

*Social movements are at once the symptoms and the instruments of progress. Ignore them and statesmanship is irrelevant; fail to use them and it is weak.*

--- Walter Lippmann



North Central Sociological Association

A Bi-annual Newsletter

Fall 2006

## JOINT NCSA-MSS MEETING IN CHICAGO

April 4-7, 2007

Downtown Marriott Hotel

540 North Michigan Avenue



### “Social Policy, Social Ideology, and Social Change”

By President-Elect of MSS Helen Moore and the Vice President of NCSA Jay Weinstein

Our strong disciplinary foundations derive from the classical scholars who sought to understand and influence social change. A common feature of early scholarship was the assumption that one ultimate purpose of the discipline was to improve the human condition via the creation of scientifically informed social policy. Support for this doctrine has varied over time, but currently, our professional culture is returning to a stronger policy orientation.

The American Sociological Association emphasizes the importance of formulating social policy through Public Briefings and ASA Council Public Statements and Policy statements (asanet.org). Both NCSA and MSS have hosted sessions framing social policy discussions with a sense of urgency that contemporary societies require science-based policies in an unprecedented way, perhaps for their very social survival.

If sociologically inspired and informed social policy is needed now as never before, it is equally true that sciences, in general, and social sciences in

particular, confront a contemporary political climate of distrust. Sociologists working in policy arenas may promote progressive social change — now with encouragement from our professional organizations — and yet find themselves engaged in ideological debate.

This “debate” process is familiar. Intellectuals and organizations that embrace forms of anti-science ideology discredit all forms of critical thinking about contemporary society and its institutions (typified by sociology) as “leftwing” rhetoric. Indeed, to defend their antiscientific doctrines, some journalists, political leaders, and religious spokespersons have routinely characterized sociologists as “liberals” and/or “Marxists.” Their rhetoric conflates all forms of “ideology” with well-established and widely accepted tenets of sociology. This, in turn, politicizes debates and omits the role of social science investigation in resolving policy differences.

One side is simply asserted to be “right” and the other to be “wrong” without reflection. In selecting **Social**

**Policy, Social Ideology, and Social Change** as the theme of this joint meeting of MSS and NCSA, we underscore the promise our discipline holds for informing policy that may, in turn, help shape a better social world. At the same time, we recognize the inhospitable ideological climate that policy science encounters today. The methodologies and theories we select for our current research, teaching activities and service outreach involve sociologists at both the margins and the heart of these larger policy debates. The very act of operationalizing research variables such as “race” or “ethnicity” links sociologists to political processes of gerrymandering and cultural processes of “othering.” Research efforts to understand teenage sexuality or corporate crime can be thwarted by bureaucratic barriers. The policy rubrics from “No Child Left Behind” and “Workfare” also shape our communities,

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shape access to research funding priorities, and frame the questions posed by our students.

Today, as a discipline we engage with themes of social change ranging from the macro-sociology of global economics and social movements, to the day-to-day praxis of social action, interpersonal conflict, and family change. Our research methodologies, pedagogical

strategies, and community praxis have fundamental and practical extensions to the realities of social policy and social change. Those scholars who commit their research to progressive social change move along similar disciplinary pathways as those who stand for dispassionate scientific methods. At every point along this continuum, sociologists are engaged with the social policy/social change dialectic. It is important for us to

reflect on our own status and impact as a discipline, as individual and collaborative researchers, as teachers, and as observers and as participants in the social changes that are occurring around us. The combined 2007 program in Chicago of the Midwest Sociological Society and the North Central Sociological Association provides multiple opportunities to expand these discussions. We invite you to submit papers that enlarge and illuminate these debates within and about our discipline.

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Plenary Address Delivered by  
Professor Saskia Sassen,  
Department of Sociology,  
the University of Chicago

The MSS Plenary Address  
will be Delivered by  
Professor Edna Bonacich,  
University of California, Riverside

## NCSA Plenary Speaker: Saskia Sassen

Information from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saskia\\_Sassen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saskia_Sassen)



**Saskia Sassen** (born 1949 at The Hague, in The Netherlands) is an American sociologist and economist noted for her analyses of globalization and international human migration.

