

# CSA Newsletter

California Sociological Association

Volume 15, No 1 \* January 2004

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## **The Annual Meeting & Other Miscellanea**

*Harvey E. Rich (CSU Northridge)*

From all accounts, the November annual conference was a huge success. Attendance was at a record high for the northern California region even though the meeting hotel, the Berkeley Marina Doubletree, was not located in an easily walkable urban setting. The previous northern site, Sacramento, was the location for two contiguous northern conferences. That location, still a favorite, saw a downturn in attendees in 2001 due to the proximity to the 9/11 tragedy only a few weeks earlier. This time, the views of San Francisco and the Bay from the hotel were spectacular. Perhaps these factors combined to keep participants at the hotel and boost the average attendance at the sessions. Rough statistics indicate that the average session had about 15 persons present. Participants were elated at the turnouts and the intelligent dialog. Attendees seemed very pleased with the quality and variety of the presentations as well as the networking possibilities for our humanly scalable sized meetings. Next year the CSA meeting will return to the Mission Inn at Riverside, site of the past few meetings and favored member location. Then the Association will return to the Berkeley Marina Doubletree for another year.

The CSA continued its decade long tradition of intellectually stimulating dialog during the midday repast. Barrie Thorne and Neil Smelser, both from neighbor UC Berkeley, were the keynote luncheon speakers. Professor Thorne's talk, "Unpacking School Lunchtime: The Changing Contours of Childhood in Urban California," provided an intimate picture of one aspect of gender in the elementary schools while Professor Smelser's presentation, "Cultural Dimensions of 9/11: Issues of Trauma and Revenge," focused on the cultural strains in society that produce the social need for scapegoating and revenge by Americans. Both talks were packed to room capacity, befitting the fascinating presentations.

Several CSA positions were up for election. Joining the Association officers are the newly elected colleagues, President-Elect Gary Crester, Cal Poly Pomona; Vice-President Southern Region Bonnie Ross, Chapman University; Representative from the Private Colleges and Universities Roy Childs, University of the Pacific; and undergraduate and graduate representatives Michele Demont and Cyndee Fena from California State University San Marcos.

Kudos to CSA President Susan Garfin, along with Vice-President of the Northern region Amy Liu for the difficult, time-consuming work involved with organizing such a complex program (with no staff to assist them), and to Executive Director Valerie Callanan for the equaling vexing and protracted job of organizing the facilities for the program, not to mention the thousand and one little details that go along with a successful conference. I'm not mentioning the ongoing officers specifically here, but you will find them listed elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Governing Council agreed that the job of organizing the annual conference has grown so large and complex that additional assistance is needed. Thus, a motion was passed to create a program ... *(continued on page 3: Annual Meeting)*



**The  
California Sociological  
Association Newsletter**

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The DEADLINE for submission of articles to be included in the next circulation is APRIL 1, 2004

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**CONFESSIONS OF A PRESIDENT-ELECT**

*Susan Garfin (Sonoma State University)*

Happy New Year to you all! Now that the New Year and semester break have arrived, I have the opportunity, at last, to thank you for your participation in our very successful annual meeting in Berkeley.

I have been a Sociology professor for nearly 34 years. Throughout my career numerous individuals and organizations have put on conferences that were invaluable to me professionally. I decided that after three decades it was time to give back to the discipline by agreeing to be CSA President-Elect and by trying to organize the 2003 Annual Meeting in Berkeley. I was pleased to pay my professional dues at last. As is often the case in situations like this, the unintended consequence of my decision has been that I reaped a great reward for my efforts. Instead of being the giver, I have once again become the recipient of new knowledge, insight, and friendship.

I learned several things right away in my attempts to organize the Berkeley meeting, and for what it is worth, I want to share some of what I learned with you.

First of all, one person does not make a meeting. An engaged, enthusiastic membership (you) does. Many of you contributed so much to making our 2003 conference a success. I cannot name you all. All the same, I am grateful to you and would like to express my gratitude with some general words.

Thanks to all of you who organized, participated in, and attended sessions. I am still hearing praises about the high quality and variety of ideas in each. A special thank you to the many students who, in addition to participating in the meeting, helped with registration, book exhibits, graduate school information, a UC campus tour, and much, much more. You were impressive in your professionalism and your enthusiasm.

