Terrific Winter Meeting in Tamaya!

The SWS Winter Meeting in Tamaya could not have been so successful without the hard work and dedication of many of you. Much of the work to put together the winter conference occurs behind the scenes and I want to be sure to acknowledge those of you whose dedication contributed to making the meeting so constructive. All SWS members, officers, chairs of committees, organizers of panels, and presenters helped to make the 2013 Winter meeting so thought provoking, stimulating, and rejuvenating, thank you!

Thank you to Past President, Patricia Yancey Martin, Kristin Myers (now Past Treasurer) and Wanda Rushing (Treasurer) for your leadership and thousands of hours of work to make sure SWS remains a vibrant organization.

The Program Committee that included Shobha Hamal Gurung, Vrushali Patil, and Ronni Tichenor worked tireless hours during the fall 2012 semester, winter break, and beginning of the spring 2013 semester to put together the program that reflects the proposals for workshops, roundtables, and meetings that many of you proposed.

The Local Arrangements Committee that included Jane Hood, Barbara Gurr, and Barret Katuna provided support in planning the sponsored dinners and outings in neighboring areas during free time. I would like to especially thank Jane for helping us to acclimate ourselves to the region during the Welcome Reception on Thursday evening.

The Auction Group, that Miho Iwata and Ophra Leyser-Whalen co-chaired, arranged for a spectacular display of the colorful selection of items that you brought for the silent auction. Thanks to Farhan Yousaf and Trisha Tiamzon for their help in preparing the items for the auction. Thanks to Susan Hadley, god daughter of Arlene Kaplan Daniels, for donating five of Arlene’s hats to the auction, including shipping them to our conference site. Thanks to all SWS-ers who brought other items from Arlene’s house—including books—to the auction. We will be using their money for their initiative on domestic workers. Tewa Women will use their money for their ongoing programs. Here is the response from Andrea Plaza from Encuentro:

I received the check in the mail last week and was super surprised by the generous amount—good job on the auction! This will be a tremendous help to our work. I hope we can stay in touch. Blessings to you! Love, Andrea
Tamaya continued:

I would specifically like to acknowledge the members of the Welcome Committee for making the effort to reach out to attendees—both veteran attendees and newcomers—to make them feel welcome at our meeting. This committee included Tiffany Taylor, Christin Munsch, Roberta Villalón, Trina Smith, Kris De Welde, Tracy Ore, Shannon Davis, Jennifer Keene, Barret Katuna, Veronica Montes, Katrina Bloch, and Sarah Logan.

Many graduate students contributed to the organization of this meeting. I would like to thank my graduate assistant, Barret Katuna, for working with me while I was President Elect leading up to the conference. I would also like to thank the graduate students who put together a useful opportunity for graduate students to engage with senior scholars at the Breakfast With Scholars roundtables. Veronica Montes, the Student Representative, chaired this effort. Members of the committee included Ilana Demantas, Barret Katuna, Jenny Korn, Laura Logan, and Chandra Waring. A special thank you to all of the junior and senior scholars who took time to speak with graduate students during Breakfast With Scholars, in the Critique Me session and informally throughout the conference. These connections are invaluable and help us all with our professional and personal growth as feminist scholars.

Margaret Abraham, Amina Mama, Jane Bennet, Cecilia Ridgeway we are very grateful for your plenaries. Jeanne Flavin, Myra Marx Ferree, Josephine Beuku Betts, Kate Berheide, Kris De Welde, and Pallavi Banerji, Shobha Hamal Gurung, Mary Romero, Ronnie Tichenor and Margaret Vitullo, thank you for your thoughtful discussions and introductions to the plenaries.

SWS-ers who participated in the Task Force work and got us thinking again about the future directions of the organization, thank you for keeping us engaged in this process.

I would like to thank the Executive Office including Interim Executive Officer, Shirley Jackson and Administrative Officer, Jazmyne Washington for providing support leading up to the conference and at the conference setting. Marisa Crame of Helms Briscoe helped us to secure this site. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all of the staff members of the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort and Spa who welcomed us and made us feel at home during our conference.

I look forward to seeing you all in New York this summer!

- Bandana Purkayastha

Photos courtesy of Bandana Purkayastha
From Winter meeting at Tamaya, Santa Ana Pueblo, to the summer meeting in New York City

The Winter meetings emphasized many aspects and controversies relating to international research/activism. President Bandana Purkayastha introduced some historical and contemporary understanding of violence against women. She pointed to the potential and challenges of bringing diverse knowledge frames to the center of our analyses and understanding. Margaret Abrahams discussed global engagement and the prospects and challenges of making sure diverse voices are represented in our quest for socially just knowledge. Amina Mama spoke about the need to go beyond good intentions and discussed some of the current problems of international engagement from the experience of research institutes and NGOs in the two-thirds world. Jane Bennet discussed the critical need to make knowledge of local contexts and locally effective frames an essential part of international engagement. These plenaries pointed to coexisting circles of knowledge, and the challenge for all gender scholars to work out how we are to connect our circles of knowledge to other circles. Cecilia Ridgeway’s talk on the relationship between ASA and SWS provided an important US-focused dimension to this discussion.

. . . the challenge for all gender scholars to work out how we are to connect our circles of knowledge to other circles.

The summer meetings will continue the same theme. Bandana Purkayastha and the program committee are beginning to plan the program. Some of our global partners will be present for these meetings.

- Bandana Purkayastha

Zakiya Luna and Lynn Verduzco-Baker after presenting at the Winter Meeting on creating writing support groups.
Fun Times in New Mexico!

- Photos courtesy of Tracy Ore

Happy reunions with old friends!

Best auction helper ever!

Graduate School reunions!
(Go NCSU!)
2013 MEMBERSHIP

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Address: ___________________________________________________________________________________________
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MEMBERSHIP (January 1—December 31, 2013)

$14  □  Income less than $15,000
$21  □  Income $15,000 - $19,999
$31  □  Income $20,000 - $29,999
$41  □  Income $30,000 - $39,999
$46  □  Income $40,000 - $49,999
$56  □  Income $50,000+
$1800  □  Life Membership*

(*payable in equal installments over 1, 2, 3, or 4 years; $900 for 2 years; $600 for 3 years; $450 for 4 years)

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COMMITTEE INTERESTS: I am interested in serving on the following committees (Your name will be forwarded to the chair(s) of the committee(s) you have selected):

□  Discrimination Committee
□  Feminist Activism Award
□  Distinguished Feminist Lectureship
□  Mentoring Award
□  Membership Committee
□  Undergraduate Social Action Award
□  Chow-Green Dissertation Scholarship

REFERRED TO SWS BY:

Name: _______________________________________

CONTRIBUTION OPTIONS (enter amount)

$____ SWS operations
$____ Natalie Allon Fund (discrimination support)
$____ Rosenblum award fund (cancer-related dissertation)
$____ Beth Hess Scholarship
$____ Feminist Activism Award
$____ Distinguished Feminist Lectureship
$____ Mentoring Award
$____ Undergraduate Social Action Award
$____ Chow-Green Dissertation Scholarship
$____ SWS-MFP (ASA Minority Fellowship Program)

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Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515

203-392-7714; 203-392-7715 (fax)   swseo@socwomen.org   http://www.socwomen.org
From the Executive Office:

Post Winter Meeting Update

The executive office would like to thank everyone who attended the 2013 Winter meeting – all 276 of you!! What a wonderful turnout and what an absolutely beautiful venue! If you were not able to make it to the meeting, you also missed some really wonderful plenary sessions, workshops and roundtables. President Purkayastha and the program committee did a great job organizing the program.

The auction raised $7232.40 for Tewa United and Encuentro New Mexico. The executive office sends its gratitude to our auctioneers, models, and other volunteers. Everyone working at the Hyatt Tamaya Resort and Spa are probably still talking about our auction antics but that is okay because they are just as likely to still be talking about the dance that followed the banquet and action! It was all in good fun and I know everyone had a good time.

Thank you to our resident photographer, Tracy Ore and everyone else who took and submitted photos for this edition of Network News and for our website. Jazmyne and I returned to Hamden, Connecticut with 44 inches of snow to shovel and thanks to three of my neighbors, we were able to dig out her car and clear my walkway in about an hour and a half. The conference became a distant memory quite fast which is why being there still warms us!

SWS Operations Manual

The executive office is helping in this endeavor by updating the SWS Operations & Procedures Manual. It was given to the SWS Executive Council to review and we are waiting for approval. Once this happens, chairs and officers will have a clearer idea of what their duties and roles are. I attended several committee meetings while at the Winter meeting and was really pleased by the support you all show the organization and each other and your desire to make the organization stronger. However, one continued to concern is the real need for clarity and transparency on all levels of the organization.

As I met with committees and individual members at the meeting and post-meeting, two consistent concerns kept arising – a lack of clarity regarding roles and responsibilities of chairs and officers and confusion regarding how to go about having immediate questions answered. Trust me, I get it! It can be quite confusing to maneuver through the hodgepodge of historical memory which may be in conflict with what actual roles and duties dictate per the organization’s bylaws and the Operations & Procedures Manual. This confusion seems to permeate several layers of the organization and is something that requires not only our attention, but also a response. Again, the executive office is working with both EOB and Council to assist in providing guidance in this regard.

We know it can be frustrating at times to try to get an answer to a simple question and find that you are being blocked from getting information or that no one really knows the answer. Sometimes even with the simplest question it may take forever to get an answer. It is our goal to continue to work on smoothing out the rough edges so that we are all on the same page.

What’s Going on with the Website?

Some of you may have noticed that the website was down for maintenance and migration. As mentioned in the last newsletter, this transition was planned for back in the fall and we are happy that the site is back on-line! What does this mean for the membership? Well for the most part, you may not notice anything significant as of yet. However, the executive office will be working with new programs in the ‘back-end’ of the website.

(continued on page 8)
that should make life a lot easier for us and for the membership. For instance, members who have registered for conferences on-line in the past have done so through EventBrite. Although this system works quite well theoretically, it has a fee that is applied to each and every member who makes a conference registration purchase. The EOB had made an arrangement with the previous executive office that members be reimbursed this fee. As you can imagine, this leads to a lot of extra work for the executive office. What we hope to be able to do is to use a system that allows us to have a secure sockets layer (SSL) so we can accept payments on our site without having the extra step of reimbursing everyone who paid through an outside vendor like EventBrite.

Finally...

I was pleased to read Afshan Jafar’s University of Venus review of Presumed Incompetent: The Intersections of Race and Class for Women in Academia in Inside Higher Education recently and want to thank her for bringing this work to the attention of the listserv. Given some of the hostile interactions that some SWS members of color have experienced in the last few months and following up on a panel conversation about this very topic at our Santa Barbara Winter meeting, I want to remind the membership to be conscientious of the structural similarities faced by these women and to not ignore them. A hostile work environment wherever it may occur and in whatever form can be a very alienating experience. The support of the SWS Discrimination Committee and Sister-to-Sister may be instrumental in serving as a place where sisterly support may be available. However on many campuses, women of color either suffer in silence or meet with one or two other women of color just to get through the day, let alone the semester. It becomes important to engage in self-preservation while one also attempts to manage the madness. When you walk into my office, the first thing you see on the bookshelf across from the door is “Be Nice, or Go Away”. I think this pretty much captures the “karma” I would like to have in my office. But there is also another saying that appears on a coffee mug that I gave my dean, “Keep Calm, and Carry On”. Both have helped me to make it through some very difficult days and I hope it does the same for our members who are women of color and our membership in general.

