

SSSP Labor Studies Division Newsletter – Spring 2002

A note from the chair

Beginning with this issue, the division newsletter will be sent in electronic format using the email addresses members most recently furnished to the SSSP office. If you did not receive the electronic copy in mid-March, that means SSSP does not have your correct email information. Please be sure to keep the office up to date so we don't lose you. If you do not wish to be included on the electronic newsletter, please contact me directly at jkr4@psu.edu.

In addition to listing our upcoming sessions for August, much of the space in this issue is devoted to acknowledging the many efforts of division members who graciously gave their time to organize those sessions and serve on committees. Note that along with the Educational Problems Division, we have co-sponsored a session entitled, "The Future Of The Academy, Or University, Inc?"

I anticipate issuing another newsletter this summer just prior to the meetings in Chicago. With that issue, I would like to begin a book review section that would include several concise book reviews. Please contact me if you are able to write a brief but informative review of a recent book relevant to the members of the Labor Studies Division. If you have announcements or calls for papers, please feel free to send them along to me as well. In closing, I would like to encourage your continued participation in the division. Ideas and offers of assistance are welcome at any time.

–Jackie Rogers, The Pennsylvania State University

Thank you to session organizers and committee chairs...

Sharon Bird (Iowa State University) for chairing the distinguished book award committee

Sean O'Riain (UC Davis) for chairing the Braverman award committee

Session organizers: George Gonos (SUNY Potsdam), Steve Vallas (Georgia Tech), and Kevin Henson (Loyola University of Chicago)

Ken Kyle (Penn State) for our cosponsored session with the Educational Problems Division

Labor Studies Division Sessions – Chicago, 2002

Session I: "The Not-So-Free Market: Coercion and Constraint in the New Labor Regime"

Organizer: GEORGE GONOS

Affiliation: SUNY-Potsdam

Address: Dept. of Economics and Employment Relations, SUNY-Potsdam, Potsdam, NY 13676

Telephone: 315-267-4805

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Discussant: TBA

1st paper title: “Special Delivery: Autonomy, Supervision and Perception Among Bicycle Messengers”

Author: Michael S. Knight

Affiliation: Loyola University Chicago

Address: 2014 West McLean, Apt. 2-R, Chicago, IL 60647

Telephone: 312-326-7772

Email: mknigh1@luc.edu

2nd paper: “Risk Relations: Taking a Chance or Having Nothing to Lose in New York’s Silicon Alley”

Author: Gina Neff

Affiliation: Columbia University

Address: Columbia University, Fayerweather Hall, New York, NY 10027

Telephone: 212-568-0965

Email: ginasue@panix.com

3rd paper: “The Overtimed, Overtired American: The Struggle Over Mandatory Overtime in the Hospital Industry”

Author: Kevin Henson

Affiliation: Loyola University of Chicago

Address: Loyola University of Chicago, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago 60626

Telephone: 773-508-3429

Email: khenson@luc.edu

4th paper: “Constructing Opportunity and Choice: Contract Professionals in Comparative Context”

Author: Debra Osnowitz

Affiliation: Brandeis University

Address: 38 Potomac Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132

Telephone: 617-327-5527

Email: osnowitz@juno.com

Session II: Race, Gender and Workplace Inequality

Organizer: S. P. Vallas, Georgia Institute of Technology
(steven.vallas@hts.gatech.edu)

1. “Hard drives and glass ceilings: Gender stratification in high tech production.”
Steven C. McKay

Assistant Professor
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University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
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2. "Globalization among professional service workers as a force for gender inequality: the case of stockbrokers."

Mary Blair-Loy
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3. "Changing attitudes in the face of a changing workforce."

Williams, Stephani.
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Arizona State University
Social Sciences 321
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Fax: (480) 965-0064
Stephani.Williams@asu.edu

4. "Invasive Evaluation: Artificially restricted labor markets and assaults on worker dignity."

Feinberg, Seth L.
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Feinberg.12@osu.edu
614 292 6681
614 292 6687 (fax)

Mikaela Dufur
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Brigham Young University 800 Kimball Tower
Provo Utah 84606

Session III: Welfare To Work In An Era Of Declining Employment: Ideologies and Outcomes

Organizer: Kevin D. Henson, Ph.D., Loyola University of Chicago, Dept. of Soc/Anthro, 6525 N. Sheridan Rd, Chicago, IL 60626; 773-508-3429; khenson@luc.edu

1. "Understanding the 'Hard-to-Employ': Past, Current and Future Efforts of Evaluation Research"

Allen LeBlanc, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, MDRC, Regional Office--San Francisco
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2. "From Welfare To What? Public Policy And Temporary Employment In The Age Of Personal Responsibility"

Jackie Krasas Rogers, Ph.D.
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128B Willard Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
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jkr4@psu.edu

3. "Welfare Ideologies: How Welfare Implementors Talk About Policy Dilemmas."

