Denver, Here We Come! Interim Arrangements, Institutional Memory, Openness, and Thanks
By Patricia Yancey Martin

Denver 2012. Our summer meeting will soon be upon us—in Denver, Colorado, August 17th to 20th. The SWS meeting rooms—one for hospitality and one for sessions—will be located in the Convention Center, near the hotels. ASA tries to place SWS registration close to their own registration area so keep an eye out for ours, so you can obtain your program, banquet ticket, and name-tag ribbon. I hope all of you can come. As you know, SWS meets in conjunction with the American Sociological Association, the Association of Black Sociologists, and the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Attendance at our meeting thus offers access to these meetings as well.

By the time you read this issue, a schedule for Denver will have been posted on the SWS website. Jesse Klein (see (continued on page 3)
In addition to the upcoming meeting, I offer a few observations at this half-mark in my term as SWS President.

**EO Search.** I know you are as disappointed as I am about our inability to hire a new Executive Officer. Our excellent Search Committee worked hard to find three eminently qualified candidates. Then they expertly shepherded the candidates and us members through the interview process and helped us reach a decision. We are in their debt. We are indebted too to the candidates, who are valued SWS members.

Our efforts to change to a new administrative structure proved to be more complicated than anticipated. To recap, our goal was (is) to change to a model including a *part-time* Executive Officer (EO) and a *full-time* Administrative Officer (AO). Similar to the one employed by the Society for the Study of Social Problems, this arrangement requires an EO to connect SWS to the sociological community and outside world and an AO to perform day-to-day administration. The EO will hire (with Council approval) and supervise the AO and the AO will keep books, manage SWS finances, manage communication with and services to members, organize meetings, assist the editors of *Gender & Society* and *Network News*, and so on. The AO will hire and supervise (after review and approval) any assistants to perform routine tasks—the SWS List, webpage, member services. The AO will, in short, run SWS. (A detailed list of AO duties can be found on our webpage: www.socwomen.org/). The challenges of finding an EO and assisting her to hire an AO are at the top of the current agendas of Council and EOB.

Once we learned that an agreement for a permanent hire was not feasible, Council began considering options. With support from the EOB, we voted to recommend an interim arrangement for one year, beginning July 1. During that year, lessons learned from the recent past will be reviewed and plans made for a new search. As before, a call for applicants will go out and, with hard work and good luck, a permanent EO will be in place a year from now.

**Institutional memory.** Imagine a large membership organization with no on-site location, continuously rotating officers, and minimal institutional memory. Its history “exists” in places that are

(continued on page 5)
Name: __________________________________________________

E-mail: __________________________________________________ (CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT VIA E-MAIL)

In order to attend the meeting, you’re encouraged to become a member. Start at www.socwomen.org

**Pre-Registration** — must be postmarked by July 31, 2012

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**On-Site Registration**: If later than July 31, register at the SWS Desk in the Convention Center.

**Options**

**Volunteering:**
Please e-mail swseo@socwomen.org if you would like to volunteer at the registration table or hospitality suite. To thank you for volunteering, we will refund your registration fee.

**Hand Program:**
- [ ] This will be my first SWS Summer Meeting; please match me with a returning member.
- [ ] This is **not** my first SWS Summer Meeting, and I’ll volunteer to be matched with a first-timer.

**Hotel Room Sharing**: Watch the listserv for announcements about sharing hotel rooms.

**Mail this form, with check or with credit card info to:**
Sociologists for Women in Society
Department of Sociology
501 Crescent Street
Southern Connecticut State University
New Haven, CT 06515

Fax (for credit card payments): 203-392-7087

**Credit Card Type**: MasterCard [ ] Visa [ ]

**Credit Card #** ______________________________

**Name**: ______________________________

**Expiration Date**: ___________________________

**Billing Address**: ______________________________

**Signature**: ______________________________
(President’s Message continued from page 3) not readily accessible—e.g., the memories of members, Network News, the minutes of Council, EOB, and Committee, the SWS archives (at the Schlesinger Library in Boston). The organization has few written policies and procedures. Are you recognizing SWS? Without extensive memory or policies, almost any decision produces lengthy discussion and debate, sometimes conflict and strive. Even minor decisions can require an inordinate amount of time because the officers often are new to decision-making/leadership roles in SWS and do not know how to proceed. They (we) do not know answers to even routine questions. Grounds for a decision must often be socially constructed and justified from the ground up. Our officers have “real jobs,” real families, many obligations; they (we) cannot devote full-time to SWS. I do not discourage anyone from serving in an SWS position—indeed quite the opposite—but I do challenge us to reflect on what we can do, individually and collectively, to assist our officers, executive director, and committee chairs (and members) to make SWS service less onerous. The Strategic Planning Task Force will, I know, offer guidance in this regard.

A recent conference call of the Executive Office & Budget Committee (EOB) brought home our “lack” of institutional memory. In addressing a recommendation from the Discrimination Committee to allocate money from the Natalie Allon Discrimination Fund to SWSers involved in legal proceedings, we learned that we did not know how to (a) evaluate a situation; (b) award or deny financial assistance; (c) the amount of support to allocate. We had no rationale for offering or withholding support. In the conversation, Barbara Risman said, “Well, I recall so and so”; thus her personal memory came to the rescue. She had been involved in a similar process some years ago; serendipity placed her on the call. But what if no one with experience had been there? In recognition of a need for policies and procedures, we asked the Discrimination Committee to bring a proposal to Denver for EOB and Council to consider. If you have opinions or advice on the issue, please share them (see below, for how to contact the committee chair). An organization can always override its policies or procedures but it should at least have them to work from.