... Executive Office insights continued

Thanks to Shirley & Jazmyne for all their hard work to make the winter meetings a huge success!

(photograph courtesy of Tracy Ore)
Beyond the Motherhood Penalty: Critical Reflections and Best Practices from the Academy. (February 8, 2013)

The Academic Justice Committee organized a workshop for the 2013 SWS winter meetings titled “Beyond the Motherhood Penalty: Critical Reflections and Best Practices from the Academy.” Panelists (Paula Ross, Kayte Meola, Marjukka Olilainen, and Heather Laube) had children at various stages in their careers. Together with organizers and other workshop participants, the group developed a list of suggestions for students and faculty navigating fertility, pregnancy, and motherhood within the academy, as well as suggestions for faculty practices and university processes that can help to disrupt current cultures and structures that penalize mothers.

Tips for student and faculty parents:

Seek out and select understanding advisors. If you take time off (formally or informally) to have or care for children, find ways to remain connected to your department and your university. For example, communicate with your advisor(s) your plans for returning to school/work, talk with colleagues about things that have been going on in your department, or attend an occasional talk.

Expand your network of people with children. This includes peers. They can foreshadow potential struggles and shed light on what works and doesn’t work in your campus climate.

Create/participate in an academic support group for mothers or parents.

Find allies in unexpected places. For example, Human Resources may be more helpful than your department for information about policies, etc. Human Resources may not have completely accurate or helpful information. Corroborate the information you receive from HR with your department and others who have gone through a similar process.

Check into campus resources for childcare and lactations spaces. Your campus may have an office for “family and childcare” or something similar.

If your campus has a women’s center, it may be a great place to find out about campus resources.

Remember that administration is responsible for finding faculty replacements during leave. Don’t ask parents on leave to take on responsibilities that are not supposed to be their own (e.g., finding a replacement for classes, grading, doing work from home). They are entitled to this time.

Don’t reconstruct a “choice” framework about parenting.

Don’t question faculty commitment to work.

When interviewing candidates, tell all of them – regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, etc. – about university leave policies.

Institutionalize confidential job candidate visits to HR during interviews and reassure candidates that any questions they ask HR will be strictly confidential and not communicated to the search committee.

Those in power have a duty to speak up about family and family issues.

Don’t tell people when to have children. Although it may seem helpful, many people do not have the option of having children during graduate school, post tenure, or whatever time others may find appropriate.

(continued on page 10)
...Motherhood continued

Don’t complain about other people’s family leave. They are legally entitled to this time.

What can SWS provide?

The committee on Academic Justice is committed to providing peer support for students and faculty navigating the muddy waters of being an academic parent. If you would like to speak with someone about their experience as an academic parent or the particulars of your situation, please contact Christin Munsch, clm73@stanford.edu, to be put in touch with a peer mentor.

- Anastasia Prokos and Christin Munch

Evelyn Bush presented at the Winter Meetings on her research on the expansion of religious freedom claims in U.S. foreign policy, and its implications for the human rights of women. Through an analysis of the U.S. Department of State’s International Religious Freedom Reports, she shows how, as a result of conceptual ambiguities and classificatory inconsistencies in the reports, women’s rights are vulnerable to being eclipsed as efforts to protect religious freedom expand. Specifically, while American international religious freedom advocates focus on coercion as a defining feature of religious persecution, both coercion and religion are framed in ways that obscure the religious bases for many coercive practices that occur within communities. Institutions that monitor religious freedom focus overwhelmingly on coercion at the hands of states, and when they do document religious coercion at the hands of non-state actors, it is primarily with reference to inter-group violence, to the neglect of intra-group conflicts. She argues that, by privileging state coercion and violence between religious groups as the primary threats to religious freedom, human rights classification is developing in a way that obscures forms of coercion that marginalized status groups, including women, within religious communities are particularly vulnerable to experiencing.

Photos courtesy of Susan Lee: “The first one is Cynthia Deitch and Jazmyne Washington on a walk with me near the hotel in Santa Ana Pueblo on Feb. 9. The second is a dinner at the Range Feb. 8 hosted by Nancy Naples. I don't know the names of everyone around the table, but some (from l to r) are Solange Simoes (second on left), Jennifer Rogers-Brown, Nancy, Clare Weber, me, and Hara Bastas. The women immediately at the left and at the right are two graduate students from the Chicago area.”
Chow-Green Award Recipients: Where Are They Now?

By: Kris De Welde, Ph.D. Florida Gulf Coast University, Co-chair, Sister-to-Sister Committee, and panel organizer

As part of its work to build a coalition of women scholars who share concerns about the status of women both domestically and internationally, SWS established a “Women of Color Scholarship” in February 2007. It was renamed in 2010 in honor of two pioneering feminist, women of color scholars, Esther Ngan-ling Chow and Mareyjoice Green. The award is under the purview of the Sister-to-Sister Committee. In years since, the pool of applicants has grown considerably, making this a highly competitive award. The primary purposes of the scholarship are:

1. To offer support to women scholars who are from underrepresented groups and are studying concerns that women of color face domestically and/or internationally.

To increase the participation of students of color in SWS.

Applicants must be women from a racial/ethnic group facing racial discrimination in the United States, and who are in the early stages of writing a dissertation. While the award is open to scholars of any discipline, as well as those within the U.S. and those working internationally, applicants must demonstrate the project’s grounding in sociology and intersectional scholarship, as well as its relevance to women of color.

The recipient receives a $15,000 scholarship, a plaque, SWS membership for one year, and funds to offset the cost of attending the summer and winter meetings for the award year.

This is no small piece of change for our organization! As such, this is one of our most prestigious awards. It is certainly fitting for us as an organization to want to know what happens to the scholars we honor after their award period ends. Do the funds help them complete their work? Do they remain connected to SWS? What career paths do they take?

To satisfy these curiosities, Sister-to-Sister organized a “Where Are They Now?” panel of previous awardees at the winter meetings in Tamayo, NM. President Bandana Purkayastha had the brilliant idea to schedule the panel during our Friday luncheon so that the captive audience could enjoy their decadent chocolate cake alongside inspiring narratives of what our Chow-Green awardees are up to.

In their words, here is where they are now, and how the recognition from SWS influenced their paths...

2012 recipient: Paula Ross

Receiving the Chow-Green Dissertation Scholarship allowed me to complete 28 in-person interviews. Many of the women I interviewed lived a great distance and I ended up traveling over 2200 miles to conduct the interviews and I was also able to offer a small (continued on page 13)
Committee Reports are posted on the web!!!!!!

Please make special note of the move to the web for the many committee reports from the winter meeting.

You can go to

http://socwdev.thejpproject.com/members-existing/reports-and-minutes.html

to find all of these informative reports.

[Or you can:  1. Log in to the SWS website
    2. Click the "members" tab
    3. Click on "reports and minutes" under the members' menu.]
token of appreciation to each participant, which was really nice. Perhaps most importantly, receiving this award gave me reassurance that someone, other than my advisor and committee, through exploring reproductive health among women with sickle cell disease was a worthy topic.

**2011 recipient: Chandra Waring**

The Chow-Green award has been very influential in my graduate career in many ways. It gave me confidence; I felt like a scholar because SWS acknowledged, validated and invested in my research. That confidence translated to me writing papers and submitting my work to conferences and paper competitions. This award also provided me with the funds to be able to travel to conferences to present my work. The Chow-Green award also gave me the much-needed time to code and analyze my 60 interviews (if it weren’t for this award, I would have picked up an adjunct position and would have had considerably less time to code and analyze). Having the opportunity to focus 100% on my research allowed me to engage in a creative writing process where I had ample time to write, read, think, revise, talk with someone about my ideas, take a break and then write again rather than rushing through writing—and not enjoying it—while teaching several courses. All of these opportunities facilitated my tenure-track appointment at my dream position at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater! In the fall, I will join the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice as an Assistant Professor and I will also work closely with UWW’s Race and Ethnic Cultures Program. I owe much of “where I am” to the doors that the Chow-Green Award opened for me! I also want to thank my advisor, our current President, Bandana Purkayastha, who fervently encouraged me to apply for this award (and many others) and my fellow Chow-Green sisters who inspire me with their research and their warm personalities. SWS in general has had a monumental impact on my development as a scholar. Many SWS-ers (Anna Branch, Ronni Tichner, Afshan Jafar, Tiffany Taylor) have read my work and have provided quick, critical and encouraging feedback. They have also provided professional advice when I needed it most. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

**2010 recipient: Veronica Montes**

I am a doctoral candidate, writing my thesis, hoping to defend in June! Receiving the Chow-Green fellowship afforded me the opportunity to become a full-time researcher for the first time as a graduate student. I had the opportunity to undertake my preliminary ethnographic fieldwork in Mexico. Aside from the financial support, receiving this fellowship made me feel visible and validated as potential scholar as it was my first time that my project was generously funded. My study revolves around the household economic strategies developed by transnational Mexican families in their sending and receiving communities, paying particular emphasis on the role of women. Women in general, but women of color in particular, and in the case of my research migrant women, become instrumental in the development of survival strategies for their families, therefore the study of these strategies is crucial to fill the gap in the existent literature of the intersection between, race, gender and migratory status.

Finally, I want to say that at the personal level receiving this fellowship has been one of the most gratifying experiences as it was the way through which I meet great colleagues and most importantly it was the opportunity to get involved even more with SWS. I felt deeply indebted to SWS for giving me this opportunity!

**2009 recipient: Corrine Castro**

After receiving the Chow-Green award in 2009, my life as a young scholar began to flourish. The award allowed me to conduct a more comprehensive dissertation project, drawing from multiple research sites and data sources. Being recognized was a boost to my confidence and demonstrated that there is truly a place for my work within the discipline of sociology.
Since receiving the award, SWS has become my professional home, a place where I continue to make meaningful connections and friendships. Since I defended and graduated in May 2012, I taught several courses at various universities in Philadelphia, and most recently accepted a position at Texas Lutheran University beginning in the fall 2013 term.

2008 recipient: Renee M. Byrd

I received the Women of Color Dissertation Scholarship for 2008 and it made a tremendous impact in my life and in my work. I am so thankful for the support. It helped to fund my dissertation research. My general intellectual interests center on the intersection of race and gender inequalities, the sociology of punishment and neoliberal political rationalities. Titled “Punishment’s Twin”: Theorizing Prisoner Reentry for a Politics of Abolition, my dissertation project investigates prisoner reentry as a discursive formation which shores up the naturalization of the contemporary prison as a means of managing populations deemed disposable through the vicissitudes of neoliberal globalization. Using a combination of ethnography and critical discourse analysis, my project argues that prisoner reentry is deployed using a vocabulary, which mimics a critique of mass imprisonment, in order to expand the punishment system and render it more flexible, cost effective and legitimate. During the Fall of 2013, I will begin my first tenure-track job in the Sociology Department at Humboldt State University. I look forward to being even more involved with SWS in the future. Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) is an amazing group of scholars, who have blazed a trail for future generations. I feel so much gratitude to those that have paved the way for me as a scholar and for this amazing award. (Renee was unable to join us in NM).

