



Minutes of the Second Meeting 2007-2008 ASA Council

Monaco Hotel
Washington, DC

February 2-3, 2008

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Officers Present: Arne Kalleberg (President); Patricia Hill Collins (President-Elect); Donald Tomaskovic-Devey (Secretary); Douglas McAdam (Vice President); Bonnie Thornton Dill (Immediate Past Vice President); Margaret Andersen (Vice President-Elect).

Members-at-Large Present: Judith Auerbach, Dalton Conley, Marjorie DeVault, Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Michèle Lamont, Mary Pattillo, Clara Rodriguez, Mary Romero, Rubén Rumbaut, Marc Schneiberg, Gay Seidman.

Members Absent: Frances Fox Piven (Immediate Past President); Robin Stryker (Council Member-at-Large).

Staff Present: Janet Astner; Les Briggs; Karen Edwards; Lee Herring; Sally T. Hillsman; Michael Murphy; Roberta Spalter-Roth.

1. Call to Order

ASA President Arne L. Kalleberg called the second meeting of the 2007-2008 Council to order at 8:35 am on Saturday, February 2, 2008. A quorum of members was present for the conduct of business throughout the course of the meeting.

A. Approval of Agenda

Additions, deletions, and amendments to the agenda were invited but none were proposed.

Members of Council voted unanimously to accept the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of August 14, 2007 Council Minutes

Minutes of the August 14, 2007 Council meeting were presented for approval. Michèle Lamont requested clarification of the line of reporting of the sub-committee reported on page 7; Kalleberg suggested a more accurate phrase would be "Ad Hoc Committee" instead of "sub-committee." No other changes to the minutes were presented.

Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2007 Council meeting as amended.

C. Approval of August 15, 2007 Council Minutes

Draft minutes of the August 15, 2007 Council meeting were presented for approval. Rumbaut noted a spelling correction. There were no other corrections or amendments to the minutes.

Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2007 Council meeting as corrected.

D. Approval of November 15, 2007 Council Minutes

Minutes of the Council e-mail vote on the purchase of the new headquarters on November 15, 2007 were presented for approval. A spelling correction was noted. There were no other corrections or changes to the draft minutes.

Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2007 Council meeting as corrected.

2. Purchase and Financing of ASA Headquarters

A. Financing

The Secretary reported on the closing on the purchase of the new ASA headquarters at 1430 K Street, Washington, DC, which took place on August 6, 2007. At that time PNC Bank provided a temporary bridge loan in the amount of \$7.7 million to fund the purchase. On November 27, 2007 the Association successfully closed on the \$8 million District of Columbia revenue bond issue to fund the purchase of the new space and to retire the PNC bridge load.

While the interest rate on tax exempt bonds is variable. Council has voted to lock in a fixed rate using a swap financial vehicle with PNC Bank in order to avoid uncertain risks inherent in a variable rate. The purchased headquarters serves as collateral for the PNC letter of credit and for the swap agreement, both of which are with PNC. The interest rate is not fixed yet, but the Executive Office will do so soon.

PNC has estimated that monthly interest expense will be \$27,000, or \$324,000 annually. There is also a quarterly fee of \$8,000 for the letter of credit, or \$32,000 annually. The principal payment on the bond liability is estimated at \$130,000 and will be paid once a year. The payment of this liability has been scheduled for December of each year to correspond with the inflow of funds from dues renewals and subscription agencies.

Analysis of Facility Costs

The Director of Finance explained the facility costs shown in the 2008 budget. They are larger than previous years because of the increased costs of the new headquarters compared to the ASA below market rental rates in recent years. The facilities costs for 2008 also include three months of doubled occupancy covering occupancy at 1307 New York until the move to the new space. Total 2008 facility costs are budgeted at \$1,137,375. Of that, \$200,500 are ongoing costs regardless of where ASA is located (e.g., depreciation on computers and other equipment, repair and maintenance contracts, offsite storage facility); approximately \$872,624 covers the 12 month costs of the new space; and \$64,251 is the final three months of occupancy at 1307 New York.

The increased occupancy costs of the Association may require the use of a portion of reserve earnings in the first year or two. However, it is the goal to fund occupancy costs through the Operating budget and to continue to let the appreciation and income of the invested reserves build up in that fund for future needs.

Council voted unanimously to express its appreciation to Les Briggs, Director of Finance, for his outstanding work on purchasing and financing the new ASA headquarters.

B. Current 1307 New York Avenue Lease

Two issues regarding the Association's 1307 New York Avenue office space are pending resolution: the ongoing dispute with the landlords about calculating the ASA District property taxes and the early termination of the ASA lease.

As previously reported, the owners of the building had been under the impression that the building was exempt from property taxes. However, the District had never received the exemption paperwork and had been sending the property tax bills to the owners at a nonexistent address. Once apprised of this problem, the owners successfully petitioned the District to waive tax penalties and provide an exemption for the owner associations and one of the three non-owner associations.

The ASA lease requires that building property taxes be apportioned to ASA based upon its share of building space as specified in the lease. The owners have a different interpretation of the lease that greatly increases the amount of taxes ASA would owe. ASA's lawyers and the previous lawyer and management agents for the owners expressed agreement with ASA's understanding of the lease. ASA has promptly paid its share of back taxes and pays monthly for its share of current taxes as it understands its obligations under the lease.

At the end of December, 2007, the owners of 1307 New York Avenue sued the ASA in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the taxes they believe ASA owes them. ASA's attorney responded in the second week of January 2008.

The build-out of the new office space is expected to be complete by late February 2008 and the office move will occur on March 12-13. The lease on the current space runs through the end of 2008 so there will be nine months remaining on the lease after the current space is vacated.

The tenant who shares the seventh floor with ASA (and also occupies the eighth floor of 1307 New York Avenue) has an immediate need for additional office space and wants to rent all the ASA space as soon as possible. This creates an ideal situation for ASA's early lease termination. This existing tenant can easily expand into contiguous space; the owners will not incur the cost of marketing the space and searching for the specific type of organization that their tax-exempt financing requires; there will cease to be a property tax problem since this tenant is exempt from real estate taxes; and it allows the ASA to terminate its lease early.

