



WSSA NEWS

Volume 47, Issue 1 Spring 2015



President's Soapbox

In 2006, as the new Editor of *the Social Science Journal (SSJ)*, the official journal of the Western Social Science Association, WSSA), I wrote the following hopeful words: "While I want all articles to be interesting, well-written and well-edited, I believe that they should also represent the multiple forms that the social sciences currently take in North America and the rest of the world." Over the next years, the journal and the organization it represents have made great progress in representing the North American aspect of that wish (WSSA even met in Calgary, Canada in 2007). However, about the "rest of the world" part, I have to confess that the popular phrase, "Not so much!" may apply. Part of this is our legacy of being seen as a regional (Western US) organization with limited geographical outreach and audience. Although there are encouraging

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Featured Article

Unusually for us, in this issue we have something of a theme. There are three articles, "Late to the Academy but not too late for Policy", by Barbara Bonneken, "Complexity & Challenges for Social Transformation" by Jesus Ruiz, and "Business is Social Science" by Scott Carson, all written around the theme of the value of social science in practical matters. Combined, these three together are this issue's "Featured Article". They all start on **page 4**.

What's Your Portland, Oregon IQ?

Kristina Lybecker, The Colorado College

Known as the City of Roses, Portland promises to be an exciting location, especially for the foodies among us. This article focuses on some lesser-known Portland tidbits. Test your knowledge of Portland and Oregon trivia and learn some interesting details about our next conference site.

1. Oregon is one of those rare states that has no sales tax (except on hotels and car rentals). (a) True; (b) False.
2. Oregon has more _____ than any other state.
(a) pizzerias; (b) ghost towns; (c) waterfalls;
(d) former Senators who are still alive.
3. Oregon hasn't had polling places anywhere in the state for over a decade. All voting is done by a mail-in paper ballot. Accordingly, Oregon's voter turnout is one of the highest in the United States.
(a) True; (b) False.
4. Eugene was the first city to have _____.
(a) a public library;
(b) laparoscopic surgery facilities;
(c) one-way streets
(d) a city magician.



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New to WSSA Website

To all members,

Our website, at www.WSSAweb.com, now includes the minutes from past Executive Council meetings, going back through Spring 2007. To find them, click on the blue link, at the top, labeled "ARCHIVES & DOCUMENTS". That will give you a drop-down menu; click on the link labeled "Constitution, Minutes & Tax Documents".

The current WSSA Constitution is also included. There will be some small **changes proposed at the business meeting** that will be held on Friday afternoon at the 2015 conference. Members are encouraged to read the current Constitution prior to attending the meeting.

ICBSSR Thanks

The ICBSSR gives grateful thanks to the following WSSA members who served as expert reviewers for the 2nd International Conference on Behavioral and Social Science Research, August 5 through 8, 2014, in Malaysia (co-sponsored by WSSA).

1. **John P. Watkins**, Westminster College
2. **Dhananjay Tripathi**, South Asian University, India
3. **James G. Linn**, Optimal Solutions in Health Care and International Development
4. **Roli Varma**, University of New Mexico
5. **Chelsea Schelly**, Michigan Technological University
6. **Aimee L. Franklin**, University of Oklahoma
7. **Barbara Bonneken**, Pittsburg State University
8. **Jesús Ruiz Flores**, Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico
9. **Jennifer Frizzell**, Middle Tennessee State University
10. **Elizabeth Fredericksen**, Boise State University
11. **Melinda Schlager**, Texas A & M University -Commerce
12. **Linda Chiang**, Azusa Pacific University
13. **Diane Calloway-Graham**, Utah State University
14. **Ross Burkhart**, Boise State University
15. **Theodore Ransaw**, Michigan State University

WSSA NEWS

2014 - 2015

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WESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION is a professional educational organization committed to multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary scholarship, service, and collegiality. The Association's mission is to foster professional study, to advance research, and to promote the teaching of social science. Founded in 1958 as the Rocky Mountain Social Science Association, WSSA draws on scholars and others in some 30 disciplines, or "sections," from across the United States, and around the world; convenes an annual conference; conducts research competitions for faculty and students; and publishes *The Social Science Journal*, a juried, quarterly research journal, and WSSA News, the Association's newsletter, two times a year. WSSA annual membership dues are included in the annual conference registration. For those who will not be joining us at the conference, but would still like to be voting members and to receive the publications, subscription only memberships can be purchased from our website. Prices are \$45 (individual); \$60 (includes spouse); \$35 (student); \$30 (retired). For information, contact Larry Gould, Executive Director, WSSA, 2307 Chof Trail, Flagstaff, AZ, 86001. (Phone: 928-600-2248 E-mail: larry.gould@nau.edu)

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Feasting the Senses in Portland

Downtown Portland offers an array of multicultural experiences for all types of travelers, from the most daring to the merely curious. One of the best places to start is by sampling foods from around the globe, all in the space of one block! Portland is home to over 500 street food carts, so step up and don't be shy. These miniature restaurants offer amazing fare at very reasonable prices. You can get everything from reindeer sausage to kosher foods to vegan cuisine.



The rapid expansion of food truck culture has propelled Portland to the top of the premier food tourist destination lists. *Budget Travel Magazine* has hailed Portland as having the best street food in the world. All of this attention is music to the ears of city managers. Street food culture has been actively cultivated in the city, because the carts create economic opportunities and generate increased foot traffic in neighborhoods.

Many food carts are grouped into areas known as “pods.” Pods are collections of food trucks situated on hard surfaced areas, usually former commuter parking lots. Larger pods can host over 50 food trucks in one block. Solo food trucks can be found scattered throughout the city. The largest pod is located between Southwest Alder and Washington streets, from Southwest Ninth to Southwest Tenth avenues (not too far from Powell’s City of Books!). A few carts have limited sidewalk seating. Be brave and try something new! The food is tasty, relatively cheap, and safe!



