

**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
American Sociological Association Council  
Wednesday, August 20, 2003**

**Members Participating:** Michael Burawoy (President), Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Esther Ngan-ling Chow, Robert Crutchfield, Jennifer Glass, Arne Kalleberg, Deborah King, Rhonda Levine, Nan Lin, Victor Nee, Caroline Hodges Persell, Bernice Pescosolido, Ivan Szelenyi, Diane Vaughan, Pamela Barnhouse Walters, Franklin Wilson.

**Members Unable to Participate:** William T. Bielby, Linda Burton, Min Zhou.

**Staff Participating:** Janet Astner, Kevin Brown, Lee Herring, Sally Hillsman (Executive Officer), Carla Howery, Michael Murphy, Mercedes Rubio, Roberta Spalter-Roth.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am in the Newton Room of the Hilton Atlanta hotel. President Michael Burawoy welcomed Council members to the initial meeting of the 2003-2004 Council. Newly elected members of Council were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

**A. Approval of the Agenda**

With no additions or amendments, the agenda for the meeting was accepted as presented.

**2. Issues Carried Forward From Previous Meeting**

The first order of business was for Council to return to the items left unfinished from the 2002-2003 Council meeting the previous day.

**A. Investment Account**

Secretary Kalleberg summarized the purpose of each restricted fund and the targets for yield on investments. Fiduciary Trust International currently serves as the financial investment firm that advises the EOB about investment strategies. He reviewed the performance of each fund relative to its target allocation. The Rose Fund, for example, was previously invested 50-50 in stocks and bonds, but was adjusted to be a bit more aggressive to cover the cost of underwriting *Contexts*. It was suggested that perhaps the association should simply follow the S&P 500 for investments rather than utilize the services of an active manager. It was reported that the fees charged by Fiduciary were very low (<1%) and that their services are quite useful.

When asked if ASA is a "socially responsible investor", Hillsman reported that at the moment there were no restrictions on investments in place but that there had been in the past. Some types of corporate activities are difficult to avoid due to ongoing corporate consolidations and development of subsidiary corporations. She added that it

should be possible to indicate some things our investment manager should avoid. EOB will look into this question and explore options.

**B. Long-Term Building Investment Fund**

When the former building on N Street was sold in the late 1998, the original intent was to use the proceeds of that sale to pay for ASA housing costs. The market value of the Fiduciary Trust Building Account as of May 31, 2003 was \$1,236,000, an appreciation of \$18,000, or 1.48%, since its original investment.

Council has never designated this fund as restricted. During the July meeting, members of the EOB voted unanimously to recommend that Council designate the building fund as restricted, and that allowable uses of the fund and its earnings be limited to rental payments for Executive Office space or a new building purchase for the Executive Office.

Current office rental costs are paid out of the operating budget and do not draw upon this investment account. One member of Council was concerned about binding the hands of future Councils, but Hillsman and Kalleberg clarified that this is not a legal restriction and could be reversed by a future Council. There were no objections to this recommendation.

**Council voted unanimously to designate the Building Investment Account as restricted with the restriction limiting the use of funds to Executive Office rental payments or the purchase of a new building to house the Executive Office.**

**C. Proposed Name Change for Minority Fellowship Program (MFP)**

Earlier this year, the ASA received a letter from Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) asking that the ASA Council change the name of the Minority Fellowship Program to the Minority Scholars Program, and that recipients of these awards be called "Scholars" rather than "Fellows." As a long-term contributor to this fellowship program, SWS felt that gender-neutral language should be used for the name of the program.

Deborah King noted that SWS is to be congratulated for their consistent and ongoing contributions to the MFP program, and indicated that she took their concern very seriously. However, she noted that within the academic community, the terms "scholarship" and "fellowship" have established meanings: while scholarship applies to all levels of study, fellowship has more standing within the community. Students of color, who are already marginalized within the academy, could see this as a diminution of their achievement. She closed by noting that the issue is broader than the MFP program and must be dealt with uniformly within the academy rather than by downgrading the identity and position of MFP participants.

Other members of Council voiced strong agreement with King and urged defeat of this proposed change.

**Council defeated a proposal to change the name of the Minority “Fellowship” Program to the Minority “Scholars” Program. (16 opposed, 1 abstention)**

Council asked the President to write to the SWS providing the Council vote and outlining the discussion leading up to the decision on the MFP name change, and thanking SWS for its continued support and interest in this program.

**D. Bylaws Requirement for Advancing a Member Resolution**

Council reviewed the current guidelines and requirements for advancing a member resolution along with the guidelines of other learned societies. At issue was whether, in this age of e-mail, the number of petition signatures required should be raised. Following a brief discussion, Council agreed to not take any action to amend current Bylaws procedures for member proposed resolutions.

**E. California Proposition 54**

Council was briefed on a proposition to appear on the ballot in the upcoming California election that would prohibit the collection of data on the racial, ethnic, and national origin categories of Californians by public agencies. Ensuing discussion focused on two key questions: should the ASA take a position on this question, and if so, what would the statement say.

Members agreed that the recently published ASA Statement on Race provides empirical evidence on the research cost of not gathering data on race and already takes a position on this general issue, but were cautious about whether additional formal opposition to this proposition would be seen as inappropriate for a professional association. Others suggested that this issue in California was of such importance, and such strong sociological knowledge existed in this area, that the organization had to make a specific statement.

A motion was made and seconded that the Council authorize the release of a concise statement on the California ballot initiative, but taking a neutral position on how people should vote. Significant debate ensued focused on the key point that this proposition would do serious harm to science, and that many social scientists will not be able to do their work if such a huge data block is removed from regression analysis. Several members stressed the need to make a statement and to urge voters in California to vote this proposition down.

Following debate, the maker of the original motion accepted a friendly amendment to take the extra step of urging California voters to vote against this proposition. President Burawoy asked Council members Troy Duster, Victor Nee, and Eduardo Bonilla-Silva to meet during the lunch break to draft language for the formal ASA statement on this issue.

**Council voted unanimously to approve the following statement on California Proposition 54, and to urge California voters to vote accordingly.**

**“On October 7, 2003, California citizens will be asked to vote on Proposition 54, which would effectively end public agencies’ ability to collect data on the racial, ethnic, and national origin categorizations of its citizens. The American Sociological Association (ASA) joins the American Public Health Association in urging California voters to vote “no” on this Proposition.**

**“The measure “The Classification by Race, Ethnicity, Color and National Origin” (CRECNO), if approved, would eliminate the ability of California citizens to hold both their state and local governments as well as private entities accountable regarding prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, and national origin. Researchers would lack the data to inform policymakers on this critical issue. ASA urges California voters to allow their governmental entities to collect the necessary data to support evidentiary research on race, ethnicity, and national origin.”**

Council asked that appropriate language from the preamble of the Statement on Race be added to the above text, along with appropriate supporting data from the statement.

