee Rhonda Zingraff. She indicated that she attempted to have the committee meet twice during the year but found this difficult. In addition, it is hard to follow the ethical guidelines in the nomination procedures since most members of SSS know each other and/or have worked with other members. It was suggested that the biographical information collected on potential candidates be expanded to include teaching and practice information to broaden or diversify the range of candidates running for the various SSS offices.

Idee Winfield came before the Executive Committee to discuss her report as Program Chair. She spoke to the recommendations contained in her report. Her first point was that the Executive Committee should purchase an on-line software program for the paper submission process and indicated this would save a lot of the Program Chair’s time and it may save money as well. Her second recommendation concerned different procedures for handling the registration fees, taking it away from the Program Chair and have this a duty of the Secretary-Treasurer and have a deadline when potential program participants should have paid their fees. This would take care of the no-shows, a perennial problem of varying proportions. The third recommendation concerned coordination with the hotel staff. She suggested that the Program Chair be given the names and addresses of all hotel staff that s/he would have to deal with in planning the program. The fourth recommendation is related to the third recommendation, namely, that the Program Chair be included in the site visit to the hotel usually in the fall prior to the annual meetings. The next dealt with receiving ads for the final program in time for printing. The sixth focused on the need for more communication between the Program Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer well in advance of the meetings. The last recommendation suggested allocating money to the Program Chair earlier in the year to pay for expenses as they are incurred on the spot. The Executive Committee discussed all of these motions with action on all of them postponed until the next day.

The Report of the Secretary-Treasurer was read as prepared. Most of the discussion on the report, which outlined the trend of declining memberships and accompanying decline in Society income, focused on two points. One concerned the suggestion to explore the use of credit cards for registration and membership dues. The second was the various reasons for lowered attendance at the annual meetings and these included location of the meetings, retirements, the slowed down economy, budget cuts at colleges and universities, the inability of faculty from small colleges to fund faculty trips to the annual meetings, and other specialty associations vying for members.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

James Jones, Recording Secretary
Minutes of Thursday, March 27, 2003, Meeting

Present: Martin, Land, Blau, Harris, Devine, Fritz, Coates, Maume, Tolbert, O'Rand, Rushing, Blanchard, Levin, Jones, Baird.

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Martin at 7:30 a.m.

The President briefly reviewed the various agenda items for this morning's meetings and asked for any additions/changes.

Cathy Zimmer presented and discussed the Publication Committee's report. The main item concerned an increase of $2 for Social Forces for regular members or $21 for the journal. The change would also mean a change from $11 to $13 for student members. Other discussion points are contained in the committee's report reprinted elsewhere in this issue.

Cathy Zimmer and Idee Winfield presented a report from the ad hoc SSS Software Committee. They presented two options for the Executive Committee to consider. The first option involved the purchase of a canned software program that would perform many functions for constructing the annual meeting schedule of presentations and sessions. It would be the most expensive option but it may provide for membership management as well. The second option was the software program developed by Idee Winfield for this year's program. It does not have as many bells and whistles as the other option but it would do the job. Lots of questions were posed in the rather lengthy discussion that followed. A third option was brought to the attention of the committee, the software program that the Population Association of America (PAA) has that performs most of the program scheduling and membership management tasks. It was suggested that we look into this further to learn more about it and whether we may be able to purchase it from them or the producer of the software.

Given the committee's preference to move beyond the paper and pencil process of submission of abstracts for paper presentations to online submission of abstracts, it was moved that an ad hoc committee (comprised of Martin, Tolbert, and Hughes) will within three months investigate all three options of electronic submissions program alternatives, including multipurpose technology, mentioned above and report back to the Executive Committee via email with recommendations for short and long term solutions to the change from paper and pencil submissions process to be followed by an email vote on their recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Kathleen Slevin, Chair of the Honors Committee, discussed several issues with the committee. She announced that the Odum Award winners will present their papers at the meetings this year. This could be done because the dates for submission were moved to an earlier date that made it possible for the winners to be on the program.

The Jocher-Bell-Beard Award will not be given this year as there were too few nominations and the process of nominating for this award is too onerous. There are too many recommendations required, more like the Roll of Honor award. The Honors Committee recommends that the recommendation
process be the same as the Charles Johnson Award. These kinds of requirements are more than adequate for nomination.

The Honors Committee also recommends that the requirement that some awards be given in odd years and others in even years be abandoned because they are confusing and they should be available each year.

The committee also presented a proposal for a Distinguished Lectureship Award (see Honors Committee report elsewhere in this issue). There was some discussion of some of the particulars of the proposal followed by some motions.

**Motion:** Moved by Tolbert, seconded by Cornfield that the Executive Committee accept the Honors Committee recommendation that Marty Levin be the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** O'Rand moved, seconded by Devine, that the Executive Committee accept the Honors Committee recommendation to have all awards be open annually and that all new language submitted to change these awards in the Handbook be forwarded to the Executive Committee via email for approval. Caveat: If a constitutional amendment is required then the submission to the Executive Committee should be by mail. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Fritz moved, seconded by Zingraff, to accept the recommendation of the Honors Committee that there be symmetry between the Jocher-Bell-Beard Award and the Charles S. Johnson Award and that all new language be submitted to change these awards in the Handbook be forwarded to the Executive Committee for approval via email. Caveat: If a constitutional amendment is required then the submission to the Executive Committee should be by mail. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Atkinson moved, seconded by Harris, to accept a new Distinguished Lectureship Award, its implementation and administration to be developed by the Honors Committee and submitted, considered, and approved by email. The motion passed unanimously.

This concluded the discussion and action on the Honors Committee report.

**Resolution:** Tolbert moved, seconded by O'Rand, that the Executive Committee express our profound appreciation to Jim Jones and George Rent for their service to SSS as editors of TSS by writing letters to the President, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department Chair at Mississippi State University. The resolution passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Fritz moved, seconded by Tolbert, the Executive Committee directs the Committee on the Profession to draft a Constitutional Amendment that adopts the American Sociological Association's code of ethics with specificity regarding procedures specified to us and embraces the AAUP princ-
Minutes of Thursday, March 27, 2003, Meeting

(Continued from page 35)

pleas of academic freedom. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion**: Fritz moved, seconded by O'Rand, that accepting registration fees be removed from the purview of the Program Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion**: Fritz moved, seconded by Tolbert, that the Executive Committee affirms that the Program Chair attends the site visit along with the President and Secretary-Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.

James Jones, Recording Secretary

Minutes of Saturday, March 29, 2003, Meeting

Present: Tolbert, Devine, Fritz, Harris, Hughes, Levin, Blanchard, Maume, Marine, Blau, O'Rand, Land, Coates, and Jones.