While there are tours available from a variety of venues (see <http://www.travelportland.com/> or <http://www.portland.com/> for suggestions), I prefer to explore on my own. I have had really interesting conversations with vendors about their backgrounds, the foods they present, and why they elected to have carts. It is a great way to meet some new and interesting people.

Once you have stuffed yourself, there are plenty of opportunities to explore multicultural Portland. Portland is proud of its diverse community. With vibrant Chinese American, Japanese American, African American, Hispanic American, Arab American, Indian American, Jewish American, and Native American communities, there are historical sites, events, museums, gardens, and local businesses that can provide wonderful learning and shopping experiences. A great place to start exploring is at the following web site: <http://www.travelportland.com/plan-your-trip/multicultural/>.

You can search this site by ethnic group or by calendar. For example, if you are interested in learning about the area’s Native American tribes and nations, the Portland Art Museum has a large display of baskets, paintings, and carvings from Northwest tribes. They also have a surprising array of art from other nations. The porcupine quill basket below is a stunning example of Mi’kmaq (Nova Scotia/Northern Maine) work.

The museum’s Native American Art Council hosts lectures and public displays by local and regional artists throughout the year. There may be powwows or other events while you are in town. For a complete calendar, see <http://www.portlandindianleadersroundtable.org/>.



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Late to the Academy, but not too late for Policy



*Barbara Bonnekesen
Pittsburg State University*

The Social Sciences are a newcomer to the academic scene. When Plato opened his academy in Athens in 387 BC, the women and men who came studied Grammar, Dialectic (logic), and Rhetoric (the trivium), and then Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy, and Music (the quadrivium); together, these are the Seven Liberal Arts. When Fatima al-Fihri founded the oldest, still extant, University of Al-Karaouine (Morocco) in 859 AD, the focus was on the Natural Sciences, while Al-Azhar University (Egypt), founded in 970-972, became a center of literary studies. The oldest European university, L' Università di Bologna (1088 AD), offered the Seven Liberal Arts and added Medicine, Philosophy, Law, and Theology. And in 1794, the École Polytechnique added Engineering.

Predictably (or maybe just in hindsight), a university education that was accessible to the youth of the upper classes only (and then mostly to men only), recreated and supported class-consciousness and structure. Universities were the place where the privileged would either spend their lives in research and

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Business is Social Science



*Scott Carson
University of Texas, Permian Basin*

I teach economics in a business school, and the University used to have a very good accounting faculty member: Big Wayne Counts. In an effort to find common ground, I went into his office one afternoon and told him that there are really two disciplines in a business department: accounting and economics. Without hesitation, he responded, “There is only one!” I stood dumbfounded. Here I was in his office trying to include his noble discipline within my life’s passion, and he excludes me. He continued. “There is only economics.” In full pause, his response set me thinking. Yes, economics is a social science and is the study of how scarce labor, land, capital, and technology are allocated to meet human needs and objectives. Management is an application of labor economics to business and its labor force; financial economics is an application of economics to capital theory. Marketing is an application of demand-side theory to business. So, Wayne “Yes, I agree with you. Business is applied economics.”

As I walked back to my office, my mind continued to ramble. If business is just applied economics and economics is just a discipline within the social sciences, business is just applied social science. I let the

{cont. on pg. 10 }



Complexity and challenges for social transformation : from science to the agency



Jesus Ruiz, Universidad de Guadalajara, at La Ciénega

The crisis, with its particular strengths and persistence that various regions of the world have lived in the past three decades evidences the complexity of the efforts required to maintain the viability of development in some countries; some even experience regressions. Thus, the focus of the 7th National and 4th International Conference on Social Studies and Region was explicitly to the social studies not only to explain but to transform. Challenges in the field of global change, from global climate change through the accelerated production and consumption, population growth, socioeconomic and cultural globalization and widespread patterns of social inequality and injustice. These challenges do not always have clear evidence of their connection because its political nature as neoliberal hegemony. Studies on, about and from the regions from multidisciplinary social openness must consider innovative theoretical and methodological perspectives in recognition of new actors and social movements.

Research results and advances, theoretical reflections and intervention projects were presented in the city of Ocotlán, base of the La Ciénega University Center of the University of Guadalajara (U of G), México during September 10 through 12 this 2014. This Conference was supported by the Department of Political Science and Society, from the U of G; the Social

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New Section Coordinators Help Keep WSSA A Vital Organization

James G. Linn

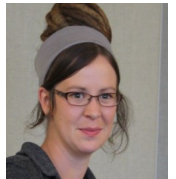
Coordinator of Member Recruitment & Retention

Research on complex organizations has documented the importance of recruiting and retaining new participants to ensure the vitality and effectiveness of the organization. With over 20 new Section Coordinators bringing new ideas and professional networks to the process of developing the 2015 WSSA program in Portland Oregon, we can be confident of having an outstanding meeting. Six new, or recent, WSSA Coordinators are described below. We would include more if space allowed, so we will do so in a later article.

Cynthia Jackson is a faculty member in the Department of Forensic Psychology at Walden University and a new Coordinator with the Chronic Disease and Disability Section. Cynthia teaches and develops courses in forensic psychology. She has clinical experience providing individual counseling with HIV infected individuals and persons with substance abuse problems. She also does psychological assessments of individuals in the criminal justice system. Recently, she has published on integrating forensic psychology and psychiatry in criminal and civil legal cases. She has brought colleagues who also do clinical work to present in her section.