Susan Eachus, Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Sociology
University of Pennsylvania
(215) 898-6759
seachus@ssc.upenn.edu

4. "A Framework for Predicting Changes in Hardship as a Result of Welfare Reform"

Michael I. Lichter, Ph.D.
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MLichter@Buffalo.edu

Session IV: The Future Of The Academy, Or University, Inc.? (cosponsored with the Educational Problems Division)

Organizer/s, Jackie Rogers & Ken Kyle, Pennsylvania State University
Chair & Discussant, Ken Kyle, Pennsylvania State University

1. Machiavelli upgraded: A parallel structure of authority.

Ruth Rubinstein,
Fashion Institute of Technology.

2. A matter of degree: How students combine work with college.

Dave Wells,
Arizona State University.

3. Saving the profession: A case study of 'Casual' academic labor.

P.A. Duffy & Amy Armenia
University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

4. When 'Community' means business: The influence of the business sector on community college training and education for low-income workers.

Sara Rab
University of Pennsylvania
and
Kate Shaw
Temple University.

ASA Labor and Labor Movements Section earns formal status

Thanks to Judy Stephan-Norris for her update on the ASA Labor and Labor Movements Section.

The Labor and Labor Movements Section has earned formal ASA section status as of 2001. We have a one-hour roundtable session (organized by Michael Dreiling) and two paper sessions planned for the ASA meetings in Chicago: New Strategies and Directions for Organized Labor in the 21st Century (organized by Hector Delgado and Dan Clawson), and Bridge or Chasm: Labor Movements across the North-South Divide (organized by Peter Evans and Robert J.S. Ross) (co-sponsored by the PEWS section). Please join us for these sessions as well as our business meeting, where we will discuss the future plans of the section.

New PhD Initiative at George Washington University

Interested in Labor Studies, Race, and Policy? Check out GW's new PhD Initiative
by Gregory D. Squires and Ivy Kennelly

As scholars in the field of labor studies know, race and ethnicity are bound up in all aspects of labor market and work force processes. Race and ethnicity manifest themselves in many concrete aspects of work, as reflected in the following social realities:

- Unemployment rates of African Americans persist at twice the level for whites;
- Competition and conflict over jobs between native-born and immigrant groups, long associated with gateway cities on both coasts, now manifest themselves in small Midwestern communities;
- Median African-American family income is approximately 60% of the median white family income, but the typical African American family holds approximately one-tenth the wealth of the typical white family.

While there is substantial agreement on most of the factual disparities associated with race and ethnicity, far less consensus prevails over the underlying causes and what the appropriate policy responses should be. To facilitate inquiry into these critical public policy issues, The George

Washington University has created a new field in its Public Policy doctoral program in Race, Ethnicity and Public Policy.

This new field in The George Washington Institute of Public Policy allows students to examine race and public policy from interdisciplinary vantage points, and encourages them to pay particular attention to solutions. Students in this PhD program are able to take advantage of a wealth of intellectual resources in several schools and departments at The George Washington University, including faculty from American Studies, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Women's Studies as well as The George Washington University National Law Center.

Washington D.C., of course, is an ideal setting for these students. The city is a center for policymaking and policy research, and GW's faculty have many have personal connections with local organizations engaged in policymaking and policy research. Just a sampling of the government and quasi-government agencies in Washington D.C. includes the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, The Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Reserve Board, and Fannie Mae Foundation. Non-profit advocacy organizations that conduct and utilize research on policy related race and ethnic issues include the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, La Raza, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, National Community Reinvestment Coalition, and the National Fair Housing Alliance. Local research organizations include the Urban Institute, the National Institute of Justice, the Brookings Institution, and the Cato Institute. In addition, the metropolitan area is a racially and ethnically diverse community that constitutes an ideal location for conducting race and public policy research.

For application information and other questions on this dynamic new PhD initiative, please contact Joseph Cordes at cordes@gwu.edu or visit <http://www.gwu.edu/~pubpol/>.

Building Scholar-Labor-Community ties: The Institute on Work at Seton Hall University

Thanks to Barrie Peterson for keeping us apprised of all the work happening at the Institute on Work at Seton Hall. This group brings together labor, business, community, and religious groups to work toward bettering the lives of workers in New Jersey. If you are interested in knowing more about the research and programs at the Institute, follow the link below.

Institute on Work
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