President Tolbert called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

Secretary-Treasurer Levin presented a proposed budget for the 2003-2004 year. He indicated that the budget was based on estimates of attendance at the New Orleans meeting and anticipated membership. Discussion on how to save money in order to meet the budget followed. Levin also brought up the need for a different meeting registration fees for undergraduates. Much discussion ensued focusing on the desirability of raising meeting registration fees for undergraduate students to help meet the needs of the budget. All this discussion lead to a motion, as follows.

**Motion**: Fritz moved, seconded by O'Rand, that meeting registration fees for undergraduates will be $15 for students not on the program but will be $25 for undergraduate students on the program. The motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Zimmer then proceeded to report back to the Executive Committee on information she obtained about the vendor that has conference software for sale. The company is called Conference Manager, Inc. and has been in business for about two years and is a small company. It regards itself as stable and growing. She indicated that the company could handle both the registration and membership management for the same cost. There also is no problem converting any dbase or Access files for their use with their software. One company that Cathy contacted indicated that they have used the software for small and large conferences, found they can handle registration payment online, has only had a couple of problems and that the program generates reports easily. Cathy will write up a full report about the software as she talks to more clients of the companies for references on the software and the company. No action taken on software for the annual meetings.

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Minutes of Saturday, March 29, 2003, Meeting

(Continued from page 36)

Charles Jaret and Bob Davis appeared before the committee to discuss the Membership Committee report. Jaret felt that the three proposals the committee made have not stirred much interest. The remaining discussion focused on various strategies to recruit new members. Jaret and Davis would really like to make more solid connections with the state sociological associations. President Tolbert indicated we may have to recruit outside the region for new members and said the idea of SSS sponsoring a mid-year workshop that focused on a specific topic that would assist or improve teaching was well received and that the Executive Committee would welcome a proposal for a workshop.

David Gay came to the meeting to discuss the activities of the Committee on Students. He indicated the importance of graduate students to SSS and wanted to do something for them and they did. He pointed to the need to raise more money for a students reception at the annual meetings. He sent out forty-two letters inviting departments to support the reception and eighteen of them did so. President Tolbert said that he and David had talked about doing a joint solicitation for next year's meeting.

Sally Hilsman, the American Sociological Association Executive Officer, spoke about happenings at ASA and responded to questions from the committee. She indicated she wanted to keep the lines of communication open between American Sociological Association and the regional associations. Other topics included: all journals will be on-line in 2004, members will receive both hard and electronic copies of the journals, the hard copies of the journals will not be eliminated, Contexts was the best social science journal in 2002, the brief submitted on the University of Michigan case is on-line, ASA is appointing three new task forces on specialty areas, assessment of the undergraduate sociology major, and on how ASA can be a bridge to the real world (this includes consulting with SSS and other regional associations), the ASA will be celebrating its centennial anniversary in 2005 in Philadelphia and we will be invited to participate in that celebration. When asked whether we could be a presence at the meetings in Atlanta this year, Ms. Hilsman responded that we can do that and that we will have to coordinate on how to make that happen.

Ken Land as the Executive Committee liaison reported on the results of the meeting of the Committee on Small and Community Colleges. Concerns were the costs of the annual meetings, location in Florida for the annual meetings, tracking participation in the annual meetings, and the move to a three day meeting is working fine.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

James Jones, Recording Secretary
Report of the SSS Archivist
2003 Annual Meeting – New Orleans, LA

The report of the SSS Archivist for the years 2002-2003 has not been a promising one. Perhaps more accurately, the years did not live up to their promises, although the gains during the decade exceeded those of earlier years. When the University of Kentucky announced that it would construct a new library, the announcement was greeted with surprise and skepticism by the University's professional population. Among the surprised skeptics was the SSS archivist, who had heard many such announcements that had never materialized. However, in this case he saw the possibility that the new library could provide an opportunity to make some badly needed changes in the organization of the SSS archives.

It soon became evident that even with the help of the professional librarians of the Special Collections Staff, the task far exceeded the capabilities of the SSS archivist. The situation became more problematic when the archivist was disabled and unable to work in the library stacks. The SSS materials, which were housed on the 8th level of the old library, were only partly reachable by elevator. At the request of the archivist, the head of Special Collections recruited a graduate student to take over the reorganization of the SSS archives. Unfortunately, application other librarian skills was restricted for several months by extended bouts of migraine headache and injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

As things now stand, the SSS archives are less organized than they were at the beginning. The archivist has resigned but is willing to assist any SSS member who is willing to accept the post. The staff of the Special Collections department of the University of Kentucky Library has also agreed to continue its relation with the SSS, but it is unlikely that its services will be provided without cost as in the past.

Thomas R. Ford, SSS Archivist

ORGANIZATIONS LIAISON AND COSSA REPRESENTATIVE REPORT, 2003

Few members of the Southern Sociological Society know what an “organizations liaison” is, or what “COSSA” means. COSSA is the Consortium of Social Science Associations, an advocacy organization for federal support of the social and behavioral sciences, headed by Executive Director Howard Silver. COSSA is the lobbying voice for our concerns as social scientists in the public arena. To make COSSA’s mission clearer to the membership of the SSS, I submitted a brief article to The Southern Sociologist in 2002, explaining some of the major activities in which COSSA has been involved over the last year.

COSSA’s bimonthly newsletter (available at http://www.cossa.org/) is full of information about new initiatives within NSF and NIH, among other major funding organizations. For example, the National Science Foundation, using seed money for their new priority area within the social, behavioral

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and economic sciences—Human and Social Dynamics—is currently seeking proposals on human performance, empirical testing of theoretical models, and decision making (for more information, see http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf03552). COSSA advocates for and publicizes funding opportunities like this. COSSA also regularly holds congressional briefings – their latest, on March 21, 2003, centered on the issue of obesity.

COSSA is an important group looking out for the interests of social scientists when decisions about national funding priorities are made. I hope SSS members will investigate this proactive organization, especially in the coming weeks and months as the US government’s actions in Iraq influence federal budget decisions in ways that could have tangible effects for our membership.

Regarding my work as organizations liaison, I have been in contact with past SSS presidents over the last couple years, as well as current President Pat Martin, about what the organizations liaison should ideally do. The answer to all of us is unclear. It is my recommendation, because nobody seems to know what the organizations liaison is responsible for doing, that SSS should consider either creating new responsibilities so that we may use this position in a meaningful way, or dropping the organizations liaison job altogether.

It has been my pleasure to serve the Southern Sociological Society as COSSA Representative and Organizations Liaison, and I look forward to serving the Society in the future as well.