#### **F. NIH Peer Review Process**

Executive Officer Hillsman reported to Council on a matter of serious concern to scientific researchers of all fields. She reported that the peer-review process of one of our nation’s major scientific institutions has recently come under attack from congressional sources. The focus of the attack is social and behavioral science grants.

Recently, the House of Representatives narrowly defeated an attempt by two members of Congress to defund five National Institutes of Health (NIH) behavioral and social science grants. Four of the five grants address aspects of sexual behavior and function. This research addresses issues of fundamental importance to human health and well-being.

NIH has one of the finest scientific peer review systems in the world, ensuring only the best and most significant scientific research is funded. Members of Congress have neither the information nor the expertise to decide on the merits of funding specific research grants.

Despite considerable effort by many groups in the science community including ASA and COSSA to persuade the House of the importance of peer review and the research under question, the defunding amendment to the HHS appropriations bill failed by only *two* votes. Two hundred and ten members of Congress voted in favor of overriding the peer review recommendation and NIH decision to fund these grants. There is growing

concern that the attempt to defund these NIH grants will be made when the Senate considers the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill in September.

Hillsman reminded Council of an earlier assault on the scientific peer review. The 1991-92 ASA Council passed a motion to strongly oppose the “totally egregious and unprecedented action of then HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan in rescinding an approved grant, the American Teenage Study, which was awarded to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, following peer review and approval by the NICHD Advisory Council and the NICHD Director.” The motion characterized the Secretary’s action as “a serious threat to the integrity of the peer review process and the independence of scientific thought, and represents political intrusion into scientific research.” Congress’ current actions present the same profound threat and the attack is aimed at behavioral and social science research.

Hillsman recommended that Council adopt a motion opposing any attempts that seek to restrict NIH support for high quality, peer-reviewed research, including public-health related research on sexual function and sexual behavior. There was strong support for this recommendation.

**Council voted unanimously to oppose any attempts that seek to restrict NIH support for high quality, peer-reviewed research, including public-health related research on sexual function and sexual behavior, by approving the following statement: “The American Sociological Association strongly opposes any action by Congress that would restrict the ability of the National Institutes of Health to fund high quality, peer-reviewed research and affirms its support for the ability of NIH to support high quality, public health-related research on sexual function and sexual behavior. On Thursday, July 10, 2003, during consideration of the FY 2004 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill, Representative Pat Toomey (R-Pa) offered an amendment to prohibit the NIH from funding five specific research grants to Indiana University, Michigan State University, the New England Research Institutes, Inc., the University of California at San Francisco, and the University of Washington. While the amendment was narrowly defeated by a vote of 212 to 210, there is concern that a similar amendment will be offered when the Senate considers this appropriations bill in September. The ASA considers such actions to be a serious threat to the integrity of the peer review process and the independence of scientific thought, and represents political intrusion into scientific research. We direct the Executive Office to oppose such actions publicly and to take all appropriate steps to help ensure these studies are not de-funded.”**

## **2. Report of the President**

President Burawoy reported that plans for the 2004 Annual Meeting are proceeding terrifically. The Ford Foundation has agreed to provide funding to bring scholars to the meeting from all continents. The program will feature nearly 70 thematic sessions on public sociology in addition to the usual plenaries. There were a large number of good ideas put forth for sessions, but unfortunately space and time constraints do not permit all of them to occur.

Burawoy reported that he plans to attend as many different state sociological meetings as possible between now and next August to promote the theme of public sociology. He noted that his calendar is already well booked for the fall for what promises to be an exciting road trip.

## **3. Report of the President-Elect**

President-Elect Troy Duster reported that the theme he had selected for the 2005 Annual Meeting dovetails with the association being self-reflective about its history, but at the same time not solely focused on history. The current working title is “Comparative Perspectives, Competing Explanations: Accounting for the Rising and Declining Significance of Sociology.” A preliminary statement of the theme was distributed for the information of Council members with a request for comments back following the meeting.

### **A. Proposed Appointments to the 2005 Program Committee**

Duster asked Council to approve appointment of six new members to the 2005 Program Committee. Per ASA Bylaws, two members of the 2004 Program Committee, Patricia Hill Collins and Barbara Risman, will continue their terms and serve on the 2005 Program Committee. He noted that he had tried to construct a slate that included representatives from other than the major schools, noting the presence of one person on the staff of the American Foundation for AIDS Research and one person from a 2-year college. There was no objection to the slate of proposed members for the committee.

**Council voted unanimously to approve appointment of the following members to the 2005 Program Committee: Pat Hill Collins, Barbara Risman, Jill Quadagno, Ron Lembo, Joan Fujimura, David Wellman, Stephen Steele, Judy Auerbach.**

## **4. Report of the Secretary**

Secretary Arne Kalleberg reported to Council on three important matters.

### **A. Examination of Membership Dues Categories and Revenues**

In follow-up to an earlier request from the EOB, ASA staff undertook an analysis of the composition of the ASA membership with special attention to retention and renewal

rates, especially among the middle-age cohort. Director of Research, Roberta Spalter-Roth, presented the findings of this analysis.

This study was an important effort to build the base for future data collection. Previously, the membership database has been used for primarily administrative purposes. This study is the first step in building better research data for future analysis. With additional data in the future, such analysis will become increasingly reliable for strategic planning within the Association.

This extensive task revealed that while the ASA population is aging, this fact is not necessarily expected to produce downward pressure on revenues. Council agreed with the recommendation of EOB that, at the present time, there is no reason for raising dues rates other than by a cost of living (COLA) adjustment.

**B. COLA Adjustment for 2004 Dues**

Kalleberg reported that EOB was recommending a cost of living adjustment in membership dues for 2004 equal to 2.3%. This adjustment is a modest increase (e.g., \$4 for members in category F) due to the current low rate of inflation. Nan Lin suggested that it was not reasonable to increase student member dues by \$1, noting that the increase did not make a significant difference to the bottom line. Executive Officer Hillsman responded that student dues rates have not changed for several years, and that with one-third of the membership holding student membership status, this was an increasingly important sector. The original motion for a 2.3% COLA was not amended and was adopted as recommended by the EOB.

**Council voted to approve a 2.3 percent COLA in the membership dues rates for 2004. (16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)**

**C. Financial Support for Minority Fellowship**

Kalleberg reported that since the mid-1990's, the ASA has supported one or more fellows as part of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) in addition to those supported by the grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). These Fellows are not required, as are the NIMH fellows, to be focused on the sociology of mental health, health and well-being, or medical sociology. By this addition, the program has been able to reach more broadly into the ranks of minority PhD candidates to provide support. These Fellows are selected in the same competitive manner by the Association's MFP Advisory Committee, and participate in all aspects of the program, as do the NIMH-supported Fellows, although the ASA-sponsored fellows receive a lower annual stipend.

