



Sociology of Mental Health

Volume 13, NO. 2

Summer 2005



From the Chair

Business Meeting

Monday August 15th

3:30-4:10pm

(after the roundtables)

Philadelphia Marriott

Reception

Monday August 15th

6:30-8:00pm

There will be hors
d'oeuvres and a cash
bar

Philadelphia Marriott

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

-IDEAS FOR A LOGO FOR
THE SECTION STILL
SOUGHT

-SECTION WEBSITE
COMING SOON

-MENTAL HEALTH SEC-
TION ELECTION RE-
SULTS

-ASA MEETINGS MEN-
TAL HEALTH PROGRAM
LISTINGS

-ANNOUNCEMENTS

2005 ASA Mental Health Section Election Results:

Chair Elect: Debra Umberson

Nominations Chair Elect: Sara Rosenfeld,

Publications Chair Elect: Michael Hughes

Standing Council Elect: Kristen Marcussen

Section Bylaw revisions were approved

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The newsletter editor has change af-
filiation. Please note his new email
address:

firivera@mail.ucf.edu

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Sociology of Mental Health

Of Interest

Section Officers

Section Chair

Bill Eaton

Chair-Elect

Bernice Pescosolido

Past Chair

Jane McLeod

Secretary-Treasurer

Robin Simon

Nominations Chair

Teresa Scheid

Awards Chair

Bruce Link

Publications Chair

Peggy Thoits

Student Member

Christina Falci

Council

Scott Schieman

Teresa Scheid

Rand Conger

Newsletter Editor

Fernando I. Rivera

firivera@mail.ucf.edu

**From WASHINGTON FAX (copyright 2005)
M a r c h 3 0 , 2 0 0 5
IoM To Recommend NIH Research Agenda
For Social, Genetic Health Risks**

A new Institute of Medicine committee is charged with studying the intersections between social, behavioral, and genetic factors and health. Ronald Abeles, PhD, special assistant to the director of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), outlined the committee's mandate at its first meeting March 28. The committee will review current literature to develop case studies for health risks that are caused by both social and genetic factors, such as stress or smoking, according to a document describing the group's mission. The committee then will recommend short- and long-term priorities for social and biological research to address these problems. "What strategies should the NIH develop for funding research that might produce breakthroughs?" Abeles asked the committee.

NIH is not asking for more research, Abeles said, but is instead asking for advice on what kind of research the agency should fund. The committee will meet five times before forming its recommendations. Central NIH groups involved in the project are the National Human Genome Research Institute, OBSSR and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. Concurrently, the group will receive the "strong interest and strong moral support, if not financial support, of the entire NIH," Abeles said. NIH has been considering the topic for a few years, Abeles noted. The idea for studying the interactions between social and genetic factors in health came from a conversation between NIH Deputy Director Raynard Kington, MD/PhD, and NHGRI Director Francis Collins, MD/PhD, Abeles said. A multidisciplinary consultation was convened at NIH in 2001 to address the topic. Both Kington and Collins noted that there has been progress in identifying genetic factors that influence resistance or susceptibility to disease, Abeles said, though the social factors were less well known. After the consultation, NHGRI and OBSSR convened a trans-NIH working group on interactions among genetic, behavioral and environmental factors in health that met in 2002 and 2003. The working group comprised members from almost every NIH institute, Abeles said. The group "rather quickly came to

