Pacific Sociological Association’s 91st Annual Meetings/Conference
Thursday, March 26 to Sunday, March 29, 2020
in Eugene, Oregon, at the Graduate Hotel (formerly Hilton)

THEME: Democracy in a Divided Society

Emeritus Committee Announces Dr. Doug McAdam as “Star Speaker” for 2020 Meeting

One of the annual highlights of the PSA meeting is the Star Speaker presentation, sponsored by the Emeritus Committee. In recent years, presenters have included prominent sociologists such as Cecilia Ridgeway, Jonathan Turner, Pierette Hondagneu-Sotelo, Earl Babbie, and Michael Messner. For our 2020 meeting, the Emeritus Committee is pleased to announce that the Star Speaker will be Doug McAdam, Professor Emeritus at Stanford University.

McAdam is one of the preeminent researchers in the field of contentious politics and social movements. He has made multiple significant contributions to our understanding of how social movements emerge, develop, and bring about social change. The Civil Rights Movement has been the particular focus of his work. His first major book, Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency (1982) helped to fundamentally reconceptualize the nature and impact of movements. His monograph Freedom Summer (1988) is the classic account of one of the most dramatic campaigns of the movement, including fundamental insights about recruitment into high risk activism. He has published multiple books and articles with other leaders in the field of social movements – perhaps most notably, The Dynamics of Contention (2001) with Sidney Tarrow and Charles Tilly.

His more recent work has focused on the contemporary legacy of the surge of social movement activism of the 1960s. Deeply Divided: Racial Politics and Social Movements in Postwar America (Oxford 2014), co-
authored with Karina Kloos, presents the argument that our current socio-political polarization can be attributed in part to the integration of activist forms of political participation into mainstream (partisan) political processes in the post-war era. Specifically, they argue that the Civil Rights Movement (re)introduced “centrifugal pressures” into American politics, as activist engagement has shifted the critical mass of both parties away from the center. The result, for partisan politicians: “‘playing to the base’ has come to be seen as more important strategically than courting the ‘median voter’” (2014:10).

Collectively, Dr. McAdam’s research provides an ideal background to speak to our conference theme, “Democracy in a Divided Society.” For PSA members who are students of social movements, or who have an interest in the politics of race in the United States, or who are concerned with the dynamics of contemporary politics — and my guess is that nearly all sociologists would check at least one of those boxes — his presentation promises valuable insights. It will be an exciting way to cap off the first day of our meeting. Thanks to all members of the Emeritus Committee for bringing us Doug McAdam, continuing the rich tradition of PSA Star Speakers.

Other updates on PSA 2020: In the coming months, we’ll be sending out additional information about plans for Eugene. While we’ll be sending some of that via our email list, we’ll also be posting frequent updates on the PSA website about items of interest (panels, receptions, events, etc.). Please check periodically for updated information on the PSA homepage (http://pacificsoc.org/). In the meantime, here is just some of the exciting programming that we’re planning . . . .

Thematic sessions on political divides: Sociologists will be intrigued (and, most likely, alarmed) by the state of our politics next March, at the height of the presidential primary. We are organizing a series of panels to explore central issues and dynamics associated with our current social/political divides. Some will focus on divides that are perennially at the heart of PSA meetings — such as race, and gender, and immigration. We will also focus on divides that have deep roots but less contemporary visibility within our discipline — such as the urban-rural divide. We will also focus on particular dynamics (such as the psychology of socio-political polarization) and specific concerns (such as the contemporary role of populism). The meeting will be a great way to engage in what are certain to be the big issues next spring.

Focus on Eugene: Our 2020 meeting will be the first time in over three decades that the PSA has met in Eugene. Those who have spent time in the city are quick to sing its praises as a beautiful and engaging city, full of good restaurants, organic culture, trendy brewpubs, and natural beauty — all at a price that is much less than its larger sister cities in the Pacific Northwest. In the coming months, we’ll be working with our “local arrangements” person (Michelle Alexander, University of Oregon) to post information about all that Eugene has to offer. We’ll also be posting on how to get to Eugene — which is easier (and less expensive) than a lot of members realize.

University of Oregon Sociology: Most PSA members know that the heart of Eugene is the University of Oregon. But few realize that it was the first sociology department in our region — and it was a full 125 years ago that the first sociology course was taught there. In recent decades, the U of O Sociology Department has been a beacon for critical sociology, with particular strengths in areas like environmental sociology. To mark the occasion, Michael Dreiling and his colleagues at the U of O are organizing special panels focusing on Oregon Sociology which will include current faculty and some of the many prominent alums — as well as organizing a special reception for PSA attendees.
Rural Sociology: Since the Rural Sociological Society split off from the American Sociological Society in 1937, the field has thrived – but has arguably been marginalized from the core of our discipline. That is particularly unfortunate in our current era when we so desperately need to gain a deeper understanding of the roots of rural discontent and its political manifestations. To take a step toward deeper reintegration, we are working with Jennifer Sherman (Washington State University) to develop a range of exceptional panels addressing rural sociology for our 2020 meeting – and we’ll start posting details about them soon. We know that rural sociologists will be excited about what is coming together, and we hope that sociologists less familiar with the rural West will take an opportunity to learn more about it.

Sexualities “mini-conference within a conference”: A special session on sexualities organized in Oakland (dubbed the “Salon de Sexualites”) prompted a rich discussion of issues across that field of studies. Some of the participants decided that they wanted to organize a series of focused sessions for 2020, which we are scheduling across one or two days in Eugene. We are also working with Jodi O’Brien (Seattle University) to organize panels of leading scholars in the field to talk about their work. For anyone interested in research and teaching in the field of sexualities, the meeting will be a great opportunity to engage with both established researchers and emerging teacher-scholars on big issues.

Author Meets Critics sessions have traditionally been some of the most popular at the PSA. This year, we’re rebranding them as Book Salons (following a shift by the ASA and because members have remarked for years that the “author meets critics” makes them sound overly contentious). At this early stage, we already have a number of authors lined up for book salons, and we expect more to come. Some of those focus specifically on the program theme; for example: Stephanie Mudge’s Leftism Reinvented: Western Parties from Socialism to Neoliberalism (2018); Marco Garrido’s The Patchwork City: Class, Space, and Politics in Metro Manila (2019), and Waverly Duck and Ann Rawls’ A Nation Divided: Interaction Orders of Race and The High Cost of Tacit Racism in Everyday Life (forthcoming). You can check the webpage for periodic updates with additional information as more book salons are organized.

— President Dennis J. Downey

A Visit to Eugene:
Scouting the Terrain for 2020

At the end of June, Executive Director Lora Bristow and I made a site visit to Eugene to scout out our meeting hotel and the surrounding area in preparation for our spring 2020 meeting. I had never been to Eugene before, but I had heard about how beautiful and vibrant it is from many colleagues, including plenty of alums of the University of Oregon. I can say that it didn’t disappoint!

Getting there was easy; I flew to Eugene on a direct nonstop flight from Los Angeles. The Eugene airport is compact and easy to navigate (the polar opposite of my experience at LAX). A free half hour shuttle ride right to our hotel put me in my room just an hour after touching down. I’ll add: for those who can’t get direct flights to Eugene, an easy alternative is to fly into Portland, which is less than two hours up the road. Renting a car might be an easy option, especially since we’ll have free parking at our hotel in Eugene. And Lora is working on securing efficient and inexpensive shuttle service from PDX to our hotel for our meeting. She’ll be posting that information soon.

The hotel itself is just finishing a thorough remodel since being purchased and rebranded as the Graduate Hotel. It is part of a unique chain that locates in college towns, and seeks to tap into the spirit of the local university. In our case, you’ll see plenty of
ducks around in honor of the U of O, as well as lots of Nike paraphernalia. For the most part, we’ll have the hotel to ourselves. The meeting areas are all adjacent to the lobby, so you’ll find it very easy to get from session to session with no confusing navigation. Our favorite part of the meeting space is a large open ballroom on the top (12th) floor, with windows on all sides offering impressive views of the city. It will be an inspiring site for receptions and other events.