Thanks to our keynote speakers, Barrie Thorne and Neil Smelser, who so graciously shared their expertise with us. Both gave us much of substance to ponder and question. I personally was honored that both so generously accepted our invitation to participate.

Thanks also to the publisher representatives and the hotel staff, all of whom went to great lengths to meet our CSA needs.

In spite of my promise not to name names, I will share a few with you. Dean Dorn of the PSA graciously helped me in my efforts to contact California sociologists. After trying to organize just one CSA meeting I must tell you all how impressed I am with the monumental amount of work Dean does on behalf of the PSA. Thank you, Dean. Thanks also to Michael Burawoy who tried to attend our meeting as ASA President but could not do so because of a schedule conflict. Both PSA and ASA have been very supportive of the CSA.

At least two sociologists work behind the scenes all year to keep the CSA running, and they helped with the annual meeting substantially. As Executive Director, Val Callanan works all year long to obtain meeting sites, to take care of our finances, to keep our meetings running smoothly, to print our programs and much, much more. In short, like Jim Glynn, her predecessor, Val is a major force in keeping the CSA going. We owe her a tremendous thank you.

Veronica Van Ry has set up an excellent website for the CSA and has worked hard to keep it up to date. She also keeps us on our toes by reminding us of deadlines and by ever so promptly getting our newsletter in the mail. Deep thanks to both Val and Veronica.

Many of the past CSA officers and board members have helped me through the meeting planning process, and they all have earned my undying gratitude. Among them are Harvey Rich and Liz Nelson who most recently organized annual meetings. They helped me immeasurably. So did Chuck

Powers, Gordon Clanton, Phylis Martinelli, Chuck Hohm (who takes charge of the student award each year), and Robin Franck. Their expertise, their generosity, and their willingness to participate seemed endless. In addition, a number of them brought equipment to the meetings so we would not have to rent it. They saved the CSA a substantial amount of money.

Last, but not least, several departments and one individual helped fund our reception this year. The School of Social Sciences at Sonoma State University, the Sociology Department at the University of Santa Clara, the Sociology Department at Sacramento State, and Chuck Powers of the University of Santa Clara.

If I haven't led you too far astray yet, let me return to the theme of this piece--what I have learned from my experience with helping put on the CSA annual meeting. If the first thing I learned was a successful conference truly is the product of the efforts of many, many people; the second thing I learned is this: No matter how many competent people are helping you, you still have nightmares for a year over whether or not the organization will survive when the meeting rests in your hands. I haven't had those nightmares since November 8th, and I thank you all for helping bring them to an end. The CSA is thriving.

A third valuable lesson is this one: Planning the meeting, while sometimes agonizing, is half the fun. Over the months before November 2003, I emailed and spoke to so many of you. I looked forward to meeting those of you whom I did not already know and to seeing again those of you who are old friends. There are rich rewards for expanding one's circle of sociological colleagues, and the CSA is an excellent vehicle for doing this.

Finally, because higher education in California is facing what may be one of its worst crises ever, the CSA does have an important role to play as a professional organization. Not only is it an excellent forum for the exchange of ideas among sociology students, practitioners, and faculty, it is also a potentially powerful vehicle for us to use for meeting, discussing, and planning our strategies for keeping our discipline and higher education in California alive and healthy.

I invite you all to continue and to increase your participation in the CSA. With your support the CSA will continue to grow. We welcome your volunteering to run for office, helping with the annual meeting, and participating in other ways. In 2004 our annual meeting will take place in October at the Mission Inn in Riverside, the southern California meetings are always lively and well attended, and the Mission Inn is a historic landmark--well worth visiting in its own right. Meeting information will soon be available on the CSA website. The spring meeting of the CSA Executive Board and Governing Council will be held on Saturday April 17 from 1:15-2:45 PM at the PSA meeting in San Francisco. The room will be listed in the final program. I hope to see you at either or both.

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## DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE STUDENT

*Charles Varano (CSU Sacramento)*

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Matthew Green was awarded the California Sociological Association's Distinguished Graduated Award at the Berkeley meetings last fall. Matthew completed his Master's degree at CSU Sacramento in 2003, and he began his doctoral studies at the University of Arizona last fall. After receiving a degree in business and working a few years, Matthew turned to sociology in search of new challenges. While at CSU Sacramento, Matthew was a research assistant at the Institute for Social Research and he is one of the few graduate students to conduct a quantitative study from beginning to end for the Institute (a survey of patron satisfaction with library services). For his Master's thesis, titled "Race, Class, and Perceptions of Quality of Life: A Case Study of the Sacramento Region," Matthew analyzed the relationship of social class and race to quality of life measures. Matthew has also presented papers at the California Sociological Association meetings and the Society for Applied Sociology.