the consensus that there was really something for NIH to do," he explained. The working group's name was changed to "Trans-NIH Working Group on Genes, Social Environments and Health," and it met in 2004 to identify the scientific questions to be explored through further research. After nine months of an "experience of an *Alice in Wonderland* of government bureaucracy," Abeles said, NIH asked the Institute of Medicine to convene the study committee. Committee members have varied backgrounds, ranging from epidemiology to psychiatry to sociology. The committee chair is Dan Blazer, MD/PhD, Duke University. Two sponsors from other institutes also requested recommendations from the IoM committee. NIGMS' Brian Pike, PhD, asked the group to come up with a clear guidance for developing requests for applications and program announcements for the institute, as well as for training basic scientists to understand and employ the social sciences. NHGRI would like to know how to integrate social sciences into public health, said Colleen McBride, PhD, senior researcher for the institute. "We're asking you to think expansively, but in a sense, concretely," Abeles said. Committee members honed in on some possible topics for future debate. Ellen Wright Clayton, MD, Vanderbilt University, said that it has been difficult to study both the genetic and environmental factors that contribute to obesity. Is the "issue that no one can wrap their mind around getting a big enough, complete enough dataset with all the variables?" she asked. "That's where the block is." One potential approach would be to hold one variable constant while manipulating the others, said David Rimoin, MD/PhD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Obesity researchers could hold genetics constant by selecting a study group with a similar ethnic background. Blazer asked what barriers currently prevent NIH from issuing an request for applications on obesity. NIH could write a very general RFA, but it would just be a "shotgun approach," Abeles said. "We have limited resources so we should know how to target research," he said.

-- Molly Laas

Submitted by: Lee Herring
Director of Public Affairs & Public Information
American Sociological Assn.

ASA Annual Meeting Mental Health Sessions (listed by topic, not by time schedules)

Scheduled Time: Sun, Aug 14 - 10:30am - 12:10pm ;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott **Title Displayed in Event Calendar:** Mental Health **The Changing Role(s) of Sociology (and Psychology) in the NIMH Intramural Research Program**

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Fernando I. Rivera (Rutgers University)

Presider: Fernando I. Rivera (Rutgers University)

Look (Again) at All the Lonely People: Why the Elderly do not Suffer from Loneliness

*Jason Schnittker (University of Pennsylvania)

Telling the Whole Story of Divorce as a Stressful Life Event: The Role of Pre-Divorce Context vs. Post-Divorce Situation

*Blair Wheaton (University of Toronto), Rachel Eccles (University of Toronto)

Income and Happiness in the United States

Glenn Firebaugh (Penn State University), Laura M. Tach (Harvard University)

The Problem of Attrition in Survey Research on Health: Evidence from Ten Longitudinal Surveys

*John Reynolds (Florida State University), Karen C. Frank, Heyman Kathy (Florida State University)

Scheduled Time: Tue, Aug 16 - 8:30am -10:10am ;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott **Title Displayed in Event Calendar:** Mental Health, Social Mirror: Reflections on the Changing Role of Sociology in Mental Health Research

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Presider: Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Presider: William R. Avison (University of Western Ontario)

Social Change and the Production of Knowledge About Mental Illness and Its Treatment

Leonard Pearlin (University of Maryland)

*Carmi Schooler (National Institute of Mental Health)

Cyclical or Permanent? The Diminishing Presence of the Social Sciences in NIH

*David T. Takeuchi (University of Washington)

Mental Health and the Mainstream: Past, Present and Prognostications?

*Bernice A. Pescosolido (Indiana University)

Scheduled Time: Sun, Aug 14 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm ;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott **Title Displayed in Event Calendar:** Paper Session. Mental Health Dimensions of Physical Illness (co-sponsored with the Section on Sociology of Mental Health) Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Eric R. Wright (Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis)

Presider: Eric R. Wright (Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis)

The Impact of Industrial Activity on Psychological Distress in the Detroit Metropolitan Area

Jarron M. Saint Onge (University of Colorado-Boulder), *Liam Downey (University of Colorado), Jason Boardman (University of Colorado at Boulder)

The Ongoing Adjustment of Cancer Survivors: Social Factors Shaping Psychological Well-Being Following Cancer Treatment

Karen A. Kaiser (Indiana University)

Depression and HIV Risk Behavior Practices among “At Risk” Women

*Hugh Klein (Emory University), Claire E. Sterk (Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University), Kirk W. Elifson (Georgia State University)

Mental Health Consequences of HIV/AIDS: Effects on Substance Abuse and Treatment Adherence

*Teresa L. Scheid (Univ of North Carolina-Charlotte)

ASA Annual Meeting Mental Health Sessions (contd.)