And the views in Eugene are gorgeous! Any direction you look, you see hills and buttes that are lush and covered with evergreens. If you want to spend some time enjoying that natural beauty, you have plenty of options — from day trips (to mountain waterfalls or to coastal seascapes) to short hikes or bike outings right from the hotel. A five-minute bicycle ride will put you on a system of biking paths along the Willamette River that goes on for miles. Or you can walk out the front door of the hotel and hike up Skinner Butte – a little over an hour roundtrip (or five-minute drive), takes you up a couple hundred feet for an amazing panoramic view of the city. Recent PSA president and U of O Emerita Patricia Gwartney gave me a tour to the top, where she pointed out all of the notable landmarks in the city – a wonderful way to get familiarized.

Beyond natural beauty, there is a lot to do and see within a six block radius from the hotel. Our program committee member in charge of local arrangements, Michelle Alexander, took us on a walking tour around the area, noting the many places of interest. Just a couple of blocks behind the hotel runs Broadway, the central axis of Eugene’s downtown. All along Broadway (and on the streets running to it) you can find plenty of small local eateries, coffee shops, and other businesses. You’ll find a wide variety of eating options — from burgers to vegan, and everything in between. Just a couple of blocks in the other direction is the Fifth Street Market – a multi-leveled boutique mall with more restaurants, including a food court (with a Thai restaurant where I had a great mango curry). Prices are very friendly, too — an advantage of being outside of the major metropolitan areas that we usually visit. And for those interested in making a pilgrimage to VooDoo Donuts (the famous Northwest institution), you’ll be happy to know that it’s (almost) close enough to make a donut run between sessions.

For those who want to explore a little further, you can walk a mile or so to the Whiteaker district – or, as the locals call it, “the Whit.” We got a tour from Michael Dreiling, Department Head for Sociology at the U of O, who pointed out lots of favorite local businesses. The Whietaker has been redeveloped in recent years and is anchored by a number of breweries (most notably Ninkasi), wineries, and distilleries. If you want to sip some great local beers, wines, and spirits, you’ll be well rewarded in the Whit. And, as you might imagine, there are lots of great restaurants.

On a final note, I was reminded during our visit of the relevance of our conference theme, “Democracy in a Divided Society.” At the time, Republican lawmakers (largely from eastern Oregon) had fled the state to deny a legislative quorum to take up a climate change bill that they saw as threatening to their (rural) way of life. (For those tempted to see this as a particularly Republican maneuver, recall that the Democrats did the same in Texas in 2003 to avoid a vote on redistricting.) The state capitol in Salem was forced to close down for a day in response to a threat from regional militias opposed to the bill. All of that is to underscore that Eugene is an ideal place for us to meet – not only because it presents so many opportunities to fuel up and wind down, but because Oregon is in the eye of the storm that will be the focus of our collective attention.

— President Dennis J. Downey

Curious about Eugene, Oregon? Lots of information here: [https://www.eugenecascadescoast.org/psa/](https://www.eugenecascadescoast.org/psa/)

The conference will be in the Graduate Hotel (formerly known as Hilton) in downtown Eugene, in easy walking distance to numerous places to eat, drink, and more. Rooms at the PSA rate are only $144 single/double, $149 triple, and $154 quad. Parking in the hotel lot is free for all attendees, whether you are staying in the hotel or not. The hotel offers a free shuttle to/from the Eugene airport.

Watch for lots more information about Eugene and especially transportation options in the fall newsletter and on the PSA website.
Call for Papers, PSA 2020

The 2020 submissions portal will open in early August, and is accessible from the home page of the PSA website, www.pacificsoc.org. **The deadline for submissions will be October 15, 2019.**

To organize its annual meeting, **PSA primarily uses an online system of open submissions to topical areas. Faculty and other professional sociologists as well as graduate students** will access the online system, choose a topical area, and indicate their preferred type of participation (formal research presentation, research-in-progress, or some other type of session). You can find the list of topical areas on the next page, as well as the program committee members who will organize submissions into sessions for each of these areas. **However, PSA committees also sponsor some special sessions and seek paper submissions; the list of these sessions is also included below.** Faculty, graduate students, and other professional sociologists need to provide an abstract of their proposal, with a maximum 200 words, to include the objective, methods, results, and findings as appropriate.

**Faculty and professional sociologists can also submit a proposal for a complete session.** This might be a book salon (formerly called author-meets-critics session), a film or other creative media session, or a panel of scholars who want to present together on a particular topic. However, submissions of sessions completely composed of presenters from one school are discouraged; these sessions are often not well attended, and space in the program is limited. Presenters instead should submit their individual papers, where they will be placed appropriately in sessions with other presenters—and thus also have the opportunity to learn from these other presenters.

**Undergraduate students first select either the undergraduate poster or roundtable format,** then choose the topical area that best fits their work. For a poster, students will prepare a large poster about their research, then stand next to it and explain to any interested viewers. For a roundtable, students will send their completed paper to the faculty assigned as Discussant for their table prior to the conference. Then, at the conference, they will be seated at a large table with several other students whose research is on related topics; each student will orally present a summary of their work, and then the faculty Discussant will guide discussion. At the time of submission, undergraduate students are asked to provide a longer proposal that includes two pages of information on their research question, intended contribution of their research, description of theory and methods, and a third page of source references. Undergraduates also are required to give name and contact information for a faculty mentor who is familiar with their work. Undergraduate submissions are organized into sessions by Undergraduate Coordinator Robert Kettlitz.

You may not submit the same paper to more than one place within the online submission system. You may, however, submit different papers to one or more topical areas or open-call committee-sponsored sessions.

Please submit only papers you really intend to present. At PSA, papers are generally accepted. Do not submit a lot of papers in hopes that a few will be accepted. Submit only papers you firmly expect to be ready to present.

There are several new topical areas this year: Black Sociology, Indigenous Sociology, and Rural Sociology. Another change is that a few topical areas have been joined: Education is now for all levels of education, and Economic Sociology has been joined to Work and Organizations.

You can find more information and instructions on using the online submission system on the PSA website.
### 2020 Program Committee

Note: Questions about the conference, submission system, or other general information should be directed to the PSA Executive Office, executivedirector@pacificsoc.org.

**Program Chair:** Elizabeth Sowers, California State University, Channel Islands elizabeth.sowers@csuci.edu

You will choose from these Topical Areas (and the Committee-sponsored sessions on the next page) when you submit your paper.

