



ESS Newsletter

Volume 21, No. 3

Winter

Don't Miss: The Importance of Being Conceptual

This year, the annual meetings include a one-day mini-conference devoted to engaging the work of **Arlie Russell Hochschild**, emerita, at the University of California at Berkeley.

Hochschild's far-reaching work has been intellectually innovative and empirically grounded, setting agendas for scholars in a variety of fields. She has moved from a study of an old-age community (*The Unexpected Community*), to the emotional work of flight attendants (*The Managed Heart*), to dual-career families (*Second Shift* and *the Time Bind*), to the effects of capitalism and market economies on personal life (*The Commercialization of Intimate Life*).



Other panelists include: **Pat Berhau, Kimberly**

McClain DaCosta, Marjorie DeVault, Karen V. Hansen, Rosanna Hertz, Nazli Kibria, Pei-Cha Lan, Annette Lareau, Margaret K. Nelson, Julie Press, and Juliet Schor.

Organized by three of Hochschild's former students -- Anita I. Garey, Karen V. Hansen, and Annette Lareau -- the conference has been supported by the generous sponsorship of numerous colleges, universities, and organizations: Boston College, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Swarthmore College, Syracuse University, University of California Press, University of Connecticut, University of Delaware, and University of Maryland.

"The Importance of Being Conceptual" gives all meeting participants an opportunity to see Hochschild's ideas in action. It will run from 8:30 to 5:00 in the Ballroom at the Sheraton Hotel, on **Friday, March 16th**.

Karen V. Hansen, Brandeis University

Bringing Humanism Back In: AHS Special Session and Reception at ESS

For the second straight year, the Association for Humanist Sociology [AHS] will host a special session followed by a reception on Saturday afternoon at the ESS Annual meeting. This year's theme is Finding Diversity, Challenging Inequality: Humanist Sociology and the Search for a Better World.

AHS is a small organization founded in 1976 by Alfred McClung and Betty Lee, and a group of others who were disenchanted with mainstream sociological organizations. Believing that that sociological practice should reflect humanist values, this group wanted to create a "community of sociologists, educators, scholars, and activists who share a commitment to using sociology to promote peace, equality, and social justice."

For over 30 years, AHS members have integrated their academic teaching and scholarly research with those struggling for justice and equality around the world. For AHS, public sociology is nothing new; it has been the very life blood of the organization from the outset.

This year's presenters represent some of the very best of AHS work. Mary Erdmans, author of *The Grainski Girls: The Choices They Had and the Choices They Made*, will present a paper entitled, "Listening to Women: Life Story Narrations, Humanist Intent and Authorial Voices." Ashley "Woody" Doane, Co-editor of *White Out: The Continuing Significance of Racism*, will present, "Diversity and Humanist Sociology: Intersections of Teaching, Theory and Practice." And Timothy Black will present, "Making Careers on the Backs of the Underprivileged: The Exploitive Nature of Ethnographic Research." Corey Dolgon, author of *The End of the Hamptons: Scenes From the Class Struggle in America's Paradise*, will offer some comments and moderate the session.

AHS's annual meeting will take place in Henderson, Nevada in October of 2007 and then in Boston, Ma in 2008. The organization publishes a peer-reviewed journal entitled, *Humanity and Society*. More information about the organization can be found at: www.humanistsociology.org <<http://www.humanistsociology.org/>> And in the spirit of humanism, AHS is also hosting a reception following the paper session at 4:30-all are welcome.

Special points of interest:

- **Hochschild Mini-Conference**
- **Gerson President-Elect**
- **Humanism Special Session**
- **Scholarship honoring Hess**
- **Student Poster Symposium at St. Joe's**

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Editor's Corner



Debra Lemke, Editor

"...Find something you are passionate about..."

This time of year, I find myself looking forward in anticipation to the meetings for several reasons. First of all, it is usually the first time since before the holidays that I venture out. I am in hibernation mode in winter and wait with anticipation for the first signs of spring and attending ESS is one of those signs.

I also find that I am eager to engage with colleagues on research. After the flurry of activities that surround the beginning of the academic term, it is rejuvenating to spend a weekend recharging my battery with new ideas and fresh insights in my chosen field of study.

The final reason is purely social. I look forward to meet-

ing old friends and new at the meetings. My first ESS meeting was one of the few held in Baltimore. I was a brand new PhD from the Midwest who knew no one on the east coast. I came to the meeting because it was close and I needed a line on my sparse vita. From experience with other professional meeting, I expected to drive in, present my paper and leave, but that is not exactly what happened. I found that those attending the meeting were so welcoming and friendly that it was impossible to escape unnoticed. By the end of the meetings, I knew all the officers of the society and had not had to eat one meal alone. I left with lots of ideas for research and pedagogy and a totally

different idea of what an annual meeting was all about.

