

# CSA Newsletter

California Sociological Association

Volume 1, January, 2002

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## CSA12: THE BEST OF TIMES, THE WORST OF TIMES

*By Jim Glynn (Madera College)*

"Hell, no!" Dan Walters responded to a question as to whether he'd consider running for political office. "Would a proctologist want to be an..." Dan was the keynote speaker at the Friday luncheon of the CSA's twelfth annual meetings in Sacramento in October 2001. Previous to the question and answer session, he talked about the changing demographics of our state and how they are affecting our economy and politics. In my opinion, it was one of the best keynote addresses that we've had; unfortunately relatively few members were present to benefit from the observations of this seasoned political pundit.

At Saturday's lunch, an even smaller group listened to the analyses and opinions of Gordon Clanton (San Diego State University), Susan Garfin (Sonoma State University), Shoon Lio (UC Riverside), and Diane Beeson (CSU Hayward) on the events of September 11th and their aftermath. CSA President Jonathan Turner (UC Riverside) presided over both events.

Garfin's comments about new religious movements supplemented the historical background of the Middle East that was elaborated by Clanton. Lio tried to get the audience to understand the "definition of the situation" within a number of possible frameworks, while Beeson called on all of us to be patient and to consider the long-term consequences of how we react to this national tragedy. Overall, the conference stimulated a great deal of rumination and left us all thirsting for more information and examination.

The downside was that membership turnout was poor. In the past, the Holiday Inn, Capitol Plaza, has been a great venue for the CSA. However, a confluence of factors seemed to conspire this year to keep people from attending our annual meetings. First, we're facing the real possibility of a deep recession in California, and money is tight at all colleges and universities. Second, most of our members work and live in Southern California, and Sacramento is in the north. Third, because of recent events, many people were either afraid to fly or wanted to avoid the prolonged security checks at airports. Finally, it is likely that people from San Diego or the Los Angeles area could not justify an eight-to-twelve hour drive for a two-day conference. Each of the above is understandable and forgivable. However, the net result was a backbreaking assault on our bank account.

The positive part of the annual occasion was that we had a full and varied slate of presentations, good meals, and wonderful luncheon programs. We'll all have to work harder to assure that next year's meetings will generate the kind of membership participation that we came to expect before the assault of September 11, 2001, and the continuing terrorism and government reaction. Please start planning now to become actively involved. If you have an idea for a presentation or session, contact Harvey Rich, our new president-elect, at CSU Northridge. To survive this year's catastrophe the CSA will need the cooperation of all supporters.



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## California Sociological Association Newsletter

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The California Sociological Association Newsletter is distributed to all members who are in good standing with the Association. Unsolicited articles, book reviews, and letters are invited and should be mailed to the editor  
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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Elizabeth Nelson, CSU Fresno*

Thanks to everyone who helped with the successful 2001 meetings in Sacramento. Special thanks to Jim Glynn who continued to work hard on the program long after he resigned in January and to Valerie Callanan who agreed to be the new Executive Director. Thanks to all of you who coordinated the program, organized sessions, presented papers, or led roundtable discussions; as well as to the other volunteers who handled the many tasks that a successful meeting requires. Like other voluntary associations, the success of the CSA depends on the number and the quality of participants--the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. (Although our 2001 attendance was lower than previous years, some larger associations experienced even greater decreases. I think we had more participants than previous years, but that's hard to calculate accurately. At least I felt I had great cooperation from people, and most of the work was done on time without nagging from me!)

Plans for the 2002 meeting at the Mission Inn in Riverside are underway. Please contact program chair Harvey Rich (CSU Northridge) hrich@csun.edu if you have suggestions and proposals for sessions or papers. The two-day CSA meetings, alternating between northern and southern California, provide great opportunities to organize sessions, present papers, and lead roundtable discussions. The format is flexible, our philosophy inclusive, and the fees are modest. Our new Executive Director, Valerie Callanan (with continued support from Jim Glynn, Executive Director Emeritus) is working hard to make sure we get a good deal on hotel, rooms and meals. The Mission Inn is a fascinating historical place to spend a few days with colleagues. We encourage wide participation by faculty, practitioners, and both graduate and undergraduate students. This would be a good time for each of us to reach out to practitioners and to faculty in non-sociology departments who often feel isolated from the discipline. Our annual program welcomes proposals for sessions from practitioners of various sorts and from sociologists teaching in criminology, women's studies, ethnic studies, and other programs. Please post the announcement of the 2002 meetings and encourage your associates to submit proposals.

As usual, the Executive Board and Governing Council of the CSA will meet at the PSA meetings in Vancouver in 2002. Please let me know of anything that ought to be considered by the Board at that time.

Thanks for your participation and support for the CSA.

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## CHANGES MADE TO CSA BY-LAWS

By Jim Glynn (Madera College)

At the joint meeting of the Executive Board and the Governing Council on Thursday, October 18, several changes to the By-Laws were suggested and unanimously approved. The purpose of the changes was to increase the efficiency of the organization in its everyday operations.

Article IV was appended in order to include the Association's Archivist(s) as part of the Governing Board. It was felt that the person or persons who occupy this position will help the organization to maintain an institutional memory. As the Association gradually ages, it will be increasingly difficult to have good records of our previous actions.

