

2022 Council Reports
Section on Aging and Life Course

CHAIR'S REPORT: Merrill Silverstein

The Chair submitted an amendment request to the Executive Director of ASA to modify the Section's bylaws (under Officer Duties, Duties of Other Officials and Committees) and formally establish the following positions to SALC: (1) Professional Development and Mentoring Chair and Committee, (2) Facebook Manager, (3) Twitter Manager, and (4) Web Manager. Chair and managers will be appointed by the SALC Chair with Council approval. This request was approved.

In fall 2021, current Council members were asked to comment on five options to enhance BIPOC participation in SALC that were developed in consultation with Council in 2021 under the chairship of Jennifer Karas Montez. The option below was most popular. However due to uncertainties about holding an in-person ASA meeting and hosting a mentoring dinner, and the possibility of low Section attendance, this initiative will be deferred to 2023. This decision was reached after consulting with Janet Wilmoth, chair of the Professional Development and Mentoring Committee.

SALC will cover the costs of the mentoring dinner for 10 BIPOC attendees, regardless of whether they are SALC members.

- a. Priority will be given to junior scholars (i.e., students and those within five years of their PhD).*
- b. Awards would be given to the first 10 applicants who meet the priority criteria.*
- c. We could easily sustain this for several years from the SALC treasury funds because a good portion of the funds were donated to support mentoring.*
- d. Offer this for a 3-year period (2022, 2023, 2024) then collect member feedback and assess whether to continue it and, if so, how to improve upon it.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dawn Carr

The Section on Aging and the Life Course continues to be in good financial shape. Our beginning balance for this year was \$32,077. Our current balance is \$34,637 (as of May 31, 2022). For context, last year our pre-meeting balance was \$31,831. Because we did not have an in-person annual meeting, and we also did not have the mentoring dinner, this trend of increases in savings is not expected to continue. Our total income year-to-date includes: \$467 (up from \$325) for dues; and \$2,093 (up from \$2,048) for section budget allocation with a total of \$2,560 (up from \$2,373 last year). Currently no spending related to the ASA 2022 conference have been accounted for in this budget. The cost of awards for this year includes \$646.73 for plaques and \$250 for award money. The anticipated cost of the dessert mentoring reception is \$4916.65. The total remaining balance after accounting for these expenses is expected to be \$26,263.62.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Committee: Merrill Silverstein (chair), Jennifer Ailshire, Jacqueline Angel, Anna Muraco, C. André Christie-Mizell (see reports, below)

The final schedule for SALC Day sessions and activities is listed below:

Monday, August 8, 2022 (all times PDT)

SALC Council Meeting (Council members only)

7:00 to 7:45am, LACC, Floor: Level 1, 153B

Paper Session #1: Cross-National Differences in Life Course Dynamics and Aging

8:00 to 9:30am, LACC, Floor: Level 1, 153B

Organizer: Jennifer Ailshire (University of Southern California)

Presider: Shane Burns (University of Southern California)

Discussant: Jennifer Ailshire (University of Southern California)

- Country-level availability and generosity of healthcare services, and ageism's effects upon COVID-19 era missed healthcare (Jason Settels, Anja Leist)
- Pre-migration exposures and health among Latin Americans living in the US: How does the country-of-origin matter? (Ariel Azar)
- Sandwiched life courses Cross-national patterns and consequences on older people's well being (Marco Albertini, Noah Lewin-Epstein, Merrill Silverstein, Aviad Tur-Sinai)

Research Groups and Roundtables Organizers: André Christie-Mizell and Anna Muraco

We reviewed a total of 37 papers which we organized into eight thematic roundtables. Four accepted participants have withdrawn from presenting at the 2022 ASA Conference. There were no submissions for the research roundtable option this year.