2007 recipient: Maria Olivia Salcido

First, I must say that for me, the Chow-Green Women of Color Dissertation Award (when I received it, it was the Women of Color Dissertation Award) provided the desperately needed support to complete my dissertation. The financial support was of the essence, since I then, in addition to working as a Teaching Assistant, also had daughters that were 9 and 11 years old. However, most important of all, this award validated my work. Prior to this award, I had received much criticism from a variety of scholars. At the time of my dissertation, focusing on immigration and domestic violence in the Latino community was not viewed as an ideal project. At the national level in the early 2000s, I remember attending a national domestic violence conference to find that in the entire program there was one session dedicated to immigrant women and it was on the experience of one immigrant group. I would find myself often having to explain the worthiness of a project on immigration and domestic violence. At others, I would find myself having to defend how I would protect and find individuals willing to share their experiences with a stranger. I found many obstacles in completing my dissertation, particularly at the end in getting through the university’s bureaucratic process. However, I completed my dissertation thanks to this award, the support of SWSers, my dissertation adviser, Dr. Cecilia Menjívar and my family (I would like to add that I have a very supportive spouse!).

One of the great affirmations I took from the Chow-Green Women of Color Dissertation Award is that I am different, that I do not follow the conventional path, and that ultimately, this is great! Currently, I am working at Tempe Preparatory Academy (TPA), a public charter school. I am teaching Poetry and Humane Letters, a course that covers many topics such as Philosophy, Geography, English, and so forth, but that does so through a focus on U.S. History and Literature. In a setting that does not have much infrastructure, but that has a community that overall strives to provide the best learning environment for the students.

(continued on page 15)
Finally, I continue to work with scholars with similar interests and to publish. For example, I am very grateful to Dr. Cecilia Menjívar who continues to invite me to participate in research and writing projects. At this very moment, we are working on publications for the Immigration Policy Center (IPC), which is the research and policy arm of the American Immigration Council. As a matter of fact, she could not be here for the round table at which I will be presenting our co-authored paper, “Gendered Paths to Legal Citizenship” because she is working with those in D.C.

As you can see, this award not only gave me the confidence to complete a dissertation project, but also to follow a different path in seeking to maximize my teaching, scholarly and personal goals.
Local Chapters in Action!

The Membership Committee and Social Action Committee invite local and regional chapters to participate in an exciting and fun opportunity that will make a difference in your community. At the SWS winter meeting this February, the membership committee (later joined by SAC) decided to hold a PANTY DRIVE in March and April to help local domestic violence shelters collect items they desperately need. A "Panty Drive" includes collecting new toiletries items, cleaning supplies, and yes… underwear! These items are then donated to a local domestic violence shelter. (We just thought it would be fun to call it a “Panty Drive” because it’s catchy and sparks interest!)

At the SWS winter meeting, SWS-South and SWS-Kent Akron came up with this idea and will be asking their members to compile toiletries and new underwear to be donated to a domestic violence shelter of their choice. As an incentive, we are offering a prize—and bragging rights—to the local and regional chapter that collects the most items. If you are interested in joining this friendly competition please let us know as soon as possible by emailing Katie Acosta (local and regional chapter liaison acostakatie@gmail.com). SWS-South will be holding their drive during the Southern Sociological Society meeting. Members are being asked to bring toiletries or panties to the meeting. They will also be collecting monetary donations from anyone who is unable to bring tangible items.

SWS-East and SWS-Bay Area have already agreed to run “Panty Drives” in their communities. We would love to have as many other local and regional chapters as possible join this effort. So what are you waiting for? Don’t have a local chapter but want to participate? Why not use this event as a way to start a chapter!! Email Katie if you want more information. Good luck!!
# SWS Regional and Local Chapter Contact Information

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Agenda

Main subject: Transition of office to CT, EO/AO structure and current search for a permanent EO (and national office)

1) Pat Martin: overview; EO office shift, EO job description, evaluation
2) Shirley: List-serve, G & S mailing, membership, office set up,
3) Treasurer-Kristen $, overview, investments (including accountant Nancy Mancini), money spent on reimbursements.
4) Bandana: Task Force on bylaws; EO 6 months evaluation, AO evaluation, EO search committee, Ad hoc finance committee.
5) Council members to develop questions for EO candidates.

In attendance: President Pat Martin, Past President Tracy Ore, President Elect Bandana Purkayastha (12), President Elect; Mary Bernstein (13), treasurer, Kristen Myers, Treasurer Elect Wanda Rushing, Treasurer Elect Sharon Bird, Vice President Elect Tiffany Taylor, Secretary Trina Smith, Student Representative Veronica Montes & EO Shirley Jackson

Absent: Vice President Leslie Hossfeld

Bandana called meeting to order

Introductions made

Minutes from Denver approved

EO Transition and Failed Search

Failed Search:

Discussion ensued about the failed EO search last year. Chosen candidate invited candidate to be EO and then we started negotiation but an agreement could not be reached.

Learned from failed search that we were not being specific enough about expectations within timeframes for evaluations and salary.

Dr. Shirley Jackson stepped up at request of President and President Elect at time. Dr. Jackson took over as interim EO on July 1st and she recruited Jazmyne Washington as our first Administrative Officer.

SWS employs the EO and the EO hires an Administrative Officer.
Interim EO contract has built in evaluation points, including 3 months, 6 months, and 1 year.

These built in time points for evaluation should be done for the permanent EO contract as well.

Interim EO Evaluations

The 3 month evaluation showed the EO did many important tasks including revising website, moving office, books, etc. The 3 month evaluation was finished in mid-October, by a committee that was chaired by the Treasurer.

The 6-month evaluation is now overdue and will be done shortly.

The treasurer remains the supervisor of the EO. Supervision is difficult because of the relationship between EC and EO. With 8 or 9 people on Council and with the many issues at stake, multiple communications on multiple subjects may cause confusion. Discussion of 6-month evaluation and evaluation committee for interim EO

6 month evaluation committee includes Shirley Hill (Past President), Pat Martin (Past President), Wanda Rushing (Treasurer) and Sharon Bird (Treasurer Elect).

The evaluation will concern what the EO has done and is doing in relation to the tasks noted in her appointment to the office.

Discussion of the process of creating 6-month EO evaluation committee.

The President has the authority to appoint evaluation committee members

The evaluation committee was approved by EC.

A rubric is used for evaluation (the same as used formerly)

We need to document how we do the evaluation and created the review committee.

Future evaluations may be done by an ongoing Personnel Committee which we anticipate may be suggested by the Bylaws revision committee.

One suggestion was that the membership chair serve on such a committee because of frequent interactions with the EO. Other suggestions were made as well.

EO Transition:

Dr. Shirley Jackson, interim EO, discussed the transition and what was accomplished in the 6 months the office has been in New Haven, CT.

The EO negotiates many things, deals with the Sage Publications office, and responds to requests from members

The membership list was cleaned up, which helped with many things

Streamlined the Sage G&S mailing lists
Network News mailing list was also cleaned up

Developed Memoranda of Understanding with the Network News editor, social media person, and Press Release person.

Angela Lewellyn Jones is the new Network News Editor

Wendy Christensen is doing an excellent job with social media and will be tweeting at the meetings.

Council on Contemporary Families volunteers are doing press releases for G&S, principally Stephanie Coontz and Virginia Rutter.

SWS has two list serves:

One for students with 81 subscribers.

One for members generally with 638 on list-serve although not all are members of SWS.

The EO is anticipating a student worker to help in the office. The student will help with cleaning files and help Jazmyne with conference reimbursements.

SWS Website:

EO and AO have had to learn about the front and back features of our website.

They hope to find experts in the US rather than abroad to provide technical support.

Conference Registration and Event Brite:

If you paid for the conference through event bright, you were charged a fee. EO found out that this fee wasn't charged to members in the past but did not know this before hand. This can be easily fixed She promised that members who paid it will be reimbursed and that the office will take care of this task. We are looking at new companies to use. Shirley said it is difficult to reimburse people via cost share. Instead it is easier if SWS pays the fee and members do not deal with it at all. Apparently, in the past, the fee was figured into the cost-shares for winter meeting reimbursements.

Discussion by EC members of Interim EO's report:

We need to have policies and procedures documented in an operations manual, not just in minutes like these

Kudos for reaching agreements with Angela, Wendy, and CCF.

Discussion of summer banquet in NYC:

The EO is in the process of helping with arrangements for summer banquet and has visited possible sites. Bandana will go to NYC to review the sites as well. There are concerns with space but it is NYC and price is a concern.

Kristen Myers said SWS has at times not charged the full price of the banquet meal and ab-
sorbed some of the costs. Some Council members said they did not know this and disapprove of this policy. They called for a review of the issue. All agreed that we need to hold a banquet in summer because this is when we give awards.

We must be mindful when calculating what we spend for banquet and the Winter meetings because we are spending more than we take in some years.

Discussions have begun about the site for the 2014 winter meetings. The company (Helms Briscoe) that helped Bandana (Marissa Crane) with the Tamaya meeting has provided a list of possible hotels in the cities chosen by the president-elect. Helms Briscoe does not charge SWS for its services.

**Treasurer**

Kristen Myers gave the following report.

In the past we hired a bookkeeper but now our AO has taken over this task.

SWS is working with an accountant, in the role of compiler, to clear up our books/financial situation. Our agreement with Nancy Mancini specifies that she will give us advice and guidance about protecting the integrity of our finances. The Site Visit team voted to make this change in December at site visit.

Investments SWS’s investments produced modest profits this year. The report from the Treasurer with details will appear in Network News or members can contact the Treasurer (about to be Wanda Rushing).

SWS’s current holdings total about $1.6 million.

A discussion about socially responsible financing ensued. Currently, SWS does have some criteria but perhaps the criteria should be revisited.

Recommendation: SWS establishes a finance committee to, among other duties, look into this issue.

President Bandana Purkayastha is appointing an Ad Hoc Finance Committee consisting of the Treasurer and three other persons with expertise in these matters.

**Proposed vs. actual outcome:**

We currently make a budget based on last year’s expenditures and what we anticipate happening in the coming year. This is fuzzy math. We should plan more carefully for the future since we are spending all the money we take in most years and some years more.

The bulk of our expenditures concern the meetings and personnel.

How much we spend depends on how many attend the Winter Meeting, so we have to balance that with what take in. Last winter meeting (2012), we took in more than ever before but we also spent more. Summer meeting is less expensive because we reimburse only the chairs and officers.
EC discussion about spending money:

We subsidize Winter meeting costs because we want people to attend the meeting.

Committees spend a small amount, usually less than we budget. Committee are encouraged to use their allocations.

Discussion of the creation of both an Ad Hoc Finance Committee and Ad Hoc Personnel Committee.

An ad hoc finance committee could look at what is going on with investments and by-laws committee would put in place.

An ad hoc budget committee can help us plan for the coming year.

EO reminded the EC that our insurance company suggested we agree to an umbrella policy for SWS which we have not done. Such a policy is needed to protect the officers and also the staff of the organization. EO was charged with following up on this.

**Site Selection Discussion**

Discussion about what to consider in site selection for SWS winter meetings.

Concerns include being green, labor issues, challenges with people getting to the site, and affordability for students.

The Task Force may suggest that a program committee advise us on site selection in which they are looking at more systematic ways for site selection and are discussing staggering a set of particular sites. However, there may be some downsides to signing long term contracts and then experiencing labor disputes and other problematic issues.

**EO Search Questions**

Interim EO, Shirley Jackson, left the room for this discussion.

Questions developed were as follows (with each to take no more than 3-5 minutes):

1. Why do you want to do this job (3-5 minutes only)?

2. What is your management style (and previous experience)? What organizational skills do you bring to the job? What principals do you use when prioritizing and organizing? (This part-time job, how will you manage your multiple responsibilities)

3. EO must be comfortable with hiring, firing, etc. employees and contractors. What kinds of experience do you have with this?

