



Volume 37 Number 3 Winter 2006

From President Blau: Diasporas Tell Their Stories

Dave Brunsmas, Marty Levin, and I went to New Orleans in mid-December for the site visit and to meet with the staff of the Monteleone Hotel. This was an exceptionally important site visit because we wanted to make sure that New Orleans is an appropriate venue for the March meetings for everyone. - those with allergies, those with cars to park, those with walking difficulties, those with children. I went as best I could as a detective on your behalf – sniffing for mildew and mold (not where we were), carefully noting problems at the airport (none), taxis (no problems), drinking the water (great), and snooping around for inconveniences and hazards - none I found in the French Quarter

As many members will recall from earlier meetings in the Monteleone, the staff are extraordinarily wonderful, and seeing them interact with one another and with us was a pleasure. They are kind and respectful, and were very gracious to us. They will roll out the red carpet for our March meet-

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From the Editor:

This issue contains information about New Orleans and the 2006 Annual Meeting. The preliminary program will be posted on the SSS website as soon as it is available at <http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss>. A special issue of *TSS* will be published in early March providing additional information on the Annual Meeting.

Bob Freymeyer (mailto: rhfreym@presby.edu)

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From President Blau: Diasporas Tell Their Stories

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ings. The French Quarter, where the hotel is located, was not flooded, although some buildings had rain and wind damage. There were few traces of that, and workpeople had already repaired by mid-December most of these relatively minor damages. Already jazz places and restaurants were open, and people told us that by the time of the Mardi Gras, everything in downtown New Orleans will be ready for tourists.

This is not to say that neighborhoods, establishments, churches, and homes in the outlying areas are in similar good shape. During the afternoon before the site visit, Dave and I trekked up to Lake Pontchartrain, and although we did not quite make it that far, we saw blocks and blocks of homes and businesses that had suffered severe flood and wind damage, paint signs on houses indicating where animal rescuers had been. I did not see, however, the most tragically devastated communities that were flattened and still with uncertain futures.

The newspapers, television media, and weblogs have all shown a far more critical picture of New Orleans than I have sketched: the profound race and class disparities in peoples' fates, negligent unpreparedness, and delays in evacuations dues to bureaucratic wrangling and breakdowns in communications. It was known for decades that the saltwater marshes and levee system – both essential for a city below sea level – had been neglected.

We are especially pleased with the sheer volume of high quality submissions and with the sessions as they are now being formed.

Many of our members, I have learned, have volunteered in New Orleans and in the Gulf Coast region; many of our universities have taken in displaced students and faculty; and SSS has set up a hurricane disaster fund, as many organizations have. Evident to me after Katrina struck is that sociologists have the expertise and the frameworks for inquiry, and early on Dave Brunsmas and I began to plan in these terms for the 2006 meetings. There will be many sessions on Katrina. Also evident to me was the importance of providing sociology students displaced by Katrina with opportunities for maintaining contact with one another, via SSS, through the Fall semester. The “Hidalgo Network” started to evolve soon after they were dispersed, with the New Orleans SSS Local Arrangements Committee being very central in this network (see story on [page 7](#)).

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From President Blau: Diasporas Tell Their Stories

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I will say very little here about the program, which Dave Brunsma, the other members of the Program Committee, and I have been working on since last Spring. We are especially pleased with the sheer volume of high quality submissions and with the sessions as they are now being formed. My original theme, "Diasporas," was intended to capture topics on the intersections of the local and the global, the continuities in culture and tradition, migration, and the emerging importance in America of the African, Latin American, and Asian diasporas. However, the theme in the weeks of August 29th took on, for me, new ominous dimensions – of refugees, displacement, loss, and human tragedies.

If we recall, however, that the members of any science or field, whether it be physics, philosophy or sociology, are like a diaspora, we can understand that annual gatherings are to reinforce community, renew ties, share our exciting new research results, and "talk shop." In New Orleans we will do all these things as well as put our sociology to work so that we learn what Katrina can teach us about society and the human condition. The sociologists of the Gulf Coast diaspora will share their stories with us.

Hotel Monteleone Reservations

A direct link to the Hotel Monteleone reservation system has been established which will provide access to the convention rates.

Simply click on:

<https://www.hubx.com/hotelsite/reservations/resrv.asp?pHotelId=44&pCode=SOUSOC>

The convention code should enter automatically, but if it should not, it is SOUSOC.

And, remember, the deadline to make your reservations and be assured of the convention rate is February 20th.

Our recent trip to visit the Hotel convinced me that all services and amenities will be in place. Driving to the hotel is not generally a problem. The only place where I saw a traffic jam was on the I10 bridge crossing the lake. That is because only 1 lane in each direction was open. However, we understand that as of early January, all lanes will be open.

Marty Levin
SSS Secretary-Treasurer



Spring 2006 SSS Meetings

David Brunsma, Program Chair

Editor's note: The following article was originally written in New Orleans and sent out on the SSS listserv. It is reprinted here with minor editorial changes to inform the membership about conditions in New Orleans.