10:00 to 11:30am, JW Marriott, Floor: Gold Level, Gold Salon 1

- Table 1: Covid and Wellbeing
- Table 2: Migration and the Life Course
- Table 3: Race, Ethnicity, and the Life Course
- Table 4: Gender and the Life Course
- Table 5: Education and the Life Course
- Table 6: Aging, Belonging, and Individual Experiences
- Table 7: Wellbeing and the Life Course
- Table 8: Topics in the Life Course: Diverse Resources and Aging

Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award Lecture

2:00 to 3:00pm, LACC, Floor: Level 2, 309 Our recipient of the 2021 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award, Ellen Idler (*Emory University*), will deliver the lecture entitled "*Lessons I Learned from Matilda White Riley*"

SALC Business Meeting

3:00 to 3:45pm, LACC, Floor: Level 2, 309

(The 2021 Business Meeting Minutes, which we will vote to approve, can be found here: <https://asalc.org/council-meeting-minutes/>)

Paper Session #2: Caregiving Careers in an Era of Family and Social Change

4:00 to 5:30pm, LACC, Floor: Level 2, 309

Organizer: Jacqueline Angel (University of Texas-Austin)

Presider: Miles Taylor (Florida State University)

Discussant: Sunshine Rote (University of Louisville)

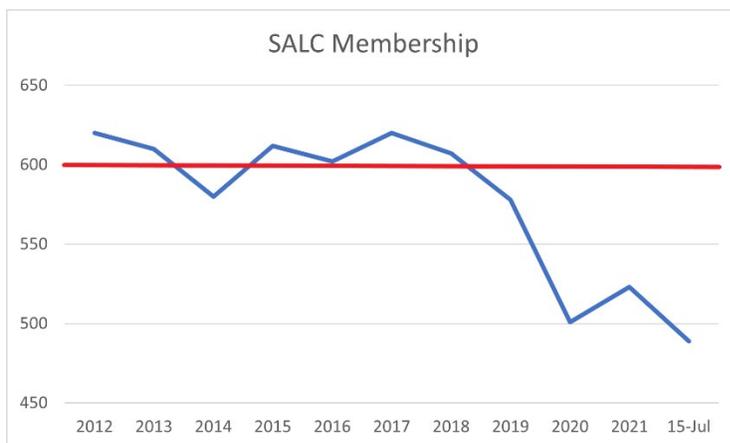
- Doing ‘pretty much everything’ for two: Gender, sexual orientation and spousal caregiving (Toni Calasanti, Sadie Giles)
- Network analysis of informal and professional caregiving for community-residing older adults with dementia (William McConnel, Katherine Hagar, Maire de los Angeles Ortega Hernandez)
- Reconsidering the mental health consequences of the demands of caregiving: Can there also be benefits? (Alex Bierman, Yeonjung Lee, Margaret Penning)
- Reimagining respite care & caregiver support: Realizations and lessons learned from COVID-19 pandemic (Rebecca Utz)

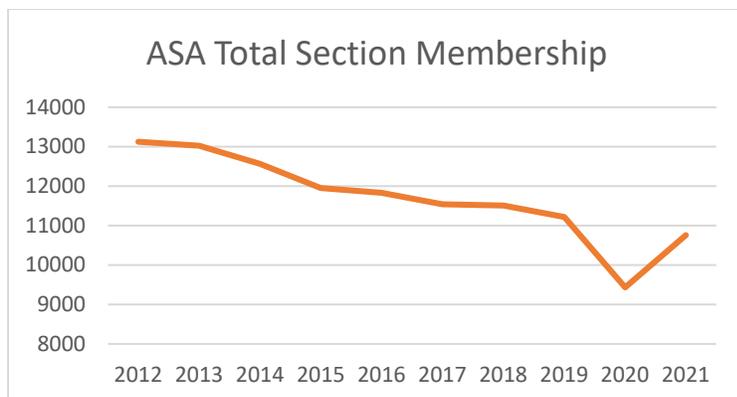
Professional Development and Mentoring Dessert Reception: All are welcome!

8:00pm to 10:00pm, JW Marriott, Floor: Gold Level, Gold Salon 4

Membership Committee: Miles Taylor

In 2019, we fell short of our standard 600 membership number and were not able to negotiate with ASA to get our regular session allotment as we did in 2014. With the pandemic and virtual meetings, our membership fell substantially (and in line with overall and other section membership). Even with an in-person meeting this year, we do not expect substantial increases in membership and plan to regroup with ASA leadership to discuss strategies. Although the gifting campaign has been fairly successful for our section in the last few years as a way to recruit junior scholars, we will likely need to negotiate with ASA in the future about how many sessions we can have per member block. As incoming Chair-Elect, it is a substantial priority for me to reinvigorate and further diversify our vibrant SALC membership.