4. What kind of supervisory relationship will enable you to best do your job? There will no doubt be
instances when you are directed by an SWS officer to do something that is inconsistent with your philosophy about how things ought to be done. What do you think a good way to handle this would be? What is your philosophy about responding to direction from more than one “supervisor?”

5. How do you envision the lines of authority between elected officers and the EO? How do you envision your relationship with SWS as the organization to which you report?

6. What do you envision an effective communication relationship with the SWS elected officers to be?
   a. Communications with officers (about budgets/finance, for example)
   b. Officers’ communications with you
   c. Communication to inquiries from the membership

7. How will you manage the EO role when traveling?

8. As the EO you will supervise the AO, who has major responsibilities (as laid out in a contract). What kind of management style do/would you use? How have you/might you deal(t) with personnel conflict?

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectively submitted by Trina Smith, SWS Secretary.

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SWS Winter Meeting 2013  
Executive Council #2  
February 9th, 2013

Present: Kristen Myers, Mary Bernstein, Tiffany Taylor, Wanda Rushing, Sharon Bird, Bandana Purkayastha., Trina Smith, Pat Martin, Veronica Montes, and Shirley Jackson.

**CDC Proposal**

During the 1st Business meeting, the Career Development Committee made the following proposal to Council:

"Career Development Committee proposal, Feb. 9, 2013, Sara Crawley, outgoing chair; Tina Fetner, outgoing Hey Jane! Editor; Orit Avishai, Mentoring project coordinator:

The Career Development Committee proposes an exception be granted in the SWS travel reimbursement policy, such that the editor of Hey Jane!—one of the committee's elected positions—be reimbursed for travel to the Winter and Summer meetings at the rate equivalent to committee chairs.
Our rationale is as follows:
- the workload of this position equals or exceeds that of some committee chairs
- we would like to attract a wide pool of candidates willing to stand for this position, including those whose workplaces have limited or no travel funds
- the editor position is one whose reputation for quality work is public and visible, which places additional pressure on the position
- this position involves the academic work of writing and editing, which the committee recognizes as demanding, valued work
- there is currently an imbalance of responsibilities on the Career Development Committee, in which the Hey Jane! Editor's role exceeds the role of other elected members on this committee. Resulting from the nature of the editorial role on Hey Jane! Itself, there appears to be no simple way to rebalance this workload.

Hence, we, the Career Development Committee, submit the above proposal."

**EC discussion on proposal discussed:**

- Issues about different committees and workloads
- What's the principle and precedent? What constitutes exception?
- The Hey Jane editor is not actually writing the column, but coordinating.
- Hey Jane should be public on the SWS website as a hook.

EC Vote: No. The Hey Jane editor will not be reimbursed for meeting attendance. The intention of the financial support is to enable one chair to attend the operations and business matters of the organization. Unanimous.

**Personnel/Financial Issues**

Interim EO, Shirley Jackson left the room for the following discussion.

Council discussed SCSU’s delays in releasing the SWS funds and ways to address the complications that have resulted from the delays.

Issues: The money SCSU has and clarification of any additional funds SWS will give to SCSU; also the conditions under which the EO and AO work for SWS as well as the allowable conditions, policies, and procedures for compensating EO and AO

Resolution proposed by Bandana, President: On matter of SCSU, we will not pay the last proportion for this contract cycle.

Motion seconded by Mary Bernstein, President Elect.
Unanimous Approval

Furthermore, the President and Treasurer will take appropriate action to address the other issues.

**Gender & Society/Publications Committee/SWS Officer Issue:**

Shirley Jackson returned and Mary Bernstein left the room for the following discussion

Publications issue: Mary has been elected SWS President but she is G&S Deputy Editor (which is a paid position).

The Council and Publications Committee worry about one person serving in these two positions although our bylaws do not explicitly forbid it. Council composed and sent a memo to Publications for their consideration.

Pat Martin proposed that Council give the memo to the Publications committee. Wanda Rushing seconded it. Vote: Unanimous Approval

Meeting was Adjourned.

Minutes respectively submitted by Trina Smith, SWS Secretary.

**NOTE 1** from Bandana Purkayastha, President:

During and since the 2013 Winter meetings, the SWS Council discussed the situation of President Elect Mary Bernstein continuing to hold this elected position and her appointed position as Deputy Editor. Since Mary Bernstein decided to continue with both positions and the current by-laws do not prohibit it, Council discussed ways to keep these positions separate. Council has asked Mary Bernstein—and she has agreed—to remove herself from every discussion related to *Gender & Society* when these come up during Council and EOB deliberations during her terms as President Elect, President, and Past President. The Vice President will act in her stead on all matters relating to the journal during the next three years (2013, 2014, 2015). Council has asked the Strategic Task Force Bylaws committee to clarify bylaws concerning elected and appointed positions.

Approved by Council, March 4, 2013.

**NOTE 2** from Bandana Purkayastha, President:  EO evaluation and search update

The 6 month evaluation of our EO is being conducted.

Since the Tamaya Meeting, the EO search Committee has provided their recommendations to Council. The Council has sought more information from both is continuing with the next steps in the process.
EOB Meeting 1 – February 7, 2013 – Winter Meeting

Present: Kristen Myers (Treasurer, Chair), Sharon Bird; Shirley Jackson; Pat Martin; Julia McQuillan (for part of the meeting); Tracy Ore; Bandana Purkayastha; Wanda Rushing

Absent: Barbara Risman and Joya Misra

8:30am meeting called to order

Review of 2012

General overview of EO transition

Kristen Myers (Treasurer) provided this overview of events related to the EO transition:

First quarter:

- We interviewed three candidates at the Winter meetings
- Julie Winterich was selected as the top candidate
- Pat Martin and Kristen Myers conducted a site visit at Guilford College.
- EOB began negotiations with Julie regarding salary and expectations of the job

Second quarter:

- Negotiations between EOB and Julie Winterich were unsuccessful.
- Negotiations began between EOB and Shirley Jackson, to install her as interim EO.
- The URI EO staff wrapped up their operations by June 30.
- There was a communication breakdown between the previous staff and the incoming staff.

Third quarter:

- Shirley Jackson began as interim EO.
- Shirley hired Jazmyne Washington as part-time AO.
- Jazmyne took over bookkeeping duties.
- We had a successful summer meeting in Denver.
- Contract negotiations with SCSU were complicated and slow-going. SCSU did not process payroll forms as expected, and SWS paid the EO and AO directly as things were worked out.
- Hiring Jazmyne full time was delayed due to bureaucratic complications.
- The EO and AO diagnosed and repaired multiple problems including the outdated list-serve and mailing list.
- Some problems occurred in getting Sage money to UMass for G&S support.

Fourth quarter:

- SWS paid SCSU’s grant office, SPAR, $24,105 to be used to pay Shirley and Jazmyne (this amount was ¼ of the year total) on 10/16/12.
- All URI accounts were finally closed.
- The three month evaluation of the EO was conducted—it was positive.
- The SCSU site visit was conducted.
EOB agreed to change our relationship with our accountant, Nancy Mancini, so that she may now provide advice to SWS and guide Jazmyne as she learns to master Quickbooks.

**Investment Report** – Kristen Myers reviewed the SWS Historical Values Year-Over-Year 2008-2012.

Prior to 2008, we just had a checking account. Money has grown over the years. Year-end values minus deposits were reported $25,602 for 2012. Kristen reminded EOB that we had agreed to reinvest 5% of our revenues back into investments each year as recommended by Laura Kramer. SWS never got reimbursed from Allon Fund. Check was sent back (had been sent to URI and was never opened – arrived sometime in June during transition period). SWS never took the money out and need to have Rainbow Fund reissue the Allon Fund check. Kristen reported that we have growth with our socially conscious investments.

**Financial oversight structures** – Treasurer-Elect Wanda Rushing reported that there has been some confusion about our professional association with Nancy Mancini (SWS’s accountant).

Wanda clarified that Nancy no longer can do audits as she did in the past. She is now assisting Jazmyne with the new contract that we have with her which is one of compilation. Nancy recommended that the bank statements be reviewed on-line. She also suggested that Treasurers have QuickBooks (our bookkeeping software). A system for sending the information from the AO to the Treasurer to get the updates on QB. The above will help with another pair of eyes to help with transactions. Wanda has been doing this and will discuss with Sharon Bird as treasurer-elect.

There were questions in the past about who was getting paid and how the money was being spent and this adds another layer of security. Bandana asked about taxes. Wanda said that Nancy is working on this with the EO. We are not (or not as) behind on our taxes.

We discussed the creation of a Finance Committee (one of the Task Force’s impending recommendation), which would advise our investors more directly. Mary Bernstein asked who might be sitting on the Finance Committee. Bandana responded that this will consist of the two treasurers and perhaps a couple of other ad-hoc members. This committee can prepare an investment strategy. Tracy noted that we should wait to work on this until the Task Force’s report is complete (summer 2013).

Relatedly, Bandana mentioned that there will also be a discussion about a Personnel Committee in the future.

**UMass and G&S** – Julia McQuillan reported about the complications in getting the editorial staff at UMass paid, as a result of complication in the transition of Executive Offices.

To resolve this, we need an annual letter to UMass to confirm the budget between UMass and G&S. This letter needs to be written and sent every fall. We learned that the contract Joya had was differ-
ent from what was in the executive office. Rollover money from the editorial offices at KSU to those at UMass was eventually deposited correctly. Book reviewers are paid directly from SWS instead of going through UMass, and those monies were eventually sent to the correct place as well.

There are certain kinds of procedures that should be clarified and included in the Operations Manual.

We reviewed the annual Profit and Loss (P&L) Statements and examined our overall revenues and expenses. We discussed the problems with getting financial statements so close to the Winter meetings, and recognized that many of our figures are actually in flux. Treasurers agreed to confer with Nancy Mancini about the figures in the coming months. A motion was made by Bandana for the treasurers to return to the review of the P&L. The motion passed.

D. EO financial arrangements – Kristen and Wanda reported that there has been a complicated process with grant offices. To this date, she says we are still in conflict with Southern Connecticut State University. We agreed that contracts are complicated and we are not trained to handle them ourselves.

SCSU mishandled Shirley’s pay, and, as a result, Shirley paid an hourly rate and was got paid more than what SWS expected. It was supposed to be ¼ of what she earned. We spent time calculating the actual overage and how to correct the problem in the future.

Moving Forward (Wanda)

A. 2013 Budget –

In conversations with Nancy Mancini, Wanda says that she has asked questions regarding institutional arrangements. Nancy suggested that we handle our finances outside of a university context—for example, we could buy a condo and run our offices from their rather than dealing with University bureaucracies. We discussed the complexities of a variety of arrangements, and decided that, for now, working through a university makes the most sense. For example university’s handle health insurance in ways that currently work for us.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.
3) Committee Reports: Academic Justice, Award, CD, Discrimination, International, Membership, and Treasurer

4) Banquet Announcements

**Minutes**

President Bandana Purkayastha called meeting to order at 12:11 pm.