Another “memory lapse” realized during the EOB call was our lack of knowledge of (a) what the Natalie Allon Discrimination Fund is; (b) how it came to be; and (c) what it intends to support. I knew a bit of the Natalie Allon story but no details of the fund. Yet, I suspected that Judith Lorber and Pamela Roby would know—and they do. They have graciously informed us of the fund’s origins and of events in Natalie’s life. The details of her story and the Natalie Allon Discrimination Fund will appear in the next issue of Network News, authored by Roberta Villalon, Discrimination Committee Chair (email: villalor@stjohns.edu). Roberta will try to recruit former recipients of aid from the Fund to add their bit.

Openness. When I considered running for president of SWS, several people said their primary criticism of SWS was secretiveness, lack of openness, and hoarding of power by those in office. I never for a minute believed SWS officers were intentionally secretive, closed, or “hoarding power” (and that conviction is confirmed by experience in the past year). However, I now see how that perception may be fostered. I have seen hesitation to speak for fear of being wrong, hurting someone’s feelings, or embarrassing oneself. What is said in email or telephone calls becomes “public” knowledge and can hurt a person’s reputation and invade her privacy; thus one becomes cautious. Members have multiple agendas, experiences, perspectives, statuses, and talents and experience SWS in diverse ways. Some see SWS’s mission as ABC, others as XYZ; both may be correct. Many conditions make people cautious or defensive or both. If you believe SWS leaders are being secretive, closed, or hoarders of power, confront them/us! Ask for explanations. I’m sure they will explain unless confidentiality is at stake. Make suggestions about how to deal with an issue that concerns you. Tell them/us how to do better. Trust in the goodwill of those with whom you work and encourage others to do the same.

Serving in SWS office is fun, educational, and empowering if also, at times, exhausting, stressful, and upsetting. It is hard work, yes, but it is a labor of love. As the Little Prince said about the “rose,” one loves what one takes care of. I encourage you to volunteer. You may be surprised at how joy mingles with pain when addressing SWS dilemmas, figuring out what to do (and how), making complex decisions, and becoming friends with folks you hardly knew before. It’s an exhilarating if (sometimes) wild ride.

Thanks to Jessica Holden Sherwood. In closing, I express my sincerest thanks and the thanks of all SWS members to Jessica Holden Sherwood for her service as SWS’s Executive Officer for six long years. During her time in office, we moved from “a one checkbook organization” to one with a bookkeeper, accountant, webmaster, media specialist, list serve manager, investment manager, and so on. In short, we became more complicated. We owe Jessica a great debt for her service during this challenging developmental period. Please join me in wishing her the very best in her new job as a faculty member at Johnson & Wales.
Attend the 2012 SWS Summer Meeting Banquet at the History Colorado Center!

We are pleased to announce that the 2012 Sociologists for Women in Society’s Summer Meeting banquet will be held at the History Colorado Center, one of Denver’s newest cultural attractions. With nearly 200,000 square-feet of exhibit space, the Center features exhibits celebrating the spirit of Colorado history and its people. Exhibits are open to visitors until 5pm all week with low-priced ticketing options. This location provides a rich history of Colorado as well as impressive event space. The banquet will be held in the Mountain View event room that has wrap around windows with stunning views of the Rocky Mountains. The Center is within walking distance (0.6 miles) of the main ASA hotel, the Hyatt Regency Denver, and is right around the corner from many other Denver attractions. We look forward to seeing you all at one of Denver’s finest historical and cultural centers for this year’s Summer Meeting banquet!

Celebrate Outstanding Feminists at the SWS Awards Banquet in Denver!

Join the SWS Awards Committee at an exciting banquet on August 19th where we will announce the recipients of this year’s awards. The award subcommittees are currently reviewing nominations to select this year’s faculty and student awardees for excellence in activism, mentoring, and scholarship. The faculty awards will be presented to individuals who, respectively, have made notable contributions to improving the lives of women in society (Feminist Activism Award) and provided outstanding guidance and mentoring to students (Feminist Mentoring Award). The next year’s SWS Feminist Lecturer—an SWS ambassador to campuses where feminist scholarship is unusual or unwelcome but much needed—will also be announced at the banquet.

For the student awards, the Cheryl Allyn Miller Award selection committee will present the award to an SWS graduate student whose research or activism has made an outstanding contribution to the field of women and work. In addition, we will announce the winners for the Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship and the Chow Green Dissertation Scholarship. The Beth Hess Scholarship supports a doctoral student whose studies began at a two-year college, while the Chow Green Scholarship recognizes women scholars from an underrepresented group studying concerns that women of color face domestically and/or internationally.

Come celebrate feminist excellence—as well as your own milestones for the year—in fabulous company, at the gorgeous History Colorado Center. For more information about the SWS awards, contact Marjukka Ollilainen, Awards Committee Chair at mollilainen@weber.edu.

SWS: Making Change with Investment Dollars

by Jessica Holden Sherwood

SWS is committed to Socially Responsible Investing (SRI), and our advisors and our portfolio reflect that commitment. This space spotlights the good works of some of the companies in our investment portfolio.

SWS owns stock in Tesla—not just another sports car company. For one thing, Tesla clears our social responsibility screens, which is required before any stock purchase. But Tesla is also at the cutting edge of all-electric vehicles, which are distinct from the now-common hybrids (of electric plus gas) like Prius.