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<tr>
<th>Topical Area</th>
<th>Organizer Name and Affiliation</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied, Clinical, and Public Sociology</td>
<td>José Muñoz, CSU San Bernardino</td>
<td><a href="mailto:munoz@csusb.edu">munoz@csusb.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art, Culture, and Popular Culture</td>
<td>Linda Rillorta, Mt. San Antonio College</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rillorta@mtsac.edu">rillorta@mtsac.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Asian American Sociology</td>
<td>Dana Nakano, CSU Stanislaus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dnakano@csustan.edu">dnakano@csustan.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Sociology</td>
<td>Lori Walkington, CSU San Marcos</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lwalking@csusm.edu">lwalking@csusm.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childhood and Youth</td>
<td>Gabrielle Pickert, Cal Poly Pomona</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gpickert@cpp.edu">gpickert@cpp.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime, Law, and Deviance</td>
<td>Josh Meisel, Humboldt State University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joshua.meisel@humboldt.edu">joshua.meisel@humboldt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Higher Education &amp; other)</td>
<td>Brianne Davila, Cal Poly Pomona</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Sociology</td>
<td>Laura Earles, Lewis-Clark State College</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leearles@lcs.edu">leearles@lcs.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnography</td>
<td>Jennifer Reich, Univ. of Colorado, Denver</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jennifer.reich@ucdenver.edu">jennifer.reich@ucdenver.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food and Society</td>
<td>Rachel Soper, CSU Channel Islands</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rachel.soper@csuci.edu">rachel.soper@csuci.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Georgiann Davis, U. of Nevada Las Vegas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Sociology</td>
<td>James Courage Singer, Salt Lake CC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:james.singer@slcc.edu">james.singer@slcc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intimate Relationships, Families, &amp; Reproductive Politics</td>
<td>Laury Oaks, UC Santa Barbara</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oaks@femst.ucsb.edu">oaks@femst.ucsb.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor and Labor Movements</td>
<td>Jason Struna, University of Puget Sound</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jstruna@pugetsound.edu">jstruna@pugetsound.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Latinx Sociology</td>
<td>Celia Lacayo, UCLA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:celialacayo@gmail.com">celialacayo@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Life Course and Aging</td>
<td>Anna Muraco, Loyola Marymount U.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amuraco@lmu.edu">amuraco@lmu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marxist Sociology/Critical Sociology</td>
<td>Jey Strangfeld, CSU Stanislaus</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jstrangfeld@csusstan.edu">jstrangfeld@csusstan.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Media and Communication</td>
<td>Susan Rahman, College of Marin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Sociology and Health</td>
<td>Alicia Bonaparte, Pitzer College</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alicia_bonaparte@pitzer.edu">alicia_bonaparte@pitzer.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>Pete Simi, Chapman University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:simi@chapman.edu">simi@chapman.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Migration/Immigration</td>
<td>Katie Dingeman, CSU Los Angeles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace, War, and the Military</td>
<td>Augustine Kposowa, UC Riverside</td>
<td><a href="mailto:augustine.kposowa@ucr.edu">augustine.kposowa@ucr.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Politics &amp; the State (Political Sociology)</td>
<td>Raphi Rechtsky, National University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rrechtsky@nu.edu">rrechtsky@nu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Population and Demography</td>
<td>Georgiana Bostean, Chapman University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Race, Class and Gender</td>
<td>Kristy Shih, CSU Long Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity</td>
<td>Daniel Olmos, CSU Northridge</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Studies, Transnationalism, Globalization, &amp; Development</td>
<td>Kemi Balogun, University of Oregon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbalogun@uoregon.edu">kbalogun@uoregon.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion (including Sociology of Islam)</td>
<td>Reid Leamaster, Glendale Comm. Coll.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Sociology</td>
<td>Jennifer Sherman, Washington State U.</td>
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<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>Dilshani Sarathchandra, U. of Idaho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexualities</td>
<td>Jodi O’Brien, Seattle University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Movements and Social Change</td>
<td>Nella Van Dyke, UC Merced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Psychology, Identity, Emotions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Stratification, Inequality, &amp; Poverty</td>
<td>Alexis McCurn, CSU Dominguez Hills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport and Leisure</td>
<td>Ann Travers, Simon Fraser University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban and Community Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theory</td>
<td>Reha Kadakal, CSU Channel Islands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Sociology: Community Colleges</td>
<td>Dolores Ortiz, Oxnard College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Sociology: Four Year Colleges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work, Organizations, &amp; Economic Sociology</td>
<td>Christy Glass, Utah State University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christy.glass@usu.edu">christy.glass@usu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Roundtables &amp; Posters</td>
<td>Robert Kettlitz, Hastings College</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rkettlitz@hastings.edu">rkettlitz@hastings.edu</a></td>
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# 2020 Committee Sponsored Sessions for Open Call Submissions

Most of the following special sessions being organized by PSA committees are open for paper submissions by faculty, applied sociologists, and graduate students; however, one session is open for undergraduate participation.

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<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Sponsoring Committee</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching and Research in Politically Sensitive Times</td>
<td>Freedom in Research and Teaching</td>
<td>Dan Morrison, Abilene Christian University <a href="mailto:dan.morrison@acu.edu">dan.morrison@acu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Socio-Poetics and Storytelling</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Lori Walkington, CSU San Marcos <a href="mailto:lwalking@csusm.edu">lwalking@csusm.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Safety” in the Era of Trump</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Lori Walkington, CSU San Marcos <a href="mailto:lwalking@csusm.edu">lwalking@csusm.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Surviving the Trump Era</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Damon Stevens, CSU San Marcos <a href="mailto:dstevens@csusm.edu">dstevens@csusm.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Border Politics</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Lori Walkington, CSU San Marcos <a href="mailto:lwalking@csusm.edu">lwalking@csusm.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Entrepreneurship &amp; Alternatives to Academic Careers</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Marcia Hernandez, University of the Pacific <a href="mailto:mhhernandez@pacific.edu">mhhernandez@pacific.edu</a></td>
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<td>People of Color over the Life Course</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Alicia Gonzales, CSU San Marcos <a href="mailto:amgonzal@csusm.edu">amgonzal@csusm.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gendered Resistance in the Sociopolitical Landscape</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Michelle Robertson, St. Edward’s University <a href="mailto:michelr@stedwards.edu">michelr@stedwards.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Millennial Women: Challenges and Resources</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Sojung Lim, Utah State University <a href="mailto:sojung.lim@usu.edu">sojung.lim@usu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Intersections of Work, Gender, Family</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Sojung Lim, Utah State University <a href="mailto:sojung.lim@usu.edu">sojung.lim@usu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Mothering in Academia across the Career</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Ryanne Pilgeram, University of Idaho</td>
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<td>Women’s Leadership in Social Justice Movements</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Emily Drew, Willamette University <a href="mailto:edrew@willamette.edu">edrew@willamette.edu</a></td>
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<td>Research on Women of Color</td>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>Alicia Gonzales, CSU San Marcos</td>
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<td>Teaching about Climate Change: Engaging Students, Inspiring Change</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Laura Earles, Lewis-Clark State College <a href="mailto:leeearles@lcscc.edu">leeearles@lcscc.edu</a></td>
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<td>Strategies for Teaching Gender</td>
<td>Teaching &amp; Status of Women</td>
<td>Jason Leiker, Utah State University <a href="mailto:jason.leiker@usu.edu">jason.leiker@usu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Doing Emotional Labor in the Classroom</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
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<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Laura Fitzwater Gonzales, Pacific Lutheran University <a href="mailto:fitzwalb@plu.edu">fitzwalb@plu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Innovative Ways to Document Student Learning</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Jennifer Puentes, Eastern Oregon University <a href="mailto:jpuentes@eou.edu">jpuentes@eou.edu</a></td>
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<td>Teaching Social Problems</td>
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<td>Jennifer Puentes, Eastern Oregon</td>
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<td>Teaching Strategies: Resistance in the Sociopolitical Landscape,</td>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Michelle Robertson, St. Edward’s University <a href="mailto:michelr@stedwards.edu">michelr@stedwards.edu</a></td>
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And one session for undergraduates to submit papers to:

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<tr>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Sponsoring Committee</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
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<td>Undergraduates Researching Race (Roundtable)</td>
<td>Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>Marcia Hernandez, University of the Pacific <a href="mailto:mhhernandez@pacific.edu">mhhernandez@pacific.edu</a></td>
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PSA 2019 Conference Satisfaction Survey

Of 1088 registrants for the 2019 conference, 307 (28%) completed the conference satisfaction survey. An additional 480 people (44%) looked at the survey link but did not complete the survey.

Crosstabs were used to look for differences by gender, race/ethnicity, current status, and age for various questions on the survey. However, the findings need to be considered with some caution, since the number of respondents who identified in some categories is small. For gender, there were 10 or fewer respondents who identified as trans, genderqueer/genderfluid/gender nonconforming, or filled in an “Other”. For racial/ethnic identity, the N for respondents who identified as Middle Eastern or North African, Native American, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, “Other”, or said they preferred not to provide a racial/ethnic identity were less than 10. In addition, respondents who identified as white were over-represented when compared to data for all registrants, while respondents who identified as Latinx were under-represented; this particularly skews the data, because the biggest change in demographics by race/ethnicity in 2019 was growth in Latinx registrants and decrease in white registrants. In terms of current status, there were less than 10 respondents who identified as community college students, Emeritus/retired, and applied sociologists/other professionals. In addition, the undergraduate students were under-represented as survey respondents when compared to data for all registrants, while faculty at four year institutions were over-represented. Survey data thus over-reports the input of attendees who identify as white and/or four year college faculty. Gender of respondents does correspond fairly closely with data for all registrants. (Look for a full 2019 Conference Report in the Fall newsletter with more data and information on registrants.)

Overall Satisfaction and Comparison to Prior Conferences

Most respondents (62%) rated the conference as excellent, followed by good (35%) and fair/poor (3%). This continues a slow shift towards excellent in recent years; in 2018, 57% of respondents rated the conference as excellent, while in 2017 56% did so.

Asked to compare this conference to prior PSA conferences, the largest group (39%) said they could not answer because this was their first PSA conference. Of respondents who had attended prior PSA conferences, 30% said this one was above average, while 28% said it was average, and 3% said it was below average. No clear differences were seen by gender; this is in contrast to data for the 2018 conference, were respondents who identified as women were more likely to rate the conference more highly.

