

# ASA Section on Aging & The Life Course

**Fall 2006**

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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As the new Chair of the Section on Aging and the Life Course (SALC), I take great pride in knowing that the section is on an upward trajectory due to the membership's unwavering commitment to create a both productive and enjoyable annual program for fostering scholarly activity aimed at broadening our understanding of theoretical, methodological, and substantive issues as well as policy debates concerning the life course and aging. From all accounts, the SALC had an excellent meeting in Montreal—the paper sessions and receptions were well attended, and satisfying.

In the last five years the combined section leadership of Phyllis Moen, Ken Ferraro, Eileen Crimmins, David Ekerdt, Linda George, and Eva Kahana has strengthened the section by growing the membership and attracting new sources of support. We continued to make substantial gains in section membership during 2005-06, ending the year with 595 members as a result of the efforts by the past chair of the committee on membership, Deborah Carr. I am pleased that Noelle Chesley has agreed to serve as the new chair of the committee on membership to further this work.

The section has significantly increased its visibility by offering a diverse program that attracts ASA participants from outside the section in addition to addressing the intellectual interests of our membership. More than 30 sessions have been sponsored or co-sponsored since the new millennium. Hosting a Round Robin Dinner with Senior Mentors has also stimulated interest in the section, allowing the membership to engage more fully in a commitment to intercohort (mentoring) activities. For this reason, I have established an Ad Hoc Committee, headed by Victor Marshall and Miles Taylor, University of North Carolina, on mentoring and professional development. The committee will develop a strategic plan designed to address both the intellectual and practical interests of our membership, and present their report at the annual meeting business meeting.

Next year's conference brings together a wealth of opportunities for section members and for planning an exciting program in New York City. I am fortunate enough to have benefited from casual conversations with colleagues at the annual meeting in Montreal (John Williamson, Duane Alwin, Linda Wray, Eva and Boaz Kahana, along with many others) to develop a set of sessions that enable us to address the ASA conference theme "Is Another World Possible? Sociological Perspectives On Contemporary Politics." Organized by SALC membership in consultation with the Planning Committee, the program will include presentations which provide the foci for the section theme entitled "Living longer, Living Better: Who Wins? Who Loses?" This is a far-reaching question, which requires papers covering a variety of topics in diverse formats, including three paper sessions, one panel discussion, two co-sponsored sessions with medical sociology, and the round tables and research groups. Altogether the scholarship will address the ways in which social processes generate inequalities in life chances representing all facets of health care, education, and wealth; promises and challenges in mid- and late-life career transitions; disability across the life course; the cutting edge perspectives on theoretical and methodological perspectives in the field; and gender and race/ethnic dimensions of aging and health policy. Students and researchers with budding interests in sociology of aging and the life course are encouraged to submit to the section round tables.

In closing, let me say that we are very fortunate to have a first-rate communications team who will manage the SALC list serv, Newsletter, and website. The magnificent trio, comprised of Renee Beard, Adam Perzynski, and Amélie Quesnel-Vallé help us to stay connected throughout the year, especially when we need it most. In our section newsletter, we are particularly interested in keeping up-to-date with the membership, and have added a new column to announce major life course transitions.

I look forward to working with you all in the coming year,

**- Jacqueline (Jacqui) Angel, Section Chair**

## SALC Treasurer's Report - 2006

Phyllis Moen, Section Chair, presided over the Business Meeting on Sunday August 13, 2006 at the Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada.

### 2005 MINUTES

The minutes of the 2005 Business Meeting (taken by Eliza Pavalko) were distributed and approved.

### Report of the Treasurer

#### Net Assets:

\$12,115.00	June 30, 2006
\$ 6,162.00	June 30, 2004
\$ 8,256.00	June 30, 2004
\$ 8,031.00	June 30, 2003
\$ 7,192.00	June 30, 2002
\$ 5,953.00	Change (2006-2005) Increase of 97%
-\$2,094.00	Change (2005-2004) Decrease of 25.4%
\$ 225.00	Change (2004-2003) Increase of 2.8%
\$ 839.00	Change (2003-2002) Decrease of 11.7%

#### INCOME

#### Dues Income:

\$ 689	2006 (estimate of 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter only; comparable figure for 2005 was \$549)
\$ 1,443	2005
\$ 1,087	2004
\$ 1,238	2003
\$ 1,199	2002
\$ 10	Change (2006-2005 estimate) Increase of 1.8%
\$ 356	Change (2005-2004) Increase of 28.8%
\$ - 151	Change (2004-2003) Decrease of 12.2%
\$ 37	Change (2003-2002) Increase of 3.1%

