



Message from our President, Abby Ferber:



Greetings friends,

Thank you for all the notes of support I received after the Winter Meetings. As the political climate remains vitriolic and hateful, I am buoyed by the sustained efforts I see so many members of SWS making to nurture a very different model, a culture of respect, humility and gratitude. Right now I am especially grateful to all of the members of Council that were willing to continue working the full final day of the meetings, and stay over an extra night, so that we could accomplish the long list of tasks before us. This “retreat” also allowed us to get to know each other much better as individuals so that we could build a sense of trust and common purpose in our work together and to handle disagreements with respect and grace. The structure of SWS tends to make this a challenge with all of the turnover we have in elected positions each year (not only in Council but on committees). We left feeling that our time was well spent and motivated to continue our commitment to serving SWS. Whenever we can pause and build in opportunities for relationship building, I encourage us to do so. Along these lines we also have begun considering why Council adheres to the outdated practices of Robert’s Rules of order? Did you know that these guidelines were developed in 1876 and based on the procedures of congress at the time? Feminist critiques abound, highlighting that these procedures facilitate bullying and inhibit rather than encourage dialogue, working against the principles of democratic discussion. Google alternatives and you will find a wide range, including many consensus based, that ensure all members of Council have a voice. If you have experience working with a specific model that has or has not worked, please let me know.

We covered a great deal of business you can read about in our minutes, including the continuing work of the EO transition, working with a financial advisor and our accountant to continue improving IRS reporting requirements. To make our financial picture more transparent and comprehensible to members, we also addressed many issues raised by members over the last few year, such as what does it take to run for Council and does it require the resources of a Research University? (No! I am a perfect example). Can we develop more systematic and equitable practices for acknowledging service and balancing volunteer work with paid work? How do we limit the tremendous amount of staff hours required to process reimbursements while maintaining a system that makes it possible for folks to attend the Winter Meetings, especially students and low income members? As we develop potential solutions, they will be brought to the membership for discussion.

Despite the high costs and obstacles of an international Summer Meeting in Montréal, I hope to see many of you there. Keep up the amazing work you are doing to advance feminist, social justice practices in a world where they are so desperately needed. And know that you are not alone. - Abby

INSIDE

Executive Office Report	2
Winter Meeting Section	3
Committee Reports	4
Auction Results	13
Hosted Dinners	14
Chapters & Events	15
Meet the New EO	18



Barret Katuna,
SWS Executive
Officer

From the Executive Office:

Thank you all for your very warm welcome as the Executive Officer for Sociologists for Women in Society. I officially signed the contract on December 16, 2016, the same day that I administered my last final exam, as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, at the University of Connecticut. I am incredibly grateful for the efforts of my predecessors, Joey Sprague and Whitney Denning, who created many templates and guides that helped me to learn “on the job” rather quickly. While the Executive Officer search was taking place, Wanda Rushing and Mangala Subramaniam – in their respective roles as President and Treasurer – added an incredibly heavy load of labor to their already packed schedules to keep SWS moving in the right direction. Their work and Council’s work throughout this time made the transition very smooth and seamless. I am thrilled to now be working closely with our current President, Abby Ferber whose meeting planning expertise and attention to detail made the 2017 Winter Meeting such a great success. Having Jazmyne Washington on board was also a crucial element to keeping things afloat. My first official duty as Executive Officer was to sign the 2018 Winter Meeting contract for the Ritz-Carlton, Buckhead. Adia Harvey Wingfield got an early start on 2018 Winter Meeting planning and I am incredibly grateful that she took care of many of the contractual details as I settled into this new role. I really cannot thank the SWS volunteers and staff members enough for their high standards and resolute commitment to SWS.

With the 2017 Winter Meeting behind us, besides the day-to-day affairs of Winter Meeting follow up, correspondence, committee support, and bookkeeping, the Executive Office is now focusing on a variety of new initiatives. We are presently working with a new communications specialist, Sigrid Peterson, who will help us to promote *Gender & Society* scholarship and the work of SWS members through a new website platform that will include an expert directory. In addition, we are working to create an enhanced website that will make it possible for you to create your own and view other members’ profiles. The Executive Office is also working on creating an official annual timetable for all SWS business to include deadlines for awards applications, voting in the election, membership renewal, meeting registration and much more. Another new Executive Office initiative is putting together an SWS archive of photos, stories, and documents that can make sure that we always remember our roots that got us to where we are today.

To keep costs down, I am working out of my home in South Glastonbury, Connecticut. Not only is this arrangement cost-effective, it is also incredibly convenient for me and I am happy to be able to work from home. Moving forward, we may establish an office elsewhere. For now, Jazmyne and I continue to work together in Connecticut and we meet up in person as needed. Jazmyne assists with a variety of administrative tasks including website-related matters, 2017 Summer Meeting planning, and reimbursement assistance. I am also working with Heather DaMotta of BookSmart Bookkeeping and Consulting, LLC in Portland, Connecticut to reconcile monthly banking transactions and to better understand the reporting needs of SWS for tax-related purposes.

I am thrilled to be serving SWS as YOUR Executive Officer. Please feel free to contact me at any time at: swseo.barretkatuna@outlook.com I am here for YOU and I value everyone’s insights. I cannot wait to see you all in Montréal this summer and then in Atlanta this Winter 2018.

Winter Meeting 2017

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business and Council minutes are available in the members' section of www.socwomen.org

Academic Justice and Discrimination (AJ&D) Committee Report

By Cynthia Deitch

This past year is the first year we operated as a combined committee with 3 co-chairs: Cynthia Deitch, Tressie MacMillan Cottom, and Orit Avishai. Orit just ended her term; Tressie and Cynthia continue. The combined committee continues the work of the previously separate Academic Justice and Discrimination committees.

The Lavender Report Card that analyzes LGBT friendliness of PhD granting departments was a project of the previous Academic Justice committee. It was completed this past year and is available on the SWS website. The authors are Malaena Taylor (University of Connecticut), Rebecca Barton (Brandeis University), and Gaye Tuchman (University of Connecticut). We strongly encourage everyone to utilize and help publicize this resource.

The previous Discrimination Committee function of trying to provide support for individual SWS members facing gender discrimination and making recommendations for the use of the Natalie Allon Fund continues. There were no new requests for assistance in the past year and therefore no new requests for Allon Fund money. As of August 2015, the Allon Fund use has been expanded to include a broadened concept of discrimination and, if not used for discrimination cases for two years, it can be used for competitive grants for research on discrimination. The Committee plans to use the SWS listserv to publicize its work and the expanded use of the Allon Fund.

The Academic Justice and Discrimination Committee, in the name of SWS, is co-sponsoring a session at ASA in 2017. It is listed as "Teaching Workshop: Protecting Public Scholars from Backlash," and the panelists are Adia Harvey Wingfield, Marisa Allison, Jodi O'Brien, L'Heureux Lewis-McCoy, and the co-organizers Jessie Daniels and Eric Anthony Grollman.

The Academic Justice Committee has addressed and should further incorporate intersectionality into their work in several ways. The upcoming ASA panel listed above grew out of an Academic Justice and Discrimination Committee session at the 2016 SWS Winter Meeting which addressed how women of color are frequent targets of social media and other public backlash against gender and critical race scholars. The Committee will need to develop guidelines for evaluating future requests for funds from the Allon Fund. An emphasis on intersectionality can be better incorporated into the priorities.



Reports continued on next page

Photos by Tracy Ore

Awards Committee Report

By Marlese Durr

Marybeth Stalp chaired the Awards Committee Meeting(s) for which I thank her once again. She reported to me that our meeting went well, despite a few committee members being double-booked.

Award winners

The Awards committee discussed the changing the culture of the Summer Banquet. Last year, we voted to have award winners announced before the banquet. Despite our request, winners were kept "secret." We ask that the SWS Executive Office implement our request to announce award winners before the Summer Meeting in media blasts on email and Facebook and to repeat them before the Summer Meeting registration deadline.

Campus Visits for Feminist Activism and Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Award Winners

Unfortunately, there were no applicants the Feminist Activism Award winner's campus visits. Our plan to correct this misstep is to:

- Follow the procedures of the past and highlight the winner in *Network News*.
- Then, place a call for campus visits for the 2016 winner at the end of the call.
- Send email blasts regarding campus visits and direct members to the Feminist Activism Page.
- Review all applications we receive.
- Select a winning campus and announce it in *Network News*.

