



From the President's Corner

Ed Nelson

We had a great meeting at the Mission Inn in Riverside last November. Be sure to put aside the dates of our 2009 meeting at the DoubleTree in the Berkeley Marina on November 13 and 14.

Our President-Elect, Chuck Powers, had to resign due to conditions beyond his control. Our constitution/bylaws indicate that the President appoints a person to fill out Chuck's term. After consulting with the Council, I have appointed Jacqueline Carrigan (CSU Sacramento) as our new President-Elect. A big thank you to Jackie for her willingness to take on this important position!

The 2009 annual meeting will again feature a keynote speaker on Friday evening followed by our buffet dinner. You won't want to miss this meeting so save the dates on your calendar.

We have our 2010, 2011, and 2012 meetings already set. The 2010 and 2012 meetings will be back at the Mission Inn in Riverside, and the 2011 meeting will be back at the DoubleTree in the Berkeley Marina.

Our membership remains strong with 161 dues-paying members. Attendance at our annual conference continues to grow. Last year we had 188 registrants at our conference in Riverside.

This spring we will be conducting a membership drive. My goal is to have a membership chair at each CSU, UC, private university, and community college campus. If you would like to volunteer to be your campus' membership chair, please email me (ednelson@csufresno.edu), and I'll let you know if the position is vacant on your campus. We would really appreciate your help on this membership drive.

Thanks to all who helped at our annual conference last year and to all who attended. We'll see you again on November 13th and 14th in Berkeley.

**California Sociological Association
2009 Annual Meeting
November 13 and 14.
DoubleTree Berkeley Marina**

**Send proposals for sessions, panels, workshops, and abstracts
of papers to**

**Jacqueline Carrigan
carrigan@csus.edu**

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Enriquez**

Call for Sessions 2009 Annual Meeting

The next annual conference will be held November 13th and 14th, 2009 at the DoubleTree Berkeley Marina Conference Center. Now is the time to organize sessions or panels, or to submit research papers for presentation. The California Sociological Association meeting provides a wonderful opportunity to interact with sociologists from all over the state. Because the gathering is smaller than the ASA and regional conferences, there is more discussion in more informal settings.

The CSA met at this hotel in 1993, 1999, 2007. It combines the beauty of a quiet bayside resort with proximity to the UC Berkeley campus and the city of San Francisco. Many of our members are eager to return.

The CSA has a tradition of broad involvement. There will be sessions for undergraduate and graduate student presentations. Applied sociologists and community college teachers are encouraged to participate.

The costs are reasonable. Regular membership is \$40 a year and the conference registration is \$45 for early registration and \$55 for walk-ins. (Membership for less than full-time employed members and students.)

Plan to attend the annual CSA conference and encourage your colleagues and students to participate.

For more information on the CSA, contact Ed Nelson, Department of Sociology SS97, 5340 N. Campus Drive, Fresno CA 93740-9019, 559 278-2275 or ednelson@csufresno.edu.



California Sociological Association Newsletter

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The California Sociological Association Newsletter is a publication of the California Sociological Association, a not-for-profit organization that represents members in the fields of education, research, sociological practice and government service.

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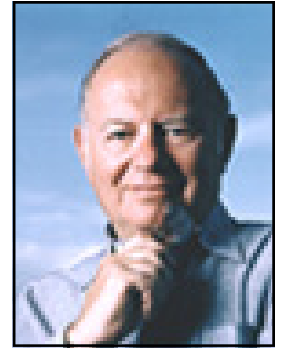
www.csufresno.edu/csa

THE NEW PRAGMATISM: Coping with America's Overwhelming Problems

Daniel Yankelovich, CSA Keynote Address

Riverside, California, November 7, 2008

Gordon Clanton
San Diego State University
gclanton@mail.sdsu.edu



In one of the most ambitious and stimulating CSA keynote speeches ever, the renowned pollster and public opinion analyst, Daniel Yankelovich, embraced our conference theme of "Applying Sociology to Societal Issues" and strongly encouraged engagement around the great challenges that face our nation and the world.

Severe problems confront us: the economic crisis, the growing national debt, loss of US standing in the world, global warming, etc., but, says Dan, we have overcome equal or greater threats in the past. Our problems are solvable, but our nation's problem-solving skills have eroded.

Our hope, says Dan, lies with development of a New Pragmatism, a distinctively American philosophy of the practical that transcends partisanship and heightens cooperation. Rooted in the writings of Charles Sanders Peirce, William James, John Dewey, and George Herbert Mead, the New Pragmatism is value-driven and reformist but also has a strong methodological bent and a commitment to social experimentation.