Chelsea Schelly is in the Sociology Department of Michigan Technological University and recently became the Coordinator of Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Management. Chelsea's scholarship covers a wide range of environmentally related topics: public policy and environmental practice, car sharing, household energy use, passive solar design, and renewable energy. She has published on American rainbow gatherings and alternative forms of communities. Since she is an innovator in the area of environmental sociology, she attracts many new social scientists working on environmentally related topics to participate in her section's program.



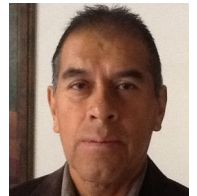
Evguenia Davidora is a faculty member in International Studies at Portland University. She is now Coordinating the Slavic Studies Section. Evguenia's research interests focus on the Ottoman & Post-Balkans: commerce, modernization, Nationalism, and medical practices. Recently, Evguenia published a book on Balkan transitions to modernity and the modern state. With her high level of scholarly productivity, she will bring new participants to the Slavic Studies section from both local (Portland) institutions and universities across the U.S.



Emery Tahy is at Arizona State University, Tempe and is the new Coordinator of American Indian Studies. Emery currently is completing research on how the American Indian and Alaskan Native populations are represented in the U.S. Census. His other research and teaching interests include tribal leadership and governance practices from a political perspective and American Indian education from K-12 through Higher Education. Given the wide scope of his academic interests, he is expected to draw new participants to his section.



Jesus Ruiz-Flores is a faculty member in the Department of Politics and Society of the University of Guadalajara, Mexico. Jesus recently became a Coordinator of the Latin American Studies Section. His research and teaching interests are focused on educational process and labor market structure in Mexico. He has published on factors predicting professional employment of Mexican college graduates and received professional recognition for his work on the Program for Professional Teaching Development. Jesus has been very effective in attracting both Latin American and North American scholars to present in his section.



Linda Chiang is on the faculty of the School of Education of Azusa Pacific University and is the Coordinator of the Asian Studies section. Linda has considerable international teaching experience having taught in Mexico, New Guinea, Chile, and Singapore. Her research and teaching interests include methods for developing effective and positive teachers, professional connection, and international education systems. Linda has published her work on the experience of Chinese women who received overseas education during the Republican period in China. With her leadership, the Asian Studies section is expanding its participation from the region and across the U.S.



This is only a small sample of our new and recently appointed Coordinators (we hope to introduce others in future newsletters). They clearly bring highly relevant scholarly experience and important professional connectedness to the task of organizing the 2015 WSSA conference. We are confident of a successful outcome.

{“Feasting the Senses”, cont. from pg. 1 }



Two of my favorite places combine the cultural with an outdoor experience. In China Town, near the waterfront, treat yourself to the Lan Su Chinese Garden. This Suzhou-style garden is considered one of the most authentic outside of China. There are enthusiastic volunteers who conduct a variety of tours around the grounds and seasonal activities.



Give yourself the time to stop at the tea house. Not only is the venue lovely, but there is also an entire tea menu to sample from and helpful staff to help you make selections. They also have a variety of traditional Chinese foods and sweets. On some days, you will enjoy the restful sounds of musicians playing traditional instruments while you sip your tea.



Further afield, but easy to get to with public transportation or a taxi, is the Japanese Garden. This five acre garden features peaceful grottos, ponds with large and colorful carp, waterfalls, contemplation gardens, and views.

On a clear day, you see the cityscape of Portland with Mt. Hood looming large in the background. The garden is located across the street from the Rose Test Garden and down the way from the zoo.



There are also all sorts of secrets waiting to be ferreted out throughout Portland. The city is extremely accessible, with a great trolley system, light rail, and a network of bicycles that can be borrowed. I prefer walking. TravelPortland.com has a variety of self-guided walking tours.

One tour that showcases Portland’s history is the fountain tour.



Caryatid fountain

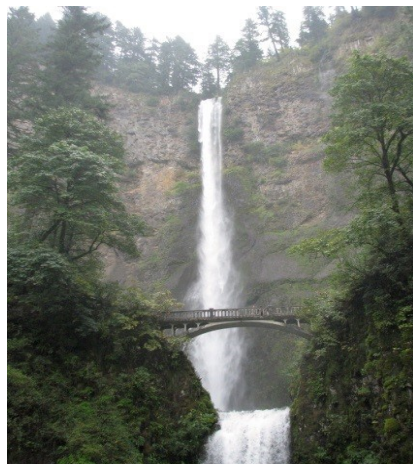


Otter fountain

This walk takes you through a variety of neighborhoods, historical areas, and shopping districts. As you are walking, be sure to look up! Intermingled with modern buildings are older historical ones and gothic churches, adding to Portland's charm. Flowers, scrolls, lions, and mythical beasts decorate the older buildings.



If you want an adventure that gets you outside of the city, the Columbia Gorge is for you! It is an easy drive from Portland if you have a rental car or you can sign up for a ½ day tour from one of the local companies. The Gorge is part of the Lewis and Clark historic by-way and features a series of waterfalls, along with the views of the river on one side and the forest on the other. If you keep a sharp eye out, you will see eagles, hawks, and traditional Native American fishing structures. One of the highlights of this side trip is Multnomah Falls, the second highest, year-round waterfall in the United States. All of these waterfalls offer trails for additional hiking opportunities if you want to take a nice hike.



Election Results for 2015-2016 Executive Board

Immediate Past President

Prabha Unnithan as provided in the WSSA Constitution, in order to promote continuity and keep that person's experience available to the Association, the outgoing President automatically assumes the office and duties of the Immediate Past President for the following year.