Despite the three-way benefit and the lease requirement that the landlord operate in reasonable business manner to fill the vacant space, the owners continue to contend that ASA remains liable for rent payments through the end of the lease period. The owners also have already delayed for several months, and continue to delay, in providing the existing tenant new lease terms for occupying the ASA space. The existing tenant is anxiously to conclude the deal and occupy ASA's vacant space as quickly as possible.

Both parties, through our respective attorneys, have been working towards a proposed resolution of these issues. We have a March 21, 2008, court date to initiate the process; however, we still hope for a settlement without trial.

C. Build-Out

The months of planning for the new headquarters space are coming to fruition. Build-out of the 5th and 6th floors at 1430 K Street NW has moved steadily forward. During the process of reviewing existing office space and equipment, staff have reduced the paper load in the Executive Office, both by sorting and by shipping materials either to off-site storage in the District or to the ASA permanent archive at Penn State. Staff have also put much of the Association's essential historical records into electronic format. The volume of file space in the new offices, therefore, is substantially reduced and protocols for on-going off-site storage and archiving will prevent unnecessary future accumulation.

One important consideration during the planning processes has been "greening" the ASA office environment and processes. The new lighting will provide better, healthier light along with efficient power usage, and each office will have more control over the lighting level. Materials and fabrics options were selected that were recyclable or made from recycled materials. Space was allocated for recycling bins and staff bicycles.

The new main conference room will be equipped for a full range of electronic presentations. The main display is a retractable ceiling-mounted projector with

computer and video inputs directed at a ceiling-mounted large projection screen. A compact AV rack with a dedicated laptop, TV tuner, and DVD player will be installed and all computer/video sources include audio playback through compact JBL stereo speakers. A master AV control system using a two-way wireless color touch screen can be operated anywhere in the conference room, along with a new RF wireless computer keyboard and a handheld presentation remote for use with the dedicated computer. For phone conferencing, a unique ClearOne conference phone system will be positioned on the table, with two linked phones to provide excellent coverage for all participants.

The LAN room on the sixth floor has presented a few challenges, but ASA's technical consultants have moved the equipment to server rack cabinets providing additional security, cooling, and dust control. Old, outdated equipment has been donated to appropriate non-profit organizations or sold via Craigslist.

ASA will also become a landlord with its move to owning its headquarters space. Approximately, 2,093 square feet of space was put on the office rental market last week. Our agent has already received two inquiries from suitable applicants.

The projected date for completing the build-out is February 21, 2008. The move date is scheduled for March 12-13.

3. 2008 Budget

A. Current Financial Status and 2008 Operating Budget

The Secretary indicated that current pre-audit projections are for 2007 revenues that are higher than budget and expenses that are higher with a resulting net projected bottom line of approximately \$257,000 for 2007. Revenues are expected to be higher in all categories - especially annual meeting revenues for the New York City meeting. Expenses are higher than budget as a direct result of 2007 expenses on the new building space for property taxes, condominium fees, and interest on the bridge loan.

EOB forwarded the proposed 2008 budget to Council with its recommendation for approval. The proposed budget includes an additional \$10,000 for the Program Committee to address the increasing costs experienced in the past few years by all Program Committees. This additional amount will be continued in future annual operating budgets.

The 2008 budget covers the first full year in which the Association will have twelve months of ownership and related expenses for the new space. As noted earlier, the overlap of facilities costs through March for the continued lease of our current office space will increase the 2008 budget amount for Facility Expenses.

2008 revenues are budgeted higher across most categories reflecting the growth of the Association. Also added to revenues this year is rental income from tenant space at the new office location. As expected, the Association anticipates the need to use

some of the earnings from the Association's long-term investments to offset the higher costs of occupancy during the transition years (2008 and possibly 2009). This is estimated to be \$395,968 and provides the Association with a balanced budget for 2008.

Council voted unanimously to approve the 2008 operating budget.

B. 2008 Spivack Budget

The Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy, one of ASA's core initiatives, is funded by a restricted fund provided to the Association from the Spivack estate. Expenses for 2007 will be under budget. The proposed 2008 budget is \$176,800.

Council voted unanimously to approve the 2008 Spivack budget.

C. Grant Support

The ASA Research and Development Department reported that it had applied for a new grant in January 2008 in collaboration with the Association's Academic and Professional Affairs (APAP) and Minority Affairs Programs (MAP). Submitted to the National Science Foundation, the proposal is to investigate the relationship between technology and behavior. Specifically, the project will ask whether the development of a cyber-infrastructure that delivers updated scientific curricular materials and teaching resources (see below, APAP report on the Teaching Resource Center redesigned as an electronic data library) can increase participation in a distributed knowledge community. If funded, the ASA will also investigate whether the ability to spread scientific teaching and learning materials to a broader community requires specific dissemination strategies geared to different segments of the university community.

D. Member Contributions and Donations

In the annual membership renewal process, members are offered the opportunity to contribute to several different ASA programs, including, but not limited to, the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD), the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), and the Teaching Enhancement Fund (TEF). Contributions to these funds come from a small portion of members and are a small, but important source of revenue for these programs. As of the end of the 2007 membership year, contributions totaled \$27,285. The 1,029 contributions made during the 2007 members year came from 737 individual contributors (down slightly from 2006). The Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) continues to be the strongest fund, drawing \$15,808 in contributions in 2007 from 489 members.

After discussion of the relatively small number of members who make voluntary contributions to the programs of the Association, Council created a sub-committee to

examine member contributions. Maggie Andersen volunteered to chair the sub-committee and Pat Hill Collins Bonnie Thorton Dill volunteered as members.

Council voted unanimously to establish a sub-committee of Council members to examine ways to increase member voluntary contributions for specific programs, especially the Minority Fellowship Program.

4. **ASA Reserves**

Secretary Tomaskovic-Devey called upon Director of Finance Les Briggs to update Council on the ASA investments and reserves.

