

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Building Sites of Justice in Times of Social Conflict

By Tracy E. Ore, SWS President



The Summer meeting in Las Vegas affords us wonderful opportunities for considering how to establish sites of social justice in times of social conflict.

As the theme for this year's ASA meeting focuses on the multiple dimensions and arenas of social conflict, we can look to the origins of our own wonderful organization of how our wise and brave founders responded to contradictions within the field of sociology to create a space dedicated to improving women's lives and creating feminist social change. As we continue to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SWS, our time in Las Vegas will afford multiple occasions to reflect on this theme.

We are especially honored to have Feminist Lecturer Nancy Naples as one

of our guides in this exploration. Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies, Nancy will give her lecture on Sunday, August 21 at 2:30 p.m., speaking about issues of fairness and social justice in her talk "It's Not Fair: Challenging Inequalities in Everyday Life." Nancy is a Past President of SWS and recipient of numerous awards and honors, including a 2011 Excellence in Research Award for Social Sciences from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Connecticut. This is sure to be an engaging, exciting, and thought-provoking session.

Our program begins on Saturday, August 20, and includes opportunities, once again, to benefit from the wealth

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## Conversations at Easterns: Navigating Power in the Academy, Sister to Sister

*Corinne Castro's Reflections:*

At the 2010 SWS summer meeting in Atlanta, I attended the sister-to-sister panels and business meetings. Through our fruitful discussions about issues of inclusion and strategies for strengthening members' ties with SWS, I was encouraged and motivated to organize an SWS-sponsored event at the ESS annual meeting in February 2011. After proposing some ideas to my advisor, Dr. Byng graciously agreed to co-organize the event. At that time, I was wrapping up qualitative interviews with women of color faculty for my dissertation research, which starkly revealed the need for community, support, and collaboration. We ultimately decided on an informal setting similar to a roundtable where people could candidly share their personal experiences as women of color academics.

*Michelle Byng's Reflections:*

Corinne's dissertation has a tremendous amount of resonance for me beyond my role as her chairperson. I assumed this would be so for those who are like me, women of color academics and sociologists. So when she approached me about an SWS sponsored luncheon for the ESS 2011 meetings, I thought that such an event would be an excellent opportunity

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**See you in Las Vegas!**  
August 20 to 23, 2011  
Details online via  
[www.socwomen.org/  
web/conferences](http://www.socwomen.org/web/conferences)



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## SWS-South Celebrates Turning 35

by Patricia Martin & Kris De Welde

SWS-South began in the 1970s, soon after the national organization was founded. We recently have found some early newsletters and minutes that can be used to learn more about our history, but there are those that witnessed SWS and SWS-South come to life, and Pat Martin is one of those. As SWS-S celebrates its 35<sup>th</sup> birthday, she reflects on the early period of SWS-S.

For two years prior to 1976, an informal “women’s caucus” at the Southern Sociological Society meetings met where about 40-50 women and men talked about the fact that women were being excluded from SSS participation.

For instance, there were no women officers; no women plenary speakers; hardly any women chairing sessions; few women as presenters and discussants; and few committees with women on them, much less serving as chair. Ida Harper Simpson’s history of the first 50 years of the Southern Sociological Society (published in 1988) documents these conditions in her book: *Fifty Years of the Southern Sociological Society: Change and Continuity in a Professional Society*. Simpson devotes most of one chapter to SWS’s influence on the organization. (Copies of this book are available on Amazon.com, in case you are interested.) As of that time, only one woman had ever served as SSS president and that was Katharine Jocher during World War II. She was president two years in a row (1943 and 1944) while men

were presumably off fighting the war.

Each year, those at the caucus talked about what we should do and how and when but no actions were taken. We/they generally agreed that something should be done but, exactly what, we didn’t know. SWS national had begun in 1971 and we knew of its existence from the ASA meetings.

For reasons she cannot recall, Pat Martin attended the “winter meetings” of SWS in February of 1976. They were held in Washington D. C. and, if memory holds, about 40 people attended. (Perhaps more but not many more.) Pat was an observer more than anything else and was attentive to all that was said and done. Arlene Kaplan Daniels was president at the time. At some point during the weekend, she asked Arlene if it was

*(continued on next page)*

## Outstanding Easterns, Thanks To Chris Bose and Other SWSers

Professor Christine E. Bose, 2006 SWS President, is the 2011 President of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS). Her presidential year annual ESS meeting was held in Philadelphia from February 24-27, 2011. She chose as her conference theme “Intersectionalities and Complex Inequalities” for the 2011 Annual Meeting, because she wanted to underscore the remarkable theoretical and methodological impact that intersectionality has had on all forms of gender and feminist research over the last few decades—whether one is referring to sociology, women’s studies, or to many other disciplines or interdisciplinary fields.

To do this, Bose created fourteen presidential thematic panels related to intersectionality, including sessions on Measuring Intersectionality,

Intersectionality in Disability Studies, Embodiment, New Questions for Global Women’s Movements, New Scholarship on Latinos, Cultural Boundaries and Power, and many more—often organized by SWSers such as Joan Spade and Myra Marx Ferree. Along with her Program Committee she also sponsored mini-conferences, which are day long series of sessions on the same topic, held within the larger conference. These included well-attended sessions on China; Transnationalism, Gender and Sexuality (co-organized by SWS members Jyoti Puri and Bandana Purkayastha); Children of Immigrants; and “Coloring Outside the Lines” on LGBTQ issues, organized by Reese Kelly.

Patricia Hill Collins agreed to be the Friday night plenary speaker, discussing

“Black Feminism, Intersectionality, and Social Justice,” after a panel of distinguished SWS scholars (Maxine Baca Zinn, Elizabeth Higginbotham, and Joya Misra) discussed the impact of Hill Collins’ writings on both younger and foundational feminist scholars, and in a variety of areas of research. The combination



*Chris Bose and Patricia Hill Collins at the 2011 ESS meeting. Photo courtesy of ESS.*

of the conference theme and this special plenary attracted over 1350 people to

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*(SWS-South continued from previous page)*

“OK” for those of us in the South to establish SWS-South, as a chapter. She patted me on the head (no kidding) and said, “Yes, dear.” And so, at the 1976 SSS meetings in Miami, those interested in the issue of women’s status did the deed. We started SWS-South. As I recall, the first officers were Pat Martin as president; David Klemmack as vice-president; Marguerite Howie as secretary-treasurer; and Susan Hesselbart (now Losh) as the newsletter editor.

We formed an organization, elected officers, named a newsletter editor, and decided to inform the SSS Executive Committee about our actions. We did not want to blind-side the Executive Committee and we hoped to reassure them that our goal was to improve women’s presence and status both in SSS and in society generally. Several of us went as a delegation to the room where the Executive Committee was meeting. We knocked on the door and someone answered (no women were in the room). We explained our intentions and asked if

we might briefly describe to members of the Executive Committee what we were doing (and had done). The door closed; after a few minutes, the door opened again and we were told, “No, you cannot.” And that was that! Away we went. But, of course, we did not go away.

We’ve had a great run for 35 years! SSS has prospered as a regional society, we believe, only because it opened its doors, positions, offices, and platforms to women. We can thank the women’s movement for giving us the vision and courage to stand up for ourselves—and for others. Also, SWS-South is very proud of having raised money annually for the ASA Minority Fellowship program, a practice that was begun by Shirley Laska when she was SWS-South president. In most of those years (and until recently), we sent between \$500 and \$600 annually to ASA for the fellowship program. Because SWS has committed significant funding for the Minority Fellowship Program, SWS-S decided to divert their funds (raised via dues and a yearly silent auction at the

SSS meetings) towards a new award for students and early career faculty called, “Advancing Gender Scholarship.”