As a doctoral student, Matthew is studying in the areas of work and organizations, stratification, social psychology, and he is also a research assistant for "The Marketization of Children's Services Project," an innovative research project from the Sociology Department of the University of Arizona, funded by the National Science Foundation and in partnership with the Arizona State University Survey Research Lab. The project seeks to understand the market of children's services in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Matthew has clearly made a life decision to pursue a professional career in sociology. As this award suggests, his future is indeed promising.

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## ANNUAL MEETING *(continued from page 1)*

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create several new positions to assist in program formulation and membership organization (i.e. a program committee and membership committee). You will see a call for members to fill these essential positions elsewhere.

Finally, I would like to mention our student awards. The CSA grants two awards annually. Although the decision was not an easy one given the strong competition this year, on the basis of contributions to the profession and academic merit, the Association this year recognized Narisco Orosco from Saint Mary's College as recipient of the Outstanding Undergraduate Award and Matthew Green from Sacramento State University as recipient of the Distinguished Graduate Student Award.

If you weren't able to make it to Berkeley this year, please put Mission Inn, Riverside, on your calendar for October 16 and 16 in 2004. Easy air transportation is available to Ontario International Airport.

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# NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CSA STUDENT AWARDS

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Hardly a CSA newsletter goes to print without the announcement of the CSA's student awards on it. Over the years the CSA has honored a number of outstanding graduate and undergraduate students, and we seek to honor even more. Please think seriously about the students you know and have taught and those who have contributed actively to departmental life on your campus. Take the time to nominate a student for the CSA's undergraduate or graduate award. Below are the criteria for the awards.

## **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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## CALL FOR PAPERS

*Lisa Kealhofer (Santa Clara University)*

The 31st Annual Western Anthropology/Sociology Undergraduate Research Conference will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2004 at Santa Clara University. Empirical, ehtoretical, and review papers are invited. A completed paper or abstract of at least half a page in length, with name(s) and telephone number(s) of student author(s) and faculty sponsor(s) should be submitted by February 18, 2004 to:

**Anthropology/Sociology Department  
Santa Clara University  
Santa Clara, CA 95053**

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## JOB FAIR

The California Community Colleges Registry is pleased to host a FREE job fair in Los Angeles, California.

Date: January 31, 2004

Name: 15th Annual Job Fair 2004

Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm PST

Place: LAX Marriott

Where: 5855 West Century Blvd. Los Angeles

Phone: (800) 245-4157

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## OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

*Joseph Wakelee-Lynch (St. Mary's College)*

Follow this link: [http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/print.php?url=http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news-events/news/112103\\_orosco.html](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/print.php?url=http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news-events/news/112103_orosco.html) and you will find a picture and story honoring Narisco Orosco, the CSA's undergraduate student award winner for 2003. What follows is the text of the St. Mary's article about Orosco written by Joseph Wakelee-Lynch of St. Mary's College Communications.

Narisa Orosco '03, who majored in sociology/anthropology, has received a statewide award given for academic achievement and service to community and school. Orosco was presented with the California Sociological Association (CSA) Outstanding Undergraduate in November.

Orosco's name was submitted for the award by Phylis Martinelli, professor of sociology. Martinelli said Orosco was the first student she had ever nominated. "She excelled in all of the qualities they were looking for," said Martinelli.

"The award wasn't strictly an academic award alone," she explained. "The other part of the [criteria] was service to the school and she was top-notch in both."

At commencement ceremonies last May, Orosco received the Rigoberta Menchu Award, which is given to a graduating student with an outstanding record as a Sociology/Anthropology major. She was very active in the work of the Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action (CILSA). For two years she was a Bonner leader and spent ten to fifteen hours a week working with homeless women and their children in transitional housing at Oakland's Elizabeth House. She also was a resident assistant in the College's residence halls.

Now working as a youth outreach specialist for the Solano County Office of Education, Orosco helps middle and high school students avoid the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. She gives presentations, leads workshops, and trains high school students to be mentors to their peers. She sees her work as directly related to her activities on campus with CILSA. They both emphasize education and the importance of making healthy choices, she said.