A. General Picture of ASA Investments

Briggs reported that through the period January 1 through November 30, 2007, the Association's long term investments had a mixed performance. Net gains through November 30 totaled 3.1% for the period (3.4% annualized growth). The US economy started 2007 with continued strong performance, but market activity declined after news of the sub-prime mortgage problem broke mid-year. The ASA professional investment advisor reported that 2007 was the worst year for the S&P 500 since the technology bubble burst in early this decade.

At the close of the 2006 fiscal year (December 31, 2006), ASA had long term investments of \$8,299,546. At the end of March 2007, ASA had experienced a 2.6% cumulative gain in investments. At this time, ASA withdrew \$2,000,000 for the down payment on purchase of the new office space. This withdrawal was the full amount of the Building Fund plus \$355,723 from the General Fund. This left long-term stock and bond investments totaling \$6,510,397. At the end 2007, the amount was \$6,532,600.

B. Reserves

The Committee on Executive Office and Budget and Council ASA define "reserves" as the unrestricted long-term investments of the Association, also referred to as the "General Fund Investment Account." As of November 30, 2007, the reserve portion of ASA's long-term investments was \$3,613,475, or 67% of the 2007 operating budget.

Consensus by EOB members has been that the reserve should be at a minimum half (50%) of current operating expenses and preferably 60%.

5. **Audit Committee Report**

By action of Council, the Committee on Executive Office and Budget (EOB) functions as the Association's Audit Committee. While in that role, EOB reviews internal controls and processes that safeguard the Association's assets. The most recent audit was positive and included no suggestions for changes or new procedures, noting that the existing internal controls are functioning properly.

6. Annual Meetings

ASA Deputy Executive Officer noted that at any given time, ASA has two program committees functioning independently, one planning the next most immediate meeting and one planning the meeting two years ahead. Advance planning is an absolute necessity for a meeting composed of as many individual events, individuals, and venues as the ASA Annual Meeting.

A. Update on the 2008 Annual Meeting and Related Presidential Activities

President Kalleberg reported that plans for the 2008 Annual Meeting are proceeding well. The event opens July 31st and closes August 4th, which makes this meeting earlier than usual. He outlined plans for plenary sessions and invited speakers. He also reported that submissions for open session were very high this year, approaching the level of the San Francisco meeting, which bodes well for attendance. Kalleberg also reported on his participation as ASA President in regional sociology meetings and university-based sociology events.

B. Update on the 2009 Program Committee

President-Elect Patricia Hill Collins reported that the program being developed around the 2009 meeting theme the "New Politics of Community" is well underway. The theme has stimulated considerable interest because the broad concept of community has real meaning for members of society and sociologists in terms of gated communities, cyberspace virtual communities, new forms of community, among many other expressions of the theme. The Program Committee has been enthusiastic and generated many possible invited sessions. Collins invited Council to give her suggestions as well as names of possible participants.

C. Future Site Selection

Deputy Executive Officer Janet Astner reported to Council that it was once again time to think about future meeting sites. While it was not originally planned this way, 2005-2008 turned out to be heavily east cost oriented meetings.

Astner reminded Council that the dates and locations for the 2013, 2014, and 2015 meetings were a direct result of relocating the 2006 and 2007 Annual Meetings to Montréal and New York. ASA needs to plan for 2012, 2016, and 2017 sites with 2012 the most urgent. Astner recommended that Council consider a western site for the 2012 meeting. Council responded favorably and discussed the pros and cons of a northwest location versus a southwest location. The timing of the meeting in August rules out a number of sites due to climate and the size and complexity of the meeting eliminate others. Council discussed possibilities including Denver, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Diego, Vancouver.

<p>Council voted unanimously to direct the Executive Office to investigate meeting sites in the western United States and western Canada for the 2012 ASA Annual Meeting.</p>
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7. Publications

A. 2007 Journal Subscriptions

Secretary Tomaskovic-Devey called on Karen Gray Edwards, Director of Publications, to report on the Association's publications activities.

By the end of the 2007 subscription year, institutional subscriptions had declined by 147 (1.9%) overall compared to 2006. Slow but steady attrition continues to be a cause for concern. In each of the last ten years ASA has experienced a decrease in institutional subscription, with library subscriptions to the six self-published journals down 15% over the last five years. Other associations, however, report significantly larger institutional cancellations.

Executive Office staff has continued to work with subscription agencies from whom ASA receives over 95% of institutional subscription orders to encourage library renewals. Staff are also working to target libraries in universities that have graduate programs in sociology but no subscription to ASR. Because most of the decline to date is a result of libraries reducing the number of copies they purchase rather than dropping a journal entirely, there are now few multiple-copy subscribers. Libraries are also increasingly dropping subscriptions to journals that are not available electronically. ASA journals have been available electronically since 2004.

Member subscriptions remain consistent. In 2006 most ASA journals experienced increases in member subscriptions, which was probably a result of the new policy that provides online access to all ASA journals to members who purchase at least two journals.

As in previous years, renewing members are more likely to drop *American Sociological Review (ASR)* and *Contemporary Sociology* and pick up *Contexts*. New members are more likely to subscribe to *ASR*.

B. Selection of Editors for *Contemporary Sociology*

Council moved into Executive Session to consider applicants for the editorship of *Contemporary Sociology*.

Council reported out of executive session that it had selected a new editor for *Contemporary Sociology*.

C. Proposed PEWS Section Online Journal

In February 2007, Council considered a recommendation from the Committee on Publications to approve sponsorship of the online *Journal of World Systems Research (JWSR)* by the ASA Section on Political Economy of the World System (PEWS). At that time, Council declined this recommendation, expressing concern under guidelines approved by Council for section journals about the lack of financial support by the

section and uncertainty about section membership support for this effort. Those concerns were conveyed to the Section.

In October-November 2007, the section conducted a special election in which members were asked to approve section sponsorship of the journal and an increase in section dues to help support its costs. The referendum passed with 111 votes in favor (out of 119 votes cast). In December 2007, the Committee on Publications considered the revised proposal from PEWS with its clear indication of support from the PEWS membership and an approval of a dues increase to build a financial base for future production costs. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend Council approve the JWSR as an official journal of the ASA Section on Political Economy of the World System. Council concurred with this recommendation.