Thanks to all who have worked on behalf of SWS-South over the past three decades including the current officers of Kris De Welde president; Marni Brown, vice-president, Patricia Drentea Secretary; Shannon Davis Treasurer/Member-ship Chair; Julie Wiest Newsletter Editor; Rebecca Bach and Tom Hood Awards Committee Chairs; Meghan Conley as the SWS National Liaison. Be sure to check out our website: <http://www2.irss.unc.edu/SWSS/index.html>

Incidentally, since 1976, 12 women have served as SSS president including Beth Rubin presently, although only two were elected before 1993 (Elaine Burgess in 1980 and Ida Harper Simpson in 1988). The real change began in the 1990s and it has accelerated from 2000 onward, with seven since then. SWS-South is going strong! If you are in the southern region and not yet a member, you are missing out!



## People’s...

This feature has moved from the newsletter to the website.

Find people’s activities:

- at <http://www.socwomen.org/web/media/sws-newsmakers.html>
- as the “SWS Newsmakers” drop-down under “Media” at the top level menu.

Find people’s books on the SWS Members’ Bookshelf online. Find it:

- at <http://www.socwomen.org/web/resources/members-bookshelf.html>
- as a drop-down under “Resources” at the top level menu.

Left: Greeting guests at the SWS-sponsored event. Photo courtesy of Corinne Castro.



Right: Discussion at the SWS-sponsored event. Photo courtesy of Corinne Castro.



(Sister to Sister continued from page 1)  
to engage the practical implications of her research. Yet what was more important is that it would be an opportunity for her to develop the knowledge and skill associated with organizing a professional event. Additionally it would mean that she might make connections with people who she would know throughout her career. As a result, I was more than happy to assist and support her in putting together the luncheon. In facilitating the luncheon conversation with Corinne, I recognized on the one hand the absolute necessity of organizations like SWS and the Sister-to-Sister committee because they are positioned to do this type of work for professional women. Yet what really struck me were the voices of the next wave of women of color academics/ sociologists. They are Corinne's peers and they will be even stronger members of the academy than the generation that have preceded them.

#### Event Summary:

Dr. Michelle Byng and doctoral candidate Corinne Castro organized a special event for the 2011 annual meetings of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS) held in Philadelphia, PA at the Sheraton Society Hill. The luncheon event was titled, "Women of Color Navigating Power in the Academy: An Informal Conversation

About the Profession and Marginalization." The event was the first of its kind for both ESS and SWS. The primary goal was to begin facilitating a larger community of support for women of color faculty/sociologists in the hope of lessening the isolation that they experience at their home institutions and throughout their professional careers. SWS at the request of the Sister-to-Sister Committee, and with support from the Eastern regional chapter, funded the luncheon for 30 people; however, demand was very high, and it was attended by almost 40 women from all racial backgrounds. Attendees were from all professorial ranks and graduate students. The luncheon was designed to create a space for informal conversations among women of color academics about their experiences in the academy.

During the hour and a half session, three major topics of conversation, with corresponding subthemes, were proposed that highlight the professional experiences of academics. They were: 1) The Professional: research and publication concerns, status and collegiality, 2) The Instructor: workload and flexibility, quality of student interactions, and intellectual freedom, 3) The Private Self: professional friendships, emotional well-being, physical wellbeing, and professional stress.

Attendees were organized into small groups of 6 people to begin the conversations, and each group reported back on their discussions during the last 40 minutes of the session. This led to a more detailed and advice-giving conversation among all of the attendees about: 1) the extensive absence of and need for mentoring among women of color faculty, 2) the pressures women of color faculty face to mentor large numbers of students of color and to do community service (referred to as "invisible service"), 3) the importance of attire and self-presentation for women of color in particular, 4) feelings of surveillance and being hyper-visible as the token non-white female academic, and 5) being hyper-invisible in terms of not being seen as a valued scholarly contributor by peers.

Overall the luncheon was a great success. The event would not have been possible without first, the support of SWS and ESS, especially Christine Bose, Marcia Hernandez, Emily Mahon, Jessica Holden Sherwood, Laura West Steck, Tiffany Taylor, and Ronni Tichenor. And second, the support of Temple sociology student volunteers: Jessica Brathwaite, Jen McGovern, Sheena Sood, and Trang Tran.

(*Easterns continued from page 2*)

attend this year's ESS meetings, drawing the largest and most diverse audience in recent years—and lots of response on the SWS listserv.

In her Presidential Address, Bose began with the question: Why are the important gender inequality issues, as revealed in research and movement activism, different in various countries around the world? She said that the major issues of gender inequality are not the same in every nation, but on the flip side, significant gender inequalities

are not entirely unique in every country or locality, either. She then outlined a framework through which to understand some of the patterned differences across nations in their significant gender inequalities. Bose argued “that there are a series of intersecting dynamics, or as Patricia Hill Collins might say, intersecting axes, which shape the types of gender inequality visible in any given nation. While most analyses of gender inequality are focused on the particularities of a nation’s economic, political, social, or cultural conditions and history, I want to

suggest that these features can be separated more fruitfully into four the major axes of transnational, regional, thematic, and unique national conditions that shape the variety of important feminist concerns within any given country.” To illustrate this approach, Bose utilized maps of various gender inequities around the world, each of which showed one of these different panels. The paper itself will be published later this year in the ESS journal, *Sociological Forum*.

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## TESTIMONIAL: My Experience with Formal and Informal Mentoring in SWS

by Miriam Sessions,  
Florida State University

My first year of graduate school I decided to attend the Sociologists for Women in Society’s Winter meeting to meet other feminists and gender scholars in the academy. Before the meeting I signed up for the Hand Program (named after the late Jeanne Hand) which pairs junior members with senior members as a way to make new members feel welcome. My Hand match and I met for coffee the first day of the meeting and discussed our research interests, career goals and how SWS can provide professional opportunities for women in academia.

This meeting put me at ease and made me feel much more comfortable about attending a conference where I didn’t know anyone. After coffee we went to the welcome reception together and my match introduced me other junior and senior SWS members she knew. Toward the end of the reception she suggested I go to a committee meeting and see about becoming more involved in

the organization, and she strongly recommended I start with the Membership Committee. I took her advice and went to the committee meeting and discovered that the Membership Committee oversees the Hand Program and that they were in need of a new Hand Coordinator. I volunteered and was very excited about the opportunity to welcome other junior members to SWS by matching them as I had been – with an inviting and informative mentorship opportunity.

My formal mentoring in SWS has benefited me greatly by making me feel comfortable about taking on volunteer opportunities in the organization but, also by making me feel more at ease about approaching other members. At another SWS winter meeting I attended a panel on reproduction and became very interested in the work presented by another member. I approached her afterward to share my thoughts on her presentation and found myself discussing my research ideas with her. We kept in touch after the meeting and she provided me with invaluable feedback and support that resulted in the development of my dissertation research. Now we are currently working on a collaborative project with other researchers (many whom are SWS members) which

will further my research agenda after I graduate from my PhD program later this year.