Scheduled Time: Mon, Aug 15 - 8:30am - 10:10am ;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Paper Session. The Causes and Construction of Mental Health and Illness

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Robert J. Johnson (University of Miami)

Presider: Robert J. Johnson (University of Miami)

Bad Kid, Bad Parents, Bad Genes, or All of the above?: Understanding How Adults Define Children's Mental Health Problems

*Danielle L. Fettes (Indiana University), Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Children's Behavior and Evaluation for Mental Health Problems: Social Statuses and Social Construction Processes Is Self-identifying as Gay or Bisexual Associated with Better Mental Health during Young Adulthood?

*Elbert P. Almazan (Indiana University-Bloomington), Jason Aaron Rosow (Indiana University-Bloomington)

The Drug Wars: The Turf Dispute Between Clinical Psychology and Psychiatry

*Margaret Anna Kerr (University of Pittsburgh)

Scheduled Time: Mon, Aug 15 - 10:30am - 12:10pm;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Paper Session. The Intersection of the Sociologies of Mental Health and Emotion

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Robin W. Simon (Florida State University)

Presider: Robin W. Simon (Florida State University)

Intentional and Unintentional Emotional Boundaries

*Bill Magee (University of Toronto)

Anger and the Stress Process

Leonard I. Pearlin (University of Maryland), *Scott Schieman (University of Toronto), Rachel Eccles (University of Toronto)

Gender Differences in Dimensions of Anger and their Implications for Distressing Emotions

*Robin W. Simon (Florida State University), Kathryn J. Lively (Dartmouth College)

The Management of Sadness in Interpersonal Relationships

*Sarah Dugan Goodrum (Centre College)

Discussant: Debra Umberson (University of Texas)

Scheduled Time: Mon, Aug 15 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm & ;**Building:** Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Preserving Mental Health While Responding to Adversity: Lifecourse, Identity, and Resilience

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Tony N. Brown (Vanderbilt University)

Presider: Portia Lynne Cole (Morgan State University)

Unlocking the Relationship Between Childhood Maltreatment and Adult Health Care Utilization

*Shalon MauRene Irving (Purdue University)

A life at Risk: Black Women Surviving Cancer

*Lashaune Patrice Johnson (University of California)

Remembering Racism: A Cohort Analysis of Perceived Discrimination

*Anthony Ryan Hatch (University of Maryland-College Park)

To Be A Man: An Investigation of Masculinity Ideology and Men's Family Roles Among and Within African-American, Anglo-American, and Mexican-American Families

*Rashawn Jabar Ray (Indiana University-Bloomington)

Discussant: Samuel Noh (University of Toronto)

ASA Annual Meeting Mental Health Sessions (contd.)

Scheduled Time: Mon, Aug 15 - 2:30pm - 3:30pm
Building: Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Section on Sociology of Mental Health Roundtables (one-hour)

Table 1. Stress Exposure and Well Being

Session Organizer: Julie McLaughlin (UNC-Charlotte)

Presider: Shelia R. Cotten (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

Assessing Status Variations in Stress Exposure to Onset of Depression

*Gniesha Y Dinwiddie (University of Pennsylvania)

Descriptions and Experiences of Suffering Among Older Women

*Shelia R. Cotten (University of Alabama at Birmingham), Kate de Medeiros (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Kimberly DeMichele (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Robert Rubinstein (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), Helen K. Black (Thomas Jefferson University)

Table 2. A Life Course Perspective on Mental Health

Presider: Anastasia S. Vogt Yuan (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University)

Pathways from Social Integration to Mental Health

*Stephani Hatch (Columbia University), Michael Wadsworth (MRC NSHD, University College London)

Theoretical Models for the Accumulation of Stressor Exposure across Life

*Elaine Wethington (Cornell University)

Racial Differences in Substance Abuse Across the Life Course

*Anastasia S. Vogt Yuan (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University)

