



**MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Executive Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 4, 2009, 2:00 pm**  
**Hilton Lafayette, Lafayette, Louisiana**

Present were:	Kimberly A. Davies	President
	Jamie P. Baird	Secretary-Treasurer
	Ollie G. Christian	President-Elect
	Larry D. Hall	Vice-President
	Timothy B. Gongaware	Vice-President-Elect, Editor, Forum
	Tina Deshotels	Chair, Committee on Membership
	Rhonda Evans	Chair, Committee on Women
	Jackie A. Eller	Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Memorial Committee, Chair, Nominations
	Kathleen Handy	Chair, Local Arrangements Committee

Not Present were:	Keith F. Durkin	Past-President
	Ana-Marie Gonzales Wahl	Chair, Committee on the Profession
	Dana M. Greene	Chair, Committee on Minorities
	John Lynxwiler	Editor, Sociological Spectrum
	DeMond S. Miller	Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Kimberly A. Davies at 2:15 pm. The President welcomed Executive Council Members to the meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2009 were approved.

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

#### **Chair, Local Arrangements Committee**

Kathleen Handy welcomed everyone to Lafayette. The Lafayette Convention Center was a great assistance to the LOC, they did the pre-registered nametags. The bookstore at UL @ Lafayette donated folders for the bags. There are 12 to 13 door prizes that will be given out at the reception on Wednesday evening and the banquet.

Thursday night after the banquet there will be a band and there is downtown live for those that want to do something on Friday night. Also, there will be students helping with registration.

The report was accepted.

### **President's Report**

The President, Kimberly A. Davies reported that things are in order, but there are some things we need to work out with the Operations and Procedure Manual.

The report was accepted.

### **Past-President's Report**

The Past-President was not present, but a report will be given during the Budget Committee report.

### **Report from the Vice-President**

The Vice-President, Larry D. Hall received four papers for the Graduate Student of Distinction paper competition. I would like to thank my judges for their time and effort in reading and evaluating these papers. The judges were John Lynxwiler, University of Central Florida, Nicole Carr, University of South Alabama, and John Green, Delta State University. We will announce the winner at the MSSA Annual Banquet. Two of the four authors will be attending the banquet.

The report was accepted.

### **Report from the Vice-President-Elect**

The Vice-President-Elect, Timothy B. Gongaware reported that thirteen (13) papers were received for the Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. The papers were:

- a. *College Students' Sexual Relationships with Multiracial Peer*,  
Latiche Bush-Lane, Jackson State University, MS
- b. *ADD Medication: Adult Approval Rates According to Controversial Issues surrounding Pediatric Prescriptions*  
Doug Clapp, Bloomsburg University, PA
- c. *Arresting Women Nicely: An Officer and a Gentleman*  
Sean McCaman, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- d. *Allowing the Dependent Their Freedom: Thorstein Veblen and Dual-Income Families*  
Lacey Ritter, University of Northern Iowa, IA
- e. *Queering the Queers*  
Carina Ruiz-Aguilar, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- f. *Animated Disney Films as a Site for the Construction of Desire: Messages, Rules, and a Prescription for Happiness*  
Caitlin Scaife, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- g. *"No, I'm Not Hiding a Bomb Under There": The Practice of Veiling Among Young Muslim Women in Metropolitan Atlanta*  
Renu Sagreiya, Agnes Scott College, GA
- h. *How the Transgender Lifestyle Affects Family Relationships in a MTF Transsexual Case*  
Tiffany Schroeder, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- i. *An Examination of the Disability of Female Amputees*  
Kristin Sloan, Jacksonville State University, AL
- j. *Coffee Shops: Comparing the Space of the Local and the Corporate*  
Lane Standige, University of Southern Mississippi, MS

- k. *Mmorphg Identities: A Preliminary Look into Online Interaction and Identity Building*  
Andrea Thornhill, University of Southern Mississippi, MS
- l. *Why Men Build Muscle and Women Tone*  
Max Tran, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- m. *Untying the Knot: How Divorce has Complicated Veblen's Theory of Ownership Marriage*  
Natalie Turner, University of Northern Iowa, CA

The first place award and certificate was given to Renu Sagreiya.