President

Heather Albanesi as provided in the WSSA Constitution, in the outgoing President-Elect automatically assumes the office and duties of the President of the Association for the following year, bringing to the office the considerable experience gathered as Program Coordinator in the previous year.

President-Elect / Program Coordinator

Ross Burkhart currently the Vice-President/Secretary of the WSSA, he is a Professor of Political Science at Boise State University. Burkhart has attended the WSSA conferences since 2000. He served on the WSSA Executive Council from 2011-14 and has been a judge for the WSSA Student Paper Award competition. Burkhart also serves as the section coordinator for both the Canadian Studies and Political Science sections of the WSSA.



Vice President / Secretary

Kristina Lybecker is an Associate Professor of Economics at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Kristina began attending WSSA as a graduate student and has been a committed organizer, presenter, moderator and discussant over the past 15 years. With her arrival at Colorado College five years ago, she began bringing her students to WSSA to present joint work and gain exposure to a professional conference. In 2011 she was elected to the WSSA Executive Council and has served on the ad hoc Finance Committee.

Incoming Executive Board Members, who will serve through the 2018 conference

Debra Andrist founding Chair of Foreign Languages/Professor of Spanish, Sam Houston State University, formerly Chair of Modern & Classical Languages/Cullen Professor of Spanish, University of St. Thomas/Houston and Associate Professor of Spanish, Baylor University. Debra serves as Section Coordinator of Chicano Studies for the 2013 conference; for the 2014 conference and thereafter the name was changed to Chicano/Latino/Hispanic Studies, and Debra has continued to serve as Section Coordinator.

Stephen Mumme is Professor of Political Science at Colorado State University, where he specializes in comparative environmental politics with an emphasis on Mexican government and U.S.-Mexican relations. He has served as deputy editor of the Social Science Journal, and has been presenting regularly at WSSA conferences for many years. He is also Co-President of the AAUP's Colorado Conference.

Mary Jo Tippeconic Fox has served on the WSSA Executive Board since 2012. She is an enrolled citizen of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, Research Associate Professor of American Indian Studies (AIS), and an affiliated faculty in Gender and Women Studies at the University of Arizona (UA), Tucson, Arizona. At the UA, she is the former Head of American Indian Studies, Associate Director of American Indian Studies, Vice-President for Minority Student Affairs, and Associate to the President for Indian Affairs. Since 1997, Dr. Fox has actively participated in WSSA as a presenter, moderator, co-chair of American Indian studies section (four terms), associate editor for *The Social Science Journal* (2000- 2008), and served on the awards committees for the student paper competition, Vine Deloria paper, and Wicks Dissertation Award.

Continuing Executive Board Members

Barbara Bonnekesen, Michèle Companion, and Lynda Dickson will continue as members through the 2016 conference. **Jésus Ruiz Flores, Anthony Amato, and Christina Medina** will continue as members through the 2017 conference.



The WSSA “New Scholar” Awards



The WSSA inaugurated a new award at the 2014 Conference . Called the “New Scholar Award”, these awards will honor a junior faculty member at a United States university who has been active in his or her discipline for less than six years and who demonstrates strong promise of contributions to social science. The awards recognizes cutting edge research and substantial contributions to the social sciences. The first recipient was chosen by the Immediate Past -President; in future, there will be two other awards, chosen by the President and the President-Elect, for a total of three each year. The awards will provide a cash award of \$1,000, to defray travel expenses, will be honored at the Presidential Luncheon, and will have an opportunity to present at the conference.

The first recipient was Dr. Angela Smith, of North Dakota State University. The award was announced at the annual meeting of the WSSA in Denver on April 4.

Dr. Smith is a scholar of public history, the fastest-growing branch of the historical profession, and holds particular expertise in digital applications of history. Her presentation to the WSSA featured research by her and her students on the life of Melvina Massey, the most notable and successful brothel operator in the pioneering railroad town of Fargo, North Dakota.

“Dr. Smith is a scholar with outstanding skills in a burgeoning field of the discipline,” remarked WSSA past president Tom Isern, who made the award presentation. “We hope that she will make the Western Social Science Association one of her professional affiliations and will make contributions to it for many years to come.”

In 2015, the winners are

Immediate Past-President’s New Scholar

Amanda Johnson Ashley is an Assistant Professor in Community and Regional Planning at Boise State University. Her research explores urban revitalization and land use change through political mobilization and civic engagement. Her work has been published in *Cities: International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning*, *Journal of Planning History*, *Journal of Urban History*, *disP: The Planning Review*, and *Urban Affairs Review*. Amanda and her co-author, Mike Touchton, were recently awarded a book contract with Cornell Press for their research on military base conversion. She received a PhD in City and Regional Planning from the School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania in 2011 and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota in 2006.

President’s New Scholar

Dr. Manish Madan is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. His scholarship includes attitudinal research on policing, gender empowerment and spousal abuse from an international and comparative perspective. His work has been published in the *Asian Journal of Criminology*, *Journal of Criminal Justice and Security*, *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies & Management*, and as a book chapter in *Crime & Justice in India*. Manish has a B.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics, and an M.Sc. (Statistics) from the University of Delhi. He also received another M.Sc. (Statistics) from Memorial University, Newfoundland, Canada and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University in 2013.

President-Elect’s New Scholar

Zek Cypress Valkyrie is an Instructor in the Sociology Department at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2011. His research has focused on massive multiplayer role playing games (MMORPGs) with attention to the maintenance of gender and sexuality boundaries within virtual worlds. More recently, his knowledge of gaming culture has led him to operationalize gamification mechanics within his courses. Within such systems, his students are challenged to reframe work as play and encouraged to strategize paths to completion suited to their learning strengths.

scholarship (in the European version) or came to be educated in the white-collar professions (in Europe and the US) of Medicine, Law, and Theology. Professors and students alike were not interested in changing this system or the societies that supported it. And then everything changed in the 18th century.