#### ASA Section Allocation:

\$2,196	2006
\$1,981	2005
\$2,027	2004
\$1,980	2003
\$1,960	2002
\$ 215	Change (2006-2005) Increase of 10.9%
\$ - 46	Change (2005-2004) Decrease of 2.3%
\$ 47	Change (2004-2003) Increase of 2.4%
\$ 20	Change (2003-2002) Increase of 1.0%

#### Other Income – Actual:

\$1,050	2006 (estimated) donations from: GSA (\$300) Wake Forest (\$300), U of Minnesota (\$250)
\$6,755	2005 (booklet ads; tickets for outside dinner; \$1000 from Duke; \$500 from Research on Aging)
\$ 710	2005 Proceeds from 2005 Book Raffle

### EXPENSES

#### Reception and Annual Meeting Costs:

\$ 2,978	August 2006 (estimated expenses for annual meeting includes \$1078 for MWR reception \$700 for outside reception [co-sponsored with Section on Children and Youth]; \$300 for council breakfast; \$300 for awards)
\$ 4,520	August 2005 (combined expenses annual meeting)
\$ 2,584	August 2004 (combined expenses annual meeting)
\$ 2,668	August 2003 (combined expenses annual meeting)
\$ 1,263	August 2002 (combined expenses annual meeting)
\$-1,542	Change (2006-2005) Decrease of 34%
\$ 1,936	Change (2005-2004) Decrease of 75%
\$ - 84	Change (2004-2003) Decrease of 3.1%
\$ 1,405	Change (2003-2002) Increase of 111.2%

#### Cost of Section Newsletter:

\$ 441	2006 (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter only; comparable amount last year was \$349)
\$1,170	2005
\$1,254	2004
\$1,270	2003
\$1,359	2002

### SUMMARY

The section is in excellent financial shape despite the increase in annual meeting costs, which is largely due to our move to 2 receptions. These costs are more than offset by selling tickets. If the outside reception is very expensive, sales of ads from the booklet last year and the success in getting donations should offset the cost of the receptions. The section's assets have nearly doubled since last year at this time. Combining the outside reception with the Section on Children and Youth also cuts our meeting costs and broadens the number of students introduced to section members. Finally, the book raffle continues to produce significant income for the section.

-All information submitted by Eliza Pavalko

(continued)

### **Old Business and Committee Reports**

**Chair's remarks:** – Phyllis Moen, University of Minnesota; 2006 Program, Senior Mentors, and Round Robin

**Thanks to Program Committee:** Dale Dannefer, Case Western; Karl Ulrich Mayer, Yale University; Noelle Chesley, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Joy Pixley, University of California – Irvine; Heather Hofmeister, Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg; Amelie Quesnel-Vallee, McGill University. With assistance of: Shalon Irving, Purdue University ('06) and Miles Taylor, University of North Carolina ('07).

**Thanks to Outgoing Council Members:** Christine Himes, Syracuse University, Fredric D. Wolinsky, University of Iowa, and outgoing student representative, Shalon Irving, Purdue University

**Secretary's Minutes of the 2005 Business Meeting:** Eliza Pavalko, Indiana University

**Treasurer's Report:** Eliza Pavalko, Indiana University

**Book Raffle Committee:** Amy Pienta, University of Michigan

**Nominations and Election Results:** Kenneth Ferraro

Committee included Kenneth Ferraro (chair), David Ekerdt, Judith Treas and Linda Wrey. Duane Alwin was elected chair, Cheryl Elman & Rick Settersten were elected to council, Sarah Moorman was elected as our student member of council.

**Membership:** Deborah Carr,

*Almost there! Ways to increase/Sustain Membership?*

Noelle sent out letter to lapsed section members and also lapsed ASA membership. Also sent reminder letter about the reception.

**Communications:** Newsletter: Renee L. Beard, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Webmaster: Adam T. Perzynski, Case Western Reserve University  
Listserv Manager: Amélie Quesnel-Vallée, McGill University

All is going well. Renee Beard mentioned that there is room in the newsletter for more material so feel free send materials to rbeard@uic.edu.

