



M.S.S.A. Forum

The Voice of the Mid-South Sociological Association

Volume 6, Number 1

Spring 2004

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jackie L. Eller

Middle Tennessee State University

I am pleased to be writing to you as MSSA President. I am particularly pleased given the extraordinary commitment of those who made possible a successful conference in Baton Rouge last November, but also in reference to the recent "situation" faced by "one of ours" – Frank Glamser – at the University of Southern Mississippi. The outpouring of personal, professional, and financial support from our membership reminds me, once again, why I have dedicated my time and energy to this organization. We are not only dedicated sociologists who create excitement and enthusiasm through the conference each year, but are also dedicated academic citizens. I applaud you and am proud to be associated with such a fine group of scholars. MSSA is the best regional sociological association, but of course there is always more work to be done. I urge all of you to continue building upon past efforts to make the MSSA even better. It is never too late to communicate these points to your not-yet-enlightened colleagues and fellow students, and strongly encourage them to join the MSSA.

This year's annual meeting, our 30th, will be held in Biloxi, MS at the Imperial Palace Hotel, October 20-23, 2004. Frank Glamser, President-Elect and Program Chair, assures me he remains busily organizing another timely, engaging, and welcoming conference. We encourage faculty, students, and scholars from the community to participate in our conference whose

theme this year is "Social Change in the South: Participating in a Global Economy." As usual the meetings will include paper and panel sessions, roundtables, a plenary address, receptions, a book exhibit, a banquet, The Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award, Graduate Student Paper of Distinction Award, and the Donna Darden Undergraduate Student Paper Competition and Award. My presidential address will highlight the changing sociological landscape as represented by *Sociological Spectrum*. And when we are not in sessions, I am sure we will find time for socializing on the dance floor, in the eating and drinking establishments, or casino. (Does Good Luck = Donation?) I urge you to attend the conference, but also to serve as both a session organizer and session participant. As always, information about the conference and important deadlines is made available through mailings and the newly designed, and quite spiffy, MSSA website:

<http://www.midsouthsoc.com>

Now for the really important duty all presidents are obliged to fulfill – I want to remind everyone that for the MSSA to succeed we must support our association. This means that all those participating in the meetings must be dues-paying members of the MSSA, pre-register for the annual meeting, and ideally stay at the conference site hotel, the Imperial Palace. Only through the active

support of all our members can we continue to be the vibrant and highly supportive professional organization that we have been for the past thirty years.

In closing, I have some acknowledgements and further reminders. Special thanks should be given once again to Sahadeo Patram for his efforts as our Secretary - Treasurer. Unfortunately for us he is stepping down, fortunately for his replacement, he is leaving a legacy of fine-tuned organizational materials. Pat and I are still welcoming applications for this important position, so if you are interested in meeting this vital need let us know. I wish also to extend heartfelt appreciation to J. Kenneth Davidson, Sr. for his considerable time, energy, and sacrifice spent in giving up the beautiful Wisconsin winter for traveling around the mid south region, skillfully negotiating our conference contracts. Please also notice that Keith F. Durkin graciously has accepted the position of editor of *Forum*. Thank you, Keith. An additional, huge applause goes to DeAnn Gauthier for her outstanding work as editor of *Sociological Spectrum*. As her term as editor is coming to an end, I hope to soon announce a worthy replacement! Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all of you who have worked in many capacities to make possible a truly fine organization.