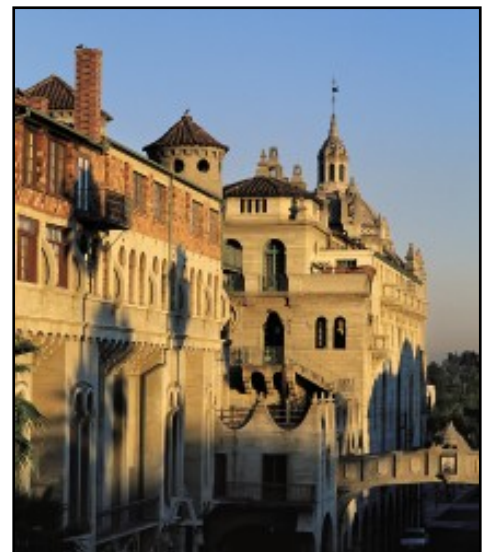
A pragmatic approach, Dan insists, is inescapably interdisciplinary: Very few big social problems arrange themselves neatly according to the contours of our academic specializations. The New Pragmatism can help with such problems as our dependence on foreign oil (consider the Pickens plan), dysfunctional schools (consider charter schools), and the housing crisis (consider subsidizing primary mortgage buyers who owe more than their houses are worth). Sociologists can contribute by combining a broad, integrative framework with targeted empirical research and advocacy.

Dan's speech (with outstanding PowerPoint slides) and the socializing that followed were the high points of a very successful annual meeting. Dan also joined the CSA panel on "The 2008 Presidential Election and the American Future." He sees Obama's victory more as a "throw the rascals out" election than as a major ideological re-alignment.

Daniel Yankelovich is Founder and Chairman of three organizations: Viewpoint Learning, Inc., DYG, Inc., and Public Agenda, co-founded with Cyrus Vance in 1975. To learn more, go to www.danyankelovich.com/.

Many Thanks to those who contributed to the 2008 conference:

CSU Northridge
 CSU Fresno
 CSU Dominguez Hills
 San Diego State University
 Humboldt State University
 Santa Clara University
 CSU Channel Islands



Student Award 2008—Laura Enriquez

Gilda L. Ochoa, Associate Professor, Sociology and Chicana/o-Latina/o Studies

With the current presidency of Patricia Hill Collins and the recent election of Evelyn Nakano Glenn in the American Sociological Association, this is an exciting time in sociology and an indication that those in the field are recognizing the crucial work of critical sociologists who are engaged in the movement for social justice and are expanding our understanding of the intersections of race/ethnicity, class, and gender. It is with this optimism for the discipline that I nominated Laura Enriquez for the 2008 CSA Outstanding Student Award. Laura was a student in both sociology and history at Pomona College from 2004–2008 and is now in graduate school in the Department of Sociology at UCLA. At Pomona College, I was Laura’s advisor, and I saw in her the qualities of an ideal sociologist – determination, an awareness of societal issues, a commitment to social justice, and excellent critical thinking, analytical, and methodological skills.

Throughout her time at Pomona College, Laura focused her work on education, undocumented immigrants, and Latinas/os. As a first year student, she excelled in her first sociology class -- an upper division seminar on Los Angeles Communities. In this course, she submitted an outstanding final paper where she conducted in-depth interviews with members of her family and connected their histories of migration and work with the larger social, political, and economic factors influencing other Mexican American families. She continued expanding on these interests with additional coursework in her sophomore and junior years, and as a senior she produced a thesis that was awarded distinction at graduation. In “Una Mano No Se Lava Sola: The Educational Experiences of Undocumented Latina/o College Students,” she skillfully combined qualitative research and relevant literature to capture the exclusion and resistance of undocumented Latina/o students as they navigate through the educational pipeline.

Not only did I have the opportunity to see Laura excel in the classroom, but she was also a dedicated research assistant on two of my projects. During the summer of her junior year, Laura read and provided invaluable comments on drafts of a book that I was completing – *Learning from Latino Teacher* (Jossey Bass Publishers 2007). Based on her thoughtful contributions, I asked Laura to work with me on a research project involving Asian American/Pacific Islander and Latina/o high school students. As part of this project, she produced excellent field notes and detailed interviews. She also took the initiative to carve-out her own focus on the project – the hierarchies within the International Baccalaureate Program at the school understudy. From this research, she produced a compelling paper where she explored the salience of race, class, gender, and sexuality for students in the program. Based on our work together, we are now in the process of collaborating on a co-authored paper on the construction of social, academic, and opportunity gaps for Latina/o and Asian American/Pacific Islander students.



Along with maintaining a high GPA in her double sociology and history majors and producing outstanding research, Laura also worked for Pomona College’s Summer Scholars Enrichment Program (SSEP) for high school students. For four summers and two academic years, Laura devoted tremendous amounts of time to expanding the educational opportunities for first generation, working class, and students of color. She was a teaching assistant in the month-long summer program for high school students where she taught her own sociology courses, and she coordinated sessions on financial aide and helped students select and apply to colleges. She was also the student member of the SSEP Steering Committee. She easily juggled all of these responsibilities and commitments while still being recognized as a Pomona Scholar for her academic excellence.

