

Official Reports and Proceedings

2001-2002 Council

January 26-27, 2002

Present: Richard D. Alba, Elijah Anderson, William T. Bielby, Diane Brown, Michael Burawoy, Craig Calhoun, Robert D. Crutchfield, Paul DiMaggio, Arne L. Kalleberg, Douglas S. Massey, Ross Matsueda, Victor Nee, Barbara F. Reskin, Barbara Risman, Lynn Smith-Lovin, Ivan Szelenyi, Pamela Barnhouse Walters

Absent: Linda Burton, Nancy Denton

Staff: Felice J. Levine, Carla B. Howery, Alfonso R. Latoni, Roberta Spalter-Roth, Phoebe H. Stevenson, Janet L. Astner (January 26 only)

January 26, 2002

President Barbara Reskin called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Report of the President

President Reskin reported on the high number of paper submissions submitted through the Online Paper Submission System for the 2003 Annual Meeting thus far. She indicated that the two plenary sessions will be on Meritocracy and Profiling. She has issued invitations to speakers and was pleased with the excellent panelists who have agreed to serve.

Reskin encouraged Council members to think about potential candidates for the new Executive Officer search. She indicated that the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB), under the able leadership of Secretary Arne Kalleberg, is charged with conducting the search. She noted that EOB's discussion of candidates and potential candidates was confidential and that Council makes the final determination for the Executive Officer appointment based on recommendation(s) from EOB.

3. Report of the President-Elect

President-elect William Bielby announced the theme for the 2003 Annual Meeting: "The Question of Culture." He summarized some of the tentative ideas for thematic sessions and other innovations under consideration by the Program Committee.

4. Report of the Secretary

Secretary Kalleberg reported on the importance of monitoring, maintaining, and increasing membership in the Association. There was a 3.8 percent decline in membership in 2001, and Kalleberg indicated that the decline was mostly due to a drop in renewing members. Members from lower income categories showed the largest decline and members from higher income categories have shown an increase this past year. He brought Council attention to Membership Table 4 in the agenda book, which showed the

shifting of members across categories when renewing. The decline in membership might be due, in part, to the "Anaheim effect." The lower than expected attendance for the 2001 Annual Meeting was believed to have affected membership renewals.

Kalleberg indicated that for most of the 1990s membership hovered around 13,000—with the highpoint being in 1998 when the Annual Meeting was in San Francisco. He noted, though, a third consecutive year of membership decline from that highpoint, with 2001 being the most dramatic drop. He praised the Executive Office for making membership outreach a priority, engaging in a wide number of efforts to increase renewals, including through direct contact and cooperation with sections. He indicated that the release of the online database and member services would make renewing easier for members. He added that Chicago should be a good draw for attendees and hoped that membership counts would improve. He further stated that, if 2002 turned out to show a continued decline in membership, then ASA would need to step up with more intense member recruitment and retention efforts.

Council member Paul DiMaggio suggested that we needed to pay attention to the continuing decline in regular members, which began in 1997, and suggested that this decrease should be analyzed. He suggested that perhaps a committee should be formed this year to further investigate these trends. Executive Officer Felice Levine indicated that one of the goals with the newly implemented dues-subscription decoupling plan is to give members more flexibility. She further noted that the 1997 high in Regular members was due to the elimination of the Emeritus category and similarly that the drop in 2000 and 2001 in Regular members was due to the restoration of the Emeritus category. She also emphasized that ASA would be analyzing these data closely. Past Vice President Richard Alba supported DiMaggio's suggestion to set up a committee to find out more about the causes of membership decline. He suggested the need to analyze the drop in member journal subscription as well.

Council member Pamela Barnhouse Walters asked about trend data on sociology PhDs over time. Levine indicated that undergraduate student enrollment has been increasing and PhD production increased in 2001. Levine suggested that EOB is an appropriate body to investigate questions relating to membership trends instead of Council appointing a separate committee.

President-elect Bielby suggested that Council members look at the *Directory of Members* and identify persons in the department who are not already an ASA member. He also noted that EOB discussed the possibility of working with department chairs to invite non-member faculty to join the Association. Kalleberg indicated that we will have more data this year about the membership, in part from the decoupled dues structure, and that EOB will be reviewing all relevant information very closely. ASA staff sociologist Roberta Spalter-Roth indicated that a department survey

would be sent out next week, which will yield more information. Council member Victor Nee indicated that, with the availability of better data, we should have staff do the analysis first. President Reskin indicated that she did not think there is a need to form a subcommittee of Council at this time and that we should have EOB monitor and analyze the situation.

Kalleberg reported that, although there was a slight drop in total section membership (18,777 in 2001, as compared with 19,223 in 2000), overall section participation remained healthy in 2001; 63 percent of ASA members belong to one of more sections. Kalleberg reviewed the section operating budget allocation formula, which encourages sections to reach and maintain the 300-member requirement. Levine indicated that, while the budget allocation may be smaller for small sections, there are goods and services (such as, Annual Meeting sessions, elections, technical support, and so forth) that ASA provides to all sections regardless of size. Kalleberg noted the percentage of students in sections (close to 30 percent) and how students are important to sections. He indicated that Tom Gieryn, Chair of the Committee on Sections, and the Executive Office have been working with sections on outreach efforts.

Kalleberg reported on EOB's plans to reconsider ASA membership categories. He indicated that the last change in membership income categories was made in 1996 and put into effect in 1997. He noted that the two lower income categories have been capturing a declining number of members, while the upper income categories are becoming less meaningful (and unprogressive) as high income categories, given changes in economy and pay scale for many sociologists. He indicated that EOB will further discuss this topic in July and will provide Council with a preliminary report. He noted that any change in membership categories will require a member referendum and that members' input on the topic should be sought. He reminded Council that periodically income categories need to be reviewed, but that EOB delayed in doing so as not to confuse any such recommended change with the decoupling of dues.

Council member Lynn Smith-Lovin asked if the goal of dues restructuring was to stay revenue neutral. Bielby indicated the decrease in members in the lower income categories and the growth in the number of higher income categories indicates the need to have a structure that is more inclusive. DiMaggio asked whether the last change affected the membership and the potential financial impact. Levine indicated that membership count had stayed steady after the change and that the change was not aimed at producing additional revenue. Spalter-Roth encouraged Council members to urge their department chairs to respond to the department survey. Salary range questions were included in the survey, and the data collected will yield information helpful to crafting new dues categories based on salary distributions.