The stirrings of change had already been evident at L' Università di Bologna, where female and male students and faculty began what we would later call the Humanities, that critical examination of texts (and certainly THAT text, the Bible) that requires asking questions about provenance, authorship, the cultural and social environment, the intent of said text and its use. By the 18th century, when the power of religious authorities and the nobility began to wane, educated men and women began to not just critically analyze texts, but their own environment, their societies, too. The Enlightenment became a time of questions about the validity of state and religious authority over men and the parallel authority of men over women. From Jean-Jacques Rousseau's argument about the artificial nature of civil societies (not a natural state, as Aristotle argued, nor a deity-given one, as the Church and the Protestant groups did) to François Poulain de la Barre's famous statement that “the mind has no sex” and that women therefore should have equal access to education, and Mary Astell's humorous discussion of the invalidity of religiously-justified male supremacy, the Liberal Arts, as the rock upon which stratification was build, began to stretch.

Somewhere between the Humanities and the Natural Sciences, people began to talk to and not just about people. Colonialism demanded to understand those “natives” to control them better; capitalism required to understand those workers to exploit them better, and no member of any upper class was too happy about that emerging, uppity middle-class. And then there were those women who would not stay in the modern harem of “Kinder, Küche, Kirche,” but wanted professions, votes, and rights to and over themselves.

And as the Social Sciences moved into the academy to join the Liberal Arts and to help prop up inequality, something rather unexpected happened – social scientists, working with real people, developed a conscience, started to work for people, began to question stratified systems. And by the 1960s, all “those” people joined them as academics and social scientists in their own right.

In the meantime, the Social Sciences have proliferated to cover all of human experiences – a quick look at the many sections of the Western Social Science

{cont. on pg. 15 }

thought sink in. Management is a special case of human capital and psychology, and marketing uses psychology, sociology, and economics. I am in West Texas, and you don't know anything about international oil markets without knowing political science and the Middle East. Accounting is a system by which records are maintained and monitored over scarce business resources. So, Wayne, an accountant, is right! Business is applied social science. Our students may not see this because many of them go into business programs and think their social science electives are a waste of time. Oh really? What is the origin of their marketing, management, and finance theories? The social sciences. In our social science and general education elective courses, we are not just filling hours so that students can punch their social science elective tickets and move on. Social science is their business curriculum.

Studies and Region Center, U of G; the Regional Studies Academic Unit, from the UNAM and the Western Social Science Association.

For this collaboration, I would like to highlight some lines of discussions present in the Conference from which we expect to contribute and respond in some way to the critical demands to the social sciences in Latin America.

Eight were the thematic lines in which the Panel discussions were planned: 1. Citizenship and Social Inclusion Process; 2 . Education, employment and equity in regional development; 3. Living regions. Dynamics, voices and processes on and from the regions; 4. Cultural processes and construction of gender identities; 5. Socioenvironmental conflicts and alternatives for the conservation of biocultural diversity; 6. From rural to urban and metropolitan: territorial challenges in regional contemporary societies; 7. Alternative production systems and business innovation; and 8. "Virtual society : Networking, social activism and participation."

First, citizenship was referred as the status constituted of access to basic resources for the exercise of rights and duties of citizens, therefore, social inclusion given for the access to these resources provides the necessary and sufficient condition of citizenship. The

{cont. on pg. 11 }

discrimination that is expressed in the precarious rights holders (individuals or groups of people) is ultimately a deficit of citizenship and is presented in processes of social exclusion. In this sense, processes and localized ways in which full citizenship and social exclusion are expressed were analyzed, as the 'civil' factor, that refers to the capacity for the exercise of individual freedoms; the 'political' factor, consisting of the political rights and duties and citizen participation in their various forms; the 'social' factor, for ensuring the aspirations for a decent life and welfare of individuals, with all implications.

Second, education was recognized as crucial factor for the country's productivity, stability of the social tissue, the strength of institutions and social mobility of the individuals; however, there is concern about its weakness to address social problems. Increasingly in recent decades it has shifted from training to entrepreneurship and from management for the preservation of culture and national identity, to management for the competition in international markets. Among the concerns, highlighted the lack of relevance to the development environment and definitive contributions to the region's development, the inequality in the access, retention and transition to the workplace. In order to increase knowledge about the characteristics and dimensions of the problem, the next topics were signaled as crucial: Social stratification and re-classing; Classical work organization and atypical jobs; Job placement and transversality of professional skills; Occupational structures and assimilation of certificates; Institutional articulation of sectoral policies; Regional educational integrations for development; Professionalizing and research HEI's and the emerging university.

Beyond the globalization that standardizes the daily lives of the subjects' dynamics, the third thematic line stresses that the regional dimension of the processes that shape and give life to the territories is today an express concern of academics, officials, politicians, and community leaders, among others. It is important to stop and reflect on the social, economic and cultural heterogeneity that frames the regional societies in a context of crisis and uncertainty. Rethinking the strategic role of micro regional dynamics is the interest that moves us to call civil society, institutions, academicians, community leaders, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders, demonstrate and publicize studies, papers, experiences and/or projects concerning "the region" from any analytical field: educational, economic, labor, social, environmental, cultural, organizational, political and institutional. Today more than ever, "the region" is alive and emerging processes of change and there is where we should direct efforts to strengthen the social tissue, competitiveness, global positioning and hence development.