The Feminist Activism Award Campus visit application is on the SWS website. We encourage applications from you all. If your campus is able to provide food and lodging for at least one or two nights, all the better, but we encourage expressions of interest even if there is doubt about the ability to provide room and board.

The Distinguished Feminist Lecturer now visits only one campus and we propose that this same policy apply to the Feminist Activist award and visit. The Feminist Lecturer award winner Shelley Correll will visit Hastings College soon and will write a report along with images about her visit for *Network News*. We are currently inviting applications for a campus visit by the Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Dr. Mary Osirim.

Our committee will work with the President, President-Elect, Council and our Executive Officer regarding the issues noted above. We will:

- Submit a budget request for campus visits.
- Send a call for applications.
- Reserve a spot on Friday evening for the Feminist Activism Award winner's presentation.
- Have the Feminist Activism award winner interviewed (by a student or other SWS member) and post the interview as a webinar, through social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.).

The Awards Committee will address ways to eliminate privilege, while examining inclusion and intersectionality. It is our wish to see all women noted for distinction by this committee be honored by the entire Sisterhood.

Career Development Committee

By Laura Kramer

The Career Development Committee met on February 10, 2017 with 15 in attendance. Outgoing chair Christin Munsch gave an overview of the various initiatives that the committee leads: Summer Meeting Critique Me session for those who are on or going on the job market, Winter Meeting session(s), the mentoring program, and Hey Jane columns for the SWS website <http://www.socwomen.org/list-of->

committees/career-development/hey-jane/.

For the Albuquerque meeting Mindy Fried organized the “Choosing Applied Sociology” panel, which embodied an inclusion orientation. Mindy continues to lead the mentoring program; twenty pairs of senior and junior faculty were matched in the last year, and more than forty senior scholars have volunteered in the last three years. Shauna Morimoto and Amy Wilkins will coordinate the Montreal Critique Me session.

Much discussion focused on Hey Jane and discussed possible topics for the future. Concerns about navigating challenging campus political climates in a sociological career were of particular interest. The new chair, Laura Kramer, will prepare an item for *Network News* highlighting the archive of Hey Jane columns on the SWS website. We will also identify those columns that might fruitfully be updated. At the winter 2016 meetings, people volunteered to write enough Hey Janes for a monthly posting. Subsequently, it became clear that a bimonthly posting is more realistic. Christin led the revitalizing of Hey Jane with six new issues.

Archived and forthcoming Hey Jane columns share the use of intersectional lenses. Each of these ongoing initiatives contributes to SWS’s efforts to be a diverse and inclusive organization.

International Committee Report

By Susan H. Lee, chair

The SWS International Committee conducts its business via four subcommittees:

1) United Nations: SWS is accredited to the United Nations as an NGO observer and we usually attend the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March each year. For March 2017, SWS has 19 delegates attending, including several students. The theme this year is women's economic empowerment.

SWS will present a scholarly panel on March 22 entitled "Feminist Sociological Research & Economic Sustainability: Local, National, and Global Insights. Thanks to Hara Bastas, the co-chair of the UN subcommittee, for arranging this panel. SWS submitted a Written Statement to the CSW that is available on the UN website here: <http://undocs.org/E/CN.6/2017/NGO/14>

SWS is involved in organizing a US Caucus at the CSW, bringing together US-based NGOs active in the CSW to advocate for women and girls with the official country representatives.

2) Global Feminist Partnership Program: We welcomed one of our Global Feminist Partners to the Winter Meeting. Dr. Bindu Pokharel from Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, Nepal participated in a plenary and two sessions, including one on women's response to the 2015 earthquake. Thanks to Yun Ling Li, the program chair, for arranging this visit. Yun Ling recruited two new partners this year from Peru and Korea. Pamela Neumann is the SWS liaison to the Centro de la Mujer Peruana Flora Tristán, Lima, and Minwoo Jung is the SWS liaison to the Korean Women's Institute and Asian Center for Women's Studies, Seoul.

3) International Meetings: SWS was represented at last summer's International Sociological Association Forum in Vienna. Marcia Texler Segal organized some roundtables and was an invited panelist. She arranged for SWS to co-sponsor a reception to raise SWS visibility. SWS members will participate in the Women's World Congress taking place in Florianopolis, Brazil, July 30-Aug 4, 2017.

4) CEDAW: This subcommittee raises awareness of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and obtained SWS endorsement of the ratification of CEDAW in the US in the campaign led by the Washington-based Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. The US is one of only six UN member states that has not ratified the women's treaty.

The International Committee would like to see more webcasting at the SWS Winter Meeting to facilitate participation by those unable to attend, including our Global Feminist Partners. Plenaries could be recorded with links on the SWS website, for instance. The Business Meetings could be simulcast via smart phone apps. The International Committee would like to thank SWS for supporting these international activities.

International Committee Global Feminist Partnership Program (GFPP) Report

By Yun Ling Li

During 2017 Winter Meeting, Global Feminist Partnership program (GFPP), a subcommittee of International Committee, was honored host Dr. Bindu Pokharel from Nepal who gave talks to SWS members in Albuquerque. Dr. Pokharel shared her experiences as a feminist activist and gave an update on the current situation of gender equality in Nepal. Particularly, she described the developments after 2014 earthquake in terms of gender and political issues. Because of the partnership we have created with Dr. Pokharel's institute, SWS was able to wire US \$1,000 to Nepal and thereby helped more than 400 young women to acquire feminine hygiene products.

In a panel sponsored by the International Committee and Global Feminist Partnership program, Dr. Pokharel used her personal experiences as examples to show how the earthquake affected women and men differently. Since Nepal is still a highly patriarchal society, arranged marriages among Nepal families are not uncommon; moreover, the uneven development between urban and rural areas have created many women-led households. At the same time, married Nepal women are expected to take care for parents-in-law. This not only restricts women's development during a turmoil such as an earthquake, but women are less likely to get away from the disaster because of their family responsibilities.

Global Feminist Partnership program has continually invited our partners to the SWS Winter Meeting for several years; so far, the outcomes have been fruitful. We get to have the opportunity to listen to feminist activists or scholars around the world, to share their experiences and events happening in their home countries. GFPP expects to recruit more organizations as our partners. If you are willing to recommend institutes or organizations, or discuss the possibility of building new partnerships, please contact Global Feminist Partnership Program chair, Yun Ling Li, at: yunling@vt.edu

Membership Committee Report

By Rhacel Parreñas

The Membership Committee discussed prioritizing our international membership in our recruitment efforts. We would also like to frame our efforts in terms of radical inclusion: that is, how can we include scholars who do 'edgy' feminist work? We would also like to do a survey with non-SWS members in relevant sections in ASA (Sex and Gender; Sexualities, etc.) in order to understand how they view SWS, with the goal of understanding people's concerns and ultimately increasing SWS membership.

Nominations Committee Report

Members: Wanda Rushing, Chair; Pallavi Banerjee; Denise Copelton; Nancy Lopez; Anna Muraco

The Nominations Committee seeks recommendations for candidates to serve SWS in various leadership positions, including members of Council and Committees. We reviewed procedures at the Winter Meeting and announced that nominations are open. SWS members are invited to send us recommendations for candidates, including self-nominations, for the positions listed below. The election will be held in early fall 2017. Terms begin at the 2018 Winter Meeting. For additional information, you may review the bylaws and send your questions to committee members. Please keep in mind that diversity and inclusiveness matter with regard to race, ethnicity, and gender as well as region, institution, and professional position.

Positions include:

Council: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer-Elect, Parliamentarian

Committee Chairs: Awards Chair, International Chair, Social Action Chair, Committee on Discrimination and Academic Justice Co-Chair, Sister-to-Sister Co-Chair

Committee Members: Awards Committee (1), Membership Committee (2), Nominations Committee (2), Publications Committee (2)

Publications Committee Report

By Manisha Desai

We welcomed two new members, Sharon Bird (Oklahoma State University) and Tristan Bridges (College at Brockport, SUNY) and the new Editor of *Network News*, Marjukka Ollilainen (Weber State University). We also have a New Media Specialist, Sigrid Peterson. G&S appointed new members to the editorial board. Heather Laube was elected the new co-chair of Publications by acclamation.

Following the Summer Meeting, a sub-committee of Chris Bose and Dana Britton, in consultations with Publications Committee members and Sage, considered possibilities for a second SWS journal and prepared a draft to be discussed at a Town Hall during the 2017 Winter Meeting (details in the article on the town hall meeting in this *Network News* issue).