Article V was supplemented. Previously, it was solely the responsibility of the President to develop an annual ballot for all elective positions. The feelings of the members were that, as the organization grows and changes, the President will require help from a Nominating Committee. Under our new by-laws, the President will be assisted by the Past President and the President-Elect. In selecting nominees, this committee is charged with looking carefully at prior service to the Association as the major criterion.

Article VI was changed to reflect the realities associated with terms of office. The new Executive Director will serve a three-year term, and the term is renewable. Governors-at-large will continue to serve for three years, except for Governors-at-large who represent graduate and undergraduate students. Those terms of office were reduced to one year.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CSA STUDENT AWARDS

Colleagues . . . the CSA gives an undergraduate student award and a graduate student award at the CSA annual meeting. Below are the guidelines for these awards. Please nominate one or more of your deserving students.

### The Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award:

This award is designed to honor a current California undergraduate student (or one who has graduated within the year preceding the CSA meeting for which s/he has been nominated for the award) who meets the following criteria:

- a) Has completed 9 units of Sociology with a GPA of at least 3.0.
- b) Has earned distinction in any of the following ways:
  1. Outstanding scholarship
  2. Outstanding community and/or school service
  3. A combination of the above

All nominations must be made by current CSA members. Nominations for this award should be submitted in triplicate to a committee chair who will be selected by the CSA President. That committee chair will select a small committee representing as broadly as possible, the CSA is various constituencies and geographical regions. The committee chair will solicit nominations for the award in a timely fashion via email or newsletter or other notification to the membership.

Nominations should include the following information:

- a) full name, address, phone and email address for the nominee
- b) a summary of student's college career including schools attended, number of units of sociology completed and sociology GPA, major, and (if known) future school or career plans.
- c) a clear statement of basis on which the nomination is made with as much supporting detail as possible (and possibly other letters of recommendation).

### The Distinguished Graduate Student Award:

This award is designed to honor a current graduate student enrolled in a California 4-year college or university (or one who has completed an MA or Ph.D. degree within the year preceding the CSA meeting for which s/he has been nominated to receive an award). The student should meet the following criteria:

- a) Be enrolled in (or have completed within the past year) a course of graduate study in Sociology.
- b) S/he should have completed 20 graduate units of Sociology with a gpa of at least 3.5.
- c) S/he should have distinguished her/himself in any of the following ways:
  1. Outstanding scholarship and publication
  2. Outstanding community, professional, and/or school service
  3. A combination of the above

All nominations must be made by current CSA members. Nominations for this award should be submitted in triplicate. Nominations should include the following information:

- a) full name, address, phone and email for the nominee
- b) a summary of the nominee's graduate career including schools attended, number of graduate units of sociology completed and GPA, major, and (if known) future study or career plans.
- c) a clear statement of basis on which the nomination is made with as much supporting detail as possible (and possibly other letters of recommendation).

Please send your nominations and supporting materials to:

*Chuck Hohm, Department of Sociology  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA 92182-4423  
Phone (619) 594-1316  
FAX (619) 594-1325  
Email: [chohm@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:chohm@mail.sdsu.edu)*

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## SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### National and regional

January 23-26, 2002. American Association of American Colleges and Universities. Washington, D. C. Theme: Students in a Changing World: Culturally Diverse, Economically Divided, Globally Independent. Website: <http://www.aacu-edu.org/>.

February 1-3, 2002. Popular Culture Association/American Culture, Regional Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada. Contact: Felicia Campbell, Department of English, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada. Telephone: 702-895-3457. FAX: 702-895-4801. E-mail: [raksha@nevada.edu](mailto:raksha@nevada.edu).

February 11-13, 2002. American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Las Vegas, Nevada. Website: <http://www.aabss.org/>.

February 14-17, 2002. Sociologists for Women in Society. New Orleans, Louisiana. Theme: Teaching and Learning for Change. Website: <http://www.newmedia.colorado.edu/socwomen/>.

February 15-17, 2002. African American Studies Annual Conference. Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Theme: "The Psychology of Being Black in Twenty-First Century America." Contact: Dr. Anthony P. Pinn, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55105. Telephone: 651-696-6151. FAX: 651-696-6008. E-mail: [pinn@macalester.edu](mailto:pinn@macalester.edu). Website: <http://www@macalester.edu/~aas/>.

March 6-10, 2002. National Council for Black Studies. San Diego, California. Theme: African Studies and Globalization. Contact: National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), 26<sup>th</sup> Annual conference, California State University, Dominguez Hills, 1100 Victoria Street, Carson, California 90747. Telephone: 310-243-2169. FAX: 310-516-3987.

March 27-30, 2002. Southwestern Social Science Association. New Orleans, Louisiana. Theme: Moving Forward: The Challenge of Diversity. Website: <http://www.sssaonline.org/>.

April 18-21, 2002. Pacific Sociological Association. Vancouver, British Columbia. Theme: Social Justice. Website: <http://www.edu/psa/index.html/>.

### International

June 30-July 3, 2002. 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference: Case Study Method, Case Research, Case Method Application, Case Writing, Continuing Education and Distance Learning for Global Labor Markets. World Association for Case Method Research and Application. Mannheim-Heidelberg, Germany. Contact in North America: 1-800-523-6468. E-mail: [smithdm@rh.edu](mailto:smithdm@rh.edu).

### Student

April 13. 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Anthropology/Sociology Undergraduate Research Conference. Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California. Website: <http://scu.edu/anthrosoc/conference/index.html/>.

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