The formal and informal mentoring I have received while in SWS has been pivotal in my development as a feminist sociologist. It has been through my role as a mentee that I have come to appreciate my potential impact as a mentor. As I continue in my program and with my involvement in SWS, I make a concerted effort to reach out to other members in this organization who share the same goal as me – to improve women’s lives and bring about social change. One of the best places to start is with ourselves; we can share our knowledge and experience with one another because mentoring relationships benefit us, those whom we mentor, and the social standing of women in the academy.

*(Sites of Justice continued from page 1)*

of knowledge and expertise of our members. The co-chairs of Sister to Sister, Vrushali Patil and Ronni Tichenor, are organizing a session that will enable us to continue to reflect on identifying ways to move SWS towards becoming a fully inclusive organization. Additionally, Betsy Lucal (Indiana University, South Bend) will lead a co-sponsored ASA session addressing concerns of negotiating the job market with a “lavender” vita.

Sunday at the meetings should prove to be particularly exciting. We will begin with our business meeting at 8:30 a.m. and I hope that everyone will attend so that we can be up-to-date on the activities of our committees, our Executive Office, *Gender & Society*, as well as be part of the conversations around where we will be headed as we pass the significant milestone of our organization’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At 12:30, Katherine Spillar, Executive Editor of *Ms. Magazine*, will moderate a panel titled “Sociology and *Ms. Magazine*: Bringing *Ms. Magazine* to the Classroom, and Feminist Scholarship to *Ms.* Presenters Carrie Baker (Berry College), Adina Nack (California Lutheran University), Aditi Mitra (University of Colorado), and Mako Fitts (Seattle University) will provide case studies that illustrate how sociology scholars have published in *Ms. Magazine* and also used *Ms.* in the classroom to enhance student discussion and learning. Invigorated and inspired, we then will have the opportunity to hear from Nancy Naples, our 2011 Distinguished Feminist Lecturer, as she shares how she developed her commitment to fairness and social justice and considers how questions of fairness are constructed and framed in contemporary social movements. Her lecture will certainly provide us with plenty to ponder, discuss, and digest, as we make our way to the annual SWS awards banquet. Taking place at 6:30 p.m. at the Wolfgang

Puck restaurant at the beautiful Springs Preserve, we will enjoy a meal of fresh, organic, and sustainable ingredients as we celebrate the accomplishments of our members and our organization. A ticket is required, so please be sure to reserve ahead of time. Register for the meetings and purchase your banquet tickets via [www.socwomen.org](http://www.socwomen.org) or by submitting the form (opposite page).



*Caesar’s Palace Las Vegas, site of upcoming SWS meeting. Photo from the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority.*

On Monday there are two sessions that I would like to highlight. The first of these is a session sponsored by the Career Development Committee, organized by Tina Fetner (McMaster University). Titled “Critique Me,” this workshop has become quite a popular feature at our meetings and will offer hands-on, practical information about negotiating the job market. The second session of note is sponsored by the International Committee and is organized by Susan Lee (Boston University). Titled “Rural Women, Poverty, Hunger, and Development: Feminist Sociological Insight,” panelists will consider questions relating to the challenges facing rural women, including how they confront poverty and hunger

and what role they play in development. They will focus specifically on what insights feminist sociology can provide regarding the challenges facing rural women and how state policy can assist them.

The final session of the SWS program will take place on Tuesday morning at a co-sponsored ASA session at 10:30, organized by our very own Media Specialist Theta Pavis. In this professional workshop “What to Say and When to Say It: Making the Mass Media Work for You,” participants will be able to take advantage of the knowledge and expertise Theta has gained as a journalist and media consultant and learn very useful skills on how to work with the media. These sessions have proven to be very popular and well attended at past meetings, so be sure to arrive early to get your seat!

As always, much of the work of SWS takes place in our very active committees. Throughout the meeting there are numerous opportunities to get involved with the workings of SWS by participating in one of them. Each will be meeting to discuss current and future projects and I encourage you to consider one of the open committee meetings and share your energy and ideas (consult the program to see which committee meetings are open to all members).

Finally I want to thank Jessica Holden Sherwood, Rachel Weisz-Smith and everyone at the Executive office for their assistance in getting everything organized for this meeting, Susan Farrell and the sociology faculty at UNLV for their suggestions on the banquet site, and all the fantastic committee chairs and members for organizing sessions. See you in Las Vegas!



August 20-23 2011,  
Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas  
**Summer Meeting  
Registration Form**

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](http://www.socwomen.org)

**Pre-Registration—must be postmarked by July 31, 2011**

Or register online instead: <http://www.socwomen.org/web/conferences/upcoming-conference.html>

**SWS Awards Banquet**

\$15 Early Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 Early Registration, low income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 63 apiece \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 46 apiece low income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \$\_\_\_\_.00

**On-Site Registration** - please hold and bring your registration to pay on site if later than July 31.

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**Options**

**Volunteering:**

Please e-mail Rachel Weisz-Smith at [swseo@socwomen.org](mailto: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.

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**For payment by check, mail this form with check to:**

Sociologists for Women in Society  
URI Sociology  
10 Chafee Road  
Kingston, RI 02881

Fax (for credit card payments): 401-874-2588

**Credit Card Type:** MasterCard  Visa

**Credit Card #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Billing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# Report on SWS Strategic Planning Task Force

A Strategic Planning Task Force formed in 2010 based on this charge from SWS executive council:

This Task Force will work with the consultant to:

- keep SWS members informed about the planning process
- identify a broad range of SWS members to provide input into planning needs and goals
- finalize planning goals, process, and timeline
- adjust or confirm the consultant's analysis
- draft plans for member feedback

The Task Force is expected to begin its work as soon as it is formed (ideally September 2010), and complete its work and dissolve by the Summer 2011 meeting in Chicago [sic]. Its work will be done by phone and email.

The Task Force was formed by then-SWS President, Denise Segura in consultation with the Executive Council. Vice-President Susan Farrell was selected to chair the Task Force. After the Executive Council chose Boffo as consultants for the strategic planning, the Task Force worked with Boffo and council to set up procedures for interviewing as many SWS members as possible. In the first stage, task force members were interviewed at length both individually by phone and in small groups through internet conference calls. Based on that preliminary data, Boffo then sent out a call to all other SWS members via the listserv to volunteer to be interviewed using the same procedures.

After the interview data was collected and analyzed, Boffo in consultation with the Strategic Task Force and the Executive Council set up a presentation and workshop at the Winter meeting in San Antonio, TX. The power points and responses are available elsewhere in Network News along with the final report from Boffo.

Once these activities were accomplished, the taskforce reported orally back to members at the Winter meeting. We also reported back to the Executive Council recommending that a new task force be created to carry out the membership recommendations gathered by Boffo and to explore the various recommendations made by Boffo for organizational change in the SWS structure.

Respectfully submitted by Susan A. Farrell, Chair

Committee Members:

Tracy Ore

Jessica Sherwood

Patricia Warren

Mary Osirim

Judith Lorber

Salvador Vidal-Ortiz

Gail Murphy-Geiss

Corinne Castro

# Call for Applications for the SWS Global Feminist Partnerships Program



SWS is seeking to build its international ties, particularly to the global south, and share resources and ex-

periences across national and disciplinary lines. We are looking for partner centers from whom we can learn as well as with whom we can share our own research expertise and scholarly findings.