Jo Reger, Editor of *Gender & Society*, presented the journal's report. Its impact factor is 2.4 and it is ranked as the first out of 40 Women's Studies and the ninth out of 142 Sociology journals. Three *Gender & Society* articles received section awards at the ASA. We requested an R&R for the proposed special issue on Disabilities. The *Gender & Society* budget was approved.

Yasemin Besen-Cassino presented the Book Review Editor's report and noted that she was going to introduce a rating system (for the reviewers) and organize a workshop on how to write book reviews.

We discussed the role and scope of work of the new media specialist along with her reporting line.

The Town Hall meeting about the second journal proposal had a great turn out, and there was robust discussion (reflected in the article in this *Network News* issue). We voted to recommend to Council that it would consider a global south category for membership, using a rate that is more affordable (following the ISA model).

We thanked Chris Bose, the outgoing senior Chair, for her excellent work, especially in moving forward the discussion of the second journal, and outgoing member, Christine Williams.

The Publications committee seeks to address issues of intersectionality through membership on the committee and the *Gender & Society* editorial board. We plan to publish more diverse scholars and hold informational sessions about *Gender & Society* at international meetings.

Publications Town Hall Meeting: Creating a Second SWS Journal

Report by Manisha Desai, Publications Committee Co-chair

Chris Bose opened the well-attended meeting (about 50 members showed up) with a brief history of the decision to explore the option of introducing a second SWS journal. As an "applied" journal, it would be differentiated from *Gender & Society* by a wider range of styles and the shorter length of articles (3500-5000 words). This journal would distinguish itself from other applied journals by its critical, feminist focus.

Most in attendance were in favor of the general idea of SWS launching a new journal of feminist applied/social action work. The enthusiastic discussion that followed explored several broad themes, outlined below, some of which highlighted the contradictions in traversing the boundaries of academia and social action.

What does “applied” mean?

The forum opened with a discussion of the term applied. The starting title of “XXXX: A Journal of Applied Feminist Research”—and possible “and Teaching”—was considered too narrow. One alternative suggestion was “Praxis,” but there was concern that this was not a word practitioners (people “on the ground”) typically use. Praxis would, though, indicate the expectation that this journal takes a more critical (and feminist) perspective than other applied journals. If a key audience is non-academics, “social action” or “Feminist Action Research” (FAR) might be more appropriate.

What would the mission of this journal be?

The mission of this journal, while not yet clearly articulated, will reflect the broader mission of SWS, especially its commitment to promoting social justice through activism and publishing and disseminating feminist social science.

Topics, desired audiences, and types of articles

Topics might include program evaluation, gender violence prevention work, public health, education, community-based research, reports on work combining teaching, research, and outreach, discussions of methodology and pedagogy, international development work, articles by people who are “pushing back” against structures and systems, and reports on failures as well as successes. Such feminist scholarship could inform policy formation and practical problem solving.

The question was raised as to whether this journal might be similar to *Contexts* and include essays and other kinds of writing. Publications committee members reported that such a format was discussed, but SAGE informed us that this format would LOSE money. We could, however, include a blog or a similar very publicly accessible platform that could include a wider variety of formats and reach a much broader audience.

There was consensus that the journal should reach a diverse audience that would include activists on the ground, bureaucrats and other policy-oriented people, as well as academics interested in work outside the bounds of traditional academic journals.

Similarly, a desire for diverse types of articles was expressed. This might mean using blogs and other kinds of social media that are useful for a broad and diverse audience. These forms must use accessible language and be written for an audience “outside the echo chamber of academia.” At the same time, there was a desire for a reputable outlet for our members to publish their work that is recognized by their institutions as “scholarly,” but that is outside of the mainstream.

It was suggested that the Institute for Women’s Policy Research might be a useful model to consider. This would involve publishing an article in the journal, accompanied by a press release, and followed by a blog or other social media to disseminate the information more broadly to the public.

Models of Publishing

Chris Bose and Manisha Desai (co-chairs) provided a brief overview of two different models for publishing the journal, **the traditional model (paper + online) and the open access model**, including some

basic information about how each model would work and benefits/concerns with each format.

This discussion centered around cost of publishing, for authors and for readers, and how these concerns are connected to the mission and intended audience of the journal.

If one goal is to provide more places for feminist academics/members to publish, we need to be mindful of whether their institutions view Open Access journals as appropriate and legitimate in assessments for tenure and promotion. It is important to keep in mind that Open Access does not mean not peer reviewed and this needs to be made explicit. Additionally, if we want to support more opportunities for feminist scholars who are at non-Research 1 institutions, we must provide more such outlets and access.

Cost was a significant part of the discussion. Generally, in an Open Access model authors pay to publish. This might limit submissions and place an especially significant burden on people outside of academia and those at non-R1 institutions. But one way to address this would be to provide a reduced rate for those who are members of SWS. This could serve as an incentive to become a member. Another would be for SWS to subsidize the costs.

For readers, a traditional model requires an individual or institutional subscription, while Open Access is free. Sage makes all of its journals available free of charge to institutions in other parts of the world when they are unable to afford subscriptions. This does not, of course, make the journal available to those without these institutional affiliations. Sage has indicated it will enable us to set up a mechanism (under a traditional journal model) whereby people interested in the content would be prompted to become an SWS member (on our sliding scale) so they can access the journal. As members, these individuals would have access to ALL benefits of membership (*Gender & Society*, the new journal, *Network News*, etc.).

But if our goal is to provide a more diverse group of authors a place to publish and reach readers outside academia, then open access is desirable. The cost for SWS to publish such a journal is not known. Submission fees would not cover the cost of an Open Access format, and SWS would need to commit significant resources to subsidize the cost. The organization does have the resources to do so. SWS would need to pay for the editor and staff, editorial offices, a platform, and other necessities. The traditional publishing model also requires finding an editor and an institution that will allow course buyouts and other resources. Participants expressed a desire that regardless of the publishing model, the editors would mentor authors as scholars and activists via the review process.

Next Steps: The Publications Committee will pursue answers to questions about cost and format for discussion at the Summer Meeting.

Sister to Sister Committee Report
Co-chairs: Corinne Castro and Ranita Ray

The Sister to Sister (S2S) committee had a very successful Winter Meeting in Albuquerque this year! Our committee meeting was well attended, and we hosted a very successful workshop called “Moving from Trauma to Wellness: Sisters of Color Collective Healing,” featuring a special guest, Sheena Sood, PhD candidate in Sociology at Temple University. Our committee recruited an exciting selection committee for the Chow-Green dissertation scholarship. We are looking forward to reviewing all the excellent proposals! Several exciting ideas regarding future workshops and activities were brought up during the committee’s meeting. In future meetings, the committee is planning to host a workshop about teaching critical content in the classroom, paper review workshops, institutionalize mentoring for junior scholars of color, and host a S2S mixer.

The committee continues to center issues of privilege, intersectionality, and inclusion by providing a space for women of color as well as mentoring women of color for leadership positions within SWS and in academia in general. The committee plans to ensure that conversations around inclusivity are not optional and exclusive to certain years, but embraced by the organization in general. To this end, the committee foresees the possibility of a long-term inclusivity committee to oversee the organization's commitment to issues of privilege and intersectionality. The committee also met with the Council privately to discuss how the labor of ensuring inclusivity in the organization must move beyond Sister to Sister committee alone.

Social Action Committee Report

Outgoing Chair: Sylvanna Falcón, Incoming Chair: Kristy Kelly

Winter Meeting Highlights: The Social Action Committee hosted a panel, "How & Why to Build an Undergraduate Women of Color Empowerment Organization" was canceled due to weather. The facilitators were unable to make it. Our Open Dialogue, "The United States Post-Trump: An Open Discussion" had a large turnout and generated lively discussion and sharing of resources from members experiences on campuses across the US. We also hosted a session to introduce members to the SWS Social Actions Initiative Awards: "Why They Exist & How to Get One," which provided a space for members interested in applying for an award to discuss ideas. (A report from a "Teach-In" event at Montclair State University, sponsored by a Social Action Award, appears in this *NN* issue).