"If I know that I was able to make a difference in one youth's life, if they felt that I could give good advice, that, to me, is success," she said. "If I can touch one person, I think I'm doing my job."

## JOB BULLETIN

The **Foothill-De Anza Community College District** is currently accepting applications for the faculty position of Sociology Instructor at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills California. Requirements: Master's degree. Preferred: Knowledge, ability, and enthusiasm to teach any of the following lower-division courses: Introduction to Sociology, Social Psychology, Research, Law and Society, Sociology of Drugs and Alcohol, Social Welfare, as well as Race and Ethnic Relations.

**MiraCosta Community College** in coastal San Diego County, California, invites applications for one tenure-track position beginning August 2004 to teach lower division sociology courses, with emphasis on Statistics and Research Methods and/or multi-ethnic, multi-cultural emphases.

**California State University, Long beach College of Liberal Arts Department of Sociology** seeks to hire one year, full-time Lecturer position (renewable for a second year depending upon budget and performance) with specialization in Statistics and Qualitative Methodology with possible secondary areas in Applied Sociology, Social Policy or Computer Literacy in the Social Sciences.

For more information on any of the above positions please see [www.californiasociologists.com/hiring](http://www.californiasociologists.com/hiring).

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# SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES

J. Daniel McMillin (CSU Bakersfield)

## National and Regional:

**February 16-21, 2004.** *Joint National Conferences of the National Associations of African American Studies, of Hispanic and Latino Studies, of Native American Studies, of Asian Studies.* website: [www.naaas.org](http://www.naaas.org). This is the website for the National Association of African American Studies.

**February 19-24, 2004.** *Eastern Sociological Society (ESS)*, New York City, NY. Theme: "Rethinking Careers For a Changing Society." website: [www.essnet.org](http://www.essnet.org).

**February 19-22, 2004.** *Western Society of Criminology (WSC)*, Long Beach, CA. website: [www.sonoma.edu/cja/wsc](http://www.sonoma.edu/cja/wsc).

**February 27-March 1, 2004.** *Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*, Anaheim, CA. Theme: "Science, Technology, and Social Work in a Global Society." website: [www.cswe.org/apm](http://www.cswe.org/apm).

**March 4-6, 2004.** *Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU)*. Theme: "General Education and Assessment: Generating Commitment, Value, and Evidence." website: [www.aacu.org](http://www.aacu.org).

**April 14-27, 2004.** *Southern Sociological Society (SSS)*, Atlanta, GA. website: [www.msstate.edu/org/sss](http://www.msstate.edu/org/sss).

**April 15-18, 2004.** *Pacific Sociological Association (PSA)*, San Francisco, CA. Theme: Sociology: An Idea Whose Time Has Come. website: [www.csus.edu/psa](http://www.csus.edu/psa).

**April 15-18, 2004.** *Midwest Sociological Society (MSS)*, Kansas city, Kansas. website: <http://themss.org>.

**May 5-9, 2004.** *Cultural Studies Association*, Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Contact: CSAconference@hotmail.com.

## International:

**April 9-11, 2004.** *African American Studies International Conference*, Boston, MA. Theme: "Race, Nation, and Ethnicity in the Afro-Asian Century." Contact: Ronald K. Richardson, Director, African American Studies, Boston University, 138 Mountfort Street, Brookline, MA 02446.

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### CSA Officers

President (03-04)  
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Practioners (01-04)  
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Graduate Student (03-04)  
Cyndee Fena  
CSU San Marcos

# CALIFORNIA SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM/RENEWAL NOTICE

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**Enclose check and mail to:**  
Valerie Callanan  
California Sociological Association  
Department of Sociology  
California State University, San Marcos  
San Marcos, CA 92096-0001

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**CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS  
AND PAPERS**

California Sociological Association

**15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

October 15-16, 2004

At the beautiful, historic Mission Inn located in  
Riverside, California

Send session and paper proposals to:  
Professor Gary A. Cretser  
Psychology and Sociology Department  
California State Polytechnic University  
Pomona, CA 91768  
(909) 869-3889  
e-mail: [gacrester@csupomona.edu](mailto:gacrester@csupomona.edu)

For more information about the conference, contact  
Professor Valerie Callanan at (760) 750-8062 or  
e-mail: [vcallana@csusm.edu](mailto:vcallana@csusm.edu)