Submitted by Ivy Kennelly, SSS Organizations Liaison and COSSA Representative, 2001-04

2002-2003 SSS ELECTIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The 2002-2003 SSS Elections ballots were submitted to the committee by Martin L. Levin during the month of November for tabulation. 341 ballots were submitted and entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet for tabulation. The results were triple checked for accuracy. The results were reported to Martin L. Levin and Patricia Yancey Martin on December 9, 2002.

Given the high level of computer proficiency and computer access of most members of the Southern Sociological Society, the committee suggests that the organization consider a web-based election system in the future. Such a system would likely save time and money. Members could be notified both in writing and via e-mail when web voting is to begin and be provided with the hyperlink for the site. Paper ballots could still be made available to all members. However, any member who completes the voting process on-line would save the organization the cost of return postage for the ballot. In addition, overnight postage costs would be significantly lower if fewer paper ballots have to be mailed to the Elections Committee. A Technical Support staff member at East Carolina University has informed member of this committee that ballots can be readily transferred from a com-
2002-2003 SSS ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Marieke Van Willigen, PhD, SSS Elections Committee Chair

2002-2003 REPORT FROM SSS E-MAIL LIST COORDINATOR

James Cassell

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HONORS, 2002-3

During this past year, members of the Committee did their work via e-mail. We will meet on Wednesday, March 26 at the annual meetings of SSS in New Orleans. So far the Committee has:

1. Considered papers for the Odum Awards, both undergraduate and graduate. We considered seven graduate and five undergraduate submissions and, generally, we were impressed with the quality of the papers. Recipients of the 2003 Odum Awards are as follows: in the graduate category Edward W. Morris’ paper, “From “Middle-Class” to “Trailer Trash:” How Teachers Perceive and Interact with White Students in a Predominately Minority School,” (nominated by Christopher G. Ellison). Edward is a student at University of Texas at Austin; in the undergraduate category Harmony Newman’s paper,” To Escape or Endure Adolescent Pregnancy: The Impact of Agency on Sexual Decision Making,” (nominated by Michelle Wolkomir). Harmony is a student at Centenary College of Louisiana.

2. The Committee has received one nomination for the Roll of Honor and one nomination for the new Service Award. No nominations were received for the Katherine Jocher-Belle Boone Beard Award. All nominees will be considered at our meeting in New Orleans.

3. The Committee has had some discussion about recommending the introduction of an annual lectureship award to the Executive Committee. More discussion and a possible recommendation to the Executive Committee is planned for our up-coming meeting. At that time we also will discuss the wisdom of shifting all awards to an annual basis, rather than having selected awards given every other year.

Submitted for the Committee by Kathleen F. Slevin, Chair
LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT
2002-2003

The Local Arrangements report is always problematic because 90% of its activities take place after the report is due.

To date I have:

1. Formed the committee of members from across the universities in New Orleans.
2. Participated in the pre-meeting visit of the hotel.
3. Engaged in conversations with the audio video company.
4. Responded to members who were seeking hotel rooms before the Monteleone rooms were available to the conference and after they had all been sold.
5. Arranged for audiovisual equipment for a limited number of events through the kindness of a fellow faculty member who owns an LCD projector.
6. Talked the American Association of Geographers who met here recently into sharing their comprehensive restaurant guide (with maps and restaurant phone numbers). We augmented it with restaurants that were on our (SSS’s) original guide that they had missed.
7. Helped to arrange with the hotel so that Donald Bogie can enter and set up the overhead projectors Wednesday night.
8. Received the programs, soc abstracts, printed the restaurant guides and errata sheets, stuffed the folders. They will be transported to the hotel on Wednesday Morning.

During the meeting I perceive that the Committee’s role will be problem solving and trouble shooting things that come up. I am asking the other committee members to identify times when they can assist me in doing so.

Following the meeting I will be happy to communicate with the new local arrangements person for next year to share information on the process.

Shirley Laska, Chair
Local Arrangements

PRELIMINARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT, 2003
Submitted by SSS Membership Committee
(Robert Davis, Charles Jaret, Purna Mohanty)

As of March 11, 2003, the Southern Sociological Society has 771 regular members, 399 student members, 3 associate members, and 97 emeritus members, producing a total of 1,270. This represents a small increase (34 more members or +2.8% in the total membership) over the numbers shown in last year’s Membership Committee Report. The Society’s gain in numbers should actually be larger than reported here, since these numbers are based on the March 11th count (and since that

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date Secretary-Treasurer Marty Levin will have received more memberships, which come in right before or at the SSS annual meeting). This represents the first increase in SSS numbers in five years or since membership peaked in 1997, as an overview of total membership since 1995 shows:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1995</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Using last year’s report (2002) as a baseline, all the growth in SSS’s numbers is in the student category. Our current 399 student members are 43 more than the 356 shown in last year’s report. Our current number of regular members (771) is no different than last year’s, and we are slightly lower (-9) than last year in our two smallest categories (emeritus and associate).

Several things probably have contributed to the positive outcome this year. Our meeting site is New Orleans, which is a very attractive location and usually draws high attendance. SSS membership improves when our annual meeting is well attended. In addition, the Membership Committee was increased to three people (with the addition of Robert Davis and Purna Mohanty) and it did more recruitment activity this year. Our primary recruitment tactic has been mailing letters and advertising flyers, which extol the benefits of SSS membership to those in academic institutions. This year we did more mailings than ever before (cost absorbed by Georgia State University Department of Sociology). Graduate directors were sent membership materials to distribute to graduate students, and this was done fairly early in the semester. We followed that with mailings to sociology departments at historically black colleges and universities and to sociology faculty at small colleges and two-year institutions. Then we contacted the chairs of university and larger college sociology departments, requesting their assistance in recruiting their faculty and students to become members. We also promoted membership in a column about our Committee, which appeared in The Southern Sociologist (Winter, 2003) and we encouraged SSS membership through our respective personal contacts.

We recommend maintaining a three-person membership committee and continuing the recruitment activity by mail. However, this coming year will bring some changes. Charles Jaret is leaving the committee after four years, and Robert Davis will chair the committee this coming year. We also think it is now time for much of the recruitment by mail to be done via e-mail. Our supply of membership flyers/application forms is used up (4000 cost about $435 in Fall 2001), so switching from professionally printed paper copies to an electronic version of the flyer/application form can save
the SSS some money. The savings on postage and staff time stuffing envelopes is helpful too.

We also recommend that the Executive Committee consider the following three ideas and determine whether any would be a popular, effective, and useful means of encouraging more sociologists to join the SSS. These ideas were mentioned in our column in *The Southern Sociologist*, but since we received no reactions or comments about them from the membership, we are asking the Executive Committee to consider them and to bring them to the floor for membership consideration and action at the business meeting in New Orleans.

- having the SSS sponsor a small mid-year workshop or seminar that focuses on a selected topic or issue that would assist or improve our teaching or research (perhaps targeted to those who do not usually attend the annual meeting).