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5. Report of the Executive Officer

Executive Officer Levine reflected on the fall of 2001 having been a difficult time for the nation and for those leading organizations. She indicated that the impact (of the 9/11 terrorist attacks) on the Executive Office staff was significant and that the halt in mail delivery for three weeks has altered ways in which we conducted business. She reported that the staff operated effectively and supportively during this challenging period and was to be commended. She also commended members of ASA committees and task forces who attended meetings in Washington when travel was difficult.

She thanked Secretary Kalleberg and President Reskin for their extraordinary support while she made the decision whether to consider a new position. She also thanked all Council members for their support and good wishes. She indicated that ASA is well situated to continue to do important work. She reaffirmed that she is committed to achieving the objectives of the Association during the next months, bringing important projects and staffing priorities to fruition, and contributing to the success of a transition during the second half of this fiscal year. She noted also that the transition plan included continuing to work closely with Reskin on the 2002 Annual Meeting, on special innovations in 2002, and on outreach efforts to maximize turnout.

Levine indicated that she was pleased to report on the success of a proposal she had submitted to the National Science Foundation to support sociologists' travel to the International Sociological Association (ISA) World Congress meeting in Australia in July 2002. She hoped that the availability of support would further enable sociologists to participate in ISA. She indicated that ASA planned to be well represented at the meeting—by President Reskin, Secretary Kalleberg, Past President Massey, ASA's representative to ISA Douglas Kincaid in addition to her and, we hoped, the incoming Executive Officer. Given that it is the last ISA meeting before the ASA Centennial year, it will be a good opportunity for ASA to reach out to the international community.

Levine asked Deputy Executive Officer Phoebe Stevenson to brief Council on information technology. Stevenson reported that the Executive Office has completed the implementation of NOAH, our new membership database and management system. In addition to supporting our business processes at the office, the system provides a good foundation to refine and launch web-based applications that are integrated with the membership database. She indicated that the online member service module will be released this spring, providing a wide array of services (such as, online renewal, application, and meeting registration.) She also reported on web innovations that were undertaken in 2001, including the launch of a new website for *Contexts* in conjunction with the release of the inaugural issue, and an enhanced online paper submission system and organizer planning system for the Annual Meeting.

Levine reported that the development cam-

paigned received productive discussion at the EOB meeting. With new EOB member Michael Aiken joining the Committee, EOB is well situated to strategize how best to undertake a successful effort. She indicated that, rather than using 2005 as the end point for a development campaign, EOB thought that it would make sense to take the time over 2003 and 2004 to develop plans and implement a "silent" campaign and *launch* the public campaign in 2005 at the Annual Meeting. She reported that Aiken thought this effort would be of benefit to ASA and that academic institutions were continuing to plan development efforts despite the current downturn in the economy.

She provided an overview of ongoing activities with respect to Annual Meeting planning and promotion. She reported on a robust number of paper submissions for the 2002 Meeting in addition to sessions being planned under the aegis of the Program Committee. She indicated that considerable attention was being directed to promoting the meeting and its educational component and that she hoped that concerns about travel safety and costs would not hamper attendance in Chicago. She indicated that she was optimistic about the 2002 having sizable attendance—with Chicago being a popular location that was well situated geographically, with a very large number of sessions and thus participants, and with the new emphasis on the Meeting's education and training component. She praised Reskin and the 2002 Program Committee for its openness to innovation and the hard work it had done since summer 2000 and underscored that she would continue to work on outreach and the success of the Meeting.

6. Report on Investments and Reserves

Secretary Kalleberg reported that overseeing ASA's investments is one important charge for EOB. He reported on EOB's meeting with Kenneth Siegel, ASA's investment manager from Fiduciary Trust International, in January. Kalleberg indicated that there are a total of six funds, which all grew very nicely in the 1990s. Reskin asked about the purpose of the Building Fund. Kalleberg reported that the Building Fund was established with the net proceeds from the sale of the executive office building and the purpose is to use income from the fund to help defray the rent of the executive office and have available principal for any future possible purchase. Levine indicated that funds from the house sale were kept separate for this purpose but that, when the fund was established, no formal restriction was stipulated by Council so that future Council's could have flexibility as to these funds, while appreciating the original intent to the extent that resources were needed for office purposes. She noted that the aim was to have principal preserved as adjusted for inflation and to generate net revenue to help fund the lease.

Kalleberg indicated that weak performance of the stock market in 2001 affected the overall performance. He pointed out the performance of each fund as compared with the S&P 500 index. While the equity portion of the funds underper-

formed as compared with the S&P, the funds did well in the bond portion, which helped with the overall performance. He indicated that Ken Siegel believed that the market outlook would improve during the second half of 2002.

Kalleberg explained the investment strategy used for each fund, as it relates to the purpose of the fund. He specifically addressed the Rose Fund, which supports the publication of *Contexts* and the *Rose Series*. He noted that Fiduciary Trust is moving towards a 50-50 equity/bond allocation and the Fiduciary has been slowly moving more resources into equity. Levine explained the difference between the Rose and Spivack Funds—with ASA's having large and defined annual income needs for the former over the next several years and having more flexibility over the size of programmatic budgets with the latter. Due to the difference in income requirements, EOB decided to shift to a balanced growth strategy for the Spivack Fund.

Kalleberg indicated that ASA has been able to fund the lease expenses with operating revenue and that there has not been a need to draw on the Building Fund nor does it appear that it will be necessary to do so. Thus, he indicated that the Building Fund will also take on more of a balanced fund allocation. He indicated that the general guidance to Fiduciary is for 55-60 percent in equity and that Fiduciary had suggested the possibility of raising the equity portion to 60-65 percent to take advantage of the potential upside of the market. EOB determined that Fiduciary should be given that latitude.