Within the fourth thematic line, the generation of knowledge can no longer be considered valuable *per se*. It is necessary to analyze the role of the social researcher in building a world that excludes, marginalizes, suffers and constantly questions from their multiple realities the value

of scientific work. Here issues were related to the social, cultural, historical, economic political processes that in different ways are involved in the formation of different identities, such as urban, professional, labor, sexual, gender and all processes that account for the theoretical, methodological and empirical approach to the complexity of human subjectivity.

The fifth thematic addressed discussions on the relationship of modern societies with nature along the industrial capitalism of the nineteenth century, but from the sixties of last century the questioning about the possibility of the continuity of life in the planet, now under the dynamics of extractive capitalism intensified. Recently the ethnocentric worldview that underlies the project of modernity at the expense of other forms of coexistence with nature has been under great criticism. In the same way, academicians and social movements warn about the harmful effects of one of the contemporary strategies that allows economic elites reproduction of capital: the appropriation of territories which --in different degrees-- preserves the biocultural diversity. In this context conflicts involving environmental groups or communities affected have significantly increased. In the same vein there are confronted positions in the fields of politics and science such as anthropology, ecology, sociology, economics, and biology among others. So we have to reinforce a space for reflection about: 1) The structural and subjective factors that lead to struggles over land management and nature as well as barriers and possibilities for collective action of environmentally affected; 2) The conditions that arise in cases where collective action has managed to avoid environmental damage and protect the rights of the community against dispossession; 3) The way in which communities preserve traditional practices compatible with conservation; 4) The limits and potential of the various models of biocultural conservation, especially those involving feedback between traditional and scientific knowledge.

indications of change, submissions to SSJ and presentations at our Annual Conference still come mainly from the US, and to a lesser extent, Europe. However, it is about these indications of change, expansion and international inclusiveness that I will spend the rest of this Soapbox discussing.

1. At our Annual Conference, we now have a strong Latin American Studies Section capably organized by Professors Ignacio Medina-Núñez and Jesus Ruiz-Flores, both of the University of Guadalajara,

{cont. on pg. 14 }

5. Oregon's state flag pictures a beaver on its reverse side. It is the only state flag to carry two separate designs.
(a) True; (b) False.
6. The Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center houses the world's largest _____ collection.
(a) hiking stick; (b) rosary; (c) quartz; (d) lunchbox.
7. The small village of Bickelton is filled with bluebird houses seen on the posts of every house.
(a) True; (b) False.
8. Oregon's state birthday is on _____.
(a) Christmas Day; (b) The Fourth of July; (c) Halloween; (d) Valentine's Day.
9. Oregon is the only state that has an official state nut, the pecan.
(a) True; (b) False.
10. The Oregon State Park System features 19 parks and _____ yurts (a circular domed tent suitable for camping).
(a) 159; (b) 79; (c) 42; (d) 18.
11. At 11,239 feet Mount Hood stands as the tallest peak in Oregon, and an active volcano.
(a) True; (b) False.
12. There are nine lighthouses standing along the Oregon coastline. _____ are still being used while the others are designated historical monuments.
(a) eight; (b) six; (c) five; (d) two.
13. Tillamook is home to Oregon's largest _____ factory and Florence is known as Oregon's _____ capital.
(a) hazelnut, blueberry; (b) cheese, rhododendron; (c) Nike, salmon; (d) pasta, azalea.
14. The Oregon Legislature designated the Oregon Grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*) as the Oregon state _____ by resolution in 1899.
(a) flower; (b) fruit; (c) industry; (d) food.
15. Crater Lake is the _____ lake in the United States, formed more than 6,500 years ago.
(a) cleanest; (b) deepest; (c) most isolated; (d) only Kool-Aid.
16. The _____ River forms most of the northern border between Oregon and Washington, while the _____ River forms over half of the eastern boundary with Idaho.
(a) Columbia, Snake; (b) Snake, Columbia; (c) Columbia, Willamette; (d) Columbia, Deschutes.
17. A treaty between the United States and _____ established the current southern border between Oregon and California. The treaty was signed in 1819.
(a) Canada; (b) Mexico; (c) England; (d) Spain.
18. Portland gets 40 to 45 inches of rain per year, more than Atlanta, Houston and Seattle.
(a) True; (b) False.
19. Oregon and _____ are the only states without self-serve gas stations. That's right, you are not allowed to pump it yourself!
(a) Ohio; (b) Texas; (c) New Jersey; (d) Georgia.
20. Portland is home to Mill Ends Park, the smallest park in the world. Only two feet across and located downtown in the middle of a crosswalk on Front Avenue at Taylor Street.
(a) True; (b) False.
21. The largest used and new bookstore in the world, _____ has been wowing locals and visitors alike since 1971. The store spans an entire city block.
(a) Amazon.com; (b) Powell's City of Books; (c) Books Are Us; (d) The Portland Book Store.
22. At last count, Portland has _____ breweries within the city-- the largest concentration of breweries of any city in the US.
(a) 15; (b) 22; (c) 28; (d) 139
23. The Peninsula Rose Garden, planted in 1900, features more than _____ plantings in a park located in the Piedmont neighborhood.
(a) 25,000; (b) 12,000; (c) 8,000; (d) 500.
24. Matt Groening, creator of _____, is originally from Portland.
(a) The Simpsons; (b) The Family Guy; (c) The X Files; (d) the cheeseburger.
25. The Hood to Coast Relay is reportedly the world's largest running relay race, with nearly _____ racers running from Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood to the Pacific Ocean at Seaside each year. (Close to 130 miles!)
(a) 200; (b) 2,000; (c) 20,000; (d) 200,000.