2017 Undergraduate Social Action Award Winners: We had a record number of submissions this year. Unfortunately, the winners were not able to attend the meeting due to weather. Their awards will be mailed to them, and we look forward to finding an opportunity for them to attend a future SWS meeting. The award winners are **Alejandra Melgoza**, a senior at UC Santa Barbara and **Adebusola Ajao** and **Kenetra Hinkins**, co-founders of Black Girls Matter Too aka Brilliance, Guidance, Melanin, Togetherness.

Committee Communication: This committee communicates using Shutterfly Shared Sites. If you are new to the committee and aren't receiving those communications through Shutterfly, or you would like to join the committee, then please send an email to Kristy Kelly who will add you to the list.

Social Action Initiative Awards Update: The budget has been approved for another year of funding for Social Action Initiative Awards. Awards are in the amount up to \$1,000 to support efforts to undertake social action broadly defined (e.g., advocacy, public education, organizing, movement-building). There are two submissions cycles in the calendar year, with deadlines of April 1st and September 1st. During 2016, 13 proposals were received, requesting over \$12,000. We funded six of those projects and invite those not awarded to resubmit this year. Completed projects will be announced on an ongoing basis in the SWS Newsletter. To learn more about the Social Action Initiatives Award application, visit the SAC website: For more information about the award (criteria, submission process, etc), and to find the application: <http://www.socwomen.org/social-actions-initiative-awards/>.

New Business: In order to further the work of the committee and to provide further support for social action by SWS members, the committee decided to host regular webinars on topics generated by members. If you have an idea or would like to host a webinar, please contact Kristy Kelly. Initial ideas include:

- Community Organizing how-to's
- Sanctuary (classroom/teaching, campus, community, individual office)
- Pedagogy resources for teachers – feminism in action project; syllabus sharing; program evaluation materials, activism/protest course

2017 Undergraduate Social Action Award Winners

The Social Action Committee had a record number of submissions for the Undergraduate Social Action Award this year. This year's two award winners are:

Alejandra Melgoza, a senior at UC Santa Barbara. According to the SWS member (Alexandra Ornelas, Doctoral Candidate in Department of Sociology) who nominated her, “[Alejandra has a] relentless drive to bringing justice to marginalized communities and individuals who have experienced sexual violence has made a big impact on our campus. She has sought to improve the lives of women who are survivors of sexual violence and has done so in a way that addresses the differences that exist among women, particularly around race, ethnicity, class, and culture. Alejandra's activism has had a deep and long-standing effect on the campus and has opened up a space for others to continue working on improving the lives of women and survivors of sexual violence.”

Adebusola Ajao and Kenetra Hinkins, co-founders of Black Girls Matter Too aka Brilliance, Guidance, Melanin, Togetherness. According to the SWS member (Virginia Rutter, Sociology professor at Framingham State University), this movement started in the wake of the death of Sandra Bland. She wrote, “The events of summer 2015 became a galvanizing moment, where they determined to take action about systemic racism, but also about making black women — and women of color more broadly— more visible and more empowered. They have demonstrated imaginative and entrepreneurial acumen for social organizing that doesn't follow any one form, but instead uses resources ranging from campus networking to social media to empower and inform.” It is also impressive that they've decided to keep BGMT independent, unaffiliated with the university, even though that impacts their access to resources, because they want to maintain their edge, their fire.

Student Caucus Committee Report

By Chriss Sneed

The Student Caucus had another productive Winter Meeting in Albuquerque. During our meeting, we reviewed several recent events and initiatives. This includes a successful Faculty Mentoring Program with the ASA Sex & Gender section last summer that was made possible by collaboration with the section's two student representatives, along with the 2017 Breakfast with Scholars morning roundtables. Beyond these programs, we are looking to expand participation in our five subcommittees: Summer Workshop/Round Table Committee, Winter Workshop/Round Table Committee, Social committee, Social Media & Media Research, and Inclusivity and Diversity. We discussed concerns relating to Student SWSers, many of which centered on physical, financial, and disciplinary accessibility. Many students spoke about the importance of subsidies and low-cost accommodations for contingent faculty and students. Others hope to engage more directly with SWS and hope that more mentoring opportunities (like the Hand Program and the Hosted Dinners) can be reproduced in the future so that students can be more knowledgeable about the organization and field of Feminist Sociology. Additionally, we spoke about how we could further connect with each other outside of meetings and are in the process of creating an online forum in which we can collaborate as scholars and colleagues despite geographic distance. Later that night, Student Caucus held the Graduate Student Reception in JC's New York Pizza Department.

Prior to the meeting, Allison McGrath and Chriss Sneed discussed how intersectionality and inclusion play important roles not only in SWS but also in each committee. The Student Caucus is committed to ensuring that SWS continues to work towards becoming a more privilege-aware, intersectional, and inclusion-oriented organization. As we grow as an organization, it is important to honor the narratives of all SWS students, not just those typically privileged within academic circles. Students of color, those from varying socioeconomic statuses, gender identifications, abilities, and immigration statuses must continue to be recognized within our feminist networks and formal organizations.

To work towards achieving this goal, we would like to propose the idea of including gender variant tags/options with both membership and meeting materials and ensure that SWS provides gender/ability friendly accommodations at all winter and Summer Meetings. As the incoming student representative, Chriss Sneed is committed to advocating for folks who are unable to attend the annual meetings because of socio-economic reasons or lack of institutional support. The Student Caucus looks forward to working with Council to brainstorm ideas of how we can ensure that students, especially those who find themselves at the margins of the academy, are fully supported and encouraged to become active and engaged members of SWS.

Treasurer’s Report

Mangala Subramaniam, Purdue University

The 2016-17 year was challenging because SWS did not have an Executive Officer (EO) for about four months and only an Administrative Officer (AO) was available. Because of the transition (new EO and departure of the AO) and the Winter Meeting coming up in February, the revenue and expenses reported are from January to November 2016. We have a new EO from January 2017 who began to pick up the threads right away and she expects to have the December details squared away soon.

I have prepared a Guide for Treasurers based on my experience as Treasurer. I drew on information from earlier documents and notes made by those who had held offices in SWS. The guide has been placed before OBM and Council for adoption.

A comparison of revenue and expenses for 2016 and 2015 is in Table 1. SWS’s main source of revenue is royalties for *Gender & Society* from Sage. The royalties provide more than half of SWS’s revenue. As per the contract signed in 2015, Sage has guaranteed \$200,000 a year in income. SWS receives additional revenue from Sage if sales/subscriptions are higher than expected. The average annual amount in royalties that SWS receives from Sage above the contracted amount of \$200,000 contracted is approximately \$140,000.

Table 1: Revenue and Expenses: 2015 and 2016

Revenue -2015	Revenue - 2016	Expenses – 2015	Expenses - 2016
\$590,972	\$606,411	\$623,526	\$560,421

The three large expenses typically incurred by SWS are for (a) the Winter Meetings, (b) Personnel – EO and (c) Scholarships & Awards. The net income for 2016 is \$45,990. In 2015, expenses exceeded the income (-\$32, 554).

The projected budget for 2017 based on conservative estimates is as follows: revenue of \$606,136, expenses of \$577,961 and a net income of \$28,175. It would be advisable for the EO and the incoming Treasurer to review and compare the budget and actual expenses on a quarterly basis and adjust estimates as needed. This is particularly important considering the new model for the Executive Office adopted by SWS. The budget was presented at the Business meeting in Albuquerque and unanimously approved by the membership (yes =125; no =0).

BANQUET AUCTION

Thanks to your donations, SWS raised \$3,720 for the 2017 SWS Winter Meeting Auction Beneficiary, Young Women United (YWU). We were pleased to hear directly from Executive Director of YWU, Tannia Esparza, at the beginning of our dinner.

Thank you to all of you who supported YWU. Through this gift, SWS was able to leave a gift to the Albuquerque community.