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Keith F. Durkin, Editor,
Ohio Northern University
Heather Stassen, Managing Editor,
Ohio Northern University
Jessica Brasee, Managing Editor,
Ohio Northern University



Executive Council Reports

From The Editor

Keith F. Durkin

Ohio Northern University

This is my first issue as Editor of MSSA Forum. I agreed to assume this position at the Executive Council meeting in February of this year. Past Editor DeAnn Gauthier has been exceptionally helpful in providing me with insight and advice. I have used her excellent work with previous issues as a starting point. I have started to institute some changes to MSSA Forum, including a new layout and some additional features. A major purpose of an organizational newsletter is to communicate information from the officers and committees to the membership. Yet I believe that such a publication can, and should, do more than that. For instance, the current issue contains an informative piece from Kathy A. Smith, "Clinical Sociology: Life Outside of the Classroom". Also, there are obituaries to remember two of the MSSA's members who passed away recently ---- Donna K. Darden and Stanford M. Lyman. However, MSSA Forum should be viewed as a "work in progress." I know I will make some errors along the way, and I ask for your patience and understanding in this process.

I wish to thank Thomas Brignall, Dennis Peck, and Kathy A. Smith for their excellent contributions to this issue. I would also like to acknowledge the generous support that the administration of Ohio Northern University has given me for professional activities such as the preparation of MSSA Forum. I am exceptionally fortunate to be associated with this institution. I also wish to recognize the truly tremendous efforts of two extremely talented students, Jessica Brasee and Heather Stassen, who are serving as the Managing Editors.

Finally, I would like to ask all interested members to contribute to MSSA Form. I welcome your ideas for possible contributions, such as topical essays. I especially encourage contributions from the faculty of small and community colleges, as well as students. Also, if you have any information for the "MSSA People" feature, such as a change of appointment, promotion, grant, article, chapter, book, or media interview, please contact me and I will include in the next issue of *MSSA Forum*.

I can be contacted at:

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REPORT FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Carl L. Bankston III

Tulane University

I'm pleased to report that everything is ready for the graduate paper competition at this year's meeting in Biloxi. All we need are the papers! If you have graduate students in your department, please announce this opportunity to them and urge them to write papers specifically for the competition. We may get the greatest success if you try to identify promising students who are working on particularly interesting theses or dissertations and suggest to them how they might develop a potentially publishable paper.



REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

*Sahadeo Patram
Morehouse College*

I am pleased to report that 2003 was another good year for MSSA. The Annual Meetings in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, November 5-8, 2003 were very successful. Membership registration (Active Members 146 & Student Members 72) was just a little lower than in 2002. Hotel room nights pick up (335) was good. Attendance at the banquet (137) was also better than I anticipated. Our success resulted from member participation and generous financial assistance from

the Department of Sociology, Middle Tennessee State University, Morehouse Research Institute, Morehouse College, Taylor & Francis, Inc., some past presidents and members the MSSA, and the great work of the Local Arrangements Committee in Baton Rouge. The LAC raised approximately \$4,000.00.

The Association is in good financial state. Current assets as at March 8, 2004 are \$36,485.88. This amount is held in four accounts:

Capitol City Bank: Certificate of Deposits	\$26,235.54
Capitol City Bank: Operating Fund	\$4,222.95
Capitol City Bank: Reserve Fund	\$5,228.12
Spectrum: LA Petty Cash	\$799.17

Membership in MSSA for 2003 was 263 (Active 186, Student 72 and Joint 5). Currently we have 143 Active members, 71 Student members, and 6 Joint members in 2004. We need to encourage those members who have not yet renewed membership for 2004 to do so as early as possible.

Our Annual Meetings in 2004 will be held at the Imperial Palace, Biloxi, Mississippi - October 20 -23. Make plans to attend the meetings and stay at the Imperial Palace. The room rate is \$59.00 plus tax.

REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROFESSION

*Keith F. Durkin
Ohio Northern University*

I want to pass along some information for those wishing to support Frank Glamser, an MSSA member and our President-Elect. Dr. Glamser, a tenured professor with nearly thirty years of service to his university, is facing profoundly troubling circumstances at his institution. (For those readers unfamiliar with the situation, please see the March 19, 2003, edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education, pp. A1, A8-A10). All interested parties can make contributions to his legal defense fund. Checks should be made payable to, AAUP-University of Southern Mississippi (USM) and labeled for Legal Defense Fund/ Glamser.