Communications

Newsletter Co-Editors: Shannon Shen & Stephanie Ureña

During the 2021-2022 academic year, Shannon & Stephanie continued to serve as newsletter co-editors. The Fall, Winter, and Summer newsletters were published and distributed via the SALC email listserv, the section website, and announced on the section Facebook and Twitter pages. Official SALC announcements were published in each newsletter. Announcements for conferences, workshops, calls for papers, promotion or employment changes, recent publications, special lectures, and awards were also included when submitted by members. Three recurring columns continue to be included in each newsletter: "Five Questions"..., Emerging Scholars Profile, and Journal or Podcast Spotlight. The "Five Questions" column profiles a section member by asking them to answer questions about their hometown, proudest accomplishment, first job, a surprising fact about themselves, and the best piece of professional advice they have received. The "Emerging Scholars Profile" highlights the research and career goals of emerging scholars in the section. The "Journal Spotlight" introduces journals that might be appropriate venues for section members' work and now highlights relevant podcasts.

Shannon and Stephanie enjoy collaborating on the newsletter and find the two-editor system to be very efficient. They take turns taking the lead on each newsletter and collaborate closely with section Chair and other council members to ensure all information is accurate and complete before distribution. They look forward to continuing as co-editors for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Website Manager: Julia Wolf

The section website is used by the section to post newsletters, announcements about SALC or the ASA annual meeting, and information about the section.

- Dawn Carr is an admin on the website to pay for it this year (she will be reimbursed; \$18/year)
 - I am unsure if this is again the case this coming year.
- Top 5 pages in 2022: 1) Home; 2) Newsletter; 3) Awards; 4) Listserv; 5) Previous Award Winners
- Top 5 pages in 2021: 1) Home; 2) Newsletter; 3) Awards; 4) ASA 2021 – SALC Sessions; 5) Meeting Minutes
- Most 2022: referrals to the site are from search engines, prod.uhrs.playmsn.com, and Twitter

- Most 2021: referrals to the site are from search engines, asanet.org, and Facebook
- We've had visitors from 39 different countries so far in 2022 and 42 in 2021

Year	Views	Visitors
2014	653	160
2015	1,620	599
2016	1,107	460
2017	1,195	526
2018	1,625	684
2019	2,006	784
2020	2,041	895
2021	2,302	1,335
1/1/2022 - 7/8/2022	1,806	1,156



Listserv Editor: Stacy Torres

During the 2021-22 academic year, regular listserv announcements were distributed to SALC members (with current ASA dues) on a roughly twice monthly schedule, depending on the number of announcements at any one time. The twice-monthly distribution has been the long-standing practice of the Section to limit the number of electronic messages members receive. With the SALC Facebook and Twitter accounts, members also have the opportunity to receive announcements “on demand,” and I have also suggested to those sending time-sensitive announcements to also contact SALC Facebook.

Each announcement contained both (1) official Section business and (2) other announcements of interest submitted by members, including: jobs, conferences, journal invitations, and new books by section members. Section Chair Merrill Silverstein and other officers also occasionally forwarded time-sensitive standalone announcements and miscellaneous items from ASA and elsewhere for inclusion in the announcements. The

Section's electronic newsletter was distributed by the listserv as well. All section-generated listserv announcements included a header with the link to the SALC website, Facebook and Twitter profiles. ASA-generated announcements (relevant job-bank ads, media inquiries) are also distributed via the listserv.