As part of this effort SWS is pleased to welcome applications for our Global Feminist Partnerships program with international research centers. Our hope is to build connections longer term with at least two research centers/institutes/programs from each of the following regions: Asia, Africa, Central/Eastern Europe, Latin American/Caribbean and the Middle East. To discover which partnerships would be truly mutually beneficial, we will be offering one year "get acquainted" packages.

The Partnerships program reflects the commitment of SWS to foster activism by women (related to the scholarship/expertise/skills we can offer each other), support research on gender issues,

increase organizational inclusiveness and active participation, and attempt to expand feminist influence in the discipline of sociology, on campuses, and in society.

To be considered, a center or research program must be nominated by one or more current SWS members. Programs eligible for consideration are those:

- That are research centers or women's centers that explicitly focus on gender-related research
- With or without college and/or university affiliation
- Would benefit materially and intellectually from the subsidized membership in SWS,
- Preference will be given to organizations with which SWS members are already personally familiar and/or engaged in some way.

As part of the program SWS offers:

- \* One-year membership for SWS
- \* One-year subscription to *Gender and Society* (the Official Publication of SWS)
- \* Subscription to the SWS Listserv. (The Listserv provides a forum to exchange teaching tips, research advice and assistance, and news and events related to feminism).
- \* Space in its quarterly newsletter for article(s) about the center and its region, particularly on the

specific issue confronting women in that area.

- \* Particularly productive partnerships may be renewed on a competitive basis and/or individual members may respond to the NN article by offering to sponsor the group in one or more future years.

To Apply: SWS sponsor/nominating member should send a one-page letter outlining the work of the Research center and how it would benefit from an SWS membership, including what relation the sponsor has or has had with it. The Director of the nominated center should send a one-page letter confirming its willingness to accept the sponsorship and agreeing to submit a minimum of one article of approximately for *Network News* describing the center and its role in researching and/or addressing gender issues in its region. Both letters should be attached to one email to Minjeong Kim, Chair of the Global Feminist Partnerships Program Subcommittee a [mjkim@vt.edu](mailto:mjkim@vt.edu). The applications will be reviewed collectively by the International committee. Applications for review in August should be submitted by August 10, 2011 and applications for review in January should be submitted by January 15, 2012.

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## PSA about PSA

SWS members are leading the planning for the 2012 Pacific Sociological Association ([www.pacificsoc.org](http://www.pacificsoc.org)) meeting scheduled for March in San Diego. Beth Schneider (UCSB) is serving as President and has set the theme "Intersectionalities and Inequalities: Knowledge & Power for the 21st Century. Denise Segura (UCSB) is serving as Vice President. Mary Virnoche (Humboldt State) is Program Chair. SWS-West will host in San Diego the annual networking breakfast for current and new members. It is sure to be an exciting meeting.

## Myra Marx Ferree Awarded Alice H. Cook Professorship

A named professorship is an honor, and it's an extra nice twist when the recipient gets to choose its name. Myra Marx Ferree, 2001 SWS president, recently received this honor from the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, and is now the the Alice H. Cook Professor at the University of Wisconsin.

Alice Hanson Cook (1903-1998) was a pioneer in feminist social research with particular commitments to bettering the lives of working women, supporting collective organization, and conducting

comparative research on women and social policy. She taught at the Bryn Mawr Summer School for Industrial Workers and worked with textile unions. In 1929-31, Cook studied trade unionism at the famous Frankfurt Institute for Social Research, fleeing the Nazis but returning to Germany after the war to lead efforts to re-establish democratic unions and adult education programs.

As a professor at the Institute for Labor Research at Cornell, Cook helped found the Women's Studies Program and led cooperative housing initiatives. Even after retirement in 1973, she continued her intense involvement in community affairs and social justice, and pursued international research with

her characteristic intellectual rigor. Her path-breaking comparative studies include *The Working Mother: A Survey of Problems and Programs* (1975) and *The Most Difficult Revolution: Women and Trade Unions* (1992).

Myra Marx Ferree is Director of the Center for German and European Studies at Wisconsin. She continues an award-winning career of engaged research on gender arrangements, feminist politics and social justice in the United States and comparatively, with a focus on Germany. An admirer of Alice Cook, Ferree is pleased to continue working in her spirit.

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## Pat Martin Brings Dynamism, Organizational Savvy to President's Job

by Irene Padavic

Our new President, Pat Martin, has a long history of engagement with SWS, having joined shortly after its 1970 inauguration, and having been a founder of SWS-South and of *Gender & Society*. There has been no turning back, and Pat has been shaking up the academy ever since, bringing feminist change to her department, her university, and to our profession. Along the way she has travelled the world lecturing and teaching on the subject of gender and organizations and has garnered a host of impressive awards acknowledging the impact of her scholarship.

Childhood in an Alabama cotton-mill town where the company owned every house might seem an unlikely launching pad for a feminist sociologist of organizations, but it was an incubator for Pat's later analyses:

Many of my friends' mothers worked as school teachers, beauticians, clerks, or mill operatives. My mother worked full time when I was young, first as the manager of a canning plant (owned by the mill company) and later as lunchroom manager and dietitian at my elementary school....I went there after school and did my homework while she worked. The canning plant had massive, steaming, hot, noisy machinery that frightened me. Seeing that my mother was in charge and not afraid impressed me. I was also proud of her when she was the school dietitian.

A few black men were employed by the mills, mostly in janitorial jobs or those requiring heavy lifting. Organizations employed almost no black women in any role, leaving them with domestic work as their only employment option....Neither black people nor women held supervisory

jobs at any level. Identical work was called two different names if both women and men performed it, and men's pay was considerably higher than women's for the same work.

A "good girl" active in church groups and the Girl Scouts, as Pat pursued her education (always in the public system, first in Alabama and then in Florida where she obtained her PhD) she became disturbed by her discovery of the power of informal organizational processes to enforce unwritten rules of trust, loyalty, and patronage that favored men. "I was slow to realize that . . . the rules that matter are frequently not those that are written down."

It may have taken her awhile to recognize the problem, but once she did, she acted courageously, filing, along with other women professors, a class action lawsuit against their university alleging sex discrimination. During a break in the deposition proceedings, the university's attorney followed her to the water fountain saying "You'll rue the day you got

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# Chapters

## News:

The **SWS-West** Breakfast at the 2011 Seattle PSA was a great success –and we are growing! We received 25 RSVP's for the 7 a.m. breakfast on Saturday, and while a couple of people who have responded were unable to make it, we had a few walk-ins and the number of attendees totaled 28. For a breakfast at 7 in the morning this shows quite a dedication on behalf of SWS members, and speaks to the fact that such spaces where members can meet each other are highly needed and appreciated.

We had a sit-down breakfast with 5-6 people at each table. We had a little room to ourselves, which made it also quite nice and intimate. The breakfast was organized by Evren Savci (reporting) and Audrey Devine-Eller from Rutgers University, with much help from our chapter chair Mary Virnoche. Evren sent a thank you email to attendees, and asked for a volunteer or two who might help her with the organizing next year.

The **Tallahassee** chapter has had several great events so far in 2011. We held an interdisciplinary panel discussion about teaching feminism in the classroom with Dr. Amy Koehlinger from Religion, Dr. Carrie Lane from Psychology, and Dr. Janice McCabe from Sociology at Florida State University. We also screened and discussed the film "Born into Brothels" about children in Calcutta's red light district.

