Volume 16, No. 1, Winter 2002

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT JUDITH LORBER

There are two jokes circulating in New York City (and I'm sure lots of other places as well). The first is: "Now we can get back to normal." ... "What's normal?" The second is not really a joke, but a comment on "normal." It goes: "How are you, except for that?" ... "There is no 'except for that." Not only does September 11 permeate everyone's consciousness, the way the death of a loved one does for years afterward, but September 11 has become a shorthand for a transformative change in individual feelings and in the U.S. national consciousness. The structure of our lives has changed - in New York City, there are missing subway lines, stone barriers in front of Lincoln Center, and barred-off streets surrounding the UN. The newest tourist stop is Ground Zero. The larger changes are much more frightening – the ever-present threat of biological terrorism, the secret detentions of thousands of Islamic men, and the booing of speakers who criticize U.S. policies. I think we do not yet know how much the United States has changed permanently, but the number and extent of the papers submitted to the ESS Annual Meetings program on the events of September 11 show that sociologists are hard at work with their ideas and analyses. My Presidential address will be "Toward the Year Three Thousand: A Feminist Sociologist's Reflections on 9/11"

The program will cover many other vital and exciting topics, highlighted in this issue. There will be a celebration of Doris Wilkinson's life and work as ESS Senior Scholar on Thursday evening, and a reception in honor of **Robert Max Jackson**, the new Editor of *Sociological Forum*, on Friday afternoon. To encourage budding sociologists, we will have three roundtables of undergraduate research from Hobart and Williams Colleges, William Paterson College, and SUNY, Oswego.

So if you haven't yet made your plans to come to Boston on March 7-10, you will be missing a lot!

Please book your room at the Meeting hotel, the Boston Marriott Copley Place. For the link, the Preliminary Program, and for all information about the Program, please go to the ESS Annual Meeting website - http://www.essnet.org/annualmeeting.htm.

LOOKING FOR THE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM?

You can find it on our website at www.essnet.org.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2002 ESS ANNUAL MEETING DROGRAM

Sociology of 9/11

We will have 24 papers on the Sociology of 9/11. These have been grouped into six sessions:

- *Comparative Perspectives*, covering international, global/local, and family divisions
- Diverse Perceptions of the Terrorist Attack, which includes Arab and Muslim responses, a discussion of attribution, and a postmodernist perspective
- Responses to Terrorism, which includes a comparison of the wars on terrorism and drugs and a discussion of security issues
- Political Implications, covering generational and racial reactions, why the U.S. is hated, and whether we are in the first war of the 21st century
- Feminist Interventions, discussions of nationalism, fundamentalism, and state violence
- Sociological Explanations, including on Al Qaeda as bureaucracy, analysis of Bin Laden's taped messages, and organizational responses

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Futuristics

Arthur Shostak, active ESS member and also a member of the World Future Society, has organized two sessions:

- *Utopian Thinking and Sociology*, which will cover the web as utopia, the sociology of the possible, the probable, and the preferable, and applied sociology and utopian thought
- Futuristics and Sociology, on applying futuristics globally, advice from a professional futurist, and futuristics and human relations

21st Century Sociology

We will have a plenary, several thematics, and a roundtable dealing with 21st century sociology.

Presidential Plenary --

- The 21st Century Workplace, with Stanley
 Aronowitz on the post-Fordist workplace,
 Saskia Sassen on the emergent global labor
 markets of top-level professionals and low-wage
 laborers, Marlese Durr on African American
 women, gender relations, work, and the political
 economy in the 21st century, and Jerry Jacobs
 on work and family policy for the new century
 Thematics --
- Crossing Borders and Erasing Boundaries: Human-Animal Relations in the Future of Sociology
- Sociology of Religion in the 21st Century
- Still Never Done: Family Work in the 21st Century
- 21st Century Sexualities
- Providers and Their Patients: 21st Century Health Care

Roundtable --

 Public Vs. Mass Society: Revisiting C. Wright Mills in the 21st Century

Special Sessions in Honor of **Seymour Martin Lipset**

Robert B. Smith has organized three session in honor of Seymour Martin Lipset.