Checks should be mailed to:

AAUP- USM
University of Southern Mississippi
Post Office Box 8977
118 College Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

I would like to address a few more issues at this time. First, I would like to remind readers that all participants must pre-pay their dues and pre-register for the annual meeting. Some presenters have neglected to do so in previous years. I certainly hope this was on oversight on their part. However, when participants fail to abide by these reasonable guidelines, this creates a financial hardship for the MSSA. Second, I would like to remind all eligible members to vote in the

upcoming elections. This is especially important since the number of members who cast votes has been particularly low in some prior elections. Finally, the Executive Council has commissioned a membership survey. The Ohio Northern University Institute for Social Research will be conducting the survey. The sample will consist of 300 current and recent MSSA members. The survey mailing will begin in April. I urge all members to prompt return their surveys. Not only will this ensure representative results, it will also help to control the administration costs by minimizing the need for follow-up mailings.



Book Award Committee

Dawood H. Sultan

University of Tennessee Martin

The Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award Committee is chaired by Dr. Dawood H. Sultan, Assistant Professor of Sociology at The University of Tennessee at Martin. Committee members include Dr. Thomas Calhoun, Department Chair and Professor of Sociology at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Dr. Aubrey M. Keller, Professor of Sociology at The University of Tennessee at Martin, Dr. Lachelle Norris, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Tennessee Technical University, Dr. Diane Keithly, Associate Professor of Sociology at Southern University, Aditi Mitra, Graduate Assistant and Sociology Instructor at Oklahoma State University and Hope Joseph, Sociology Graduate Assistant at Louisiana State University.

The Committee has so far received 3 book nominations and looks forward to further nominations before the July 1, 2004 deadline.

Special Feature Clinical Sociology: Life Outside The Classroom

Kathy A. Smith

Motlow State Community College

Outside the academic setting, I am in private practice as a clinical sociologist. I am a member of the Association for Conflict Resolution at the Practitioner/ Educator/ Researcher level. I am listed by the State of Tennessee as a Rule 31 civil and family mediator; I provide anger management/conflict resolution services. I also teach court-approved divorce education seminars mandated by the State of Tennessee for divorcing parents with minor aged children, or for divorced parents that seek to modify custody agreements. The primary focus of my work is conflict resolution, both intra- and interpersonal. The goal is to improve the quality of the client's life, as well as the lives of those directly affected by their questionable thoughts/behaviors.

The name of my divorce education program is Divorce and Separation Education: Parents and Children Together; DASE PACT. The letters DASE are pronounced like the flower daisy. The daisy has a center that is surrounded by petals. Metaphorically speaking, the center is the child and the surrounding petals are all family members and potential future partners of one or both parents. Children of divorce need reassurance that they will maintain contact with their nonresidential parent and his or her family. The DASE PACT program is designed to inform parents about the expected and unexpected issues surrounding divorce. The program will enable them to make decisions that will ultimately best serve their children. I emphasize that children are innocent victims of divorce. Their basic needs and welfare (emotional/financial) are salient. Parents do not have to compete for their children's attention, time, and affection. Rather, when parents set aside their personal differences and create a common goal that provides their

children with the best possible environment, they can effectively co-parent while living in separate households.

In the anger management classes, I assist clients in defining problems, examining alternative behaviors, making plans for appropriate coping mechanisms, and committing to definite, positive actions. As a mediator/conflict resolution specialist, I view conflict as resulting from varied perspectives (e.g., personal and social) of a particular situation

and/or relationship, differing belief systems and values from clients' accumulated life experiences and conditioning; and differing objectives and interests. By evaluating conflict according to five categories (relationship, data, interest, structure, and value), I can begin to determine its causes. Through critical, ongoing analysis of individuals and

their circumstances, I intervene by providing applicable theoretical perspectives (e.g., Functionalist, Symbolic Interactionist) that help empower them to redirect or change their problematic ideologies and behaviors, and design resolution strategies that will have a strong probability of success.

