



# Sociology of Mental Health Mini E-Newsletter

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Winter 2007

## From the Chair

Greetings. I hope to see all of you in New York this summer and that you found the time to submit a paper to one of our outstanding session organizers for the upcoming meeting.

Mental Health day will be on the first day of the meetings this year. That will be Saturday, August 11. Three sessions will be held on August 11 and one session will be held on August 12 (one of those "sessions" is actually our roundtable and business meeting time). Please begin to think about meeting registration, hotel reservations, and flight plans. Although plans are still in the works, our section reception should be on the evening of August 11.

A note on membership: We had 411 members at the end of 2006 helping us to maintain our three sessions (in addition to our roundtable period). Please encourage your students and colleagues to join the Mental Health Section throughout the year!

Happy New Year, Deb

## New Book

Bill Avison, Jane McLeod and Bernice Pescosolido have just published a new book, *Mental Health, Social Mirror*. While mental health figured prominently in the writings of classical sociologists, contemporary sociologists often view research on mental health as peripheral to the "real work" of the discipline. The essays in this volume reassert the centrality of research in mental health to sociology. First, they articulate the contributions that mental health research has made and can make to resolving key theoretical and empirical debates in important areas of sociological study. Second, they draw from mainstream theories and concepts to reconsider the potential of sociology to provide answers to critical questions regarding the social origins of and social responses to mental illness. As reflected in the title, the sociological study of mental health provides a reflection of the central processes that characterize our society.

## Post-Doctoral Program Announcement

Rutgers University, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research, directed by David Mechanic, invites applications for postdoctoral fellowships in an interdisciplinary, NIMH-funded research training program. The major areas of the program are mental health service research and psychosocial factors in mental health and illness. Participating disciplines include sociology, psychology, psychiatry, history, economics, anthropology, public policy, and social work. Two-year appointments starting June 2007 are available. Stipends of \$35,568-\$51,036 per year depend on date of Ph.D. Only citizens, non-citizen nationals, or persons lawfully admitted for permanent residence are eligible for these positions. Applicants should send a CV, statement of research interests, and three letters of reference by March 1, 2007 to: Allan V. Horwitz, Associate Director, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1293. A nondiscriminatory affirmative action employer. Visit our web page at <http://www.ihhpar.rutgers.edu>



## REMINDERS

**-2007 ASA MEETINGS**

**AUGUST 11-14, 2007**

**NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

**-2008 ASA MEETINGS**

**AUGUST 1-4 2008**

**BOSTON, MA**

**-2009 ASA MEETINGS**

**TBA**

**MORE INFORMATION**

**AT: WWW.ASANET.ORG**

See our new web-page at: <http://asa-mentalhealth.unl.edu/>

# Sociology of Mental Health

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## Section Officers

Section Chair

*Debra Umberson*

Chair-Elect

*Joe Phelan*

Past Chair

*Bernice Pescosolido*

Secretary-Treasurer

*Heather A. Turner*

Nominations Chair

*Sarah Rosenfield*

Awards Chair

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*Scott Schieman*

*Stephanie W. Hartwell*

Newsletter Editor

*Fernando I. Rivera*

frivera@mail.ucf.edu

Webmaster

*Christina D. Falci*

## Announcements

**The Journal of Long Term Home Health Care** is interested in articles of about 20 pages that are focused on any aspect of health care and social issues as they pertain to the elderly. Manuscripts may include position papers, reports of research studies, case reports, analyses of government policy, descriptions and/or evaluations of agencies, programs, and not-for-profit organizations serving any component of the aged population. Papers that offer detailed discussions of a topic, forecast developments, or provide readers with enhanced perspective are particularly welcome.

The Journal also considers for publication commentaries on previously published articles, book and media reviews, etc. The readership of the Journal consists of physicians, nurses, social workers, social scientists, and others who work directly with older persons, as well as managers and staff of not-for-profit and government agencies serving the elderly. Author queries should be directed to [DRPWB@aol.com](mailto:DRPWB@aol.com) or forwarded by mail to; F. Russell Kellogg, MD, Editor or Philip W. Brickner, MD, Managing Editor Saint Vincent's Hospital-Manhattan, Department of Community Medicine 41-51 East 11th Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10003

## NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2007 SECTION AWARDS!

Mental Health Section members are encouraged to submit nominations for the following awards. The deadlines for nominations are provided with each award criteria. Please consider your colleagues and students whose contributions merit special recognition of their accomplishments.