Table 3. Body Image and Mental Health

Presider: Ellen M. Granberg (University of Georgia)

Eating attitudes and their correlates among Canadian women concerned about their weight

*Jungwee Park, Marie Beaudet (Statistics Canada)

Ethnic Identification as a Moderator of the Relationship between Body Image and Depressed Mood

*Ellen M. Granberg (University of Georgia), Ronald L. Simons (University of Georgia)

Table 4. Social Roles and Mental Health

Presider: Joongbaeck Kim (University of Texas at Austin)

"Doing Things I Didn't Feel": Mothering While Depressed

*Heather L Kane (Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

Perceptions of Volunteering Efficacy and Their Effects on Mental Health

*Joongbaeck Kim (University of Texas at Austin), Marc A. Musick (University of Texas at Austin)

SM Roles and Mental Health: Results from a Survey of SM Practitioners

*Robert V Bienvenu (Uniformed Services University), H. Jack McGeorge (Public Safety Group), Trevor Jacques (Videlicet.com)

Table 5. Migration and Mental Health

Presider: Juan Xi (University of Alabama-Birmingham)

Project-induced Involuntary Migration as a Stressor

*Sean-Shong Hwang (University of Alabama-Birmingham), Juan Xi (University of Alabama-Birmingham), Sunny Xiaofei Qiao (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

Strangers in a Familiar Land: The Psychological Consequences of Internal Migration in a Developing Country

Amod N. Pyakuryal (University of Akron), *Mark Tausig, Janardan Subedi (Miami University), Sree Subedi (Miami University-Hamilton)

Table 6. Marital Transitions and Mental Health

Presider: Tetyana Pudrovska (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Coping Strategies of Bereaved Spouses at Late-Midlife: Implications for Men's and Women's Mental Health

*Tetyana Pudrovska (University of Wisconsin, Madison), Deborah Carr (Rutgers University)

ASA Annual Meeting Mental Health Sessions (contd.)

Education Effects as a Moderating Factor on Union Transition and Depression

*Hyeyoung Woo (University of Texas at Austin)

Table 7. Evaluation and Mental Illness

Presider: Devan M Starks (University of Nebraska - Lincoln)

Exploring an Affective Meanings Measure of Stigma Beliefs

*Amy Kroska (Kent State University), Sarah Harkness (Kent State University)

Relational Distance and the Acceptance of Mental Health Evaluations: A Social Influence Approach to Labeling Theory

*Will Kalkhoff (Kent State university), Kristina Alabakovska (Kent State University), Jessica Burke (Bowling Green State University)

Table 8. Depression in Adolescence

Presider: Diane M Gifford (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Pathways to Depressed Mood in Adolescence through the Self-Concept and Social Support: Difference by Gender

*Christina Dawn Falci (University of Minnesota)

The Relative Importance of Stressful Life Events Versus Chronic Stress in Predicting Adolescent Depression

*Diane M Gifford (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Table 9. Delivering Mental Health Care

Presider: Patrick J. Moynihan (Fordham University)

Empowering Depressed women: Changes in 'individual' and 'social' feelings in guided self-help groups

Irmeli I. Laitinen, *Elizabeth Mary Ettorre (University of Plymouth), Carol Sutton (University of Plymouth)

The Experiences of Project Liberty Crisis Counselors in the Bronx

*Patrick J. Moynihan (Fordham University), Jeffrey Levine (Department of Psychiatry, Bronx-Lebanon Hospital), Orlando Rodriguez (Fordham University)

Table 13. Marginalization and Mental Health

Section on Medical Sociology Refereed Roundtables

Scheduled Time: Sat, Aug 13 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm & ; **Building:** Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Section on Medical Sociology Roundtables

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Amy Schulz (University of Michigan)

Organizations Promoting Continuity of Care in a Mental Health System for Young Adults

*Michael Polgar (Penn State Hazleton)

A Review of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Adolescent Research: Depression and Suicide

*R. David Parker (University of South Carolina, School of Medicine)

