



WISCONSIN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Newsletter

Fall 2005

WSA Executive Committee

President: Greg Peter, UW-Fox Valley

Past President: Bob Greene, Alverno College

Sociological Imagination Editor: Carol Miller, UW-La Crosse

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Enclosed: 2006 Ballots

Sustainability of the Wisconsin Sociological Association: A Letter from the Prez...

Representatives from WSA and I was great to see you all at Alverno College last month. We had nearly 200 people attend the 2005 joint meetings of the WSA/ISA/WPSA. Although I spent much of my time at the registration table, I did attend a really interesting session on Urban Sociology which included presentations about Gangsta Attitudes Toward God, the Puerto Rican Nationalist Movement in Chicago, and Interracial Residential Exposure Indices. I actually used material from these presentations in my classes the following week. The Keynote Address Thursday evening was by Diane Pike from Augsburg College who encouraged us to think about engaging students and helped us find a way to prove we are doing what

we are saying we are doing in the classroom. She asked us to discuss what we think are the hardest and easiest part of teaching. This was important for me as assessment is the number two priority within my own institution. The Keynote Address at Friday's lunch was Stephen Sharkey from Alverno who asked us to reflect on the best and worst things teachers have said/done to us as we were growing up. He also asked us to discuss how we know if are students are really understanding what we are teaching and how much we actually know about our students. Overall the meals and speakers left us full of good food and full of new ideas to take back to the classrooms and our institutions.
At the WSA Business

meeting we thanked the outgoing President Bob Greene for all of his hard work over the past two years, the outgoing Treasurer Jana Dahmen for reestablishing the finances of WSA, the outgoing Secretary Anne Cross for her service to WSA, and to Carol Miller who announced she would be finishing up as Editor of SI in 2006. Obviously the most pressing issue was recruiting and nominating a new executive committee which we were able to do.
Continued on Page 2 (see "Sustainability..")

Quotes you can use from the fall conference!

Below are some quotes that President Greg Peter picked up from Diane Pike's presentation at the Thursday night dinner:

- ◆ "You would think that people who claim to be able to measure alienation, urban decay, and marital happiness ought to be able to figure out what good teaching is." from Carla Howery, ASA Centennial

Session 2005.

- ◆ "One of the hardest things teachers have to learn is that the sincerity of their intentions does not guarantee the purity of their practice," Stephen Brookfield.

Suggested Reading...

- ◆ *What the Best College Teachers Do*. Ken Bain. 2004 Harvard University Press.

- ◆ *Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher*. Stephen Brookfield. 1995. Jossey-Bass.
- ◆ *Creating an Effective Assessment Plan for the Sociology Major*. 2005. ASA task force on assessing an undergraduate sociology major.

Department News

Brian Copp, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, was Awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Community Service Award for 2005

Tricia Davis, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, was awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Advising Award for 2005

Enilda Delgado, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, was honored as a 2005 Woman of Color by the University of Wisconsin System Women's Studies Consortium, the Office of Diversity and Development, and the Office of Women's Issues

Marlene Fisher was promoted to Dept. chair of Sociology, Social Work and Criminal Justice.

Kathleen Nybrotten, ABD, University of Texas at Austin, joined the faculty at UW-Eau Claire. Her specializations: Sociology of the Family and Sociology of Education.

Yanick St. Jean, Ph.D. University of Texas at Austin, is a Visiting Assistant Professor at UW-EC. Specialization: Race and Ethnicity.

Jeff Erger was awarded Tenure at UW-Eau Claire

Edward Young, has been appointed Interim Chair of the department at UW-Eau Claire for a two-year period.

Bob Greene, Greg Peter, Omer Durfur and Annette Kuhlmann share lunch and the scuttlebutt from their institutions



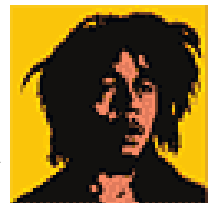
We're on the Web!
www.viterbo.edu/wsa

President Greg Peter,
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Sustainability (continued from page 1)

Enclosed you will find the executive committee ballots for this year. We have nominations for every position. We have Wayne Thompson from Carthage College nominated as President Elect and Omer Durfee from the UW-Colleges nominated as Secretary. Leda Nath has been appointed to the office of Treasurer for one year (eligible for re-election to a two year term in 2007), Tricia Davis from UW-River Falls will take over as Editor of Sociological Imagination in 2007, after Carol Miller completes her 5-year term. Keith Mann from Cardinal Stritch University has been appointed to *SI's* Editorial board, Bob Greene from Alverno will serve on the Nominations and Elections committee, and Anne Statham from UW-Parkside will serve on the which??? committee. Please fill out your ballots and send them in so we can make this executive committee official. There is much to prepare for next year's joint meeting with the Sociologists of Minnesota at UW-River Falls. I look forward to working with the new executive committee and continuing to sustain the traditions of the WSA.

I would like to thank those of you that responded to my initial email question: What does the WSA mean to you? The answers were varied but overwhelmingly positive. One of the suggestions was to move WSA more into showcasing undergraduate research. Another suggestion was to have at least one WSA member on each campus in Wisconsin so each campus had a WSA presence. A third was for senior faculty to encourage junior faculty to get involved in the WSA as part of their professional development. Like many of the past presidents I often wonder on my bicycle rides into work what the future holds for state level organizations like the WSA, how sustainable is this organization for the future of limited budgets, limited travel funds, higher tenure requirements and the like? Then I get to my office and have a voice mail message from the Sociologists of Minnesota about next year and emails from new members asking how to get involved in WSA and I go back to thinking Bob Marley was right—**every little thing is going to be alright.**



President Greg Peter and Past-President Bob Greene work the registration table at the 2005 Annual Meeting at Alverno College

Join or Renew!

2006 Membership Form

President Greg Peter,
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Membership in WSA includes a subscription to the journal *Sociological Imagination*, informative WSA Newsletters, the Roster of Wisconsin Sociologists, and reduced registration fees at WSA annual meetings. Please consider making a donation to the WSA Endowment Fund (any amount),

	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member <small>(supports reduced student fees)</small>	\$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Endowment Fund Donation <small>Enter amount</small>	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____
	—

Name

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School/Organizational Affiliation

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Areas of Teaching/Research Interest

Which address should WSA use for the journal and other "snail mail"?

Check one.

() home address () office address

Mail this form and a check payable to "WSA" to: Greg Peter, UW-Fox Valley, 1478 Midway Road, Menasha, WI 54952

We're on the Web!
www.viterbo.edu/wsa



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WISCONSIN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

**Share Teaching Ideas in the Next Issue of
*Sociological Imagination***

Send in a write-up of an interesting teaching technique, assignment, video, in-class exercise or any other innovation for possible inclusion in a
Special Issue of *Sociological Imagination*

If you have something you want to share, email a description (2000 words or fewer) as an attachment (in Word) by May 1st, 2006 to:

Carol Miller, Editor

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