The mediation process protects the integrity of those in dispute and enhances the possibility of a workable future relationship. Conflict resolution is especially effective for married couples that wish to retain and enhance their marriage, as well as overcome issues in their relationship. These processes involve the understanding that most relationships are more productive when viewed in terms of egalitarian rather than power. Through mediation/conflict resolution, clients can choose to evolve and redefine themselves

Report from the Committee on Women

Kim Davies

Augusta College

A Look at Sex Equity in the 2003 MSSA Program

As chair of the women's caucus, I decided to take a close look at the program to examine the issue of gender equity. I counted the number of women and men listed as paper presenters or panelists. I should note that I only did this once, I made some assumptions about women's and men's names and there were about three names listed that I excluded because I had no idea if they were women's or men's names. To cut to the chase, the results were amazing. MSSA President Jackie Eller managed to have an equal number of men and women listed. There were 178 men and 178 women listed as presenters or panelists. Comparisons of discussants revealed that there were four women and three men discussants. Seven of the Executive Council members are men, and six of the members are women.



REPORT FROM THE EDITOR OF SOCIOLOGICAL SPECTRUM

DeAnn K. Gauthier
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Table 1. Manuscript Status (n=168)

Accept	16
R&R	18
Reject	85*
Initial Review	15**
Published/in Press	34 (Vol. 22:4-24:3)***

*3 of these were submitted to guest editor of 23:2 (special issue).

**10 of these have been submitted to guest editor of 25:2 (special issue).

*** 9 of these were submitted before assumption of new editorship 2-2-02.

2003 Spectrum Best Paper Award Winner:

"Saints and Sinners: Elite Tattoo Collectors and Tatrooists as Positive and Negative Deviants"- Katherine Irwin. (Vol. 23:1)

Special Issue(s)

The deadline for papers has ended for the next special issue (to be guest edited by Craig J. Forsyth, University of Louisiana at Lafayette). This special issue will be titled "A Sociological View of Sport, Leisure, and Recreation," and will be published in 2005, volume 25(2).

Tentative Contents for Issue 24:3

Maintaining Collective Identity in a Hostile Environment: Confronting Negative Public Perception and Factional Divisions Within the Skinhead Subculture

Daniel Sarabia, Oklahoma State University

Thomas E. Shriver, Oklahoma State University

Differential Models for Math Anxiety in Male and Female College Students

Ada F. Haynes, Tennessee Technological University

Anita G. Mullins, Tennessee Technological University

Barry S. Stein, Tennessee Technological University

Parents' Heterosexism and Children's Attitudes Toward People with AIDS

Jeralynn Sittig Cossman, Mississippi State University

Laissez-Faire vs. Regulated Capitalism: A Cross-National Analysis of Social Costs

F. John Mehrrens III, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Stanford Morris Lyman June 10, 1933 – March 9, 2003

Dr. Stanford Morris Lyman died on March, 9, 2003 at the age of 69 of pancreatic and liver cancer. A celebrated social analyst, his passing once again serves as a reminder that the end of a very special era is near. His brand of scholarship has a depth that extends well beyond that which will quickly capture a readers' attention. Committed to the contribution to cumulative knowledge, Dr. Lyman did things the old fashioned way. Indeed, a lifetime of scholarly recognition acknowledges the substance of these contributions that will have an important effect for many years to come.

Born on June 10, 1933, Dr. Lyman graduated from George Washington High School in San Francisco, California and he subsequently earned three degrees from the University of California, Berkeley: the Bachelor of Arts in 1955, majoring in sociology and social institutions; two years later, he was awarded a Master of Arts in political science; and, in 1961, Dr. Lyman earned a Ph.D. in sociology and social institutions.