- Voting and Political Participation, on the 2000 presidential election, electoral reform, the breakdown of class politics, and class, race and gender as driving political forces. **Theda Skocpol** will be the discussant.
- Democracy: Determinants and Constraints, on economic development, U.S. civil society, the failure of leadership, and contemporary problems. **Helen Fein** will be the discussant.
- Policy Issues will be discussed by Irving Louis Horowitz, Nathan Glazer, Stephan Thernstrom, Abigail Thernstrom, and Arlene Ash.

Status of Women

- Laura Kramer, Chair of the Committee on the Status of Women, has organized a panel, "Why the ESS Still Needs a Committee on the Status of Women." Participating will be Patricia Yancey Martin, Roberta Spalter-Roth, and Ivy Kennelly.
- Laura and Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, Chair of the Committee on the Status of Minorities, have jointly organized a panel, "Women of Color in the Profession." Panelists will be Shirley Jackson and Nazli Kibria.

Award Sessions

There will be two sessions in which Award winners will present their work.

- Robin M. Williams, Jr. Lecture: Bonnie Thornton Dill, "Intersections, Identities and Inequalities in Higher Education"
- Candace Rogers Student Paper Awardees: Kathleen
 E. Jenkins, "Intimate Diversity: The Presentation of
 Multiculturalism and Multiracialism in the
 International Churches of Christ" and Scott Leon
 Washington, "Social Classification: An Integrative
 Approach"
- Rose Laub Coser Dissertation Proposal Awardee: Alexandra Kalev, "From Policy to Change: The Effect of Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Legislation on Organizations' Workforce Sex Composition, 1980-1999"

Authors Meet Critics

Susan A. Farrell organized nine sessions in which these authors will face and respond to critical colleagues:

- Helen Berger -- A Community of Witches: Contemporary Neo-Pagans and Witches in the United States, University of South Carolina Press
- **Joel Best** -- *Damned Lies and Statistics*, University of California Press
- Christine Bose -- Women in 1900: Gateway to the Political Economy of the 20th Century, Temple University Press
- Jay Demerath -- Crossing the Gods: World Religions and Worldly Politics, Rutgers University Press
- **Douglas Porpora** -- Landscapes of the Soul: The Loss of Moral Meaning in American Life, Oxford University Press
- Susan Reverby -- Tuskegee's Truths: Rethinking the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, University of North Carolina Press
- Barbara Katz Rothman -- The Map of Life: A Personal and Ethical Guide to Race, Normality, and

- the Implications of the Human Genome Project, Beacon Press
- Carmen Sirianni -- Civic Innovation in America: Community Empowerment, Public Policy, and the Movement for Civic Renewal, University of California Press
- Suzanna Walters All the Rage: The Story of Gay Visibility in America, University of Chicago Press

Workshops

- The Art of Collaboration: Pleasures, Pitfalls, and Practicalities, led by Margaret Andersen, Leslie Miller-Bernal, Joan Spade, and Catherine Valentine
- The Clockwork Muse: How to Write Books and Doctoral Dissertations, led by Eviatar Zerubavel
- Teaching in the Face of War and Disaster, led by Patrick Feeney, Cheryl Laz, and Mareleyn Schneider
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Social Sciences: Partners for Improved Public Health, led by Shobha Srinivasan

The ESS Computer Committee workshops

- Using Audio/Video Streaming Technology to Support a Web-Enhanced Curriculum, *led by Robert* Wood
- Teaching with Datasets: Challenges and Opportunities, led by Walter Carroll, Suzanne Morgan, Arthur Paris, Matt Hunt, and Brad Smith
- Pedagogy and the Promise of Sociology, led by Ian Lapp and Suzanne Morgan

COME TO BOSTON!

This year the Annual Meetings will be held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place, located in historic Back Bay in what is called a "walking city."

This is what the hotel website says about Boston -"You won't mistake BOSTON for any other U.S. city. Its
resonant history and rich intellectual and artistic traditions
flourish side by side with Old World ethnic
neighborhoods and cutting-edge technological and
business centers. It's an eminently walkable city, but also
has a very efficient transit system for exploring treasures
such as the Public Garden with its swan boats, Back Bay,
Fenway Park, Harvard Square, venerable Beacon Hill and
that remarkable aggregate of historical landmarks, the
Freedom Trail."