Good afternoon from the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter, New Orleans. Though it is quieter than usual here in the French Quarter (oops, wait just heard a guitar, laughter, a truck...), things look, operate, and feel much like they have always been.

"Thank you for being here," "We really appreciate you coming to support our city," "Good for you, deciding to come to New Orleans, thanks for the support!," "We need people!" These are the words from a French Quarter bartender, a Mid-City store owner, a waitress, and a staff member of the fam-

ily-owned Hotel Monteleone. New Orleans is indeed rebuilding and needs our support. One man I talked to yesterday, from New York, is here just for that reason alone - to support the city - he is buying his kids Christmas presents. The Southern Sociological Society's decision to remain in New Orleans has received genuine thanks from everyone I have talked to here during our visit...Marty Levin, President Judith Blau, and I have been here in New Orleans for a couple days.

While Katrina was absolutely devastating to areas closest to the Lake, the Ninth Ward, and many areas of and around the city; The French Quarter, the Warehouse District, indeed, all the areas within a good 12+ blocks in either direction of the Hotel Monteleone received very little damage in comparison. During my walk with President Blau, some 50+ blocks from St. Patrick's Cemetery back to the Hotel Monteleone, we could see the waterlines 6 feet high in places, and nonexistent in others - very little signs of normal life...lots of signs of rebuilding. But, upon entering the Warehouse District and French Quarter, the view changes and it looks more like the hours shortly after a little rainstorm with some debris (fallen limbs, etc.) on the side of the roads. This half of the city appears very much as we remember it from our last meeting here in New Orleans.

Travel by ground or by air is no worse than it always has been in New Orleans. The airport received us and taxis/shuttles were there to haul us off to the hotel - we were told that airport shuttles are meeting every flight. On the ground, Marty found, in driving here from Mississippi, that the roads were fine, from the east, the Span is down to two-lane, but will be back to its full

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Spring 2006 SSS Meeting

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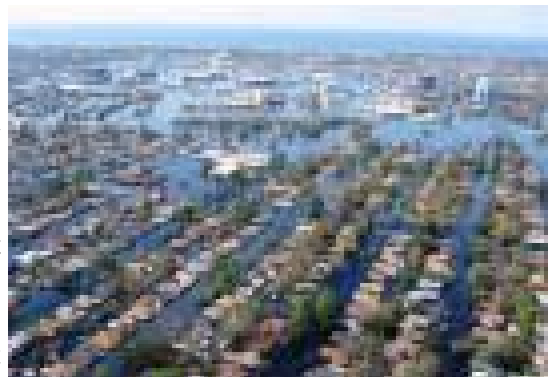
splendor in January. I-10 coming from the West is fully open and functional. Travel should not be a problem.

I want to encourage the membership that New Orleans, specifically this part of the city, is ready for a conference right now - the Monteleone is operating on limited amenities (although I haven't noticed a void during my stay), but the staff assured me that everything will be back up in the next month or two (the pool may not - but it also may). Not only has the Monteleone already hosted two conferences since Katrina, but, the taxis are running smoothly, the buses are running, NOLA's, Emeril's, Arnaud's, Mr. B's, and indeed, many of the favorite restaurants in this part of the city are open for business - as are many local hotspots (for the locals), and they need people!

Come January, the streetcars will be running and a "Devastation" bus tour will be taking people to the hardest affected areas of the city (we couldn't get very close to those areas on this trip...we will keep you posted on this opportunity for our meetings in March), come February Harrah's will open - people are working hard. There will also be opportunities for you to come early or stay later to volunteer.

Some of the SSS members, and understandably so, have concerns about travel, safety, and health issues for this upcoming conferences. I have spoken about the travel - it is back on track. Safety issues have not changed from pre-Katrina New Orleans, in fact, there is a more visible patrol presence, and the 20-square block areas surrounding the Hotel Monteleone, where I was able to walk in my short stay here, are all clear and free of dangerous debris; there are no dangling wires, etc. (I cannot say this is true however, for the areas I walked outside of the French Quarter and Warehouse District) - bottom line, I felt fully safe. As for health-related issues (allergies, mold, etc.), all I can really say is that: a) I am notorious for having horrible allergies (especially mold and dust) and I have felt no different being here and walking around; and, b) I have seen no mold in any of the buildings I have been into. I feel confident saying that those who are worried about this will be all right.

The people are hurting. Everyone has a story and they will share it if you have a willing ear. The stories are painful, but the people, I have to say, at least the ones I spoke with, are very hopeful. They are in the midst of uncertainty and rebuilding their lives and livelihoods minute by minute. They feel somewhat abandoned by "the feds" and want/need support - support



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Spring 2006 SSS Meeting

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from volunteers, support from tourists, support from any and all who have ideas of the past, the present, and the future of this and similar situations. They need us. I strongly encourage you to participate and attend what promises to be one of the most memorable and deeply sociological Southern Sociological Society meetings in memory.