Council discussed investment strategies and risk. Council members thought it would be useful to monitor and report on Fiduciary's performance in light of its previous projections. Council member Calhoun expressed concern that the value versus growth strategy was not adequately addressed, nor were the domestic versus international strategies. He recommended the inclusion of additional information on the breakdown of the 60-40 mix (such as, composition of domestic versus international equity) as well as additional benchmarks beyond S&P 500 and the Lehman Brothers indexes.

Levine indicated that EOB evaluates the investment firm and its strategies every three to four years. She noted that the 1995 evaluations looked into whether to use an index fund investment strategy, growth versus value investment strategies, and Fiduciary as a growth manager versus other growth managers. A subsequent evaluation process was conducted at the time the Building Fund was established in 1999. When EOB decided to continue with Fiduciary Trust and a growth strategy, it was at a time when growth investment was doing well. She noted that, when ASA reevaluates the arrangement again in the future, it might be useful to look at firms that might handle growth as well as value investment strategies. She also indicated how both Siegel and EOB have found it useful and educational to have face-to-face meetings on a regular basis. She recommended that such interaction should continue.

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Past President Massey indicated that this is his sixth year on Council and third year on EOB and that he thought that EOB and the Executive Office provided considerable oversight of Fiduciary International and ASA's investment portfolio. He cautioned that Council should not micro-manage EOB and should not make decisions based on last year's or any one year's performance. President Reskin noted the importance of EOB at-large members bringing backgrounds relevant to the consideration of such issues.

7. Membership Dues Structure

Levine provided an update on the 2002 membership renewal process. She started by reminding Council that this was "early" data because of the special referendum held in September of 2001. While she reported, with pleasure, the overwhelming support of the referendum from over 90 percent of those voting, she noted that holding the referendum in the fall delayed the usual timing of the renewal notice by approximately one month. Nevertheless, thus far, renewals were coming in at the same rate as last year at this time. She indicated that the Executive Office would be sending out renewal reminders earlier to encourage members to renew early.

Levine emphasized that very close attention was being paid to journal subscriptions by renewing members during this first year of decoupling dues and subscriptions while requiring a minimum of one journal subscription from all members. She noted again that she was using very early return data, but that the aggregate number of subscription purchases was essentially the same as last year for renewing members. She also noted that 2001 no-journal dues members were renewing about 10 percent slower with journal members; but that they were indeed renewing and making journal choices. Levine also addressed the impact of the introduction of the new journal *Context* on other journal subscriptions. She that, thus far, 424 renewing members chose to subscribe to *Contexts* and that *ASR* and *CS* especially lost some subscribers.

Levine indicated that the number of Emeritus members grew significantly this year. She noted that we needed to find out whether the new Emeritus members qualified for this status or self-selected themselves into this category because Emeritus members are not required to select journals. Levine indicated that we would be pushing hard to exceed the previous rates of retention. She also indicated that sections were very enthusiastic about early outreach and retention.

8. Task Force on the ASA Statement on Race

On behalf of the Task Force on the ASA Statement on Race, Troy Duster, Chair, joined Council to present a draft Statement on Race. Levine indicated that the Task Force had its initial meeting last August and the discussion continued throughout the fall through e-mail and a face-to-face meeting was held in early winter. She indicated that, since the Annual Meeting receives high visibility, were Council to be ready to release a statement, it would make sense to do so at the Annual Meeting. She indicated that, de-

pending on Council discussion and the development of the statement by the task force thereafter, perhaps the statement could be approved by Council in advance of the Annual Meeting. Reskin indicated that Duster will be a plenary speaker at the Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Duster provided an overview of the ASA's work on a statement on race. He provided some general history on the preparation of such statements. Duster indicated that the Task Force first met at the Annual Meeting in August 2001, and members had an extensive discussion of the topic and contributed their own views. He reported that, based on that input, he distilled the ideas and thinking and prepared a draft. At the December 2001 Task Force meeting, the first draft was considered. The Task Force seeks Council input as it works on revisions and a final draft between January and July.

Past Vice President Alba strongly supported the idea of an ASA statement on race and thought it was timely for ASA to do so. He suggested additional elements for possible inclusion in such a statement such as the comparison to other countries and the U.S. history of oppression by race. He thought it was important for such a statement to convey the importance of sociological research on race and the value of data on race in our society, whether on health disparities, housing, and so forth.

Duster indicated that the history of oppression is very much part of the statement of the American Anthropological Association, but it is not yet highlighted in the current draft ASA statement. Council member Pamela Walters noted that eliminating race as a reporting category can make it difficult for parties involved to be accountable, as is clear from the history of education in the south. Duster encouraged Council members to send in other examples that can be incorporated into the statement.

Council member Craig Calhoun suggested a strong and short summary statement up front that will make the point just in case the reader does not read the whole statement. He emphasized the importance of conveying how race has been used to organize social life and its embeddedness in U.S. society as well as other societies. He thought it was important to convey the contest over categories of race and these categories are subject to change and reconstruction. Duster stressed the importance of the embeddedness of race in institutions, and Calhoun suggested that it be moved to the front of the statement, as it is very important.

Vice President Eli Anderson suggested the social construction of race should be emphasized—how race is constructed should be explained to the public. Council member Barbara Risman suggested the importance of emphasizing the need to measure race in order to understand and reduce discrimination. She thought that, while the statement needs to be succinct, there needs to be more documentation of detailed resources perhaps on a website where journalists can access beyond what the statement provides. Past President Doug Massey stressed the importance of producing a scientific statement that makes clear the importance of sustained research over time

as the meaning of race changes in society and as population composition is changing. Social science needs to be sensitive to those changes. Council member DiMaggio indicated that he favored the statement and wondered how the statement can be structured to have maximum impact. Duster indicated that the Task Force did discuss the possibility of compiling a longer document as a companion piece. Vice President-Elect Ivan Szelenyi thought that the document might address different positions in the discipline about race. Since this is a statement of the Association, he suggested that ASA might need to document the difference in views shared by sociologists. He also suggested the decoupling of political issues from scholarly issues.

Council member Diane Brown, who serves as liaison to the task force, indicated that it would be helpful to obtain input from Council as to audiences for dissemination. Council commented on the benefit of a short statement that conveys the essence of the document for the media so that the key points cannot be missed. Duster summarized his understanding that Council's view of the audience is the public and is not limited to sociologists.