Council voted unanimously to approve a proposal from the Political Economy of World-Systems (PEWS) section to recognize the Journal of World-Systems Research as the official journal of the section.

D. Footnotes Redesign

Following input from members and Council, a new design for *Footnotes* was launched with for the 2008 volume year. In the redesign, staff followed the substantial support voiced by members for maintaining the tabloid format and features such as upcoming conferences, grant support, and news about individual members, as well as members' strong preference for receiving *Footnotes* by mail.

E. Selection of Council Representative(s) for the Joint Committee on the Future of *Contexts*

In 2007 Council established an Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of *Contexts* to be jointly composed of members of Council, the Executive Office and Budget Committee, and the Committee on Publications. It asked for the Committee on Publications to develop a strategy for such a joint committee. At its meeting in December 2007, the Publications Committee indicated that this ad hoc group should include consider future directions for the magazine, including whether the magazine's current mission should be maintained or modified.

Contexts has been meeting the bottom line of its original 10-year business plan. By the end of the 2010, it is anticipated that the magazine will be self-sustaining or close to self-sustaining *in its current format* but not producing any surplus for further investment in the magazine or other ASA activities.

Contexts has been embraced by the ASA membership and has growing academic library support. It has not had significant success in reaching non-university audiences, although finances have limited significant experimentation. While there are different views as to whether reaching other audiences was part of the original mission, the original business plan lacked resources for such an effort. Council made it clear that the joint committee should revisit this possibility, and it should work on a clear statement of

what specific non-membership audiences and research libraries could or should be targeted beyond year 2010.

Council also discuss the continual concern that the criteria for selecting content for *Contexts*, including the level and types of peer review, are not as clearly stated as they are for ASA journals. Members of the Committee on Publications have also been concerned about both editorial review and the mission statement as guides to editors about appropriate content for the magazine. The new joint committee will have as part of its charge bringing such a statement to the relevant ASA Bylaws committees for review.

Donald Tomaskovic-Devey, as ASA Secretary, will serve as EOB's representative on this subcommittee. Amy Wharton will serve as the Committee on Publication's representative, with both new editors (Douglas Hartmann and Chris Uggen) available *ex officio* as determined by the joint committee. Council needs to select its representative at this meeting. Because this joint committee is expected to continue its work for at least two years, Council was asked to select one or more representatives who have two years remaining on Council.

Council agreed to appoint Marjorie DeVault and Michèle Lamont as the two new representatives to the Joint Committee on the Future of <i>Contexts</i> .
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8. Membership

A. 2007 Membership

The Secretary reported that the 2007 membership year ended with 14,757 members, an increase of 535 over the 2006 end-of-year total. This represents an overall increase of 2.72%, with the most significant increases in the lower and higher income categories, and in the student category. This is the sixth consecutive year of growth, and is the third highest membership total in ASA history (behind 1971 and 1972).

Efforts to encourage members to join and renew online have been hugely successful. In 2002, 5.6% of members renewed online. Nearly 80% of members renewed online in 2007. An even high percentage of new members (86%) joined online. In 2009, ASA will eliminate mailing print renewals (unless one is specifically requested).

Membership retention (those who renew from one year to the next) was down slightly from 2006 with 75.31% of 2006 members renewing in 2007. Renewals are highest among those members in the highest income categories, and are lowest among those with in the lowest income categories.

B. 2007 Section Membership & Analysis

At the close of the 2007 ASA membership year, there were 14,757 members, 68% of whom belonged to one or more section. With a total of 25,173 section memberships, ASA members in sections held an average of 2.5 section memberships.

At Council's request, the Executive Office conducted an extensive analysis of the sections as it does periodically. The issues addressed included: the participation of members in sections, overlapping membership in sections, annual evaluation of sections, termination of sections, establishment of new sections, section election participation, services provided to sections, annual meeting activities, section dues and finances, and the costs of supporting sections.

The analysis concluded that:

- Sections strengthen the Association providing members with attachment to smaller groups that facilitates their engagement with the Association and colleagues with similar intellectual interests.
- Appropriate new sections help increase Association membership by attracting new members and continuing the engagement of current members.
- A small but steady increase in the number of sections is not having a negative impact on the capacity of the Association to support their work.
- This increase is not negatively affecting other portions of the Annual Meeting program.

Council accepted this report, making no changes in the operations of the sections.

C. APSA Count of Annual Meeting Session Attendance

In follow-up to an item from the last Council meeting, Executive Office staff explored the practice of the American Political Science Association (APSA) to count attendance at all its annual meeting panel sessions, plenary sessions, and lectures. The APSA practice is to assign staff to conduct a head count at each session room during each meeting block. APSA allocates future space to special interest sections according to past attendance. ASA discontinued this counting practice because it was resource intensive, produced unreliable data (given the variability of attendance across the session timeslot), and the data were not used. Council saw no reason for ASA to resume this practice.

9. Executive Office

Executive Officer Sally T. Hillsman provided Council with an update on the operation of the Executive Office.

A. Overview of the Staff and Year

Hillsman reported that the Executive Office staff has performed extraordinarily well in the months leading up to the office relocation. In particular, Janet Astner and Les Briggs played vital roles in the relocation effort. Astner was acknowledged for her contributions to the design, layout, and detailed management of the physical

relocation. Briggs did an admirable job arranging the financing for the purchase and build-out. Effective staff management of this process will allow the office to move to new space with relatively little disruption in its activities. Tomaskovic-Devey reported that EOB has found the results of the Executive Office efforts to be very impressive.

B. Information Technology Update

Aster reported that ASA is highly dependent upon information technology and web-based electronic transactions. Investments in information technology are vital to the ability of the Association to transact business and service activities efficiently and effectively on behalf of members and other users. In 2007, capital purchases included two new servers, memory for the SQL server, replacement of UPS backup for servers, one laptop, two laser printers, and further development of the online Employment Service.