I want to remind everyone that the annual meetings of the Southern Sociological Society will be held March 22-25, here at the Hotel Monteleone. As of January 1st, 2006, we have well over 700 submissions!! This may be a record -- I am not sure; however, what I am sure of is that this year's conference will represent a very important step forward in critical, public, relevant sociology in organic/reflexive relationship with the very city we all love. We have 20+ sessions that focus on a dizzying array of sociological dimensions of Katrina, with the top disaster sociologists and other researchers in the nation (as well as internationally). President Blau's theme, Diaspora, has brought forward an impressive array of scholars who will focus on human rights, globalization, indigenous movements, global and internal diasporas, to name a few plenaries. ASA President Cynthia Epstein will be joining us for talk on Cognitive Diasporas. All this amidst a 3-day mural painting devoted to the Katrina disaster, mimes, a silent auction to help those colleagues and students affected by the disaster, nights of music and poetry, opportunities for displaced students and colleagues to reunite and share their experiences, and countless other activities. The scholarship will be top notch, the fellowship truly wonderful, and the experience, one that we won't soon forget.

A few other reminders. Given the size and scope of these meetings, we are still in need of volunteers to serve as presiders. If you wish to volunteer as a presider, please send email to <mailto:brunsmad@missouri.edu>. Finally, for those of you whose Department sends a check to the Monteleone for your room expenses, PLEASE have a name and confirmation number printed on the check so that the staff at the Monteleone can match it to you when you arrive! If there are any questions you have for me about the program or about the hotel and city, I will be glad to try and accommodate your questions/concerns as best I can.

See you in New Orleans!!!

David L. Brunisma, 2006 Program Chair
University of Missouri--Columbia

We are still in need of volunteers to serve as presiders. If you wish to volunteer as a presider, please send email to <mailto:brunsmad@missouri.edu>.

AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA - DOING PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

DANIELLE ANTOINETTE HIDALGO

JENNIFER DAY

DECEMBER, 2005

Soon after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, I desperately tried to get in touch with those who have been such a central part of my life as a graduate student at Tulane University. The phone lines were blocked. Text messaging was the only way I got a hold of most of my friends who were still in deep lines of traffic. E-mails went out to faculty who I knew were still in the process of evacuating. The situation was desperate, horrifying, and uncertain.

I was a "lucky" evacuee. I had not yet returned to New Orleans. Unlike many of the other students and faculty at Tulane, I was able to safely watch the dramatic deterioration of New Orleans from my family home in San Francisco. As so many of us saw days and then weeks after the hurricane, the most impoverished and disenfranchised New Orleanians remained in the city, frustrated at the poor government response to the emergency. As water continuously flooded our beautiful, unique city, all of us watched helplessly as a surge of uncertainty permeated our everyday lives. If some of us were part of the diaspora of evacuees throughout the country, we were on roads for hours, looking for a "home"—a place of temporary refuge. If we were in a more stable place, we took our friends and strangers in, welcoming them into our spaces, providing fellow New Orleanians with some sense of normalcy. And life did not get easier. As so many of us struggled to survive in hotel rooms, traveling from city to city, we worried about our friends and family, our homes, and our lives in New Orleans. What would become of our futures? Could we ever go back to New Orleans and, if so, when? Where would we live? Where would we work? When would "life" come back to our city? As these questions shifted over the months, we were faced with new problems and questions. How could we protect ourselves if landlords started charging us rent for our homes again? What did our insurance cover? Did we have the "right" insurance? The questions were endless and many of them remain largely unanswered. Frustration, sorrow, and uncertainty remain.

Almost immediately after the hurricane, one of our graduate students created a group site for our dispersed Sociology department at Tulane University. Listed as "Tulane sociology," we shared our contact information, confirmed whether or not everyone was safe and out of New Orleans; we kept the lines of communication open when so many other things in our lives were

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AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA - DOING PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

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closed. Our city and university remained closed and are only now beginning to open again. But this transition has not been easy. Tulane announced a "renewal" plan that while remaining supportive of current graduate students, the university will not accept future sociology Ph.D. students. The strong and committed graduate community we now have will slowly phase out without our advanced students. This is another hurdle and another reason to feel so uncertain.

A few weeks after the hurricane, Dr. Judith Blau and I discussed the possibilities of continuing the preparations for the Southern Sociological Society's annual conference in New Orleans. As Local Arrangements Chair, I had recently submitted an article covering the "things to do," see and experience in New Orleans. Images of pre-Katrina New Orleans presented the city without destruction: the streetcar slowly making its way in front of my house on South Carrollton; Jeannie, a fellow graduate student, decked out for the Mardi Gras festival. This article captured a snapshot of New Orleans that no longer remained. Dr. Blau, however, insisted that we could make the conference happen. While New Orleans was still in a state of emergency, she believed we could make the necessary preparations with a lot of improvisation and commitment to bringing people back together and back to our fine city.

