



M.S.S.A. Forum

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Empowering Diversity Through World Systems

35th Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association

Call for Session Organizers

November 4-7, 2009

Lafayette, Louisiana

Hilton Hotel

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Please submit Paper Session, Panel, and/or Roundtable topics directly to:

Ollie Christian, President-Elect and Program Chair

ocmssa@yahoo.com

Kindly indicate the title of the session, as well as whether it will be a traditional paper session, roundtable, or panel.

Deadline for session topics is January 16, 2009

More Information will be posted on the MSSA Website in the coming weeks.

Quick Note from the Editor

As we turn our attention to the coming year, there are important dates and deadlines that should be marked on our calendars. Within the pages of this short issue of *MSSA Forum*, you will find many of those deadlines. Please feel free to post the information, send it to colleagues and, most important, encourage your colleagues and students to take part..

Thank You Huntsville!!

If you missed Huntsville, you missed a great meeting. So many members told me how much they enjoyed Huntsville, the hotel, the meetings and most of all, the food!! Session organizers reported great audience participation. Thanks for coming to Huntsville and we hope to see ALL of you in Lafayette for what promises to be another great meeting under the direction of Dr. Ollie Christian.

Kim Davies, MSSA President

Student Paper Competitions

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The Mid-South Sociological Association—Mobile, Alabama

The Mid-South Sociological Association invites the submission of student papers for its annual undergraduate student paper competition. The competition is open to students in the Mid-South Region and to other undergraduate students who are members of the Mid-South Sociological Association. A prize of \$50 will be awarded for the best paper. The authors of the papers selected will be presented with certificates of merit after presentations of papers at the 2009 MSSA Annual Meeting.

Rules for the 2009 Competition

- ◆ Each paper must be accompanied by a cover letter requesting participation in the undergraduate competition session. The letter must include the title of the paper, author(s) of the paper, the school affiliation, the email address and the telephone number of the author(s).
- ◆ The maximum length of an eligible paper shall be 20 double-spaced pages of text, not counting abstract, references, tables, and figures.
- ◆ Papers may be co-authored with a maximum of three student authors, but not by graduate students or faculty.
- ◆ Papers must not have been submitted for publication prior to submission for this competition.

Each of the submissions will be evaluated by a committee of scholars based on (1) originality, (2) contribution or potential contribution to the discipline, (3) clarity of arguments, and (4) mechanics (i.e. neatness, use of an appropriate format, grammar, spelling, etc.). To receive full recognition for participation, submissions must meet deadlines and participants must present their papers at the 2009 meetings in Lafayette, LA (November 4-7, 2009).

Papers should be submitted as a Word document by email to Dr. Tim Gongaware at gongawar.timo@uwlax.edu by **June 30, 2009**. If you have any questions regarding the competition, please feel free to contact me at the email address above or by phone at (608)785-6772.

Students are strongly encouraged to seek faculty advice prior to submission of papers.

GRADUATE STUDENT "PAPER OF DISTINCTION" AWARD

The Mid-South Sociological Association

The Mid-South Sociological Association invites the submission of student papers for the annual Graduate Student Paper Session and "Paper of Distinction" Award. The award process is open to graduate students who are members, or become members, of the Mid-South Sociological Association. Among the papers submitted, an award will be presented to any paper that is reviewed and evaluated as possessing a high level of originality and significant potential for contribution to the discipline. If such a paper is so identified, the author(s) will be presented with a "Paper of Distinction" award at the MSSA Banquet. The award will also include editorial review assistance from suitable persons so identified by the Vice President in coordination with the Editors of Sociological Spectrum.

Rules for the 2009 Award Process

Papers may be submitted by the graduate student or nominated by faculty, but in any case, each paper must be accompanied by a cover letter requesting consideration for the Graduate Student "Paper of Distinction" Award. The letter must include the title of the paper, author(s) of the paper, the school affiliation, telephone number, and email address (if available) of the author(s). The author's name and title of the paper should be included on the title page only. The title of the paper must be repeated at the top of the first page of the text. Additionally:

- ◆ The maximum length of an eligible paper shall be 25 double spaced pages of text, not counting abstract, reference, tables, and figures.
- ◆ Papers may be co-authored with a maximum of three student authors, but no faculty.
- ◆ Papers must not have been submitted for publication prior to submission for award consideration.
- ◆ Papers are evaluated upon (1) originality, (2) contribution or potential contribution to the discipline, (3) clarity of arguments, and (4) mechanics (i.e. neatness, use of an appropriate format, grammar, spelling, etc.).
- ◆ **Four copies of each paper must be received by September 15, 2009.** Send papers by "First Class" mail to: Dr. Larry Hall, Department of Sociology, Spring Hill College, 4000 Dauphin St., Mobile AL: 36608.. (Email hall@shc.edu for questions.)
- ◆ To receive full recognition for participation, submission must meet deadlines and participants must present their papers to the 2009 Annual Meeting in Lafayette.