Motion: Council endorses the theme and principles of the draft report of the ASA Task Force on an ASA Statement on Race and looks forward, if possible, to final review and approval of the statement prior to the ASA Annual Meeting to permit its release and dissemination in August. Carried unanimously.

Calhoun proposed a further resolution.

Motion: Council affirms that the primary purpose of the ASA Statement on Race is to inform the broader public and policymakers of the central importance of race as a social reality. Carried unanimously.

Council discussed the option of drafting an additional resolution on the use of data on race. Council discussed whether a separate Council subcommittee be appointed to work on the resolution. Bielby indicated that, if the California initiative made the ballot, then the need for ASA to have a resolution would be more imminent. Council member Brown would convey to the Task Force that the Council is concerned about the California initiative. If the initiative makes the ballot, then a subcommittee of Council can work on drafting a resolution.

9. Annual Meeting Planning

Training and Professional Development at the Annual Meeting

Levine reported that the educational component of the Annual Meeting that has been developing in recent years on teaching, careers, professional skills building, and didactic seminars and that has evolved into an important part of the Annual Meeting Program. She noted that President Reskin's aspiration to enhance and feature professional development activities provided just the right support and leadership to further encourage ASA to bring professional development and continuing education to the fore-

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front and make it more visible. A special flyer on the educational component of the Annual Meeting will be widely distributed to encourage members and non-members to attend. Levine indicated that she and Deputy Executive Officer Carla Howery have been working on this component over the years and welcomed the opportunity to do so with sharpened focus and intentionality. Howery indicated that the courses, seminars, and workshops are one important way to attract and engage attendees to come to the Annual Meeting whether or not they wish to participate in the formal program. Levine noted that two courses are planned—one on human research protections in the social sciences and one on teaching profiling across institutions. Howery added that the availability of certificates of attendance might enable attendees to receive travel support from their institutions, even if they are not on the program, and also receive credit for this additional training.

Levine added that ASA will better highlight the call for workshop proposals for future Annual Meetings so that members are more actively engaged in proposing courses, seminars, or workshops that they would like to teach. Overall, and especially with the Annual Meeting being four, not five days, there may be fewer workshops. The goal of the Executive Office and the Program Committee is to have high quality offerings that members seek to propose and take.

2005 Contract

President-elect Bielby encouraged Council members to review the 2005 Annual Meeting contract and indicated that it provided useful information about what is involved in meeting planning. ASA Meeting Services Director Janet Astner noted that ASA's ability to contain costs requires fulfilling the contractual requirements with the hotel, including the ability to fill room blocks so as not to trigger any attrition penalty clauses.

Bielby asked about the contract provision, which touched on terrorism. Astner indicated that insurance companies, meetings planners, and hotels all have different views on this provision. She did indicate that the economic fallout might affect attendance because attendees might find it more difficult to get funding for travel. Council asked whether ASA reaches its food and beverage obligations, given that sections which might have obtained lower level of budget allocations might decide not to have receptions or to have more modest ones. Astner indicated that the threshold is set pretty low.

Future Meeting Dates and Sites

Executive Officer Levine opened the discussion of the date for the Annual Meeting, reviewing Council's discussion of possible alteration of meeting dates in August 2001. She provided a brief overview of the data the Executive Officer had provided on academic-year calendars, on costs associated with different times of year, and on the experiences of other learned societies with changing dates. Levine indicated that, given the high percentage of ASA members in the academy, an analysis of semester start and end points seemed instructive even if it did not account for

those working in other settings.

Bielby noted that, based on looking at the graphs summarizing the start dates of fall semester by highest degree offered, we would probably need to stay in August but have the meeting before August 16, or consider the alternative window in June.

Council discussed the possibility of times outside of the summer months, such as, November, January, and June. Council members observed that many fall academic terms started earlier in August and therefore a different period might be of benefit for attendees and thus ASA. Council members further cautioned that ASA would need to look at the potential conflicts with meeting dates of aligned associations and our members, and that early January dates might conflict with the start of the semester/quarter. Levine encouraged Council to consider the June option as it is typically after the end of the school year—allowing time for paper preparation and for scheduling research and other activities during the height of the summer. Levine indicated that she was also looking at what might provide ASA the potential for growth, such as collaboration with other social science associations. Reskin indicated that perhaps it is time to consult membership for their input systematically.

Council member Bielby reiterated that he thought there was little to be gained from a change in terms of meeting member needs and that shifting a bit earlier in August might help with at least some schools that start in August. He proposed a motion that was duly seconded.

Motion: To hold the meeting in August but before August 18. Carried (yes, 11; no, 4).

Astner asked for Council guidance for 2006, as the two possible Midwest sites are unable to meet our dates in August. Council member Brown suggested Toronto.

Badge Enforcement

Levine briefed Council on the history of attendees not registering for the Annual Meetings and the 1994 Council's discussion about the situation. Council, at the time, decided to impose some degree of observation of badges at the Exhibit Hall and experimented in 1994 with more "badge enforcement." A number of members did not like the practice. The practice was only used for one year before it was terminated. Astner had raised the topic again since recent events have heightened security concerns. She indicated that badge checking is an association's best faith effort to assure attendees that their security is being considered. Secondly, it is a way to ensure registration of attendees.

Council expressed concerns about effective enforcement and the ill will that the practice might generate. Council discussed the two issues involved: one is whether we are losing revenue due to attendees not registering, and two is whether there is truly security risk. Bielby indicated that, with easy Internet access and searches, it is easy for attendees to identify lower-cost housing alternatives. He encouraged ASA to convey the importance of attendees staying in the convention hotel to meet the room block.

Council discussed a range of issues about An-

nual Meeting registration, including the possibility of monitoring persons involved in the meetings (section officers and committee members, and presenters), urging them to register. Council suggested a *Footnotes* article to encourage members to register and the importance of filling room blocks. The article could address "Where do your registration fees go?"