Since my discussion with Dr. Blau, things have improved although everything is slow in coming. Rebuilding and returning to our previous New Orleans continues to be a long and slow process. As many have argued, New Orleans will not be the same. New Orleanians are making life-changing decisions based on these forecasts and many people still remain scattered throughout the country. Many of our faculty members and graduate students are similarly dispersed. Despite all of these problems and uncertainties, the sociology that I have engaged in with Dr. Blau, Conference Program Director Dr. Brunsma, committee member Jen Day, and so many others have made this event in our vibrant yet scarred city possible. I have received so much support from departments throughout the country, interested in participating in our events, submitting papers covering issues related to Hurricane Katrina, donating their time and gifts to our silent auction, providing their expertise for tours of the city, and so forth. Even while all of us—New Orleanians—pick up the pieces and move on with a forever-changed New Orleans, we remain committed to engaging in sociology that embodies public action. An e-mail from a graduate student who has since returned to New Orleans highlights the general community feeling: "I have actually met more new friends in this month than in a whole year. People are super friendly—more so than usual—and there is a real 'togetherness' permeating the air." This togetherness has definitely permeated our public sociological community and I hope our conference crystallizes it.

2006 SSS Annual Meeting
March 22-26, 2006 The Monteleone Hotel New Orleans, Louisiana

AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA - A Research Opportunity to Test a Theory of Poverty

Abbott L. Ferriss
Professor of Sociology Emeritus
Emory University

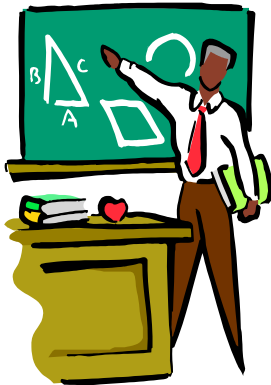
The displaced persons from New Orleans and the Gulf States are now scattered in communities throughout the country. They offer an opportunity for a natural experiment to test a long-standing theory of poverty and its cures. It is an opportunity sociologists, anthropologists, and economists should not forego.

A theory of poverty holds that the socio-cultural system limits the upward movement of persons in the lower-lower level of stratification. Some advance the idea that there is a culture of poverty which holds them, generation to generation, in a lower-lower position. There is not strong support for this position for most socio-cultural situations in the U. S. The theory, however, posits that migration out of the lower-lower level person to a different socio-cultural environment will bring about upward SES movement. T. Lynn Smith's volume, following the migration after WWII, threw doubt on this theory in his study entitled, "The Rural Roots of Urban Poverty." The movement of presumably lower-lower level persons from the devastated areas of the Gulf States to other socio-cultural environments offers the opportunity to find out the effect of the transition on their SES mobility – a natural experiment if we take advantage of it.

Interviews with displaced persons in their new environments should explore the previous occupation, wealth, income, etc. and ascertain employable skills and ambitions. What is the social structure of the new socio-cultural environment? Are there cultural patterns conducive to upward or restrictive mobility? Can the economy absorb the additional labor pool? Finally, after time has passed, what has been the outcome? Has the displaced person returned to New Orleans and the former Gulf State home, or has the person adjusted to the new environment and achieved or is in the process of achieving a higher SES position? Such a study carried out in a number of locations where the displaced have found shelter should cast light on the theory.

There are other questions of adjustment that could be studied: the adjustment of migrant children in school, the effect of the transition on family relationships, the economic consequences of the sudden addition to the local labor force, the absorption of new migrants, the impact upon the receiving community of its sense of acceptance of responsibility for lower-level persons, and many other issues.

Such a research enterprise could be carried out by separate groups examining their local situations. Coordination of protocols would be helpful, especially for background data, local social structural characteristics, and the definition of SES movement. Social scientists in the receiving communities could initiate studies immediately. It is a rich opportunity for a natural experiment to test one road out of poverty.



The Teaching Corner



**Barbara E. Johnson, Chair
Committee on Small and Community Colleges**

“The Teaching Corner” features innovative ideas to enhance student learning. If you have a classroom exercise, an out-of-class assignment, or a favorite video that you have found effective in helping students understand course material, please send a brief description to Barbara Johnson, Committee on Community and Small Colleges, Department of Sociology, University of South Carolina Aiken, Aiken, SC 29801 (mailto: barbj@usca.edu).

Diane Keithly, Southern University, involved her Introductory Sociology students in research on classroom assessment techniques. This is a great method to teach students about the research process and collect assessment data for personal or institutional use. Professor Keithly says that for years she has told her students that classroom attendance is vital to academic success, but often felt the message fell on deaf ears. This exercise allowed students to see first hand the importance of taking notes and coming to class.

STUDENT LEARNING AND CLASSROOM ASSESSMENT

In an Introductory Sociology class offered during a summer term, twenty-seven students agreed to try an approach to testing that allowed them to use their notebooks. Due to the nature of summer terms, students receive extensive information and heavy reading assignments in a relatively short period of time. Allowing students to use notebooks on tests, may make the amount of material seem more manageable and affect student performance in the class. The most immediate and noticeable effect of implementing this policy was an increase in note-taking both inside and outside of class.