The ASA-MFP Fund that provides financial support to these Fellows grew during the 1990's from a number of sources, including funds contributed annually from ASA members, royalties and other gifts, funds contributed for this purpose from SWS, ABS, AKD, state and regional sociological associations. Growth came especially from stock market investment gains. Since 2000, however, although annual contributions have

remained stable at about \$25,000, market returns have not kept pace with our spending commitments for this fund.

ASA currently has five non-NIMH Fellows we have agreed to support for three years: one selected in 2000; two in 2001; one in 2002 and one in 2003. If we add no additional fellows in 2004 and beyond, the stipend costs of the existing five fellows from FY2003 through FY2006 will be approximately \$122,000. Assuming contributions continue at about \$25,000 per year, these funds will cover about 80 percent of the total costs during this period (leaving a deficit of somewhat more than \$22,000). However, we would be adding no new MFP Fellows in *non*-health-related fields.

Kalleberg reported that the EOB had reviewed this situation at its July 2003 meeting. Recognizing that ASA has a strong commitment to the MFP program, as do other sociological associations that rely on it as an important mechanism for them to contribute to the diversity of the profession and the support of PhD candidates, and recognizing that ASA will be submitting an application to renew the five-year NIMH training program in 2004, EOB voted unanimously to recommend that Council support one new MFP Fellow in 2004, as well as paying all currently anticipated deficits from the General Investment Account.

EOB also recommended that Council increase the stipend of current and new non-NIMH Fellows from \$13,000 to \$15,000 per year, an amount that seems appropriate in light of what universities and other funding sources are providing PhD candidates in annual support. (The NIMH stipend, however, has risen this year, by act of Congress, to just under \$20,000.) In addition, EOB indicated that it would continue to watch the value of the General Investment Account and revisit this issue next year, anticipating that Council would want to consider continuing this investment in minority scholars beyond 2004.

The anticipated cost of this proposal through FY 2007 would be approximately \$53,000, assuming continued contributions at about \$25,000 annually from the other sources. Members of Council strongly supported this proposal, passing the motion with no objection.

**Council voted unanimously to approve supporting from the General Fund over the period FY 2003 to 2007 the costs of the current five non-NIMH MFP Fellows and one additional Fellow to be selected in 2004, all at a stipend level of \$15,000 per year.**

##### **5. Report of the Executive Officer**

In the interest of time, Executive Officer Hillsman referred members to her extensive report from yesterday's Council meeting.

## 6. Financial Review of *Contexts*

Kalleberg reported that when Council originally decided to launch the magazine *Contexts* it had started an innovative new venture, but also a venture with risk. When launched, ASA committed up to \$620,000 from the Rose Fund to support *Contexts* through 2006. The downturn in the financial markets over recent years has led to losses by the Rose Fund. These financial losses coupled with the need to replace the inaugural editor of *Contexts* caused the EOB to review status of *Contexts* earlier than originally planned.

Claude Fischer's term as editor of *Contexts* ends in 2004; the Committee on Publications has already begun soliciting proposals for the next editor. The next editor will serve a minimum of a three-year term (2005-2007). EOB determined that a financial commitment to *Contexts* through 2007 is vital to the viability of the selection process.

*Contexts* has had marked success in nearly all areas during its first two years of publication. Member subscriptions have significantly exceeded initial projections in both 2002 (1,367 actual vs. 800 projected) and 2003 (to date approximately 1,800 vs. 1,500 projected). The magazine has received two major professional awards—it was named the best journal in the social sciences for 2002 by the Association of American Publishers and *Library Journal* named it one of the 10 best new magazines of 2002.

The University of California Press has also kept expenses for publishing – including printing, mailing, marketing, and overhead – below early estimates by approximately \$50,000 (through the 2003 end of year estimate), and the editorial office has done commendably well managing this complex new venture on a “shoestring” budget. However, *Contexts* is not meeting initial projections in one area that is vital to the financial viability of any academic journal or magazine—institutional subscriptions.

In addition, at this point in its development, both member and non-member individual subscriptions (at \$30 and \$40, respectively) are heavily subsidized. In 2002, for example, it cost approximately \$215,000 – including printing, mailing, and marketing, but excluding the editorial office expenses – to service approximately 1,500 paid subscriptions (of all types), which translates to a per-subscription cost of \$143. Despite some economies of scale with increased member or non-member individual subscriptions, only institutional subscriptions can produce enough revenue over costs to begin to turn the corner toward decreasing annual losses and achieving a break-even point or a positive revenue flow.

By the end of 2003, initial financial projections assumed 440 non-member individual subscriptions and 230 institutional subscriptions. To date, *Contexts* has attracted 225 non-member individual subscriptions (about 50 percent of the early projection). Of greater financial concern, however, is that there are currently 71 institutional subscriptions, which is less than 30 percent of the initial projection.

While the University of California Press believes those numbers are quite positive in their experience for a “start-up” journal—and ASA agrees that the signs do indicate that long-term success is probable—it is clear that acquiring the needed institutional subscription revenue is not proceeding along initial projections. While the annual loss on *Contexts* is declining, the slower than projected growth in non-member individual and institutional subscription income has resulted in slower progress toward a break-even point or profitability.

At the request of EOB, the Executive Office developed several new financial projections or models. A “status quo” situation indicates that, even with a modest growth in institutional subscriptions of 10 percent (and periodic increases in subscription rates) in 2004 and beyond, *Contexts* is likely to exceed the \$620,000 committed to the magazine in 2001 by EOB and Council in mid-2006. In addition, as is clear from the slow reduction in the annual loss incurred by *Contexts* through 2007, *Contexts* would not become financially self-supporting until after 2010. Furthermore, the overall loss for the journal would likely approach \$900,000, or \$280,000 more than Council has committed to its development.

A second model was prepared based upon a recommendation that in 2005 member subscriptions to *Contexts* be priced in a way that is more in line with the cost of producing the journal, and that recognizes the expense of a glossy magazine is such that pricing it at the level of other ASA quarterlies is not appropriate.

Even with this proposed increase, the member rate will not cover the per-subscription cost through 2010. Yet, this single change in the model makes a significant impact on *Contexts*’ financial bottom line in 2005 and beyond. While increasing the member rate alone does not present a profit model, it reduces the annual loss to near “break even” and reduces the estimated maximum outlay from \$891,958 to \$698,796, which is approximately \$80,000 above Council’s current commitment to *Contexts* of \$620,000.