For detailed information about the Boston Marriott Copley Place and Boston sightseeing, restaurants, shopping, and nightlife, start at the ESS website and follow the link to the hotel –

http://www.essnet.org/hotelandroom.htm

For even more information and a printable guide, we recommend the Lonely Planet web site –

"Compact, walkable, historic and clean, Boston blends old-world charm and modern convenience better than many American cities. Disastrous 'urban renewal' in the 1950s provoked such a furious backlash that Boston now has some of the best preserved historic buildings and neighborhoods in the country. In some cases, preservation has crossed the line into Disneyfication: the North End is as neat and tidy as Frontierland, and Faneuil Hall Marketplace is a combo theme park and shopping mall unto itself. But the varnish doesn't stay on too long: with over 50 colleges and universities in the area, Boston's cultural juices are always flowing."

Lonely Planet website -- http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/north_america/boston/

Boston Sociologically By Will Holton, Northeastern University

Boston is an ideal city for a sociological meeting. We have a rich heritage of social history: Puritans to Brahmins to Irish immigrants and many other groups leading to a very diverse urban center in the early 21st century; intergroup conflict with mostly segregated neighborhoods by race and ethnicity; physical development from landfill projects to annexation of independent cities and towns to persisting neighborhood change with invasion and succession, and widespread gentrification in recent decades. Boston today has many exciting elements that are of interest to sociologists in areas such as poverty and homelessness, crime prevention, neighborhood development, religion, social justice, race relations, and many more.

The Eastern Sociological Society meetings will offer tours highlighting some of these issues and participants will have opportunities to explore many aspects of the city. Sign up for the tours at registration. In addition to sociological relevance, Boston offers great food, cultural opportunities, museums, bookstores, and other attractions to visiting sociologists. We look forward to greeting our fellow sociologists and helping them enjoy and learn during their stay with us in Boston.

Sociological Forum in Transition: Comments from the new editor, Robert Max Jackson.

In January 2002, Sociological Forum will move its offices to New York University, and I will begin my duties as its new editor. The official journal of the Eastern Sociological Society, Sociological Forum is beginning its seventeenth year. It is my hope that we can advance the already impressive history of this fine young journal by adapting to the changing publishing world created by computers and the internet and building on the exemplary work of my predecessors, using some new twists on old themes. From its start in 1986 under the founding editor Robin M. Williams, Jr. and its original review editor Charles Tilly, this journal gained an intellectual luster with exceptional speed. From Robin Williams (1986-92), stewardship of the journal passed on to Stephen Cole (1993-95) and Richard H. Hall (1996-2001). (Victor Lidz has generously served as the transitional acting editor of the journal during Fall 2001.) The scholars who guided the journal's exceptional book review section ably backed these journal editors; Charles Tilly (1986-92) was followed by Gary Marx (1992-96), Suzanne Keller (1997-99), and the current book review editors, Jeff Goodwin and James Jasper (who will continue).

From its earliest days, the journal has published a notable mix of contributions from renown sociologists and young upstarts, offering a wide range of empirical research and theoretical arguments. The journal has sustained a special commitment to advancing discourse among sociologists about intellectually and substantively important issues, using symposia effectively to create focused exchanges.

What this heritage means to a new editor was aptly expressed by **Richard Hall**, as he set the aims for his just-completed term as editor. "My editorial plans are quite simple. I plan to continue the initiatives that have already been developed, such as having special issues devoted to timely and controversial topics. I want *Sociological Forum* to be a true forum in which issues are discussed from alternative perspectives. I also want Sociological Forum to be the journal that people want to read the minute it arrives. Sociology should be interesting, even stimulating, to read. These are legacies that are going to be continued." This is such a sensible statement, I won't attempt to construct a better one. I, too, will try to sustain these goals. Simultaneously, we will try to move forward.