The course entailed frequent, evenly spaced tests, and on the third test day, students were asked as part of the project to first take the test without using their notebooks and without receiving a grade (pretest). Then students took the same test again for a grade while using their notebooks (graded exam).

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The Teaching Corner

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A comparison of the pretest scores and the graded exam was made using a multivariate analysis of variance. This approach made better use of the small sample size than other more commonly used techniques to examine the differences between scores such as a t-test (Moser 2004).

As expected, the scores from the graded exam completed with the aid of notebooks were higher ($p < .01$) than the pretest grades. The effect of class attendance was also assessed for both pretest and graded exam results. Students who had better attendance ($N=17$) compared with students with less consistent attendance ($N=10$), scored better on both the pretest and the actual exam ($p < .01$).

Students clearly acknowledged using notes was a big advantage in taking tests and also recognized the importance of thorough note-taking from lectures and the text. However, students were surprised at the results regarding class attendance, not realizing that class attendance was crucial to good performance.

Reference

Moser, E.B. *Multivariate Data Statistical Data Analysis: EXST 7037*, class examples and selected notes, Baton Rouge, LA.

Undergraduate Research Conferences Call for Papers

Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium April 20-21, 2006

The 2006 Carolina Undergraduate Social Sciences Symposium will be held on April 20-21, 2006, at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina.

Undergraduate students in all disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences are invited to participate. Reports of both qualitative and quantitative research, critiques of theory, analyses of secondary data, critical essays on substantive topics, and posters are all appropriate for presentation at the symposium. Students wishing to participate should submit a proposal (preferably electronically) that includes the author's name, institutional affiliation, paper/poster title (specifying the format), and a brief abstract. Abstracts should be approximately 100 words and reflect the general theoretical orientation of the proposed presentation and suggest specific questions and concerns that the presentation will address. Please also indicate any equipment needed for the presentation. The deadline for submission is March 31, 2006.

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A cash award will be given to students with the papers judged to be best. To be included in the student paper competition, a completed paper must be submitted by April 10, 2006. Additionally, an award will be given to the best poster.

Proposals and papers for the Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium should be sent to

Robert H. Freymeyer
 Department of Sociology
 Presbyterian College
 Clinton, SC 29325
rhfreym@presby.edu
 864-833-8359

24th Southeastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium

THEME: *IN THE EYE OF THE STORM*

Co-Sponsored by Emory University and Morehouse College

The 24th SEUSS will be held on **February 26-27, 2006** (Sunday and Monday) at Emory University. The Symposium provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to participate in a professional meeting. Papers in any area of sociology are welcome. Students whose papers are accepted will give a 12-15 minute presentation of their research.

A banquet will be held on February 27th for all student participants and faculty. The three best papers will receive an **Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research** (1st place \$100, 2nd place \$75, 3rd place \$50). All presenters will receive **Certificates of Professional Participation**. Abstracts of all presented papers are published in the **Symposium Proceedings**.

Application Procedure. Interested students should submit a one-page paper **abstract and a faculty letter of support** by **January 31st, 2006** (please send by email to Dr. Corey Keyes at corey.keyes@emory.edu). The faculty letter should indicate that the paper is, or will be, completed and ready for presentation on February

27th. Students will be notified promptly of their acceptance. A nominal registration fee of \$25 is charged to help defray the costs of the banquet and Proceedings.

Note: Information about paper winners from the last SEUSS, registration and accommodation information, and updates are available at the website

<http://www.sociology.emory.edu/SEUSS/>

Sociology with a Southern Face: The 2007 SSS Program Theme

Ronald C. Wimberley
2005-2006 SSS President Elect
NC State University

The theme for our 2007 program in Atlanta will be “Sociology with a Southern Face.”

Whose face, you may ask? It’s yours, at the professional level at least. Beyond that, it’s the sociological face of the whole southern region. Individually or regionally, the southern face of sociology has character. Just look in a mirror, and take a look at the South.

The 2007 program will deal with several questions bridging our individual sociologists’ faces with the distinctive social face of the South and the sociology that is needed to inform and to be applied to the special social issues of the region.

As I look at it, “Sociology with a Southern Face” evokes three questions.

First, why are we sociologists?

Second, what are we doing about it?

Third, what are we doing about it in the South?

There are no set answers to this set of questions, but if you’ve ever asked yourself whether you’re doing what you intended to do professionally, we hope the 2007 program will help you to think or rethink your professional intentions and how they might be applied to needs in the South. The South, for example, remains the poorest region of our country.

The 2007 program will have special sessions to highlight these questions and a special emphasis on southern opportunities for sociologists with southern faces.

Your ideas for how to further operationalize this theme are welcomed. Please send them to me, Wimberley@ncsu.edu.

More details on the 2007 program will be given in the Spring/Summer issue of *The Southern Sociologist* and on the SSS website.