Young Women United (YWU) leads reproductive justice organizing and policy initiatives by and for self-identified young women and people of color in New Mexico. We work to build communities where all people have access to the information, education, and resources needed to make real decisions about our own bodies and lives. We move our work through: policy initiatives, communications and culture shift strategies, community based organizing, and leadership development. YWU is proud to build our work at the intersection of people's identities, while centering

the expertise of those most impacted by an issue. YWU works to elevate an intersectional vision of reproductive justice around five campaign issue areas: advancing reproductive rights and access to reproductive health care, Embodying a Warrior State of Mind: de-stigmatizing LGBTQ Youth Mental Health, leading criminal justice reform while improving access to prenatal care and treatment for substance using pregnant women, increasing access women of color have to a full range of birthing options centering licensed midwifery models of care, building educational equity for expectant and parenting young people. <http://www.youngwomenunited.org/>



Auction organizers (left to right): LaToya Council, Georgiann Davis, Katelin Albert and Ophra Leyser-Whalen



YWU Executive Director Tannia Esparza



Photos by Tracy Ore

HOSTED DINNERS

Hosted dinners discuss activism, research and mentor graduate students

The Albuquerque Winter Meeting local organizers tried something new this year: They set up Saturday night's hosted dinners with something to talk about. Although organized dinners are a Winter Meeting staple, this year, diners came together to discuss a variety of current issues from sister marches, feminist research methods and alcohol in the queer community to teaching in the age of Trump. One dinner was specifically organized to provide mentoring to graduate students.

Andrea Boyles hosted a dinner group that discussed the behind-the-scenes politics of organizing marches and pondered how to be more inclusive in feminist organizing. "We discussed the reluctance of some women of color to participate in sister marches for fear of exclusion. This was the result of mostly white marketing, concerns and ambiguity over scheduled line-up of speakers, last minute announcements and additions of women of color speakers as after-thoughts or add-ins." Boyles added, "Our discussions also touched on the politics behind other direct actions, like civil unrest in Ferguson, Black Lives Matter, protests and black empowerment on college campuses, and so forth. Questions and issues emerged, ranging from how white activists help advance black movements (ally vs. take-over) and underlying clashes with various direct actions, such as which organizations or activists take lead, ownership, and collaborate to emerging generational controversy." She said the evening was "filled with critical thinking and very real, eye-opening conversations and lots of eating."

Another dinner host, Josephine Beuku-Betts, brought together graduate students and faculty members to network around their research and teaching focus on global issues as part of International Sociological Association's RC28. She reported that the conversation also touched on the women's marches that took place all over the world. "We shared about the different countries around the world that held their own women's marches and the potential impact of this global coalition of women who stood up to support women's rights." Much like Andrea Boyles, Beuku-Betts said she would organize a dinner again at a future Winter Meeting, "we had a really good time getting to know each other on the basis of our research and activism."

A dinner can also serve as an opportunity for graduate students to get mentoring from seasoned scholars and faculty members. Chriss Sneed, a graduate student at University of Connecticut joined a dinner on "Figuring out the mentoring game—What do you need, what is possible?" hosted by Sylvanna Falcón and Michelle Camacho. "While I am fortunate to be surrounded by feminist scholars at my home institution, as a graduate student of color, I am always looking forward to more opportunities to connect with scholars in my field," Sneed explained. The group of graduate students from UCONN who attended the dinner praised the hosts for sharing information, texts, anecdotes, and writing strategies. They reported that the hosts created an atmosphere where students felt comfortable talking about the challenges they face as graduate students. Students Kevin Zevallos and Cynthia Melendez echoed those sentiments "each professor gave us really great ideas on how to survive graduate school, working, and teaching" in an "honest, sincere, and completely engaging way throughout the discussion." Sneed recalls leaving the dinner inspired, "we decided to tackle our own 'works in progress' by writing in the hotel lobby before going to bed. All the students who attended greatly appreciated this opportunity!"

As they looked back to the conversations, organizers and participants agreed they would volunteer to host—as well as join—a discussion-based dinner again in future SWS meetings.



Local Chapter Reports

SWS-Bluegrass Chapter



Members of the SWS-Bluegrass local chapter have emphasized activism and community engagement in their early-spring chapter activities. Members participated with their families in the Women’s March on Washington, and a sister march in Lexington, KY on Jan. 21. Many members of the group made and wore suffragette-style sashes as part of a public art project called, “Unlearn Fear + Hate.” Some of the group members who participated in the sister march are pictured here. After the march, some of the members’ children reflected on why it was important to participate in the march: “Because you care about other people and want them to be treated the same way you would want to be treated” (Alex, age 7). “Because Trump is being a bully and we want him to be a nice president and use nice words” (Bella, age 4).

SWS-Bluegrass members also helped organize and participated in an event at the University of Kentucky called “A Teach-In on the Trump Presidency,” which provided an afternoon of lectures and discussion about the Trump presidency on January 18. This event included a SWS-Bluegrass panel, “Gender, Sexism, and Representation,” featuring graduate student members Katie Ratajczak, Mandy Bunting, and Julia Miller. Additionally, faculty members Shannon Bell, Robyn Brown, and Janet Stamatel spoke on climate change denial, women’s health issues, and immigration and fear, respectively.

Group co-chairs Kaitlyne Motl and Robyn Brown and member Carly Conatser also organized a yoga benefit (“Stretch Your Power”) on Feb. 4 for Greenhouse 17, a local advocacy agency for women and children affected by domestic violence and intimate partner abuse (<http://greenhouse17.org/>). Carly, who is also an E-RYT 500 certified yoga instructor, led the benefit class at a local studio.

Kent State University Chapter

Hello from the Kent State University Chapter!

Given the current political climate, we decided to start off the spring semester with a series of workshops to make sure that we are promoting safe and inclusive practices in our classrooms and our workspaces. We attended a Safe Space Ally training session that provided tips on how to be inclusive to LGBTQ+ folks as well as a Title IX workshop session that addressed gender discrimination and sexual harassment/assault reporting practices. In the Title IX workshop, we found out that we do not have direct access to a sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE)—a nurse with special training to collect forensic evidence—on our campus. We have since contacted the president of the university and the Division of Student Affairs, and we are working hard to ensure that our students gain access to this integral resource directly on campus.

Continued on next page

Last semester as well as this semester, we also hosted a series of excellent brownbag and webinar talks for our graduate students and faculty. Topics ranged from job options outside of academia, connecting research and activism, and how to write a great op-ed piece. We would like to thank all our panelists and volunteers that helped us gain knowledge with respect to these important topics! We greatly thank Stephen Nunez, Tina Norris, Mike Steiner, Austin Johnson, Tiffany Taylor, Clare Stacey, and Chris Dum, for without you all, these events would not have been the great successes they were.

As for upcoming events, we are pleased to announce that we will be bringing an AAUW Start Smart Salary Negotiation workshop to our campus in April! We would like to especially thank SWS national as well as Kent State University's Center for Student Involvement for the support that was necessary to ensure that this event could take place. The goal is to honor these organizations by putting into practice the skills we learn in the workshop to negotiate for higher starting salaries, especially for women in the academy.

Finally, we plan to end the year by volunteering at the regional food bank as well as collecting school supplies from May until the start of the new school year for those students in the area in need. We have had a great year of putting our feminist ethics into practice, and look forward to doing the same with even more fervor in the upcoming year ahead!

Event Reports

Refugees and Gender Teach-In Event

By Yasemin Besen-Cassino

The idea of a teach-in event on the refugee crisis came from conversations with Dr. Laura Kramer. We wanted to have an event on campus that would focus on the refugee crisis with a gender lens for faculty, students as well as the town community. This is a timely topic and one that demands not only more academic research but also mediate social action. However, little is known on the topic and the gender differences are widely overlooked.



The "Immigration, Refugees, and Gender Teach-In" at Montclair State University, sponsored by an SWS Social Action Initiative Award, took place on March 21. It was a very successful event with our large conference room packed with students, faculty, and members of the community. It was the anchor event for our Women and Gender Studies program during National Women's History Month as well as one of the main events of the year in the sociology department. We advertised the event on campus to faculty and students, student clubs and centers such as Latin American Students Association, Global Education Center, LGBTQ center as well as fraternities and sororities. It was also open to public and advertised on websites such as Baristanet to include the local

Montclair community.

Our speakers were Dr. Selcuk Sirin and Dr. Bernadette Ludwig. Dr. Sirin is the J.K Javits Professor at New York University, and his research focuses on Syrian refugees in Turkey. He uses a mixed method approach to study refugees in Turkey, combining both statistical methods and in-depth interviews as well as a systematic Twitter analysis of media portrayals. He gave an overview of the refugee crisis but mostly focused on social activism in his research. For example, based on his in-depth interviews with refugee children, he found that many experienced violence first-hand, lost-family members, did not speak the lo-



cal language, and experienced education interruptions. His current activism uses video games to help children of refugees with their interrupted studies, provide stability and escape as well as help teach a new language.