The NOAH software that the Association utilizes for membership database management will undergo a complete redevelopment in a move to a web-based system. For the past five years the ASA has used a combination of in-house and web-based systems to manage membership transactions. During 2009, the current software will be replaced by an entirely web-based system.

The Association appears to have outgrown the capabilities of the existing content management system (CMS) utilized to support the ASA website. The Executive Office is nearing the end of an intensive process of reviewing software and options available to the Association to support this vitally important function.

With the office move, the Executive Office has also implemented a new backup system that provides more comprehensive security for ASA electronic data. The new system continuously backs up all servers to more than one remote locations, allowing for complete restoration from backups within four hours.

C. JSTOR Amicus Brief

Hillsman reminded Council that in 2007 it approved ASA joining an amicus brief prepared by JSTOR in an ultimately successful appeal to the Second Circuit supporting the decision of the Southern District of New York in *Faulkner v. National Geographic Society*. These decisions are very favorable for the scholarly community, especially journal publishers such as ASA and journal archives such as JSTOR. These court decisions allow scholarly publishers to revise print versions of serial publications using other formats (e.g., electronic) under the terms of the initial copyright agreement between the author and publisher, despite their conversion of the text into digital format.

Success in the *Faulkner* case was particularly important because a previous case in the Eleventh Circuit had ruled that such revision was not permissible without securing a second copyright agreement. However, as long as different decisions remain across the federal Circuits, the federal system does not have a firm precedent for future

cases. Therefore, unfavorable Eleventh Circuit decision has been appealed to the US Court of Appeals for the Southern District of Florida. JSTOR again prepared an amicus brief and asked ASA to join. The timeframe was very tight so the ASA President and Secretary authorized ASA participation as one of the *amici*. Oral arguments are scheduled for February 25, 2008 with a decision to follow sometime later this spring.

D. ACLU/ASA Suit re: Adam Habib

Hillsman also reminded Council that in the spring of 2007 South African scholar Adam Habib was not able to get the United States Department of State to act on his visa application to enter the United States to speak at the ASA Annual Meeting in New York City. At that time Council agreed that ASA should participate in a suit on Habib's behalf if it was needed to pressure the government to act on his visa in order to secure the Constitutional rights of ASA members to hear Professor Habib and discuss scholarly matters with him.

Habib, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Johannesburg, has a Ph.D. in political science from the City University of New York, and is a world-renowned scholar of democracy, governance, and social movements. He is also a Muslim of Indian descent who, as a prominent and vocal human rights advocate, promotes democracy and equality. As such, Habib has questioned the efficacy of the war in Iraq and certain U.S. anti-terrorism policies. Every year since 2002, the *Financial Mail*, one of South Africa's leading financial magazines, has described Professor Habib as one of the 300 most influence opinion makers in South Africa, and the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* regularly quote him on a wide range of social and public policy matters.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) prepared the suit *pro bono*. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the ACLU and ASA actively pushed the government to act on the visa; but the government did not act and Habib could not attend. After the Annual Meeting and continued pressure, Habib's visa application was finally denied, without explanation, and the ACLU, ASA and others sued Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Michael Chertoff, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, in their official capacities in the federal district court in Boston. (Boston was selected in part because the ASA 2008 Program Committee had invited Habib to speak at the upcoming meetings there.)

Subsequently, the government issued a letter saying that Habib was denied a visa based on section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigration and National Act (INA). That provision was broadened after September 11, 2001, to render someone ineligible for entry on the broadly stated grounds of having "engaged in terrorist activity." Professor Habib was told that the government not only denied his entry but also would not waive his inadmissibility, making it impossible for him to get a visa to attend the 2008 Annual Meeting.

In December, with Habib's consent, the ACLU amended its filing on our behalf to meet this new situation. It asked the federal court to make the government provide

specific details about what Habib is being accused of and what evidence it has to demonstrate that the government action has a legitimate basis (i.e., supported by actual evidence). Currently the government refuses to specify the basis for its determination, or even the *type* of terrorist activity it is accusing Habib of under this very broad statute—one that encompasses activities that could range from directly engaging in violent acts, to inciting others to terrorist acts, to providing material support to a terrorist organization or soliciting others to support or be members in terrorist activities. Such exclusion without any government accountability, ASA believes, undermines our members constitutional rights to hear and speak with Professor Habib and restricts our academic freedom.

On January 15, 2008, the government moved to have the case dismissed on the grounds that the courts have no authority to review visa denials or waiver denials, even when the First Amendment rights of U.S. citizens (i.e., ASA Annual Meeting attendees) are impacted by the exclusion. The ACLU is now preparing a brief that will argue that (1) the court *must* assess whether the government has provided a “facially legitimate and bona fide” reason for excluding Habib; and that (2) the government has completely failed to provide a such as reason. The brief argues that merely pointing to a terrorism-related statute without more is not enough under the First Amendment. The government must also demonstrate that it has a legitimate basis (actual evidence) and that the statute applies to Habib, which they have not done. The ACLU will point to the December 2007 decision in the United States District Court in New York regarding Tariq Ramadan that recognized the court’s authority to review visa denials in situations like this (where there is a First Amendment claim by U.S. citizens) and requiring the government to provide a facially legitimate and bona fide reason for its decision.

Academic freedom is at the core of the ASA’s mission as a professional and scholarly membership association. Preventing scholars such as Professor Habib from participating in intellectual dialogue with our members without any explanation or substantiation, or because of the content of their scholarship or political views, undermines academic freedom by suppressing free intellectual exchange which is at its core.

Participants in the ASA’s next Annual Meeting in Boston in August 2008 still hope to hear Dr. Habib.

E. Environmental Responsibility

ASA has worked for some time on “greening” the Executive Office and ASA programmatic activities as opportunities arise. Staff worked with architects during the build out of the new office space to ensure a healthy and “green” environment with regard to building materials, finishes, furniture, heating and lighting. An element of site selection was accessibility to public transportation. The ASA also provides many member services electronically to decrease the amount of paper ASA uses. Staff have been meeting via conference call with members of the Section on Environment and Technology to explore new options for reducing ASA’s environmental

footprint and to encourage similar activities in the broader scholarly and academic communities.