The feminist book club we started in Fall 2010 has met three times this year, with plans for upcoming summer and fall meetings. This year, we're read *Opting Out? Why Women Really Quit Careers and Head Home* by Pamela Stone, *Delusions of Gender: How Our Minds, Society, and Neurosexism Create Difference* by Cordelia Fine, and *A Strange Stirring:*

*The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s* by Stephanie Coontz. At our upcoming meetings, we'll be reading *Against Love: A Polemic* by Laura Kipnis and *Cinderella Ate My Daughter* by Peggy Orenstein.

Graduate student Melissa Bamford (reporting) has taken over the role of chapter co-facilitator with Dr. Janice McCabe. Giant thanks to Erica Toothman for her years as chapter co-facilitator! Member Amanda Koontz accepted a tenure-track faculty position at the University of Central Florida, effective Fall 2011. Many of our members attended the Winter Meeting in San Antonio. We look forward to working with President-Elect Pat Martin in planning next year's Winter Meeting!

## Local chapters:

Arizona: Tucson  
California: Bay Area  
Florida: Tallahassee  
Illinois: Chicago  
Iowa: Iowa State University  
Michigan: Michigan State University, Lansing  
Minnesota: University of Minnesota  
Nevada: UNLV  
Ohio: University of Akron  
Ohio: Kent State University  
North Carolina: North Carolina State University  
North Carolina: Southeastern  
North Carolina: University of North Carolina

## Regional Chapters:

These meet at the annual meetings of regional sociology associations.  
SWS Midwest  
SWS East  
SWS South  
SWS NCSA  
SWS West

Please see the Chapters webpage for all contact information.

## **SWS Network News**

Published and distributed by Sociologists for Women in Society, an international organization of more than 1,000 social scientists, faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, sociology practitioners and independent scholars who share a dedication to social equality.

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Book Review Editor . . . . . Martha McCaughey

Material for publication (including advertisements) should be submitted to SWS at the below email/address.

Deadlines for submission:  
Summer - May 15; Fall - September 15;  
Winter - November 15; Spring - March 15.  
Fee schedule for advertisements: Full page-\$200; Half-page-\$100; Quarter-page or less-\$50; Job announcements-\$25.  
Invoices will be sent after announcements appear.

Change of Address? Members, please log on at [www.socwomen.org/members](http://www.socwomen.org/members) to update your address.

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(Pat Martin continued from page 10)

mixed up in this!" He was wrong. Unlike many women fighters of the time, her story had a happy ending: the University settled and Pat went on to hold positions of authority and to garner respect throughout her career at Florida State University.

My personal and scholarly discoveries of bureaucratic failures evolved into a more politicized view that increasingly focused on the moral consequences of organizational policy and practices. One aspect of this politicized view concerns gender... I started to view work [and other] organizations as contexts that shape workers' experiences, as potential objects of influence and change, and as resources to exploit.

Pat Martin's research on gender in organizations has been pathbreaking, shaping the field and our discourse about gender. Through her research, Martin has sought to make gendering dynamics *visible* and thus alterable. In workplaces, undoing gendered practices means that workers can be assigned to jobs, evaluated, and rewarded based on their potential and contributions rather than on stereotypical beliefs and biases. Her now-famous 1989 article about fraternities and rape that appeared in a then-new and relatively-unknown journal (*Gender & Society* 3: 457-73) defied the commonsense understanding that women and men enter organizations acting differently and simply act out their gender scripts; this article and others instead show how organizations encourage certain attitudes and behaviors in women and men. Pat is unique not only for being a pioneer in writing about such matters but also for her penchant for going into the field to



collect data showing the exact mechanisms by which gender is created and becomes entrenched. Her book, *Rape Work: Victims, Gender, and Emotions in Organization and Community Context* (Routledge 2005) is based on interviews with practitioners and observations of organizational decisions and practices in rape-processing organizations (ranging from hospitals to advocacy centers to courts) and is now a "must-read" in the feminist canon. Her scholarship has appeared in the discipline's finest journals, including--in only the past decade--*Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Gender & Society*, and *Work and Occupations*, among others.

Her contributions have been recognized internationally and nationally. Internationally, in the past couple of years she has been a visiting professor in Italy and Germany, plus was a Fullbright Fellow in Sweden. Nationally, our organization has honored her with the Feminist Lecturer award and the Feminist Activist award. She also won the 2007 Jessie Bernard Award from the ASA, the Sex & Gender section's "best article" award in

2004, and her recent book was a runner-up for the SSSP's C. Wright Mills award.

Pat doesn't spend every waking minute at her computer monitor. She enjoys travel, "hiking" (which, she notes, is closer to ambling), and mystery novels. She loves visiting cities with operas, orchestras and art museums and is always eager to explore new countrysides and mountain areas with interesting terrain and vistas.

We are indeed fortunate to have a feminist with such a depth of organizational know-how and commitment to the cause of gender equality to lead us in the coming year.

Most quotations from: Martin, Patricia. 1989. *Journal of Applied Behavioral Science* 25(4): 451-470

## Call for Papers

Special Issue: “**Social Justice Action, Teaching & Research**” of the *Humboldt Journal of Social Relations*.

Submissions encouraged from faculty, students (graduate & undergraduate), and grassroots organizers.  
Submissions on open themes, teaching & arts as mediums for social justice action are due August 15, 2011.

See: <http://www.humboldt.edu/hjsr/>

## The Australian Sociological Association conference at the University of Newcastle, NSW, Australia.

November 28 to December 1, 2011.

The conference theme is Local Lives/Global Networks.

Keynotes are: Saskia Sassen, Mitchell Dean and Johanna Wyn

### Call for Papers and Registration now open

Since the late 1960s, much prominent and influential social theory has been united by one common theme: social relations have individualised whilst economic relations have globalised. The TASA Conference 2011 – Local Lives/Global Networks – will explore the nexus between global economic, social and political discourses and the localised experiences and emotions that these forces engender for individuals faced with ever increasing uncertainty. As new inequalities arise and as traditional inequalities remain but are commonly obfuscated, a publically engaged sociology is well placed to make interventions and provide understanding in complex times. We invite papers and abstracts from all who would like to contribute to this enterprise.

The Conference webpage is: <http://www.tasa.org.au/tasa-conference/2011-tasa-conference/>

# Gender and Sport—Fact Sheet

Distributed by Sociologists for Women in Society

Prepared by Megan Chawansky, Ph.D., Department of Education, University of Bath (UK)

## Gender and Sport

“Throwing like a girl” or “playing like a man” are just two of the many ways that people can speak of gender and sport. Physical and psychological attributes that are considered masculine have always been a part of the dominant sport culture, and therefore the link between men and sport frequently becomes naturalized and seen as inevitable as opposed to culturally shaped and reflective of historical forces. The belief that sport is a male domain continues to create challenges for women who seek to take their place as athletes and coaches. For some women, their desire to take the field as athletes and coaches is further complicated by discrimination based on the way their gender intersects with race, class, sexuality, ethnicity, and religion.

Though discussions of gender and sport often focus on the challenges faced by women and girls, increased opportunities, both in the US and around the world, continue to demonstrate the shifting understandings of gender and sport. Additionally the positive outcomes for girls and women who participate in sport can help to challenge deeply-held cultural beliefs about girls’ and women’s physical abilities and capacities. Feminist scholars of sport readily point out that successful athletes are not only those who are muscular, brave, and physically competent (supposed ‘masculine’ attributes) but also those who are flexible, graceful, and collaborative (supposed ‘feminine’ qualities).