**Research Groups and Round Tables Committee Report:** Jill Suito and David Ekerdt

Jill Suito – last year there were 6 regular roundtables and 7 informal/research groups. This year there were slightly fewer research groups. There were 49 papers submitted; 38 of those were placed in roundtables, for a total of 10 tables. One problem was that some people wanted to put in a research group past the ASA deadline. There were fewer research groups this year in part because the organizers did not let them get on the program in April. Also, we cannot rely on the ASA website for organizing research groups; we need groups to give the organizers a list of the papers they want in their group separately from their website submission.

After the organizers constructed all the tables, they emailed the organizer for each group to see what they want them to do for the group.

**Presentation of the Graduate Student Paper Award:** Jill Suito

The committee included Ross Macmillan (chair), Jill Suito and Merrill Silverstein.

We want to continue to encourage students to submit, although the submissions this year were excellent, we can always work to get even more. We should target individuals and departments to encourage submissions.

This year's winners are Jinyoung Kim and Emily Durden, Department of Sociology, University of Texas, Austin. The title of their paper is "Socioeconomic Status and Age Trajectories of Health."

**Presentation of the Distinguished Scholar Award:** Jacqui Angel

Committee: Jacqueline Angel (chair), Christine L. Himes, Fredric D. Wolinsky, and Rick Settersten

The 2006 Matilda Riley Distinguished Scholar is Peter Uhlenberg, University of North Carolina.

**Creation of the Outstanding Publication Award** (Kenneth Ferraro)

There has been discussion for several years about creating a new award. The section has the possibility of 5 giving awards, and we give 2. Last year we had broad discussion at council and business meetings about what this award might look like, with strong sentiment for an outstanding publication award. Many were in favor of taking an incremental approach with focusing on 1 new award. Council voted this spring to alternate years when books or articles are considered, on a 3 year rotation. Jacqui Angel will be in charge of creating this committee. The committee is to be appointed by the section chair and includes at least 1 past section chair.

There was some discussion of naming the award, and lots of names were suggested, but there was not a clear mandate. Many council members encouraged that we go slow on naming, since we can name it at any time.

### **New Business**

Syllabus Set on Life Course is in progress.

Encyclopedia of Sociology – Ritzer (editor); will include about 20 articles on aging

**Introduction of the New Section Chair:** *Jacqueline Angel.*

Jacqui outlined her plans and ideas for the section for the upcoming year. The theme next year is "Living Longer, Living Better: Who Wins? Who Loses?" The section day next year will be Tuesday, August 14. We will have 3 sessions plus a bonus session because we are on the last day. 1) Two sections will be co-sponsored with medical sociology (each co-sponsored session is worth .5 sessions); Jill Quadagno will organize one session on America's old age health care crisis and there will be a second session on disability across the life course 2) a session on the topic "continuity and change: challenges and promises in late life career transitions," 3) a session on social processes generating health inequality (a distinguished scholar panel discussion) and 4) contemporary views on classical work in aging and the life course.

## Free Advice Available!

**Victor Marshall, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, has agreed to be Dr. Salc**

Please send any questions or topics of interest to Renee Beard  
at [rbeard@uic.edu](mailto:rbeard@uic.edu) and they will be forwarded to Dr. Salc

### **Calls for Section Award Nominations**

#### ***Outstanding Publication Award***

##### *Aim and eligibility*

This annual award honors an outstanding recent contribution to the field of sociology of aging and the life course. Eligible publications include original research reports, theoretical or methodological developments, and policy-related contributions. The outstanding publication can be an article, chapter, or book published within the past three years. The committee will consider nominations and self-nominations. The award will rotate between a book and an article or chapter at least once every three years.

##### *Selection*

A selection committee of three section members will be appointed by the Section Chair and will include a Past Section Chair.

##### *Procedures*

Nominations of publications should be sent to the Chair of the Outstanding Publication Awards Committee no later than February 1 preceding the SALC Section meeting at the Annual ASA Meetings. The nominations should be limited to a publication that appeared in the previous three years. For the 2007 ASA meetings, this means that the publication should have appeared in 2004, 2005 or 2006. A single author or one of the coauthors of a nominated paper must be a SALC member. Only SALC members are permitted to make nominations. Deadline February 1, 2007. Send nominations to: Angela M. O'Rand, Chair; [aorand@soc.duke.edu](mailto:aorand@soc.duke.edu)

#### ***Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award***

This award honors a scholar who had shown exceptional achievement in research, theory, policy analysis, or who has otherwise advanced knowledge of aging and the life course. Letters of nomination should describe the candidate's contributions to the study of aging and the life course. Additional letters of support are encouraged but not required. Nominations should be submitted by April 4, 2007 to: Duane Alwin, McCourtney Professor of Sociology and Human Development, 326A Pond Lab Department of Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802-6207.

