

Newsletter

Southwestern Sociological Association

“Place Your Bets”:

88th Annual SSSA Conference a Success

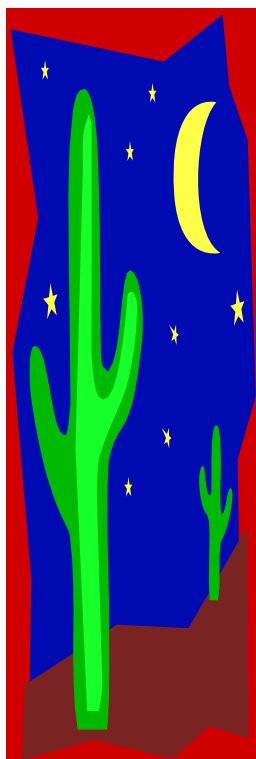
The Southwestern Social Sciences Association held its annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada from March 12—15, 2008. We increased our participation numbers in paper and poster sessions, raised money for the American Sociological Association’s Minority Fellowship Fund, and took in the Vegas sites!

Our 2009 annual meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado at the Grand Hyatt-Downtown and the 2010 Southwestern Social Sciences Association annual meeting is scheduled for Houston, Texas.

Late Spring 2008

Special points of interest:

We are looking into moving our SSA website to reduce costs and centralize information for our members. As information becomes available, we will distribute to our members.

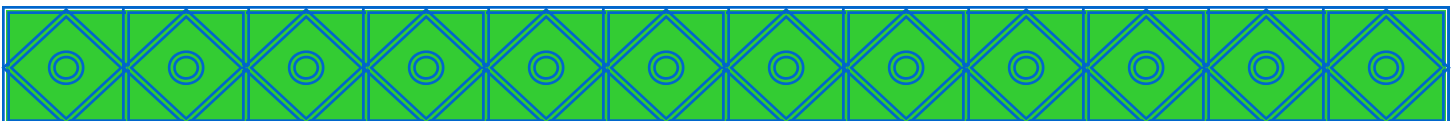


Call for 2009 Session Organizers

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as an organizer, participant, and/or moderator of the Southwestern Social Sciences Association/Southwestern Sociological Association 2009 conference in Denver, Colorado, we would like to know. Each year, we are pleased to have the support of our colleagues. Look for posted sessions on our website and in the Fall 2008 newsletter.

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Executive Committee for 2008-2009:

President	Janet Huber Lowry (2009), Austin College; jlowry@austincollege.edu
President-Elect	Sara Towe Horsfall, Texas Wesleyan University; shorsfall@txwes.edu
Vice-President	Karen Manges Douglas, Sam Houston State University; kmdouglas@sbcglobal.net
Secretary-Treasurer	Ed Rossman, US Army Corps of Engineers; Edwin.J.Rossman@usace.army.mil
Past Presidents	Robyn Driskell, Baylor University (2008); Robyn_Driskell@baylor.edu Cherylon Robinson, University of Texas San Antonio (2007); Cherylon.Robinson@utsa.edu
Executive Council	Nadine Barrett, University of Central Florida, (2007—2009); Njbarret@mail.ucf.edu Lisa Zottarelli, Texas Women's University, (2007—2009); LZottarelli@mail.twu.edu Amanda Baumle, University of Houston, (2008—2010); amandabaumle@hotmail.com Sherry McKibben, University of Texas, Permian Basin, (2008—2010); Mckibben_s@utpb.edu
Student Members	Bev Carlsen-Landy, Texas Woman's University, (2008—2009); bcarlsenlandy@twu.edu Allison Elmer, University of Texas, San Antonio; aelmer1234@hotmail.com Lyndsay Patty, University of North Texas; lpatty@pacs.unt.edu

Find us on the Web!

Association Home Page:
<http://www.swsociology.org/>

Other Officers and Program Chairs:

Program Chair	Sara Towe Horsfall, Texas Wesleyan University; shorsfall@txwes.edu
Nominations, Distinguished Papers, & Department Awards	Robyn Driskell, Baylor University; Robyn_Driskell@Baylor.edu
Elections	Beverly Stiles, Midwestern State University; Beverly.stiles@mwsu.edu
Silent Auction	Karen Manges Douglas, Sam Houston State University; kmdouglas@sbcglobal.net
Student Awards	Nadine Barrett, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; nbarrett@schr.unc.edu
Membership Maintenance	Janet Huber Lowry, Austin College; jlowry@austincollege.edu
Historian & Parliamentarian	Robert Beckley, West Texas A&M; rbeckley@mail.wtamu.edu
Web Master	Emily LaBeff, Midwestern University; emily.labeff@mwsu.edu
Editor, SSA Newsletter	Janet Armitage, St. Mary's University; jarmitage1@stmarytx.edu



88th Annual SSA Meeting in Las Vegas a Success

The 88th annual SSA meeting had 361 papers presented in 83 sessions for 2008, including poster and photo sessions. Our plenary speaker, Dr. Howard J. Silver, Ph.D., delivered an exceptional address, entitled "The Social Sciences and Science Policy."