Considered by racial/ethnic identity, respondents who identified as Asian/Asian American were most likely to rate the quality of the conference as Fair/Poor (8%), while those who identified as Latinx were least likely to do so (0%). The same groups showed reverse likeliness to rate the conference as excellent, with Latinx respondents the most likely to say so (67%) and Asian/Asian American respondents the least likely to say so (48%). Respondents who identified as African/African American/Black were in the middle, both less likely to say that the conference was excellent (54%) and more likely to say that it was Good (42%) or Fair/Poor (4%) than the average. Respondents who identified as Multiracial rated the conference similarly to the average. Interestingly, respondents who identified as Asian/Asian American were also the most likely to say this was their first PSA conference (56%) and the least likely to say that the 2019 PSA conference was ‘Above average’ compared to other PSA conferences (20%), while respondents who identified as African/African American/Black were the least likely to say so (30%), and also the most likely to say the 2019 PSA conference was ‘Above average’ compared to other PSA conferences (37%).
Analysis by age showed that older respondents were more likely to rate the conference as “Excellent” (71% of respondents aged 45-54, 68% of those aged 55-64, and 78% of those 65 and older), while younger respondents were less likely to rate it as “Excellent” (about 42% of those aged 44 and under). While some of this difference is clearly related to the fact that younger respondents were also much more likely to say that this was their first PSA conference (85% of those younger than 25 and 48% of those aged 25-34), it also likely indicates changing ideas about what makes an academic conference “Excellent”. PSA should continue to think about what makes a conference relevant, exciting, and rewarding for new sociologists. Interestingly, older respondents also were more likely to rate the 2019 PSA conference as “Above average” compared to prior PSA conferences (50% of respondents aged 45-54, 54% of those aged 55-64, and 61% of those older than 65). It appears that the PSA conference is meeting the expectations and desired outcomes for older attendees at a higher rate than those of younger attendees—and that PSA may need to gather more information from younger attendees to gain a better understanding of their expectations and desired outcomes. However, when considered by current status, all groups except for graduate students (48%) were more likely to rate the overall quality of the conference as “Excellent” (100% of community college students, 66% of undergraduate students at 4 year institutions, 68% of community college faculty, 66% of university/four year college faculty, 71% of Emeritus/retired sociologists, and 67% of Applied/etc. sociologists). While only 4% of graduate students rated the conference as “Fair/Poor”, 48% of them rated it as “Good”; thus, graduate students seem to be a particular group from which more information is needed about their experiences of and expectations for the conference. However, half (51%) of graduate student respondents said this was their first PSA conference—and PSA has no data on whether or not these graduate students have attended other conferences. It may be that for many graduate students their experience at PSA is mixed both because their expectations may be different than usual academic conference practices and because these usual academic conference practices are not fully meeting the needs and expectations of graduate students.

“Best Thing” Comments offered by respondents to describe their “one best thing” about the conference mostly fell into five themes: socializing, networking, and intellectual community (90); sessions and presentations (89); conference location and local amenities (34); the inclusion and participation of students (22); and organizational factors (10). Many comments combined these themes, such as “Getting to see some really wonderful sociological presentations in an urban environment that allowed for me to explore food and cultures that I don’t normally have access to.” Another said, “The best thing about the PSA conference was having the opportunity to present my research to other students and faculty members. It was incredible to hear about other research projects and be surrounded by kind and intelligent sociologists.” And yet another said, “Great presentations and a sense of community, which has always been a strong point for PSA.” In addition, a few respondents noted that the conference was affordable, and appreciated that PSA gave an award to a local organization (the annual Social Conscience Award, given to an organization working in the community where the conference is held).

Comments on the theme of socializing, networking, and intellectual community included mentions of the conference overall atmosphere, the people (both old friends and new ones), and how the conference supported making connections with other sociologists. One example was, “Meeting colleagues whose work I admired; small scale conferences are conducive for meaningful interactions.” Another said, “Meeting all the different people involved in the discipline. This was my first conference as an undergraduate and I felt super welcomed.” One respondent noted the presence of the 2019 PSA President in particular, “It was so amazing to look over and see well known sociologists that we study in class like Dr. Bell Kaplan sitting in the same sessions as the audience. That was very inviting and made the conference more personable. Plus I got to nerd out that an idol was sitting in the same room with me!”

Comments on the theme of sessions and presentations included appreciation for the conference theme (“Engaging Millennials: Researching and Teaching about Power, Diversity, and Change”—such as “Everything, Elaine Kaplan was an amazing president and brought scholars of color front and center.”), overall sessions and presentations (including the wide range and variety of topics), and specific sessions and presentations (particularly the Presidential session “Public Sociology in the Age of Trump”
featuring Arlie Hochschild and Michael Burawoy (9), such as “Meeting Arlie Hochschild and thanking her for her pioneering contributions to our field.”), as well as various receptions (with the Student Reception featuring the Oakland nonprofit group Hip Hop for Change most mentioned). As usual, some respondents mentioned presenting their work as their ‘best thing’, with some adding that PSA was a good place to make their first presentations. A few respondents noted the pilot ‘Open Discussion’ sessions, such as “I really liked the open discussion sessions because it allowed professors and students to interact in intellectual and debatable topics.”

Comments on the theme of the conference location, hotel, and local amenities included mentions on Oakland as a particularly appealing city (9), such as “The location. It was very comfortable and diverse. It’s perfect for sociologists,” and “I think Oakland is one of the best locations in California for PSAs...The city is interesting, lively, and accessible.” Other comments focused on the ease of travel to the conference and to San Francisco via BART, views from the conference hotel of the Bay Area, nearby restaurants, etc.

Comments on the theme of the inclusion and participation of students in the PSA conference noted support for undergraduate research (15), from both the student and faculty perspectives. Respondents noted the organization of undergraduate roundtable and poster sessions, and some thanked Undergraduate Coordinator Robert Kettlitz of Hastings College specifically. Several students mentioned the connection they made with the faculty Discussant at the Undergraduate Roundtable where they presented as especially positive, encouraging, and exciting for them.

On the theme of organizational factors, respondents mentioned the overall organization of the conference, attending committee meetings, and the provision of laptops in session rooms that “made it easy for presenters”, and other features. One respondent said, “I really liked the organization of the event, the accessibility of the resources, the Socio app, connecting. The volunteers were very very friendly!” Another noted, “The fact that it felt as though members had a lot of say in sessions and how things ran. I found it to be a collaborative, non-hierarchical conference.”

Areas for Change or Improvement  Asked to name one thing to change or improve about the conference, respondents’ comments fell into roughly eight themes: issues with particular sessions or presentations (29), scheduling (28), “nothing” (25), the hotel location and area (25), the cost of hotel rooms/parking (18), a desire for more free food/drinks (13), who was present and presenting (11), and other factors (35).

Comments on particular sessions or presentations included concerns with sessions having too many or too few presenters, presiders not showing up or not keeping time fairly for all presenters, small audiences, presiders not showing up, a need for more help with technology, uneven or poor quality of presentations, and a desire for more or less of certain types of presentations and sessions or particular theoretical perspectives.

Comments on scheduling included difficulty choosing sessions to attend because there were so many at one time, objections and concerns about when or where a particular session was scheduled, requests to start sessions later in the morning, to have a mid-morning break with no sessions, to have a lunch break with no sessions, and to not have sessions after 5 pm, to have longer sessions, to have the conference on different days, and to have fewer days.

Comments on the hotel/hotel location and area mentioned the downtown area, homelessness, perceptions of safety in the streets, restaurants nearby and in the hotel, lack of nightlife nearby, and problems with services or layout in the hotel.

While some respondents commented that the price of hotel rooms and parking at the hotel was too high, other respondents said that PSA needed to provide more free food—especially coffee, alcohol, and meals for students. A few respondents unhappy with the cost of the hotel sometimes objected to the conference being held in a (corporate) hotel; however, there is no other viable method for PSA to hold conferences at this time. It is only by helping to sell sleeping rooms in the hotel and purchase food and beverages from the hotel catering that PSA is able to use the hotel meeting room space. Most hotels with adequate sleeping rooms and meeting rooms for the conference are large, corporate-branded hotels. Renting meeting room space—like in a convention center or university—would be significantly more expensive for PSA, and yet PSA would not be able to provide the free food and beverages that it currently does. And while free coffee for all sounds fabulous, the typical cost per gallon is over $100; how many gallons would it take?