The Vice-President had seven (7) MSSA members who served as judges of the undergraduate papers.

The report was accepted.

### **Report from the President-Elect/Program Chair**

The President-Elect/Program Chair, Ollie G. Christian, thanked everyone for their generous support for the 2009 program. For the 2009 program, there are 69 sessions and approximately 263 participants. The session topics and papers appear to be very interesting and informative. I would like to thank all of the session organizers as well as the program participants for their support and participation in the MSSA 2009 program. Many of the panels, workshops, and roundtables are quite interesting and I sincerely wish that members will attend these sessions as well. There was a lot of financial support from Southern University in ads and fundraising, \$3,755. The plenary speaker is Dr. Faye Gary, who will speak on Health Inequalities. The session on the Birth of MSSA, there are a few members that can give a good account of our history.

We need to look at what to do about individuals that are on the program, but don't come to the meeting. Also, partner with organizations when it comes to equipment or see if there are members that are willing to let the organization borrow their equipment for the meeting.

The report was accepted.

### **Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

This year the Association is again facing possible financial hardships because of the global financial crisis. The Association will be penalized for failure to meet room nights requirements. The number of room nights to not be penalized is 312 and room nights guaranteed to date is 219. This makes the Association fall into the attrition clause in the contract between 30 and 60%, which is equivalent to \$10,550. The Association will try and negotiate with the Hilton Lafayette and to obtain partial waivers of our contractual obligations or at least meet us half way on this lost revenue amount. Projected expenditure is estimated at \$15,800.00 (including gratuity and tax). This estimate is based on the spending on food and beverages and expenditure for program printing, Plenary speaker incidentals, and awards. Revenue received to date for food and beverage at November 2, is \$8,455.00. This means that the Association will have a deficit of approximately \$7,345.00 in financing this year's meeting activities. The deficit mentioned in the previous sentence is not including room night attrition.

The shortfall in revenue is the result of very weak annual meeting registration (66) and insufficient funds from dues being paid, whether they are presenting or not. The Association will, however, be able to meet the shortfall in revenue from reserve funds accumulated over the past nine years. We do not want to get into this habit and this will reduce our reserves tremendously.

Totals assets as at November 2,, 2009 is \$107,265.87 The assets are in several accounts:

Capitol City Bank -CD-OFA	\$47,495.36
Capitol City Bank - Lyman MSFA	2,699.88
Capitol CityBank-RFA-CD	5,761.05
Capitol City Bank-OFA	5,474.16
Capitol City Bank-RFA	1,119.83
Spectrum Petty Cash-UCF	1,633.76

Stan Lyman - CD Acct

\$43,081.83

**TOTAL**

**\$107,265.87**

The above figures are heartening but the Association cannot expect to avoid its contractual obligations in the future. Steps must be taken to ensure that all contractual obligations are financed from current revenue.

To achieve this objective there must be a significant drive to retain current members and recruit new ones. Current 2009 membership is 184. This number includes a new group of students that joined this year and does not include those whom have sent emails that their dues and registration will be paid onsite.

The report was accepted.

#### **Report from the Editor, *Sociological Spectrum***

The report was deferred to November 5, 2009

#### **Report from the Editor, *Forum***

1. Spring *Forum* was released via email and put on the MSSA website
  - a. Primarily a notification of deadlines, announcement of officers and a call for papers with the list of session organizers and contacts
2. Call sent out for contributions to a second *Forum* that would have been released in July.
  - a. No submissions were sent in.
  - b. Since the issue would contain no new information, it was scuttled.
3. This has been my third year as editor of *Forum*.
  - a. Last year I was told that my first year had been to finish out the term left as the previous editor had needed to step down early.
  - b. This year, then, constitutes my second year as the appointed Editor of *Forum*.
    - i. So, a general call needs to be issued to replace me as editor beginning Fall 2010.
    - ii. However, I would be more than happy to turn it over early to someone who can devote more time and effort than I have been able to give.