The University of California Press (UCP) was asked to review these two models and provide their analysis. UCP returned with a third model that made a number of more optimistic assumptions than the Executive Office was prepared to make.

Kalleberg noted that no model shows *Contexts* as profitable through 2010. In fact, all models seem to indicate that without a change in the pricing structure of the magazine, *Contexts* is not likely to be a “break even” venture for the Association, mostly because it appears that the primary audience for the magazine is, and will continue in the near future to be, ASA members. What does vary by model is the depth of the cumulative loss by the time the annual loss approaches zero (or stabilizes to a point where it has stopped significantly adding to that loss).

Kalleberg reminded members that Council had originally committed the \$620,000 investment in *Contexts* from the Association’s Rose Fund. The assumption was made that the fund balance in that account would not drop below the amount necessary to provide annual investment income to support the Rose Series. Given the decline in the

market value of the Rose Fund since 2000, ASA's investment advisors recommend maintaining a balance in the Rose Fund of not less than \$500,000 in order to ensure a return that is adequate to continue annual funding of the Rose Series. The initial estimate that the Rose Fund could support \$620,000 in cumulative losses by *Contexts* without falling below the minimal balance necessary to support the Rose Series, therefore, is no longer supportable.

One of the models projects that the *Contexts* investment will reduce the Rose Fund to \$500,000 in early 2004, with approximately \$432,000 in *Contexts* cumulative losses charged against the Fund. The remaining funds needed for *Contexts*, approximately \$260,000, will need to come from alternative ASA fund sources to ensure the Rose Fund's recommended maximum exposure is not exceeded.

Kalleberg concluded his presentation by reporting that the EOB had examined both the General Fund and the Spivack Fund and concluded that both are healthy enough to support, without strain, the \$260,000 over the next five years needed by *Contexts*. EOB therefore had unanimously voted to recommend to Council that it approve an increase in support of *Contexts* up to a total of \$700,000 split between the two funds, with the final amount based upon the Executive Office's final financial modeling.

EOB recommended that Council approve up to \$300,000 (to allow for uncertainties such as rising or declining interest rates, editorial transition costs, and similar factors) to be drawn from a combination of the Spivack and General Funds over the next five years. Kalleberg reiterated that this commitment to finance *Contexts* is integral to securing Claude Fischer's successor through the three-year term of the next editor.

Members of Council asked a number of questions. While pleased with the initial success of *Contexts*, members were also concerned about the large financial expenditure requested. Executive Officer Hillsman reminded Council that the real culprit is the stock market, noting that expenses have actually been lower than budgeted or anticipated. She added that EOB was asking Council to commit a potential \$80,000 of additional funds through 2007. The \$80,000 may not actually be required but raises the threshold in case it is needed.

While concerned about the potential expenditures, members of Council agreed that ASA has started down this road and should not stop now. There was agreement that a definitive move was required to provide for *Contexts* through 2007, at which point there will be sufficient data for an informed decision on the future of the publication.

**Council voted to approve a revised maximum cumulative commitment of \$700,000 to *Contexts* through 2010, with up to \$300,000 to split between the ASA General Fund and the Spivack Fund, committing the Association to publishing *Contexts* through at least 2007, the first three years of the next editorial term. (11 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstain)**

## **7. Centennial Planning**

President Burawoy drew the attention of Council members to the rapidly approaching Centennial of the Association and asked members to make decisions on several options.

### **A. Report from the Council Sub-Committee on Intellectual History**

Craig Calhoun provided Council with a written update on Council's commission of a volume on Sociology in America for the ASA Centennial. An advisory committee has been formed, composed of Andrew Abbott, Troy Duster, Barbara Laslett, Alan Sica, and Margaret Somers. The committee expects soon to finalize the plan for the book and begin the process of recruiting authors. A graduate student has been recruited to help with research, identification of potential authors, and preparation of an updated bibliography on the history of sociology.

The advisory committee has agreed that the volume should not be organized as a history of great men or women or schools of thought, should not be organized as a history of departments, and that "coverage" should not be paramount. The committee agreed that the book should focus on that which is most important and intellectually interesting.

The committee has also agreed that the book should include an institutional component, should address questions about the relationship of sociology to broader social phenomena, and should emphasize broad changes in the nature of sociology over the last century. The committee will also attend to the positioning of sociology among disciplines and other intellectual fields of inquiry.

Calhoun and the advisory committee outlined the substantial tasks ahead of them in the quest to publish the volume in time for the 2005 Annual Meeting. They noted, however, that they were confident that this will be a very interesting volume.

### **B. Report from the Council Sub-Committee on Public Outreach and Events**

Pam Walters, Chair of the Centennial Outreach Planning sub-committee, provided Council with an update on committee activities. Walters reported that with much regret, the committee had decided to not proceed with plans for a television documentary. A number of outreach features are planned for the ASA website as part of the Centennial celebration, but the committee has tried to identify other, more public outreach activities.

Walters reported that the most promising possibilities include: (1) a series of public lectures sponsored in conjunction with various universities focused on the public debates sparked by sociologists or sociological research or the ways in which sociologists and their work have made significant contributions; (2) a series of public debates about opposing sociological views on important public policy matters that could be videotaped and made available for undergraduate teaching purposes; and (3) encouraging prominent sociologists with experience writing for the general public to write pieces on sociological contributions to public debate or ways in which sociological

knowledge has made its way into popular culture for general readership magazines and journals.

The committee has also suggested excerpting a selection of *Contexts* articles for publication in paperback book form. Members of Council expressed concern about this last idea, questioning who would buy the book, and how sufficient material for a book could be obtained with only 6 or 7 issues of *Contexts*. It was also noted that the original vision of public outreach was more along the lines of great moments in Sociology; *Contexts* is more focused on recent findings in Sociology. Walters agreed that this proposal strays a bit from the original focus on the Centennial.

**Council voted to defer judgment of whether to present *Contexts* in some broadly accessible form. The sub-committee may return to Council in January with a more detailed proposal for Council consideration. (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions)**

**C. Report from the Council Sub-Committee on International Collaborations**

President Burawoy reported that ASA's representative to the International Sociological Association (ISA), Douglas Kincaid, has proposed an ambitious project to have a strong and active presence of international scholars at the 2005 Centennial meeting. Specifically, Kincaid has proposed holding the meeting of the ISA Council of National Associations in the United States in August 2005, immediately preceding the ASA Annual Meeting. This meeting of approximately 60-75 people would represent national sociological associations from 30-35 countries from around the world.

Florida International University is interested in being a co-sponsor if the meeting is held in Miami. To offset the estimated total cost of \$110,000, two organizations in Miami have agreed to provide \$10,000, ISA is providing \$7,000, and ASA was asked to provide \$7,000 in cash and \$6,000 in waived registration fees.