Comments concerned with who was present/presenting showed a split, with some respondents wanting more R1 faculty or special speakers and/or less undergraduate and graduate student presenters, and others concerned that presenters and
attendees were disproportionately white. An example of the latter was, “It seemed the only time I saw a person of color presenting was at a SPECIFIC session for people of color (such as #NextGenBlackSoc). I would like to see more diversity in all of the sessions. Perhaps the conference should be more accessible and welcoming.” Another respondent highlighted the low participation of applied/etc. sociologists, and called for “Encouraging sociologists outside academia to attend. Of course, the program provides them little reason to come.”

Other factors respondents noted as issues included a desire for free wifi in all meeting rooms (very costly in most hotels at this point), problems with technology such as the conference app, negative situations with PSA student volunteers, and temperatures in certain meeting rooms/sessions (especially too hot for Hochschild and Burawoy).

**Attendance and Scheduling** As reported by respondents, the average attendance was 72% of attendees on any given day, with 61% attending on Thursday, 95% on Friday, 89% on Saturday, and only 41% on Sunday. This pattern is similar to other recent years with a Thursday to Sunday schedule; in years with a Wednesday to Saturday schedule, the lowest attended day is usually Wednesday. As in most recent years more respondents said they prefer a Thursday to Sunday schedule (47%), while a significant group indicated either schedule is fine (37%), and some (16%) preferred a Wednesday to Saturday schedule. Does the preference for Thursday to Sunday actually mean a preference for Thursday to Saturday? In comments, respondents noted various reasons for preferring a Wednesday to Saturday or Thursday to Sunday schedule. In support of Wednesday to Saturday, the top reason was that travel on Sunday was good (17), followed closely by those who wanted Sunday free for rest or other activities (15) or for family (3); other reasons given included that ending the conference on Saturday afternoon allows for attendees to have fun in the conference city Saturday night and possibly Sunday, the need to travel Saturday, that travel on Tuesdays and Saturdays is cheaper, that they want the conference to be during the workweek, and the often poor attendance on Sundays. Respondents who favored a Thursday to Sunday schedule overwhelmingly said they did so because this works better for their teaching/class/work schedules (114), while others noted this schedule allows them to bring family or eases childcare issues (8), or makes it easier to travel to/from the conference (8).

Crosstabs for gender and schedule preference showed that respondents who identified as men were most likely to prefer a Wednesday to Saturday schedule (22% of men), but crosstabs for gender and conference days attended showed respondents across gender identifications attended each day at close to the same rate.

Crosstab results for race/ethnicity of respondents and schedule preference were limited due to the small number of respondents who identified in some racial/ethnic groups, and most racial/ethnic groups reported similar preferences to the overall. However, respondents who identified as African American/Black were a little more likely than the average to either prefer Wednesday to Saturday or to say that either schedule was okay; Asian American/American respondents were a little more likely than average to prefer Wednesday to Saturday, and white respondents were a little more likely than the average to prefer Thursday to Sunday. Respondents across racial/ethnic identifications reported about the same rates of attendance on various days of the conference, except that those who identified as multiracial/multiethnic reported less attendance on Saturday and more on Sunday than the average.

When considered by age, respondents younger than 25 years were most likely to prefer a Thursday to Sunday schedule and least likely to prefer a Wednesday to Saturday schedule. Respondents 65 years and older were most likely to say that either schedule works for them. In terms of daily attendance, respondents from various age groups attended each day at similar rates, except that those younger than 25 were a little more likely to attend on Friday and Saturday, while those 55-64 and 65 and older were more likely to attend on Thursday. Similarly, when considered by current status community college students and undergraduate students at four year colleges were least likely to prefer a Wednesday to Saturday schedule, while Emeritus and retired respondents were most likely to say either schedule was fine for them, and community college students reported the lowest rate of attendance on Thursday and highest on Saturday and Sunday, while Emeritus and retired respondents showed the highest rate of attendance on Thursday.

As in prior years, most respondents (78%) said it either makes it easier/more desirable for them to attend the conference if it falls on their spring break, or that it makes no difference to them. Comments provided to explain why attending PSA when it is
scheduled during spring break centered on being more fully able to devote
time to the conference because of not having to deal with school at the
same time (83); some respondents noted that it also makes travel easier for
them (5) or that it makes it easier to bring family with them or arrange
childcare (3). Respondents who said it is more difficult or less desirable for
them to attend PSA when it is scheduled during their spring break said they
had other plans for their break or just needed a break (28), or wanted to
spend this time with family (12), could not spare this time for a conference
because they needed to do grading and other end of term tasks and prepare
for a new term (especially those on quarter systems) (11), and that travel
was more costly for them during spring break (1).

Men were a little more likely to say that scheduling the conference during their spring break made it easier or more desirable to
attend. When responses were viewed by racial/ethnic identity, Latinx, Asian American/Asian, and multiracial/multietnic
respondents were more likely to say scheduling during spring break makes it easier or more desirable for them to attend, while
African American/Black respondents were more likely to say it made it more difficult or less desirable for them to attend. Viewed
by age, younger respondents were much more likely to say scheduling the conference during spring break makes it easier for
them to attend (61% of those younger than 25, 46% of those ages 25-34), while older respondents were more likely to say it did
not impact them (54% of those ages 55-64 and 84% of those 65 years and older). These results by age were mirrored when
responses were viewed by the status of the respondent; students at all levels were much more likely to say scheduling during
spring break made it easier for them (75% of community college students, 55% of
undergraduates in 4 year programs, and 47% of graduate students).

As in prior years, most (73%) of respondents said that scheduling PSA on or near religious
holidays does not impact their likelihood to attend. This is an important question for PSA, as
Easter and Passover often fall within the “window” for PSA’s conference (mid-March to mid-
April), so scheduling to avoid them can be difficult. Comments from respondents who said
scheduling on or near religious holidays would impact them mostly said this would make them
less likely to attend (41) or they would not attend (6), while others said it would make them
more likely to attend if hotel rates were lower (8); a few respondents (3) expressed strong
concern that scheduling on or near religious holidays was not respectful of or discriminatory
against people who observe those holidays, and so should be strictly avoided by PSA. No clear
differences were seen in responses by gender, race/ethnicity, or by current status. Considered
by age, respondents ages 35-44 were more likely to say that it would impact their attendance, while older respondents were
more likely to say it would not impact their attendance (86% of those ages 55-64 and 78% of those 65 and older).

Possible Conference Locations Respondents were asked to rate their likelihood to attend possible future PSA conferences
in various locations. As in prior years, respondents favored locations in the division of this year’s conference (Central); this
reflected the ‘bump’ of attendees from the local area each year. There were some variations in who favored and did not favor
some locations—by gender, race/ethnicity, and status (faculty, student, etc.); relevant notes are included in the table below.

PSA requires a fairly large hotel in order to have enough sleeping rooms (at as low a rate as we can get) as well as many meeting
rooms in varied sizes for sessions and at least one large ballroom. Hotels require a commitment to purchase a certain amount
of food and beverage from them in order to use meeting and reception spaces; AV cost is another factor for PSA. Other factors that
are important for attendees include nearby cafes, restaurants, and things to see and do as well as ease of travel to the location
from across the PSA region. PSA also requires that hotels have fair labor policies. Collectively, these factors make it hard for PSA
to go to certain cities; that is why some locations were not on the options given to respondents (including San Francisco, San
Jose/Santa Clara, Sacramento in the Central division, Seattle in the northern division, and Los Angeles and often San Diego in the
southern division). Some locations are possible some years but not others (like Portland or Oakland). The process of finding a
location for the PSA conference is quite complicated!