**Changes in SWS in Last Year and current EO search** (Presented by President Bandana Purkayastha)

Moved EO from RI to CT

Decided on a new EO structure

   EO plus full time Administrative Officer

EO search last year was a failed search

   Grateful to Shirley Jackson who agreed to serve as interim Executive Officer

   SWS is doing a new EO search, as Council promised when making an Interim appointment

**Approval of minutes from Summer 2012**

Secretary Trina Smith asked for a motion to approve the business meeting minutes for Summer 2012 SWS meeting.

   Pat Martin made motion to approve minutes from Summer 2012 Business meeting.

   Tracy Ore and Barbara Risman seconded this motion.

   Minutes approved by vote of membership.

**Academic Justice** (Presented by Heather Laube)

Academic Justice is waiting for approval to present the departmental Gender Report Card and the Report on Intersectionality in top sociology journals;

The Committee is discussing the possibility of a Lavender Report Card. They are partnering with the Sexuality section of ASA.

   They will most likely have a call for someone to do some basic research. This will include policies and climate for GLBT Folks, the number of people doing GLBTQ research,
sexuality courses taught, and dissertations coming out of department on GLBTQ issues. The committee has $500 to offer for this work and during the summer meetings, they will have a related session.

**Awards Committee Report**  (Presented by Marjukka Ollilainen)

The committee discussed changes with marketing strategy for campus visit applications and student awards, centering on inclusivity and transparency. In addition to *Network News* and the SWS listservs, they will advertise elsewhere. Subcommittee is looking at organizations that may produce nominations.

The Awards Committee is working with the NYC committee on having an “information session” about SWS awards at the summer meeting.

The Awards Committee is initiating a series of "where they are now" reports in relation to past award winners for Network News and for the webpage.

The call for nominations for Faculty Awards (mentoring, distinguished feminist lecture, feminist activism) have gone out. The call for campus visits has also gone out.

April 1st is the deadline for student awards.

**Career Development Committee**  (Presented by Sara Crawley)

The CDC incoming chair is Sarah Sobieraj (who could not be here due to health issues)

A thank you to Tina Fetner who has served as “Hey Jane” coordinator.

CDC's newly elected member is Andrea Miller

Orit Avishai handles the mentoring function for this committee

The committee's “Critique Me” session during this meeting went well.

The committee gives thanks Zakiya Luna for building feminist writing support systems and putting information into documents for the SWS website.

The CDC makes the following proposals to EC:

Please express thanks to Sara Crawley, outgoing chair; Tina Fetner, outgoing *Hey Jane!* Editor; Orit Avishai, Mentoring project coordinator

The Career Development Committee proposes an exception be granted in the SWS travel reimbursement policy such that the editor of *Hey Jane!*--one of the committee's elected positions--be reimbursed for travel to the Winter and Summer meetings at the rate equivalent to committee chairs.
The rationale they offered is as follows:

- the workload of this position equals or exceeds that of some committee chairs
- we would like to attract a wide pool of candidates willing to stand for this position, including those whose workplaces have limited or no travel funds
- the editor position is one whose reputation for quality work is public and visible, which places additional pressure on the position
- this position involves the academic work of writing and editing, which the committee recognizes as demanding, valued work
- there is currently an imbalance of responsibilities on the Career Development Committee, in which the Hey Jane! Editor's role exceeds the role of other elected members on this committee. Resulting from the nature of the editorial role on Hey Jane! Itself, there appears to be no simple way to rebalance this workload.

Hence, we, the Career Development Committee, submit the above proposal."

Discussion by the membership of the CDC report:

Suggestion made that something be mentioned in Network News on mentoring and that it be prominently featured.

In the past, someone in SWS would connect individuals writing with people who would read their manuscripts. Could this process be revived?

Sara responded that the CDC struggles with letting people know what they do. They put out information on SWS listserv. It is a good idea to note the mentoring effort in Network News. The history of our mentoring/writing program can be passed on as a suggestion to Sarah Sobieraj, incoming CDC chair.

Discrimination (Presented by Roberta Villalón)

In the year that Roberta has been as chair, seven cases have come to the committee. For two cases, SWS wrote letters of support and gave financial aid from the Natalie Allon fund. So far, the other five are consultations only.

The committee has worked on rebuilding the institutional memory of the committee and also resources, such as letting people know what the committee is and what it can do for people. This is exemplified by the piece in Network News on the Natalie Allon fund.

The committee organized a workshop for this meeting, "Is this discrimination or what?". This workshop was meant to clarify what discrimination means and what we can do better as an organization, including scholarship and possible legal and institutional effects on our work.

The committee created a confidential paper trail file. People going through a discrimination situation can write about it and SWS can maintain records for them.
The committee asks that on the form to become SWS member include an option to donate funds to the Natalie Allon fund.

The committee is working on a fact sheet about discrimination and what can be done

The committee's section on the SWS website will be updated soon to include a committee membership list.

The committee chair would like to appoint members to the Discrimination Committee and asks Council for guidance about the procedure to follow in doing so

**International** (Presented by Minjeong Kim)

The International Committee has worked to clarify its structure. The committee includes United Nation's Subcommittee and Global Feminist Subcommittee. The International Committee is working to create a subcommittee to help SWS members create sessions at international meetings (particularly the International Sociological Association’s Research Committee 32, Women in Society).

SWS has NGO status at the UN. We have delegates for ECOSOC and DPI. ECOSOC hosts the CSW meeting.

  SWS’s UN representatives organized first parallel event at CSW last year and going to do next year.

  We need to replace our DPI representatives. There was a call in NN and list-serve, but did not get nominations. Jennifer Rogers Brown is going to work as tentative member this year and main reprehensive next year.

A thank you was given to Barrett Katuna, who is working with ASA on gaining NGO status at the UN. She's teaching them to establish UN status as they work on UN Sociology day.

The International Committee has been working on the Global Feminist Partnership for a long time, trying to establish ties with other countries. Currently there are nine partners. At the last meeting, we got our first African member. The partners want to engage in transnational feminist discussions. Information about the partners is on the International Committee's section of the SWS website. These partners can serve as connections for research, so if people are interested they should contact partners from the list or the international committee.

**Treasurer Report**: (Presented by Wanda Rushing)

There are three treasurers: Current, Wanda Rushing; Past, Kristen Meyers; Treasurer Elect, Sharon Bird

Membership Data : Last year 400 members were current at this time and this year 480 members are current. (The number increases as folks remember to renew their membership.)
Investments, Revenue, and Expenses

The SWS Investment Portfolio is with Financial West Group

Sources of revenue: Gender & Society royalties from SAGE.

Our current contract with SAGE will be renegotiated in 2016

We are guaranteed $200,000 per year. But if subscription is higher, they readjust and we can earn more. Some of this money from Sage goes to editorial staff for operations.

Revenue 2012 came from Winter meeting fees, Summer meeting registration, membership dues, Sage royalties, G&S Editorial Board Operations, contributions, sponsorships, auction, etc.

We have three primary expenses: Personnel, Meetings, and Gender & Society.

This year we had more expenses because of the Executive Office move. Our expenses were $560,492. An additional $25,000 was contributed to the investment fund.

Brief Summary on Revenue:

SWS is a multi-million dollar organization

Investment portfolio is increasing through dividend growth and new deposits.

Revenues primarily come from GS, via contracts with SAGE, but also include membership dues and conference registration.

Additional SAGE revenue is paying for increasing costs, primarily rising meeting costs.

Assets, 2013:

Total of $1,616,653.59 in the investment portfolio

Assets include: Rainbow Accounts, Feminist Futures, Rosenblum, Allon.

Operating Resources include a CD, Citizens Bank Account, and other assets.

Projected Income, Revenue 2013 ($575,000)

Projected Expenses 2013: $565,000.00

Sustainability

Success of G&S created financial security and opportunity for SWS.

Increasing financial growth, along with increasing organizational complexity creates questions about sustainability.

SAGE royalties will not always increase, however, expenditures are based on expectations of extra royalties.
Presidents, and Council have begun new conversations about budgeting as well as long term investment strategies and goal.

Part of discussion is attention to budget process and investment committee.

Questions and Discussion From Members

Request for PowerPoint to be posted somewhere and noted that usually at business meeting, paper copies of budget are available.

Request for agenda of two business meetings would be helpful to membership

Membership (Presented by Tiffany Taylor)

The Membership Committee thanks everyone for being at the meetings.

Sessions on local and regional chapters happened at this meeting and will continue in the summer. If interested in starting a local or regional chapter, Tiffany can connect you.

Fifty people requested Hand matches and everyone was connected to someone

For the summer meeting, the Hand Program will operate out of the hospitality suite during specified times as people have hectic schedules during the summer meeting.

The Membership Committee has an exciting new initiative to be announced in Network News.

The Membership Committee is partnering with other committees on sessions and interacting with other committees

Member Referral Raffle Winners, based on a random drawing include: $150 first prize, Shannon Davis; Grab Bag winners, Heather Dillaway & Kayte Meola

Nominations (Presented by Pat Martin, Past President)

Thank you for the nominations.

Apologies to Mary Bernstein and Sharon Bird, who were not sworn in on Thursday.

Members should look for opportunities for seeking election and for volunteering. We need more people from the Midwest, South, and East coast

Business Meeting 2 (Presented by Bandana Purkayastha)

Committees and groups with long meetings this afternoon will present during the business meeting tomorrow. This includes Task Force, G&S, Publications, Sister to Sister, Social Action, and Student Concerns

Please listen to what the Task Force will present. They will be wrapping up their work by August 2013. Tell them now if you need to tell them anything.
Asked if members had questions or comments on report, but no one had anything to say.

**EO announcements** (Presented by Shirley Jackson)

Thank you to the following staff who have helped at this meet:

- Dale from Action AV
- Nancy Danker, owner of Focus Ink (printed our programs)
- The catering staff at Hyatt Hotel Tamaya Resort

There are sign-up sheets at the registration desk for transportation to the airport

Banquet tickets are tight because of the limited space of the room

Nominations. Committee interest list is on the registration form and information is passed on to Pat Martin, so her committee will know who is interested in serving on a committee

Mary Bernstein, President Elect, has a possible location for the Winter 2014 meeting

There is also a possible site for our summer banquet in NYC

Reimbursement forms for meeting are being passed out (Purple/pink is for chairs and officers; Green is for general membership).

Evaluation forms are available at the registration desk for this conference

**Banquet Announcements**

Bandana Purkayastha noted that the two organizations that will benefit from the auction money are Encuentro and Tewa Women United. Jane Hood and Barbara Gurr suggested these organizations.

Tracy Ore announced that at the silent auction, only checks and cash can be accepted.

**Other Announcements**

Angela Jones, *Network News* Editor, and Wendy Christensen, the SWS Communications Officer, were introduced.

Angela Jones noted the next deadline for *Network News* is March 15th.

Bandana Purkayastha reminded members to check their hotel bills to assure they are not being charged for the internet.

Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectively submitted by Trina Smith, SWS Secretary
NOTE 1: Update since the business meeting at Tamaya:

Consistent with section 3 of our bylaws, the Discrimination Committee chair, Roberta Villalon has appointed the following members to the Discrimination committee: Katja Guenther (former Chair of the Committee), Carrie Lee Smith (long standing voluntary member of the Committee), Cynthia Deitch (who has been a voluntary member since the Summer 2012 meeting), and Kumiko Nemoto and Christina Sneed (new to the committee as of 2013).

Presented to and noted by Council on February 22, 2013.

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**Business Meeting #2**  
*Sunday, February 10, 2013 10:30-11:45am*

**Report of SAC (Presented by Kylie Parrotta)**

Fact sheet topics have been picked for 2014 and point people have been established. Looking into building a network of Undergraduate Social Action award winners, mimicking the Chow/Green Dissertation Scholarship “where are they now?” sessions. Interviews of the awardees will be put into Network News.