Inquiries from members (e.g., items for newsletter, announcement of publications, etc.) sent to the Listserv Editor were forwarded to the appropriate member of the Section leadership, as needed. One recommendation for the future would be to better clarify for members the types of announcements appropriate for the listserv versus the newsletter, as I receive many announcements for articles, etc. Additionally, people often send PDF announcements which are a little more cumbersome to extract text from for the emailed announcements (I received instructions upon taking on this role that the only attachment to include is the newsletter). I also receive a lot of general questions about specific announcements, even when the point person's contact info is listed in the announcement. But there may be no way to correct this if members don't closely read the announcements and believe I am the de facto point person (in which I have set them on the right path again, urging them to contact the person attached to the announcement).

Facebook Manager: Jeffrey Lentz

As of June 17, 2022, we have 1,059 members in the Facebook group. In the last year, we had 305 posts, 95 comments, 2,166 reactions, and 42,180 posts viewed. Continue to post, comment, and react to content. Mondays continue to be the most popular day to post.

The membership question still stands. I continue to receive bizarre requests, and those who do not answer the membership question are rejected. Would you mind telling your colleagues and students to fill out the membership question? Would you please invite your colleagues and students to join the group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SALC.ASA/>

I encourage members to share their research, job searches, conference/webinar announcements, and any other news about aging and the life course-related information. Stacy Torres continues to do an excellent job emailing me her publications, op-eds, etc., to post in the group. I've more emails or Facebook messages to post information. I encourage members to continue to email me information to post (Jeffrey.g.lentz@emory.edu is the preferable method). I sometimes don't get Facebook messages because we are not friends on Facebook.

I pin important announcements to the top of the page so everyone has a chance to read and/or respond to the request. I continue to post relevant sections of SALC announcements to the group so everyone can be informed.

I will continue to be the SALC Facebook Manager.

Twitter Manager: Duygu Basaran Sahin

Another year during which we increased the number of followers on our Twitter account! We created SALC's Twitter account in September 2014 and by the summer of 2015, we had 84 followers. In July 2021, we had 598 followers. This year we have 712. I want to thank you all because I know there has been an ongoing effort from our members to make SALC more visible.

I also want to thank Jeff, Julia, Shannon, Stacy and Stephanie for providing and sharing content with me.

Throughout 2022 we continued our #BIPOCSALC initiative which we created the year before. Thank you Merrill for prioritizing and supporting this new(ish) effort. We proudly introduced the works of Arun Balachandran, Ryon Cobb, Vanessa Delgado, Christy Erving, Isabel García Valdivia, Marc Garcia. We are always in search of potential members who might be interested in this opportunity. So please, if you have suggestions kindly contact me.

Among our most liked tweets were opinion pieces that Stacy Torres wrote. Equally, announcements regarding SALC's own activities such as gift membership were popular. If you want to share your work or have job opportunities/other news to disseminate, I am always available to spread the word via Twitter.

SALC's Twitter engagement is improving but we can always do better. The first step is to make sure that people know SALC exists on Twitter. You can also do the following to increase social media engagement.

- Include SALC's Twitter info as "follow us on Twitter @ASA_SALC" on your school or personal websites
- Add "follow us on Twitter @ASA_SALC" at the end of your powerpoint presentations or any other form of presentation/talks
- Mention SALC's Twitter account in your classes, it may be a good way to learn about job and training opportunities
- Spread the news among your friends/colleagues
- If you're already on Twitter mention SALC's Twitter account when you share relevant news/links/papers/call for papers

Please do not hesitate to send me an email at dbasaransahin@gradcenter.cuny.edu if you have questions or suggestions about how to improve SALC's social media presence.

Committee on Professional Development and Mentoring: Janet Wilmoth (Chair), Vesna Pajovic, Melanie Plasencia

The SALC Professional Development and Mentoring Committee focused on four activities this year. First, the student representatives have been communicating with student members throughout the year to gather input on the committee's planned activities. Students continue to be interested in the section having a structured mentoring program, virtual events throughout the year, and an in-person event at the annual meeting.

Second, a listserv was established for the group that is being hosted by Syracuse University's Aging Studies Institute. The student members were notified of the listserv and provided with instructions on how to sign up for it. The student representatives have been using the listserv to communicate with students.

Third, a virtual Zoom session was held on Wednesday May 25 in which Jennifer Karas Montez (Professor, Syracuse University) and Mateo P. Farina (Postdoctoral Fellow at USC) shared their insights on the job market.