Note: PSA will be in Eugene, Oregon for 2020, then San Diego, California for 2021; 2022 is still in process. PSA will be in Bellevue,
WA (East Seattle) for 2023—by which time the new light rail connection to downtown Seattle and the airport will be in operation.
Respondents provided lots of suggestions for further locations in comments. Some suggested locations are outside the PSA region and thus not possible—including “The Moon. Never been there, looks nice.” Popular suggestions were San Diego (24), Seattle (21), Salt Lake City/Utah (16), Vancouver/British Columbia (8), Sacramento (8), Idaho (8), Tucson (7), Santa Barbara (6), Reno (6), Los Angeles (5), Hawai’i (4), Spokane (4), Palo Alto/San Jose/Santa Clara (4), and ‘somewhere close to me’ (7). Also mentioned were Alberta, Alaska, Bellingham, Tacoma, Eugene, Ashland, and Montana in the northern division; Eureka, Monterey/Santa Cruz, Davis, wine country, and Boulder in the central division; Flagstaff, Orange County, Bakersfield, Laguna Beach, Palm Springs, Lake Arrowhead, Riverside, Santa Fe, and Mexico in the southern division. Unfortunately, the need for a passport to travel from the U.S. to Canada and Mexico poses a significant obstacle to locating the PSA conference there. Sacramento, San Jose/Santa Clara, Los Angeles, and Seattle downtown are difficult or not possible because of very high room rates and other costs and/or their lack of fair labor hotels that meet our needs. While airfare to Hawai’i has recently been less costly, the cost is often high; and perhaps it is too exciting as a destination, so that “attendees” would be on the beach rather than in sessions? Most of the remaining suggested locations do not have large enough hotels, are not near enough to an airport with service throughout the PSA region, or pose other challenges. Respondents also mentioned a few locations they do not like, including Arizona (1), Eugene (1), and Reno (2).

Respondents were asked to rank three major factors they may consider when deciding whether to attend a conference—location (city), travel cost, and conference hotel room cost. The location was the most important factor for 44% of respondents, followed closely by travel cost (42% of respondents). Compared to 2018, 2019 respondents rated travel cost as more important, while the primacy of the location decreased.
Participation, Session Attendance, and Session Quality  

As usual, the most common roles that participants said they played at the conference were as presenters (78%) and audience members (61%), followed by Presider/Discussant (24%), Committee or Council Member (18%), Session Organizer (12%), and Volunteer (5%). The most mentioned “Other” role was as faculty mentor/faculty bringing students.

There were no clear differences in participant roles by gender. Considered by race/ethnicity, African American/Black, Asian American/Asian, and Latinx respondents were a little less likely to be a Presider/Discussant; Asian American/Asian and Multiracial/Multiethnic respondents were a little less likely to be a Session Organizer; Asian American/Asian and Latinx respondents were a little less likely to be a Committee/Board Member; Latinx respondents were a little less likely to be volunteers; Asian American/Asian respondents were a little less likely to be audience members; Latinx and Multiracial/Multiethnic respondents were a little less likely to be presenters; white respondents were a little more likely to be presenters, Presiders/Discussants, and audience members. In terms of status, community college student respondents reported being audience members at the highest rate (100%), while graduate students reported being presenters at the highest rate (86%). Community college faculty were less likely to be presenters but more likely to be session organizers and audience members. Community college faculty appear to be a split group, with some involved in planning, organizing, and PSA governance as well as presenting, while others attend just as audience members. Faculty from four year colleges are most likely to be committee/board members, and also present at a high rate (78%).

Most respondents said they participated in only one session (58%), while 18% said they did not participate in any sessions, 17% participated in two sessions, 6% in three sessions, and 1% in five or more sessions; no respondents reported participating in four sessions. This is very similar to recent years. Again, there were no clear differences by gender. Considered by race/ethnicity, African American/Black and Multiracial/Multiethnic respondents who did present were a little more likely to present in two sessions; Asian American/Asian respondents were more likely to present in only one session or in five or more sessions; and Latinx respondents were more likely to present in only one session. In terms of status, undergraduate (75%) and graduate students (69%) mostly presented in just one session; community college faculty who presented were more likely to do so in five or more sessions; and university faculty were more likely to present in two or three sessions.

As audience members, 32% of respondents said they attended 3-4 sessions, followed by 25% attending 5-6 sessions, 18% attending 1-2 sessions, 11% 7-8 sessions, and 9% were super audiences and attended 9 or more sessions. In addition, 5% of respondents said they did not attend any sessions as an audience member. Mean attendance was 4-5 sessions.

Men were less likely to be audience members in 1-2 sessions, while more likely to be audience members in 3-4 sessions. Respondents who identified as Asian American/Asian were most likely to attend zero sessions as audience members; Multiracial/Multiethnic respondents were more likely to attend 3-4 sessions; Latinx respondents were more likely to attend 5-6 and 7-8 sessions; and white respondents were less likely to attend 7-8 sessions. By status, undergraduate students were more likely to attend 5-6 sessions. Community college faculty reported high session attendance, in 7-8 or 9+ sessions, while four year college faculty were more likely to attend 1-2 sessions.

Most respondents said the overall quality of the presentations they attended was excellent (37%) or good (50%), although some reported presentations were mixed (8%) or fair/poor (3%). This shows a shift of about 7% from good to excellent compared to recent years. Men were a little more likely to say presentations were fair/poor. African American/Black respondents were less likely to say presentations were fair/poor; Asian American/Asian respondents were more likely to say they were fair/poor or good.
and less likely to say they were excellent; white respondents were more likely to say they were good; and Latinx and multiracial/multiethnic respondents were more likely to say they were excellent. By status, undergraduates were more likely to say presentations were excellent, while graduate students were more likely to say the were good or fair/poor; community college faculty were more likely to say they were excellent but also more likely to say that they were mixed.

**Program and Program Materials**  Most respondents rated the printed conference program booklet as excellent (37%) or good (37%), similar to recent years. However, the increase in respondents reporting that they did not use the printed program continued, from 13% in 2017 to 18% in 2018 to 23% in 2019. Just less than half (47%) of respondents said they did not use the online/downloadable program app. Of respondents who did use the app, 50% rated it as excellent, 39% rated it as good, and 12% rated it as fair/poor.

In comments, respondents who rated the program app as excellent or good described features that they especially liked. The most mentioned feature was the ability to make a personal schedule or itinerary (23), followed by overall ease of use and navigation, including color-coding for topical areas/etc and the display of the content by day (21), search features (by name, topical area, session type, etc.) (9), the information accessible (session titles, paper titles, authors, abstracts) (6), and that the app is an environmentally-friendly alternative to a printed paper program (2). Respondents—particularly those who rated the app as fair/poor—also noted some things they did not like about the app and suggested ways it could be improved; hopefully some of these can be possible next year. The most mentioned problem was difficulty accessing the app or glitches because of the hotel wifi or lack of wifi in session rooms (10). Some (4) of the negative comments talked about features the respondents said were lacking in the app, but that actually were present; in addition, three respondents mentioned that they needed more information on how to download and use the app. Respondents who said they did not use the app also provided some reasons in comments. The most cited was that they simply prefer a printed paper program (32), while others explicitly said they do not like to use apps/internet/etc. (8). Others said they did not want to download the app either because it was a single use app or took too much time to download and learn to use (19), or they had some difficulty trying to download (8) or their phone was too old/low storage/etc. (10). Other respondents said they did not have a need for any program at all (7) or that they downloaded the .pdf program from the PSA website (4). Finally, some respondents (7) said they did not know about the app.

Respondents added comments about the overall program and program materials. Some respondents shared general statements about the conference being good (22), while others mentioned specific things they appreciated, including the provision of laptops and the new Open Discussion session format. Others gave feedback on ways to improve scheduling and sessions (8), while some (4) shared issues with specific Presiders, Discussants, and presenters. Two areas respondents said they would like more of were diversity and multicultural content (2) and professional development workshops (2). Some respondents (6) reported that student volunteers overly discouraged them from taking a printed program or just did not give them one; in addition, two respondents said that student volunteers were not very helpful or unpleasent in manner. This is unfortunate, and an area to address with volunteers next year. Respondents also gave feedback on what they liked and didn’t like about the printed program, website, and preliminary program, as well as asked for more information about free food, more free food and beverages, and wifi throughout session rooms.

Of the 14 (5%) respondents who said they did use conferenceshare.co to look for cost-sharing possibilities for the conference, 50% said it was useful, while 29% said it was not. It will be important to see if usage and usefulness increases as more people become familiar with this service, since it is free to users but PSA has to pay to register the conference and then pays a per user fee.

Similar to recent years, 35% of respondents said they did not visit the book exhibit run by the Library of Social Sciences; of those who did, 37% said it was excellent, 50% said it was good, and 12% said it was fair/poor.