She currently is professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, and at the London School of Economics. Sassen coined the term *global city*.

Sassen grew up in Buenos Aires, where her parents moved in 1950. She also spent a part of her youth in Italy and says she was "brought up in five languages." From 1966, she spent a year each at the Université de Poitiers, France, the Università degli Studi di Roma, and the Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires, for studies in philosophy and political science. From 1969, Sassen studied sociology and economics at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, where she obtained M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in 1971 and 1974, respectively. In addition, she obtained a French master's degree in philosophy in Poitiers in 1974. After being a post-doctoral fellow at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, Sassen held various academic positions both in and outside the USA. She currently is Ralph Lewis Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago, and Centennial Visiting Professor of Political Economy in the Department of Geography at the London School of Economics.

During the 1980s and 1990s, Sassen emerged as a prolific author in urban sociology. She studied the impact globalization processes, and the movements of labor and capital which they involve, have on urban life. She also studied the influence of communication technology on governance. Sassen observed how nation states begin to lose power to control these developments, and she studied increasing general trans-nationalism, including transnational human migration. She identified and described the phenomenon of the *global city*.

Her 1991 book bearing this title quickly made her a frequently quoted author on globalization worldwide. A revised and updated edition of her book was published in 2001. She currently (2006) is pursuing her research and writing on immigration and globalization, with her "denationalization" and "transnationalism" projects.

### Selected Publications:

*Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages*. Princeton University Press, 2006.

*Cities in a world economy*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, 2006.

*Digital Formations: IT and New Architectures in the Global Realm*, eds. Robert Latham and Saskia Sassen. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.

"When National Territory is Home to the Global: Old Borders to Novel Borderings." In *New Political Economy* 10(4): 523-41, 2005.

"Regulating Immigration in a Global Age: A New Policy Landscape." In *Parallax* 11(1): 35, 45, 2005.

"The Global City: Introducing a Concept." In *Brown Journal of World Affairs* 11(2): 27-43, 2005.

*Denationalization: Territory, Authority and Rights*, Princeton University Press, 2005.

*Digital Formations: Information Technologies and New Architectures in the Global Realm*, Princeton University Press, 2005.

*Global Networks/Linked Cities*. New York and London: Routledge, 2002.

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# DESTINATION CHICAGO



## Attractions

The third largest city in the U.S., Chicago has its share of tourist attractions. Pictured left is the famous Art Institute located in the South Loop of the city. You can also visit Navy Pier, visible from the city's new hot spot, Millennium Park. Close by are the Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, and Planetarium all within walking distance of each other near Lake Shore Drive. The Museum of Contemporary Art is also located right off of the Magnificent Mile near Water Tower Place. All of these attractions are reachable by train or cab, a ride on the trolley, or old fashioned walking. For more information on any of these attractions, please visit one of the suggested websites!



## For More Information

We could not possibly fit everything there is to do in Chicago into two pages! Check out these websites for information on tourist attractions, upcoming events in April, transportation, maps and more!

<http://www.chicagotraveler.com/>

<http://transitchicago.com/>

[www.centerstage.net](http://www.centerstage.net)

[www.metromix.com](http://www.metromix.com)

[www.chicagofashionista.com](http://www.chicagofashionista.com)

<http://www.choosechicago.com/s hopping.html>

## Getting Around Downtown...



The hotel is located in the area known as is "The Magnificent Mile."

Getting around is easy. There are plenty of cabs and places to park, but the most efficient way to see the city is by train (the "L"). The Chicago Transit Authority extends to all areas of the city via color coded lines of elevated and subway trains. The lines along Michigan Avenue that would be most helpful during your stay are the Red and Blue lines. The Downtown Marriott Hotel is closest to stops "Grand" or "Chicago" off of the Red Line; the line that runs from the North to the South end of the city.

## Restaurants & Chicago Favorites

Check out Chicago's own Blue Man Group at the Briar Street Theater. Another new Chicago show that you can not miss is *Wicked*, playing at the Oriental Theater. There is always something good at the Chicago House of Blues on Dearborn. Check out the 10Pin bowling lounge next door for good music, great food and fun!