Dr. Bernadette Ludwig is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Wagner College. Her research is with Liberian refugees on Staten Island, NY. Many people in the audience were surprised to hear about the Liberian refugee population on Staten Island. Dr. Ludwig's work adds a gender dimension to a body of research that typically assumes there are no gender differences and portray all refugees as a uniform entity. She focused exclusively on the lived experience of refugee women and used an intersectional approach in the study of refugees. Based on her ethnographic interviews, she pointed to some important problems such as sexual harassment and assault as well as other gender related persecutions.

After formal presentations, there was a Question and Answer session, moderated by Dr. Stephen Rusczyk, Assistant Professor at Montclair State University. During this session, the panel focused on social action. Both presenters talked extensively about different ways to implement social change in improving the lives of refugees. They suggested a wide range of ways to get involved, including volunteering in their local communities, contacting their local representatives, and using social media for social change.

Overall, it was a wonderful event that ran for more than 2.5 hours with many members of the audience sticking around long after the end of the event to ask questions. It educated the audience on this little known yet timely topic, bridged the gap between research and activism, and ended with many ways of getting involved.

SWS at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

Preliminary report about some of SWS's work at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN's CSW)

By Heather Hurwitz

From March 13-24, SWS participated in the UN's CSW.

SWS contributed to organizing and convening the first US Women's Caucus at the UN. Approximately 20 participants met at the Ms. Foundation offices for the first meeting including representatives from Women's Intercultural Network, North Carolina for CEDAW, Hispanics Organizing for Political Empowerment, Zonta International, and The National Women's Political Caucus among several other organizations (full report coming in the next NN). The US Women's Caucus at the UN advocates for gender equality with UN bodies and the US Mission to the UN.

Also at CSW, the MADRE organization held a Speak Out against the Trump Administration's travel ban. Organizers set out empty chairs to represent participants who were banned or intimidated from coming to the US for CSW. In addition, they circulated a petition/open letter expressing "our deep concerns about the latest restrictions on civil society participation": <https://www.madre.org/press-publications/human-rights-report/letter-members-un-commission-status-women> SWS signed onto the letter and several participants wore buttons throughout CSW advocating "No Borders on Gender Justice."

Additional reports from the SWS delegation to CSW coming in the next issue of *Network News*. Stay tuned!

Meet The New EO, Barret Katuna

The new SWS Executive Officer Barret Katuna is a familiar face to many SWS members from previous Winter Meetings. However, to be better acquainted with her background and thoughts about her new job, she was gracious to answer a few questions from the newsletter editor.

What is your background in SWS? When and why did you become a member?

I have been a member of SWS since I started graduate school at the University of Connecticut back in 2008. I was lucky to have the opportunity to work with Bandana Purkayastha as her research assistant, back when she was Deputy Editor of *Gender & Society*. This opportunity introduced me to SWS and I have been a member ever since. I became a member of SWS because of the amazing opportunities the organization provides for one to establish professional and collegial relationships with scholars throughout the world. SWS gave me the opportunity to integrate both my research and activist interests through involvement with the International Committee at the Commission on the Status of Women. I really found a home with the International Committee and I am thrilled with the work that this committee continues to do.

What have been your best experiences as a member of SWS?

One of my best experiences as a member of SWS was bringing together a group of feminist scholars at SWS' first parallel side event at the Commission on the Status of Women. Furthermore, I think we have all experienced a few years when we came to Winter Meetings with a need for some extra rejuvenation after some academic or professional challenges. While in graduate school and as a faculty member, when I attended SWS meetings, I always came away feeling rejuvenated and with a sense of greater purpose for my research, teaching, and writing. Leaving behind the writing and meeting some of the rock-star scholars that I was citing in my writing and having real conversations with them are highlights of some of my best experiences as a member of SWS.

Tell me how you came to apply for this position. What were some attractions for you in the EO job?

It took me some time to come to the decision to leave academia and transition into a position of non-profit management. Thanks to the support of some of my mentors, including Davita Silfen Glasberg, Bandana Purkayastha, and Manisha Desai, I was able to realize that I am happiest and most effective when I am working on more day-to-day project management as opposed to longer research projects. I was attracted to working as the EO for SWS because I love meeting new people and I enjoy working with passionate individuals who share my feminist commitment. I wholeheartedly believe in SWS' mission and when I was going through the application process, I realized even more that this position is a "dream job" for me.

You took office at the beginning of this year, what's your experience like so far?

So far, the experience has been incredibly rewarding. It was intense leading up to the 2017 Winter Meeting since there were many significant deadlines and items that I needed to immediately address. Each day, I feel like I do something new or learn something new. Learning more about SWS operations in relationship to banking, investments, communications, membership involvement, and meeting planning, for example – all present new opportunities for me to learn more about SWS and to learn about ways in which we can grow the organization.

What do you see as the most significant challenges for the organization in the near future?

One of the most significant challenges for the organization in the near future is the website. Way too much labor has gone into managing members' challenges with the website, and I am looking forward to launching a new website that has opportunities for members to learn more about one another and to see when their membership renewal is due – without having to contact the Executive Office.

Another significant organizational challenge is working on inclusivity and accessibility for all members. The

Ad Hoc Accessibility Committee that President Abby Ferber has established is working on addressing many related matters. I am looking forward to hearing more from members on how we can make SWS meetings and other sorts of SWS engagement and interactions more accessible.

What about in the long term? Where do you see SWS in, let's say, ten years?

In ten years, I would like to see SWS membership grow. I would like to work on member retention as well. It is important to understand why members join and then leave and why some people join and stay forever. Soon, my hope is that many of the administrative matters of SWS that can be quite time consuming will require much less attention as they will function like clockwork. At that time, I can work on growing membership, increasing revenue by establishing a robust giving campaign, and continuing an activist mission with even more public visibility.

What's your preference, Winter or Summer Meetings, and why?

My preference is for the Winter Meeting. Everyone is a captive audience then and there is no competition with other academic meetings that are going on. The timing of the Winter Meeting is perfect to provide a sense of rejuvenation to all as those who are on an academic schedule gear up for the remainder of the Spring semester. While I also obviously enjoy the Summer Meeting, there are so many events going on at the same time as the Summer Meeting that the SWS community cannot be as cohesive as we can be at the Winter Meeting. My favorite part of the Winter Meeting will always remain the time for acknowledging achievements at the banquet.

What SWS activities should we celebrate right now?

We should celebrate the work of all of our committees that do so much to make SWS meetings such welcoming space. We should celebrate our award winners and everything that the Awards Committee, Sister-to-Sister, and Social Action Committees do to honor and support feminist scholarship and activism. As I mentioned earlier, we should celebrate the work of the International Committee to make such an incredibly valuable contribution at the Commission on the Status of Women through its session on "Feminist Sociological Research & Economic Sustainability: Local, National, & Global Insights." We should celebrate the wonderful work that local SWS Chapters are doing to foster collegial communities.

I know a new job requires long hours but what do you do for fun when you're not working?

For fun, I have twin 3-year-old sons - Hans and Henry. It's truly one of the best feelings in the world to go and pick them up from daycare and see their smiles. They came into the world on April 1, 2014 - the day I also defended my Ph.D. dissertation. It was the biggest surprise to me that I went into labor - almost 2 months early - on the day that was supposed to be a celebration of my research. I became a doctor and a mom all in the same day! Parenting is incredibly fun and - of course - a lot of work too! When I am not chasing around 3-year-olds, I also enjoy running, working out for physical fitness, and cooking. My husband and I love to travel and we just planned a weekend family vacation in the Catskills later this spring.



What are you reading right now?

I just finished reading *The First 90 Days: Proven Strategies for Getting Up to Speed Faster and Smarter* by Michael Watkins. The next book on my reading list is *The Road to Character* by David Brooks.

Anything else you'd like to add for SWS members?

I really would love to hear from you and I value your input. Please do not feel like you need to wait for a Winter Meeting evaluation to express any questions you might have.

Announcements & Advertisements

The Gender Policy Report Call for Submissions in the Violence Area

Center on Women, Gender and Public Policy, Humphrey School of Public Affairs
University of Minnesota

Violence Curators: Greta Friedemann-Sánchez (Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota) and Leigh Goodmark (School of Law, University of Maryland)

The Gender Policy Report (GPR) is a non-partisan, multidisciplinary effort to produce and disseminate timely, gender-focused analyses of emerging policy proposals and developments. GPR contributions will clarify the gendered bases of policy practices and conflicts. They will offer diverse public audiences informed perspectives on how policies matter for gender justice and constructions of gender itself. Working across varied media platforms, the GPR will seek to inform policy debates and improve public discourse. Our mission is to take the best insights from gender scholarship and research and make them accessible to broader communities in a way that is timely for addressing serious policy challenges.