Interested in joining Academic Justice Committee to work on ____ report card.

Workshops for Summer and Winter Meeting. During the summer meeting a prospective session is Roe v. Wade how to organize and activism on this topic.

Winter- social media in the classroom. Inclusive classroom, transgender issues.

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**Gender & Society (Presented by Joya Misra)**

Journal is doing fine 535 submissions (record). Receiving a lot of submissions and there is a low acceptance rate due to many submissions and interest.

Accepting about 6% of articles; 2/3 of articles are rejected. One third of articles are desk rejected (not reviewed) most are 4000 words, no methods section, etc. Articles are not the right fit for G&S- looking for contributions to gender theory.

At the R&R stage, acceptance is varied month to month during Joya’s term. Joya is trying to maintain 60 hours per week throughout the summer.

The journal is being promoted in various ways.

- Working with Virginia Rutter and Stephanie Coontz.
- Working with Wendy Christensen (SWS communications officer).
- Reaching out to both academics and students (G&S in the classroom).
- Reaching out to policy and legislature so the research can actually make the world a better place.
Finding ways to change how people think about race and gender—letter casing example with how the terms white and black used. “We are at that moment”.

Publications (Presented by Barbara Risman)

Announced new Network News editor and is very pleased with new issue. Contract with PR person from last year has ended, and a relationship has been created with CFF for one year via Virginia Rutter and Stephanie Coontz. There will be one press release per issue of G&S. Looking forward to hiring a person for PR in the future. Wendy Christensen was hired the new Communications Officer. The Pubs Committee is pleased with the way social media is being used. Personnel issues are still in process.

Sister to Sister (Presented by Kris DeWelde)

Sister to Sister meeting was well attended. A lot of work was done, as well as created. The S2S committee is working on a joint reception w/ SSPS and ABS for the summer meetings.

The committee is fishing for collaboration and contact has been made thus far. Collaborative Efforts across SWS committees include the Welcome Committee, Student Concerns, and the Career Development Committee to address the issue of unique mentoring needs of women of color in the job market.

S2S winter session: During the mentoring session allies and mentors are trained on appropriate behavior.

The subcommittee worked on the statement of purpose and aimed to answer the following questions: What is Sister to Sister? Who are the sisters? It is important to expand the scope to address issues of marginality more broadly.

Chow Green awards April 1, 2013 deadline. The call will be in various places.

Mentoring Hotline: There are more women of color in SWS so more attention to women of color and intersectionality is needed. There is great interest in developing a sisters hotline that will respond to issues of multiple marginality to assist a person in need to rotating volunteer mentors. It will provide support and point persons to resources in SWS, ASA, and beyond. An elected member will be needed for it to be successful. Proposed an elected member for said cause.

Motion made by Kris- seconded by Tracy Ore.

Vote: Majority in favor
Student Concerns  (Presented by Veronica Montes)

Student listserv is finalized.
Website update- different ideas for folders with lists of area exams, dissertation proposals, etc. More feedback is needed- a call went out for items for the folder, but only one person answered.
Student Reception at Winter Meeting- summer has too many things going on for it to be successful. 58 students showed up for the Student Happy Hour, but no students showed up for the student concerns meeting. This may have been due to a conflict in the schedule, so there needs to be more of a flow to the student meetings to ensure all can come.
Breakfast with Scholars was a great success 42 students signed up for the roundtable. There were seven tables this time and six tables last time.
Conversation with the membership committee: Needs to be a renewed focus on recruitment and retention. Who the students are who continue being members should be looked at. Trying to track the trajectory. Faculty should invite students to SWS. Students who don’t come with faculty need to know they can be involved- how do we increase awareness?

Task Force  (Presented by Tracy Ore)

Great involvement with the silent auction. Raised a total of $7200.00. Plan accordingly to raise even more for next year. Introduced task force.

Bylaws  (Presented by Julia McQuillian)

Worked on proposed organizational structure- what is working well, and what needs work? Concept map created for taskforce discussion- design was based on input from long term vision committee. Revising concept map which will become a document with input from the membership.

(Presented by Myra Marx Ferree)

Strategic planning- goals need to be clarified, focus on strengths, and work on growth. Interviews were conducted. There is a clear consensus as far as our goals as an organization: Looking for SWS to be seen as a membership-driven organization- involvement, transparency, and growth. Need to find ways to grow the membership. Be a feminist alternative to a status quo academia. “We are not confused as far as who we are as an organization, but where do we go from here?”

(Presented by Mindy Fried)

Long Term Objectives- 6 goals:
1 decentralize SWS from national meetings as main sties of engagement.
2. Widen the focus.
3. Redefine how the governance structure works.
4. Encourage membership participation
5. Focus on growth
6. Commit to evaluating.

Input was gathered from business meeting attendees. A wiki will continue the discussion to an online dialogue.

Members were given a large sheet of paper on which to write ideas for each goal of the long term objectives.

Decentralization: #1-

- Look into available technologies, teach others how to utilize these resources.
- More speaker panel resources.
- Lists of experts, and making the lists more public.
- More resources for SWS Chapters- more on the website from chapters.
- Caucuses around interest areas, more ideas for regional meetings.

#2: Widen the focus of SWS academic collaborations.

- Expand institutional organizational ties with international organizations.
- Establish links with other journals.
- Asking membership to find out what networks they are connected to already. Expand collaborations.
- Mapping interests to establish links between people.
- Being more proactive to meet with SWS members outside of conferences.
- Using online sources to link researchers and build connections.

#3. Redefining how government structure works.

- Easing the load on President-Elect
- Staff work is done by officers.
- Work is delegated to the Executive Office
- Budget and finance committees to make decisions.
- Evaluation of Executive Office
- Personnel management evaluation is tasked to the treasurer- they are the head of the EOB. Perhaps VP should do it.
- Elections in the spring (rumors) how will that help the P-E.
- Having a three year plan for a site selection.
- Executive Office will help with continuity.. .documented materials.
- Differentiating planning and decision making from actual implementation.

#4: Encourage Active membership participation on all levels.
Incorporate international and transnational participation
What draws people in to SWS? –People need bonding experiences. How to have that experience on more local levels.
Chapter development.
Increase SWS profile.
Don’t treat anyone as though they fit into one category.

#5: Develop plans to increase our membership across all ages and ranks of feminist sociologists.

Chapter development
Regional meetings (Winter meeting is a “nationals” of sorts)
Other benefits of memberships- teaching resources- go beyond the listserv.
More research on the membership levels- where are we declining and why. How can we recover? Institutionalized survey.
Targeted recruitment. Members on different levels.
Facebook and Twitter to “nudge” membership. Be more intentional.
Encourage people who publish in G&S to become members of SWS.

#6: Evaluating the implementation of the Strategic Plan

Ask candidates for elected positions to focus on their position and how it links to the strategic plan.
Annual reports from each officer and committees on what they did on their strategic plan.
Special session on the strategic plan.

Minutes taken by Jazmyne Washington, SWS Administrative Officer
This fact sheet will focus on women’s rights to rural land in non-industrialized regions and how state policy affects (or does not affect) changes in those rights. Worldwide, countries with different social, cultural, and economic situations maintain similar discriminatory land tenure systems with regard to women’s land rights [1]. Although data from agricultural censuses and surveys and cadastral information are partial, available information confirms the existence of strong gender disparities in land rights for women in most countries, regardless of the level of economic development. The figure below gives us an idea of how many rural women have access to agricultural land, though it does not tell us what type of rights they have, whether they own the land, are renting or sharecropping, or are simply allowed to farm it [2]. That type of information at the national level is not available for the great majority of countries. This fact sheet will attempt to show that the institutional arrangements for agriculture and for land rights set over the last 30 years are not adequately addressing the strong existing gender and social inequities in land tenure systems. The first section explores the importance of land rights, particularly for women. The second section reviews land policies, legislation, and programs that seek to change or legalize land tenure systems. The third section attempts to assess women’s effective rights to land. The final section mentions some responses women have made to situations of unequal land rights.

Why are land rights important for women

The importance of land for rural societies is related to the power it gives to landholders; those who control land have a certain amount of power over those who do not, especially in rural areas. Gender differences with regard to land rights, status, and opportunities often give men control over women and their labour. Struggles and movements for either land or gender equity are political, and as such involve concessions, at least in the short run, by one group to another [3].

Advocating for women’s rights to land is justified considering that gender-equal land rights is a human, social, and economic right; one of the basic elements of citizenship or membership in a society; and a safety net for low-income and low-asset persons and households in both rural and urban contexts. In rural societies, land is a critical asset, especially for agriculturally-based livelihoods and food security. In addition, land has many meanings for rural populations: it means home, shelter, refuge in time of need, and citizenship. Secure access to land not only provides rural women the basic means for subsistence and market production, but also ensures them livelihood security and a sense of belonging through inclusion in social and cultural institutions, particularly governance institutions. Its social and psychological values for rural women and their families are equally important and have longstanding historical roots.

Although rural income in many countries has become less dependent on agriculture, land continues to be a crucial resource for the survival and reproduction of rural households and communities. As rural households become more feminised [4] and the role of women in agriculture increases (Lastarria-Cornhiel 2006), land as a secure place to raise families and as a base for diversified livelihood strategies becomes more important, particularly for women since they are majorly responsible for family welfare (Quisumbing & Maluccio 2003; Smith et al. 2003). A number of studies have shown that household assets, including land, controlled by women result in improved household outcomes such as food security, investment in children’s education, and improved health (Katz & Chamorro 2003; Mardon 2005).

These cultural and social values attached to land partially explain why the struggle for land is sometimes so tena-
cious, why communities remain on or return to ancestral areas, why families sometimes hold on to parcels that have minimal economic or productive value, and why women struggle to improve and secure their land rights. Wealth and socio-cultural norms largely determine who in the community has access rights to land, and in most societies both have determined that primary land rights be allocated to men. In many countries, particularly in Africa and in Asia, women have had no land rights or at best secondary rights to land through male relatives: their fathers, brothers, or husbands.

**Land legislation, policy, and reform**

Equality of rights to land for women and men are not only a social and economic right, but also a political and human right. The formal and informal recognition and implementation of those rights is crucial for improving gender and social equity, especially in rural areas. The set of norms and practices that defines the land rights of different individuals and groups in a given society are either formally recognized in statutory laws and/or are acknowledged by members of the community as legitimate (customary tenure [5]). Both types of tenure systems influence each other and change over time as social, cultural, and economic conditions change. The strength of either the formal or customary system varies greatly across regions and in rural to urban areas.

Over the years, international law has become more insistent and specific about women’s basic rights to land and property and has addressed the issue of removing obstacles to women’s ability to exercise these rights. Examples include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) adopted by the United Nations in December 1948, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) adopted in 1979. These international norms have had a significant impact on national legislations as women’s advocacy groups have utilized them to press for reform, including land laws and regulations that explicitly recognize and give women equal property rights. Over the last few decades, many nations have passed legal reforms of constitutions and civil codes that utilize gender neutral language or that explicitly recognize women’s rights and prohibit discrimination based on gender. In addition, legislation that mandates equal land rights for women and men, such as Land Laws, are now fairly common across the globe.