Laura has been recognized with many awards for her accomplishments, including a Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Diversity Fellowship, selection to the American Sociological Association Undergraduate Honors Program, and Honorable Mention from the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. These early successes bode well for her future, but it is her commitment to social change research that I find most encouraging for the future of sociology.

The CSA Keynote Quiz

Gordon Clanton, San Diego State University
gclanton@mail.sdsu.edu

The CSA has a proud history of high-quality keynote speakers. Test your knowledge of CSA keynoters/guests of honor.

Which CSA keynote speaker:

1. Wrote and updated the classic book, *Who Rules America?*
2. Hosts a radio program that plays and discusses labor and protest songs?
3. Founded Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), was married to Jane Fonda, and served in the California Legislature?
4. Writes for the *Sacramento Bee* on California issues?
5. Served thirty years in the California Legislature, known as the “Conscience of California”?
6. Was president of the American Sociological Association?
Clue: Three of these.
7. Was the Founding President of CSA in 1990?
8. Was another CSA past-president, for decades a leading voice in sociological theory, minority group relations, sociology of emotions, and quick quips?
9. Was invited to Camp David by Jimmy Carter and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from Bill Clinton?
10. With a focus on love and marriage, was a co-author with Robert Bellah of *Habits of the Heart*?
11. Interviewed Jimmy Carter for *Playboy* magazine, columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*, creator of the progressive blog *Truthdig*?
12. Is a leading national authority on immigration and minority group relations, from UCSD, SDSU, now at University of Michigan?
13. Recently left UC Riverside to become a dean at the University of Oregon?
14. Was an early CSA president and prolific textbook author with the gifts of a stand-up comic?
15. Were two leading researchers on changing female and male roles in modern society? *Clue:* One guy, one gal.
16. Was the most influential pollster and public opinion analyst of the 20th century?

ANSWERS: 1. William Domhoff. 2. Richard Flacks. 3. Tom Hayden. 4. Dan Walters 5. John Vasconcellos. 6. Neil Smelser, Michael Burawoy, and Troy Duster. 7. Chuck Hohm. 8. Jonathan Turner. 9. Robert Bellah. 10. Ann Swidler. 11. Robert Scheer. 12. Ruben Rumbaut. 13. Scott Coltrane. 14. Earl Babbie. 15. Michael Messner and Barrie Thorne. 16. Daniel Yankelovich.

With apologies to Dr. Joyce Brothers:

- * If you got eight right, you are better informed than most CSA members.
- * If you got nine to twelve right, you are CSA hero. I salute you.
- * If you got more than twelve right, you probably are as old as I am.

Upcoming Conferences

Pacific Sociological Association
“Shifting Foundations of Inequality”

April 8-11, 2009

Weston Gaslamp Quarter
Downtown San Diego
www.pacificsoc.org

American Sociological
Association

“New Politics of Community”

August 8-11

San Francisco
www.asanet.org

New Officers and Council Members 2008-009

The California Sociological Association has a governing council made up of the Executive Board and seven Governors-at-Large who represent constituency groups. Each year we elect a new President Elect who serves as program chair for the conference that year and becomes the president the following year. Each year the Association elects some new officers so there is always continuity on the governing board.

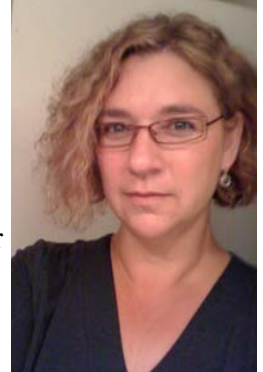
At the end of the 2008 annual meeting in November, Ed Nelson became the president for 2008-09. Charles Powers was elected President Elect but had to resign due to conditions beyond his control, and Jacqueline Carrigan (who had been Vice President-North for two years) was appointed to be President Elect and Program Chair for the 2009 conference.

Two regional vice-presidents are elected for two-year terms. One represents members Kern county and south, and the other represents the northern region. The vice-president assists the program chair when the annual conference is held in his/her region, and then serves as secretary for the organization the next year. Tony Waters was elected Vice President North for 2008-10.

In addition to these officers, a seven-member Governing Council representing the constituency groups in the association is elected to three-year terms. The constituency groups are undergraduate students, graduate students, practitioners, community colleges, private colleges and universities, the California State University System, and the University of California. (The complete council is listed on the back of this newsletter.)