- provide a financial incentive that might attract more people to join (e.g., lower SSS membership dues for those who pay by a certain date; discounted SSS dues for a five-year membership; a lifetime SSS membership).

- establish stronger ties with state sociological associations in the South, perhaps by creating programs that mutually benefit state associations and the SSS.

Finally, given the tight financial situation many colleges and universities are facing this coming year, we expect that current and prospective SSS members will have less travel funds than in previous years. Given the strong connection between annual meeting attendance and SSS membership levels, we think it would be helpful if the local arrangements committee for the next meeting would locate and publicize available hotels that are less expensive than the selected convention hotel.

We look forward to the Executive Committee’s, the SSS President’s, and others’ thoughts and suggestions regarding SSS membership.

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**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT, 2003**

The Nominations Committee had one officially scheduled meeting during the annual convention in Baltimore in April 2002. As the incoming Chair, I began correspondence prior to the convention to welcome the members newly appointed by President-Élect Martin and to encourage all members to include the Nominations Committee time slot in their Baltimore plans. Five of the nine members were available to meet in Baltimore: Diane Everett, Ken Tunnell, Rebecca Bach, Angela Lewellyn Jones and Karen Mundy.

...
During its meeting on April 5, 2002, the Committee reviewed its responsibilities as described in the SSS Handbook of Operations and Procedures. Most of that meeting was dedicated to reviewing the list of potential candidates from the 2001-02 cycle that Woody Beck, as outgoing Chair of the Committee, contributed for our consideration. By the end of that meeting, we had identified candidates to roll over from the previous list and had introduced additional names to add as candidates for particular offices. The Committee expressed concern about how little time is actually available for face-to-face group collaboration on this important and necessarily confidential work, and we had consensus on a couple of ideas. One was that the Nominations Committee would benefit from having two meetings instead of one at the annual convention. The first should be early in the schedule, with an agenda of reviewing prior candidate lists and developing a plan for maximizing the Committee’s outreach over the next 2-3 days, aiming to enrich the candidate pool while the SSS membership is largely assembled and focused on the needs of the organization. This would allow a second meeting to be far more decisive as Committee members bring fresh concerns and/or suggestions to bear on the evolving candidate lists. That idea was submitted to Program Chair Idee Winfield and will be implemented in New Orleans in 2003. Whether the practice should be continued and perhaps recorded in the Handbook in the future would require the judgment of next year’s Nominations Committee. Another idea favored by the Committee during the Baltimore meeting was to attempt a summer gathering of as many members as possible, to facilitate the decision-making that real time, face-to-face conversation can accomplish. Unfortunately, the temporal and geographic constraints overwhelmed us and we relied on email for virtually all of our work after Baltimore.

By mid-April, a call for nominations was circulated through the “SSSann” listserv, and in the summer edition of TSS the “official” call for nominations was published. These efforts generated a very small response, but most were helpful and these notices should certainly be continued. Also during the summer I acquired information from Tom Ford’s archives, to inspect SSS committee membership lists for recent years, and from Marty Levin’s ballot files, to be mindful of those who were recently on a ballot for SSS elections. These data helped the Committee to reach more informed decisions when I circulated comprehensive lists of candidates in mid-August. Those lists included 82 names suggested from all sources, between the Baltimore meeting and the July deadline of the official 2002 call for nominations. An important complication in this process was the necessity of guarding against placing any member in an ethical bind. For example, a member on the faculty at University XYZ was not asked to participate in decisions that would involve other members of the faculty at University XYZ, and no one was asked to respond to a list containing his or her own name. At times, this meant that a particular committee member only received one or two of four excel files to review. But to the extent that ethical considerations would allow, I solicited advice to narrow our lists.

By early September, members of the Nominating Committee had submitted separately to me a list of names for each office equal to twice the number of names we would ultimately need on the ballot (i.e., name 4 if we need 2; name 8 if we need 4), and thereby generated a streamlined list of 44
 names. I asked Marty Levin for an eligibility report on that streamlined list, and five names had to be dropped. From the remaining possibilities, the Committee worked diligently to prioritize, and to break tied rankings, so that I had a clear order in which to contact those still in the candidate pool by mid-September. By mid-October, I had the final names and appropriate biographical information for the ballots, along with vision statements from the two Presidential candidates. Shortly after sending the prepared ballots to Marty Levin for duplication and distribution, I composed a letter of appreciation to all the candidates who agreed to run for office and provided them as a courtesy with a preview list of the names that were going to appear.

During this process, I have included Vice President-Elect Angela O’Rand in much of the committee’s correspondence through the simple ease of a cc’ed email. To supplement those messages, I am preparing a file of materials that may prove helpful to her as she assumes the responsibilities of Nominating Committee Chair.

The members of this year’s Nominating Committee made challenging work feel ultimately like rewarding group effort. Their prompt and supportive participation in all stages of the process was certainly a gift to me, but was no less a gift to the whole of the SSS as this year’s ballots reflected such solid choices for leadership positions. The terms of Diane Everett, Gary Jensen and Ken Tunnell expire this year; continuing members of the Committee are Rebecca Bach, Donald Cunnigen, Angela Lewellyn Jones, John Moland, Karen Mundy and John Skvoretz. My sincere thanks go with admiration to each one.

Rhonda M. Zingraff,
SSS Vice President and Nominations Committee Chair

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**2003 PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Summary.** The Southern Sociological Society’s 2003 Program Committee held our one and only face-to-face meeting on Friday, April 5 at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Society in Baltimore. At that meeting the committee worked to generate a list of potential session topics and special sessions related to the theme for the 2003 meeting, “Disrupting Inequalities.” Members of the committee were asked in advance to bring one session that they would like to organize for the 2003 meeting. The committee generated a wonderful list of ideas for papers sessions, special panels, and workshops, and many of these became part of the final program. All further business of the Program Committee was handled via e-mail.

Publicity for the 2003 meeting was included in the program for the 2002 meeting, in *The Southern Sociologist*, in the SWS Network News, and distributed on a variety of listservers to reach as wide a group of sociologists as possible. The call for participation was posted online in June 2002 and published in the Spring/Summer issue of *The Southern Sociologist*. Although we encouraged early sub-
missions before the November 15th deadline, all but half a dozen submissions arrived between November 15 and December 6th. As in past years, we tried to spread the participation among the membership as much as possible, including serving as President/Discussant for sessions. The Program Committee was grateful to have 165 members volunteer to serve as session President/Discussants. Unfortunately, we were not able to assign everyone to a session due to uneven distribution among subject categories. The final program consists of about 880 participants presenting 601 papers or posters, organized into 172 sessions.