President Burawoy noted that this is an opportunity to foster communication among the members of the Council of National Associations. Following discussion and the resolution of several questions, members of Council members were generally in favor of this proposal, with the stipulation that the \$13,000 from the ASA is contingent upon the rest of the plan being funded.

**Council voted to support the proposal to bring representatives of the Council of National Associations to the 2005 Centennial annual meeting by providing a total of \$13,000 – \$7,000 in cash and \$6,000 in meeting registration waivers – contingent upon other sources of funding being secured for the rest of the plan. (3 opposed)**

**D. Report on the Centennial Website and Executive Office Activities**

It has been generally agreed by ASA staff, leadership and members that the ASA website needs upgrading in both its design and in its functionality for users. The Centennial provides an excellent time to accomplish this task. Specifically, Executive Officer Hillsman proposed to begin the website upgrade this fall. The upgraded design and functionality will be added incrementally during the 15 months between fall 2003 and January 2005. In January 2005, a new Centennial logo will be added as well as the new Centennial content. Additional Centennial content will be added during 2005 and a CD-ROM compiled at year's end.

Kevin Brown, Director of Information Technology, and Lee Herring, Director of Communications, estimated that the web re-design would cost \$18,990. Approximately \$10,000 of this cost can be capitalized, but the remainder will be an operational expense.

The Centennial portion of the site will require the collection and formatting of historical materials. Research assistants will be necessary to handle much of the work collecting materials. While an exact estimate was difficult to provide, it was estimated that \$10,000 would be sufficient to cover these costs.

On the recommendation of the EOB,

**Council voted unanimously to approve allocation of a total of \$20,000 for a redesign of the ASA website: \$10,000 from the Centennial Funds set aside by Council from the American Sociological Fund for the website redesign and \$10,000 for the collection of Centennial website materials.**

**E. Report on the Centennial Update of the Rhoades History of the ASA**

In 1981, ASA published the *History of the American Sociological Association 1905-1980* by Larry Rhoades. This short volume captures the highlights of the organization's history and has been widely used in the intervening years. As part of the Centennial celebration, Executive Officer Hillsman recommended that Council consider bringing this volume up to date.

The book published in 1981 covers the first 75 years of the Association in about 75 pages. To maintain balance with the original publication, as well as consistency of style and tone, the new material should not exceed 25-30 pages.

This project would initially require converting the original document to electronic, editable format. Next would be interviews with previous Executive Officers and Association leaders. Another key component of the project would be to review the core documents of the Association, including proceedings of Council meetings, issues of *Footnotes* and the *American Sociological Review*, Presidential addresses, and outside sources for information relevant to the past twenty-five years.

Hillsman reported that Katherine Rosich, a consultant who has worked with ASA previously, was willing and able to undertake this project. She also proposed that the Council Centennial Subcommittee on Intellectual History, chaired by Craig Calhoun, would be an appropriate Advisory Committee.

Members of Council were supportive of this proposal, but a few expressed some hesitation and reluctance to update the Rhoades publication. One member expressed concern that the Rhoades publication was too inwardly focused, but another member commented that the last 20 years have been our most inclusive years; stopping 25 years ago would omit a vital segment of ASA's history.

A motion was made to NOT fund an update of the Rhoades publication; this motion was defeated with only one member voting in favor, 8 members opposed, and 2 members abstaining. Following additional discussion,

**Council voted to authorize spending up to \$14,000 for updating the Rhoades History of ASA. (11 for, 1 opposed, 1 abstain)**

## **8. Annual Meeting Issues**

President Burawoy complimented Janet Astner and Kareem Jenkins on the success of the 2003 Annual Meeting and called on Janet to provide a report on the meeting and other meeting-related matters.

### **A. Review of 2003 Meeting**

Astner reported that the 2003 meeting presented some challenges due to the major power outage that struck the northeastern part of the United States and Canada on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

The ASA room block at the Hilton was fully subscribed, but unfortunately the situation was not the same at the Marriott hotel. This lack of room pick up invokes the attrition clause of the ASA contract with the Marriott hotel and raises the possibility of substantial penalties, possibly as high as \$110,000.

Astner reported that she would gain negotiating leverage with the Marriott if there was the possibility of returning to Atlanta for a future Annual Meeting, for example in 2008, 2009, or 2010. She asked Council about their willingness to return to Atlanta for a future meeting as a means of working with the contractual situation this meeting produced. Several members asked questions about options available.

A motion was made by Nan Lin that the ASA consider returning to Atlanta within the next ten years, or using a comparable Marriott facility elsewhere. At the urging of several Council members, this motion was de-coupled and became two separate motions.

**Council voted unanimously to agree to the concept of holding a future Annual Meeting at a Marriott hotel somewhere in the United States in the next ten years, if necessary in negotiations with Marriott Marquis Atlanta with regard to the 2003 Annual Meeting.**

While support for returning to Atlanta was not overwhelming, it was agreed that this option would be less expensive than absorbing the attrition penalties.

**Council voted to approve the concept of holding an ASA Annual Meeting with the Marriott Marquis Atlanta sometime in next 10 years, if necessary in negotiations with Marriott Marquis Atlanta with regard to the 2003 Annual Meeting. (9 in favor, 4 opposed)**

In response to a concern about members finding less expensive rooms at the Marriott outside of the ASA contract by using the Internet, Astner reported that there would be an extensive audit of hotel registrations to identify people who booked their rooms by means other than the ASA. The ASA will receive credit for all people who can be identified in this manner as people who booked as part of the official ASA room-block.

**B. Proposed 2004 Registration and Service Fees**

On the recommendation of the EOB,

**Council voted to approve a \$10 across the board increase in registration fees and \$5 increase in seminar fees for the 2004 Annual Meeting. (11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)**

**9. Information Technology Updates**

Burawoy called upon Kevin Brown, Director of Information Technology and Services, and Janet Astner, Director of Operations and Meeting Services, to update Council on information technology issues.

**A. Executive Office Technology**

Brown reported that information technology requires ongoing study of technology available to meet evolving needs. ASA is engaged in a continuous planning process to provide the technology required to provide for the greatest productivity and effective service to members.

In 2003 ASA launched electronic elections, improved the online membership renewals process, and made significant progress on Journal Builder, which will be available to journal editors soon. This fall, ASA will launch publications e-commerce, which will greatly improve member access to ASA publications.

Evolving technology requires training. This fall ASA will launch in-house classroom training for ASA staff. ASA staff skilled in particular technology will lead these sessions. Initial offerings will include Introduction to HTML, and Introduction to Excel. In addition,

free self-paced computer-based training at a nearby off-site location has been available to ASA staff since spring of this year.