Fourth, the committee worked with the section chair and secretary/treasurer to make plans for the mentoring event on section day at the annual meeting. The student representatives identified several potential venues for a mentoring dinner. However, due to changes in ASA's policies regarding fundraising and off-site events, high per-person dinner costs, and COVID-related concerns about hosting a dinner in a crowded venue, an onsite desert reception is being held in a large meeting room at the conference hotel in lieu of the mentoring dinner.

The event will be held on Monday August 8th 8pm - 10pm in the Marriott Conference Hotel, JW Marriott, Floor: Gold Level, Gold Salon 4. Desserts and coffee and tea will be available. To facilitate conversations, we will give an "Ask me about..." sticker to people as they arrive and ask them to write down something that is of interest to them. The program will consist of "speed-mentoring" where established scholars will anchor tables and facilitate discussion in a round-robin style with emerging scholars rotating among them. The table topics and confirmed discussion leaders are as follows:

1. Aging in Contexts (geographic, place, neighborhood) / Jennifer Ailshire
2. Family & Aging / Merrill Silverstein
3. Applying to Grants / Emerald Nguyen
4. Publishing / Jessica Kelley
5. Pursuing a Postdoc? Phillip Cantu
6. Gender and Sexuality in Later Life/ Toni Calasanti
7. Work-Life Balance / Ellen Idler
8. Work & Retirement over the Life course / Dawn Carr
9. Policies & Aging / Jennifer Karas Montez
10. Future Trends in Aging / Deborah Carr
11. Health Disparities / Jacqui Angel

All ASA members interested in SALC activities are welcome. There is no charge for attending the reception. We have asked that established scholars consider donating \$25 to the Section to offset the cost of the event. Donations should be made by credit card through the ASA website. Donations beyond the cost of the dessert reception will be saved and applied to future SALC mentoring events at ASA. The estimated cost of this event, which is based on a contractual guarantee of 100 attendees, is \$5000.

Finally, the SALC council should be aware that the new ASA fundraising policies has required us to change how we generate funds for mentoring events. The mentoring dinner has been a popular event in the past, with attendance that has ranged between 80 – 120 people. The cost has usually been approximately \$75-\$85 per person and \$8,000 - \$10,000 overall. We covered those costs through a combination of individual and organizational donations, ticket sales, and section dues revenue. Moving forward, we will have to rely on donations and section dues revenue. We can no longer sell tickets to those who plan to attend the event because ASA requires there not be any financial barriers to participation. All members must have an equal opportunity to participate in the event. Also, in the past the SALC chair would solicit donations from the departments and centers of award winners, which was a core source of revenue for the mentoring dinner, but SALC council voted to discontinue that practice a few years ago. This coming year, we will need to decide if we want to continue hold the mentoring dinner or a

reception and, if so, create a fundraising plan to cover the costs. That plan should be submitted by the SALC chair to ASA by January 2023 to ensure we have sufficient time to obtain approval and do the fundraising.

Committee on Nominations: Jennifer Karas Montez (Chair), J. Scott Brown, Elaine Hernandez, and Hyeyoung Woo

The nominations committee was chaired by past SALC Chair Jennifer Karas Montez. The committee developed a slate of candidates that represented the membership of the section. The slate included individuals who nominated themselves to run for election, individuals who were nominated by other section members, and members who were nominated by the committee. The nomination slate consisted of the following individuals:

Chair-elect: Miles Taylor*, Scott Lynch

Council: Marc A. Garcia*, Emma Zang*, Ryon Cobb, Ynesse Abdul-Malak

Student representative: Kagan Mellencamp*, Amelia Pittman

* Designates elected

Award Committees

2022 Graduate Student Paper Award Committee: Committee: Feinian Chen (Chair), Terri Cooney, Stephanie Ureña, Mara Sheftel

Our committee has received a total of 6 papers for the 2022 SACL paper award. Each paper was initially assigned to two reviewers and every paper received a score ranging from 1 to 5. After the initial round of scoring, all the committee members read all of the three papers that received the top score and did a second round of scoring. We used Google Drive to share the papers and created a spreadsheet where we could enter our scores and reviews. We selected the paper with the top score as the winner and recommended the close second as an honorable mention to the section chair. We all agreed to meet via Zoom if a group discussion was needed, but we did not need to do so as we reached the decision unanimously via email communication. The winning paper is titled "Unequal Duties and Unequal Retirement: Decomposing the Women's Labor Force Decline in Post-Reform China" by Kai Feng from the University of Pennsylvania. The honorable mention paper is titled "In-between" to "Front and Center": How Brokering Shifts to Advocacy in Emerging Adulthood," by Vanessa Delgado from UC-Irvine.