Dr. Lyman was the Robert J. Morrow Eminent Scholar and Professor of Social Science at Florida Atlantic University at Boca Raton, a position he had held since 1985. The Eminent Scholar Chair position is interdisciplinary in nature, a fact Dr. Lyman emphasized to me first in 1987 and again during the 2002 MSSA annual meeting in Memphis. This position also is consistent with the interdisciplinary scholarly recognition Dr. Lyman received throughout a long distinguished career.

Prior to this appointment he served in various capacities as a lecturer, instructor, distinguished visiting professor, professor, and chair of Departments of Speech, Anthropology and Sociology, Sociology, and Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley; University of British Columbia; Sonoma State College; University of California, Davis; University of Nevada, Reno; University of California, San Diego; New School of Social Science; and the University of Tulsa. Dr. Lyman also served in visiting lectureships in at least eleven (11) countries.

A complete academician, Dr. Lyman believed in the importance of teaching and service. In addition to an extensive teaching record he was an international lecturer and guest speaker. As to his research, Dr. Lyman was a diligent scholar who set daily writing goals to be achieved prior to any consideration to indulging in a personal passion for attending a movie theater. His deepest passion, however, was for the dissemination of scholarly and historical insights, some of which are not necessarily considered mainstream, and he did so at a pace that stands outside the boundaries of the capacity of an ordinary person. His contributions to inter-disciplinary scholarship were consistent throughout his life; at the time of his death Stanford was working on several new books and had just completed a play that was recently published.

Dr. Lyman was a traditionalist whose efforts were intended to have great social meaning. Though short of stature, he has been identified as "a scholars' scholar." He was a complete scholar who stood tall among his generation, the likes of which we hope will again represent the discipline. His work is profound and he is a recognized authority in the area of race and ethnic studies; later his interests included the Sociology of emotions. Interdisciplinary in content and focus, Dr. Lyman's work added not only to a rich intellectual heritage within sociology, anthropology, history, political science, and psychology, but it also held a wide social appeal because it advanced intercultural and interracial understanding. In these areas he was uncompromising and stood as a stout activist who employed his scholarly knowledge and position to identify and speak out against legal, ethnic and racial, and social injustices.

Dr. Lyman's work, according to some evaluations, may not have been within the mainstream of sociological thought but, as noted by Pfohl in *Images of Deviance and Social Control* (1994:55), his writings stand among those analysts who challenge us "...to temper the naturalistic analysis of deviance and social control with an awareness of the moral, spiritual, or cosmic nature of this subject matter." Indeed, who else but one Stanford M. Lyman would anticipate the "sloth, anger, lust, pride, envy, gluttony, and greed or the seven deadly sins of deviance that we would witness during the latter 20th and early 21st centuries? In a book by that same title, Dr. Lyman argued that scientific analysts depend heavily upon the model of positivism and for this reason some difficulty is experienced in analyzing social sins within sociological studies of deviance. Lacking a moral perspective by which to judge the evils of the modern world was, according to Lyman, an inhibition to the advancement of knowledge and social control efforts. Perhaps this explains his interest in the Sociology of emotions. He was an interesting man and a reflective, thoughtful scholar.

He authored, edited, and co-edited 25 books and approximately 95 single and co-authored English language articles as well as numerous review essays, book reviews, lectures, and other forms of professional presentations that were national and international in scope. His articles appear in journals in sociology, anthropology, history, law, speech, black studies, religion, and ethnic studies. They also appear in English, French, and Spanish.

He was the co-founder and co-editor of three journals: 1) State, Culture, and Society; 2) International Journal of Politics; and 3) Culture and Society. Dr. Lyman also served as an important resource person for at least thirteen (13) scholarly publications, further attesting to the strong recognition achieved among his peers.

The enthusiasm held for his work is readily noted in Dr. Lyman's own hand. In a Memorandum dated January 28, 2003, the general thrust of his scholarly interest can be identified. Quoting in part from this document, he wrote:

I recently attended a reunion in San Francisco of the 'Barons,' a group of Japanese-American men with whom I have been friends since the early 1950s. What started out as a social group of older teenagers and young adults has created lifelong friendships and I am honored to be included as the only non-Asian in the group. Of particular interest is the fact that my very close association with these men and their families led to what became the major thrust of my research – the study of Chinese and Japanese immigrants in America and their struggles for acceptance in the Western world.