25. Portland was home to the very first professional hockey team in the US, the Portland _____.
 (a) Portlandiers; (b) River Riders; (c) Salmon; (d) Rosebuds.
27. In 1905 the largest log cabin in the world was built in Portland to honor the Lewis and Clark expedition.
 (a) True; (b) False.
28. The famous Nike "swoosh" logo was designed by University of Oregon student Carolyn Davidson in _____.
 This was just four years after business undergrad Phil Knight and track coach Bill Bowerman founded the company they originally called Blue Ribbon Sports. Rumor has it Ms. Davidson was paid \$_____ dollars for her design.
 (a) 1972, \$350; (b) 1964, \$5000; (c) 1964, \$35; (d) 1962, \$9325.
29. Portlanders supposedly eat more _____ than any other city per capita.
 (a) ice cream; (b) blueberries; (c) salami; (d) PopTarts.
30. Which of the following is not one of Portland's sister cities?
 (a) Bologna, Italy; (b) San Jose, Costa Rica; (c) Sapporo, Japan; (d) Guadalajara, Mexico.

I hope your knowledge of Portland and Oregon has served you well, and that you've learned a few new things as well. Here are the answers:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 10. | (a) 159 | 20. | (a) True | 30. | (b) San Jose, Costa Rica |
| 9. | (b) False, the hazelnut. | 19. | (c) New Jersey | 29. | (a) ice cream |
| 8. | (d) Valentine's Day | 18. | (b) False, less than these. | 28. | (c) 1964, \$35 |
| 7. | (a) True | 17. | (d) Spain | 27. | (a) True |
| 6. | (b) rosary | 16. | (a) Columbia, Snake | 26. | (d) Rosebuds |
| 5. | (a) True | 15. | (b) deepest | 25. | (c) 20,000 |
| 4. | (c) one-way streets | 14. | (a) flower | 24. | (a) The Simpsons |
| 3. | (a) True | 13. | (b) cheese, rhododendron | 23. | (c) 8,000 |
| 2. | (b) ghost towns | 12. | (c) five | 22. | (c) 28 |
| 1. | (a) True | 11. | (b) False, it is dormant. | 21. | (b) Powell's City of Books |

Facts and information collected from the following websites:

<http://www.portlandneighborhood.com/portland-oregon-trivia.html>

<http://www.portlandbridges.com/portland-neighborhoods/01-random-facts-and-trivia.html>

<http://www.50states.com/facts/oregon.htm>

New Prize to Debut

The Bert and Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science will make its debut award at the WSSA's President's Reception, on Saturday, April 11, 2015.

It will be awarded to undergraduate political science students who write innovative papers on political science topics. The Lamb family wishes for the \$500 prize to be presented at the WSSA conference. Bert (Lee) Lamb was a past president of WSSA (mid-1990s) and has an abiding regard for the WSSA.

While the WSSA would have no formal judging role for the prize, Ross is on the advisory board and former Executive Council member Donna Lybecker is on the selection committee for the prize, so there is that WSSA connection.

Mexico. This Section hosted 23 panels at our 2014 Albuquerque Conference besting some of our more established Sections. Professor Ruiz- Flores currently serves on our Executive Council. WSSA was also a co-sponsor of a national and international meeting on social and regional studies in Mexico in September 2014.

2. WSSA's major affiliate, the Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS) has grown from its earlier focus on the US-Mexico border to incorporate the work of border scholars from around the world. Again at our 2014 Conference, I noticed that there were presenters from 17 different countries in the 52 panels and plenary sessions ABS organized. They even arranged another ad hoc "quick response" panel devoted to the shifting borders between Russia and the Ukraine in the Crimean region.

3. Both in 2012 and 2014, WSSA served as a co-sponsor of two major international conferences in Malaysia organized by a leading private institution there, the Tunku Abdul Rahman University (or UTAR). The first and second International Conferences on Behavioral and Social Science Research (ICBSSR) brought together social scientists from South, Southeast and East Asia for three days of paper presentations, discussions and cultural exchanges. Thanks to support from my Department (of Sociology at Colorado State University), I was fortunate to attend both events and to present well-attended workshops on writing and publishing in the social sciences. So enthusiastic were this year's workshop participants that organizer UTAR Arts and Social Sciences Dean Cheah Phaik Kin had to call a halt to questions and discussions of their papers by dimming the lights at 6:30 p.m. after an all-day session. Elsewhere in this newsletter, I have thanked WSSA members who served as reviewers for papers submitted to the 2014 ICBSSR.

4. I will be editing a special issue of *SSJ* (thanks to Editor Scott Alan Carson) on Social Sciences in South-East Asia, with some of the articles drawn from the ICBSSR, after having undergone rigorous peer review. This region is one where the social sciences have less of an established tradition and where its practitioners are more likely to face open skepticism along with barriers and challenges to undertaking and publishing their research.

Beyond the confines of WSSA's regional identity, it is important to note that our organization is beginning to play a role in helping develop the social sciences elsewhere in the world. Needless to say, as one whose antecedents are in Malaysia and India, and having established a career and a life in the Western US, it is immensely gratifying for me to be able to help connect social scientists, whatever part of the world they may be from, during my years with WSSA. !

See you in Portland ,

N. Prabha Unnithan
President, Western Social Science Association

Future
Conferences

2016 Reno, Nevada - Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, April 13, 2016 - April 16, 2016

2017 San Francisco, California Hyatt Regency San Francisco (Embarcadero), April 12, 2017 - April 15, 2017

2018 San Antonio, Texas - Hyatt Regency -- April 4, 2018 - April 7, 2018

2019 San Diego, California - Manchester Grand Hyatt - April 24, 2019 - April 27, 2019

WSSA Awards 2014

Immediate Past-President's New Scholar Award

Angela Smith, North Dakota State University, Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies, specializing in Public History, 20th Century American History, Digital History, Cultural History

Past Presidents' Distinguished Book Award

Brendan C. Lindsay, University of Central Florida. *Murder State: California's Native American Genocide, 1846-1873*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press. 2012.