10. Update on Journal Publications

2001 Journal Subscriptions

Levine reported on the 2001 institutional subscriptions, which had experienced a greater attrition in 2001 as compared to 2000. She reported that, while the drop in ASA subscriptions was troublesome, it was more modest than that experienced by other learned societies. She indicated that information from the University of California Press showed some academic publishers experiencing a 10 to 20 percent drop in subscriptions. She indicated that EOB discussed how universities were cutting back on numbers of copies of specific journals. The global economy also affected international subscriptions. She briefed Council on the contract that is in place with University Microfilm and the problem ASA has encountered with Northern Light—now, Bell and Howell—to offer ASA journal articles online without permission. ASA is working to end this practice.

Levine reported that member subscriptions also experienced a decrease due to the overall drop in membership. She noted that it is important for publishers to review the publication mix frequently, to consider the possibility of introducing new publications, and to keep publishing a vital part of a learned society.

Some members of Council expressed concerns about whether the introduction of *Contexts* is drawing subscribers from other ASA journals, as well as the fact that economic downturn has been putting pressure on institutional subscriptions. These forces seemed to be independent of the intellectual interest in a journal. Several members wondered if there might be a correlation between the drop in membership and the drop in member journal subscription, but noted that the sharp drop in *ASR* and *CS* is beyond the drop in membership. Council discussed how the Internet is transforming the landscape for publication as it involves strategic decision and planning, including members dropping their subscriptions because they have Internet access to current journals.

Council discussed the possibility of pricing association-wide journals at a lower price to encourage members to subscribe. It also discussed the reasons why *ASR* and *CS* were priced higher than unit costs while other bi-monthlies are priced more at cost. Levine indicated that, in decoupling dues and journal subscription, the intent was not to change existing subscription rates for members, except for students, but to have better financial data on each journal and over time only increasing member subscription rates where necessary.

Council member Calhoun asked how we could price the royalty rates for electronic distribution. He also suggested that ways to price journals should be based on costs and that we should let

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the market forces work. For example, the declines are higher for *ASR* and *CS*, and we need to look at breakpoints and the reasons for them. Between 1994 and 1995, *ASR* experienced an abrupt drop and then the breakpoint for *CS* came later. From 1997 to 2001, the drop in member journal subscription was indeed tied to the drop in membership. Alba noted that, with the growth of sections, there is less coherence for the entire discipline. Levine added the possibility of a generational difference in journal preferences and stressed the importance of inventive ways of thinking about publications. Calhoun noted that the Internet has changed the pattern of use as well as the ease of access.

Contexts

Levine indicated that we have received the first proofs on *Contexts* and the Executive Office in already embarking on media dissemination timed to the official publication date. Press releases are being prepared announcing the inaugural issue and for each of the featured articles. She indicated that the journal begins with a section called "Discovery" which presents different recent findings. The website will provide a good platform to feature information about the journal as well as additional resources otherwise not published in the magazine. There are links between *Contexts*' own website, the ASA homepage, and the University of California Press. There will be wide dissemination of *Contexts* at regional sociological association meetings and annual meetings of other national associations from related social and behavioral science fields. Also, mailing lists will be rented for wide outreach and all current and renewing ASA members will receive a complementary issue of the first issue.

City and Community

Levine reported that Blackwell Publishing was pleased that it could add *City and Community* to its publication roster of ASA journals, all of which are highly regarded. She reported that the Tony Orum, editor of *City and Community*, has been energetic about the journal launch. She indicated that having a journal of excellence sponsored by a section would add to ASA's publishing programs and serve as standard for other sections considering such a challenge.

Council asked whether there is a systematic process in place at the Executive Office to feature special journal articles and send out media releases. Levine indicated that we have been working with editors and editorial offices to get advance sheets and to prepare press releases. ASA features selected full-text articles on the homepage as well as distributes press releases via EurekaAlert.

Sociological Theory

Blackwell Publishing has been urging ASA to move *Sociological Theory* to a quarterly. The Committee on Publications has discussed and supported the proposition and authorized Levine to renegotiate the contract with Blackwell.

Structure of the Committee on Publications

Secretary Kalleberg summarized the historical background about the By-laws change where editors were no longer members of the Committee on Publications (COP). A revised arrangement to have three editors to attend meetings of COP was

put in place by the Publications Committee, but there were problems of communication between these editors and those not in attendance. COP, at its most recent meeting, discussed the possibility of all editors attending the COP meeting but the Committee would meet in executive sessions when necessary. Levine indicated that both editors and COP recognize the need for the separation of role at times and the proposed arrangement seemed to please both groups.

11. Executive Session

Council met in Executive Session to discuss the selection of an Editor for *Sociology of Education* as well as the Executive Officer search.

Council adjourned at 6:45 p.m. with an event honoring Levine and toasting with good wishes for her forthcoming career change.

Sunday, January 27, 2002

Council began its meeting with an Executive Session at 8:30 a.m.

12. Report on the Committee on Sections

Council member Lynn Smith-Lovin reported on the Committee on Sections (COS) conference call. The Committee reviewed the 2001 annual reports submitted by sections. It also reviewed modifications to the Section Manual. She highlighted the changes that are being considered. She explained the change on clarifying that sections cannot use their operating budgets for gift student memberships, although section officers and members may continue to gift membership with their own funds. She noted the need to specify that all section balloting must be handled by mail ballot (and not by e-mail or via newsletters) and the process by which by-laws change proposals should be handled.

She reported that COS approved a number of proposed By-Laws changes that have been submitted and reviewed. She indicated that the name change request submitted by the Sociology and Computers Section was tabled. Tom Gieryn, Chair of COS, will consult with existing sections with interests in "technology" regarding the proposed new name: "Section on Communication and Information Technologies." The Section on Crime, Law, and Deviance proposed a change in their By-Laws to create a formal position of Past-Chair; this proposed change was approved by COS. Finally, the Section on Political Economy and the World System proposed By-Law changes about their governance structure and those were approved.

Motion: To approve the By-Law Changes as recommended by the Committee on Sections. Carried unanimously.

Motion: To approve the proposed change to the Section Manual: Item 1, 2, 4, and 5 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Council discussed the topic of using operating funds to gift student membership. COS determined that sections should not "purchase" membership with section funds at the end of a membership year with the goal of reaching a membership count target. Council discussed sections' preference to continue such gifting and concurred with

COS's recommendation.

Motion: To restrict sections from using operating funds to purchase gift memberships for their own section. Carried unanimously.