As you plan your activities at the meeting, I encourage you to get to know the officers of the society, attend paper sessions outside your main area, attend the open meetings of the committees and hang out in the book exhibits. Find something you are passionate about and volunteer. You will discover that the ESS is an open society that welcomes involvement and input. You will get back all that you put into the organization with interest.

I look forward to seeing you at the meetings and do not be surprised when I ask you to write a column for the newsletter.



From the Exec Office

Emily Mahon

(In and around the Independence Ballroom)

The final program for the 77th Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society is now on our webpage – and it is indeed impressive. President Phil Kasinitz along with Margaret Chin and Victoria Pitts and their program committee have put together a wonderful set of sessions including Conversations With, Authors Meet Critics, Thematic Sessions, an Arlie Hochschild Mini Conference, Plenaries..... Spend a moment online to browse the program and plan your days. And while you are browsing, keep in mind some of the non-paper activities that make the Annual Meeting special – many of them taking place in the Independence Ballroom on the Mezzanine level. Take in the Book Exhibit – it will be open Thursday afternoon from 4 to 7 PM, Friday from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM and Saturday from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. In addition to some hosted coffee sessions in the exhibit each day, the exhibit space (Independence Ballroom) will also be home to the Employment Center which will be open Thursday afternoon, Friday morning, and Saturday afternoon. A new event has been added this year as well – the New Books Reception. On Saturday, from 10 to 11 AM many of our ESS colleagues will be exhibiting books that have just recently been released. We are expecting over 20 authors – so be sure to drop in on them. Friday and Saturday

"...keep in mind some of the non-paper activities..."

our Undergraduate Student presenters will be exhibiting their posters in and around the Independence Ballroom –about 150 posters in total will be displayed over the course of three time-slots – mid-morning and mid-afternoon on Friday and mid-morning on Saturday. The posters have been getting better and more plentiful each year. Please do stop by and encourage the next generation of sociologists – and be entertained and informed in the process! Award-winning posters from each session will be recognized at the Awards Plenary on Saturday evening. And finally, while you are in the area, say hello to the folks at the Registration Desk located in the Independence Foyer. The booth is personned by hard-working sociology grad students who will cheerfully supply you with name tags and programs. The volunteers are coordinated by Christel Hyden whom you can easily recognize by the assortment of toddlers, babies, puggles and spouse who usually surround her. She manages to make it all work well and look easy. And one more reminder: although there is enough at the conference to keep you occupied and sated from morning to night, remember there is a Philadelphia out there loaded with trolleys and art and history and flowers and cheesesteaks..... so take full advantage!

See you there!

Emily

Nominations for Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship

The Beth B. Hess Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a new or continuing graduate student who began her or his study in a community college or technical school. A student accepted in an accredited PhD program in sociology in the United States is eligible to apply if she or he studied for at least one full academic year at a two-year college in the US before transferring to complete a BA.

The Scholarship carries a stipend of \$3500 from SWS to be used to support the pursuit of graduate studies as well as a one-year membership in Sociologists for Women in Society (including a subscription to *Gender & Society*). The Scholarship will be awarded at the Annual Meeting of SWS, ASA, and SSSP in New York, NY, August 11-14 2007. The awardee's economy class airfare, train fare or driving mileage/tolls will be paid by SSSP, SWS and ASA (applicants for this award should also apply for an ASA student travel award; more than one such award may be given). Each association will also waive meeting registration and provide complementary banquet or reception tickets for the awardee.

To honor Beth Hess's career, the committee will be looking for:

- Commitment to teaching, especially at a community college or other institution serving less-privileged students.
- Research and/or activism in social inequality, social justice, or social problems, with a focus on gender and/or gerontology being especially positive.
- Service to the academic and/or local community, including mentoring.
- High quality research and writing in the proposal and letter of application.

An application for the award should contain:

1. a letter of application (no more than 2 pages) that describes the student's decision to study sociology, career goals, research, activism and service that would help the committee to see how the Scholarship would be a fitting honor
2. a letter confirming enrollment in or admission to a sociology Ph.D. program (and aid award if any)
3. a letter of recommendation from a sociologist (in a sealed envelope, signed on the seal)
4. full curriculum vitae, including all schools, degrees awarded, years of study, and full or part-time
5. (Optional) a one-page letter describing a community college faculty member who particularly contributed in a significant way to the decision to study sociology or pursue higher education

A cover sheet with:

- Name and full contact information, including phone and email
- Current academic or organizational affiliation, with years
- If not currently enrolled, future Ph.D. program and date of entry
- Community college attended, with years and credits taken OR transcript.
- Name and contact information for references
- If included, name of honored faculty member

Six complete copies of the application should be submitted to:

Prof. Myra Marx Ferree
Department of Sociology

“Commitment to teaching... Research... Activism...Service... High quality research...”