In 2011, Tesla unveiled its Model X, which boasts the world’s first dual motor all-wheel electric drive powertrain. The little California company is now the world’s largest provider of powertrains for electric vehicles. I’m glad to spotlight this company for growing with energy that’s sustainable, politically independent, and environmentally friendly. Also, the cars look really cool.

See www.teslamotors.com for more information.

ERRATA FROM PRIOR ISSUE (NN 1 2012)

* On page 31, one name was inadvertently omitted from the list of “Senior” Hand volunteers: Trina Smith.

* On page 39 at I.vii.: instead of “The goal is to have two international board members,” the intended statement is: “the goal is to have, in person at each SWS meeting, at least two international board members attending.” As shown on the inside front cover of G&S, the editorial board already boasts international members from a dozen different countries.
Harriet B. Presser

On May 1, 2012, Harriet B. Presser passed away with her daughter, Sheryl, and Harriet’s partner of 32 years, Phil Corfman, by her side.

Harriet was a distinguished University Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her work helped transform the field of demography by bringing a gender perspective to bear on the study of fertility and family processes.

She was elected President of the Population Association of America for 1989. The Association named an award in her honor in 2008, to be given to recognize career contributions to the study of gender in demography.

In 2010 she was awarded the American Sociological Association’s Jessie Bernard Award for work that “enlarged the horizons of sociology to encompass fully the role of women in society”. At Maryland, she had founded the Center for Population, Gender and Social Inequality, and was awarded the Dean’s Medal for meritorious service to the college.

A service was held in New York on Friday, May 4, 2012 at the Plaza Jewish Community Chapel. In early summer, Sheryl and Phil will hold a service in celebration of Harriet’s life in Rockville.

In lieu of flowers, you may donate to the graduate student Fellowship Fund that Harriet had established. Checks should be made out to the University of Maryland College Park Foundation with Harriet B. Presser Fellowship Fund, Account #: 21-40452 in the memo line, and sent to: University of Maryland College Park Foundation Inc., Office of Gift Acceptance Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center, College Park, MD 20742

Published in The Washington Post on May 6, 2012

Harriet Presser

[Ed. note: Philip Cohen memorialized Harriet Pressser on his blog. Full post with links is here: http://familyinequality.wordpress.com/2012/05/09/harriet-presser/]

Thanks to Dr. Cohen for the permission to adapt for Network News.]

I presented Harriet Presser the 2009 Distinguished Career Award from the ASA Family Section, with the following remarks.

Harriet Presser is one of the pre-eminent researchers in the area of sociology now known as Gender, Work and Family. But it was in fact her work that helped to define that area, to shape that research agenda from the 1970s to the present day. As David Maume wrote in Contemporary Sociology, she “examined the poor fit between work and family obligations long before the idea of work-family conflict entered academic and public discourse.”

Harriet received a Masters degree from UNC Chapel Hill, and a Ph.D. from Berkeley. Her first faculty appointment was in Public Health at Columbia, and her early work concerned fertility and family planning, birth control and sterilization, which was the subject of her dissertation on Puerto Rico. A review of her many published articles shows a path from teen motherhood and pregnancy to work and family, focusing on welfare, work and family formation. She also studied child care challenges for working women and families. Her institutional contributions include an instrumental role in the early Census Bureau data collection on child care, in the 1977 Current Population Survey – and in the Census Bureau’s decision to drop the concept of “head of household” from its surveys (which is itself a great story of life at the intersection of feminism, bureaucracy and demography in the 1970s).

In 1983 she had the rare distinction among sociologists of publishing an article in the journal Science – on the issue of shift work among dual-earner couples. The high rates of shift work among spouses with children had gone largely unnoticed as women’s labor force participation increased. The nurses, waitresses, sales workers and telephone operators of the 1970s and 80s were on the leading edge of the nascent 24-hour economy that would reshape modern family life. For example, these were the first families in which large proportions of men were the primary caretakers for their young children. In fact, viewing career trajectories and strategies from a couple perspective was one of the many research innovations for which we have, in part, Harriet to thank.

With a clearness of thought and a prescient view of social trends, with which her work is riddled, at the end of that article in Science she sketched out a research agenda that read in part, (continued on page 8)
“(Harriet Presser continued from page 7)“what are the motivations for shift work among couples with children? What is the quality of child care in shift work households? … what are the quality and stability of marriages among shiftwork couples compared with others? What is the distinctive effect of shift work on the division of labor within the home and nonmarital power? Is the effect of female shiftwork on family life different from the effect of male shiftwork?” In fact, each of these questions has become the subject of important research as we attempt to come to terms with the simultaneous effects of the growing service economy, dual earner couple employment, cultural trends in parenting and, always, struggles for gender equality at work and at home.

The subject matter of Harriet’s research was influenced by her own experience going to college at night while trading off child-care shifts with her then husband, in the 1950s. Her feminist orientation drew from her experience as well, including a run-in with my own department, which was not uniformly supportive – shall we say – of a divorced young mother’s academic ambitions.

In the subsequent years Harriet built a career for herself at the University of Maryland, serving as the founding director of its Center on Population, Gender, and Social Inequality in 1988, now the Maryland Population Research Center. She became a Distinguished University Professor. She was the 7th woman out of 53 presidents of the Population Association of America, in 1989, and was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2008, an award was established in her name by the PAA, to honor scholars with distinguished careers in research on gender and demographic issues.