Chicago is known for its pizza, so we are lucky to have Uno Chicago Grill located right around the corner on Ohio and State Street. Another Chicago favorite on the Mile is the Billy Goat Tavern on Grand, located at the North end of Michigan Avenue.

On the Magnificent Mile you will also find a number of critically-acclaimed restaurants including Spiaggia, The Pump Room, The Signature Room at The 95th, Tru, Lawry's The Prime Rib, and Spago.

Some other restaurants near the Magnificent Mile are:

- Baisi Thai on Chicago
- Cheesecake Factory on Grand
- Signature Lounge on Chicago
- Tucci Benucch in Bloomingdale's
- P.F. Chang's on North Wabash
- Ditka's, owned by Mike Ditka former coach of the Chicago Bears, on Chestnut

## Shopping



There is no better place to shop in Chicago than the Magnificent Mile. Located on Michigan Avenue, the street features Chicago staples like The Water Tower, The American Girl Store, and Garrett's Popcorn.

It also satisfies any shopper's dream with a mixture of high end and affordable stores. Famous names stores include Bloomingdale's, Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom, Marshall Field's and Lord & Taylor and boutiques including Cartier, Hermès, Giorgio Armani, Salvatore Ferragamo, Ermenegildo Zegna, Burberry, and Tiffany & Co. On the side streets, you will find more shopping, plenty of restaurants, and entertainment venues for anyone.



If you want an adventure take the red line south to State Street and shop in "The Loop!" The famous Marshall Field's building is a site in itself and you can spend the day shopping at surrounding stores like Carson's, Pirie Scott, Forever 21, and Borders.

## Sights & Sounds

With Chicago's diversity comes a wide variety of entertainment all over the city. In the downtown area there are plenty of night clubs, jazz and blues venues, bars and lounges for everyone to choose from.



One favorite is the nightclub Excalibur, located on North Dearborn, is a hotspot for all ages. In the surrounding area you have the student clubbing scene with a variety of nightlife venues; two favorites are Y Bar and Sound Bar, both on West Ontario.

For that Pub atmosphere stop by Timothy O'Tooles on Grand or the Green Door Tavern on Chicago. Visit Chicago's own Andy's located on Hubbard and State Street or the HotHouse on East Balbo Street to hear live musicians play classic Chicago Jazz. For more sights and sounds or directions visit any of the listed sites.



**DON'T FORGET THE GREAT THEATERS IN CHICAGO!**

<http://www.chicagotraveler.com/theater-events.htm>



# The John F. Schnabel Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

## Call for Nominations

### 2007 Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award

The NCSA Teaching Committee is now calling for nominations (and re-nominations) for the 2007 *The John F. Schnabel Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award*. This award may be given to an individual, a department, a program, or an institution. Individuals nominated for the award must be a member of the NCSA. Departments, programs, or institutions nominated for the award must be located in the NCSA region.



2006 NCSA Teaching Award recipient  
Dr. Leslie Wang

The principal criterion for the award is excellence in some activity enhancing the teaching of Sociology for the NCSA or within the North Central region. As such, the "criteria" are intentionally flexible in order to accommodate the innovative and creative.

A partial list of the kinds of activities that would be considered includes:

1. The sharing of pioneering innovations in curriculum design. Creative classroom activities, and/or development of instructional methods.
2. The development of especially creative instructional materials.
3. A distinguished record of publication and/or research on or about the teaching of Sociology.
4. A distinguished record of assuring a teaching emphasis at the NCSA Annual Meeting by organizing research session on teaching, creating displays, chairing panels, conducting teaching workshops, and/or chairing roundtables on some teaching emphasis.
5. Faculty developmental efforts such as systematic in-service training of teachers or a distinguished record of preparing graduate students to teach.

When making nominations for the award, nominators are asked to send as much of the following as possible:

1. A letter of nomination outlining reasons for the nomination.
2. A vita and/or a listing of activities which have fostered better teaching of Sociology.
3. Documents supporting the nomination.

The more concrete and specific the information and documentation, the stronger the nomination will be. Nominators may want to notify the person the person being nominated and ask him or her to send appropriate supporting materials. Anyone who has been a nominator before is strongly encouraged to re-nominate that individual, department, program, or institution.