The 2007 program is scheduled for April 11-14 at the Sheraton Colony Square in Atlanta. If you are a sociologist with a southern face, you know where Atlanta is. We’ve all been there before. So, please offer your own ideas for this program; make plans to participate in it; and be there to enjoy it. “Sociology with a Southern Face” is our face. Let’s make the best of it.

Departmental News

UNC-Charlotte Launches New Ph.D. Program in Organizational Science

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is pleased to announce a new Ph.D. program in Organizational Science. Subject to the final approval by the UNC Board of Governors, the program will begin accepting applications on January 14, 2006 for enrollment in the fall of 2006.

Organizational Science is an emerging interdisciplinary field of inquiry focusing on individual and organizational health, well-being, and effectiveness. It builds on the premise that a thorough understanding of organizations requires an interdisciplinary focus that crosses levels of analysis and disciplines. The Ph.D. program at UNC-Charlotte is supported by eighteen UNCC faculty members, three of whom in organizational sociology, nine in industrial/organizational psychology, four in management, and two in organizational communication. It offers an interdisciplinary curriculum that covers topics ranging from micro issues, such as employee selection, training, performance management, workplace health, satisfaction, team effectiveness, leadership, communication, and work/life balance, to macro-issues, such as change management, organizational structure, and organization-environment relations. The program is based on the science/practice model. Students will learn about and participate actively in quantitative and qualitative research, engage in practicum/internship opportunities, and take a wide range of methodological and content courses. Two to four years of funding (e.g., assistantships and waivers) will be available to all accepted students. It is also expected



that students will be able to take advantage of Charlotte's vibrant, growing, and diverse urban community as well as career opportunities in academia, industry, government, and consulting. For more information please visit the program's website at <http://www.orgscience.uncc.edu/> or contact Steven Rogelberg (sgrogeb@email.uncc.edu) or Yang Cao (yangcao@email.uncc.edu).

Downtown Charlotte

Opportunities

Call for Chapters

Extreme Culture/ Extreme Bodies

Edited by Mary Kosut, Purchase College-SUNY and Elizabeth C. Bachner, The New School

Since the 1990s, “extreme” has become part of the mainstream cultural vocabulary. The American public eagerly consumes extreme cuisine, wears extreme deodorant (“energy-scented”), watches extreme television shows like *Fear Factor*, drives oversized extreme vehicles, practices extreme sports, and signs up for extreme adventure vacations involving bungee jumping, “high falls,” and “fire burns.” Extreme body modification, both normative (as exemplified on the television shows *Extreme Makeover* and *The Swan*) and non-normative, has been subsumed into the mainstream media, as a form of entertainment and a marketing scheme. These carefully conceived mediated products effectively push boundaries, challenging our conceptions of beauty, deviancy, human pain thresholds, humiliation, entertainment, and leisure. Within this context, it appears that people who want to stand out have been driven to push the extreme to the extreme. Although the roots of extreme culture are counter-cultural, does the extreme body offer a way to resist the standardized, homogeneous, pre-packaged fakeness of consumer society?

The editors of *Extreme Culture/Extreme Bodies* seek papers on all themes exploring the body, identity, and consumption within the context of extreme culture. Both theoretical and empirical studies are invited from sociological, cultural studies, media studies, and feminist perspectives. Suggested submission topics include but are not limited to the following themes:

- Recent trends in cosmetic surgery
- The body within the context of extreme sports
- Non-normative or subcultural body modification practices
- The body as an artistic medium
- Expressions of the extreme body in advertising and popular media
- Embodiment within cyberspace
- Theoretical perspectives on postmodernity, identity, and the body

DEADLINE: December 30, 2005. Chapters must be submitted in Microsoft Word format, 12 point font, double spaced. Essays should be in the range of 7500 – 10,000 words with references in ASA style. Include a CV with your submission.

Send submissions and inquires to mary.kosut@purchase.edu or bache461@newschool.edu

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The Society for the Study of Social Problems

Call for Papers

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) invites proposals for its 56th Annual Meeting, to be held August 10-12, 2006 at the Hilton Montréal Bonaventure, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Theme: **BUILDING JUST, DIVERSE AND DEMOCRATIC COMMUNITIES**. Papers or extended abstracts (2-3 page summary of your intended presentation) for presentations at division sponsored sessions must be sent electronically to session organizers no later than January 31, 2006. If your paper does not fit into one of the sessions listed in the Call for Papers, send your submission electronically no later than January 31 to Program Committee Co-Chairs: Phoebe Morgan, W: 520-523-8245, phoebe.morgan@nau.edu and Jim Gruber, W: 313-593-5611, jegruber@umich.edu. Questions relating to the program should be directed to them as well. When sending an e-mail, please place SSSP in the subject line. For further information, visit <http://www.sssp1.org>.

Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) is recruiting applications for the 2006 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Persons accepted into an accredited doctoral program in any one of the social and/or behavioral sciences are invited to apply for the \$10,000 Racial/Ethnic Minority Scholarship. Applications are due by and must be received no later than February 1, 2006. Applicants will be notified of the results by July 15, 2006. All applicants must be current members and should be a citizen of the United States when applying. For further information and an application, visit <http://www.sssp1.org>. Contact Angela M. Moe, Chair, with all questions (Department of Sociology, Western Michigan University, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5257; W: 269-387-5275; F: 269-387-2882; angie.moe@wmich.edu).

Michele Smith Koontz
Administrative Officer & Meeting Manager
SSSP, 901 McClung Tower, University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534
Website: <http://www.sssp1.org>

2006 Annual Meeting, August 10-12, Hilton Montréal Bonaventure, Montréal, Québec, Canada

THE MARY LAWTON HODGES PRIZE IN SOUTHERN STUDIES

The Institute for Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina is pleased to announce the creation of the Mary Lawton Hodges Prize in Southern Studies. The prize will be awarded annually to the most original work that furthers understanding of the American South. There will be three prizes: First Honor (\$5,000), Second Honor (\$1,500), and Third Honor (\$1,000). The prize is open to original works in any discipline.

The Hodges Prize is the result of generous donations by the family of the late Mary Lawton Hodges. Mrs. Hodges came from an old Southern family of artists, business executives, clergy, lawyers, and teachers. Her literary roots run deep among her ancestors and she inspired many others during her lifetime. Noted Southern writer, the late James P. Kilgo, was a nephew and spent many long hours in her kitchen drawing on her experiences, wisdom, and life lessons. She loved words and she loved to read. Up until her unexpected death in August 2004, she was able to engage in her life-long love affair with books and reading.

The first prizes will be awarded in October 2006 for works published during 2005.

The rules for the Hodges Prize are as follows:

1. The competition is for works of non-fiction.
2. Edited works and collections of essays will not be eligible.
3. Four copies of each title must be sent to the Institute for Southern Studies, USC, Columbia, SC 29208 by 1 February 2006.
4. The Winners will be announced in September 2006.
5. The First Honor recipient will be brought to Columbia in October 2006 to receive his/her award at a black tie dinner and to present a public lecture.

Questions concerning the Prize should be addressed to Robert L. Ellis, Jr., at the Institute for Southern Studies, 803.777.2340 or ellisrl@gwm.sc.edu.

Election Results—2006-2007

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| President Elect | Larry Isaac, Vanderbilt University |
| Vice-President Elect | Jeanne Hurlbert, Louisiana State University |
| Executive Committee | Christopher Ellison, University of Texas Angela Lewellyn Jones, Elon University |
| Publications Committee | William Falk, University of Maryland |

Nominations Sought for SSS Awards

The Honors Committee is soliciting nominations for the various honors awarded by the Southern Sociological Society, including nominations to the Roll of Honor, the Charles S. Johnson Award, the Katherine Jocher-Belle Boone Award, the Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award, the Martin S. Levin Distinguished Service Award, and the Distinguished Lectureship Award. The deadline for nominations for SSS professional honors is January 15, 2006. Nomination procedures can be found at:

<http://www.msstate.edu/org/ss/honors/index.htm>

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

The logo for The Southern Sociological Society (TSS) consists of the letters 'TSS' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters have a slight 3D effect with a lighter blue shadow behind them.

Job Opportunities

Mississippi State University Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work is searching for a Department Head at the rank of Professor, beginning July 1st 2006. Candidates must have a PhD, an established research and extramural funding record, a commitment to academic excellence, and strong administrative skills. Substantive area is open. The successful candidate will join a large multidisciplinary department. Programs offered include BA, MS, and PhD in Sociology, BA and MA in Anthropology, and BSW in Social Work. The department consists of 25 faculty members, more than 250 undergraduate majors and more than 75 graduate students. The Department has strong ties to several research centers including the Social Science Research Center, the Cobb Institute of Archaeology, and the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision. More information on the department and the programs embedded within can be seen at <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/sociology>.

Mississippi State University is a public, land grant, doctoral, research university classified as Doctoral/Research-Extensive by the Carnegie Foundation. Its mission is to provide access and opportunity to students from all sectors of the state's diverse population and to offer excellent and extensive programs in instruction, research, and outreach. More information on the university's mission can be seen at: <http://www.msstate.edu/web/mission.html>.

Applications are to be submitted electronically by accessing <http://www.jobs.MsState.Edu> and should include a Vita, a letter describing their administrative philosophy and research interests, and supporting materials demonstrating administrative, teaching, service, and scholarly achievement, as well as a list of references. Materials should be sent directly to Chair, Department Head Recruitment Committee, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, P.O. Box C, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. Review of applications will begin November 15, 2005, but applications will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled. Mississippi State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and encourages applications from minority candidates and women.

Norfolk State University Department of Sociology seeks to fill three junior level and one program director tenure track positions with starting date January or September 2006. Commitment to research and teaching are expected; salary commensurate with qualifications. Review will begin October 15 until positions are filled. Norfolk State University is an Historically Black University located in the culturally rich resort area of Hampton Roads near Virginia Beach.