2022 Outstanding Publication Award: Melissa Hardy (Chair), Jeylan Mortimer, Estaban Calvo, and Kenzie Latham Mintus

Background

Each year, the section honors an outstanding recent contribution to the field of sociology of aging and the life course as determined by the Outstanding Publication Award Committee. 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 last three years (2019-2021). As Council decided that the award should rotate between books and articles or chapters, eligible submissions for 2022 did not include books.

Nomination and Submission Process

A single author or one of the coauthors must be a SALC member. Multiple entries cannot be submitted by the same author(s); please choose the strongest entry. Only SALC members are permitted to make nominations, and nominators should make only one nomination. Self-nominations are accepted. Papers that have been uploaded as Advance Access articles but have not yet been published cannot be submitted until next year. A nomination letter should accompany a PDF of the article, chapter, or book. The letter should provide the full citation, describe the scope of the publication, and highlight some of its contributions to the field.

Selection Process

We received 14 papers to review for the award. After an initial email exchange outlining steps, each submission was assigned to two readers, with the four committee members paired in different ways across the set of papers. Each member submitted their first, second, and third choices to the chair. Two papers received multiple first place votes and a third paper received multiple top 3 rankings. After a second exchange to determine whether other papers should be added to that list of three, we moved forward with consideration of our top three. Each member read the three papers and again submitted first, second, and third rankings, which allowed us to narrow consideration to two papers. We scheduled a zoom session (4.25.2022) to talk through the relative strengths of both papers. The consensus decision was to designate a winning paper and an honorable mention to recognize the top two papers out of a strong field of contenders.

Committee Recommendation

Outstanding Publication Award for 2022:

Mojola, Sanyu, Enid Schatz, Nicole Angotti, and Brian Houle.

'A nowadays disease': HIV/AIDS and social change in a rural South African community.' *American Journal of Sociology*, Volume 127 Number 3 (Nov 2021): 950–1000.

Abstract: Why do some people adapt successfully to change while others do not? We examine this question in the context of a severe HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa, where adapting (or not) to social change has borne life and death consequences. Applying an age-period-cohort lens to the analysis of qualitative life history interviews among middle-aged and older adults, we consider the role of the life course and gendered sexuality in informing Africans' strategies of action, or inaction, and in differentially driving and stalling change in each cohort in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Our study illuminates the unique challenges of adapting to social change that result from dynamic interactions among aging, prevailing social structures, and a cohort's sociohistorical orientation to a new period.

Honorable Mention, 2022: Morton, Patricia M. and Kenneth Ferraro.

'Early social origins of biological risks for men and women in later life.'

Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Volume 61 Number 4 (2020): 503-522.

Abstract: We investigate whether childhood exposures influence adult chronic inflammation and mortality risk via adult health characteristics and socioeconomic status (SES) and whether gender moderates these relationships. Analyzing a longitudinal national sample of 9,310 men and women over age 50, we found that childhood SES, parental behaviors, and adolescent behaviors were associated with adult chronic inflammation via health characteristics and SES in adulthood. The process of disadvantage initiated by low childhood SES (i.e., adult health risk factors, socioeconomic disadvantage, and chronic inflammation) subsequently raised mortality risk. In

addition, gender moderated the mediating influence of childhood SES via unhealthy behaviors and parental behaviors via adult SES. Demonstrating how social forces shape biological health through multiple mechanisms informs health policies by identifying multiple points of intervention in an effort to reduce the lasting consequences of childhood disadvantage.