**The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2007**

Send nominations or address questions to:

**Dr. Debra H. Swanson**  
Sociology and Social Work  
Hope College  
41 Graves Pl, PO Box 9000  
Holland, MI 49422-9000  
email: [swansond@hope.edu](mailto:swansond@hope.edu)

## Scholarly Achievement Award

The Scholarly Achievement Award Committee solicits nominations from the membership for significant work in the discipline which has appeared in the recent past and has not been recognized by the Association.

**Nominations should be submitted by December 15, 2006 to:**



Jay Howard  
Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus  
Professor of Sociology  
Head Division of Liberal Arts  
Deputy Editor, *Teaching Sociology*  
4601 Central Avenue Tel: 812.348.7270  
Columbus, IN 47203-1769 Fax: 812.348.7370  
www.iupuc.edu Email: jhoward@iupuc.edu

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## Aida Tomeh Distinguished Service Award

The Aida Tomeh Distinguished Service Award is an annual award recognizing an NCSA member who has accomplished one or more of the following:

1. Service to the NCSA in a single truly outstanding activity, or
2. Service to the NCSA in many capacities and over a long period of time, or
3. Service to the NCSA throughout professional career.

**When making nominations for the award, nominators are asked to send as much of the following as possible:**

1. A letter of nomination outlining reasons for the nomination.
2. A vita and/or a listing of activities which have fostered better teaching of Sociology.
3. Documents supporting the nomination.

The more concrete and specific the information and documentation, the stronger the nomination will be. Nominators may want to notify the person being nominated and ask him or her to send appropriate supporting materials. Anyone who has been a nominator before is strongly encouraged to re-nominate that individual, department, program, or institution.

**The deadline for nomination is January 31, 2007**

Send nominations or address questions to:

**Tom Brignall**  
3105 Hillmeade Court  
Nashville, TN 37221  
Email: [tbrignall@fisk.edu](mailto:tbrignall@fisk.edu)



Tom Calhoun  
2006 recipient

# NORTH CENTRAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION 2007 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The North Central Sociological Association is pleased to announce its annual competition for all students.

## TWO DIVISIONAL AWARDS

1. Graduate Student Division
2. Undergraduate Division (open to all students at 2-year and 4-year colleges, universities, and community colleges)

## AWARDS

- Up to three awards will be given in each category. Division winners will receive a certificate in recognition of their award.
- Undergraduate division winners will receive a reimbursement of up to \$100 for travel expenses incurred for traveling to the NCSA annual meeting April 4 - 7, 2007 in Chicago, IL.
- In the graduate division, the monetary award for reimbursement of expenses incurred for travel to the NCSA annual meeting April 4 - 7, 2007 in Chicago, IL will be distributed as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place receives \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> place receives \$125, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place receives \$100. Additionally, the first place winner in the graduate division will be honored as the recipient of the John Seidler Award and the winner's paper will be considered for publication in *Sociological Focus*.
- Co-authored or multiple authored winners will share the specified monetary award.
- All award winners will be honored at a special time during the annual meeting of the NCSA in Indianapolis.

## COMPETITION RULES

1. The maximum length of a paper is 5000 words (approximately 18-20 pages). An abstract of no more than 100 words must also be included.
2. The title page must include the author's name, institutional affiliation, divisional status (graduate or undergraduate), email address, and the name, address, and telephone number of the student's advisor/mentor.
3. Papers with multiple authors will be considered provided that all authors are students in the same division category.
4. Only papers written while the author(s) was a student are eligible for consideration.
5. The contestant must submit four clear copies of the paper.
6. Winners are expected to present their papers at the 2007 annual meeting to receive the monetary award.
7. All papers submitted by graduate students will be automatically included in the regular program.
8. Undergraduate students are encouraged to submit a copy of their papers to the program chair to be included in the regular program.
9. For information, please contact Fayyaz Hussain at (517) 353-9964 or e-mail to [hussain3@msu.edu](mailto:hussain3@msu.edu)
10. For information on NCSA, please visit our web site: <http://www.ncsanet.org/>

## JUDGING

A panel of judges will blind review papers. The judges will employ conventional scholarly criteria -- including thesis development, theoretical application, methodological application, discussion/findings, and mechanics -- in their deliberations. The graduate student paper award will also be reviewed for its potential for publication. The awards committee reserves the right not to award any or all prizes in a division should papers not be of sufficient quality or of sufficient number.