The Effects of Health Sector Market Factors, Poverty, and Population Race/Ethnicity on Access to Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Care

*Susan E. Stockdale (UCLA))

Discussant: Susan J. Stall (Northeastern Illinois University)

Teaching the Sociology of Mental Health: Integrating Personal Memoirs (co-sponsored by the Section on Medical Sociology)

Scheduled Time: Sun, Aug 14 - 8:30am - 10:10am & ; **Building:** Philadelphia Marriott
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Teaching the Sociology of Mental Health: Integrating Personal Memoirs (co-sponsored by the Section on Medical Sociology)

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Panelist: Jane D. McLeod (Indiana University)

Panelist: Phil Brown (Brown University)

Panelist: William W. Eaton (Johns Hopkins University)

ASA Annual Meeting Mental Health Sessions (contd.)

Scheduled Time: Sat, Aug 13 - 8:30am - 10:10am
Building: Philadelphia Loews Hotel
Title Displayed in Event Calendar: Stigma, Social Change and the Centennial

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Bernice A. Pescosolido (Indiana University)

Presider: Bernice A. Pescosolido (Indiana University)

Goffman's Legacy and the Future of the Sociology of Stigma

*Bernice A. Pescosolido (Indiana University)

The Contributions and Cutting Edge of the Sociology of Stigma: Basic and Applied

*Bruce G. Link (Columbia University)

The Contributions and Cutting Edge of the Psychology of Stigma: Basic and Applied

*Jennifer Crocker (U. of Michigan)

View from the Trenches of Social Change: the ADS

*Shannon Flanagan (ADS Center)

Other Sessions of Interest

Household Finance, Women's Age at First Birth, and Mental Health in Britain **In Session:** Paper Session. Social Environments and Demographic Processes Section on Sociology of Population Social Environments and Demographic Processes **Time:** Mon, Aug 15 - 4:30pm - 6:10pm

Living Arrangements and Mental Health of the Elderly in Taiwan **In Session:** Table 07. Comparative Studies of Mental Health Section on Asia and Asian America Refereed Roundtables (one-hour) **Time:** Sun, Aug 14 - 8:30am - 9:30am

On Race and Mental Health **In Session:** Table 11. Research Group on Race and Ethnicity across the Life Course Section on Aging and the Life Course Refereed Roundtables and Research Groups **Time:** Sun, Aug 14 - 8:30am - 10:10am

Perceived Racial and Ethnic Discrimination and Mental Health Among Chinese Americans: A Longitudinal Analysis of Multiple Outcomes **In Session:** Table 07. Comparative Studies of Mental Health Section on Asia and Asian America Refereed Roundtables (one-hour) **Time:** Sun, Aug 14 - 8:30am - 9:30am

Poverty and Mental Health through the Mid-Adult Life Course **In Session:** Table 05. Youth, Aging, and Life Course Graduate Student Roundtable Session **Time:** Mon, Aug 15 - 8:30am - 10:10am

Sexual Minorities' Transitions to Adulthood and the Mental Health Consequences: A Perspective from Coping Behaviors **In Session:** Table 03. Identities and Marginalization: Consequences for the Self Section on Social Psychology Roundtables on "Across the Social Psychological Spectrum: Questions We Haven't Asked" **Time:** Sun, Aug 14 - 12:30pm - 2:10pm

Substance abuse and mental health: A comparison of women in drug court and women on probation **In Session:** Table 05. Substance Abuse Policy Issues and Women Section on Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco **Time:** Tue, Aug 16 - 10:30am - 11:30am

Temporal Patterns of Work Status and Mental Health Divergence across the Life Course **In Session:** Table 05. Health and Age Open Refereed Roundtables **Time:** Mon, Aug 15 - 8:30am - 10:10am