Council discussed the proposed change in Annual Meeting session allocation in order to better align with section membership requirements. Council agreed that such a change could further encourage sections to achieve and maintain the 300-member requirement. Under the proposed structure, sections with less than 300 members will receive one session while sections with 300 to 399 members will receive two sessions. The rest of the allocation scheme for sections with 400 or more members will remain unchanged.

Motion: To approved the proposed change in Annual Meeting schedule as recommended by the Committee on Sections. Carried unanimously.

Motion: to delegate to the President, Secretary, and Executive Officer to review further recommendations forwarded by COS this spring regarding additional section By-Law change proposals. Carried unanimously.

13. Report on the Committee on Awards

The Council Subcommittee (Calhoun, Nee, with input from Nancy Denton who was unable to attend the Council Meeting) met on January 27 to review and revise the proposed slate of nominees to the award selection committees proposed by the Committee on Awards. Calhoun reported that the subcommittee did pay attention to the importance of inclusiveness. He asked Council whether the principle of inclusiveness should be applied equally to all selection committees. He also stated that the subcommittee determined to use skip rules, to avoid having nominees from the same institution.

Levine encouraged the Committee on Awards to clarify the procedures, as they would be useful for the Committee on Committees which is being reconstituted. She indicated that the new membership database has afforded better information about eligible members. She also noted that awards nominating committees often have conflicting view about criteria by which nominees should be nominated.

Motion: To approve the lists of nominees for the Committee on Awards as presented by the Council Subcommittee. Carried unanimously.

14. Work of ASA Task Forces

Levine briefed Council on the progress of various task forces. She indicated that the two task forces that presented their reports in August (Task Force on ASA-AAAS Relations and the Task Force on Current Knowledge on Hate/Bias Acts on Campus) have completed their work. She indicated that, while President Reskin had hoped to form subgroups of Council to review these reports and make specific recommendations to Council, in the absence of these subgroups, President Reskin had asked her to review the reports and make suggestions for Council's consideration.

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Task Force on the Advanced Placement Course

Council member DiMaggio briefed Council on the charge of the Task Force and its goal of including sociology in the Advance Placement (AP) course offerings and eventually the offering of an AP exam for sociology. He indicated that two sub-groups have been formed, and the plan is for a final report to be presented to Council in August 2003. Howery reported that the American Psychological Association has convened a group meeting of social science associations to investigate the inclusion of social sciences in gifted and talented programs. Another collaborative effort aims to include social science in science fairs and science competitions.

Reskin asked whether we can have persons work on possibilities for science fairs and competitions and the development of workshops for high school teachers who teach sociology. Council member Nee noted how important the work of the taskforce is and the importance for the knowledge in sociology be introduced early in the high school curriculum.

Taskforce on Current Knowledge on Hate/Bias Acts on College and University Campuses

Levine reported that universities, colleges, and the U.S. Department on Education are all paying closer attention to the topic of hate crimes. Council expressed appreciation for the work of the Task Force, the report, and indicated that many findings were eye-opening. While Council responded very favorably to the report, Council members thought some final polishing would be useful before wide dissemination. In particular, Council members thought it would help (1) to have additional documentation that criminal harassment is the "tip of the iceberg"; (2) reference to any additional data beyond the federal statistics; and (3) information on breakdowns of kinds of hate/ crimes. Council members emphasized that it would strengthen the report to have better clarification on underreporting of hate crimes and on the impact, to the extent known, of increased minorities on campuses and the occurrence of hate crimes. Also, they thought it would be useful to have better clarification about hate crimes and hate bias and whether it implies that a legal crime act took place.

With such clarifications and revisions, Council considered the report to be a very helpful report and analysis. Council also emphasized the need to rewrite the Executive Summary. Levine asked Council to endorse the dissemination steps were the revisions based on Council's recommendations be satisfactory.

Motion: That the Task Force receive the thanks of the Council for a job well done and that, subject to the review and approval of a revised Report on Current Knowledge on Hate/Bias Acts on College and University Campuses by a sub-committee of Council (DiMaggio, Matsueda, Reskin, and Levine), the report be officially accepted by Council and disseminated as set forth in the memorandum. Carried unanimously.

Task Force on ASA-AAAS Relations

Levine reported that the Task Force was a dynamic group, which started its work in the first

cohort of task forces. She indicated that, in her memorandum, she sought to synthesize recommendations to a list of timely and important approaches to enhancing the presence of sociology in AAAS. The priorities included recommendations about increasing sociological representation in AAAS as an organization and in the AAAS Annual Meeting. The Task Force recommended the following issues for Council's consideration: to seek ASA representation on sections L, N, T, and S and, to the extent possible, stagger their terms; to emphasize to potential ASA representatives both the commitment to attend the AAAS Annual Meeting and to propose the development of proposals for the Annual Meeting Program; to change the representation on Council of Associations with International Programs (CAIP) from a volunteer member of ASA to either a volunteer or member of the ASA staff to be determined by the Executive Officer; to delegate to the Executive Officer (or her or his designee) responsibility for coordination among ASA representatives; to seek meetings with AAAS officers to enhance the presence of social science in *Science* and in the AAAS Annual Meetings through more intentional efforts.

Council member Walters, who is an ASA representative to the AAAS Education Section, indicated that it might make sense to identify representatives who are already active in AAAS as it is challenging for any representative to make inroads into and plan panels at AAAS. Reskin asked whether Council might want to change the way that representatives are selected, including encouraging self-nominations. Walters asked whether a list of AAAS members who are also ASA members could be generated. Council discussed the possibility of appointing multiple representatives instead of having one representative to a section. Walters suggested that Council should identify the priority sections and then appoint more than one representative.

Motion: To thank the Task Force on ASA-AAAS Relations for its thoughtful work within AAAS and in preparing the report and to approve the recommendations as put forth by Levine. Carried unanimously.

Motion: To affirm that the representation to CAIP can either be an ASA staff member or an ASA member. Carried unanimously.

15. ASA Policy Guidelines

Election and Nomination Procedures

Levine briefed Council on the practice of applying "skip rule" in the nominations process. While the practice was being carried out, she indicated that, in 1997, Council discussed its use and voted to eliminate the "skip rule" of persons from the same department or institution in nominating or appointing persons for ASA offices or committees.