**Please submit entries by January 8, 2007 to:**

Fayyaz Hussain, chair  
Student Paper Awards Committee  
Center for Integrative Studies in Social Sciences  
5-H Berkey Hall  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824



## NCSA TEACHING SESSIONS

The following sessions are teaching focused. Please submit abstracts to the organizers listed below:

### What's New in the Research on Balancing Work and Family?

Debra H. Swanson  
Hope College  
Sociology and Social Work  
P.O. Box 9000, 41 Graves Place  
Holland, MI 49422-9000  
616-786-2542  
[swansond@hope.edu](mailto:swansond@hope.edu)

### Student Resistance to Diversity Issues

Deborah L. Smith  
Saginaw Valley State University  
Department of Middle and Secondary  
Teacher Education  
Saginaw, Michigan  
989-964-4526  
[dsmith3@svsu.edu](mailto:dsmith3@svsu.edu)

### Teaching as Social Activism

Todd M. Callais  
Ohio State University  
Dept. of Sociology  
The Ohio State University  
300 Bricker Hall  
190 N. Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210  
614-292-6681  
[callais.1@sociology.osu.edu](mailto:callais.1@sociology.osu.edu)

### Going Beyond the Classroom: Using Field Experiences to Enhance Learning

Brian J. Smith  
Central Michigan University  
Sociology, Anthropology, &  
Social Work  
Anspach Hall  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859  
989-774-3428  
[smith1b@cmich.edu](mailto:smith1b@cmich.edu)



### Music in the Classroom

Janice Proctor  
Sociology/Criminology  
Ohio University Eastern Campus  
45425 National Rd.  
St. Clairsville, OH 43950  
740-699-2321  
[proctorj@ohio.edu](mailto:proctorj@ohio.edu)

### Informal Teaching and Learning: Ideas for Helping Students Learn Sociology Outside the Classroom

Katherine R. Rowell  
Sinclair Community College  
Department of Sociology, Geography,  
and Social Work  
Dayton, Ohio  
937-512-4598  
[katherine.rowell@sinclair.edu](mailto:katherine.rowell@sinclair.edu)

### Sociology Through Film Teaching Inequality

Aurea Osgood  
Bowling Green University  
222 Williams Hall  
Bowling Green, OH 43403  
419-372-2294  
[aosgood@bgsu.edu](mailto:aosgood@bgsu.edu)

### Teaching Controversial Topics in Sociology

Leslie T. C. Wang  
Saint Mary's College  
Dept. of Sociology  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5001  
(574) 284-4545  
[lwang@saintmarys.edu](mailto:lwang@saintmarys.edu)

### Rethinking the Introductory Sociology Course

Rebecca Bordt and Catherine Fobes  
Bordt at DePauw University  
Sociology and Anthropology  
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Greencastle, IN 46135-0037  
765-658-4521  
[rbordt@depauw.edu](mailto:rbordt@depauw.edu)

Fobes at Alma College  
Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology  
Alma College  
614 W. Superior Street  
Alma, MI 48801-1599  
PH: (989) 463-7257  
FAX: (989) 463-7277  
[fobes@alma.edu](mailto:fobes@alma.edu)

### Books That Help Us Become Better Teachers

Lissa Yogan  
Valparaiso University  
1409 Chapel Drive  
Valparaiso, IN 46383  
PH: (219) 464-6998  
FAX: (219) 464-5511  
[Lissa.Yogan@valpo.edu](mailto:Lissa.Yogan@valpo.edu)

### Teaching Delinquency and Criminology

Scott A. Desmond,  
Purdue University  
Department of Sociology &  
Anthropology  
700 West State Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059  
(765) 494-4701  
444 W. Third Street  
[sdesmond@purdue.edu](mailto:sdesmond@purdue.edu)