Though men and women are active in a variety of formally organized and semi-organized physical activities (i.e., physical education, exercise, martial arts, recreation), this fact sheet will provide facts on the role of gender in terms of US high school and intercollegiate sport as well as professional, Olympic, and Paralympic high-performance sport.

## Getting in the Game: Participation in Sport

- 55.1% of students in high schools across the US participated in interscholastic athletics during the 2009-10 school year. Of these 7,628,377 high school participants, 58% were boys (4,455,740) while 42% were girls (3,172,637).<sup>1</sup>
- In 2008-9, the total number of student-athletes who participated in National Intercollegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) championship sports was 421,169, with women making up a large percentage of this total. Compared to the 1981-82 academic year, the average NCAA school now has approximately 72 more female student-athletes and 3 more males. Yet, there have always been more student-athletes who are men than student-athletes who are women. On average, a member institution (college or university) enrolls 399 student-athletes, of which 228 are men and 171 are women.<sup>2 3</sup>
- Though the number of women participating in intercollegiate sports is nearly at an all-time high, the proportion of women coaching women’s teams is almost at an all-time low. In 1972, more than 90% of women’s intercollegiate teams were coached by women. In 2010, 42.6% of women’s teams are coached by women. The percentage of women who coach men’s teams is 2-3% and has remained at this rate since 1972.<sup>4</sup>

## Gender and Policy: Title IX

- Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments is frequently highlighted as the law which made the biggest impact on US girls’ and women’s sporting opportunities, even though it encompasses all educational endeavors receiving federal funding. It reads: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”<sup>5</sup>
- The “three-prong test” is typically used as a way to measure if schools and universities are adhering to Title IX in terms of participation. Institutions receiving federal funds are in compliance with Title IX if they can 1) demonstrate that men and women participate in athletics in numbers substantially proportional to their total respective enrollments (Proportionality) or 2) demonstrate that they have a history of increasing opportunities for the underrepresented sex (women), or 3) demonstrate that they are accommodating the interests and abilities of the underrepresented sex.<sup>6</sup>
- The Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA) was passed by Congress in 1994, and requires athletic departments for colleges and universities (receiving federal funds) to make public information on number of participants, staffing, coaches’ salaries, revenues and expenses. A searchable database can be found at: <http://ope.ed.gov/athletics/index.aspx>
- Though largely considered a success, there are concerns about the ability of Title IX to increase intercollegiate sporting

opportunities for women of color and athletes from lower or working class backgrounds. For instance, though the overall number of intercollegiate women athletes of color has increased, nine of out 10 black women who play college sports compete either in basketball or track.<sup>7</sup>

## Gender and Media Coverage

- Messner and Cooky's (2010) recent study, "Gender in Televised Sport News and Highlight Shows," 1989-2009, found the following:<sup>8</sup>
  - ESPN's nationally - televised program, SportsCenter, devoted only 1.4% of its airtime to coverage of women's sports, a decline in their coverage of women's sports compared with 1999 (2.2%) and 2004 (2.1%).
  - Men's sports received 96.3% of the airtime, women's sports, 1.6%, and gender neutral topics, 2.1%. This is a significant decline in the coverage of women's sports since 2004, when 6.3% of the airtime was devoted to women's sports, and the lowest proportion ever recorded in this study.
  - 72% of all airtime (main and ticker coverage) focused on men's basketball, football, and baseball, even when they were not in season.

## Gender and The Olympics and Paralympics

- The London 2012 Olympics will feature 26 sports, and women's boxing will be offered for the first time since 1904, when it was featured as a demonstration sport.<sup>9 10</sup>
- The 2012 Paralympics will begin approximately three weeks after the London Olympics, will use most of the same facilities, and will include 20 sports on the program.<sup>11</sup> Participation rates for Paralympic female athletes still lags behind men. At the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, 34.5% of those participating were female.<sup>12</sup> Further, there was no live television coverage of the 2008 Beijing Paralympics in the US, and there is limited academic engagement with this area as well.<sup>13 14</sup>
- In 2004, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) implemented a policy which allowed transsexual athletes to compete at the Olympic Games in Athens. The athlete(s) must meet a variety of conditions, and will be assessed for on a case-by-case basis. This policy is referred to as the Stockholm Consensus on Sex Reassignment in Sports.<sup>15</sup>
- Though the IOC discontinued mandatory sex-testing of women athletes at the 2000 Olympic Games, the IOC does allow 'suspicion based testing' to occur when the gender identity of an athlete is called into question.<sup>16</sup>

## Gender and International Issues in Sport

- The International Working Group on Women and Sport unites scholars and activists in the field every four years to discuss issues pertinent to gender and sport. The working group first met in Brighton, UK in 1994, and will meet in Helsinki, Finland in 2014.<sup>17</sup>
- Women's Sport International (WSI) also connects research and activism on girls and women in sport in its capacity as an international advocacy organization.<sup>18</sup>
- Sport is increasingly being used as a tool of international development, and in post-conflict settings. Programs engaging girls exist in many parts of Africa, the Middle East, South America, and the former Yugoslavia.<sup>19</sup>

## Gender and Sport Teaching Resources: Suggested Films<sup>20</sup>

- *A Hero for Daisy*. 1999. 40 min. [DVD] Distributed by 50 Eggs Productions.
- This documentary tells the story of Chris Ernst, Olympic athlete and Title IX activist, and her quest to ensure Title IX compliance while competing as a member of the Yale women's rowing team in 1976.
- *Girl Wrestler*. 2004. 53 min. [DVD] Distributed by Women Make Movies.
- A documentary that follows 13-year old Tara Neal on her quest to compete in the sport of wrestling despite Texas state regulations which prevent her from competing with boys once she enters high school.
- *Murderball*. 2005. 88 minutes. [DVD] Distributed by THINKFilm.
- This film provides an opportunity to examine intersections of masculinity, race, (dis-) ability, and sexuality as it follows men who participate in the sport of wheelchair rugby, also known as 'murderball.'<sup>21</sup>
- *Playing Unfair: The Media Image of the Female Athlete*. 2002. 30 minutes. [DVD] Distributed by the Media Education Foundation.

- This DVD provides a thorough examination of the larger historical and cultural context pertaining to media representations of female athletes. It also addresses the increased choice/impetus for female athletes to pose nude or in a sexually provocative manners.
- *100% Woman*. 2004. 59 minutes. [DVD] Distributed by Films Media Group.
- This documentary follows Michelle Dumaresq, a competitive downhill mountain biker, as she tries to find space and her place in the international women's mountain biking community as an athlete who is transgendered. This is a compelling production that allows for discussions around issues of access, gender, and women's sports.