The Violence Area of the GPR seeks to make visible the high prevalence of violence that occurs inside and outside of family contexts against women and sexual and gender minorities: intimate partner violence, harassment, rape and sexual assault, trafficking and female genital cutting. The GPR also seeks to explore the mechanisms that can explain the behaviors and available policy interventions. For instance, contributions might explore economic interventions that may give women subjected to intimate partner violence leverage to leave abusive relationships, or may explore the existing debates on the effectiveness of mediation in cases of intimate partner violence. Other lines of contribution may be current evidence on the relationships between and policies on child maltreatment and partner violence; or policies that are in place or should be in place to address violence in the workplace; or a comparison on the treatment of sexual assault on campus between Title IX and the criminal justice system. We welcome pieces that explore how violence and gender work intersectionally to affect more vulnerable communities and what policies may alleviate these disparities. Contributions to the area might offer comparisons with international cases and policies.

Call for Collaborators: We are actively seeking Research and Advocacy Collaborators to join the work of the Violence area and shape its trajectory going forward. We encourage potential collaborators to set their own pace, and we expect a lot of variation in terms of individual involvement. Please contact us at the email addresses below if you are interested.

Call for Submissions: The violence justice area of the GPR will seek to publish original content at least *twice per month*. *We are eager to receive submissions and proposals from diverse perspectives across a broad spectrum of relevant issues. We are also committed to publishing work in a wide range of formats and communications styles.*

Examples of Content include but are not limited to:

Policy Analysis Blog Posts (500-1200 words): *Short essays that weigh in on current policy, evidence on this policy and how policy proposals may affect the tools people from diverse and different communities have to respond to being victims of gender-based violence. Ideally, the essay would clarify gender implications of a policy that otherwise may not be evident.*

Research Summary Blogs (500-1200 words): *Accessible, engaging summaries or reviews of existing research on gender-based violence. This public-friendly translation of a recent research article or book might use current debates in the field (i.e. to use mediation or not in cases of intimate partner violence) as a “hook.”*

Data posts on Criminal Justice Policy (3-4 figures with explanatory text): Posts that focus on drawing attention to illuminating data visualizations in the form of charts, graphs, etc. Contributors would provide a short written introduction and a few lines to help readers interpret each data visual. Examples include prevalence rates of sexual assault on campus versus the wider community and intimate partner violence prevalence rates by race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation.

Multimedia Contributions: Video presentations, powerpoint slide decks, audio podcasts, recordings of panel discussions... You name it, we're interested. Send us your ideas and teach us some new tricks!

We hope you'll join us in this exciting and timely new project. If you have any questions about the violence area of the GPR, would like to become a Research Collaborator, or have ideas for contributing content, please contact us via e-mail.

Greta Friedemann-Sánchez gfs@umn.edu and Leigh Goodmark lgoodmark@law.umaryland.edu



Join the CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) Movement

Girls ages 16-19 in the United States are 4 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault. (This statistic is from the U. S. Department of Justice, 2010.)

Along more than 180 other organizations including the American Bar Association, the NAACP, and the YWCA, SWS has become an official supporter of CEDAW.

Adoption of CEDAW means that gender inequality including violence against women, gender pay inequity, and sex and labor trafficking is illegal.

187 nations have ratified CEDAW. The UNITED STATES has NOT. In the absence of ratification, the Cities for CEDAW movement has spread throughout the United States.

Is there a Cities for CEDAW organization in your locale?
Do all your organizations support CEDAW?
<http://citiesforcedaw.org/>

Groping girls and women is violence against them.

Brought to you by the CEDAW Subcommittee of the SWS International Committee

Call for Submissions

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota has created an online platform called the Gender Policy Report (<http://genderpolicyreport.umn.edu/>) that will analyze, through the lens of gender, the policies that will be proposed by the US federal government in this new administration. The goal is to be non-partisan and to consider how new policies may affect the welfare of women and sexual minorities in the US and around the world. All the posts will be relatively short: 500-1,200 words. There are various areas covered by the report, which you can view at the web site above. Claire Renzetti (Sociology, University of Kentucky) is collaborating with Leigh Goodmark (School of Law, University of Maryland) and Greta Friedemann-Sanchez (Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota) to enlist individuals who might like to post in the violence area. You may view the first post on violence here: <http://genderpolicyreport.umn.edu/gender-bias-in-policing-will-sessions-continue-progress/>. If you are interested in submitting a post in the violence area, you can send it directly to Leigh (lgoodmark@law.umaryland.edu) or Greta (frie0013@umn.edu). If you are interested in submitting a post in one of the other areas covered by the report, you can find instructions for doing so at the Gender Policy Report web site.

Conference Announcement

The Center for Research on Violence Against Women (CRVAW) at the University of Kentucky is hosting a national conference on campus climate assessment and Title IX issues. The conference will be held in Lexington, KY on September 21 and 22, 2017. You will find additional information, including a list of speakers and the conference schedule as well as a link to sign up to receive registration materials and conference updates, by clicking on this web site or copying and pasting it into your browser: <https://us15.campaignarchive2.com/?u=361b5700fdf8cf93493096e69&id=480ae341ed>.

International Sociological Association Student Travel Funds CFP

The Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility (the RC28) of the International Sociological Association will be holding its biannual meeting on the campus of Columbia University on August 8-10, 2017, with a reception on the evening of August 7. The RC28 meeting draws attendance from scholars around the world. It has a well-earned reputation as a forum for the presentation of high quality sociological research on social inequality.

To offset the cost of travel and meeting attendance, ten travel awards of up to \$1000 will be awarded to eligible Ph.D. students. Applicants are not required to present a paper at the meeting.

Applicants should express a clear interest in pursuing research on social inequality. They must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Enrolled in a Ph.D. program in the social sciences or related disciplines at a U.S. university
2. Received an undergraduate degree from a U.S. college or university
3. Be a member of racial or ethnic group that is underrepresented in the American professoriate

To apply for the graduate student travel award, please send the following materials to **rc28-2017@columbia.edu** by **Friday, May 5, 2017**:

1. A cover sheet listing your full name, email address, current and undergraduate institutions, academic discipline, and self-identified race/ethnicity
2. A current CV (5 pages maximum)
3. An essay describing your interest in social inequality research (500 words max)
4. A letter of support from your faculty advisor

Please use the following email subject line: **Diversity Travel Award: [Your Name]**.

Additional Information

Travel awards cover transportation, lodging, meeting registration, and a special networking dinner for awardees on August 8. Awardees will be notified via email by May 26, 2017.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Feminist Activism Awardee Campus Visit

Visitation Window: August-December 2017



2016 Awardee: Professor Kris De Welde

We Sociologists for Women in Society are delighted to acknowledge our 2016 Feminist Activism Awardee Dr. Kris De Welde who is prepared to visit a U. S. campus in the coming months. She will deliver a talk entitled: *The Relevance, Reward, and Risk of Feminist Activism in the Academy*.

An overview of her talk is as follows: Through examples of activism that garnered Kris De Welde the SWS 2016 Feminist Activism Award, she will engage participants in conversations about why feminist activism within higher education is relevant to both the academy and the communities outside of it. She will review concrete examples of the rewards and risks associated with engaging in this work and will strive to inspire others to engage in social justice activism on their campuses. Besides her talk, she will gladly meet with students, faculty, and community members who are interested in or involved with justice in academic settings.

Sociologists for Women in Society will pay all transportation costs of Dr. De Welde's visit. The host campus is asked to provide room and board, that is, a place to stay for one or two days and nights and the provision of meals.