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CONTACT**

**Debra Swanson at  
[swansond@hope.edu](mailto:swansond@hope.edu)**

## THE DISCIPLINE

### Sociology of Sociology

Co-organizers: Boyd Littrell and Larry Reynolds,  
Central Michigan University  
(Littrell) University of Nebraska Omaha  
6001 Dodge St.  
Omaha, NE 68182  
Day Phone: littrell-402-554-3373 Reynolds: 231-  
386-5925  
Email: [blittrell@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:blittrell@mail.unomaha.edu)

### The Ethical Sociologist: Professional Issues and Standards in the Discipline

Organizer: Tracy E. Ore  
Saint Cloud State University  
Dept. Of Sociology  
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## IMPORTANT DATES FOR PAPERS/SESSION

Deadline for submitting papers and abstracts to session organizers:  
**October 31, 2006**

Deadline for submitting final session presenter lists:

**December 1, 2006**

(Including names of Discussants/Presiders)

Deadline for submitting papers to Discussants:  
**March 9, 2007**

### Sociology of Children and Adolescents

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### MENOPAUSE: The Sociology of the Change of Life

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## AMERICAN INDIAN

### Research with American Indian Communities: Methodologies, Outcomes and Future Directions.

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### Economics and Social Justice in American Indian Communities

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**Community Policing: What Lies Beyond?**

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**AGING BEAUTY: Body Images and Beauty Mandates for Women of Age**

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**Mothering: Policy, Ideology & Activism**

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**Issues of Gender and Power**

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**Midwestern Feminism: A Reflection and Discussion (Co-sponsor MSWS)**

Papers will focus on personal reflections of what it means to be a feminist in the Midwest or, alternatively, how people experience Midwestern feminism. This session stems from debates in the feminist literature of what it means to be a feminist (i.e. what issues matter) and discussions with other feminists from or located in the Midwest and the experiences we face because of our geographic locations.

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**GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL**

**International Sociologists' Perspectives on the United States**

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**Globalization and Inequalities**

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**Globalization: Governance and Resistance**

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**Globalization and Social Movements**

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**Servants of Globalization: Asian Women in the International Labor Market**

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**The Global Politics of Food**

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**Issues in Social Change and the Third World**

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**Gender in the International Context**

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**Globalization, Identity and Citizenship**

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**International Issues in Women's Health (Co-Sponsor MSWS)**

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**Development Policy Debates: Africa in the Age of Globalization**

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**HEALTH/MENTAL HEALTH**

**The Sociology of Health & Health Care**

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**Stigma and Recovery in Mental Illness: Individual and Community Process**

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**Latino/a Health and Acculturation in the United States**

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**Immigration and Health: Uncovering Hidden Patterns**

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**Health Care System Reforms: Thinking about Alternatives**

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**Medicalization and the Sociology of Reproductive Health (Co-Sponsor MSWS)**

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**New Developments in the Study of Social Inequality**

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**Race and Inequality**

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**Genocide and State Terrorism**

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**War and Peace**

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**Politics, Neoliberalism and Market Fundamentalism**

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**Political Activism and the Internet**

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**Political Sociology of Latin America**

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**The Sociology of Propaganda and Demonization**

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**The Right in American Politics**

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**POPULAR CULTURE**

**Culture and Resistance**

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**Sociology of Dance**

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### Social Construction of Racial/Ethnic Identity

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### Asian Americans:

#### Emerging Identities and Culture

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#### Micro-Interactional Theory, Practice, and Policy Addressing Racial/Ethnic Discrimination and Inequality

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#### Racing Education: Education, Inequality and Racial Identities

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#### Race, Ethnicity, and Postcoloniality

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#### Latinos: Experiences & Changes in the Midwest

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## RACE/CLASS/GENDER/SEXUALITIES

#### Sexualities, Law and Justice

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#### Social Psychological Approaches in Race, Class, and Gender

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#### The Commodification of Gender and Race

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#### Race, Class, Gender and the U.S. Labor Market

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#### Economic Sociology & the Internet: Intersections of Race, Class, Gender and Networks

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#### The Sociology of Neo-Paganism, Wicca, Occultism, and other Alternative Spiritual Traditions and Practices.