This is a small sampling of her many research activities, leaving aside her countless contributions to the universities, professional associations, advisory boards, study panels and journals that make possible so much of our work. And the students whom she has advised along the way.

* * *

I now teach the Gender, Work and Family course at Maryland, a seminar that I took with Harriet in 1996 when I was a graduate student here. Looking back over the papers I kept from that year, I remember how supportive of my efforts in that seminar she was. My paper for her led to the publication of an article in Gender & Society (Cohen 1998) which has become my most cited sole-authored piece. She didn’t believe the article should be published because it pushed the data too far — so I was lucky to have her as a teacher instead of a reviewer. In fact it is more influential for the issues it raises than for the answers it provides, which is a testament to what I learned in the seminar.

Hannah Wartenberg

Hannah Schiller Wartenberg (1921-2012) died on February 18 after a long illness. Hannah was born in Berlin, Germany, and emigrated for a year to Israel in 1934 before taking up permanent residence in the United States. She attended Wellesley College, where she majored in political science. She returned to Germany after the war to act as a simultaneous interpreter at the Nuremberg War Crimes Trial. It was there that she met her husband, Rolf Wartenberg, who died in 1996. She pursued her graduate education at Columbia University where she wrote a master’s thesis on women returning to work and a Ph. D. thesis on the establishment of research institutions in the U.S. She taught at SUNY-Stonybrook, SUNY-New Paltz, and Miami University. She remained an active member of SWS until problems with dementia made it impossible for her to attend meetings. She is survived by two sons, Thomas and Daniel, and a grandson, Jacob. Donations in her memory may be made towards SWS’s Mentoring Award <http://www.socwomen.org/web/awards/mentoring.html>. Obituary courtesy Tom Wartenberg

Tributes to Hannah

I have a good memory of Hannah, a dear friend of mine, too. She was one of SWSers who was actively involved in the organization and extended her helping hands to new comers. She was amiable and kind to share with us about her research work, travel stories, and other social activism. I remembered really well that when SWS and ASA had meetings in Miami, she spent time as an excellent host to drive us around in that city and hosted a dinner for a group of us. She was such a remarkable colleague whom I had missed seeing for several years, but I did ask around about her. Although she is gone now, she has left an unforgettable memory as part of SWS’ historical chapter. She will be missed. May her soul lies in peace. —Esther Chow

In 1994, when Hannah Wartenberg was 73 years of age, her study “Cuban Jewish Women in Miami” was published in Ethnic Women: A Multiple Status Reality. As editors of that volume, we offer this glimpse of her and her work. For the study, Hannah had interviewed twenty Cuban Jewish women whom she divided

(continued on page 16)
Members’ Bookshelf


Melanie Heath wrote One Marriage Under God: The Campaign to Promote Marriage in America.

Youyenn Teo wrote Neoliberal Morality in Singapore: How family policies make state and society.
http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415593977/

Anna Muraco wrote Odd Couples: Friendships at the Intersection of Gender and Sexual Orientation.
http://www.dukeupress.edu/Catalog/ ViewProduct.php?productid=14437

Based on interviews, Odd Couples examines friendships between gay men and straight women, and also between lesbians and straight men, and shows how these “intersectional” friendships serve as a barometer for shifting social norms, particularly regarding gender and sexual orientation.

“Theoretically important and fascinating to read, Odd Couples adds to the surprisingly scant social scientific literature on friendship. More significantly, it explores friendships between gay men and straight women and between lesbians and straight men in a way that no other work has. Clearly locating her study in the psychological and sociological literature on friendships, family, identity development, and gender issues, Anna Muraco adds to our understanding of gay and lesbian lives and raises provocative questions about gender and sexuality.”
- Peter M. Nardi, author of Gay Men’s Friendships: Invincible Communities

Enobong Hannah Branch wrote Opportunity Denied: Limiting Black Women to Devalued Work.
http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acata log/opportunity_denied.html

- Peter M. Nardi, author of Gay Men’s Friendships: Invincible Communities

Enobong Hannah Branch wrote Opportunity Denied: Limiting Black Women to Devalued Work.

Praise for Opportunity Denied:
“This is an important story to tell, and Branch’s Opportunity Denied makes a significant contribution to the study of Black women’s work.”
- Margaret L. Andersen, Edward F. and Elizabeth Goodman Rosenberg Professor of Sociology, University of Delaware

“In an exemplary application of intersectional analysis to Black women’s labor history, Branch convincingly demonstrates that the 100 year legacy of racial and gender exclusion explains Black women’s poverty today.”
- Bonnie Thornton Dill, author of Emerging Intersections: Race, Class and Gender in Theory Policy and Practice

The Society for the Study of Social Problems is an interdisciplinary community of scholars, practitioners, advocates, and students interested in the application of critical, scientific, and humanistic perspectives to the study of vital social problems.

If you are involved in scholarship or action in pursuit of social justice, consider becoming a member of SSSP!

SSSP’s Annual Meeting will be held at the Grand Hyatt Denver in Denver, CO on August 16-18. The Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet other SSSP members and share research on a diverse number of topics related to the study of social problems. If you can’t join us in Denver this year, consider attending the Annual Meeting in New York City on August 9-11, 2013.

For more information on SSSP membership or Annual Meeting registration, visit our web site: www.sssp1.org.
SWS Members’ MEDIA

For links, visit http://www.socwomen.org/web/media/sws-newsmakers.html

Tressie McMillan Cottom wrote, at the Huffington Post, “Insider’s View of For-Profit Colleges, Race, Class and Education Justice.”