Respondents reported a similar rate of attendance at receptions as in 2018, with 40% saying they attended no receptions, 22% attended the Presidential Reception, 17% the Welcome Reception, 12% the Student Reception, and 10% the Sociological Perspectives Reception.
Oakland and the Conference Hotel  Overall, most respondents (73%) were very satisfied with the location of the conference in Oakland, while 21% were somewhat satisfied and 4% were not satisfied. Most respondents (65%) said that it was very easy for them to travel to Oakland, while others said it was somewhat easy (31%) and some said it was difficult (5%). Respondents were also mostly very satisfied with local amenities (69%), with others somewhat satisfied (27%) and some not satisfied (5%). These ratings are very similar to recent years in other locations.

Respondents also mostly (67%) were very satisfied with meeting space in the conference hotel, while 28% were somewhat satisfied and 5% were not satisfied. This ‘very satisfied’ rating is lower than reported for Long Beach in 2018, very similar to that reported for Portland in 2017, while also lower than was reported the last time PSA was in the same hotel in 2016. It seems the issues with heat regulation in several meeting rooms (which was not an issue in 2016) impacted satisfaction.

Just over half (53%) of respondents said they stayed in the conference hotel, although 2% stayed there only part of their conference trip, and 83% of these respondents said they used the special PSA rate for their rooms, 5% did not, and 12% did not know if they used the PSA rate. Respondents who stayed in the conference hotel were fairly satisfied with the cost of their rooms (39% very satisfied, 35% somewhat satisfied, 11% not satisfied, and 15% said they did not know), more satisfied with the quality of their rooms (79% very satisfied, 16% somewhat satisfied, and 5% not satisfied), and hotel services (75% very satisfied, 13% somewhat satisfied, 1% not satisfied, 6% mixed in satisfaction, and 5% did not use hotel services). These rates are similar to recent years in other hotels where the conference has been held.

Demographics  As in recent years, this was the first PSA conference for many respondents (43%), with the next largest group reporting long-time attendance of nine or more conferences (21%), followed by those who had attended 1-2 conferences (15%).

Respondents reported their current status in very similar proportions to recent years. As mentioned in the beginning of this writeup, compared to data on overall registrants, four year university faculty are over-represented in survey respondents (38% of respondents, 30.5% of registrants), while undergraduate students at four year colleges are under-represented (19% of respondents, 30% of registrants). Other status categories were more fairly represented among survey respondents—27% graduate students, 6% community college faculty, 3% Emeritus/retired sociologists, and 1% each community college students and applied/public/practicing sociologists.

In terms of age, 26% of respondents reported ages of 25-34, 21% reported they were younger than 25 years, 19% each reported they were ages 35-44 and 45-54, 9% reported ages 55-64, and 6% reported being 65 years and older. This is similar to survey respondents in recent years.

As for some time in PSA, respondents who reported their gender as women were the largest group (63%); 29% reported they were men, and 4% together said they identified as genderqueer/fluid/
nonconforming or trans. (Note: respondents were able to select more than one option, so they could choose, for example, both ‘Man’ and ‘Trans’ if they chose.) It is difficult to compare these proportions to gender identity of registrants, as 21% of registrants did not provide their gender identity, but existing data suggests that survey respondents represent registrants fairly well by gender. 

Respondents were able to select multiple racial/ethnic identities. The most frequently reported racial/ethnic identity was white (54%), followed by Latinx (17%), African American/Black (8%), Asian American/Asian (8%), Multiracial/multiethnic (4%), Middle Eastern/North African (2%), and about 1% each Native American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. However, the N for the last three categories was small (less than 10 each). Although data is missing for 19% of registrants, people who identified as white were over-represented among survey respondents (54%, compared to 38% of registrants for whom data exists), while people who identified as Latinx were under-represented among survey respondents (17%, compared to 22% of registrants for whom data exists). In 2019 the biggest shift in racial/ethnic demographics of registrants was a decrease in those identifying as white (especially by students) and an increase in those identifying as Latinx (especially by students). Thus, crosstabs analysis of survey responses by racial/ethnic identity cannot be fully generalized to represent 2019 conference registrants.

**Anything to Add?** At the end of the survey, respondents were asked if they wanted to add anything. Many respondents (33) wrote a general thank you or positive note, and a few more noted something specific they liked about the conference. Others (9) noted something with which they were not happy, and some respondents added ideas or requests for future conferences, such as having a dedicated networking space/place for adjunct faculty (great idea!), separating graduate student presenters, especially MA students, from faculty presenters on different panels (an idea about which there are widely different views within PSA), and looking into ways attendees might do a ‘self check in’ to ease the process at the PSA registration area (pre-registration helps a lot with this!).

**Eugene, 2020** Respondents were asked if they plan to attend the PSA 2020 conference in Eugene, Oregon. The largest group (46%) said “Yes”, while 42% said they don’t know. The 12% who said “No” were asked the reason(s); the location was the most noted (20 respondents), followed by lack of funding (14 respondents), moving out of the Pacific area (7 respondents), experiences with PSA conferences (5 respondents), and the dates of the conference (3 respondents).

**Do You Need Childcare and/or Content Access Support at the PSA Conference?**

PSA is working on processes to provide childcare support and improve accessibility of conference content for people who need accommodations for vision, hearing, and other areas. If you have needs or ideas, please send them to executivedirector@pacificsoc.org.
PSA News and Announcements

Check www.pacificsoc.org for more announcements, including Calls for Papers and Employment Opportunities!

New Editors Selected for Sociological Perspectives, 2020-2022

PSA is pleased to announce Black Hawk Hancock (Associate Professor of Sociology, DePaul University) and Bryan Sykes (Assistant Professor of Criminology, Law and Society, UC Irvine) have been selected as the editors for the next three year term at the helm of PSA’s official journal, Sociological Perspectives. The PSA Publications Committee and Council recognized that Black Hawk Hancock brings strengths in qualitative work (as a theorist-ethnographer), Bryan Sykes brings complimentary strengths in quantitative work (as a demographer-statistician), and they have worked together on mixed methodological integration. Watch for them to bring some new ideas to the journal in 2020!

Article from Sociological Perspectives Nominated for Prestigious International Award

We are thrilled to announce that the article, “Intentional invisibility: Professional Women and the Navigation of Workplace Constraints” by Swethaa Ballakrishnen, Priya Fielding-Singh, and Devon Magliozzi, published in Sociological Perspectives Volume 62(1), February 2019, has been nominated for the annual Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research. The nomination is a great honor as the international award is designed to acknowledge excellence in the field of work-family research.

Abstract: Drawing on an in-depth case study at a large nonprofit organization, we find, in line with previous scholarship, that women professionals continue to face biased expectations at work and at home. We leverage data from interviews and participant observation to identify a new strategy that women use to navigate professional constraints created by the second shift and workplace double binds: “intentional invisibility.” Intentional invisibility refers to a set of risk-averse, conflict-avoidant strategies that women professionals in our study employ to feel authentic, manage competing expectations in the office, and balance work and familial responsibilities. We find women across the organization reporting intentionally remaining behind the scenes in attempts to avoid backlash and maintain a professional status quo. While intentional invisibility allows women to successfully navigate gender unequal professional and personal landscapes, it could simultaneously present an additional challenge to career advancement.

Current PSA members can always access all issues/articles from Sociological Perspectives via the link in the PSA portal. This article is available for open access on the Sociological Perspectives website for a limited time: https://journals.sagepub.com/home/spx

Dr. Katy Pinto Awarded Presidential Outstanding Professor, 2019, at CSU Dominguez Hills

CSU DH News Post, April 26: Katy Pinto, assistant professor of sociology, has received the Presidential Outstanding Professor Award. Created to recognize excellence in teaching, the award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in all areas of faculty performance, who is a respected educator and expert in his or her field, and is an outstanding member of the university and the community.