For example, women’s movements in Latin America since the 1970s campaigned for the recognition of equal rights in order to remove married women from the tutelage of their husbands and to give them the same and equal property rights that men held. At the national level, many countries created national women’s offices that advocate for and promote gender equity. As a result, during the 1980s and 1990s most Latin American nations passed legal reforms of constitutions and civil codes to remove discriminatory clauses in family (marriage, divorce, and marital property) and inheritance codes [6]. They have also modified land allocation laws and regulations (for example, for land reform and land titling) to explicitly recognize and give women equal property rights. Similar movements to reform legislation have been occurring in Africa and Asia. The call for gender equity in land rights has become louder since the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2000 Millennium Development Goals, highlighting land as a crucial factor for women’s economic empowerment as well as for food security and the wellbeing of rural households.

Inheritance laws and practices are often cited by women’s organizations as gender biased, and many countries, including those in Africa and Asia, have reformed their inheritance codes. Since most smallholder land is inherited, this means of acquiring land is important for women. In Latin America, where inheritance codes have been traditionally equal and bilateral (both daughters and sons inherit from both parents), rural women as well as men tend to own land. In Ecuador, it was found that more land parcels were owned by individual women (as opposed to joint ownership) than by individual men (Doss et al. 2011). In India, reforms to the Hindu Succession Act have attempted to give daughters inheritance rights to land. The 1956 legislation recognized inheritance rights for daughters and sons, but then gave families the option of writing wills that disinherited daughters. In 2005, the Indian government modified the Hindu Succession Act to clearly give daughters full and equal inheritance rights.

Reform of inheritance codes includes not only inheritance within families, such as inheriting from one’s parents, but also inheritance from one’s spouse which is dictated by marital property laws. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa and most of Asia, land acquired during marriage is considered the property of the person who acquired it, not property of the couple. The difficulty in changing marital property norms to recognize the contribution of both spouses in the acquisition of property is becoming gradually easier due to efforts by land titling programs to issue joint titles to spouses. The state, by insisting that land belongs to both spouses, particularly if the land being titled has been allocated by the state, contributes to the improvement of women’s land rights and increases the amount of land in women’s hands. In Ethiopia, for example, the Revised Family Code of 2000 gave equal rights to spouses during the conclusion, duration, and dissolution of marriage, and required equal division of all assets between the husband and wife upon divorce, although adoption of the law has not been uniform across...
all the regions within Ethiopia. The Ethiopian land titling and registration program provides some evidence that land titling does not necessarily have to work against women. In Ethiopia’s low-cost, community-based land certification scheme, land administration committees at the kebele level (the smallest administrative unit in Ethiopia) were required to have at least one female member. Both the land titling exercise and the issuance of certifications were conducted publicly in village assemblies for transparency (Deininger et al. 2008). In regions where a photo, in addition to a name, was required for certification, women were considerably more likely to have their names on a deed.

With regard to land policies and reforms, in general terms they attempt to change land tenure systems. They do this by targeting one or more of the basic characteristics of land tenure systems: access, distribution, or tenure security. Tenure policies may seek to change rules for access to land through tenure reform by privatizing collective farms, outlawing tenancy, or privatizing customary land systems. For example, in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Russia, since the late 1980s and the 1990s, tenure reform has involved mainly privatization of lands that were previously collectives, cooperatives, or state farms. These reforms have either returned land to pre-socialist era owners (as in Latvia) or have parcelized collectively farmed lands to ex-collective or state-farm workers (as in Moldova and Albania).

Although tenure reform in this region has taken diverse forms, in part due to the level of land collectivization previously achieved under communist governments, what has been similar across most of the region is that as private property became the predominant form of land ownership, new property owners have been mostly men. Although legislation was gender equal, land allocation programs and the titling programs that follow them have generally granted the male head of household ownership rights to land parcels. In addition, it appears that in rural communities, to some of the population of the previous socialist state and its policies, including policies that imposed gender equity from the top down.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, tenure reform has often sought to transform customary tenure land into individualized private property. During privatization, men (and particularly male heads of household) acquire complete and legal ownership of land (Davison 1988). Individualized and private ownership transfers the few rights, such as cultivation rights, that women and minority groups may have to land under customary rules to those men who are able to claim private property rights to land (Lastarria-Cornhiel 1997). More recently, there is the trend to formally recognize customary tenure and land authorities. There is a strong debate on the implications of this devolution trend for women’s land rights (Whitehead & Tskata 2003).

Redistributive land reform has been utilized to modify skewed land distribution patterns in an attempt to reduce great disparity in distribution. Regardless of the reformed distribution structure across households, however, women hold less land than men in most societies. As Deere and León (2001) have shown, redistributive reform in Latin America from the 1950s to 1980s distributed land mostly to male household heads. Reform programs in the great majority of cases granted land to the household head under the assumption that all household members would benefit.

In most of Asia, land reform during the last half of the twentieth century has been characterized as both redistribution and change of tenure rights. Most of them have focused on converting tenants into smallholder owners such as the Indian reforms of the 1950s and those of Japan after World War II. While most of these reforms disregarded women’s rights to land, in the last few decades some have attempted to include women. In West Bengal, for example, the state decreed in 1992 that reform land was to be issued to both spouses as joint property wherever possible. But it seems that peasant unions, village authorities, and male household heads, as well as land reform authorities have worked against or simply ignored this directive. A 2003 study found that less that 10 percent of the land parcels were jointly titled to spouses and only 5 percent were titled to women (Jacobs 2010 citing a 2003 study by Anil Chakrabarti).

China, of course, has followed a different model: the household responsibility system. Collective farms were disbanded in the 1980s and long-term use rights to agricultural land were distributed to community households to be farmed individually. While ownership rights to agricultural land remain in the public domain, the use rights to exploit farmland have been privatized. These reforms have given men control rights over household land parcels (Li 1993; Li & Bruce 2005).

Women also experience weaker tenure security than men. In most of Africa and Asia, women hold indirect or secondary rights to land in the sense that their access to land is through their father, brother, or husband. These secondary rights become even weaker during transition periods—such as marriage, divorce, or widowhood—and during societal change such as the formation of markets economies and conflict situations (Peterman 2012). Tenure security is assured by the presence, effectiveness, and legitimacy of land institutions [8], whether state or cus-
Programs are a good example of this type of discrimination. Constraints women face in obtaining land rights, are, in fact, programs that, because they ignore the normative and practical er. Most common is “gender neutral” legislation and pro-
grams to increase women’s rights to land can be directly ally carried out to counteract this trend.

The most common program utilized since the 1980s to in-
crease the security of private property—land titling and regis-
tration—initially granted legal rights to land overwhelm-
ingly to men. Attempts to correct this trend have in-
cluded the joint titling of land to both spouses. In Latin America this has resulted in a significant increase in the number and percentage of women acquiring legal title to land parcels (Deere & Leon 2001; Deere 2011). Nonethe-
less, when the amount or extension of land is considered, the great majority of it is still owned by men, indicating that women are acquiring legal title to small land parcels (Lastarria-Cornhiel 2009). While land titling programs are able to increase tenure security through the granting of legal and registered rights, these programs tend to benefit those who already have land, disregarding the significant proportion of rural households without any land.

Effective rights to land

Why have legislation, land policies, and land programs failed to protect and promote gender-equal land rights? There are at least three basic reasons: (1) the weakness of state land institutions, (2) patriarchal norms and practices, and (3) official recognition of customary tenure systems. Even where legislation is progressive towards women’s land rights, in many countries the state and its institutions, including the judiciary, have a weak presence beyond major urban areas. The state, therefore, does not have the resources, or is unwilling to commit resources, for advocating, promoting, enforcing, and protecting women’s legal rights to land and property. In rural communities where customary tenure and patriarchal values are still strong, de facto land rights and inheritance practices conform to patri-
lineal custom. When Nicaragua initiated a land titling pro-
gram in the early 1990s that was supposed to issue joint titles for household land to both spouses, men often insisted on excluding their wives and putting their sons or brothers on joint titles (Agurto & Guido 2002). More effective training of titling officers and household members was eventually carried out to counteract this trend.

Another reason for the failure of land legislation and pro-
grams to increase women’s rights to land can be directly traced to patriarchal norms and attitudes that influence for-
mal legislation and/or hinder the implementation of land legislation and state programs in a gender equitable man-
ner. Most common is “gender neutral” legislation and pro-
grams that, because they ignore the normative and practical constraints women face in obtaining land rights, are, in fact, biased against women. Land distribution and land titling programs are a good example of this type of discrimination.

Although land titling programs may have no gendered requirements, and national laws uphold gender equality, the “custom” of titling only household heads in fact discrimi-
rates against women and may actually deprive them of secondary rights. Patriarchal norms prescribe that men are the heads of household and farmers, and thus more capable of managing household assets.

Even where legislation and state programs specifically address women’s land rights and attempt to promote gender-equal land rights, resistance from program officials and target populations during implementation are able to derail the “good intentions” of state programs resulting in token observance of women’s legal land rights. Such an example can be found in Bolivia where, in spite of very positive and specific language in the land and titling legis-
lation regarding women’s and men’s equal land rights, the implementation of the land titling program during the first nine years resulted in the majority of land titles being issued to men. In 2006, a number of ad hoc regula-
tions regarding the participation and inclusion of women were formally incorporated into the titling process, signifi-
cantly increasing the titling of women whether individu-
ally (from 17 percent in 2005 to 24 percent in 2010) or jointly (from 26 percent to 39 percent). The increase in titles issued to women is certainly reason for optimism. The amount of land titled to women, however, is quite small compared to men’s (Lastarria-Cornhiel 2009; Ramirez Carpio 2010; Deere 2011).

In the wake of state failure to “modernize” land tenure and land administration systems, there has been a recent trend towards acknowledging and validating customary (local) tenure systems in regions such as sub-Saharan Africa where customary tenure systems are still quite strong and functional (Whitehead and Tsikata 2003) [9]. This trend is closely related to decentralization and is often touted as an attempt to engage local populations in a participatory process. In reality, the strength of the cus-
tomary (or local) is often related to the absence of state institutions, either because the state is not able to provide state services to all its populations or because some areas resist state presence. Therefore, policy makers are revert-
ing to customary systems and devolving control over land and natural resources to local institutions and authorities. These local institutions allocate resources, resolve dis-
putes and conflicts, and maintain a record of landowners, users, and their rights. Most of these are influenced by patriarchal norms and practices that consider only men to be legitimate owners of land.

As Whitehead and Tsikata (2003) and others have pointed out, this reversion to customary tenure systems is taking place without recognizing their inherent biases. Local institutions and authorities are not necessarily equi-
Women have not remained passive while their rights are being eroded; they fight to protect and regain them. They have successfully formed informal groups, associations, or cooperatives to secure their rights, protect or acquire more land, or mobilize labor and inputs [12]. In many instances they have been successful in advocating for gender-equal land legislation and challenge dynamics when land program implementation is gender biased. An interesting case is the women of the Bodhgaya movement in India who insisted on receiving land in their names when land they had fought for was being distributed only to male household heads (Agarwal 2002). Individually, women have also utilized social and political influence to protect their rights to land, sometimes becoming involved in long and complicated judicial processes [13].

While still the minority, some women are acquiring direct rights to land, either from their families or through land purchase. However, women are still disadvantaged and unable to fully participate in the market system because of low monetary income, lack of capital, low social status, minimal political power, little or no education, and imperfect factor markets.