If you are interested in hosting a campus visit, please submit an **application by June 1, 2017**, by email to Distinguished Feminist Activism Award Committee Chair **Patricia Yancey Martin (pmartin@fsu.edu)**. An application should include the following:

1. An explanation of your interest in hosting Dr. De Welde's visit and the merits of awarding a campus visitation to your school
2. A description of activities you will arrange for the awardee's visit on your campus.
3. The number of days you would like the awardee to stay & tentative dates, with alternatives
4. Your target audience for the presentation
5. A description of how you will financially provide for the room and board of the awardee

The selection committee will look especially favorably on campuses committed to gaining the widest possible audience for these visits. While not required, plans to do one or more of the following will enhance the case for the applicant:

- collaboration with other departments or programs on campus
- multiple-campus cooperation
- community partnerships

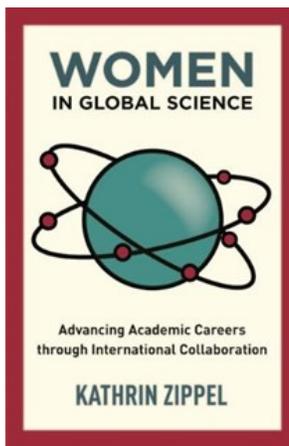
Kris De Welde is Associate Dean of University-wide Programs and Faculty Engagement and Professor of Sociology at Florida Gulf Coast University, with a Ph. D. in sociology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. She focuses on intersectional inequalities in higher education, reproductive rights, and the scholarship of teaching and learning and, recently, she co-edited a book titled *Disrupting the Culture of Silence: Women Navigating Hostility and Making Change in Higher Education*. She regularly conducts workshops on diversity and inclusion in higher education and presents at professional and academic conferences. Her free time is taken up with cycling, yoga, her family, and (she says) "ridiculous" cats.

Members In The News

Mindy Fried's book *Caring for Red: A Daughter's Memoir* (Vanderbilt University Press), was featured in a 1/27/17 Boston Globe column called "The Story Behind the Book": (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2017/01/26/blacklisted-father-taught-her-lesson-integrity/y3eT6usQAHctGWpVaBLhSN/story.html>). Mindy has also been doing an extensive book tour with *Caring for Red*, including at independent bookstores in Seattle, DC, Albuquerque, and Boston as well as universities, including Georgia State, Boston College, and Brandeis University. In addition, Mindy's organization, Hoopla Productions, was just awarded a \$15,000 grant to produce a local community-building festival called Jamaica Plain Porchfest.

Congratulations to SWS Past-Treasurer, **Mangala Subramaniam** of Purdue University, who was recently named as one of the YMCA Women of Distinction.

Book & Article Announcements



Kathrin Zippel. 2017. *Women in Global Science: Advancing Academic Careers through International Collaboration*. Stanford University Press.

Scientific and engineering research is increasingly global, and international collaboration can be essential to academic success. Yet even as administrators and policy-makers extol the benefits of global science, few recognize the diversity of international research collaborations and their participants, or take gendered inequalities into account. *Women in Global Science* is the first book to consider systematically the challenges and opportunities that the globalization of scientific work brings to U.S. academics, especially for women faculty. Kathrin Zippel looks to the STEM fields as a case study, where gendered cultures and structures in academia have contributed to an underrepresentation of women. While some have approached underrepresentation as a national concern with a national solution, Zippel highlights how gender relations are reconfigured in global academia.

For U.S. women in particular, international collaboration offers opportunities to step outside of exclusionary networks at home. International collaboration is not the panacea to gendered inequalities in academia, but, as Zippel persuasively argues, international considerations can be key to ending the steady attrition of women in STEM fields and developing a more inclusive academic world.

This research was partly funded by NSF ADVANCE.

Promocode ZIPPEL gets you 20% off <http://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=27863> See also **Stanford University Press blog** <http://stanfordpress.typepad.com/blog/2017/03/women-and-the-world-in-academia.html> and **Conditionally Accepted – inside higher education** on March 31, 2017.



UNEQUAL MOTHERHOODS AND THE ADOPTION OF ASIAN CHILDREN

BIRTH, FOSTER, AND ADOPTIVE MOTHERS

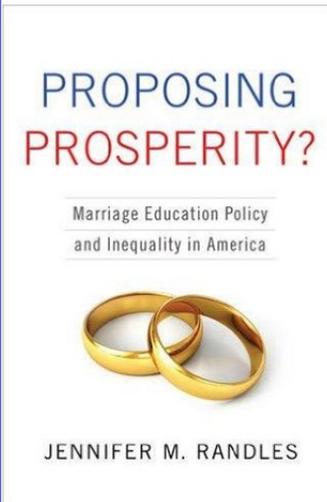
JUNGYUN GILL

Gill, Jungyun. 2017. *Unequal Motherhoods and the Adoption of Asian Children: Birth, Foster, and Adoptive Mothers*. Lexington Books.

Jungyun Gill's book *Unequal Motherhoods and the Adoption of Asian Children: Birth, Foster, and Adoptive Mothers* (2017, Lexington Books) explores a deeply personal aspect of globalization, the adoption of Asian children by white Americans. It is based on dozens of interviews with American adoptive mothers, foster mothers and adoption social workers, nearly two hundred letters and essays written by Korean birth mothers who put their children up for adoption, and fieldwork at an adoption agency in South Korea. It also includes analyses and explanations of U.S. and South Korean governments' social characteristics and policies regarding adoptions and how relations between nations have affected international adoption. The book focuses on whether the commonly held notion that adoptions are to serve children's welfare and their best interests has tended to render gendered aspects of international adoptions invisible. Factors such as gender inequality, social control of women's reproductive power, patriarchic family structure, and social beliefs concerning womanhood and motherhood that affect international adoptions are revealed in this book.

The multiple ways in which adoptive, birth, and foster mothers experience gender oppression from their different social positions of class, race, and nationality are explored and the interdependencies and inequalities of the motherhoods of these three groups of women are brought to light. The book should be of interest to scholars but is written at a level appropriate for a non-academic audience with the hope that adoptive parents and adoptees read it.

Book & Article Announcements



Randles, Jennifer. 2017. *Proposing Prosperity?: Marriage Education Policy and Inequality in America*, Columbia University Press

Jennifer Randles, Assistant Professor of Sociology, California State University, Fresno

In the 1990s, the U.S. Congress overhauled welfare policy to encourage work, marriage, and responsible fatherhood for Americans in poverty. This led to the creation of the Healthy Marriage Initiative in 2002 and the funding of hundreds of marriage education programs across the country. Based on over 500 hours of participant observation in marriage education classes and interviews with those who taught and took them, Jennifer Randles takes the reader inside the marriage education classroom to reveal how healthy marriage policy promotes the idea that family well-being and preventing poverty depend on individuals learning to love in a responsible and rational way that minimizes the economically costly and socially destabilizing consequences of uninformed romantic choices. Sociologists have long described how social and economic inequalities pervade the most intimate aspects of individuals' lives. The unique contribution of this book is that it shows how romantic love and interpersonal commitment have recently become direct objects of policy efforts to address inequality.

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Articles & Book Chapters by Members

Robert Perrucci, Mangala Subramaniam, and Carolyn C. Perrucci, “Who Publishes in Leading Sociology Journals: 1960-2010?” pages 77-86 in Earl Wright II and Thomas C. Calhoun (eds.), *What to Expect and How to Respond: Distress and Success in Academia*. Rowman and Littlefield, 2016.

The chapter reports the analysis of a large sample of articles over a fifty-year period from four sociology journals, *ASR*, *AJS*, *Social Forces*, and *Social Problems*, to determine the extent to which authors are currently employed in elite vs non-elite departments, or received their PhDs from elite vs non-elite departments, and considers this within a social closure theoretical framework.

Kolysh, Simone. 2017. Straight Gods, White Devils: Exploring Paths to Non-Religion in the Lives of Black LGBTQ People. *Secularism and Nonreligion*, 6: p2. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/snr.83>



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To update address or contact information with SWS, please send an email request to Jazmyne Washington at swsinterimao@gmail.com

Winter Meeting 2018

January 26-28 · Atlanta, GA

I am pleased to announce that the 2018 meetings will be held Jan 26-28 in Atlanta, GA. The city is home to world class art, history, and Civil Rights museums, a thriving nightlife, and numerous feminist and women-owned businesses. Plus, it's easy to access from many locations (Hartsfield is still the world's busiest airport), and should hopefully have comfortable temperatures even in late January. We've contracted with the [Buckhead Ritz Carlton](#) to host our meetings. Look forward to room discounts for graduate students, reduced prices for on-site parking, and affordable room rates, on top of Ritz amenities like the indoor pool, fitness center, hot tub, and more. I'm optimistic that this will be another great SWS meeting. I hope to see most of you in the Peach State next year!

--President Elect, Adia Harvey Wingfield