2022 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award: Stefanie Mollborn (chair), Amelie Quesnel-Vallee, Jason Houle, and Madonna Harrington Meyer.

The 2022 Matilda White Riley Distinguished Scholar Award goes to Prof. Deborah Carr. Our selection committee was very impressed with the pool of nominations and felt that multiple scholars were deserving of the award, but Carr’s nomination stood out from the rest. We noted that the quality of the nomination letter can really matter for this award, and Carr’s letter helped situate her career and scholarship in a very helpful way. The number of nominations was relatively low at a total of 3, and we feel that more announcements of the call for nominations could potentially increase the number of nominations. Although no nominations will automatically carry over until next year, the two other nominees could be strong candidates in future years. We also noted that it could be a good idea for the section to have a separate award celebrating section members whose work has had a strong impact on people beyond traditional academic impacts. We have many section members with far-reaching impacts of their work who could be honored by such an award.

This table shows the MRW schedule from 2019-2023:

ASA Meeting Year	MWR Award Winner	MWR lecture at ASA
2019	Merril Silverstein	Eileen Crimmins (2018 winner)
2020	Ellen Idler	none
2021	No new awardee	Merril Silverstein
2022	Deborah Carr	Ellen Idler
2023	To be named in 2023	Deborah Carr

2022 Outstanding Mentor Award: Linda K George (chair), Amelie Quesnel-Vallee. J. Jill Suitor, Vesna Pajovic

Our committee received four nominations for the SALC Outstanding Mentoring Award. All four nominations were carryovers from the previous year. Given the many superb mentors in the section, it was disappointing that no new nominations were submitted this year. Fortunately, the committee unanimously concluded that all four nominees far exceeded the threshold of qualifying to receive this award.

Deliberations and voting were conducted via email. We scheduled a Zoom meeting for the final vote, but because the ranking of the candidates was identical for all committee members, we decided that the Zoom meeting was not necessary. Input from all committee members was obtained at each step of the selection process. Each committee member wrote summaries of the qualifications of each candidate. These were shared and discussed via email and there were high levels of consensus on the merits of each candidate. After three rounds of email exchanges, the committee unanimously selected Irma Elo at the University of Pennsylvania as this year’s Outstanding Mentoring Award recipient.

The committee raised several issues that the next committee for this award might want to consider:

- It was disappointing that no new nominations were submitted this year. We believe that there are many outstanding candidates in this section. Anything that can be done to encourage nominations would be helpful.
- Forwarding non-selected nominations to the next committee is important. This year it was critical. Had we not received four nominations from last year's committee chair, this award would not have been bestowed this year! However, there should probably be a time limit for how many years nominations can be carried over. The material would profit from updating at some point. Also, people move, especially graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who play an important role in making and endorsing the nominations. A couple years after the original nomination, it can be difficult to locate the nominators and/or endorsers. Despite time moving on, our committee would be distressed to see the non-selected nominees simply wither away. We suggest that future committee chairs contact nominators and encourage them to submit updated nomination packages.
- There is a final important, but complicated issue. What the committee has to work with are the nomination itself and the nominee's c.v. – and the latter provides little information about how the nominee mentors. There were stark differences in the nominations we reviewed in the quality of the nomination itself. Most were quality documents, detailing the nominator's mentoring contributions and their impact on the lives and futures of the nominee's mentees. One, however, was very short, provided little detail, and read like a list of short emails, most of which were sent by current graduate students working with the nominee. We knew that the nomination failed to do justice to the nominee. And yet the nominations were all we had to work with. We're not sure what makes sense to address this problem. We'd have liked for the nominations to be fairly equal in amount of detail provided, range of endorsers (e.g., more than current graduate students), and appropriate organization of the nomination. I'm not sure how nominators can be informed of what an appropriate and competitive nomination includes, but somehow, we need to be sure that it is the nominee rather than the quality of the written nomination that determines the outcome.

Despite a couple frustrations, serving on this committee was rewarding and gratifying. The committee members worked hard and met all timelines I imposed for completing our work. They made thoughtful comments and clearly took our mission very seriously. Chairing this committee was a pleasure.