Some promising efforts by NGOs to improve women’s status and land rights are legal literacy and legal assistance programs. These programs offer workshops, accessible publications such as graphic booklets, and media such as radios and videos in the local language to educate women on their legal rights. Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Gender and Land Rights Database http://www.fao.org/gender/landrights/en/


Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division http://www.fao.org/economic/es-policybriefs/briefs-detail/en/?no_cache=1&uid=40497

Landesa Center for Women’s Land Rights http://www.landesa.org/women-and-land/

IFPRI Gender Research Area http://www.ifpri.org/book-20/ourwork/researcharea/gender

### Recommended Resources

- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Gender and Land Rights Database**
- **International Center for Research on Women, Assets and Property Rights**
  - http://www.icrw.org/what-we-do/property-rights
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division**
- **Landesa Center for Women’s Land Rights**
- **IFPRI Gender Research Area**
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Footnotes:

[1] Land tenure is the set of norms and practices that defines the different land rights of individuals or groups in a given society. They are either formally recognized in legislation or acknowledged by communities as legitimate (customary tenure).

[2] The figure shows the percentage of holdings (out of the total number of land holdings) operated by women alone or with others regardless of management, organization, size, or location. A holding is the land and/or livestock kept, which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one legal entity. The landholder is the person with access to land who is reported to farm the holding.


[4] The feminization of rural areas is demonstrated in the increasing number of rural households in which a woman is the head or the reference person. Regional statistics show, for example, that in South America the percentage of female-headed households in rural areas has been increasing steadily over the last two decades, in some cases by 10 points (ECLAC 2010). Worldwide, some of the highest percentages of female-headed households are over 40% (e.g., South Africa, Swaziland, Argentina, Ukraine).

[5] Customary tenure can refer to different frameworks or realities. In this paper I am referring to land institutions with rules and practices that are followed by communities and local groups and that are not necessarily recognized by formal law and in fact may contradict formal legal norms.

[6] See *Deere and León* (2001) for an exhaustive review and analysis of women’s rights to land in Latin America for the last few centuries and particularly since the 1950s.


[8] Formal and customary land institutions record (either in written or oral form) who has what rights to land, determine the rights and responsibilities of land rights, and participate (together with judicial institutions) in enforcing the observance of these rights. Formal land institutions include land registries, land use institutes, cadastral offices, and land notaries. Customary land institutions generally consist of community land authorities or land councils.


[10] While reasons for guaranteeing women’s land rights include the productivity argument (women are rural producers and secure land rights would make them more efficient producers) and the poverty argument (granting land rights to women would help assure food security and well being for rural families), this fact sheet focuses on the human rights argument.

[11] Unfortunately, the requirement of legally married couples in both the 1999 and 2005 legislation excludes the great number of women who are not legally married and those in polygamous marriages.


Pray the Gay Away: The Extraordinary Lives of Bible Belt Gays.
Bernadette C. Barton; NYU Press, 2012.

“In Pray the Gay Away, Barton argues that conventions of small town life, rules which govern Southern manners, and the power wielded by Christian institutions serve as a foundation for both passive and active homophobia in the Bible Belt. She explores how conservative Christian ideology reproduces homophobic attitudes and shares how Bible Belt gays negotiate these attitudes in their daily lives. Drawing on the remarkable stories of Bible Belt gays, Barton brings to the fore their thoughts, experiences and hard-won insights to explore the front lines of our national culture war over marriage, family, hate crimes, and equal rights. Pray the Gay Away illuminates their lives as both foot soldiers and casualties in the battle for gay rights.”


“This issues-based reference work (available in both print and electronic formats) shines a spotlight on health care policy and practice in the United States. Impassioned debates about the best solutions to health care in America have perennially erupted among politicians, scholars of public policy, medical professionals, and the general public. The fight over the Health Care Reform Act of 2010 brought to light a multitude of fears, challenges, obstacles, and passions that often had the effect of complicating rather than clarifying the debate. The discourse has never been more heated. The complex issues that animate the health care debate have forced the American public to grapple with the exigencies of the present system with regard to economic, fiscal, and monetary policy, especially as they relate to philosophical, often ideologically driven approaches to the problem. Americans have also had to examine their ideas about the relationship of the individual to and interaction with the state and the varied social and cultural beliefs about what an American solution to the problem of health care looks like. In light of the need to keep students, researchers, and other interested readers informed and up-to-date on the issues surrounding health care in the U.S., this volume uses introductory essays followed by point/counterpoint articles to explore prominent and perennially important debates, providing readers with views on multiple sides of this complex issue.”
Members’ Bookshelf

Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies. 

“The Handbook of Migration Studies offers a conceptual approach to the study of international migration, exploring clearly the many modes of exit, reception and incorporation which involve varied populations in disparate political, economic, social and cultural contexts. How do these movements also facilitate the transmission of ideologies and identities, political and cultural practices and economic resources? Uniquely among texts in the subject area, the Handbook also provides a section devoted to exploring methods for studying international migration.

Featuring forty-seven essays [several by SWS members including Maxine Baca-Zinn, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, Astrid Eich-Drohm, and Linda Gjokaj] written by leading international and multidisciplinary scholars, the Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies offers a contemporary, integrated and comprehensive resource for students and scholars of sociology, politics, human geography, law, history, urban planning, journalism, and health care.”

Food and Society: Principles and Paradoxes. 

This timely and engaging text offers students a social perspective on food, food practices, and the modern food system. It engages readers’ curiosity by highlighting several paradoxes: how food is both mundane and sacred, reveals both distinction and conformity, and, in the contemporary global era, comes from everywhere but nowhere in particular. With a social constructionist framework, the book provides an empirically rich, multi-faceted, and coherent introduction to this fascinating field.

Each chapter begins with a vivid case study, proceeds through a rich discussion of research insights, and ends with discussion questions and suggested resources. Chapter topics include food’s role in socialization, identity, work, health and social change, as well as food marketing and the changing global food system. In synthesizing insights from diverse fields of social inquiry, the book addresses issues of culture, structure, and social inequality throughout.

Written in a lively style, this book will be both accessible and revealing to beginning and intermediate students alike.

We also started a companion blog that instructors and students might find useful as a supplement to the text. The blog offers our emerging thoughts on various food issues that tie in with one or more book chapters. Check it out at: http://foodandsocietyblog.wordpress.com/
Announcements, Celebrations, Accomplishments, and More!


Bernadette Barton’s recently published book, Pray the Gay Away: The Extraordinary Lives of Bible Belt Gays (NYU Press) is a finalist in the Lambda Literary Awards. This is the link to the story: [http://www.lambdaliterary.org/foundation-updates/03/06/llf-announces-finalists-of-the-25th-annual-lambda-literary-awards/]

Jenny Ungbha Korn presented at UCLA’s Thinking Gender conference on a feminist critique of Facebook on February 1, 2013.

I would like to congratulate everyone involved in planning the winter conference on a job well-done. This conference is one of my favorites, and I look forward every year to connecting with familiar and new faces. Thank you for providing such a positive event for feminist scholars. —Jenny Ungbha Korn

Anne Lincoln, Southern Methodist University, was interviewed on CNN’s “Anderson Cooper 360” on February 7 regarding the feminization of veterinary medicine and women’s growing presence in many other occupations and professions. The interview will air again at a later date as part of a lengthier program, "American Journey." If there is any interest in linking to a video online or embedding it, the link is: [http://vetmed.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/about/CNN_02-07-2013_23.53.46.mp4]

Leslie K. Wang will be joining the Department of Sociology as an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston this fall.

Shannon Davis was recently recognized as one of the seven teaching excellence award winners for 2013 at George Mason University.

Jazmyne and Shirley successfully dug Jazmyne’s car out when they returned home to a wintry Connecticut from our wonderful winter meeting in New Mexico. They probably both wish they could have stayed in New Mexico, enjoying the spa, until the snow melted on its own. (Photo courtesy of Shirley Jackson)
For the past 13 months, the SWS Strategic Planning Taskforce has worked incredibly hard for our organization. In February 2012, the Taskforce was charged with addressing three critical areas: 1) Mission Statement; 2) Bylaws and 3) Long Range Planning. We are nearing the end of our work and from now until July will be preparing a final report for Council. Please plan on joining us for our session at the summer meetings in New York where we will present the final Taskforce recommendations to the entire SWS membership. After that session, we will present our final report to Council for their consideration and dissemination.

When you have the opportunity, please thank the Taskforce members for their time and commitment to this work: Cindy Anderson (Chair Long Range Planning Subcommittee), Hara Bastas, Marlese Durr, Myra Marx Ferree, Mindy Fried, Kecia Johnson (Chair Mission Statement Subcommittee), Judith Lorber, Julia McQuillan, Barbara Risman, Zandria Robinson, Carrie Smith (Chair By-Laws Subcommittee). I would also like to thank Tracy Ore (ad hoc taskforce member) for serving as facilitator on my behalf during the February Conference. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions about the process or have recommendations or suggestions as we begin to finalize our report to Council. My email is HossfeldL@uncw.edu

Below are reports from the Bylaws and Long Range Planning Subcommittees on their current activities. (As you will recall, the Mission Statement Subcommittee presented its findings to membership in Denver.

Their work and recommendations will be included in the final report along with all findings and recommendations from the entire Taskforce).

Report from Bylaws Subcommittee Chair Carrie Smith

The Bylaws sub-committee presented a proposal to the taskforce at the winter meetings. This proposal included a description of a new organizational structure for SWS which would address the following concerns: 1) perceived lack of transparency; 2) lack of clarity with regards to accountability within the organization; replication of membership on Council and EOB perception that leadership roles and participation in SWS governance is not truly “open” unevenness in distribution of responsibilities need to have members on certain committees with relevant expertise.

We received very helpful feedback from the taskforce. Our task now is to modify our proposal based on this feedback, and write up a more complete narrative for our new set of by-laws. We will send this narrative back to the taskforce to get final feedback before submitting it to the Taskforce Chair for inclusion in the final report to Council.

Report from Long Range Planning Subcommittee Chair Cindy Anderson

Over the past year, the Long Term Planning Committee has been reviewing materials generated from previous strategic planning processes, as well as conducting interviews and focus groups with individuals who were involved in past efforts. This preliminary data was analyzed/synthesized, and the Committee developed a set of strategic goals for SWS, which formed the basis of a very fruitful dialogue at the Business meeting, in which members broke into small groups to discuss each of the six goals.

The goals are as follows:

- to decentralize SWS from its 2 national meetings (winter and summer) as the primary sites of engagement;
- to widen the focus of SWS national academic collaborations beyond influencing and working with ASA (without giving up this anchor);
- to redefine how the governance structure works to make more space for vision and innovation as well as good management practices and continuing accountability;
- to encourage active member participation at all levels: local, regional and national;
- to develop plans to increase our membership across all ages and ranks of feminist sociologists; and
- to commit to evaluating the implementation of its strategic plan on a routine basis, and build some mechanism for this. Be realistic, self-reflexive and willing to continue to change.

The dialogue that began at the meeting is being continued on-line in six wiki forums. If anyone is interested in participating in a wiki discussion, please contact: Mindy Fried <Mindy@Fried.net

- Leslie Hossfeld
If you are interested in contributing material for upcoming issues of Network News, please be aware of the publication schedule listed below:

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I welcome all submissions, and would love to highlight the achievements and scholarship of our members. Pictures are always a nice addition, too. If you send me pictures, please note who is in the image, so that I can include a caption. Thanks for your contributions that help create a great Network News!

Angela Lewellyn Jones
ajones5@elon.edu