There was an unsolicited request to take over *Forum* by Dana Greene. The *Forum* should be used to call for organizers for the Annual meeting, calls for paper competitions and calls for the book competition.

There was discussion about doing away with *Forum* all together.

There was discussion about an elected position that would create a Website/List serve and *Forum* wouldn't be needed.

The report was accepted.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.



**MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Executive Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 5, 2009, 9:45 am**  
**Hilton Lafayette, Louisiana**

Present were:	Kimberly A. Davies	President
	Jamie P. Baird	Secretary-Treasurer
	Ollie G. Christian	President-Elect
	Larry D. Hall	Vice-President
	Timothy B. Gongaware	Vice-President-Elect, Editor, Forum
	John Lynxwiler	Editor, Sociological Spectrum
	Tina Deshotels	Chair, Committee on Membership
	DeMond S. Miller	Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
	Jackie A. Eller	Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Memorial Committee, Chair, Nominations
	Rhonda Evans	Chair, Committee on Women
	Roma S. Hanks	

Not Present were:	Ana Marie Gonzales Wahl	Chair, Committee on the Profession
	Dana M. Greene	Chair, Committee on Minorities
	Keith F. Durkin	Past-President

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The adjourned meeting of November 4, 2009 was called to order by President Kim A. Davies at 9:45 am.

## **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Report from the Editor, *Sociological Spectrum***

#### **Editorial Update:**

Sociological Spectrum has been included in the ASA's Publishing Options: An Author's Guide to Journals.

In addition, Routledge Publishing, of the Taylor & Francis Group, is creating a Sociology Archive. The archive will be offered to institutional libraries and would include backfiles of key journals spanning Sociology and related disciplines. All the included articles will have full cross-searching capability, article abstracts, and hyper-linked references. Their goal is to increase accessibility to research that would otherwise only be available in print. They have requested that Sociological Spectrum be included in this project. We have consented to their request.

#### **Managing Editor Update:**

Lauren Rowland is the new Managing Editor for Sociological Spectrum. She now serves as the contact person for manuscript submissions. Lauren is working on her M.A. in Sociology at UCF.

**Spectrum Article of the Year:**

Erin Robinson has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Sociological Spectrum Article of the Year award for her article “*Competing Frames of Environmental Contamination: Influences on Grassroots Community Mobilization*” (Sociological Spectrum Volume 29, Number 1:3-27).

**Submissions to Spectrum:**

Between October 2008 and October 2009, Spectrum received 79 manuscripts, which represents a nine percent increase over last year. Of this total, 10 have been accepted for publication, 15 have been returned as Revise & Resubmit, 27 were rejected, and 27 currently are under review. Thus, the journal’s current rate of acceptance is 19 percent, which is down from the 33 percent reported at this time last year.

**Thank you to members of the editorial board:**

Along with a special note of appreciation to our editorial board members, I want to thank those members of the MSSA who provided timely reviews during the past year. Your willingness to support Sociological Spectrum through detailed reviews has really helped out and we thank you. I also want to thank our out-going managing editor, Sara Neuenschwander for her support and hard work, which has kept everything running smoothly. She not only managed the journal for the past three years, but she also managed to complete her M.A. thesis and obtain university funding for her Ph.D. degree.

The report was accepted.

**Report from the Coordinator, Stan Lyman Memorial Scholarship Committee**

The scholarship award was announced through MSSA, *Sociological Spectrum*, the Forum, and SSSI. Further graduate program directors for all PhD granting institutions in our member states were sent two different emails asking them to advertise the scholarship to their students. The final result was that the committee received three strong submissions for the scholarship and chose the following for the award:

**Negotiating Gendered Conflict:  
Identity Dilemmas and Emotion Work in Women’s Flat Track Roller Derby**

Kylie L. Parrotta, North Carolina State University  
(Michael Schwalbe, Advisor)

The second and third submissions were from Amanda Koontz, Florida State University – “Constructing the Florida Highwaymen” – and Stephanie Medley-Rath, Georgia State University – “Memorializing the Self, Doing Family, and Building Community: Scrapbooking (In) Everyday Life.” Once again the decision was not an easy one as each of these projects was well conceived and within the Lyman tradition. Despite the strength of the three papers, we continue to hope that we will receive more applications in the future.