### Gender and Sport Teaching Resources: Suggested Websites

- Black Women in Sport Foundation: non-profit website dedicated to involving Black girls and women in all facets of sport (<http://www.blackwomeninsport.org>)
- Muslim Women in Sport blog: a blog maintained by Sertaç Sehlkoglul Karakas which contains a variety of news stories and clips on Muslim women athletes from around the world. (<http://muslimwomeninsports.blogspot.com/>)
- The National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS): contains various resources on the experiences of girls and women in sport (<http://www.aahperd.org/nagws/>)
- The Tucker Center: University of Minnesota's center for research on girls and women in sport and physical activity (<http://www.cehd.umn.edu/tuckercenter/default.asp>)
- Title IX blog: features academic and popular commentary on Title IX (<http://title-ix.blogspot.com/>)
- Women's Sports Foundation: excellent resource for research and activities emerging from a non-profit dedicated to advancing the lives of girls and women through sport and physical activity (<http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/>)
- Women Win: global organization interested in helping to empower girls and women through sports (<http://www.womenwin.org/>)

### Endnotes

1. Howard, Bruce and John Gillis. 2010. "High School Sports Participation tops 7.6 million, Sets Record." Retrieved September 13, 2010 (<http://www.nfhs.org/content.aspx?id=4208>).
2. Within their statistical data, the NCAA separates those student athletes who participate in sports which compete for NCAA championships from those that do not (i.e., archery, synchronized swimming).
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9. "Boxing." n.d. Retrieved September 13, 2010 (<http://www.london2012.com/games/olympic-sports/boxing.php>).
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13. Smith, Maureen and Alison M. Wrynn. 2009. "Women in the 2000, 2004, and 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games:

- An Analysis of Participation, Leadership and Media Opportunities." Retrieved September 14, 2010 (<http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/-/media/Files/Research%20Reports/2008Olympicreport%202010.pdf>).
14. For an exception, see Schell, Lee Ann and Margaret Carlisle Duncan. 1999. "A content analysis of CBS's coverage of the 1996 Paralympic Games." *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly* 16: 27-47.
  15. Cavanagh, Shelia.L. and Heather Sykes. 2006. "Transsexual Bodies at the Olympics: The International Committee's Policy on Transsexual Athletes at the 2004 Athens Summer Games." *Body & Society* 12(8): 75-102.
  16. Pilgrim et al., 2002-3: 511. Cited in Cavanagh, Shelia L. and Heather Sykes. 2006.
  17. "About IWG." n.d. Retrieved September 16, 2010 (<http://www.iwg-gti.org/>).
  18. "About WSI." (n.d.). Retrieved November 15, 2010, from <http://www.sportsbiz.bz/womensportinternational/about/index.htm>
  19. "Sport and Gender." n.d. Retrieved September 16, 2010 ([http://www.sportanddev.org/learnmore/sport\\_and\\_gender/](http://www.sportanddev.org/learnmore/sport_and_gender/)).
  20. The HBO documentary, *Dare to Compete* (1999), provides an excellent historical overview of women and gender in sport. However it proves nearly impossible to obtain a copy of this important production. See <http://www.hboarchives.com/documentaries/> for more information.
  21. See Michael Gard and Hayley Fitzgerald. 2008. "Tackling Murderball: Masculinity, Disability and the Big Screen." *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy* 2(2): 126-141.

Editor's Note: The Executive Office and Budget Committee (EOB) has been hard at work clarifying the processes by which SWS considers requests for funds. President-elect Pat Martin and other EOB members gathered input, wrote, reviewed, revised and refined. This final product was approved by EOB on 4/12/11 and by Executive Council on 5/20/11. Members logged in to [www.socwomen.org](http://www.socwomen.org) can access this and other procedural information under the Members' Menu.

Please direct any questions or comments to the SWS Treasurer Kristen Myers. [kmyers@niu.edu](mailto:kmyers@niu.edu)

## SWS Funding Policy & Procedures

**General philosophy:** SWS attempts to provide funds dedicated to social change and organizational purposes in keeping with the mission of the organization when those requests meet the established criteria.

**Calendar/dates for requesting funding:** SWS follows a calendar year for financial purposes thus we try to plan a budget one year at a time. Requests for funds by **Committees and Task Forces** should go to the SWS **Treasurer** (SWS webpage shows address & email) and requests for funds by **Chapters** should go to the Membership Committee Chair & Membership Committee Liaison (instead of the Treasurer). **Annual allocation requests** should be submitted as close to **September 15** as possible but no later than **November 15**, so the Executive Office & Budget Committee (EOB) and Council can review them **before** 01/01 of the upcoming year.

**Principles:** The principles for use by committees, chapters, officers and individuals to request funds are as follows:

*Funds must be requested in advance of their use.* Expenses not approved by the appropriate office (Treasurer or Executive Office and Budget Committee) in advance of spending will not be reimbursed.

A request must establish that the event or activity is well-planned and justified as an appropriate use of SWS funds. To show justification, at least one of the goals noted below must be checked, with any exceptions explained.

Providing evidence that funds are being sought, or have been sought, from other sources will strengthen a request. Information on efforts to involve collaborating sponsors will be required before reimbursement will be made.

Requests by individuals (that is, that are not on behalf of a chapter, committee, or elected office) will be viewed as low priority and are unlikely to be funded. Individuals are encouraged to identify an existing committee that might appropriately consider her/his request, given the committee's responsibilities.

**An application for funds should indicate how the request complies with SWS's mission:**

- Fostering member participation including new member recruitment
- Inviting/supporting outside experts to inform, teach or educate members about how to achieve SWS goals
- Fighting discrimination in the academy
- Promoting or creating feminist scholarship
- Working for justice for women in society
- Facilitating SWS functioning, improving organizational structure

**Obligations of committee, task force, and chapter chairs and SWS elected officers:**

- A. The Chair of an SWS committee must be a member of SWS. The Chair** must submit to the Treasurer any budget request and accompanying justification as close to **September 15 as possible but no later than November 15**. The Treasurer will forward the request to EOB which will approve or deny it. If approved by EOB, the request will be forwarded to the Executive Council which will affirm or disconfirm the EOB's recommendation. If Council's decision is to disconfirm, Council will explain to the EOB the reasons for its action. (Appellate procedures are below.)
- B. A Committee Chair, Chapter Chair, or other Officer (including Task Force Chair)** must maintain and submit receipts for reimbursement as well as a written report of any allocated funds' use to the Executive Officer. The report will be published in *Network News*.

- C. **The Chair of a Chapter must be a member of SWS. The Chair** must submit a budget request as close to **September 15 as possible, but no later than November 15**, to the **SWS Vice-President/Chair of the Membership Committee**, and to the **Chapter Liaison** of the Membership Committee. (The Vice-President's and Chapter Liaison's email addresses are listed on the SWS webpage.) The Chapter Liaison in consultation with the full Membership Committee will assess each request in light of SWS rules/standards. The Chapter Liaison will report requests that meet SWS standards to the Vice-President who will forward them to the Treasurer and EOB for review. If approved by EOB, the request will be forwarded to the Executive Council which will affirm or disconfirm the EOB's recommendation. If Council's decision is to disconfirm, Council will explain to EOB the reasons for its action. (Appellate procedures are below.)
- D. A report from the Chapter Chair about how SWS funds were used must be submitted (directly) to the Executive Office **within 30 days after the funds were spent**. If approved funds were spent at multiple times during a single year (for example, at three chapter meetings), a single annual report may be submitted. It is due in the Executive Office by January 15 in the year following the use of the funds. The report will be published in *Network News*.

#### **Additional points:**

Committees and chapters (for definitions, see below) should request resources from their home institutions or other organizations before or concurrently with calling on SWS. A department might host a local SWS meeting by providing coffee or treats and/or attendees might bring food and drinks to the meeting. Regional sociology associations, Association for Black Sociologists, and other potential co-sponsors can be asked for support.

#### **Annual allocation:**

**Committees & Task Forces:** Variable, depending on the group's charge, goals, and EOB/Council-approved budgetary annual allocation.