Our need to adapt to the practical exigencies of modern publishing and communication is a high priority. The long-term future of academic publishing is unclear,

although we must expect that the not-too-distant future will see an end to printing "hard copy" versions of journals on paper. Recent issues of the journal, from the year 2000 on, are already available over the internet through Kluwer Online (Plenum/Kluwer publishes the journal; the parent company is Dutch and they have housed the internet version of the journal in the Netherlands). We are working to get all the past issues available through JStor.

For now, we want to adopt forward-looking methods of handling the manuscript submission, review, and editorial processes. We will change our procedures to largely "electronic" standards. How will this work? We will ask that authors submit manuscripts in an electronic format (preferably a PDF file, but alternatively in Microsoft Word or Corel WordPerfect format). We will conduct all exchanges with reviewers by email, sending them the manuscript in PDF format and requesting that they return their assessments by email. Once we accept a manuscript for publication, the copy editing will occur on an electronic version and we will transmit it back to the author(s) as a PDF document for final review. As we work out our procedures, details may change, but the broad strokes will probably look like this for the next few years. In practice, these changes should speed and ease the submission, review, and publication of articles, although we will undoubtedly have to contend with mishaps initially.

Sociological Forum's editorial office will help authors and reviewers to adapt to the electronic submissions and review processes. The key person in this instance will be our new Managing Editor, Danielle Bessett. Danielle (an advanced graduate student in the NYU Sociology department) will oversee all stages of the submission and review process. Anyone with questions or difficulties should contact her at the journal office (our email address is sociological.forum@nyu.edu). We will also try to provide complete guidelines and helpful information through the journal's web (www.nyu.edu/pubs/sociological.forum).

More innovative uses of the internet for enhancing the journal are also under consideration. For example, we will explore augmenting journal publications with materials accessible on-line through the journal web site, such as supplementary appendices, further data analyses or descriptive material, data sets, or technically advanced presentations (slide shows, animations, or the like). These "features" would allow authors to provide more material than in a printed article alone and they would let the

journal shift some specialized (but valuable) aspects of articles out of the printed version to reduce costs and enhance general readability. (As editor, I will generally be trying to reduce the length of published articles. All the major sociological journals have adopted a problematic expectation that intellectually consequential articles must have a substantial length, causing most published articles to be longer than they need be.)

We will also explore the development of on-line forums for discussing printed articles or topics they provoke. This will take some effort to make it work effectively, but the opportunity to provide a means for the scholarly community to engage in a public discussion of the work printed in the journal could become the most significant way it fulfills its mission as an intellectual *forum* for sociologists.

While adapting to the internet and electronic communication is a practical priority for the journal, we also will aim to develop its intellectual content. Two considerations place real limits on the scope and direction of our aspirations. First, the journal has already established a remarkable record for the intellectual quality of its articles and authors, particularly given that it is not even two decades old. Second, we cannot realistically aim to displace the two most prominent general-purpose journals in sociology, the *ASR* and *AJS* through direct competition (although we can try to publish outstanding work that they overlook). Still, further development of *Sociological Forum* seems possible if we leverage its flexibility and its commitment to being a forum for discourse among sociologists.

We are now exploring several possible ways to advance these goals. We expect to use the symposium format extensively. We will try to identify the most important or worrisome fault lines in our discipline and have a series of well-organized symposia presenting the arguments around these fault lines. I am also hoping to see some symposia organized around challenges for popular methodological and theoretical perspectives to prove their worth: does commitment to such a perspective largely reflect identity and exclusionary practices or can its advocates convincingly demonstrate that a methodological or theoretical framework produces insights not otherwise achievable?

Besides these symposia, we are considering some publication experiments that can enliven the journal and enlarge the discourse among sociologists. We expect to introduce some regular "columns," in which we will invite scholars—both prominent and young—to write short pieces on some general topics, potentially including: particularly promising new ideas in sociology, pet peeves in scholarship (to unmask superficial fads, blind alleys, and silly pursuits), and recovering lost gems (reflections on outstanding works of the past that have

fallen below the scholarly horizon). We are also hoping to work with a "conversation" format, in which we invite a group of scholars do discuss some issue—in a moderated, electronic context—then publish a distilled version of the exchange. We will also be investigating the possibilities for expanding all these efforts through internet extensions that allow all interested scholars to participate.