While teaching, Pinto challenges her students to think critically about society and their experiences within it. When not in the classroom, she is often found mentoring undergraduate and graduate students in skills that prepare them to achieve at CSUDH and in graduate school. Much of this is done in her Social Problems Research Lab, where her students are provided space to conduct research that positions them well for future endeavors. Pinto routinely includes students in her research activities, and many have gone on to present their work at the Pacific Sociological Association’s annual meetings.
PSA Council (Governing Board) Actions, February to July, 2019

March 28, 2019 by Council (full board of directors)
Approved: Consent Agenda (approve last Minutes; change in physical address of PSA office)
Approved: Selected application for new editorship, pending resolution of budget details and then final approval by Executive Committee
Approved: 2019-2021 Secretary to be a part-time employee of PSA, with maximum net combined compensation and reimbursement for necessary expenses of $3,000/year
Approved: Graduate Student Representatives to Council eligible for up to $500/year reimbursement for necessary travel expenses to attend the conference and participate in Council meetings

March 31, 2019 by Council (full board of directors)
Approved: Minutes from last meeting, as amended
Approved: Executive Committee to continue as last two years (Past President, Past Vice President, one Director as voting members) but with addition of designated Alternate member who can fill in for any voting member; Lora Vess selected as regular Director member, and Katja Guenther as Alternate member
Approved: Allow up to $500 reimbursement for necessary travel expenses for any officially appointed (by the Committee on Committees) student members of committees
Tabled: Discussion of requests for special funding for certain speakers at committee-sponsored sessions

May 15, 2019 by Executive Committee
Approved: Selection of new editors 2020-2022 for Sociological Perspectives, pending adjustments to budget
Approved: Selection of Hyatt Regency Bellevue, WA for PSA 2023 conference
Approved: Annual evaluation of Executive Director process to begin, led by Past Vice President Kathy Kuipers

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2019-2020 PSA Officers and Council (Board of Directors)

President: Dennis J. Downey, CSU Channel Islands
Vice President: Ellen Reese, UC Riverside

Council (Directors):
Lora Vess, University of Alaska Southeast
Katja Guenther, UC Riverside
Ynez Wilson Hirst, Saint Mary’s College
Susan Mannon, University of the Pacific
Kelley D. Strawn, Willamette University
Ann Strahm, CSU Stanislaus

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Treasurer-Elect: Christine E. Bose, SUNY Albany & University of Washington
Secretary: Amy Leisenring, San Jose State University

PSA Staff: Lora Bristow, Executive Director P.O. Box 4161, Arcata CA 95521 executivedirector@pacificsoc.org
www.pacificsoc.org

Editors, Sociological Perspectives: Through 2019: Matthew Carlson, Hyeyoung Woo, and Lindsey Wilkinson, Portland State University; Managing Editor, Elizabeth Withers, Portland State University
2020-2022: Bryan Sykes, UC Irvine, and Black Hawk Hancock, DePaul University;
Managing Editors: Matthew Renner and Bradley Bartos, UC Irvine socperspectives@pacificsoc.org
News from Other Organizations

Send in your announcements to executivedirector@pacificsoc.org for inclusion in future PSA newsletters and posting on the PSA website. Visit the PSA website, www.pacificsoc.org, for more announcements, including employment opportunities, calls for papers, and more.

In Memoriam—Two San Francisco State University Sociology Professors Emeriti

Marjorie J. Seashore, Department of Sociology, Emerita, San Francisco State University, Died April 9, 2019
Read obituary notice from San Francisco Chronicle

John W. Kinch, Department of Sociology, Emeritus, San Francisco State University, Died May 12, 2019
Read obituary notice from San Francisco Chronicle

Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology
Annual Conference, October 17-19, 2019

Theme: “The Profession of Sociological Practice.”

In the last quarter century, applied and clinical sociologists have marshalled significant momentum to “professionalize” sociological practice. Join sociologists who serve the public in sundry occupations in the academic and non-academic workplace and professional marketplace. Open to all sociologists, social and behavioral scientists, and professionals who use social and behavioral science in business and industry, government, and academia. AACS Annual Meetings attract practicing sociologists and other professionals from around the world who know how to make a difference.

We don’t just present “papers” at AACS – we look for innovation and creativity in content and presentation form. AACS has a reputation as a student-friendly Association. Our annual meetings offer mentoring opportunities for students. Students who attend AACS Annual Meetings are encouraged to submit their papers for the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Paper Competition. Student teams are welcome to participate in the Client Problem-solving Competition.

AACS pre-conference professional development workshops are available on Thursday afternoon for a modest additional charge for non-members. Registration includes the welcome and closing receptions, complimentary breakfasts by Embassy Suites with stay, keynote and presidential luncheons, and refreshments.

The location for the 2019 AACS Annual Meeting is: Embassy Suites by Hilton Portland Washington Square Reserve your room, using code XAA, for the special AACS Group Rate by 9/14/19.

More information: https://www.aacsnet.net/
Reflections on the 2019 Oakland Meeting by Program Chair Sharon K. Davis

Engaging Millennials: Researching and Teaching about Power, Diversity, and Change was the theme of the PSA’s 90th Annual Meeting, and it resonated with our members, from graduate students to full professors, and also with members who are employed outside of academe. It was the brainchild of President Elaine Bell Kaplan, whose vision made this meeting one of the most well-attended and successful meetings. Engaging Millennials actually engaged us all, as we reflected on our classrooms, our communities, and our society.

The 14 Presidential Sessions and Panels explored the many ways Millennials may be engaged, not only academically, but also socially and through the arts. Performances by Hip Hop for Change, the socially-conscious, Oakland-based, hip hop group; the graduate students in the dance program at Mills College; and the showing of F R E E: The Power of Performance, a documentary about an Oakland-based dance troupe that engages at-risk adolescents, are but three examples of the latter. Presidential Sessions that included millennials and moral panics, social movements, activism, issues facing millennials of color, gender inequality, leftist politics, and the importance of history and theory further reflected the theme, the state of society, and what is to come. The social relevance of this meeting culminated in the Presidential Session: Public Sociology in the Era of Trump, which featured a conversation with Arlie Hochschild and Michael Burawoy. Their insights and observations resonated with the standing room only audience. And finally, the Presidential Address, The Millennial Leftists are Emerging: Are Sociologists Ready for Them?, inspired us to adapt to social change, stay relevant, and continue to grow both personally and professionally.

Having served as Program Chair for this meeting and working alongside President Elaine Bell Kaplan and Executive Director Lora Bristow, I feel both proud and humbled by what we created; the result was far greater than the sum of the three of us, and included many others who contributed to its success. When I began attending the annual meetings of the Pacific Sociological Association in 1975, as a first-year graduate student, I had no idea that one day I might help to shape them. The intellectual stimulation, the opportunity to meet some of my academic role models, the professional networking, and feeling welcome in the sociological community have kept me committed to the organization.

I wish to thank many people, the unsung heroes working behind the scenes, for keeping the PSA vibrant and relevant, and for contributing to the success of the 2019 annual meeting. First, thank you to Executive Director, Lora Bristow, for her leadership and for being the glue that holds us together, who believed I could be an effective Program Chair. Second, thank you to President Elaine Bell Kaplan for your clarity of vision and collaboration. Working with you was an inspiration and a pleasure. Third, thank you to the 2019 Program Committee. Your hard work and willingness to serve made it all possible. And finally, thank you to the new, the continuing, and the multiple session organizers; your commitment and generosity inspire and humble me. All of you are major contributors to the intellectual excellence, diversity, and inclusivity of these meetings.
A Note of Thanks From PSA 2019 President Elaine Bell Kaplan

To: PSA Members

Re: 2019 Conference

Thank you for giving me this great opportunity to serve as your President. I hope you enjoyed the conference as much as I did.

I couldn’t attend some of these sessions, but I received a lot of great feedback indicating that the conference went super well. Some comments: “best PSA attended in 20 years”. Another person called it “best ever.” Michael Burawoy and Arlie Hochschild used the phrase, “fabulous.”

Other comments: “The Gen Z panelist gives me such hope, as did the conference at large, you really nailed it.”

From Pierrette Hongdagneu-Sotelo, “This was one of the best sociology conferences I have attended. Elaine selected a theme that elicited so much interest and palpable enthusiasm. Presenters and panelists really got behind the theme of millennials, resulting in a cohesiveness that we don’t usually see at PSA or ASA. Also, Elaine’s presidential address was amazing! I know it will be published in Sociological Perspectives but I hope it was video recorded too? Icing on the cake was seeing so many current grad students together with both recent and longtime alumni from our (USC) department.”

Another comment: “Thanks as well for organizing such a vibrant conference! It was my first PSA, having only recently moved to the west coast, and it was a great experience.”

I am also excited to tell you about the 10-year-old panelist (picture above) who discussed her trip to Johannesburg and how it helped her deal with the racism she faces at her school in US. Her name is Nashira A., and she presented in the panel “Reconstructing Expertise on Resistance: What We Can Learn from Young Communities of Color Mobilizing against Social Inequality” Is she the youngest PSA panelist?

Standing room only audience for Arlie Hochschild and Michael Burawoy, “Public Sociology in the Age of Trump”.