Mindy Fried is blogging at http://mindmysuses.blogspot.com/.

Naomi Gerstel and Natalia Sarkisian had their research cited in The Washington Post: “Five myths about marriage.”

Enobong Hannah Branch was a guest on the Chicago Public Radio show: Images, Movies and Race: ‘The Help’ and Black Women’s Labor, on WBEZ 91.5.

Afshan Jafar gave a TEDx talk: “Progress and Women’s Bodies,” at Connecticut College.

Jesse Klein was quoted in The New York Times: “Academia Occupied by Occupy.”

Jeanne Flavin wrote, for the Huffington Post: “How Catholic Universities’ Contraceptive Ban Fails Our Students.”

Stephanie Nawyn co-wrote, for the Detroit Free Press: “Why the House version of the Violence Against Women Act is bad for women.”

Michaela Null was quoted, in U.S. News & World Report: “Being Obese May Make Job Search Tougher.”

Sarah Sobieraj’s research was cited in Columbia Journalism Review: “In a Social Campaign, What Role for the Press?”

Galye Sulik was quoted in The Philadelphia Inquirer: “Breast cancer causes so easily derailed.”

Adia Harvey Wingfield, Mary Gatta and Patricia Roos had their research cited in The New York Times: “More Men Enter Fields Dominated by Women.”

For links, visit http://www.socwomen.org/web/media/sws-newsmakers.html

SWS Members’ AWARDS

Hae Yeon Choo won the 2011 Lumpkin Award at the University of Wisconsin Sociology Department, for her dissertation.

(Continued on next page)

Call for Applications: NETWORK NEWS Editor

By Barbara Risman and Julia McQuillan
Publications Committee Co-Chairs

The Publications Committee seeks applications and nominations for the position of Editor for Network News. Consistent with guidelines provided by the Publications Committee, the Editor is responsible for publication of four issues per year, averaging 30 pages plus committee reports, with a circulation of approximately 1000. Editorship responsibilities include: design, presenting and distribution of the newsletters; solicitation of articles and material for publication; copyediting, proposing and managing budget and reports to Publications Committee at the winter and summer meetings. The appointment is for four years, beginning December 2012. This position has a $5000 annual stipend as compensation. SWS funds the production and mailing of Network News and will cover expenses to summer and winter meetings up to $1000 for the editor.

Desirable resources and skills include experience with journals, editing, and publishing. For more information on the requirements and work of the position, please contact the current editor, Jessica H. Sherwood at jessicahsherwood@yahoo.com.

Applications are due by July 15th, 2012 and should be emailed to Barbara Risman, at brisman@uic.edu, Co-Chair of the Publications Committee. The application should include: 1) a statement of background and interest; 2) a statement of goals for the publications; 3) a CV; 4) a statement of supportive resources from the institution. The statement of support from the institution should include (but is not limited to) the extent to which the institutional administration supports the work of editing a newsletter in terms of such things as space, management, travel and similar issues.
“Citizenship at the Margins: Filipina Migrant Women and the Paradox of Rights in South Korea.”

Brianne Dávila won a Community Action Research Initiative (CARI) award from ASA and the Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy. With CARI funding, Bri-anne will develop an ongoing plan for systematic data collection and analysis of Willamette Academy’s programs and practices. For more information see: http://willamette.edu/academy/.

Shannon Davis has been recognized as a Teacher of Distinction at George Mason University. She is also one of the inaugural winners of the OSCAR Mentor Award, given to faculty members in recognition of their dedication to mentoring undergraduates in performing research.

Kris DeWelde won the Individual Service Excellence Award at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Kimberly Kay Hoang won the Dissertation Award from ASA for her dissertation, “New Economies of Sex and Intimacy in Vietnam.”

Meg Wilkes Karraker is the 2012 recipient of the Midwest Sociological Society’s Jane Addams Outstanding Service Award “for dedicated service on behalf of women and girls.”

Carla A. Pfeffer received the 2011-2012 Purdue University North Central Outstanding Teaching Award for Excellence in Education.

Kristen Schilt won the 2011-2012 University of Chicago Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring.

Marybeth Stalp was invited to write an essay and curate an online exhibition of “controversial quilts” at the Michigan State University Museum as part of the Quilt Index. “In The Shadow of the Quilt: Political Messaging in Quilts” http://www.quilt-index.org/essay.php?id=3-98-1C

Veronica (Ronni) Tichenor won the Student Association Excellence in Teaching Award at SUNY-Institute of Technology.

Eileen Otis received tenure and promotion to associate professor at the University of Oregon.

Jessica Holden Sherwood is Assistant Professor at Johnson & Wales University, starting Fall 2012.

Leslie K. Wang is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Grand Valley State University, starting Fall 2012.

All this and more is at http://www.socwomen.org/web/media/sws-newsmakers.html.

SWS SUMMER MEETING: AUGUST 17–20, 2012, IN DENVER, COLORADO

visit: http://www.socwomen.org/web/conferences/upcoming-conference.html for all the latest information.
Girls and Education: A Global Approach
Gowri Vijayakumar, UC Berkeley

Girls’ education globally has received increasing attention in recent years. A wide range of development and policy organizations advocate for and provide programs in girls’ education. This fact sheet presents 1) basic data about gender inequality in education globally 2) some of the major policy approaches and 3) a list of relevant NGOs and policy organizations.