**B. Annual Meeting Technology**

Astner reported that for the 2003 Annual Meeting, ASA utilized the services of a new vendor for online submissions and scheduling. Despite efforts aimed at having scheduling completed in May, the process was delayed as the new vendor discovered and remedied problems caused by the complexity of the ASA meeting. Response to the new online searchable program has been quite positive.

The program schedule for the 2004 meeting is expected to be available earlier than this year since the major customization of the scheduling process has been done this year. Invited components and the governance side of the meeting are expected to be in place and scheduled during the winter. Also, instructions to submitters and organizers will be improved based on this year's experiences.

**10. ASA Committee on Sections**

**A. Status of Sections**

At the close of the 2002 membership year, ASA recorded the highest section membership level ever achieved with 19,855 section memberships. This result represents a 1,078-membership increase (5.74%) over the 2001 count of 18,777.

The 19,855 Section memberships were held by 8,333 ASA members, which means that 65.8% of ASA members are members of one or more sections. The 8,333 members who participated in sections in 2002 held, on average, 2.38 section memberships.

At July 25, 2003, Section membership counts for 2003 stood at 19,306, which placed us more than 1,000 Section memberships ahead of where we were last year at the same time. There are still a few sections, however, that no longer met the established criteria for continuation as an ASA Section. Unfortunately, the newest Section, the section on Animals and Society, has failed to retain its original membership and has fallen to a little over 200 members.

**B. Sections in Formation: Ethnomethodology and Conversational Analysis**

Ethnomethodology and Conversational Analysis was granted Section-in-Formation status in 2001. Each Section-in-Formation is given two years to recruit at least 300 members, which demonstrates a clear interest among the membership for that section becoming a full section. Section-in-Formation status for Ethnomethodology will expire on September 30, 2003. The Committee on Sections, however, recommended granting a one-time, one-year extension to Ethnomethodology through September 30, 2004 to secure the necessary 300 members.

**Council voted to approve a one time, one-year extension of Section-in-Formation status for Ethnomethodology.**

**C. New Section Proposals**

There are at least three separate proposals in various stages of development for new sections. No materials for any of those proposed sections have been submitted as of this meeting.

**11. Executive Office Reports**

**A. Academic and Professional Affairs Program**

Carla Howery provided an update on the Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP). APAP continues to focus on advancing the discipline through work with academic departments at all types of institutions, with special collaboration with department chairs. In addition to core activities, she reported that this year's priorities included: Continuing the NSF-funded project on Integrating Data Analysis, engagement with ASA task forces (especially the task force on the AP course and the task force on the major), Annual Meeting Continuing Education efforts, development of a suggested list of sociology books that would form a basic collection for an undergraduate library, and outreach to community colleges.

**B. Minority Affairs Program**

Members of Council welcomed Mercedes Rubio, the new Director of the ASA Minority Affairs Program (MAP) as of August 1. Rubio thanked Jean Shin for his efforts at keeping MAP functioning over the last year. She reported that 6 new Fellows joined the MFP program for academic year 2003-2004 (5 funded by NIMH and 1 funded by ASA members and other parties). ASA staff will be working closely with NIMH in preparation for the MFP 5-year grant renewal in May of 2004. As part of the Centennial celebration, MAP staff will try to locate all 650 MFP fellows since the first cohort, obtain photos and updates on their work, and add this information to the ASA website.

**C. Research Program on the Discipline and Profession**

Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of Research on the Discipline and the Profession, reported to Council on recent research activities. She reported that William Erskine has joined the staff as Research Associate; he joins two consultants working on a Sloan Foundation project.

The program is currently focused on the PhD tracking survey, a survey of programs, and an annual meeting survey. In addition, staff are working to make the ASA membership database, previously used solely for administrative purposes, into a research database as well. Results of the 2001-2002 department survey have been released in a report entitled *How Does Your Department Compare?* A number of research reports have been added to the ASA website; the goal is to add even more during the remainder of 2003.

**D. Spivack Program on Applied Social Research and Social Policy**

The purpose of the Sydney J. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy is to advance the uses and contributions of sociology to social policy. ASA works to achieve this mission through Congressional seminars and briefings, research workshops, Fellowships, and related activities.

The Spivack program supported development and release of the Association's statement on *The Importance of Collecting Data and Doing Social Scientific Research on Race*. Follow-up activities have included a Congressional briefing on May 28, 2003 that attracted a standing room only crowd, and support for the developing of the ASA brief to the Supreme Court in *Grutter v. Bollinger*.

**E. Public Information Program**

Lee Herring, Director of Communications, reported on recent Public Information activities. The blackout in the northeast led to several expected reporters being absent from the meeting. Despite this, press coverage of the meeting has been good. Approximately ten articles have appeared in national newspapers regarding the meeting, including an extensive article in that morning's *Atlanta Journal Constitution*.

Since the last meeting, public information staff have worked to track press mentions of sociologists/sociology in general and of ASA and its journals, publicize to the media ASA member research and publications of note, and connect news media with appropriate sociologists as sources or experts.

**F. Public Affairs Program**

Since the February Council meeting, staff of ASA's Public Information Office have been involved in the following activities: increasing ASA's visibility and participation in the national science policymaking arena, monitoring key national (and some state-level) legislative and policy developments affecting sociological research and sociologists, engaging in efforts to influence developments and sociologist's contributions to policy, publicizing the outcome of the Saad Ibrahim human rights case, and managing *Footnotes* editorial process and production. Public Affairs staff worked with Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute of Drug Abuse, to make the best use of her time at this Annual Meeting.

**G. Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline**

The ASA Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) is designed to nurture the development of scientific knowledge by funding small, groundbreaking research initiatives and other important scientific research activities. Six grants were awarded from the applications received in December 2002. Twenty submissions were received for the most recent deadline in June; results of those submissions will be available soon.

**H. ASA Archives**

Michael Murphy, Director of Governance and Sections, provided an update on ASA archival activities. Following the creation of the ASA Archives at Penn State University

in the late 1990's, numerous conflicting demands had prevented further attention to archival issues. However, with the upcoming Centennial, archival matters are taking on a more important role.

Contact has been re-established with the staff of the ASA Archives at Penn State University. Staff have discussed with the Penn State archivists what materials have been transferred, what of that material is of archival interest, and how we can continue to transfer important materials to Penn State.

In addition, contact has been re-established with the staff of the Library of Congress, which still houses the original ASA archives. A complete inventory of the LOC materials has been obtained. Staff will explore with the LOC the possibility of moving the original archival materials to Penn State so that all ASA archives are in one location. For many years ASA has also maintained off-site storage of materials. While a listing of those materials had accumulated over the years, it was often vague, unclear and questionable. With the move of those materials to a new storage facility in mid-2003, staff used that opportunity to learn what was being stored.