How will my personal intellectual biography and outlook influence my work as journal editor? My major work has been historical-theoretical sociology (most important, my books The Formation of Craft Labor Markets and Destined for Equality: The Inevitable Rise of Women's Status). However, my earliest training was intensively mathematical, I have always stressed abstract theoretical modeling, and I am now devoting the greater proportion of my research time to the quantitative analysis of inequality. I believe that distinctions between quantitative and qualitative work, between theoretical and empirical work, or between positivistic and interpretive work are largely illusory and unproductive. Ultimately, what I want to ask about any piece of work is this: what does it tell us that we did not know before? Has the author discovered something new of interest and value by: revealing an empirical relationship no one had previously recognized, providing strong evidence to support or challenge some significant theory or argument, or developing a new theoretical idea that changes the way we might understand some social process? Intellectual discoveries are difficult and it is possible (and easier) to do useful work that does not discover anything new. However, I believe that work that produces substantial discoveries drives the development of knowledge in the discipline and this is the work that we should stress.

These are the ideas that I will bring to Sociological Forum. What ideas do you have? I am interested in hearing people's thoughts on the prospects I have described here and any other ideas they have about ways to develop the journal. Please email your thoughts to the journal (sociological.forum@nyu.edu). I intend to keep the membership of ESS informed about journal developments and I will include a summary of any responses I receive. Remember, we can only be responsive to you if you let us know what you think. And, we are always interested in good ideas.

Deadline for submission of articles for the Spring issue April 1, 2002

YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE DORIS WILKINSON

Eastern Sociological Society Senior Scholar

EASTERN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETINGS THURSDAY MARCH 7, 2001 BOSTON MARRIOTT COPLEY PLACE HOTEL 7:30-9:30 PM

DESSERT RECEPTION

Doris Wilkinson, ESS Past-President and foremost scholar of the sociology of race and ethnic relations, critical race theory, and work, organizations and social change, will be our honored Senior Scholar. Eight of her friends from around the country will celebrate Doris at a reception the first night of the meeting, March 7. They are Delores Aldridge, Emory University; Rodney Coates, Miami University of Ohio; Rutledge Dennis, George Mason University; Leonard Gordon, Arizona State University; Harriette Pipes McAdoo, Michigan State University; Essie Rutledge, Western Illinois University; Ronald Taylor, University of Connecticut; and Sandra Taylor, Clark Atlanta University.

PLEASE JOIN US

Judith Lorber, President Eastern Sociological Society

For information about the ESS Annual Meeting, please go to http://www.essnet.org/annualmeeting.htm

The Employment Center By Walter Broughton, Chair

The Employment Center will be open again at the Boston meetings this March. As in the past, the Center will list vacancies and candidates and provide a place where conversations can be held. Please note that the Center's hours will be from noon to 4:30pm on Friday, March 8th and from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, March 9th.

If you or your organization will be recruiting this spring, please take advantage of the ESS meetings to interview candidates. I especially encourage ESS members in nonacademic settings around Boston to exploit this year's location. Wherever employed, please bring your jobs to the meetings!

Forms for listing vacancies and candidacies are included in this issue of the Newsletter. Employers are encouraged to submit their listings to me at Marywood by February 1st so their vacancies can be posted on the society's website (http://www.essnet.org) prior to the

meetings. We hope this will make it easier for candidates and employers to prearrange interviews at the March meetings. Candidates are asked to submit their forms to me at Marywood by February 22nd so that they can be duplicated and bound; employers will then receive an individual copy of all candidate forms. (We will continue to accept both employer and candidate forms at the meetings.) Please note that the center's services are only available to employers and candidates who have paid the center's registration fee.