The Big Picture: Data on Gender Inequality in Education

Educational Access
One measure of gender equality in education is the Gender Parity Index (GPI), the ratio of girls to boys enrolled at a particular level of education. GPIs worldwide in 2008 indicated continued exclusion of girls from schooling; fewer than two-thirds of countries with data have gender parity, or equal enrolment of girls and boys, at the primary level, and only around a third of countries at the secondary level (UNESCO 2011a, 73). Yet most regions have seen impressive increases in girls’ school enrolment both at the primary and secondary levels in the last decade. UNESCO data show an overall increase in enrolment at both the primary and secondary levels, as well as a narrowing of the gap between male and female enrolment, though secondary enrolment remains much lower than primary enrolment. At the tertiary level, female enrolment has grown almost twice as fast as that of males in the last 40 years, and gross female enrolment now equals or surpasses male enrolment in every region except South and West Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa (UNESCO 2011a, 77).

Educational Achievement and Experience
Education reforms in the developing world have increasingly emphasized educational quality in addition to access (Hanushek 2005). Data on educational attainment show that girls are less likely to drop out or to repeat grades than boys are (UNESCO 2011a, 42, 47). SACMEQ, a consortium that tests learning outcomes in Southern and Eastern Africa, has found consistent advantages for girls in reading and for boys in math (Saito 2011), results similar to PISA findings in OECD countries (Marks 2008; OECD 2010).

Beyond test scores, some organizations, such as UNICEF, have more complex definitions of educational quality that include gender-sensitive curricula and classroom environments. Girls’ experience in school is difficult to define and measure in universal terms. U.S. sociologists of education (Martin 1998; Giroux and Purpel 1983) have documented ways in which the “hidden curriculum” can operate to reproduce inequalities and normalized forms of gendered behavior. In addition, girls can face physical or sexual violence in school (Dunne, Humphreys, and Leach 2006). The race and gender of teachers may also shape experiences of school (Dee 2005). The proportion of female teachers worldwide is still much lower at the secondary than the primary level; further, in countries where teachers are higher paid, the proportion of male teachers tends to increase (UNESCO 2011a, 100–104). These gendered dynamics affect boys as well as girls. Girls and “feminine” behavior can be advantaged by some aspects of the “hidden curriculum,” and girls may earn better grades and enjoy school more than boys do (Buchmann, DiPrete, and McDaniel 2008).

1 Gross enrolment ratios were 108 for males and 105 for females at the primary level, and 68 for males and 66 for females at the secondary level in 2008, up from 102 for males and 94 for females at the primary level, and 62 for males and 56 for females at the secondary level, in 1999 (UNESCO 2011b, 309, 325).
2 Fields of tertiary study are often highly segregated by sex (UNESCO 2011a; Charles and Bradley 2002).
Local and Global Inequalities

- **Global Wealth Inequalities.** In general, greater national wealth is associated with greater educational access. However, the relationship between national wealth and educational access is complex; low-income countries like Malawi and Ethiopia now have school life-expectancies on par with much richer countries, like China and Turkey (UNESCO 2011a, 10). In general, “developed” regions of the world, such as North America and Western Europe, have greater gender parity in education or an over-representation of girls compared to “developing” countries, but many such countries are quickly erasing this difference.

- **Race, Class, and Regional Inequalities.** Gender inequalities operate in relation to other axes of inequality. In the U.S., race and class can intersect with gender to disadvantage girls of color in terms of educational attainment, self-esteem and school climate (Hanson, Smith, and Kapur 2000; Corbett, Hill, and St. Rose 2011). Similarly, in many developing countries, class, race, ethnicity, region, rural/urban location, and first language work together to shape educational access and quality (Buchmann and Hannum 2001; UNESCO 2010).

- **Geopolitics and Conflict.** Conflict directly affects educational attendance and exacerbates gender inequalities: on average, the GPI at the primary level is less than 0.90 at the primary level in conflict-affected countries and less than 0.80 at the secondary level (compared to around 1 in other countries) (UNESCO 2011b, 133). At the same time, foreign aid for education, and girls’ education in particular, is increasingly funded by defense budgets in Iraq and Afghanistan as part of a “hearts and minds” strategy. For example, in 2008, the U.S. aid budget for education in Iraq, which made up 86% of aid spending on education there, was fully channeled through an “emergency response” portfolio (UNESCO 2010, 178). This defense focus may shape the emphasis of girls’ education funding.

- **Financial Crisis.** Austerity measures in both developed and developing countries, encouraged by neoliberal financial institutions, often involve major cuts to all levels of public education. For example, a survey of 18 low-income countries found that 7 had made cuts to their education budgets in 2009 and 3 had made no increases (UNESCO 2011b, 112). Such cuts have taken place across the U.S. and U.K. as well, and shape the context for overall educational access as well as potentially exacerbating race, class, and gender inequalities.

Thinking Beyond the Classroom

Girls’ education is often assumed to have automatically transformative effects for gender equality. Yet education is one of a complex set of factors shaping female well-being; girls’ education is not a panacea. A literature review by the International Center for Research on Women examines the evidence on the relationship between female education and various measures of gender equality (Malhotra, Pande, and Grown 2003). The following discussion draws on this literature review, unless otherwise stated.