The task of putting together the 2003 program began in earnest in mid-November 2002 when approximately 600 submissions arrived in the mail. All submissions were entered in the database by the end of December. January was spent organizing papers into sessions, locating President/Discussants for sessions, and organizing the sessions into the final program. The preliminary program was posted online on February 2, 2003. At the same time that I placed the preliminary program online, I created and e-mailed a spreadsheet with names, e-mail addresses, and titles of papers to each of the session President/Discussants and asked them to send an “acceptance letter” via e-mail to each of the first authors in the session (who in turn would contact their co-authors). A general announcement of the preliminary program was made on the SSS listserv and an e-mail was sent to every person in the ACCESS database announcing that the preliminary program was online. Corrections to the preliminary program (mostly typographical errors in names and titles) were made, and the final program was sent to the printer on February 12, 2002. Some delays were caused by the Exhibits Coordinator missing the deadline so the printer did not receive advertisements until February 27th. This necessitated a 24-hour rush on March 6th to read and proof galleys and return them the same day to ensure on-time delivery of the program to the Local Arrangements Committee.

**Reflections and Recommendations.** The job of the Program Chair is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, there is great satisfaction in working with the membership and the Program Committee to realize the President’s theme for the meeting. On the other hand, creating the program is essentially a full-time job for three exhausting months. Below I comment on the process of putting together the program and offer recommendations to make the job of future Program Chairs more manageable.

The choice of software to handle the many tasks of assembling the program and communicating with participants remains an ongoing problem that Program Chairs have been left to handle on their own for the past few years. It is no small matter to find a way to keep track of all the submissions, organize them into sessions, communicate with all the participants, and generate a camera-ready program. I was extremely fortunate to have the services of Ron Carmical, a Microsoft ACCESS programmer at the College of Charleston who essentially created customized software for the meeting at no cost to the Society. Nevertheless, it took two people working almost continuously from late November until the end of December to enter all of the paper submissions into the database.

In addition, I spent at least another 40 hours in January and February interpreting illegible handwrit-
ing on the submissions forms, tracking down e-mail addresses for e-mail notices that bounced back due to unreadable handwriting and correcting the entries. I also spent an inordinate amount of time answering e-mail requests for information about the submission form, the submission process, whether the paper was accepted, and when the program would be available. This is time than could have been better spent working with members of the Program Committee to construct the sessions. Because the work of the program almost always overlaps end of the semester exams and December holidays, and given the time it takes to enter the submissions in the database and answer e-mail, there is not enough turnaround time for the Program Chair to make use of the Program Committee.

In the end, I had no choice but to work on my own to organize all submissions into sessions and arrange the time and day for the sessions. If the submissions had been in the database on November 15th, the Program Committee and I could have shared the workload, organized the sessions, and located the Presider/Discussants while still attending to our other responsibilities. In addition, with the increasing use of web-based conference software, more and more people expect to submit online. This year, I received 20 e-mails from persons panicked because they expected to submit their abstract and forms online and did not discover until November 15th that they would need to print and mail the forms.

Recommendation #1: The Executive Committee approve and fund a move to an online submission process using one of the recommendations from the ad hoc committee on software. This will create a more efficient process for creating the program, make the job of Program Chair one that can be done while also attending to other professional responsibilities, make better use of the Program Committee, and allow the Program Committee to maintain a deadline for submission that is only four months before the meeting.

This was the second year of the policy to reduce “no shows” at the meeting by requiring remittance of the pre-registration fee for at least one author of a single paper, one member of a panel session, or the organizer of a complete paper session. Approximately 30% of the submissions did not include a check for the pre-registration fee. A small portion of these was sent directly to the Secretary-Treasurer. Given the success of this policy last year, I expected to have even fewer problems this year. I was surprised and unprepared for the additional time I had to spend e-mailing 180+ people to clarify the policy and keep track of checks as they dribbled in. Given the time constraints of entering the submissions and organizing the sessions, I chose not to pursue multiple reminders and re-
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PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Recommendation #2: The Executive Committee adopts a pre-registration policy similar to that used by ASA for the national meeting. The ASA policy requires meeting registration to be paid approximately two and half months in advance of the meeting but it is not part of the submission process. Those who do not remit the pre-registration are subsequently dropped from the program. This further eases the burden on the Program Chair and puts the handling of the money back in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer would send the Program Chair a list of submissions/persons to be dropped from the program. Given the short window in which to organize the program, post the preliminary program online, make corrections, and print a camera ready copy for the printer, I would recommend that the Secretary-Treasurer provide the “drop list” no less than two weeks before the preliminary program is posted, which normally is the middle of January. This allows for the possibility that entire sessions will need to be re-organized if two or three papers are dropped from a session.

There are several issues of planning, coordination, and communication that currently complicate the process of producing the program. The first of these is communication and coordination with the conference hotel events staff. It is essential that the Program Chair has direct communication with the hotel events staff and be included in the site visit to the hotel. Otherwise, it takes longer, requires more effort, and increases the degree of miscommunication when the Program Chair has to go through an intermediary. My work with events staff began in the fall and included negotiating room use, planning receptions and other catered events, and coordinating requests by affiliated groups to use rooms during the meeting. This job was made manageable because we started early and I had access to the meeting rooms during the site visit. Unfortunately, there is no standing provision that the Program Chair attends the site visit. Therefore, I recommend:

Recommendation #3: The President provide the Program Chair with the name, phone number, and e-mail address for the designated hotel events contact.

Recommendation #2: The Executive Committee adopts a pre-registration policy similar to that used by ASA
Recommendation #3: The President provide the Program Chair with the name, phone number, and e-mail address for the designated hotel events contact
Recommendation #4: The Executive Committee affirm that the Program Chair attends the site visit along with the President and Secretary-Treasurer.

A second, related issue is communication and coordination between the Program Chair, printer and exhibits coordinator. Since it is the responsibility of the Program Chair to deliver camera ready copy of the program to the printer in time for delivery to the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, and it is the responsibility of the Program Chair to proof the galley print of the program, the Program Chair maintains responsibility for all parts of the program. This includes advertisements in the program. Currently, the procedure is this: Exhibits coordinator delivers camera-ready copy advertisements to the Program Chair in time for delivery to the printer. In principle, the printing company rep need only communicate with the Program Chair concerning the deadline, preparation, and delivery of the program, and to the Secretary-Treasurer about the costs and payment. In practice, having an exhibits coordinator handle the advertisements adds a complicating layer of communication and coordination to the process, which lands in the lap of the Program Chair. Therefore I recommend:

Recommendation #5: The Exhibits Coordinator prepare all text for ads by January 15th and have them in the hands of the Program Committee chair by January 30th so as to avoid delays and added layers of communication and miscommunication from being repeated.