Students are strongly encouraged to seek faculty advice prior to submission of papers.

Nuances

Call for contributions

Dr. Shondrah Tarrezz Nash (Morehead State University) is in the process of editing the next edition of *Nuances*, a newsletter for the friends and members of the Mid South Sociological Association's Minority Caucus. The electronic document is published twice a year on the MSSA website and reflects all areas of professional development, praxis, and accomplishment within the field of sociology. In addition, *Nuances* has featured retrospectives/commentary pertaining to relevant social issues. Submissions from any MSSA Minority Caucus member or affiliate are welcomed.

Please contact Dr. Nash at s.nash@moreheadstate.edu or call her at 606.783.2453.

The deadline for submissions to the next issue is January 15, 2009..

2009 MSSA Officers

President, Kimberly Davies

President Elect: and Program Chair, Ollie Christian

Vice President, Larry Hall

Vice President Elect, Tim Gongaware

Secretary-Treasurer, Jamie Baird

Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Sahadeo Patram

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Committee on Minorities, Dana Greene

Committee on Nominations, Jackie Eller

Committee on the Profession, Anna Wahl

Committee on Small and Community Colleges, Demond Miller

Committee on Women, Rhonda Evans

Stanford M. Lyman Memorial Scholarship Committee

Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award Committee, Carl Bankston

Sociological Spectrum Editor, John Lynxwiler

MSSA Forum Editor, Tim Gongaware

Hotel Contract Negotiator, Obie Clayton

Webmaster, Dave Witt

MSSA Surveys, Mark Konty

Call for Officer Nominations

Please send nominations for the 2009 MSSA Elections to

Dr. Jackie Eller jaeller@mtsu.edu

Nominations are open for the following positions:

President Elect, Vice President Elect, Chair of Committee on Nominations

Chair of the Committee on Minorities, Chair of the Committee on Membership

The Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

Mid-South Sociological Association

It is with great pleasure that we open nominations for the 2009 Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award. This award was established in memory of Stan Lyman in order to honor MSSA members whose recently published work makes a significant contribution to the field of sociology. Please consider nominating one of your colleagues for this prestigious award. Keep in mind the following:

- ◆ The book must be an original work (and can be either sole authored or co-authored)
- ◆ The work must have been published within the last three years (thus a book published between 2006 and 2009 is eligible)
- ◆ Textbooks and edited editions are not eligible
- ◆ The author must be a current member in the Mid-South Sociological Association, and must have been a member for at least three years.

Be sure to include the following in your nomination:

- ◆ The complete citation for the book (author/s, date published, title, publisher)
- ◆ Author/s contact information (email, affiliation, phone number if possible).
- ◆ Publisher contact information (e.g., contact person, phone number, and ISBN)
- ◆ A brief description of the book and why you believe it should be nominated for the award.

Nominations should be sent (via email) to:

Dr. Carl Bankston

Tulane University

cbankst@tulane.edu

Nominations may also be faxed (504-865-5544).

The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2009.

Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship

(\$1,000.00)

Eligibility requirements:

- ◆ Ph.D. candidate working on a dissertation in sociological theory, symbolic interaction, race relations, law, or ethics.
- ◆ Applicant must be receiving the degree from an institution within the MSSA member states (see <http://www.midsouthsoc.org/> for more information) or from an institution which has active MSSA student/faculty memberships.

Submission information:

Each applicant is to submit the following:

- ◆ Letter of introduction which includes a brief discussion of how the applicant's work reflects Stanford Lyman's tradition within sociology
- ◆ Description of dissertation research project, such as a research proposal – approximately 5 pages,
- ◆ Letter of support from the applicant's dissertation committee chair which evaluates the dissertation project,
- ◆ Timetable for completion of the dissertation and degree, and
- ◆ Current vitae.

Deadline **September 1, 2009**. The scholarship will be announced at the fall MSSA conference banquet, but the committee does reserve the right not to award the scholarship in any given year.

Applications may be sent by mail or email (WORD attachment only) to the scholarship coordinator at the following address:

Professor Jackie Eller
Box 126 MTSU
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
jaeller@mtsu.edu

For more information contact Professor Eller by email or 615-898-2509.