Phone: (814) 863-0438

Fax: (814) 863-8342

Email: [dalwin@pop.psu.edu](mailto:dalwin@pop.psu.edu) or [dfa2@psa.edu](mailto:dfa2@psa.edu)

#### ***Graduate Student Paper Award***

The Section on Aging and the Life Course invites original student papers on any topic related to sociology of aging and the life course. Papers co-authored with faculty members are ineligible. Papers already published are eligible if they appeared in print after January 1, 2005. Self-nominations are encouraged. An award of \$250 is presented to the winner at the Business Meeting of the Section, held during the ASA Annual Meeting in August of each year. Send three (3) copies of the nominated paper in the ASA format by May 2, 2007 to: Chris Himes, Chair, Department of Sociology, 302 Maxwell Hall 2346, Syracuse, NY 13244

Phone: 315-443-3252

Fax: 315-443-4597

Email: [CLHimes@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:CLHimes@maxwell.syr.edu)

## NEW! AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MENTORING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Under Chair Jaqui Angel, there has been a new initiative for a separate Committee specific to mentoring and professional development of young scholars. Numerous scholars in the Section have volunteered to get involved and student members are highly represented as well. The current purpose of the Committee is to identify well-defined ways in which the Section can foster mentoring and professional development. This includes, but is not limited to, pairing mentors and mentees through formal and informal means and providing resources to young scholars to enhance their early development as researchers and teachers of aging and life course issues. The Committee views these goals as primary to a sustainable strategy and commitment that will be retained in the future within the infrastructure of the Committee and the Section.

More longstanding goals include the facilitation of formal and informal means for mentors and mentees to connect and communicate, and to solicit involvement from students and scholars at various career stages since early or midcareer faculty can offer unique guidance to mentees and benefit from interaction with more established scholars as well. In addition, the Committee hopes to foster professional development through established means in the future, including the possibility of sample syllabi posted on the Section website or designated professional development "notes" in the Section newsletter.

Finally, the Committee will be formally responsible for the Mentoring dinner, which was a great success in Montreal and has been well-received in previous years as well. The goals for this year include increased involvement, and especially from students. In addition, the Committee would like to make the 2007 and future dinners a very special, established, and well publicized event where mentors and mentees from all career stages can come to meet and chat about topic of interest to them.

**Co-Chairs:** Victor Marshall (Faculty) and Miles G. Taylor (Postdoctoral Fellow) University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

**Faculty Members:** Janet Wilmoth, Syracuse University; John Williamson, Boston College; Kyriakos Markides, University Texas Medical Branch-Galveston; Deborah Carr, Rutgers University and University of Wisconsin

**Students and Post-doctoral Members:** Shiri Noy, Indiana University Sara Moorman, University of Wisconsin

### Call for Papers

#### Special Issue of the *Journal of Community Psychology*; Topic: "Youth Violence as Adaptation"

Exposure to community violence is associated with a wide range of negative consequences for youth, including youths own violence. Of particular interest to this special issue is recent research suggesting that youth violence may represent an adaptation to community violence and other contextual factors associated with poverty. Violence as adaptation raises many theoretical, conceptual, and methodological questions that have been largely unexamined to date. The concept of adaptation has theoretical roots in a variety of social science disciplines. The guest editors thus encourage contributions from across the social sciences. Illustrative research questions include but are not limited to: How is adaptive violence distinguished from other types of violence and from selection effects? What are the consequences of adaptive violence for outcomes across other social psychological domains or contexts, or at other stages in the life course? Under what circumstances do youth adapt with violence, psychological numbing, withdrawal, or other adaptations? Do these processes vary by personality, stage of development/age, gender, race and ethnicity, parenting practices, family socioeconomic status, or community characteristics? What are the programmatic or policy implications of violence as adaptation?

Deadline for submission of manuscripts is February 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. The guest editors are happy to advise authors in advance about appropriateness of paper topics. Please direct correspondence to either of the editors: Raymond R. Swisher, Department of Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University ([rs263@cornell.edu](mailto:rs263@cornell.edu)); Robert D. Latzman, Department of Psychology, University of Iowa ([robert-latzman@uiowa.edu](mailto:robert-latzman@uiowa.edu)).