In addition to his prolific contributions to the understanding of race and ethnic relations, Dr. Lyman also made important contributions to the emerging area of the sociology of emotions.

Dr. Lyman received many honors and awards over an extended period of time. These include 1) the Alumni Hall of Merit, George Washington High School in San Francisco; 2) the George Herbert Mead Award for lifetime achievement; 3) The American Academy of Religion's Award for Excellence; 4) the Asian American Studies Outstanding Book Award; 5) Excellence in Teaching Award; and 6) Centennial Scholar Researcher Award. In addition to these awards, Dr. Lyman was the recipient of three MSSA Distinguished Book Awards; the first in 1991, the second in 1993 and, in 2002, his 25th book Roads to Dystopia was again so honored. Such honors continue. In November, 2004 the MSSA designated its Distinguished Book Award in Dr. Lyman's name.



Dr. Stanford Morris Lyman Continued from Page 6

He graced the MSSA with his presence for a number of years and served as annual program chair and then MSSA President during the period 1992-1994. And he remained an active member of the MSSA thereby enhancing what continues to be an increasing national recognition accorded to our association. Dr. Lyman held a posture based on a compelling dignity and grace. He was a special, unique person who drew on a vast knowledge to assist others committed to scholarship. Although sensitive to criticism, he shared a wealth of knowledge with those with a desire to learn. A nice man, his warm presence will live in the memories of all who knew him on a personal level. Undoubtedly, his personal drive, passion for and commitment to scholarship, and interdisciplinary contributions will continue to serve as an inspiration to all of us.

*Dennis L. Peck, Professor
The University of Alabama*

References

Pfohl, Stephen. 1994. *Images of Deviance and Social Control: A Sociological History*. New York: McGraw Inc.

FAU TODAY NEWS. 2003. "In Memoriam."

http://www.fau.edu/fautoday/0302n_Lyman.htm. Retrieved on 8/15/03.

Sociology. "Stanford Morris Lyman."

http://sociology.berkeley.edu/alumni/viewbio_querylist.asp?ID=366. Retrieved on 8/14/03.

Dr. Donna K. Darden 1941-2003

I remember when I first heard of Donna's stroke. At first, it did not register to me that this was near the end. I would not believe it. I actually called Coy to find out which hospital she was at so I could visit her, talk, and provide some comfort. I have a PhD, my father was a medic, and I have had family members who have suffered heart problems and strokes. Yet, I was sure this must have been a mild stroke and she would be back on her feet in a few days. Naïve, yes, but like many others I thought Donna was invincible. She was so full of vigor it was impossible to believe anything would keep her down. I was devastated to find out that she would probably be gone in a few days. On Thursday April 3rd, 2003 Donna died. It broke my heart. All I could do was to make sure that people knew, her students would be taken care of, and her classes would be covered. I knew Donna was loved and I wondered how I could let everyone know about Donna's death. I decided to post what happened on several of the list serves that she frequented.

News of Donna's passing flashed through the electronic Ethernets linking members of the sociological organizations in where her presence was so prominent: SSSI, MSSA, SSS, ASA's TeachSoc. Over the next several days, Donna's colleagues remembered her, honored her, and lamented her loss.

Donna did not want a large public funeral. She was a very private person when it came to certain details of her life. I would like to think part of the reason she did not want people mourning her, was because she loved life too much to have people not enjoy it. I imagine she would prefer her friends to celebrate the good times, party, and have fun instead. Her funeral was simple, elegant, and beautiful, it took my breath away. Mourners gathered at her home. We sat outside, talked, wept, and held each other. One of Donna's favorite things was the pond at

her house. Coy brought her ashes out and asked us to each take a turn going out on the dock, saying our last goodbyes, and then spread some of her ashes into the pond. He also gave visitors a tiramisu ball to help remember Donna. Donna had several hobbies, and one of them was to make tiramisu balls to sell to help several children's charities. The most moving part of the day was meeting her son, other professional friends from around the United States, and the students that were positively impacted by Donna.