The \$1000 scholarship awards will be made at the annual banquet, Thursday, November 5, 2009.

Other business:

1. The following still needs to be ratified at the membership meeting this November.
  - a. The Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Scholarship Committee, Dr. Jackie L. Eller, proposed the following amendment to the Constitution: Article IV, Section 2 (Changes noted in italics)
  - b. The appointment of officers of the Association shall be the Secretary-Treasurer, the Editor or Co-Editors of the official journal of the Association, the Editor of the official newsletter of the Association, *and the Coordinator of the Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship*. The Secretary-Treasurer and editors shall be appointed for three year terms. *The Coordinator of the Scholarship shall be appointed for four years.*
  - c. This amendment adds the Coordinator, sets term of appointment.





### **Report from the Chair, Committee on Minorities**

The Chair, Committee on Minorities, Dana M. Greene, was not present and a report was not sent.

### **Report for the Chair, Committee on Nominations**

The Chair, Committee on Nominations, Jackie Eller , The following were elected:

President-Elect: Roma S. Hanks  
Vice-President-Elect: David G. LoConto  
Chair, Committee on Nominations: Carl L. Bankton, III  
Chair, Committee on Minorities: Obie Clayton, Jr.  
Chair, Committee on Membership: Tina H. Deshotels

Issues concerning the election process:

1. There was a tie in the member vote for President-Elect. In deciding how this should be resolved I consulted the Policy and Procedures statement on line, communicated with Jamie and did the following:

The Chair shall select an Election Committee comprised of self and two others. All shall sign a tally sheet. This sheet and both the Nomination Committee's ballots and the final ballots shall be submitted to the Executive Council at its first meeting at the Annual Meeting. **In case of a tie vote, the President of MSSA shall decide.** The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall inform the President, the President-Elect, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the election results in writing as soon as the ballots have been counted. The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall inform all candidates of the election results prior to the Annual Meeting.

2. The President was contacted, she voted, I informed the appropriate persons.
3. Due to a member question concerning this procedure, we discovered that the Constitution said the following:

The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall select an Election Committee comprised of self and two others. All shall count the votes and sign a tally sheet. This sheet and both the Nomination Committee's ballots and the final ballots shall be submitted to the Council at the first Council meeting prior to the general business session. **In the case of a tie vote, the Council shall break the tie with the President abstaining. In the event the tie remains, the President shall determine the outcome.**

4. Given the inconsistency I notified all persons involved, asked the Executive Committee to cast a vote for President. Nine votes were received and Roma Hanks was again declared the winner with 6 votes.
5. Recommendation: Change the Policy and Procedures to be consistent with the Constitution. Then discuss whether this is the most appropriate way to decide tie votes.

The report was accepted.

### **Report from the Chair, Committee on Membership**

The Chair of the Membership Committee, Tina Deshotels, presented that the goal is to encourage non-renewals to come back to the fold, current members to stay, and increase members from new populations. The strategies were presented to complete these tasks. Also we should advertise in Forum.

Then there was discussion about a discount for departmental membership for West Georgia and if there are any other institutions we will look at them on a individual basis.

The report was accepted.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.



**MID-SOUTH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
Minutes of Executive Council Meeting  
Saturday, November 7, 2009, 9:50 am  
Hilton Lafayette, Lafayette, Louisiana**

Present were:	Ollie G. Christian	President
	Kimberly A. Davies	Past-President
	Jamie P. Baird	Secretary-Treasurer
	Roma S. Hanks	President-Elect
	Timothy B. Gongaware	Vice-President, Editor Forum
	David G. LoConto	Vice-President-Elect
	John Lynxwiler	Editor, Sociological Spectrum
	Demond S. Miller	Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges
	Carl L. Bankston, III	Chair, Committee on Nominations
	Tina Deshotels	Chair, Committee on Membership
	Rhonda Evans	Chair, Committee on Women
	Jackie A. Eller	Coordinator, Stanford Lyman Memorial Scholarship Committee

Not Present were:

Obie Clayton, Jr.	Chair, Committee on Minorities
Ana-Marie Gonzales Wahl	Chair, Committee on the Profession

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Ollie G. Christian, at 9:50 am on Saturday, November 7, 2009. The President welcomed all members to the meeting.