Over the course of three weeks, ASA staff went to the warehouse and examined every box. The outcome of that effort is a complete, computerized inventory of those materials. In addition to helping to locate and retrieve materials more quickly, this effort also allowed for the disposal of outdated materials, which will save unnecessary storage expense for those materials.

A growing database of materials has been collected on each sociologist who has served as President of the organization. Some of these materials have been added to the ASA website; the goal is to provide as much information as possible to this part of the ASA website. An ASA member in Pennsylvania is preparing a documentary film on the life of Lester Frank Ward, the first President of the organization. Staff have worked with this member to provide background materials for that project.

## **12. Appointments to ASA Components**

### **A. Nominations from the President, Secretary and Executive Officer**

President Burawoy reported that there were three representative positions that required appointments by the President at this time.

For some time ASA has maintained a liaison relationship with the Council on Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS) through the appointment of an ASA representative. For this position, Burawoy proposed appointing Samantha Freedman of George Washington University. The ASA has a similar relationship with the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS). For this position, he proposed appointed Marilyn Ruschemeyer.

And finally, Douglas Kincaid has served as the ASA representative to the International Sociological Association (ISA) for three years. Kincaid has just recently been elected to the Executive Council of the ISA. Burawoy proposed re-appointing Kincaid for an additional three-year term, which would carry him through the 2006 ISA meeting in Durban.

**Council voted unanimously to approve the appointments of ASA liaisons to outside organizations proposed by President Burawoy.**

Composition of the Committee on the Executive Office and Budget (EOB) is defined in the ASA Bylaws as the three Presidents – current President, immediate past President, and President-Elect – the Secretary (Chair), and three at-large members appointed by the Secretary with the consent of Council. Terms of the three at-large members are staggered so that one becomes open each year. Kalleberg presented a ranked list of people for the open seat vacated by Suzanne Ortega as she rotates off the EOB.

**Council voted to accept the ranked list of members proposed by the Secretary for appointment to the open at-large seat on the Committee on the Executive Office and the Budget.**

In addition to the formal ASA committees, there are several Advisory Committees that provide assistance to the Executive Office on key programs. Hillsman presented ranked slates of members for two openings on the MFP Advisory Panel, and three openings on the Spivack Advisory Panel.

**Council voted unanimously to accept the ranked list of members proposed by the Executive Officer for appointment to the ASA Advisory Committees.**

**B. Nominations from the Committee on Committees**

President Burawoy called upon Michael Murphy to present the recommendations for committee appointments. ASA bylaws charge the Committee on Committees with the responsibility of proposing to Council names of members to serve on the various ASA committees. Between advance preparation and a meeting earlier that week, the Committee on Committees proposed a full slate of candidates for Council approval.

Members of Council reviewed the proposed slates one by one and made several minor changes to the ordering of slates to provide for greater diversity.

**Council voted unanimously to accept the report of the Committee on Committees as amended.**

Members of Council were very appreciative of the hard work provided by the members of the Committee on Committees; several members noted that they had served terms

on the Committee on Committees and knew firsthand the difficulty of their task. Council asked the President to write to the Committee expressing Council's appreciation for their hard work. At the same time, Council asked the President to remind the committee of the importance of identifying members from 2-year and 4-year institutions as possible candidates for appointment.

**Council voted to direct the President to write a letter to the members of the Committee on Committees commending them on their effort and report to Council. At the same time, the President should remind the COC of the importance of putting forth members from all types of institutions, including members from 2- and 4-year institutions.**

### 13. ASA Status Committees

#### A. Mandated Five-Year Review of Status Committees

When Council re-organized the component structure in 1998 and 1999, four "status" committees were authorized: (1) Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities in Sociology, (2) Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Trans-gendered Persons in Sociology, (3) Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology, and (4) Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology.

At that time, Council also mandated that the status committees be reviewed after five years to evaluate how they fit in relation to the Association's goals in those areas, and how they had progressed at fulfilling their initial charge. This review will occur in 2004 and will be on Council's agenda for August 2004. To provide continuity of membership as these four components prepare for their five-year review, it was recommended that membership on the status committees be frozen for one year; members of Council agreed with no discussion.

**Council voted to freeze the membership on the four ASA status committees for one year so that the committees are best positioned to effectively produce in 2004 the 5-year reports required by Council when the new committee structure was approved that would review the mission, achievements and future plans of each status committee. (13 in favor, 2 abstentions)**

**B. Committee on the Status of Women**

Roberta Spalter-Roth, Director of Research, reported on behalf of the Committee on the Status of Women. She reported that while the current Status Committee structure was established and charges given in 1998-9, the Committee on the Status of Women in Sociology rejected their original charge from Council and proposed a different charge. Council accepted their proposal and a new committee was appointed in the spring of 2001.

The committee is working on a comprehensive report to Council which will include basic demographic information, salary data by rank and gender, and gender composition of committees, editorial boards, slates of nominees, and like structures. A preliminary draft of the quantitative information to appear in this report was provided to Council for their information. A final report is anticipated by the February 2004 Council meeting.

**C. Status Committee on Persons with Disabilities**

Deputy Director Carla Howery reported that the Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities has been relatively inactive for the last two years. However, with a new chair and several new committee members, there was an expectation of increased activity.

**D. Status Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities**

Mercedes Rubio, Director of the Minority Affairs Program, reported that the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Sociology (SREM) Committee had as its original charge the analysis of leadership opportunities for minorities, such as the racial and ethnic composition of Council, section officers, governance committees, standing committees, editorships, editorial boards, and membership. Since 2001, a new overall goal has been to report on the presence and roles of racial and ethnic minorities in Sociology, based on ASA research program reports and scholarly literature and publications. The committee remains interested in the recruitment and retention of students and faculty of color at all institutions. The committee is just now becoming active again following a two-year period of dormancy.

**E. Status Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Persons**

In August 2002, the Committee on the Status of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Persons submitted to Council a major report on the representation of GLBT scholarship in major sociological venues, including ASA journals, sessions at the Annual Meeting, and reviews in *Contemporary Sociology*.

That report recommended support for setting up a mentoring program, which was approved by Council in February of this year. To that end, the committee has proposed two workshops for 2004 Annual Meeting, one for "Learning How to Set up an Effective Cross-Institution Mentoring Program," and the other on "Doing Queer Work in Sociology: Challenges and Changes".

#### 14. Reports from ASA Task Forces

##### A. Task Force on the Undergraduate Sociology Major

Over ten years ago, the American Sociological Association appointed a Task Force to review current practices and make recommendations about the sociology major, as part of a project on the major in the liberal arts disciplines sponsored by the American Association of Colleges. The ASA Task Force focused particularly on the goal of study in depth, a carefully sequenced set of courses that took into account the presentation of the sociological perspective, the goals of sociology in liberal education, and the intellectual development of students. The report from this Task Force was endorsed by ASA Council in 1990, and published in 1991 as *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Major*.