Donna Kelleher Darden is survived by her partner, Coy Van Meter, her sons, Patrick and Kelly, three grandchildren, and many students whose hearts and minds she opened and whose lives she changed. If I may be so bold, I think Donna would want us to continue trying to help change, challenge, and shape our students. Donna laughed when I complained about how frustrating some of the students were because they refused to listen, change, or in some occasions even show up to class. Donna would always say, "It is a valiant notion to try to save the world and everyone in it. However, if you change just one student's life for the better per semester, then you have had an extremely successful year. Focus on the positive accomplishments, not on the negative aspects of teaching. It might take several years, and you probably will never know when it happens, but what you do today will help many of your students, eventually." I imagine Donna's presence, words, and wisdom will continue to impact the futures of many for years to come.

*Tom Brignall
Assistant Professor of Sociology and Philosophy
Tennessee Tech University*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW EDITOR SOUGHT FOR SOCIOLOGICAL SPECTRUM

The Mid-South Sociological Association is seeking applications from members of the MSSA for the position of Editor of Sociological Spectrum, the official journal of the Association. The current editorship will end on or before February 1, 2005 (turnover date is somewhat negotiable). The term of the editor(s) will be three years (2005-2007) and will be responsible for volumes 26-28.

Duties of the editorship include reading and evaluating manuscripts, coordinating the external review process, and preparing 6 issues for publication per year.

Applications should include a letter of application, vitae of Editorial applicant(s), and a statement of support from the proposed host institution. Preferred campus support would include: course release time, funded managing editor, computer and printer, office space,

copier, postage, phone, long distance, and travel support.

Applicants with additional questions are encouraged to contact the current editor-in-chief before making application:

Dr. DeAnn K. Gauthier

[UL Lafayette Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Lafayette, LA 70504, 337-482-6043

dkgauthier@louisiana.edu]

Applications should be sent to the MSSA President, Jackie Eller, no later than July 1, 2004.

Jackie Eller

Box 126 MTSU

Murfreesboro, TN 37132-0001

jaeller@mtsu.edu

(615)898-2125

GRADUATE STUDENT "PAPER OF DISTINCTION" AWARD*

*The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of The Mid-South Sociological Association
Biloxi, Mississippi*

The Mid-South Sociological Association invites the submission of student papers for its third annual Graduate Student Paper Session and "Paper of Distinction" Award. The award replaces the Graduate Student Paper Competition. 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 Editor of *Sociological Spectrum*.

Rules for the 2004 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). Only the author's name and title of the paper should be included on the title page. The title of the paper must be repeated at the top of the first page of the text.

The maximum length of an eligible paper shall be 25 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 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 July 1, 2004. Send papers by "First Class" mail to Carl L. Bankston III, Department of Sociology, 220 Newcomb Hall; Tulane University, New Orleans, La. 70118; (office phone) 504-862-3024; (e-mail) cbankst@tulane.edu.

To receive full recognition for participation, submissions must meet deadlines and participants must present their papers at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi.

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

* *Students who do not wish to participate in the award process may choose to present their paper in the poster session – see Call For Papers*

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

*The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of The Mid-South Sociological Association
Biloxi, Mississippi*

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 all papers selected will be presented with certificates of merit after presentations of papers at the 2004 MSSA Annual Meeting.