Bielby indicated that institutional diversity is important. Alba indicated that, for the Committee on Committees (COC) and the Committee on Nominations (CON), whose mandates are to develop slates, that "skip rule" should be used. He also questioned what the procedure should be when persons change affiliation during the nominations/appointment process. He recommended

that the skip rule be applied at the time when the slate is being constructed. There is also the question of whether Council member-at large should use "skip rule" to nominate persons for CON.

Motion: No list of candidates or potential appointees should include names from the same primary employing institutions as incumbents of the same position with whose terms they would overlap or as other candidates for the same position in the same election. Officers and at-large members of Council are considered different positions. President, President-elect, Past-President and Vice President, Vice President-elect, and Past Vice President are considered distinct positions. Where multiple nominees come from the same institution, they shall be asked serially, but only the first who accepts nomination shall be a candidate. No one shall be nominated for President who is from the same employing institution as the incumbent President or President-elect. No one shall be nominated for Vice President who is from the same employing institution as the incumbent Vice President or Vice President-elect. Carried unanimously.

Student Forum Travel Support

Levine provided a briefing on the Student Forum Advisory Board's (SFAB) responsibility in selecting recipients for the Student Forum Travel Award. Since Board members are precluded from applying for those awards, they have asked ASA to provide some financial support for them from a separate fund, as they are expected to attend the full duration of the meeting and serve as SFAB members.

Secretary Kalleberg noted that it seemed reasonable to provide support for the SFAB members given the work of the Forum and the portion of membership that student members represent. He suggested that the funds requested be added to the pool of travel funds but that the process of application selection be removed from SFAB.

Motion: To table the request to provide travel support until August until Council can have a fuller discussion of the Student Forum in general. Defeated (yes, 5; no, 3; abstained, 2).

Council discussed the proposed option presented by Levine whereby a one-time budget allocation up to \$2,700 be approved. Each SFAB member would submit a reimbursement request accompanied by proof of expenditures. ASA would reimburse each member one-half of the total allowable expenses incurred in accordance with ASA guidelines relating to Annual Meeting travel, lodging, and meals up to a maximum of \$300 per member.

Motion: To approve a one-time allocation of \$2700. Carried (yes, 8; no, 2).

Council asked to put the discussion of the Student Forum and the role of the SFAB in the selection process for the student travel award on the August agenda, and to ask the chair of SFAB to join Council for the discussion.

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16. Policy Issues for ASA's Consideration

Proposed Resolution on New Limitations on Data Access

Levine briefed Council on the proposed resolution submitted by the Section on Environment and Technology urging the Association to: (1) Express concern in the strongest possible terms to a number of government officials and members of Congress, including sponsors of a bill on infrastructure security; (2) Call for the creation of a Federal committee to oversee government agencies in maximizing public access; and, (3) Consider other actions, including legal action, to gain access to environmental and health information.

Council commended the Section for bringing to the attention of the Executive Office and Council this important issue regarding deaccessing of previously public data without procedures to assess the need for such restrictions and without weighing the value of these data for important work being undertaken by researchers, by policy analysts at all levels, and by communities. Levine indicated that specific approaches might best evolve from coordinated communication with COPAFS and other scientific societies. Levine offered Council modified language for a resolution that captured the intent of the section but was framed in language better suited for ASA to use as representing the Association.

Motion: To approve the revised resolution as presented by Executive Officer Levine. Carried unanimously.

Patriots' Act and NCES Data Confidentiality Protection

Levine provided background information on how the challenge surrounding the Patriots' Act and the NCES data confidentiality protection surfaced in the fall of 2001. President Bush signed into law comprehensive anti-terrorism legislation called the USA Patriot Act in October 2001. The legislation included a provision that would allow disclosure of information from NCES surveys for the purpose of investigating and prosecuting acts of domestic or international terrorism. She indicated that COPAFS discussed the topic at its meeting in December. She recommended that the best course of action at the moment is for ASA to monitor the development closely. If ASA should observe that instances occur where the Justice Department seeks Court orders, ASA could reevaluate the situation in a timely way and consider what action to pursue.

17. Review and Approval of Minutes

Council members reviewed the minutes from the August 2001 meeting.

Motion: To approve the minutes from August 2001. Carried unanimously.

18. Review of 2001 Budget and Financial Analysis

Secretary Kalleberg indicated that he had worked very closely with Levine and Stevenson to scrutinize the budget. He commended the Executive Office for the careful management of expenditure. While the overall revenues were lower

than budget, the expenses were also less than budgeted. While EOB and Council approved a deficit budget of \$59,552 for 2001, Kalleberg indicated that a projected deficit of \$22,641 could be anticipated. The deficit could be attributed to below budget revenue projection of \$4,057,622, or a shortfall of \$188,919, due to lower revenue projections for membership dues, journal subscription, *Employment Bulletin* listing fees, Annual Meeting Registration, and, in particular, to Loss on investments. Conservative spending in almost all functions of the Executive Office contributed to projected decrease in expenditures to \$4,080,263, or \$225,830 lower than budget.

19. Proposed 2002 Budget

Secretary Kalleberg indicated that a balanced budget was proposed, before the additional expenditure on the travel support for the Student Forum Advisory Board (\$2,700) was amended. He indicated that that he is confident that the additional expense can be absorbed. He reported that the budget was carefully and conservatively crafted. For membership dues revenue, a projection of 12,500 members is used though it is uncertain how the decoupling of dues and journal subscriptions will affect membership. Higher revenues are projected from the Annual Meeting as we anticipate that the number of registrants will be higher in 2002. He highlighted areas of significant increase in expenses: professional and legal fees, computer consultant fees, storage rental, costs of task force meetings, and the extra costs of the election.

He indicated that a slight deficit budget was originally proposed for EOB's review. EOB recommended that the Executive Office tighten the budget to create a balanced budget. Council did express concern about the projection for membership of 12,500 given the slight annual decrease experienced in the past three years.

Motion: To approve the 2002 budget with revisions to accommodate the \$2,700 in travel support for the Student Forum Advisory Board. Carried unanimously.

