



# Sociology of Mental Health E-Newsletter

Volume 16, NO. 1

Winter/Spring  
2008

*Of Interest:*

**Upcoming ASA  
Annual Meetings**

**2008**

August 1-4, 2008  
Boston, Massachusetts  
Boston Sheraton  
Boston Marriott Copley Place

**2009**

August 8-11, 2009  
San Francisco, California  
Hilton San Francisco  
Parc 55 Hotel

**2010**

August 14-17, 2010  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Hilton Atlanta  
Atlanta Marriott Marquis

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## From the Chair



If you're reading this, you've survived another winter. Congratulations and (although this is officially the winter newsletter) welcome to spring! It is still pretty darn cold here in New York, but the crocuses are coming up, and that is exciting. I hope you all manage to take some time from your busy schedules to appreciate the pleasures of this season.

I want to use my message this time to make a few announcements, draw your attention to some new developments and remind you of some important deadlines.

I'm extremely pleased to announce that the Awards Committee, headed by Carol Boyer, has selected James S. House, Angus Campbell Collegiate Professor of Sociology and Survey Research and Research Professor at the Institute for Social Research and in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan, to receive the 2008 Leonard I. Pearlin Award for distinguished contributions to the sociological study of mental health. We had an excellent set of candidates and nominating letters, and we have an absolutely great winner. I know we can all look forward to a stimulating, thoughtful, original and substantive Pearlin lecture this August (no pressure, Jim). Look for more on Professor House's work and contributions to the sociology of mental health in a future newsletter.

We are still soliciting nominations for the dissertation award and for the publication award. Nominations are due May 1. The dissertation must have been defended between June 2006 and May 2008. A nominating letter and a chapter or summary of the dissertation must be submitted. For the publication award, the publication may be a book or an article published in a sociology, social science or medical journal. It must have been published in 2006, 2007 or 2008. Please send nominations to Carol Boyer ([cboyer@ifh-mail1.rutgers.edu](mailto:cboyer@ifh-mail1.rutgers.edu)).

Many of you will be interested in the new ASA section-in-formation on Disability and Society, which will focus on both physical and mental disability. After decades of interest in such a section on the part of many ASA members, Sharon Barnart, Barbara Altman and Roz Darling have put in the hard work to mobilize this interest and meet ASA's requirements for a section-in-formation. Let's keep up the momentum. If successful, this section will not only provide more opportunities for presenting work on mental health at the annual meetings, it will also allow sociologists of mental health to connect our ideas, methods and findings with scholars studying physical disabilities, with whom we otherwise may have no contact. If this section touches your interests, please see the fuller announcement in this news letter.

## Section Officers

(2007-2008)

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Linda K. George

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*nando I. Rivera*

Webmaster: *Christina D.*

*Falci*

## From the Chair (cont)

The section is seeking a volunteer (or volunteers) to serve as our archivist (or archiving team). Because we have not had an archivist previously, the first task will be to document important developments in the history of our section up to the present. Please let me know ([jcp13@columbia.edu](mailto:jcp13@columbia.edu); 212-305-0406) if you may be interested. An expression of interest will not be interpreted as a commitment.

Our section's sessions at the annual meetings in Boston will be held on Saturday August 2. Details will be included in the next newsletter. I hope you will all be able to attend!

## Announcements

### Announcing a New Section-in-Formation: Disability and Society

A new section, Disability and Society, was approved as a section in formation by the ASA Council at the 2007 annual meeting of the ASA. At the 2007 annual meeting, the ASA council approved the formation of a section in formation called Disability and Society, which is something which various people have unsuccessfully attempted since the 1960's. There has been a core group of ASA members working in the area of disability since the early 1960's when a previous attempt was made to establish such a section. The section is now soliciting members. It is seeking members with interests in physical or mental disability, families with disabled members, aging and disability, health and disability, or childhood disability.

As with all new sections, for this first year, at the meetings in Boston, we will only have an organizational meeting. If you have an interest in this area, we would urge you to attend, to join if you can, and to spread the word to sociologists who might be interested—especially those who have given up on ASA because of its unfriendliness to work in this area. We are hoping to have substantive sessions at the 2009 meeting in San Francisco, but that is contingent upon our getting enough members.

For further information you can contact Sharon Barnartt [[Barnartt@aol.com](mailto:Barnartt@aol.com)], Barbara Altman [[b.altman@verizon.net](mailto:b.altman@verizon.net)] or Roz Darling [[rdarling@iup.edu](mailto:rdarling@iup.edu)].

## Pearlin Award Winner



James S. House, Angus Campbell Collegiate Professor of Sociology and Survey Research and Research Professor at the Institute for Social Reserach and in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan, has been selected to receive the 2008 Leonard I. Pearl Award for distinguished contributions to the sociological study of mental health.

## Announcements

Were on the web:

<http://asa-mentalhealth.unl.edu/>

### **Congratulations to Dr. Horwitz and Dr. Wakefield**

The Loss of Sadness (Oxford University Press) by Allan V. Horwitz and Jerome Wakefield has been selected as the best psychology book of 2007 by the Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers. The Association of American Publishers is the national trade association of the U.S. book publishing industry. AAP's more than 300 members include most of the major commercial publishers in the United States, as well as smaller and non-profit publishers, university presses and scholarly societies—small and large.

### **NOMINATIONS STILL BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2008 MENTAL HEALTH SECTION AWARDS!**

Mental Health Section members are encouraged to submit nominations for the following two 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 2006 and 2008. 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, 2008 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).

#### 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 2006-2007 or 2007-2008. Please send a letter of nomination and a paper based on the dissertation (or dissertation synopsis) by MAY 1, 2008 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).



## Announcements

### **Postdoctoral Opportunities Available Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**

The Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research, directed by David Mechanic, 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 completing of the doctorate.

The major foci of the program are mental health services 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 2008 are available. Further information on the Institute and training program faculty is available at: <http://www.ihhpar.rutgers.edu>.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in hand by June 30, 2008 and should send a CV, statement of research interests, and three letters of reference by March 1, 2008. Only citizens, non-citizen nationals, or persons lawfully admitted for permanent residence are eligible for these positions. For further information, write or email:

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### **New Faculty Opening in The Department of Sociology and Social Work, Lehman College, The City University of New York**

The Department of Sociology and Social Work at Lehman College, The City University of New York, has a NEW tenure track opening at the level of assistant/associate professor in sociology. Specialization is open. Successful candidates will teach undergraduate research and/or theory as well as elective courses in their area of specialization; publish their research in peer-reviewed journals; actively pursue research grants and serve on department and college committees. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Sociology; experience teaching college-level sociology, including research or theory; a record of scholarly publications in applicant's field of specialization and success in gaining grant support for research. Position will be open until filled. TO APPLY: Submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three current letters of recommendation to Prof. Madeline H. Moran, Chair, Department of Sociology and Social Work, Lehman College, CUNY, 250 Bedford Park Blvd West, Bronx, NY 10468. The City University of New York is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Immigration Reform and Control Act/Americans with Disabilities Act Employer. The college web site is at [www.lehman.cuny.edu](http://www.lehman.cuny.edu).