The Effect of Parental Control and Parental Care on Children's Mental Health: Does Self-Esteem matter? **In Session:** Table 08. Influences of Parenting Section on Children and Youth Refereed Roundtables (one-hour) **Time:** Sun, Aug 14 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Transitioning from Child to Adolescent in the Mental Health System: A Symbolic Interactionist Perspective **In Session:** Table 08. Medicalization and Adolescence Section on Medical Sociology Refereed Roundtables **Time:** Sat, Aug 13 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm

Understanding the Paradox of Black Women's Mental Health **In Session:** Table 02. Well Being and Locus of Control in African Americans Section on Race, Gender, and Class Roundtables (one-hour) **Time:** Sat, Aug 13 - 8:30am - 9:30am

MENTAL HEALTH SECTION AWARDS

Submitted by Bruce Link

Leonard Pearlman Award

The Pearlman Award is given each year to an individual who has made distinguished contributions to the sociological study of mental health. This year the award goes to Peggy Thoits of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Peggy received her Ph.D. from Stanford in 1978 and has since executed her brilliant career at Washington State, Princeton, Indiana, Vanderbilt and now UNC-Chapel Hill. In considering Peggy for the Award the committee noted her outstanding contributions to theory, concepts and empirical research in the area of mental health, her capacity to bring novel ideas from other sub-areas of sociology to the study of mental health, her unmatched capacity to mentor and mentor well and her outstanding service to mental health sociology. All of these capacities and accomplishments produce our great respect for Peggy and form the basis of our desire to honor her with our Sections most distinguished award. Peggy will deliver the Leonard Pearlman Award lecture at 3:30 pm on August 15th, 2005 at the Mental Health Section Business Meeting.

Best Publication Award

This year the award goes to John Hagan and Holly Foster for their paper "S/He's a Rebel: Toward a Sequential Stress Theory of Delinquency and Gendered Pathways to Disadvantage in Emerging Adulthood" *Social Forces*, 2003, 82:53-86. The Committee was very impressed with the strong theory represented in the paper, the integration of criminological theory with stress process theory, the life course conceptualization, the thoughtful analysis, and the attention to the gendered nature of the relationships that were examined in the paper.

Dissertation Award

The Committee reads and evaluates papers based on recently defended dissertations. This year from amongst several outstanding submissions the committee selected Julie McLaughlin's paper from her dissertation entitled "The Timing of Family Transitions and Depression: Difference by Sex and Educational Level." The paper integrates theory and concepts from the stress process and life course approaches in an outstandingly clear and convincing empirical analysis.

From the Chair-Elect (Bernice Pescosolido)

Suggestions Requested for MH Sections for ASA 2006, Montreal

Under the change in the newly approved by-laws, Bernice Pescosolido will again be organizing the Section's Sessions. She is looking for ideas, issues burning on the minds of section members, etc. that might be possible topics for our usual two sessions. Please send your suggestions to Bernice (pescosol@indiana.edu) before August 5.

One More Time ... Addressing the Website Issue

We are still looking for suggestions or actual graphics to serve as the logo for our section and to inspire the design of our Website. If you have any, send them as soon as you can to Bernice (pescosol@indiana.edu).

The Back-up Plan – Come and Vote on Your Choice!

At the Section Business Meeting, there will be a number of set-ups proposed for our Section's Website. Graphical displays will be available. We are particularly concerned with how section members and others will "read" the symbolism and messages (intended or not!) in the mock-ups. We need your voice. Please attend the business meeting and vote there or send an e-mail to Bernice by September 1.

Announcements

Mervyn Susser to receive Rema Lapouse Award for 2005

Dr. Mervyn W. Susser, Sergievsky Professor of Epidemiology Emeritus of Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and Faculty of Medicine will receive the Rema Lapouse Award for 2005. Regarded one of the preeminent epidemiologists in the world, Dr. Susser has distinguished himself in numerous areas of scientific research over six decades. Dr. Susser was born in Johannesburg, South Africa where he received his medical degree from Witwatersrand University in the early 1950s. He also completed a doctorate in public health in London. He began his research career at the Alexandra Clinic and University Health Centre, an African township outside Johannesburg. In collaboration with Dr. Zena Stein, his spouse and colleague, Susser initiated clinical epidemiological studies and epidemiological studies of obstetrics and reproduction. In the mid-1950s he joined the faculty at Manchester University Medical School where he established his reputation in the areas of mental retardation, psychiatric disorders, and child development.