1) Award for Best Publication in Mental Health This award is given for the best published article, book or chapter in the area of the sociology of mental health. The publication date needs to have been between 2005 and 2007. In addition the awards committee will conduct a search of published works for candidates for this award.

Please send a letter of nomination for this award by MAY 1, 2007 to Carol A. Boyer, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research, Rutgers University, 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ08901 or [cboyer@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:cboyer@ifh.rutgers.edu).

2) Award for Best Dissertation in Mental Health. This award is given for the best doctoral dissertation in the area of the sociology of mental health. The dissertation should be completed within the academic year 2005-2006 or 2006-2007.

Please send a letter of nomination and a paper based on the dissertation (or dissertation synopsis) by MAY 1, 2007 to Carol A. Boyer, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research, Rutgers University, 30 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 or [cboyer@ifh.rutgers.edu](mailto:cboyer@ifh.rutgers.edu).

## 2007 MH Section Election Candidates

### Chair-Elect:

Peg Ensminger

The Johns Hopkins University

Linda K. George

Duke University

### Council Member— Chair, Publications:

Deborah Carr

University of Wisconsin-Madison

R. Jay Turner

Florida State University

### Council Member— Chair, Nominations:

Tony N. Brown

Vanderbilt University

Scott Schieman

University of Toronto

### Standing Council Member:

Richard Miech

University of Colorado at Denver

Chris Ritter

Kent State University

### Student Council Member:

Taralyn McMullen

University of Toronto

Tetyana Pudrovska

University of Wisconsin

## Sociology of Mental Health

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### Research Methods Workshops

The Karl F. Schuessler Institute for Social Research Intensive Program at Indiana University is pleased to announce two one-week workshops in research methods for Summer, 2007. Our workshops provide intensive instruction by premier faculty in a congenial, interactive environment. They are designed to benefit graduate students and faculty who seek to hone their skills in specific areas as well as professionals in business, health research, and government. Both workshops will be held in Bloomington, Indiana.

Workshop I, Social Network Analysis: Theory and Methods June 11-15, 2007

Instructors: Professor Bernice A. Pescosolido and Professor Stanley Wasserman, Indiana University

This workshop will be offered through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program. It covers the theory and methods of network analysis. Unlike Network Analysis: An Introduction (taught in Ann Arbor), this course covers not only methodology, but also theoretical concerns and substantive backgrounds of network studies. It is designed for students, faculty, and other researchers in the social and behavioral sciences who are interested in learning how to translate theoretical conceptualizations of networks into empirical practice. Morning and afternoon sessions are coordinated so that each day presents theoretical, historical and substantive developments in the field with parallel issues and examples in data and analytic techniques. Workshop participants apply those techniques in late afternoon, computer lab sessions. Registration for the Social Network Analysis workshop will be available through the ICPSR website in late February <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/training/summer/index.html> or <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/training/summer/index.html>.

Workshop II, Qualitative Methods July 9-13, 2007

Instructor: Professor Sue E. Estroff, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

This intensive workshop is designed as a multi-method exploration of qualitative inquiry for students and scholars who have some experience with research, and would like to deepen their familiarity and facility with various qualitative data collection and analysis techniques. It is most appropriate for students, faculty, and other researchers who have a specific project at present, or planned in the near future, that can serve as a foundation for work in the class. Through a combination of readings, exercises, discussion, writing, and presentation, participants will engage with the theoretical foundations of qualitative research as well as gain hands-on experience with diverse qualitative techniques. The workshop covers but does not focus on the use of software programs for coding and analyzing text data. Prospective participants who wish to focus on coding software should seek out other forms of training. The class is limited to 14 participants to allow for substantial interaction with the faculty and other students in dyadic or other small group settings. Significant participation in selecting directions for the class will come from the participants. Registration for the Qualitative Methods workshop is available beginning February 1, 2007 at <http://www.indiana.edu/~isr/isrip> or [www.indiana.edu/~isr/isrip](http://www.indiana.edu/~isr/isrip).