- **Education and Health/Well-Being.** High levels of female education are associated with improved health outcomes, lower fertility, and greater use of maternal health services, but are not always linked to sexual health. For example, early in the HIV epidemic, higher education was associated with greater risk of HIV infection, but as the epidemic progressed, it became associated with lower risk (Hargreaves and Boler 2006). Female education may be associated with lower levels of domestic violence, but only in some settings.
Education and Social Position. Female education is associated with increased freedom of movement, but not necessarily increased decision-making power within the family. Secondary-level education is more associated with increased decision-making power than primary schooling. In many contexts, ethnographic research suggests that female education does not necessarily overturn women’s position within patriarchal social structures.

Education and Employment. Depending on context, marital status, and type of schooling, the relationship between female education and labor-force participation is sometimes positive, sometimes U-shaped (with lower labor-force participation at middle levels of education and higher participation at the lowest and highest levels), and sometimes insignificant. However, in all 9 studies reviewed on earnings, female education had a positive or conditional relationship with increased earnings, particularly in the formal sector. This relationship is clearest at the highest levels of education.

Education and Political Participation. While limited evidence exists, secondary education for girls may be associated with greater representation of women in politics. A study drawing on data from India and from the World Values Survey (Chhibber 2002) links education, belonging to an association, and employment to women’s political activity.

Policy Approaches to Girls’ Education
Policy approaches to girls’ education are often motivated by very different concerns and orientations. The following are adapted from Aikman, Halai, and Rubagiza (2011).

The Human Capital Approach. Campaigns such as the “Girl Effect,” sponsored by the Nike Foundation and the World Bank, emphasize girls’ education as “smart economics” because of its impact on national wealth and economic growth. They emphasize gender parity and sameness of educational resources to girls and boys.

The Rights-Based Approach. A rights-based approach, such as that of Education for All (led by UNESCO), emphasizes girls’ right to education. Civil society campaigns such as the Global Campaign for Education attempt to address gendered inequalities in the attainment of these rights at the level of education ministries and development aid institutions.

Postcolonial and Feminist Critiques. Some social movements for education have emphasized the role of formal schooling in promoting hegemonic forms of knowledge over indigenous or marginalized knowledges, and reifying categories such as that of the “Third World” girl. These movements might promote alternative forms of education.

The Capabilities Approach. This approach, proposed by Unterhalter (2007), focuses on the intersections between gender inequality and other forms of inequality, and frames gender inequality in schooling within a broader struggle for social justice.

References


into three different groups according to the time in their life cycle they had left Cuba and come to Miami. Using Robert Merton’s “insider outsider” theory to describe her relationship to and interaction with her sample, Hannah made a connection between her biography and that of her interviewees. She said:

Not being a Cuban Jew, I interacted with them as an “outsider.” The insider outsider theory “holds that one has privileged access to knowledge, or is wholly excluded from it by virtue of one’s group membership or social position.” My being Jewish gave me some “insider” status. One woman who asked me if I was Jewish stated, “If you are Jewish, you can understand better why Jews help each other.” My not being a native-born American, but a Jewish refugee, albeit from Germany, created a common bond. My female status was probably also helpful in establishing rapport. The women welcomed the opportunity to tell their story to an apparently sympathetic and interested “Anglo,” as all nonblack Americans are called in Miami.

Hannah was a friend, a mentor and a role model. We were honored to include her study in our book. — Vasiliki Demos and Marcia Texler Segal

Just to chime in with a few memories of Hannah—not only was she always at SWS and ASA meetings, along with Beth Hess, she was a great one for welcoming “the new ones” and providing encouragement for people’s work. She was always particularly interested in work on immigrants and refugees and on anything having to do with Germany (the latter being where our interests intersected). I think the connection between her experiences as a young person fleeing persecution and as a translator in Nuremberg made her hyper-sensitive to making sure that everyone felt included in every group and made her feel a sense of collective responsibility for how society and organizations worked—whether ASA or SWS. I had already been missing her at meetings and encourage others to step up to fill the gap in inclusive and supportive mentoring across lines of age, location, ethnic/racial difference. Great idea to have donations made in her memory to the mentoring award!!

— Myra Marx Ferree

Hannah Wartenberg was friend and colleague to all. Hannah bridged time (both cohorts, and years) and place (US, Europe, Israel, and more). She brought grace, passion, and inclusiveness to SWS—and to all that she touched and enhanced. — Mary Frank Fox

I also remember Hannah very well, and I always found time to talk with her at all the different meetings. I found her explanations of events in her earlier life very interesting and, since she has not been at meetings, I have wondered how she was doing. We will all remember her fondly. — Jennie Kronenfeld

Hannah was a dear friend of mine and a stalwart of SWS nationally and in New York, where she worked to develop SWS’s International Committee. She was one of those feminists who was always there when you needed something done. I remember all our times together at SWS, ESS, and ASA meetings when we roomed together and the many meals and conversations in New York and Southampton, often with Rolf. She was intertwined in my life for many, many years, through good times and not so good times. I have missed her presence at SWS and in my life for the past several years but was pleased to be able to celebrate her 90th birthday with her sons and grandson.

— Judith Lorber

While I always enjoyed chatting with Hannah at the winter meeting and ASA—and have an oddly vivid memory of eating lunch with her at the winter meeting in Tempe at PF Chang’s!—I think my favorite memory is our dearly departed winter-meeting auctioneer, Carla Howery, auctioning off hugs for Hannah to raise money for whichever cause we were supporting in a particular year. As is already the case for me with Carla, I doubt I will ever stop expecting to run into Hannah at a meeting or imagining that I have caught a glimpse of her there.