**CARRY OVER BUSINESS FROM MEETING OF November 5, 2009.**

Jackie Eller has information from the nomination committee. The Constitution and the Operations and Procedures manual are not consistent. The OPM needs to agree with the wording of the Constitution. The voter turn out was low (approx. 25% of the membership when looking at the numbers). Some of this is due to student members that move on and don't give a forwarding address.

The report was accepted.

There was discussion about nominations being done online (through Survey Monkey) instead of mailing ballots as a trial for 2010. There was a motion made by Jackie Eller to have mail ballots for 2010 and inform members that the election process will be going online for 2011. There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion by Carl Bankston, III. The motion was approved.

## **Report from the Chair, Committee on Small & Community Colleges**

The Committee held its annual meeting at 7:00 AM in Lafayette on November 6, 2009. The Committee extended its thanks to Dr. Anita Bledsoe for organizing and presiding over the Small and Community Colleges Session on Service Learning at the 2009 Mid-South Sociological Association meeting.

### **Issues discussed:**

**Teaching Excellence Award:** The Committee passed a measure that would create an Excellence in Teaching at the Small and Community College Award. The criteria for such award will be presented for review and approval at the mid-winter meeting.

**Specialty Sessions/Workshops:** The committee approved a motion to have two sessions/workshops on themes related to small and community colleges for the Baton Rouge meetings.

**Membership Recruitment:** We will continue our efforts to contact all small and community colleges in our member states via email; however, special efforts to recruit will take place in the following member states: Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas.

The report was accepted.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Winter Meeting:**

It is valuable to have members attend

Practical reasoning for attending

Check the room nights for winter meeting to see if it will affect contract, email this information to EC members

Members of the Executive Committee should make sure their reports are sent

### **Theme for 2010: Sociological Perspectives: Essential Science to Understand Health and Eliminate Health Disparities.**

### **Aggressive Membership:**

Partner with other organizations: Southern CJ Society, Applied Sociology, Arkansas Sociological Society, and Family Studies at Arkansas State

**Registration:** A set price of \$115.00 or \$120.00 for Presenters, Organizers, Discussants. This is for attendees on the program with exception of non attending co-authors. Registration form needs to be re done and sent around to the EC to get approval.

There needs to be a Toolkit for session organizers on their responsibilities and things that are available to them at the meeting. Roma will start this toolkit and send it around to EC members and they can add information as they see fit.

### **Visitor: Dr. Tom Durant, Jr.**

He is willing to assist in any way for the Local Arrangements for the meeting in Baton Rouge, LA. Also, he had conversation with Thomas Kersen and he is willing to be the Historian for MSSA. There is not a position for Historian, it would have to be newly appointed and responsibilities added to OPM and Constitution.

**The change to the constitution and OPM to have the coordinator for the Stan M. Lyman scholarship appointment to four years was ratified at the meeting during the banquet on November 5, 2009.**

**At the Winter Mtg. it will be discussed the time for EC meetings at the Annual mtgs. So members won't miss sessions. The suggestion was for the meeting on Wed. be from 2pm – 5pm and then a meeting on Sat. morning at 9:45am.**

**WINTER MEETING 2009**

**Date and Site**

Date: February 6, 2010  
Site: Crowne Plaza Executive Center, Baton Rouge, LA  
4728 Constitution Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
225-925-2244 (p)  
225-930-0140 (f)

**ANNUAL MEETINGS: 2010**

**Dates and Site**

Dates: October 13-17, 2010  
Site: Crowne Plaza Executive Center, Baton Rouge, LA  
4728 Constitution Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
225-925-2244 (p)  
225-930-0140 (f)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.