F. Kluge Award

Hillsman announced that she had received an announcement from the Library of Congress regarding the Kluge Prize. Endowed by Library benefactor John W. Kluge, the Kluge Prize rewards lifetime achievement in the study of humanity with focus on disciplines not recognized by Nobel prizes. The disciplines include history, philosophy, politics, anthropology, sociology, religion, criticism in the arts and humanities, and linguistics. The award is near the financial level of Nobel awards.

The prize is international; the recipient may be of any nationality, writing in any language. The main criterion for a recipient of the Kluge Prize is deep intellectual accomplishment in the study of humanity. The recipient's body of work should evidence growth in maturity and range over the years. The recipient will have demonstrated unusual distinction within a given area of inquiry and across disciplines in the human sciences. Significantly, the recipient's writings should be, in large part, understandable and important for those involved in public affairs. In order to ensure consideration of as wide a pool of candidates as possible, the Librarian of Congress solicits nominations for the Kluge Prize from a broad range of individuals knowledgeable about the humanities and social sciences in colleges, universities, embassies, and research institutions across the globe, as well as from independent scholars and writers.

Council considered how best to respond to this announcement by developing a strategy for preparing one or two carefully selected nominations every two years. Council decided to form a sub-committee of Council members to develop a strategy for future nominees and to collect names for nomination. Margaret Andersen agreed to chair the sub-committee and Mary Romero and Doug McAdams volunteered to participate in the 2008 nomination.

<p>Council voted unanimously to create a sub-committee of Council to review the names of previous ASA career award recipients, add other appropriate names to the list, and prepare a nomination from the Association for the Kluge Award.</p>

10. Council Subcommittee Updates

A. Sub-committee on Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award Criteria

In follow-up to a report from the Committee on Awards at the August 14, 2007 ASA Council meeting, Council created a sub-committee committee to review the criteria for the Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award (CJF). Since its inception in 1971 as the DuBois-Johnson-Frazier award (DJF renamed the Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award in 2006 by vote of the membership), the award has been given to an individual or individuals for their work in the "intellectual traditions" of these scholars. From the beginning, the

phrasing “in the intellectual traditions” has led to different interpretations, some narrow and others broader.

In 2006 the issue of selection criteria arose again. It was referred to the ASA Committee on Awards which considered it during its August 2007 meeting. It was not able to reach a final conclusion regarding an interpretation of the criteria and asked for Council input at its August meeting. While ASA Council also devoted significant discussion to the issue, it concluded that more time and attention was needed than it had available. It created the sub-committee to review the award criteria and report back to Council at its next meeting in February.

President Kalleberg appointed several members to serve: Deidre Royster, current chair of the CJF award selection committee; Doug McAdam, ASA Vice President; Mary Romero, Council member and past Chair of the DJF award selection committee; Troy Duster, past President and past recipient of the DJF award; and Patricia Hill Collins, President-Elect.

This committee met via conference call on Thursday, January 17th after reviewing more than 80 pages of background material on the history of the award and various perspectives offered on the interpretation of the selection criteria over the award’s 36 year history. The Committee decided against an overly restrictive interpretation of the selection criteria and, after discussion, Council agreed upon the following guidelines:

The Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award is given to an individual or individuals for their work in the intellectual traditions of the work of these three African American scholars. Cox, Johnson, and Frazier placed their scholarship in service to social justice, with an eye toward advancing the status of disadvantaged populations. Their scholarship was not limited to just the gathering of more data, but was rather scholarship that was attempting to better conditions globally. Cox, Johnson, and Frazier worked to broaden the thinking of society and to broaden what the mainstream included.

In the spirit of the lifetime efforts of Cox, Johnson, and Frazier, the committee invites nominations of individuals or institutions with a record of outstanding work, such as, but not limited to:

- Activism, community efforts, the building of institutions, or sustaining programs,
- Emphasis on African American or similarly disadvantaged racial/ethnic populations that have experienced historical racial discrimination

Occasionally institutional commitment to social justice, to broadening the tradition to including and empowering marginalized scholars and marginalized peoples, is so compelling that this award can recognize a communal institutional effort.

Nominations should include a one to two-page cover letter that explains why the individual or institution fits the criteria, a CV, and possibly one or two additional letters of recommendation.

Members of Council applauded the sub-committee's efforts and asked it to solicit input from any individuals or groups that might provide further insight, to suggest any additional changes as needed, and to return to the next Council meeting for final action.

B. Ad Hoc Committee on MFP

NIMH funding support for the ASA Minority Fellowship Program (MFP), currently \$450,000 per year, along with other similar T-32 minority training programs, will end in 2010. The NIMH decision means that 15 of the 20 current full fellowships will no longer have funding. This comes at the same time as ASA will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the program (2008-2009).

ASA must now make some significant decisions about the structure and funding of the MFP program. Other significant funding sources need to be considered as well as potential changes to the program's structure to enhance its effectiveness.

Shin reported that ASA currently supports the 5 additional (non-MIMH) fellows using ASA organizational and financial resources as well as contributions from individual ASA members, AKD, SWS, the MSS, ABS, and the Southwestern Sociological Society. The fellowships are very competitive. In an average round of applications, approximately 50-60 applications are submitted, but because the bulk of the funding has come from NIMH, the majority of the MFP fellows selected have a scholarly focus on mental illness and mental health. The loss of NIMH funding provides an opportunity to expand the range of sociological work supported by the program.

Council previously established an Ad Hoc Committee on the MFP, charged with coming back to Council with suggestions about the restructuring of the Association's minority graduate training program. Council members discussed their ideas, providing input and suggestions to the Ad Hoc Committee. If the program is to be continued without interruption in whatever new form it will take, Council will need to make decisions during 2009 and early 2010. Members of Council expressed strong support for the MFP program.