Email: broughton@ac.marywood.edu

DEPARTMENTAL MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN OFF TO AN EXCITING START

The response to our Departmental Membership Campaign has been most gratifying. In early December, as I write this report, we have received a check or a firm commitment from thirty-six departments communications from approximately a half dozen more. In dollars these commitments come to approximately \$4,000.00. I am hopeful that between the time I am writing this and the time you read this, we will have added minimally six or more departments and be moving toward the \$5,000.00 mark. Given the number of departments within the Eastern Sociological Society's geographical area, coupled with our scaled suggested membership rates that start at \$50.00 for undergraduate programs, I am still hoping to have a 100 members when we meet in Boston in March. All departments that have signed up by then will be included in our list of Founding Department Members and be publicly thanked by President Lorber and one and all at our Boston meeting. I do want to take this opportunity, however, to thank the following 33 departments that started us off in such a generous way. They deserve our sincerest thanks. Here they are:

> Bard College, Brandeis University CUNY – Graduate Center Clark University Columbia University Connecticut, University of Dartmouth College Delaware, University of Drexel University Gallaudet College George Mason University Harvard University Johns Hopkins University Kent State University Lehigh University Loyola College New Jersey, The College of New York University

Northeastern University Pennsylvania, University of Plattsburg State University Princeton University Providence College Rhode Island College Roanoke College Oueens College, CUNY Saint Joseph's University Saint Vincent College Skidmore College SUNY-Albany SUNY-Farmingdale SUNY – Stony Brook Syracuse University Temple University University of Massachusetts, Amherst Williams College Yale University

Remember, if your department hasn't yet signed on, you have until our Annual Meeting in March. The ESS really does need your support.

Bulletin Board

CALL FOR PAPERS SWS CHERYL MILLER AWARD

Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) has established an award for graduate students and recent Ph.D.s working in the area of women and paid work – employment and self-employment, informal market work, illegal work. The award is supported by a bequest from the family of the late **Cheryl Allyn Miller**, a sociologist and feminist who studied women and paid work.

The purpose of the award is to recognize a sociology graduate student or a recent doctorate whose research or activism constitutes an outstanding contribution to the field of **women and work.** This contribution may take the form of scholarly or policy research or activism. It may be completed work or work-in-progress, but should not be a proposal for future work, and should be sufficiently close to completion that the applicant can concisely describe and contextualize the contribution to the field.

The award is \$500, and will be presented at the Banquet at the August SWS meeting. The winner may present her or his work at the meeting. Fare to the meeting will be paid by SWS.

THE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

APPLICANTS MUST BE GRADUATE STUDENTS OR HAVE RECEIVED THEIR PH.D. IN 2001 OR 2002. APPLICANTS MUST BELONG TO SWS. Applicants may join at the same time they apply

for the award. For information on joining, please consult the SWS Web site: www.socwomen.org.

Submissions must include a 2-3 page *curriculum vitae*, a cover page with the author's name, affiliation, and contact information, an abstract and paper of article length (no more than 30 double-spaced pages, including bibliography) in a style suitable for submission to a scholarly journal. The abstract/cover page should include applicant's name, address, telephone number, email address, and, for applicants with their Ph.D., the date the Ph.D. was completed. Applicants must submit materials on their own behalf. Do not include any nominating letters

Applications must be postmarked by May 15, 2002. Send three (3) copies of all application materials. (If possible, please print on both sides to save paper and mailing costs.)

MAIL TO: Dr. **Linda M. Blum**, Department of Sociology, Horton Social Science Center, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824-3586. Please address any questions via email: lmblum@cisunix.unh.edu

CALL FOR PAPERS Sociological Practice: A Journal of Clinical and Applied Sociology

This is a call for papers for a special issue, "Impact of Contemporary Theory on Sociological Practice." The issue will focus on contemporary theorists who have or should have significant impact on sociological practice assessing their influence on, for example, practitioner goals, values, client selection, intervention strategies, theoretical orientations, methodologies, ethics, organization or the status of sociology as a discipline, Deadline March 1, 2002. Submit papers to **Bob Dotzler**, SP Guest Editor, 1216 Lago Road, Chesapeake, VA 23322 USA. See "Instructions for Contributors" on the Sociological Practice Association website: Http://www/socpractice.org. For additional information contact the guest editor at dotzler@erols.com.



Boston Harbor

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FUTURE ESS ANNUAL MEETINGS

2002 March 7-10

Marriott Copley Place Boston, MA

2003 Feb. 27- Mar. 2

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