ASA Council approved a proposal to establish a new task force, The Task Force on the Undergraduate Curriculum, in early 2001. The charge to this Task Force was to revise and update the ASA report *Liberal Learning and the Sociology Curriculum*, particularly in light of important changes since the 1990 report, including new research on teaching and learning, many new curricular innovations, and the growing significance of community colleges in the higher education landscape.

Ten sociologists were appointed to the Task Force in fall, 2001, with Kate Berheide as chair. Eight of them convened, at the ASA Executive Office, April 12-14, 2002. Prior to this meeting, seven subgroups compiled reports and drafted guidelines on a number of topics identified as relevant to the Task Force charge, including majors that have tracks or programs in criminal justice or social work; the capstone course; undergraduate research training; community colleges and articulation with four year programs; new areas of emphasis, including technology and problem based learning; practical implications for diverse institutions; and broader trends in higher education.

At the 2002 Annual Meeting, the Task Force held an Open Forum on its work, to seek feedback from ASA members. It reported on its progress at the Chairs Conference as well as to the Departmental Resources Group and ASA Council. In addition, it conducted focus groups with undergraduate students who attended the 2002 Annual Meeting as part of the Honors and MOST programs. Finally, it met to discuss the input from those various meetings as well as ones that occurred at regional meetings, such as an open forum at the annual meeting of Eastern Sociological Society in 2002, and to review drafts and proceed with recommendations.

The Task Force has updated the original *Liberal Learning* document, retaining the original recommendations (sometimes in a revised form) and added new ones. The document discusses each recommendation, with particular attention to resources to tap to implement them. The ASA's consulting service, the Department Resources Group, will be trained about the relevant literature and resources for each recommendation beginning at the 2003 annual meeting.

The Task Force will submit its final report to Council at the next meeting. The new Task Force on the Assessment of the Major will pick up the assessment task and go from there. The work of these two task forces will ultimately become a 2-volume set on what the major should be and how it should be measured.

**B. Task Force on the AP Course in Sociology**

Caroline Hodges Persell, Vice President-Elect and chair of the Task Force on the Advanced Placement Course in Sociology, reported that the work of this task force is proceeding quite well. The task force was charged with developing an advanced placement course for high school students. The task force has spent the last year developing a curriculum in outline and narrative form. This work has been vetted in individual departments and at an open forum at the August 2003 Annual Meeting.

The course will emphasize how sociologists collect, assess, and analyze data, and students will become familiar with some of the excellent data resources now available on the World Wide Web. They will also learn how to critically evaluate information they find on various types of websites. The course is meant to involve students in the ethics and conduct of research and by have them begin to learn how to analyze both quantitative and qualitative data. The course will also engage students in the study of some very pressing social issues in the world today including how groups, cliques, and networks form and behave, how social order is maintained or threatened, how gender roles are changing, how race is socially constructed and under what social conditions racial parity is more or less likely, how social inequalities influence life outcomes, and how social decisions affect the degree of social inequality. The course will also focus on social institutions such the family, religion, education, polity, the economy, and the media.

After developing the course, the task force volunteers spent the next year finding and preparing pedagogical resources (such as simulations, data modules, exercises, readings, films, and so forth) to support the teaching of the curriculum. It also began working with teachers in Chicago, Princeton, Maryland, and Wisconsin who will pilot test the curriculum during the 2003-2004 year. In preparation for those pilots, ASA staff and Task Force volunteers conducted several workshops for teachers piloting the curriculum. The pilot courses will be taught at the college level as honors courses, using college textbooks and materials, and are being taught as a one-year course. During the first year of pilot testing, research will be conducted on how the curriculum is working, what is working well, what needs improvement and why, and what understandings students are obtaining.

Persell reported that the Chicago pilot is particularly important since it will be offered in inner city schools that have few, if any, AP courses. The Task Force is very committed to having an AP sociology course in these schools, not only in suburban schools already flush with AP offerings.

After two years of formative assessment and refinement of the curriculum, the task force believes that all the necessary intellectual and curricular components will be in place for

an official sociology Advanced Placement course to be established in 2005. Persell noted that this would be a most appropriate year to begin an Advanced Placement sociology course because 2005 is the hundredth anniversary of the American Sociological Association's founding.

Members of Council applauded the task force and Carla Howery for their outstanding work, noting that they have amassed excellent material. Members agreed that introducing students to sociology at the high school level was the best way to inform them about what sociology is all about and the existence of sociology as a career choice. With 35 existing AP courses, members agreed that an AP course in sociology is needed.

**C. Task Force on Opportunities Beyond Graduate Education:  
Post Doctoral Training and Career Trajectories**

Carla Howery reported that this task force has had a problematic beginning. For example, at the first meeting last August, no members were able to attend. A subsequent survey of members determined that it would be best to retire this committee for now and perhaps try again at another time. President Burawoy agreed that if that was the best course, then the task force is now phased out.

**15. 2003 Financial Report and Analysis**

Secretary Kalleberg presented a review of financial performance to date for 2003. To date, revenues have been lower than anticipated, partially due to a \$75,000 loss caused by an institutional subscription vendor bankruptcy. Expenses have been slightly above what was anticipated. Three journals have re-submitted budgets that are higher than expected. The current deficit is approximately \$90,000 higher than anticipated, but Kalleberg reminded everyone that this was based on information from less than half of the year.

**16. Follow-up Business**

**A. Business Meeting Resolutions**

Burawoy reported that no resolutions were presented during yesterday's Annual Business Meeting. In fact, the well-attended meeting elicited no complaints of any sort.

**B. Selection of Dates for Mid-Year Council Meeting**

Two options were presented for the mid-winter Council meeting, either January 23-25 or January 30 – February 1. Several people indicated that the second date conflicted with an SWS meeting. Since there was only one conflict for the earlier date, that date was selected for the meeting. The EOB meeting will occur two weeks before the Council meeting.

**Council voted to select January 23-25, 2004 as the date for the mid-year meeting of the 2003-2004 Council.**

17. **New Business**

A. **Recommendation of Task Force on Contingent Employment**

At one time the ASA was a member of a coalition on the academic workplace. Members of the Task Force on Contingent Employment recommended that ASA rejoin this coalition. There were no objections.

**On recommendation of the Task Force on Contingent Employment, Council voted unanimously to authorize ASA rejoining the Coalition on the Academic Workplace.**

18. **Adjournment**

President Burawoy thanked the staff for their work in organizing the agenda and the background materials. With no additional business for consideration, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.