C. Subcommittee on Public Information

In 2007 Council created a sub-committee on the ASA Public Information Program. The subcommittee has held two telephone conference calls to review the goals and principles that guide the ASA Public Information Program, discuss what has been implemented from the 2006 Communications Audit and other sources of advice, and consider current program plans and future possibilities.

The sub-committee and Council were supportive of the program's paramount focus on "branding" sociology in the media so that media attributes the work of members to

sociology as a scientific discipline. Another element of the program is communicating sociological research findings and perspectives through the media, including anticipating important issues where sociology can contribute. The sub-committee suggested a possible meeting of sociologists convened by ASA to discuss how to do this more effectively. A central principle of the ASA activities is to rely on peer-reviewed science and to seek sources of such knowledge widely. The program also attempts to build the public information infrastructure of sociology and the academy to augment the activities of individual sociologists.

D. Task Force on Academic Freedom & Scientific Integrity

At the 2006 February meeting of Council, a Council subcommittee proposed that Council create a Task Force to explore issues related to recent challenges to academic freedom and scientific integrity some of which had been reported to the Association. Council approved establishing a task force with the following mandate:

Issues of academic independence and scientific integrity arise regularly and the Association has always taken a strong stand to protect these values. In recent years, Council has been made aware of a number of sociologists and sociology departments that have come under attack in ways that challenge their academic freedom in teaching or research either directly or indirectly through the chilling effect of such attacks. There have also been a number of reported incidents about federal agencies engaging in behaviors that limit scientists' access to information, limit the public availability of research findings, or otherwise undermine the integrity of scientific research. This task force will be charged with developing a fact-finding strategy to compile information on examples of these situations and to suggest ways the ASA might address them.

The Task Force has been working via conference calls and e-mails to carry out the following:

- Conducting an Open Forum at the 2007 Annual Meeting to orient ASA members to information being gathered by the Task Force and to solicit members' input.
- Gathering relevant bibliographic materials including newspaper articles, court cases, etc., and a preliminary classification of these articles.
- Assembling statements on academic freedom and scientific integrity by other disciplinary and professional societies.
- Developing a plan to solicit information from several sources including questions asked on an upcoming ASA survey of departments, a survey of a sample of the ASA membership.

The ASA Research Department sent an exploratory survey on behalf of the Task Force to a sample of 1,000 members the day after IRB approval was secured approximately two weeks ago. At the time of the Council meeting the survey was not complete but preliminary data including about 196 responds indicating some type problem regarding academic freedom.

Council expressed its appreciation to task force for its informative interim report, and appointed Robin Stryker to fill the vacancy as the Council Liaison. Council urged the Task Force to complete its final report by assembling as much information as possible for Council but did not think it was necessary to conducting any further surveys. After considerable discussion, Council members concluded that it was not appropriate for ASA to attempt to defend individual members in matters of academic freedom efforts, recognizing that other organizations are better equipped for this work and after reviewing earlier ASA efforts to do so under the COFRAT program that ended in the early 1990s because ASA lacked any standing in such cases and universities would not cooperate with the association's investigative efforts.

E. Subcommittee on the Production & Uses of Federal Social Science Data

At the urging of Past President Piven, Council had established a Sub-Committee on the Production and Uses of Federal Social Science Data. At its last meeting, Council approved the Subcommittee's recommendation that ASA participate in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), an organization that monitors allegations of violations of scientific integrity in the federal government. In addition to participating in UCS, the Subcommittee suggested a number of strategies for reaching out to sociologists in the federal government about these concerns.

Staff member Roberta Spalter-Roth attended a UCS meeting and asked about placing issues, such as government cutbacks to data sets such as the Survey of Income and Program Participation, on the listserv. She was informed that cutbacks in data gathering were not considered scientific integrity issues. The sub-committee concluded that before ASA could effectively increase UCS's efforts on social science issues, ASA needed to know more about scientific integrity issues faced by sociologists employed by the Federal Government. Therefore, the sub-committee and the Executive Office are planning to convene a meeting of government sociologists to begin discussions about their experiences with potential integrity issues, how to communicate with other social scientist is government, and how protect potential whistleblowers while continuing to raise specific scientific integrity issues.

F. Subcommittee on International Outreach

The Subcommittee on International Outreach met on Friday afternoon from 2 to 5 pm prior to the Council dinner. That evening Council held an informal dinner meeting on the topic of ASA international outreach.

11. Final Report of the Task Force on the Masters Degree

President Kalleberg asked Roberta Spalter-Roth, staff liaison to the Task Force on the Masters Program, to present its final report. Council created the task force in response to the request of an informal group of chairs of masters-only programs who asked wanted ASA's help to make the Master's degree program a meaningful final degree rather than either a "consolation prize" or a "cash cow."

The task force was charged with identifying key components and characteristics of various types of MA programs; linking the ASA's BA degree guidelines to possible MA; describing interdisciplinary MA programs in which sociology is the host department or plays a key role; and developing a network of MA-only department chairs and directors of graduate study to review issues and concerns raised during a meeting of MA Department Chairs at the 2004 Annual Meeting.

Council voted unanimously to receive the report of the task force and to vote on its four recommendations separately.

1. The Task Force recommended that Council encourage the Executive Office to carry out a base-line, longitudinal data collection effort on sociology graduates holding Master's degrees as it has been done for those with undergraduate degrees and those with PhDs. Given the variety of MA programs (professional, applied/clinical, traditional and combinations thereof), the baseline should include the type of program established in any given department and why it was so configured as well as measuring the differences in outcomes for students trained in different types of programs.

Council voted unanimously to asked the Executive office to conduct the survey outlined in the first recommendation of the report.

2. The Task Force recommended Council establish a second, new Task Force on the Sociology Master's Degree with a charge to develop a web-based document that provides the field with department guidelines for developing and improving Master's programs. This new Task Force should provide advice to the Executive Office in planning the gathering of baseline data and any Task Force recommendations should reflect the findings.

Following discussion, Council decided to renew the term of the current task force for one additional year, with the specific charge of preparing the final version of the task force report for release and advising the Executive Office survey, but not to establish a second Task Force.