Here are short biographies of the new representatives to the council:

Jackie Carrigan, President Elect, is originally from New Mexico. She received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Colorado, Boulder, with an emphasis in demography. Her research interests are health and inequality with a focus on health behaviors, particularly social class differences in diet. For the last several years, however, she has become more involved in applied sociology through her affiliation with the Institute for Social Research on the Sac State campus. She has done evaluation projects for government agencies and for nonprofits. This year she became Associate Director of the Institute for Social Research. She is very active in a local nonprofit school called "The Marxist School of Sacramento." She teaches courses and leads discussion groups, as well as planning the curriculum and other administrative tasks.



Tony Waters, Vice President North, is Professor of Sociology at California State University, Chico. He was department chair from 2002-2006. He has a Ph.D. degree from UC Davis (Sociology 1995), M.S. Degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (Biological Sciences 1986). He has broad interests in Sociology, and recently published *When Killing is a Crime* (Lynne Rienner 2007), and *The Persistence of Subsistence Agriculture: Life Beneath the Level of the Marketplace* (Lexington Books 2007). He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand in the early 1980s, and then worked in refugee relief programs in Thailand and Tanzania for six years. In addition to his teaching at Chico State, he has been a guest professor in Germany and Tanzania. He is originally from Sacramento.

Laura Nichols, representative for the private colleges and universities, is associate professor of sociology and chair of the department at Santa Clara University where she has been since 2000. Laura's areas of specialty are applied sociology and inequalities, and she especially enjoys working with undergraduate students and community organizations to complete needed applied research projects. Currently she is studying the cultural capital utilization of premed-intended first-generation college students.



Robert S. Palacio is representative of the California State Universities. Since receiving his Ph.D. in sociology from UC Berkeley (1980), Professor has pursued a career that combines university teaching and applied research. From 1985 to 1987, he was on staff with the California Master Plan for Higher Education Commission. In 1987-88, he was a CSU Academic Fellow with the Field Institute. In 2002-2003 he was a Research Scientist with the Applied Research Center at California State University, Bakersfield. In addition to teaching and research, Professor Palacio is currently serving as Chair of the Department of Sociology and Director of the Center for the Study of Social Life in the San Joaquin Valley.



Professor Palacio's areas of specialization include urban/community studies, social problems and applied sociology. He has been principal investigator and director of field studies on numerous research projects focusing on community and regional issues in the central San Joaquin Valley. He is a frequent presenter at professional organizations and author of numerous reports and monographs addressing social problems and public policy.

Member News and Notes

Toby Ewing (Council rep for practitioners) contacted us to give us his new address. This is what he said:

Last week the Governor appointed me as the director of the California Research Bureau. The Bureau is modeled after the Congressional Research Service and serves the Governor, the Legislature and the constitutional officers. We have about 25 staff, including a mix of Ph.D.s and other researchers, librarians and support staff. The CRB has been around for about 18 years and has done a considerable amount of policy analyses that focus on state and local issues. Typically a state official calls us and asks us to help them explore a particular policy challenge and we work to frame sufficient understanding of the issue that decision-makers have the right knowledge-base to make informed policy decisions. We also partner with outside experts - including academia - and consultants when we need to fill a particular knowledge base. It's a great job and right there between policy and academia.

.....
Please send me all your news—publications, honors, promotions, new jobs, retirements.

Send to elizn@csufresno.edu.

CSA Executive Board and Governing Council 2008-09

<p>President (2008-09) Ed Nelson CSU, Fresno (559) 278-2275 ednelson@csufresno.edu</p>	<p>President Elect (2008-09) Jacqueline Carrigan CSU, Sacramento 916 278-6801 carrigan@csus.edu</p>	<p>Vice President-South (2007-09) William E Wagner III CSU, Channel Islands (805) 437-3314 billy.wagner@csuci.edu</p>	<p>Vice President-North (2008-10) Tony Waters CSU, Chico (530) 898-6384 twaters@csuchico.edu</p>
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<p>University of California (2007-10) Michael Johnston UCLA Center for East-West Medicine johnston@ucla.edu</p>	<p>Community Colleges (2007-10) J. Vern Cromartie Contra Costa College (510) 235-7800, ext. 4537 j.vern_cromartie@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Private College & Universities (2008-11) Laura Nichols Santa Clara University (408) 551-7131 lnichols@scu.edu</p>	<p>Practitioners (2007-10) Toby Ewing California Research Bureau Ph. 916-653-8303 (direct) Ph. 916-653-7843 (main) tewing@library.ca.gov</p>
<p>Undergraduate Students (2008-09) [Vacant]</p>	<p>Graduate Students (2008-09) Lianna Hart UCLA lianna.hart@gmail.com</p>		<p>Immediate Past President (2008-09) Judith Little Humboldt State University (707) 826-4561 jkl1@humboldt.edu</p>

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