In 1966, he came to the US as Professor and Head of Epidemiology at Columbia University's School of Public Health. Here, his research focused on large scale studies of the epidemiology of nutritional effects on child development in New York's Harlem and in the Netherlands. Another focus was research on miscarriage and related studies of reproduction. In 1978, Dr. Susser became Gertrude H. Sergievsky Professor of Epidemiology and Director of the newly endowed Sergievsky Center at Columbia University. During this period (1978-1990) his research centered mostly on neurodevelopmental epidemiology and reproduction.

In the mid-1980s, he and Zena turned their attention to Africa and the HIV pandemic. In 1999, he was scientific director of the Africa Center for Population and Reproductive Research in rural South Africa. Mervyn has authored over 400 articles, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ in peer-reviewed professional or scientific journals. There have been twelve books on such topics as: sociology in medicine, community psychiatry, prenatal development, and causal theory. From 1992 to 1998, he served the Association as Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Public Health. During this distinguished and remarkable career there have been numerous honors: awards (Belding, Milbank Memorial, Human Rights, Distinguished Service, John Snow, Haven Emerson, Lilienfeld, 75th Jubilee); honorary degrees; memberships, fellowships; consultantships (WHO, PAHO); honorary professorships; visiting professorships; keynote addresses; special lectures; symposia; auditorium dedications; and a festschrift. In 1996 he was named senior member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science.

He is well known also for his many outstanding personal qualities; an engaging speaker, a charming personality, and a gentle and kind man. He has also been recognized for his mentoring of colleagues and students. The Rema Lapouse Award Committee (comprised of Elizabeth Jane Costello, Ronald C. Kessler, Nan Laird and Anthony Kouzis) representing the APHA's Mental Health, Epidemiology, and Statistics Sections is delighted to announce his acceptance of this prestigious award. I hope you will be able to attend the APHA's annual meeting to meet Mervyn Susser and his family at a special session on November 7, 2005, where he will present the 34th Rema Lapouse Lecture.

Submitted by: Anthony Kouzis, Ph.D.

Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research

The Institute offers postdoctoral opportunities for research and training in mental health research. The National Institute of Mental Health provides funding for the program: trainee stipends range from \$35,568 to \$51,036 per year depending on years since completion of the doctorate. Specialized fields of interest include Conceptual Foundations of Mental Health and Mental Health Practice, Psychiatric Disorder and Help Seeking Processes, Cultural and Ethnic Variations in Mental Health and Mental Health Services and Systems Research and Interorganizational Perspectives in Mental Health Services. Only citizens, non-citizens nationals, or persons lawfully admitted for permanent residence are eligible for these positions. Applicants should send CV, statement of research interests and three letters of reference by March 1, 2005. For applications and information write or email Allan V. Horwitz, Professor Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1293 avhorw@rci.rutgers.edu

Announcements

The Department of Mental Health invites applications from sociologists for postdoctoral studies for the 2006/2007 academic year. The Department engages in population-based research on the etiology, occurrence, prevention, and control of mental, alcohol and drug dependence disorders. Research is particularly active in the areas of: adult psychiatric epidemiology; cognitive health and aging; psychoactive drug use; family, and community-based preventive interventions; youth violence; socioeconomic stratification and mental disorders, and research in the child mental health service systems.

Support is available from government-sponsored training programs in Psychiatric Epidemiology, Prevention Research, Child Mental Health Services and Service Systems Research, and Epidemiology of Drug Dependence. Stipends are from \$35,568 to \$51,036 for postdoctoral fellows. Candidates for government-sponsored support must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Applications should be received by February 1, 2006 to be maximally competitive.

For Additional Information Contact:
L. Robin Newcomb
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