Council voted unanimously to extend the term of the current task force for one year with the specific charge of finalizing a document for dissemination, and to attempt development of a proto-classification system around which the information may be organized.

3. Council and the new Task Force should consider using an Open Forum at the Annual Meeting to hear from members about the diversity of institutional and departmental contexts, including those providing Master's only graduate education, and the different issues they raise.

Council recommended that the Task Force bring this matter to the Program Committee for the year in which it wished to hold such a forum.

4. The Task Force noted that MA degree recipients may constitute an important market segment from which ASA is not currently recruiting members. It recommended that ASA consider what services it current provides or could develop to recruit new Master's degree recipients as members.

Members of Council recognized that American universities are producing a large number of MAs who may or may not have a common core of training but who certainly lack a sense of professional identity upon entering the labor force. Council recognized that these MAs are also difficult to identified and contact once they have left the university. This Task Force recommendation was referred to the ASA Membership Department for consideration.

12. Executive Office Programs

A. Academic and Professional Affairs Program

Margaret Weigers Vitullo, Director of the ASA Academic and Professional Affairs Program (APAP), provided Council with a program update. APAP advances the discipline by working with academic departments in all types of institutions and especially through collaboration with department chairs. APAP plans and leads the Annual Chairs Conference, operates the Department Resources Group (DRG) consulting service, and handles ASA teaching and career publications in the Teaching Resources Center (TRC).

Vitullo reported that thirty years ago the TRC was initiated as a "grass roots" movement of sociology faculty helping each other to produce and disseminate innovative ideas for teaching both core and new content in the discipline. Publication editors collected and organized syllabi and other teaching materials related to a specific course within sociology, and ASA printed and bound the materials in inexpensive volumes. In the ensuing thirty years, the format has remained unchanged but the number of volumes has grown to over 104 titles.

But computers and the internet have also transformed the ways that professors prepare for class, gather information, and actually teach during that 30 years. In response to this vastly changed teaching environment, APAP is currently creating a TRC Digital Library. The Executive Office is currently defining the specific requirements of the electronic system and testing a variety of commercially-produced and open-access software. Over time, the TRC Digital Library will become an interactive web site that offers a wide variety of teaching resources, including syllabi, class activities, assignments, tests, essays, lectures, power point presentations, film lists, video clips, bibliographies, and website lists which can be downloaded in a form that permits users to easily edit and adapt materials for their individual teaching

needs. The content will be “modulized” so that each resource is individually indexed and searchable rather than “pre-packaged” in a collection.

Creating the TRC Digital Library presents a unique opportunity for sociologists to study how a new “cyber infrastructure” impacts the diffusion of innovation within the field. Sociologists in three ASA departments (Research and Development, Minority Affairs, and Academic and Professional Affairs) are collaborating on a research project that will conduct a systematic assessment of the TRC Digital Library, including a quasi-experimental design with two treatments that we hope will expand use of TRC materials among networks of potential users in Research Universities and under-resourced BA institutions, HBCUs, and Community Colleges.

Members of Council were strongly supportive of the digital library concept and asked for regular updates on its progress.

B. Student Programs

The ASA Honors Program provides undergraduate sociology students with a rich introduction to the professional and intellectual life of the discipline. Exceptional students from the U.S. and other countries come together to experience all facets of each ASA Annual Meeting. By participating in the Honors Program, students develop long-lasting networks with other aspiring sociologists while their sponsoring departments have a chance to “showcase” their own quality programs and their most outstanding students. Participation in the Honors Program requires nomination by a sociology faculty member at the student’s institution.

The report of the Director of the Honors Program, Dennis M. Rome of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, indicated that in 2007 there were 46 participants from 35 different schools (including 2 students from Turkey and 1 from Canada) who took part in the program at the New York Annual Meeting. Eleven students applied for ASA funding and all received a travel award.

C. Research and Development

Roberta Spalter-Roth reported on the mission of the American Sociological Association (ASA) Research and Development (R &D) Department to provide information to support and inform the Association, its members, and the broader scientific community about trends in sociology enrollments, degrees, departments, career trajectories, funding, salaries as well as the role of sociology in the nation’s science enterprise. Major R&D activities include designing studies and collecting, analyzing, and disseminating findings to support and inform ASA committees, task forces, Council, EOB, departments, the ASA membership at large, and the wider science community. The departments current work supported by outside grants includes the PhD+10 survey (supported by the Alfred E. Sloan Foundation) and the “What Can I Do With a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology?” survey (funded by the National Science Foundation).

D. Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline

Spalter-Roth also reported on the ASA Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD), a small grant program designed to nurture the development of scientific knowledge by funding small, ground-breaking research initiatives and other important scientific research activities. This project has been jointly funded by the ASA and the Sociology Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) since 1994 and is administered by the ASA. In August 2004, ASA was awarded the current \$165,000 three-year grant through June 2008. Spalter-Roth reported that ASA submitted the latest FAD grant for \$185,000 for the 2008-2011 cycles to NSF and has been told informally that ASA has received the award.

E. Public Affairs

Lee Herring, Director of Public Affairs, provided Council with an update on selected public affairs and science policy issues. The program on public affairs and science policy deals on a regular basis with emerging national science policy matters as well as crisis situations, often in collaboration with COSSA and other interest groups. Recent activities have included active involvement with COSSA on the annual appropriations for federal science programs. Other items of concern included: federal legislation that requires recipients of NIH grants to submit their research publications to an NIH database which is open to the public; the appointment of Steve Murdock, a demographer, as the new Census Director; and funding for the Census Bureau in the 2008 federal budget.

13. New Business

There was no other new business for consideration at this meeting.

14. Adjournment

With no additional business for consideration, the President adjourned the mid-winter meeting of the 2007-2008 ASA Council at 11:41 am on Sunday, February 3. The President thanked members of Council for their thoughtful consideration of all items throughout the agenda. The next scheduled meeting of Council will occur at the conclusion of the 2008 Annual Meeting in Boston.