**Chapters:** \$250 annually for local (includes state-level) chapters; \$500 annually for regional (associated with regional sociology associations) chapters (maximum per year). Chapters wanting funds above these limits should explore alternative sources.

**Officers:** Officers may have expenses associated with fulfilling their duties that exceed the amount(s) specified in the annual budget planning process. When that is the case, they should follow the procedures outlined in this policy document.

#### **Definitions:**

**What is a committee or task force?** An elected or appointed SWS group with official standing (can be time-limited) and charged with fulfilling an obligation(s) within SWS. See SWS Bylaws for standing committees. A task force, in contrast to a committee, is time-limited, often lasting one year or less. Committees of local or regional chapters are excluded from funding separate from their chapter's funds. As noted, all **Committee Chairs and Task Force members must be SWS members (membership at local or regional levels is insufficient)**. Forms for submitting requests for funds and for reimbursement are attached. As already noted, a Committee Chair should complete and submit the appropriate Reimbursement Form and receipts and a report of their use to the Executive Officer within 30 days of the funds' expenditure.

**What is a local or regional chapter?** *Chapter* is a term for any SWS entity smaller than SWS itself. Many urban areas and some multi-state areas have *local chapters* that meet periodically (can include multi-locations). Geographically-based sociology conference groups (that meet at the annual meetings of the Southern, Eastern, Midwestern, North Central, Pacific, etc.) are referred to as Regional Chapters. All local and regional chapters are listed on the SWS webpage, along with a contact person who can be consulted with suggestions, questions, advice, and requests. The **Chapter Liaison of the Membership Committee** (who is selected by the Membership Committee) is responsible for maintaining an up-to-date list of chapters and forwarding the list (at least annually) to the Webpage Manager for posting. As noted, the Membership Committee Liaison brings monetary requests to the Membership Committee and reports the Committee's recommendations to the Membership Committee Chair (who is also SWS Vice-President). Requests for funds and for reimbursement should use the forms shown in this document. After the funds are spent, the Chapter Chair should submit receipts, the reimbursement form, and a

report of the funds' use to the Executive Officer within 30 days of the date of expenditure. As noted above, when approved funds are spent at multiple times during a single year (for example, at three chapter meetings), they can be described in a single annual report which is due in the Executive Office by January 15 in the year following the use of the funds.

**Officers. Officers include** President, President-Elect, Past President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Treasurer-Elect, and Past Treasurer and Secretary.

**Appellate Procedure:** Any request for funding that is denied may be appealed. To appeal, first a memo explaining the request, including a rationale for it, should be submitted to the Treasurer. The Treasurer will ask EOB to review the request to ascertain whether it wishes to change its prior decision. If EOB denies the request again, the request moves to the Executive Council for review and a possible over-ride. If Council over-rides an EOB decision, Council must explain to EOB and the Treasurer the basis for its action. Appellate decisions of Council are considered as final.

**A clarification.** Resolutions from the floor to expend SWS funds during business meetings will be forwarded to the Treasurer and EOB for review, discussion, and a recommendation. EOB's recommended action will be forwarded to Council, as noted above. Treasurer, EOB and Council will endeavor to respect the views of the membership as indicated by the discussion of the resolution and any votes taken at the meeting(s). If deadlocked or undecided, a ballot of the full membership may be undertaken by email.

Attachments: Forms for use in applying for SWS funds & requesting reimbursement.



# Budget Request Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

What is your position within SWS? \_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

When do you plan to use these funds? (date/dates) \_\_\_\_\_

SWS decision needed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the purpose of the budget request if needed add extra page):

Itemize expenses that are included in this budget request (e.g., transportation, subscriptions, refreshments, fee for an expert, etc.) *in order of their priority.*

From what other organizations have you requested funds? Please specify organizations and amount of funding requested.

Explain how this budget request advances the mission of SWS. The SWS mission includes maximizing the effectiveness of opportunities for women in sociology, exploring the contributions sociology can, does, and should make to investing in? and humanizing current gender arrangements, improving women's lives, and creating feminist social change.

Please *Check* or *Circle* the SWS budgetary category(ies) that your request fits:

- Fostering member participation including new member recruitment
- Inviting/supporting experts to inform, teach or educate members about how to achieve SWS goals (academic and social change)
- Fighting discrimination in the academy
- Promoting and/or creating feminist scholarship
- Promoting/advancing justice for women in society
- Facilitate SWS functioning &/or improve organizational structure

Signature & position: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Once the form is complete, submit by mail or email to the Treasurer or Membership Committee Liaison, as indicated. Their contact information can be obtained from the SWS webpage.

[In June 2011, the SWS Treasurer is Kristen Myers, Department of Sociology, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb IL 60115, email: kmyers@niu.edu; and the Membership Liaison is Tamara Smith, Department of Sociology, Westfield State University, Westfield, MA 01086, email: tsmith@wsc.ma.edu.]



# Reimbursement Form

If you received funds for an SWS-related activity, please complete this form & submit it along with **receipts** and a **written report** of their use (for publication in *Network News*) to SWS Executive Office **within 30 days** following use of the funds.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Your position within SWS \_\_\_\_\_

Expenditure was approved by (please check all that apply)?

- SWS Treasurer
- Executive Office:
- Committee chair (please identify name & Committee): \_\_\_\_\_
- Chapter president (please identify name & Chapter): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

**Reimbursement amount requested \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of expenditure(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please itemize the expenses for which you are request reimbursement:

- Transportation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Refreshments: \_\_\_\_\_
- Flyers, plaques, nametags, etc. \_\_\_\_\_
- Honorarium, stipend, fees (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_
- Memberships/subscriptions: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

[When form is complete, attach receipts and form plus report of the funds' use within 30 days to SWS Executive Officer Jessica Holden Sherwood, SWS, 10 Chafee Road, Kingston RI 02881]

# Call for SWS UN Representatives to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The International Committee is seeking SWS members to fill three openings as representatives to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). We encourage members interested in active engagement with the UN process and enthusiasm for building SWS's participation in the UN to consider becoming a representative. Requirements for serving include:

- One year prior membership in the International Committee
- A three-year commitment to serve as UN representative
- Willingness to fulfill responsibilities and duties as follows:

Attend some portion of the annual session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York in February/March

With other SWS UN Representatives, prepare annual report for Network News on CSW sessions

Report to International Committee meetings on CSW sessions

Assist in preparing SWS's Quadrennial Report to the United Nations

Participate in other SWS UN activities such as preparing statements, etc.

Relay pertinent UN communications to SWS newsletter, listserv, and meetings

Current SWS UN representatives to ECOSOC Susan Lee, Pat Ould, and Sarah Swider will be stepping down as their terms end. Barret Katuna and Astrid Eich-Krohnm are in the middle of their terms. The International Committee will review applications for the three open positions at the SWS Summer Meeting in Las Vegas. If you are interested in applying, please send your contact information and a paragraph explaining your interest to Susan Lee [susanlee@bu.edu](mailto:susanlee@bu.edu) by August 15, 2011. For more information on the Commission on the Status of Women, please visit the website of UN Women at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw>.



Sociologists for Women in Society  
URI Sociology  
10 Chafee Rd.  
Kingston, RI 02881

To update address or contact information with SWS please log on at:  
[www.socwomen.org/members](http://www.socwomen.org/members) and click Member Profile, then Edit.