(Continued on page 20)

Job Opportunities

(Continued from page 19)

Send letter of interest, current curriculum vita, statement of teaching interests and philosophy, a statement of research plans, official transcripts, example of syllabi and 3 letters of recommendation to: Dr. Judi Caron Sheppard, Department Chair, Sociology Department, Norfolk State University, 700 Park Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23504. Phone: 757. 823. 8931, Fax:757. 823. 8167; mailto: jsheppard@nsu.edu.

Positions to be filled are as follows:

- Director of Graduate Criminal Justice Program; Ph.D. in Sociology, Criminology, Criminal Justice. Administrator of graduate program, teach 2 courses per semester.
- Assistant Professor, teach undergraduate courses; 12 hours per semester. Ph.D. in sociology, prefer specialties in inequality, race, theory, gender, methods, urban.
- Assistant Professor, Ph.D. in sociology or related field; assist in coordination of Graduate program in Urban Affairs; teach undergraduate and graduate courses, 3 -4 per semester; specialties in sociology, urban problems, methodology.
- Assistant/ Associate Professor, tenure track. Ph.D. in Sociology, Criminology, Criminal Justice; teach undergraduate and graduate courses, 3 -4 per semester in graduate program in Criminal Justice; specialties in methodology and statistics.

Ferrum College invites applications for a tenure-track appointment, with the possibility of a second position to be filled at a later date, as Assistant Professor of Political Science, Sociology and Criminal Justice. The College is interested in candidates who can teach courses in Political Science (American Politics, Public Administration, Theory, and Areas Studies); Sociology (Sex and Gender Roles, Social Class and Inequality, Organization and Behavior, and Collective Behavior and Social Movements); Criminal Justice (with experience and/or specialization in juvenile justice, restorative justice, and community corrections). The College seeks applicants willing to contribute their expertise to the idea of a Center for Public Service, to teach Research Methods from a multidisciplinary approach, and to offer specific courses in the Criminal Justice Adult Education Program. The successful candidate will be expected to have a Ph.D. in hand, or very close to completion, at the time of the appointment. Duties include a strong commitment to service learning teaching and cooperating with other academic units on projects supportive of the College's commitment to a multidisciplinary and co-curricular approach to public service and student learning including the Virginia Center for Criminal Justice Studies, advising, and serving on college-wide committees. The appointment will begin on August 15, 2006. Salary and other benefits offered by the College are competitive. Please send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, strong evidence of teaching experience, a writing sample, official transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to Ferrum College, ATTN: Human Resources Office, Ferrum College P.O. Box 1000, Ferrum, VA 24088 (mailto: resumes@ferrum.edu). Application deadline February 15, 2006.

Southern Sociological Society Financial Information

The SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES AS COMPARED TO BUDGET for the year ended June 30, 2005, appears below. The complete FINANCIAL STATEMENT and additional FINANCIAL INFORMATION as compiled and reported by Christopher and Grogan, P.C. Certified Public Accountants, is available at

<http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/Financial/Publish/>

| | Unaudited <u>Budget</u> | <u>Actual</u> | Unaudited over (under) <u>Budget</u> |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| REVENUES | | | |
| Membership Dues | \$50,000 | \$49,521 | (\$479) |
| Meeting Income | 24,500 | 28,591 | 4,091 |
| Interest/Dividends | 0 | 1,972 | 1,972 |
| Other Income | 0 | 100 | 100 |
| Unrealized Loss on Marketable Securities | 0 | 5,058 | 5,058 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | \$74,500 | \$85,242 | \$10,742 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Data Entry Service | \$10,500 | \$10,500 | \$0 |
| Legal & Accounting | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 |
| Office Expenses and Supplies | 2,501 | 2,056 | (445) |
| Insurance and Fidelity Bond | 150 | 100 | (50) |
| President's Expenses | 2,001 | 165 | (1,836) |
| Publication of "Social Forces" | 24,000 | 20,726 | (3,274) |
| Publication of "The Southern Sociologist" | 300 | 71 | (229) |
| Memberships | 610 | 700 | 90 |
| Election Expenses | 1,500 | 1,421 | (79) |
| Annual Meeting | 30,754 | 28,299 | (2,455) |
| Committee Expenses | 4,600 | 983 | (3,617) |
| Depreciation | 1,100 | 1,100 | 0 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$79,016 | \$67,121 | (\$11,895) |
| EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES | (\$4,516) | \$18,121 | \$22,637 |

THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/>

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* and online access to *The Southern Sociologist* and to a membership directory. 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 gender. For statistical purposes, we also ask you to include your race and/or ethnic group and three areas of specialty.

The membership year is July 1 through June 30. Membership classes, annual charges and dues are:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Regular | 50.00 |
| Emeritus | |
| with <i>Social Forces</i> | 23.00 |
| without <i>Social Forces</i> | 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

<http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss/Creditcards/Creditcards.htm>

THE SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGIST

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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 May, 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

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

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

TSS

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

Next Issue Deadline: February 15, 2006