A third issue is the lack of a mechanism to ensure that the next Program Chair has the necessary information to begin planning the process and complete the final program. This includes the names, phone number, and e-mail of all people the Program Chair will need to work with to produce the program and sociological abstracts booklet, as well as deadlines for the printer. Although we have a “Guide” for the Program Chair, it does not include the kind of information the Program Chair needs to plan effectively. It should not be the job of the Program Chair to ferret out essential information. Let me offer an example of why this is problematic. The call for participation is the first task of the Program Chair. To put together the call for papers, the Program Chair needs to know the process she or he will use to manage abstracts, submission forms, etc. All this requires knowledge of the people and organizations you will be working with, the deadlines, formats, etc. In the absence of concrete
The logical thing to do is use the same forms and approximate deadlines as the previous year. Months too late I learned from our contact at Sociological Abstracts that we could have used an online submission of abstracts. This would have eliminated the need for the Program Chair to chase after people who did not submit the abstract form or abstract or who did so but not in the proper format. Had I had the name and contact information early and been given information about designing the submission process, I could have better planned the process. A Program Chair cannot ask a question if she does not have any idea of what she needs to ask about.

Recommendation #6: Since the Secretary-Treasurer maintains ongoing relationships with the printer and Sociological Abstracts, and is well versed in the lead time necessary for producing these for the meeting, the Executive Committee should direct the Secretary-Treasurer to provide to the incoming Program Chair well in advance of assuming the job (at the latest: at the time of the annual meeting during which they begin work), a list of the names, contacts information, and estimated deadlines for the following year.

As a final note, let me ask that the Executive Committee direct the Secretary-Treasurer to make the $1000 budget for the Program Chair available as needed. It was embarrassing to hand data entry helpers checks in February that were post-dated May 3, 2003, for work done in November-December 2002. I felt badly about this and would like to save future Program Chairs and the people who assist them from having it repeated.

Recommendation #7: To facilitate the work of the Program Committee Chair, I recommend that the President allocate to the Program Committee Chair the $1000 that is budgeted in advance for the chair to use in organizing the program. The Program Chair will be obligated to keep complete records, including cancelled checks, that document the allocation of the funds to any assistants and to return any funds not used at the end of the organizing process.

Respectfully submitted,
Idee Winfield, 2003 Program Committee Chair

Recommendation #6: the Secretary-Treasurer to provide to the incoming Program Chair ...a list of the names, contacts information, and estimated deadlines for the following year.
Recommendation #7: the President allocate to the Program Chair the $1000 that is budgeted in advance
The Publications Committee has worked on these issues over the past year.

A. New Editor and New Format for *The Southern Sociologist*

After reviewing applications from several nominees, the Publications Committee recommended that Robert Freymeyer take over as editor of *The Southern Sociologist*. He did so during the summer of last year. The Publications Committee thanks Bob for the wonderful electronic issues he has produced and we look forward to many more. He states that expenses may increase in the future, especially the costs of printer cartridges, but he is confident that the current budget is adequate to cover the increases. His report on the editorial and electronic transitions is attached.

B. *Social Forces*

Transitions at *Social Forces* are only minor. Richard Simpson remains editor. In his report, also attached, he reminds us that the cost of a *Social Forces* subscription will increase for SSS members starting this year. This is in keeping with our ongoing agreement with the journal. In addition, *Social Forces* has a new book review editor, new associate editors and new editorial board members.

One issue that seems to have slipped through the cracks is the appointment of the Chair of the SSS Publications Committee to the editorial board of *Social Forces*. The Executive Committee at last year’s annual meeting passed such a motion. We will be sure that this appointment happens as soon as possible. SSS has a strong relationship with *Social Forces*, and we expect to strengthen it further with this institutional tie.

C. New Publications Committee Chair and Member

The Publications Committee chose Catherine Zimmer, The Odum Institute, UNC-Chapel Hill as its new chair last July. Former Chair, Michael Hughes, remained available for questions and concerns from other committee members, however Cathy took over Chair duties once the choice was made. We thank Michael for his service as Chair and wish him well as he takes on new duties as President-Elect of SSS! Christopher Ellison, University of Texas at Austin, was elected to the Publications Committee starting this year. We look forward to his participation.

Catherine Zimmer,
Chair, SSS Publications Committee

(Continued on page 53)
Annual Report -- The Southern Sociologist

During the summer of 2002, the editorship of *The Southern Sociologist* changed from George Rent and James Jones to Robert Freymeyer. The transfer went smoothly and I want to thank George and Jim for their help. *TSS* also began publishing in an electronic form beginning with the Fall 2002 issue. I have redesigned the layout and included more color to take advantage of the electronic format.

Most of the feedback that I have received about online publication has been positive. Several members commented that it made delivery more reliable and accessibility easier. Others have said they liked the new layout and the greater use of color, although I have heard of problems with printing the shaded material in a legible form. Ironically, the negative comments also largely centered around accessibility. A couple of people reported difficulty opening the pdf file. Others also said that it was more convenient to have a paper copy than to have to sit at a computer to read *TSS*. I have only had two or three requests per issue for paper copies to be sent to members. I am concerned about whether some have not requested copies nor accessed *TSS* because they are unaware that it is online. In addition, we need to decide whether to archive the electronic or paper version.

The fall edition contained thirty-three pages. It included a new column “The Teaching Corner” contributed by the Committee on Small and Community Colleges. We plan to make this a regular feature. This edition also included committee descriptions, announcement of award winners, and Ida Harper Simpson’s Reflections.

In response to comments, I changed to a one-column format for most articles for the Winter issue, also thirty-three pages. This edition included information about the program for the annual meeting as well as descriptions of committees. Furthermore, it included a lengthy obituary/tribute for Past-President Rachel Rosenfeld.

The main expenses in transfer of the editorship involved purchase of software, which was paid for by the Secretary-Treasurer’s budget. I had access to Microsoft Publisher that I am using for the layout. My department has covered the costs of printing, copying, and mailing the few copies that have been mailed. In the future, it will be necessary to request reimbursement for some of these expenses (particularly printer cartridges). The current budget should be sufficient to cover these expenses.

I want to thank Pat Martin for all of her help and support. She has proved invaluable in encouraging people to submit articles and in encouraging them to finish promptly.

My goal as editor of *TSS* is to be as inclusive as possible. I want to include information about all members and to publicize events occurring within the region. I am using a new medium and trying new things. I welcome feedback and suggestions on ways to improve *TSS*.

Robert H. Freymeyer
Editor, *The Southern Sociologist*
Annual Report – Social Forces

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The journal remains a leading international forum, frequently cited, with subscribers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and about 80 foreign countries. In addition, we give exchange or free subscriptions to libraries and research centers in about 25 countries that lack hard currency.