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**Visualizing Information: Spatial Analysis, Mapping, and Geographic Information System in Sociology**

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**Dear Sage Publications: Suggested Chapters for a Comprehensive On-Line Handbook of e-Research**

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**SOCIOLOGICAL PRACTICE****Applying Sociology: Practice Activism and Academia**

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**Educating and Activating Students on Social Policy: Sociological Practice and the Unraveling Social Contract.**

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**SYMBOLIC INTERACTION**

**Agency and Structure: The Symbiotic Relationship Between Self-transformation and Context**

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**The Nacirema in a New Century: Ethnographic Perspectives**

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**Peter M. Hall Lectures Series: Symbolic Interaction, Sociology, and Changing Society—Critical Issues and New Directions**

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**Symbolic Interaction: New Qualitative Studies & Social Applications**

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**TEACHING/LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP**

**Same-Sex Marriage, Immigration and Political Race: Strategies for Teaching Politically Charged Topics” (Co-sponsor Teaching and Learning Committee)**

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**Teaching Social Problems-- A Discussion of Creative Classroom Techniques**

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**Classroom Assessment: Use of Bloom’s Taxonomy and Other Models**

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**Undergraduate Students' Advice for New Instructors (invited panel (Co-Sponsored by MSS Student Issues Committee)**

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**Workshop: Using Commercially Produced Simulations and Creating Your Own for the Classroom. (Committee on Teaching and Learning)**

An interactive workshop to teach methods of using both commercially produced and originally created simulations to meet specific content needs for sociology courses. As well as design and use, the presenters will also cover logistical tips, funding possibilities, classroom management, and the integration of writing assignments.

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## THEORY

**Bridging the Micro/Macro Gap through Analysis of Meso-Level Social Formations**

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**Applications of Sociological Theory**

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**Issues in Sociological Theory**

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**Critical Theory Today: Legacies of Tradition, Hopes for Future**

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**The Crisis of the Lifeworld: Discourse on Habermas**

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**HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS ANNUAL WORKSHOP**

The North Central Sociological Association (usually in conjunction with the state's Council for the Social Studies) sponsors a day-long workshop each spring on teaching sociology in high school. It includes discussion of curriculum objectives, review of some possible textbooks, sharing of many active-learning teaching strategies, participation in a simulation game for teaching sociology, discussion of video ideas, introduction to the services of the Teaching Resources Center at the American Sociological Association, opportunities to network with other high school sociology teachers, and more.

After the workshop, you are invited to participate in the rest of the annual meeting events, which run through Saturday evening. There are both presentation of research papers by sociologists and more than a dozen sessions on various aspects of teaching sociology

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

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# CONSIDER JOINING A NCSA COMMITTEE

The committees listed below are looking for new members. Contact the Chair for more information

### Teaching

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Hope College

[swansond@hope.edu](mailto:swansond@hope.edu)

### Student Paper Awards

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### Race, Ethnic, and Gender Equality

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The objectives of the NCSA are to further the development of sociology as a scientific and scholarly discipline through stimulation and promotion of:

1. Scientific research in its defined subject matter area;
2. Effective teaching of the subject matter at all levels of educational endeavor;
3. The widest possible and feasible utilization of the knowledge and skills of sociologists and the findings of scientific sociological research by public and private agencies in all relevant social policy issues;
4. Interchange and cooperative relations among persons and organizations engaged in the scientific study of society;
5. Any and all such other acts as may be deemed conducive to these ends



## COMMENTS?

Got an idea for a newsletter item?



Contact the NCSA newsletter  
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Assistant Editor Amanda Shropshire

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## SOCIOLOGICAL FOCUS

The official journal of the NCSA, *Sociological Focus*, is published four times a year. All regular members of the NCSA receive the journal as part of their yearly membership.

The journal welcomes manuscripts for review.

Information about manuscript submissions can be found at:

[http://www.ncsanet.org/sociological\\_focus/index.html](http://www.ncsanet.org/sociological_focus/index.html)

Or

Contact the editor  
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**Plan for 2008  
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Cincinnati, OH**