Larry Gould Best Article Award

Blake Davis and Scott Menard, Sam Houston State University, "Long-Term Impact of Youth Sports Participation on Illegal Behavior." *The Social Science Journal* 50, 1, 34-44, (2013).

Student Paper Competition-Graduate

First Place

Naomi Tom, Arizona State University, "Protecting our Communities through Tribally Operated Institutional Review Boards."

Honorable Mention

Benjamin Jones, University of New Mexico. "Support the Human Health Costs of Uranium Extraction in the Grants District, New Mexico."

Student Paper Competition-Undergraduate

First Place

Leslie C. Sotomayor, Pennsylvania State University. "Cuban Women Crafting Resistance in Visual Arts: Gender and Racialization in Cuban Culture and Society."

Co-Authored Paper

Claudia Chavez, Valerie Turpin, Veronica Nichols and Tim Arviso. Northern Arizona University-Yuma. "Friendly Visiting: A Community Change Project with Homebound Elderly"

John Wicks Dissertation Award

Anne Luna-Gordinier, Howard University, "Women's Leadership in Urban Indian Centers: Organized Resistance to Dispossession and Patriarchy"

{**"Late to the Academy"**, cont. from pg. 10 }

Association is proof of that. From specialized fields, such as Economics or Political Science, to the population-specific Women's and Gender Studies or American Indian Studies sections, to the "we do it all" field of Anthropology, the Social Sciences are the most holistic endeavor of the academy.

Our growth and our value lie not only in our breadth, but also in our ability to be activists. We move easily between description and analysis, and policy making and supporting human rights and equality. And we've got the data to support that. Similar to the Humanities, we are concerned with human beings; similar to the Natural Sciences, we craft hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and formulate theories. And, alone in the academy, our data and our theories can move easily to laypeople to provide solid evidence against inequality, discrimination, exploitation, not just anecdotal, but with strictly monitored qualitative and quantitative data analyses. In the end, the Social Sciences are not just sciences, they are a public service.

However, we seem to be quite invisible. Imagine what modern policies would look like if they were grounded in feminist or critical race theories? What if political scientists became politicians and economic questions in the news media were asked of economists? What if our research actually became the basis for public decision-making? Unfortunately, that has happened – we have all read the "Moynihan Report" (still available at the US Department of Labor's website <http://www.dol.gov/dol/aboutdol/history/webid-meynihn.htm>), a merging of racist and sexist Sociology that would be used to legitimize hostile and harmful public policies for decades after its publication and refutation. Within Anthropology, the Vicos Project (Cornell University assumed ownership of a Peruvian hacienda in the 1950s) was a similar bombshell.

Indeed, research-based public policies could be a good idea, provided we remain, at all times, conscious of our responsibility: social scientists work for people and the Society for Applied Anthropology (in which I am a "fellow" [sic]) clearly states in its Statement of Ethics that we are responsible first to our participants (<http://www.sfaa.net/about/ethics/>). As we entertain the thought to not only study and analyze human lives and actions, but to become actively involved by participating in policy construction, we must remain cognizant of this responsibility. We have much to offer to everybody, about any topic. The Social Sciences, albeit late-comers to the academy, must be at the



Western Social Science Association
Conference Registration – Membership Renewal - for 2015

Conference: April 8 - 11, 2015, in Portland, Oregon
Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront
1401 SW Naito Parkway
(503) 226-7600

For online hotel registration, go to www.WSSAweb.com

**PLEASE
PRINT
CLEARLY**

Your name badge, registration confirmation, and receipt will be based on the information you provide here

Name _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State/Province:** _____ **ZIP/Postal Code:** _____

Country: _____ **University/Agency/Organization:** _____

Email address: _____

Your 2015 WSSA **conference registration will include membership** from 04/01/2015 to 03/31/2016. Pre-registration must be done online by March 21, or received by mail no later than March 26, 2015, to receive the discounted rates shown below. Regular registration rates will apply after those dates. Paper pre-registrations will not be accepted after March 26; online registration will be closed after April 1; onsite registration will begin at 3:00pm on April 8. Cancelled registrations cannot be refunded after March 27.

To pre-register on-line for the 2015 conference please go to www.WSSAweb.com

(available after September 15, 2014)

Regular registration is \$30 more for individuals & \$15 more for students and retirees.

Conference pre-registration rates:

- \$135 individual members
- \$90 student member (full-time students, only)
- \$95 retired member (not employed full-time in field)
- \$35 spouse/partner/guest (who is not presenting a paper)

Name of guest: _____

As it should appear on nametag

Special Events at conference (optional):

- \$25 each ticket, President's Luncheon & Awards Ceremony, on Friday, April 10, 2015
- ___ # of tickets _____ Total amount for tickets

**IF paying by check,
Total amount enclosed:**

\$ _____ for WSSA 2015 conference registration (which includes membership) and/or special events

For Payment by Check Only, mail this form and your check (\$US) for the total amount owed to: Larry A. Gould, WSSA Executive Director, 2307 Chof Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

**Mailed pre-registration forms
must be received by March 26, 2015.**

IF you **know** that you will not be attending the 2015 conference, you may still renew your membership, and retain your voting rights and subscription to the *Social Science Journal* and the *WSSA News*, either on-line at <http://wssa.asu.edu/> (after January 15, 2015), or by sending this form and your payment to the address above.

___ \$40 Individual ___ \$25 Student ___ \$25 Retired ___ \$50 Joint membership
 (spouse/partner name for joint membership: _____)