In calendar 2002 we published 42 articles totaling 1,248 pages and 45 book reviews totaling 82 pages. Our article authors numbered 78–35 women and 43 men. They were affiliated with 35 U.S. colleges and universities, 2 U. S. or state government agencies, 1 U. S. private-sector research institute, and 4 foreign universities or research institutions.

We received 312 article manuscripts, not including revised and resubmitted papers, in 2002 – an increase of 8% over the 290 submissions in 2001. With 42 published, the approximate acceptance rate was thus 13%, a bit below the acceptance rate of 15% that has prevailed for several decades. (The rate is only approximate, since many articles published in 2002 had been initially submitted in preceding years and many 2002 initial submissions were in process of revision for resubmission or review at the end of the year.)

The number of books reviewed, 45, was a smaller proportion of books received, somewhat more than 500, than has usually been the case in recent years. Probably more of the journal’s space in 2003 and succeeding years will be devoted to book reviews than in 2002.

MONEY

Eleven years ago, the journal reached an understanding with the SSS Publications Committee and Executive Committee that our special cut-rate subscription prices for SSS members would increase by $2 every other year for regular members and $1 every other year for student members, to keep up with inflation of the costs of production and mailing. (See The Southern Sociologist, 24:1, Spring-Summer 1992, Publications Committee report on pp. 10-11 and Social Forces report on p. 26.) During the last years of the 20th century, inflation was less than we had guessed it would be, so the journal skipped the biennial price increase for the 2000-2001 volume year, Vol. 79. The last time the journal raised rates for regular SSS members was for volume 80 (2001-2002). The increase, however, was only $1 – from $18 to $19. The last time rates were changed for students was fall 1998 – from $11 to $12. Since then, costs have caught up with us. To stay in the black we will need to raise the one-volume subscription price by $2 for regular SSS members and $1 for student members as of Vol. 82 (2003-2004). The journal’s rates for SSS members will remain barely more than half its special ASA member prices and well below half the prices for subscribers who are not members of either SSS or ASA.
In June 2002, Christian Smith resigned as book review editor. His successor is Andrew J. Perrin.

For the 2002-03 academic year, John R. Hipp and Martin Piotrowski succeeded Kraig Beyerlein and Natalia Deeb-Sossa as associate editors. These associate editors are Chapel Hill graduate students elected by the sociology faculty. Their main tasks are to assist the editors by recommending possible book reviewers and article manuscript referees.

By custom dating back to the early 1970s, the Editorial Board consists of all Chapel Hill sociology faculty members and of other sociologists located elsewhere. At least half of the non-Chapel Hill members are always members of SSS. In the fall of 2001 18 people, 10 of them SSS members, began three-year terms. Their duties consist of refereeing far more article manuscripts than anyone not on the Board would ever be asked to review, and offering advice to the editor. The current board members not at UNC-Chapel Hill are:

SSS members (when appointed): John Boli, Emory; Robert L. Boyd, Mississippi State; Theodore N. Greenstein, North Carolina State; Peggy G. Hargis, Georgia Southern; Darnell F. Hawkins, Illinois-Chicago; Kenneth C. Land, Duke; Holly J. McCammon, Vanderbilt; Wesley Shrum, Louisiana State; Lynn Smith-Lovin, Arizona; and Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, North Carolina State.

Not SSS members (when appointed): Paul R. Amato, Penn State; Deborah Davis, Yale; Lauren J. Krivo, Ohio State; John W. Meyer, Stanford; Debra C. Minkoff, Washington; Bernice A. Pescosolido, Indiana; Lynn K. White, Nebraska; Martin K. Whyte, Harvard.

For their services to the journal, we are grateful to all of the people named above in this section. We also thank the Southern Sociological Society, especially though far from only its Publications Committee, for support and wise counsel. Current Publications Committee members are Catherine Zimmer (Chair), Odum Institute, UNC-Chapel Hill; Karen E. Campbell, Vanderbilt; Michael Hughes, Virginia Tech; James D. Jones, Mississippi State (ex officio); Martin Levin, Mississippi State (ex officio); George Rent, Mississippi State (ex officio); Beth A. Rubin, UNC-Charlotte; Richard L. Simpson, UNC-Chapel Hill (ex officio); Lala Carr Steelman, South Carolina.

Richard L. Simpson
Editor, Social Forces
COMMITTEE ON SMALL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

The Committee on Small and Community Colleges is an on-going ad hoc committee that seeks to identify issues of concern to sociologists who work at these types of institutions, and strives to find ways to make the SSS more appealing and accessible to faculty at such schools. Members of the Committee on Small and Community Colleges this past year were: Lee Bidwell (chair), James Floyd, Sandra Godwin, Randolph Hawkins, Joel Thayer, and Maximillion Wilson.

When the Committee met at the SSS meetings last April, several obstacles that keep professors at smaller institutions of higher education from feeling and being fully involved in the organization were identified. Among these issues are: (1) the high cost of meals and lodging at the conference hotel; (2) heavy teaching loads that are difficult to rearrange to attend a professional meeting, and (3) a feeling of alienation—that the organization does not welcome or benefit small and community college faculty. Of those three issues, only the latter was one that our small committee could attempt to rectify during the year.

Professors at small and community colleges generally have heavy teaching loads and often are recognized and rewarded for their teaching abilities. Therefore, we decided that our committee would write a “Teaching Corner” column that would regularly appear in The Southern Sociologist newsletter featuring innovative and creative ideas for classroom instruction. It was felt that such a column would benefit all organization members, and simultaneously help faculty from small and community colleges feel more welcome in the organization. The first installment of the “Teaching Corner” appeared in the Fall edition of The Southern Sociologist and featured ideas submitted by committee members. The second installment appeared in the Winter edition of the newsletter and featured ideas solicited from the SSS membership. The response to this column has been very favorable and we plan to continue sponsoring this feature in the organization’s newsletter.

The creation of the “Teaching Corner” was the most significant of the committee’s accomplishments this year. Additionally, the purpose and activities of the committee were profiled in an article in the Fall edition of TSS.

Much work remains to be done to increase membership and involvement of small and community college faculty. At last April’s meeting several other ideas were suggested, which are likely to be pursued in the coming year. These ideas include:

The Committee on Small and Community Colleges meets in New Orleans

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COMMITTEE ON SMALL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Working with other committees, such as the Committee on the Profession and Membership Committee, to find ways to represent the organization’s mission to a broader range of people;
- Contacting other regional and national organizations to find out if they have committees dedicated to small and community college concerns. If so, our committee chair would work with their organization’s small/community college representative to get ideas on how to encourage membership and participation of this particular demographic;
- Creating an e-mail list of SSS members from small and community colleges to facilitate communication between colleagues. Also, the e-mail list could be used to solicit ideas from members about the types of paper sessions and workshops they would like to see featured at the SSS meetings;
- Working with the program committee to try to have fewer sessions scheduled for the first day, allowing small and community college members to attend the meetings for less time to achieve cost savings;
- Submitting additional articles to The Southern Sociologist that highlight the benefits to small and community college faculty of attending the SSS meetings and profiling sessions that may be of particular interest to these professors;
- Sponsoring a panel discussion at a future SSS meeting of employment issues of particular interest to those working in the small/community college environment.