Dr. Silver serves as the Executive Director of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) in Washington, DC, a position he has held since 1988. The Consortium, supported by over 110 professional associations, scientific societies, universities and research institutes, promotes attention to and federal funding for the social, behavioral, and economic sciences and serves as a bridge between the research community and the Washington policy making community. Dr. Silver has testified before Congress, spoken at many professional meetings on federal funding of science, and written extensively on executive-legislative relations, the federal budget process, and science policy as it affects the social and behavioral sciences.



Silent Auction

The annual Silent Auction brought in a total of \$585.00 for donated books, Texas Rangers and Six Flags Arlington tickets, and various artifacts. Several student members—Alison Elmer, Rachel Rayburn, and Scott Larson—assisted. These donated funds go to support the American Sociological Association's Minority Fellowship Program.

Norma Williams Award Goes to Elizabeth Esterchild

The Norma Williams Award recognizes an SSA member, in good standing for 10 years, who has provided ongoing service to the SSA through meeting participation and student mentoring. The 2008 Committee, appointed by the President, recognized Dr. Elizabeth Esterchild for her worthwhile contributions, notably with women in the SSA.

SSA Paper Awards

- ◆ The SSA Distinguished Paper honor was awarded to Professors Alessandro Bannanno and Robert J. Antonio for their paper, "Globalization and Contradictions of the Reorganization of Time and Space." A \$500 cash award was presented to the authors.
- ◆ Three student papers received recognition and \$200 awards at the 2008 SSA annual meeting.
- ◆ The outstanding doctoral-level paper was awarded to Wes Hinze of Baylor University for a paper entitled, "Social Trust, Trust in Muslims, and American Religion."
- ◆ The prize for outstanding masters-level paper was awarded to Jennifer Fackler of University of Houston for a paper entitled, "'I'm just not a beggar . . .': Stigma Management Among Houston's Homeless."
- ◆ The prize for outstanding undergraduate-level paper was awarded to Amber Fox of Texas A & M University-Commerce for a paper entitled, "The Effects of Family Background on Educational Attainment."

Congratulations to our 2008 winners!



In Memoriam: Charles M. Bonjean, Ph.D.

Dr. Charles Bonjean, 72, a beloved member of the Department of Sociology at University of Texas-Austin died February 20, 2008 of natural causes. Dr. Bonjean was a former President of the Southwestern Social Sciences Association and a retired Executive Director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health at UT. As a sociologist, Bonjean's interests encompassed formal organizations, sociology of the community, evaluation research, and mental health. He was a reputable researcher with more than 65 books, articles, chapters, and book reviews to his name. As an SSA colleague, Bonjean worked for women's interests. Those wishing to commemorate Dr. Charles M. Bonjean may make a memorial contribution in his honor to the charity of their choice.

SSA New Business

- ◆ "Survey Monkey" was used for the first time in an SSA Executive Council elections in 2008. Many members provided valuable and positive feedback.
- ◆ Two ASA Representatives, Arne Kallenberg and Jean Shin, attended our 2008 SSA Executive Council Meetings. They reported that sociology is doing well as a discipline as reflected in ASA membership.
- ◆ The SSA 2009 annual meeting will offer monetary awards for poster session winners given its 2008 success. Congratulations to the 2008 session contributors: Julie Snyder, Jason P. Dunnington, Mark Smith, and Rodney Neal.
- ◆ An amendment change was proposed regarding the Student Representative(s) on Executive Council. The proposed amendment read:

"With the exception of the student representative member, to be eligible for nomination for office in the Association, the member shall be a member of the Association for two preceding years and a member of the SSSA. To be eligible for nomination for the student representative, a nominee must be a student currently in good standing in an academic program and be a member of the Association one preceding year and a member of the SSSA."

Call-for-Papers: 2009 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado

The 89th annual SSA meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado. Please remain in contact with the Association for updates regarding calls for session organizers and papers.

Southwestern Sociological Association

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Don't forget!

- ◆ *Select sociology as your affiliate when you renew your membership. Remind colleagues that this is important.*
- ◆ *Report SSA newsletter information and concerns.*

We're on the web!

*http://
www.swsociology.org*