“most marginal and disenfranchised people in New York.”

Noteworthy

[Urban Action Networks: HIV/AIDS and Community Organizing in New York City](#) by Howard Lune is a study of how communities organize in response to threats to their lives and well being. As HIV/AIDS wreaked havoc on the worlds of some of the most marginal and disenfranchised people in New York, they came together to create a shared response, forming a new

organizational field within which their various efforts were coordinated. This book traces the interorganizational processes by which the groups negotiated shared meanings, collective strategies, and a complex, shifting set of relations with local and national government. It covers the first decade of AIDS, when the organized community groups actively set the agenda.

How the communities of the most affected people organized, reorganized, and redefined the social and political context of HIV/AIDS offers an encouraging glimpse into the way in which marginal communities can convert shared needs into collective action. The book is published by Rowman and Littlefield.

18th Annual Student Research Poster Symposium

2nd Call for Abstracts
18th Annual Student Research Poster Symposium
Friday, April 20, 2007
Saint Joseph's University Chapter of Sigma Xi

"A Celebration of Student Research"

**"A Celebration of
Student Research"**

The 18th annual Sigma Xi Student Research Symposium will be held on Friday, April 20, 2007, at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Undergraduate and Graduate students in the areas of math, computer science, engineering, the natural and the social sciences are invited to present their work. Previous symposia have featured posters presented by students from colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, and New York, with some students coming from as far away as Minnesota, Texas, Ohio, Oklahoma and Virginia.

Students are invited to present the results of their work in poster form during one of two

sessions that evening. Poster boards that are 4' x 4' will be provided.

This year's speaker will be the George Coyne, S.J., Ph.D., Director Emeritus of the Vatican Observatory and visiting faculty member at the University of Arizona Department of Astronomy. His talk is entitled "The Age of the Universe" and will be at 5:00 pm in the Wolfington Teletorium of Mandeville Hall on the Saint Joseph's University campus. His talk is free and open to the public.

Abstracts for posters and talks are due by Friday, March 23rd. The registration fee is \$25 and the fee to attend the banquet at SJU is an additional \$10. Abstracts and all registration materials must be submitted through our web-site (<http://www.sju.edu/srs>). A mailing containing announcement posters, and additional information will be sent out shortly all schools that have previously participated in the symposium. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact Dr. Paul Angiolillo via e-mail at pangiolillo@sju.edu.



Chancer named Distinguished Scholar

Lynn Chancer, the author of *High-Profile Crimes: When Legal cases become Social Causes* (University Of Chicago Press, 2005), received the Distinguished Scholar of the Women and Crime Division of the American Society of Criminology (ASC). Chancer, a profes-

sor of Sociology at Hunter College and on the faculty at the Graduate Center at CUNY, is the author of three other books: *Sadomasochism in Everyday Life* (Rutgers University Press, 1992); *Reconcilable Differences: Confronting Beauty, Pornography and the Future of Feminism*

(University of California Press, 1998); and *Gender, Race and Class: An Overview* (Blackwell, 2006).

The web site for the American Society of Criminology is <http://www.asc41.com/>



Call for Papers: Association of Humanist Sociology

Expanding our Branches: Nourishing our Roots

Association of Humanist Sociology

2007 Annual Meeting

October 25-28

Hilton Garden Inn, Henderson, Nevada

Come to the sunny southwest to help us reflect on where we have come from and discover how we can go places we have never been.

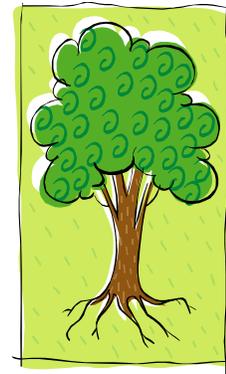
The committee invites proposals for papers or sessions that feature:

- scholarly work
- music, theatre, video, or other forms of creative expression
- Teaching
- film screenings
- book discussions
- social activism
- sociological tours of area

Submission deadline:

June 30, 2007

Send proposals to Emma Bailey, Program Chair
bailey@wnmu.edu



Election Results 2007

Katherine Newman and her committee would like to thank all who participated in the election process. The winners are:

President: Kathleen Gerson, New York University (2008-2009)

Vice-President: Vincent Parrillo, William Paterson University (2008-2009)

Executive Committee: David Lavin, CUNY Graduate Center and
Sharon Sassler, Cornell University (2007-2010)

Treasurer: David Grazian, University of Pennsylvania (2007-2009)

Secretary: Joan Spade, SUNY Brockport (2007-2010)





The Eastern Sociological Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in sociological scholarship and instruction. It has approximately 1000 members, most of whom live and work in the Northeastern United States. The ESS sponsors a professional journal (Sociological Forum), a four-day Annual Meeting in the spring, a newsletter, numerous award competitions, an employment service, and a listserv.

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