Lee Bidwell, Chair

REPORT OF THE SOCIOLOGICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

The Sociological Practice Committee (Bill Canak, Chair, Alan Bayer, James Fraser, Karin Mack, Janice Riecherth, Jay Williams and Ron Wimberly) recognizes the substantial percentage of sociologists combining academic careers with applied research and practice, on the one hand, and the growing number of sociologists pursuing careers in public and private sector non-university settings, on the other. The SPC represents the Southern Sociological Society's proactive stance toward these career paths. We also recognize a growing number of sociology programs that consciously orient their undergraduate and graduate curricula toward careers in applied research and practice.

Therefore the SPC developed a pre-conference workshop and two panels for the New Orleans' meetings. The SPC pre-conference workshop (co-sponsored with Loyola University of New Orleans) will expose registrants to the practical considerations, opportunities and options available to academic sociologists who would like to understand how they might combine their university based career with applied research and practice. Led by four renowned academic sociologists (Domhoff, Cornfield, Steinberg and Weinstein) who also have considerable experience doing applied research, the workshop offers resources and exercises for the novice and mid-career professor. Graduate students are invited to participate. The SPC was gratified to find a substantial pool of highly successful...
sociologists working in diverse non-university contexts and eager to share their experience. We believe that this practitioner panel could become a regular feature of the SPC series at future conferences. For 2003 we have sociologists working with research institutes, foundations, international programs, state agencies and private corporations. Finally, the SPC chose to organize a panel featuring BA & MA applied sociology programs in our region. We believe that many sociology departments will want to learn about how these programs and consider their implications for sociology curricula at their home institutions.

For the future, we see the SPC as a committee that can play an important outreach role for the SSS. Given our objectives, we can initiate a set of conference related activities that may attract sociological practitioners who have previously considered the SSS excessively academic and possibly irrelevant to their interests. In addition, we may help to improve communication and exchange between academic and practitioner communities.

For 2003 the SPC has already begun planning. We intend to submit a proposal to the US Dept. of Health and Human Services requesting funds to support a day-long workshop on a topic consistent with CDC or ATSDR's mission in health care. Many practitioner sociologists work in the health care sector, public and private, and we believe this workshop will draw an important constituency to the SSS. We will consider workshops addressing other important areas of practitioner interest and activity, such as criminal justice, industrial relations, and market research, as we plan for future conferences.

William Canak, Chair

COMMITTEE ON STATUS OF WOMEN
2003 REPORT

Chair, Wanda Rushing, University of Memphis
Linda Grant, University of Georgia
Suzanne Trask, Salem College
Vincent Roscigno, Ohio State University
Kirsten Dellinger, University of Mississippi
George Rent, Mississippi State University

The primary question before the Committee on the Status of Women was: Given the increasing representation of women in our profession, the discipline, and the leadership of our organization, does the need persist for a Committee on the Status of Women in the year 2003. Our answer is a resounding YES.
Women faculty and students continue to face challenges at all levels in the academy. AAUP surveys and other literature suggest that despite improvements in the hiring of female faculty, substantial gender disparities still exist in rank, tenure, and salary. Disparities also exist in rewards – including research grants and other forms of recognition -- for faculty and graduate students. Generally, rates of progress toward promotion are slower for women. Women are more likely to report concerns about campus safety, sexual harassment, classroom hostility, and covert discrimination in the workplace. Also, women are more likely to express concerns about child care, elder care, and policies for stopping the tenure clock for family interruptions. On campuses offering greater opportunities for family leave and for stopping the clock, women often report an unwillingness to take advantage of them for fear of criticism or informal sanctions.

Our committee posted an announcement on the SSS listserv to solicit information about gender issues on individual campuses. A number of members responded, and most responses focused on pay equity. Several reported past efforts to satisfactorily address gender inequities in pay, tenure, and promotion. Others reported that no gender study or equity initiative has even taken place, but they wanted to know how to start one. We received a hard copy of Indiana’s Report on the Status of Women published September 2002, and a few respondents gave websites about studies at their colleges and universities. The urls for these websites are listed at the end of the report.

In conclusion, we find a need for the SSS to continue to appoint a Committee on the Status of Women. We suggest that the committee, and the SSS, can play an important role in maintaining communication and disseminating information.

For additional information consult the following websites:

http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/v48/n14/GenderEquity.html
http://www.mwc.edu/acaf/faculty/pair/index.htm
http://advance.uci.edu/home.html
http://www.tntech.edu/ir
http://www.ais.unc.edu/ir/equity
http://www.indiana.edu/~owa

Committee on Status of Women meets in New Orleans
The Southern Sociological Society (SSS) is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote the development of sociology as a profession and scientific discipline by the maintenance of high academic professional and ethical standards and by encouraging:
(a) effective teaching of sociology;
(b) valid and reliable methods of research in the study of human society;
(c) diffusion of sociological knowledge and its application to societal problems;
(d) cooperation with related disciplines and groups;
(e) recruitment and training of sociologists; and
(f) development of sociology programs in educational and other agencies.

Members receive Social Forces, The Southern Sociologist, and a membership directory (biennially). An annual meeting is held in the spring, usually mid-April. Membership is open to any person who can assist in promoting the objectives of the society. Persons wishing to join SSS may send dues directly to the Secretary-Treasurer. Please include your first middle and last name, address, phone number, where employed, and sex. For statistical purposes, we also ask you to include your race and/or ethnic group and three areas of specialty. Husbands and wives may be joint members. One spouse receives publications and dues notices, but both vote, receive separate listings in the directory, and are eligible for reduced registration rates at the annual meeting.

The membership year is July 1 through June 30. Membership classes, annual charges and dues are:
Regular ...........................................................50.00
Emeritus
with Social Forces........................................21.00
without Social Forces .................................. no cost
Associate (non-voting) .....................................48.00
Student ...........................................................25.00

Dues, subscriptions, membership inquiries and address changes should be addressed to:
Dr. Martin L. Levin
Secretary/Treasurer
Southern Sociological Society
P.O. Box 6245
Mississippi State, MS 39762

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

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

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

INFORMATION WANTED. . .CONTRIBUTE TO TSS

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THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGIST

TSS

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

Next Issue Deadline:
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