20. Centennial Planning

President Reskin indicated that she will be appointing three Council members to a planning committee for the centennial and two additional members be appointed from the 2002-03 Council when the election results become available.

Council discussed topics and approaches for planning the Centennial celebration. Suggestions included an examination of the roots of sociology and the creation of some continuity for the discipline, the pioneer research done by DuBois, and the work of African-American researchers in the 1930s and 1940s; the compilation of a collection of key findings by sociologists during the 100 year of sociology in America and founding dates of sociology departments (historical founding of departments); the possibility of featuring this collection of findings in a special centennial issue of *Contexts*, if appropriate; the value of featuring the richness of information in archival issues of *Footnotes*. Council agreed that, if any history is to be done, it should be commissioned

soon.

Kalleberg suggested the involvement of retired sociologists who have a wealth of information in the project so that they can be actively incorporated into the Association again. Levine suggested the possibility of a conference call of persons who are knowledgeable to brainstorm strategies. Levine indicated that a number of other societies have commissioned works related to centennial celebrations.

Council discussed possible sources of funding for the Centennial, including foundation money. Levine noted that the ASA Fund would be a possibility since the Fund was established to fund unusual opportunities. Council member Calhoun suggested that perhaps a group should be formed to further investigate options. He also suggested the involvement of the History of Sociology Section.

Reskin appointed two Council subcommittees to work on the Centennial. Centennial Subcommittee I: ASA Intellectual History. This Subcommittee will consider how to compile, record, publish, and disseminate ASA's intellectual history. Members include: Craig Calhoun (chair), Paul DiMaggio, and Ivan Szelenyi. Centennial Subcommittee II: Outreach, Publications, and Public Events. This Subcommittee will think broadly about outreach, public events, and publications to commemorate the Centennial. Members: Pamela Barnhouse Walters (chair), Robert Crutchfield, and Victor Nee.

21. Program Reports

Academic and Professional Affairs Program

Howery reported on the concluding activities planned for the Minority Opportunities through School Transformation (MOST) Program under the leadership of Levine, Havidan Rodriguez, Alfonso Latoni, and her. She indicated that a Capstone Conference is planned for early June. The Capstone Conference will feature transportable lessons learned from the eight-year MOST Program. Leaders in higher education, in other disciplines, and in diversity projects will be invited to attend. She indicated that Levine et al. are working on preparing a final report, which will be distributed in draft form at the Capstone Conference and in final form at the 2002 Annual Meeting.

She reported that 18 departments have applied for the Integrating Data Analysis (IDA) project; six departments will be selected to participate in workshops at the University of Michigan this summer. The goal of the IDA project, funded by the National Science Foundation, is to infuse research training throughout the undergraduate curriculum. In addition to MOST and IDA, Howery indicated that much of her work has centered on the Task Force on the AP Course in Sociology, the Task Force on the Major, and the Task Force on the Articulation of Two and Four Year Programs in Sociology. Each has been an active task force.

Minority Affairs Program

Latoni reported on the outreach for the Minor-

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ity Fellowship Program competition for the 2002-03 cycle through e-mails, phone calls, and mailings. The Executive Office has received 62 applications thus far. He also emphasized the continued mentoring of the 31 current fellows. In the spring, MFP will participate in the NIMH COR Colloquium, a project to encourage more minority students to study mental health. The MAP program will sponsor the MFP Proposal Development Workshop and its summer research initiative, which places Fellows with researchers. He noted that MFP fellows will be presenting papers at regional meetings (including one session devoted to the MFP at the Pacific Sociological Association). In addition, fellows will actively participate in an interdisciplinary training workshop on research on mental health (co-sponsored by ASA and the American Psychological Association). MOST roundtables at the Annual Meeting will continue despite the conclusion of MOST at the end of the year.

Motion: To establish MOST roundtables at the Annual Meeting for undergraduate student participation. Carried unanimously.

Research Program on the Discipline and the Profession

Roberta Spalter-Roth indicated that the department survey will go in the field immediately after the Council meeting. With the department as the unit of analysis, this survey will provide useful information about curriculum, salaries, faculty positions, numbers of students and so forth. The PhD tracking survey continues to follow a cohort of 634 PhDs. The survey has enabled the production of several research briefs and presentations. She also noted that ASA has made basic data about the discipline available on the ASA website. The Program also used the membership database as research database and generated reports for publication in *Footnotes*.

Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy

Howery summarized the activities of the Program in 2001, which have been sharply curtailed by the events of September 11. Two briefings are being planned over the next six to nine months: One will focus on School to Work transitions and will build on the new book (in the Rose Series) by James Rosenbaum. The second briefing will look at Racial Profiling and will draw on the work generated by the 2002 Annual Meeting theme. The 2002 Congressional Fellow is Joyce Iutovich, who will begin her fellowship in the office of Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) in January. The competitions for the next Congressional Fellowship and the Community Action Research Initiative are due in February.

Public Information and Public Affairs Program

Levine summarized key activities that ASA and interrelated groups have been pursuing to improve the operations of human research protection systems generally and the operations of institutional review boards (IRBs) specifically. In addition, ASA has been involved in the preparation and distribution of resource materials relating to September 11, promoting ASA publications (e.g., *Contexts*) and activities, and fielding general in-

quiries from the media.

President Reskin thanked the staff for their work and commended on the programmatic activities of the Executive Office.

22. New Business

Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD)

Spalter-Roth reported on the session featuring FAD at the 2002 Annual Meeting. The session, which was well attended, aimed to acquaint sociologists with the FAD funding opportunity and provide guidance on writing a successful proposal. She indicated that Council member Burawoy has agreed to be a panelist for a similar session in Chicago for the 2003 Annual Meeting. She reported that the current award cycle attracted a large pool of applications and nine awards were made.

Development Campaign

Council discussed the Development Campaign and several members recommended that ASA seek help from professional development experts to help craft strategies.

Topics for Future Discussion

Council members raised a number of topics for discussion at future meetings of Council, including: Journal rates and costs, moving supplemental publications such as the *Style Guide* online; the ASA website and how it can be used effectively by the public; job market ethics and the possibility of disciplinary guidelines; and how best to publicize availability of ASA data consonant with ethical practices.

The Council meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.