Rules for the 2004 Competition

1. 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, and the telephone number of the author(s). Only the author's name and title of the paper should be included on the title page. The title of the paper must be repeated at the top of the first page of the text.
2. The maximum length of an eligible paper shall be 20 double-spaced pages of text, not counting abstract, references, tables, and figures.
3. Papers may be co-authored with a maximum of three student authors, but not by graduate students or faculty.
4. Papers must not have been submitted for publication prior to submission for this competition.
5. 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.).
6. Four copies of each paper must be received by July 30, 2004. Send papers by "First Class" mail to:

David Gay, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
P.O. Box 25000, University of Central Florida
Orlando, FL 32816-1360.

You may contact Dr. Gay by phone at 407-823-2227 or by e-mail at dgay@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu if you have any questions regarding the competition.

7. To receive full recognition for participation, submissions must meet deadlines and participants must present their papers at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Biloxi.
8. Students are strongly encouraged to seek faculty advice prior to submission of papers.



Carl L. Bankston III recently published an invited essay on social capital theory, entitled "Comments," in the April 2004 edition of *Sociology of Education*.

Carl Bankston's 2003 book, *The End of Desegregation?*, was recently discussed in *The Baton Rouge Morning Advocate*.

Clifton D. Bryant and **Keith F. Durkin** were both quoted in a *Los Angeles Times* article on fathers who kill their families.

Obie Clayton had a book, *Black Fathers in Contemporary American Society: Strengths, Weaknesses, and Strategies for Change*, published by the Russell Sage Foundation (with Ronald B. Mincy and David Blankenhorn).

Obie Clayton is Principal Investigator on a \$1,000,000 grant from the DHHS/OMH to develop college and community partnerships to address the health needs of African- American men.

J. Kenneth Davidson, Sr. is a co-recipient of the 2003 Earnest G. Osborne Award for Excellence in Teaching of Family Studies, which was given by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) at its annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. This award is given in honor of Osborne, a three-term past president of NCFR, who established the first program in family life education at Teachers College, Columbia University in 1938. Nominations by peers for this award are submitted to the selection committee for their consideration. The award is given by NCFR in alternate years and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching of family studies over their career. Among other contributions, Davidson was Chair of the NCFR Committee on Standards and Certification, which served as the foundation of the current Certification of Family Life Educators Program. He is also co-author and co-editor of several textbooks on marriage/family and human sexuality that have been used in college-level courses across the country. Further, he is author and co-author of numerous refereed and invited publications in the areas of marriage/family and human sexuality.

Keith F. Durkin was quoted in an article in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* on police impersonators.

Keith F. Durkin contributed a chapter entitled, "The Internet as a Milieu for the Management of a Stigmatized Sexual Identity", for *Net.SeXXX: Sex, Pornography, and the Internet*, edited by in Dennis Waskul. This book will be published by Peter Lang.

Brent K. Marshall, J. Steven Picou and **Duane A. Gill** had a paper entitled, "Terrorism As Disaster: Selected Commonalities and Long-Term Recovery for 9/11 Survivors", published in the journal *Research in Social Problems and Public Policy*.

J. Steven Picou, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of South Alabama.

J. Steven Picou had a grant, "Environmental Attitudes and Resource Use: Assessing the Impacts of 'Snowbirds' on the Alabama Coastal Zone", funded by the Alabama Center for Estuarine Studies, \$78,592.

Shanta Sharma was a Guest Speaker at the 4th Regional Professional Business Women's conference in Arkansas.

Shanta Sharma's work on "Globalization and Its Critics" was featured in the *Shifting Herald*.

Dawood H. Sultan, is collaborating with the Office of Multicultural Affairs at The University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) to lead a group of 8-10 undergraduate students on an all-expenses-paid summer study program in Tanzania, east Africa. The funds to support student travel were made available to the Office of Multicultural Affairs following acceptance of a grant proposal created by Dr. Sultan. This will be UTM's first-ever overseas study program in Africa and offer students the unique opportunity to experience full cultural emersion in an African society. The grant proposal and ensuing program activities constitute part of the effort to internationalize undergraduate curriculum and instruction at UTM.