— Betsy Lucal

I remember Hannah so well. At summer banquets, at winter meetings, she was always there, always adding a splash of humor and good cheer. Somehow I was often lucky enough to end up at her table, and enjoyed her tremendously, and will miss her presence. — Barbara Risman

I remember well Hannah’s friendliness, the warmth and joy we shared, and her commitment to SWS and feminist action. Hannah will certainly live on in my and our hearts and minds.

— Pam Roby

Hannah was warm, friendly, modest and so unassuming that you might not notice she had a lot of spunk. She will be missed. — Gaye Tuchman

Hannah and I met some 50 years ago through a common acquaintance who was studying with me for an M.Sc in Housing and Urban Planning at Columbia University. This acquaintance introduced us to each other at some conference, our accents clicked in a familiar way and we became friends. We had much in common: foreign-born, older students, husbands, children, feminists, ambitious sociologists.

(Continued on next page)
Over the years we went together to many conferences and shared joys and sorrows. Hannah invited me to her son’s wedding and to her summer home in Southampton. When she described her difficult commute to her tenure-track position at SUNY New Paltz, at the same time with a twinkle in her eyes she showed me some device she had in her car to avoid speeding traps. When Rolf, her husband, decided for business reasons to settle in Miami, she shared with me her hesitation about moving and her deep regrets at leaving her New Paltz teaching position. As she mentioned in her autobiographical essay, she was too traditional to try a long distance commuter marriage. (p. 63). She adapted remarkably to Florida, created teaching opportunities for herself and remained the wonderful social butterfly she had always been with a large circle of new friends. When I visited her in Miami I marveled at her capacity to make the best of what life offered her.

Together we researched stepparenthood and presented a paper on the subject at the Second International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women that took place in Groningen, The Netherlands, in April 1984. We entitled the paper “Voices of Women in Remarried Families.” It was a fun congress. We were given vouchers for free meals and drinks in various places in town. I think that these were still the early days of feminism for Holland, and the townspeople had been warned about the radical bra-burning feminists. So when the two of us, staid middle-aged ladies in classical suits, would pull out our vouchers with an expectant smile, waiters and waitresses would stare at us in disbelief: could we really be bra-burners? We were also invited to a wonderful dairy Passover Seder in the railroad flat of the head of the Jewish community who had extended an invitation to all members of the congress. We were more than 50 people. We read the Haggadah in Hebrew, in English, in Dutch and in a feminist version. I had brought with me the Haggadah my mother-in-law had received as an award from the Groningen Sunday School when she was a student there at the beginning of the 20th century and we read it together. We had a great time, we were very animated and slightly drunk. Somebody brought us to the railroad station to catch a late train to the town where we were staying with one of Hannah’s former students. When the controller came to look at our tickets he informed us that we were on the wrong train. We were unloaded in a deserted station and waited in the dark for a train in the opposite direction. I don’t recall how we came back to our lodgings, whether by train or by cab. I only remember us lost late on a moonless night in the deserted Dutch countryside.

Nearly a decade later we presented another paper together. Hannah had interviewed Cuban Jewish immigrant women, and I did the same with Russian Jewish immigrant women. We compared them and presented our paper “Diverse Voices of Immigration” at the International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women in San Jose, Costa Rica in February 1993. One afternoon the whole congress went on parade downtown to protest violence against women, it was an unforgettable event. Judging by the applause the message seemed at the time to be a powerful one for the spectators lining the streets. Rolf came to the Congress as well, and when it ended we went on sightseeing trips in the country. We had many wonderful experiences. I remember an evening when Hannah and Rolf danced with abandon late into the night. A few years later, after she was widowed, we went to Alaska together on a cruise. We alighted from a helicopter on an iceberg and walked gingerly on the ice. We were not young but we were in high spirits and as always in search of new experiences.

Hannah visited us in the Berkshires with Rolf. Later she shared with me the difficulties she had in caring for him after his stroke, and again I marveled at the solutions she found. After Rolf passed away we often talked about his memoirs and her desire to publish them.

In the last decade of her life, Hannah happily resettled in New York City. Always in search of an active life, she volunteered weekly at the Leo Baeck Institute, the large research library devoted to the study of the history and culture of German-speaking Jews. She told me that she worked in the archives, where she made many of the German donations machine-readable.

I cherish the memories of my friendship with Hannah, of our good times together, of our professional discussions, of her cheerfulness and her savoir faire, of her immense interest in people and her capacity to see the good in them. May she rest in peace.

This obituary is a modified version of what I wrote to Hannah for her 90th birthday. More details about her encounters with anti-semitism, gender discrimination, professional life and the importance of SWS in her life can be found in her autobiographical essay entitled “Obstacles and Opportunities en Route to a Career in Sociology” published in Ann Goetting and Sarah Fenstermaker (eds). Individual Voices, Collective Visions. Fifty Years of Women in Sociology. 1995. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

—Suzanne Vromen

I, too, remember Hannah very well—such a ray of sunshine! I would always try to get a little time with her to catch up at SWS meetings. I’ve missed her since she stopped coming to meetings and I am so sad that dementia kept her from attending. Aging is not for sissies, and Hannah was never one! The world without Hannah is just a little dimmer due to her absence. I will keep her in my heart. —Cathy Zimmer
To update address or contact information with SWS please log on at: www.socwomen.org/members and click Member Profile, then Edit.

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

The SWS 2012 Summer Meeting is August 17 to 20, in Denver, Colorado, in conjunction with ASA.

Please see inside for further information and pre-registration.