#### Age Discrimination

*Social Forces* seeks papers for a special section on the sociology of age discrimination. Original papers are invited for consideration that address age discrimination and related phenomena across the life course and in a range of social contexts. Papers might focus on the social processes, institutions and structures that cause or constitute age discrimination, or on social psychological and other consequences of age discrimination. Age discrimination is behavior and hence can be distinguished from ageist attitudes, but papers that analyze the relationship between ageist attitudes and age discrimination will be welcome. We are interested in papers dealing with age discrimination in societies other than the United States and papers that analyze the intersection of age discrimination and other forms of discrimination based on gender, race and class. Papers that make a theoretical contribution in this area will be particularly welcomed, as will empirical papers based on any sound methodological approach.

The special section will be edited by Victor W. Marshall, Department of Sociology, UNC at Chapel Hill and Director of the UNC Institute on Aging. Papers will be reviewed by the section editor, the *Social Forces* editor and at least one blind reviewer.

The deadline for submitting papers is March 1, 2007. Manuscripts should be limited to 5,000-9,000 words including references and endnotes and should be e-mailed as a Microsoft Word attachment to [Social\\_Forces@unc.edu](mailto:Social_Forces@unc.edu). Any tables or figures must be editable in Microsoft Word or Excel. Do not use any automatic formatting feature. Submission fees for this section are waived. *It is essential that you note that the submission is for the special section on age discrimination.*

**\*Mark your calendar for two key dates\***

**Abstract submissions due on January 15, 2007**

**SALC meeting day Tuesday, August 14, 2007**

## Faculty Positions

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs

**Sid Richardson Chair in Public Affairs**

The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs seeks applicants for the endowed Sid Richardson Chair in Public Affairs. Candidates should have national distinction in the making and analysis of social policy, health policy, or closely related fields. The chair holder is expected to provide senior leadership in teaching and in research. Applications are sought by October 30, 2006, but the position will remain open until filled. Letters of interest or nomination and a curriculum vita should be sent to the Sid Richardson Endowed Chair Search Committee, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin, P.O. Box Y, Austin, TX 78713-8925.

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**University of Missouri – Columbia**

**Human Development & Family Studies**

Applications are being accepted for two tenure-track positions in Human Development & Family Studies at the University of Missouri. One position is for an Assistant Professor on 9-month appointment. Duties include conducting an active program of research in any area of human development and family studies, writing grants, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, advising undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students, and participating in service. Address applications to Dr. Marilyn Coleman.

The second position is a 12-month Assistant Professor & State Extension Specialist position involving 70% Extension and 30% Research. The Extension portion is to provide expertise and leadership in the development and implementation of parent education, especially for divorcing parents and step-parents, and to support Extension county faculty who offer such programs. The research portion is to maintain an active program of research in an area related to human development and family studies. This position also involves advisement of graduate students and membership on graduate student committees. Department, campus, and professional service is also expected. Address applications to Dr. Teresa Cooney.

Applicants for both positions should have a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies or a related area at the time of appointment (August, 2007). Demonstrated research competence and potential to maintain a productive research program, including procurement of external funding and scholarly publication is also expected. Previous experience with Extension or related applied activities is preferred for the Extension position.

The department focuses on lifespan human development and families in a variety of relational, social and cultural contexts. Faculty conduct basic and applied research with a unique investment in the applications of new knowledge to issues facing individuals and families. Our commitment to individual and family diversity in research, teaching and service distinguishes our academic and extension programs. Visit <http://www.missouri.edu/> for information about the University of Missouri, Columbia, <http://extension.missouri.edu/> regarding University of Missouri Extension and <http://web.missouri.edu/~hdfswww/> for information on HDFS. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. The University of Missouri-Columbia is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action employer. To request ADA accommodations contact our ADA Coordinator.

Applications will be reviewed starting October 15 and continue until suitable candidates are hired for both positions. Send application materials (a cover letter addressing qualifications, a curriculum vitae, and 3 letters of reference) and inquiries to the appropriate person named above, at: 314 Gentry Hall, University of Missouri Columbia, MO 65211-7700 Fax: 573-884-5550 [CooneyT@missouri.edu](mailto:CooneyT@missouri.edu) or [ColemanMA@missouri.edu](mailto:ColemanMA@missouri.edu)