

**Midwest Sociological Society**  
**2007 Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony**  
Friday, April 6 4:30 – 6:15pm Chicago Marriott Downtown, Salon I

**AGENDA**

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

**Patti & Peter Adler**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm by Peter Adler.

**II. Minutes of 2006 Business Meeting**

**Gary David**

Gary indicated that copies of the 2006 Business Meeting minutes were provided at the entrance of the room, and asked for any questions or corrections. Hearing none, a motion from the floor was made to approve the minutes.

- Motion to Approve the Minutes
- Motion seconded and passed.

**III. Recognition of officers and committee chairs**

**Patti & Peter Adler**

Peter gave his deepest appreciation to the people who have served the Board and the Society for the times that they have. Those in attendance were introduced and recognized for their work. Peter said that it takes a tremendous amount of time to do the work behind the scenes, and it is hard to appreciate how much work they put in.

**IV. Special recognition of outgoing secretary Gary David**

**Patti & Peter Adler**

Peter awarded Gary David for his work as Secretary over the past three years with the Presidents' Special Award.

**V. Social Action Committee Community Awards**

**Dawn Rothe**

Dawn, the Chair of the Social Action Committee, told those in attendance of the Social Action Award given out by the Committee yearly. Award winners are nominated by the membership of MSS, and are comprised of non-profit organizations that have a positive impact on the community. She reported that the Committee had quite a few nominations last year. From those, two winners were chosen.

The first was The Street Interventions Program, which is a program of Catholic Charities of Chicago. They received a \$1000 award to continue in their efforts. The program's director accepted the award and provided a brief description of the program and their work.

The second award went to The Running Rebels of Milwaukee. This organization was also awarded a \$1000 check. Their director provided a description of the work that they do and the impact of their organization.

Both winners were recognized by those in attendance for their outstanding contributions to the communities in which they operate.

**VI. Presentation of the David Maines Research Award, Sponsored by the Carl Couch Center for Social and Internet Research**

**Jim Thomas**

Jim Thomas was present to award David Woolwine, Hofstra University, and E. Doyle McCarthy, Fordham University, for their article "Gay Moral Discourse: Talking about Identity, Sex, and Commitment." Jim, of Northern Illinois University, also provided a description of the award which was inspired through the work of David Maines, and the merits of the paper which made it deserving of the honor.

**VII. Report on 2007 Meetings**

**Helen Moore**

Peter gave great thanks to their Student Director Allison Hicks for her wonderful work over their time as President-Elects and Presidents of the MSS. Patti and Peter presented Allison with a token of their appreciation.

Peter added that there are more people at the 2007 meeting than ever before due to the Joint Meeting with the NCSA. Planning has been taking place over the last three to four years. Helen Moore and her student director Tanya Gladney are to be thanked and will provide a report of the meeting

Helen reported that we've had a lot of good indicators that the meeting was a success. Helen gave special thanks to Lauren and Tanya for all of their efforts. We had 339 sessions scheduled and only one session cancellation before we got here, which was just marvelous. We had some 850 preregistrations for MSS and about 280 for NCSA. One of the things we tried was a New Member Orientation on the first night, and 65 people attended. The Student Directors and Susan Stall, along with Helen and Lauren, attended. We had over 50 high school teachers here for a workshop. We also had a new process of a future faculty track for professional development of graduate students. We also had a reception for Carla Howery who is retiring from the ASA. Helen thanks everyone for coming to the meeting and making it a success.

**VIII. Report on Local Arrangements**

**David Boden**

Peter introduced David and gave him great thanks for all of his work and effort in making the meeting a success. Peter said if you see David, make sure to thank him personally for all that he has done. He has also signed on for 2010 to do it again. If you have any feedback, please let him know. If you have any negative feedback, be gentle.

**IX. Treasurer's Report**

**Zoann Snyder**

Zoann stated that if you haven't seen this year's mid-year budget report and report of assets, it is provided in the back of the forum. She thanks our Presidents and President-Elect for coming in under budget. She told the Business Meeting that so far we have collected half of the income we hope to collect, but we have exceeded our estimates of the amounts we would earn from the conference. Zoann also highlighted the Society's assets in the report. While we are good shape financially, it is important to maintain fiscal responsibility going forward. Zoann concluded by asking if there were any questions, and none were asked.

**X. Secretary's Report**

**Gary David**

Gary gave a report of the membership numbers immediately prior to the Annual Meeting, which tallied 1123. This put the MSS ahead of their previous year total of 1117. Gary drew attention to the fact that over half of the membership is students. He also thanked everyone for the opportunity to be Secretary, and identified Betty Bullock as his replacement at the conclusion of the Business Meeting.

**XI. Annual Meetings**

*Future Sites*

*Diane Kholos Wysocki*

Diane Kholos Wysocki gave a presentation about future conference sites. She indicated that we have contracts signed through 2010. Next year is St. Louis at the Hilton. The year after is in Des Moines at the Marriott. In 2010 we are going to be in Chicago again. We will be taking another look at Kansas City for 2011. We may be in Minneapolis in 2012, and will likely be back in Chicago in 2013. The hotel staff has been accommodating and wonderful. Omaha has given us

proposals for 2014. She has not heard any complaints about this year's hotel whatsoever (outside of the elevators).

*Exhibits and Advertising*

*Karen Branden*

Karen Branden presented on the Exhibits and Advertising at the MSS. We did have 15 booths filled, with 17 exhibitors, including a couple of local organizations. This is possible for the future as well in St. Louis. The exhibitors were very happy. It is important that we make the exhibit room a focal point for the conference to make the publishers come back. We did raise some money for the Minority Scholars Fund through selling books for publishers who were not able to make it personally.

**XII. Publications**

*Publications Committee / Student Paper Competition Awards*     *Doug Hartmann*

Kevin Leicht from the Publications Committee gave the report of the Student Paper Awards being given out the previous evening immediately prior to the Presidential Address. He also said that overall all publications are going very well. He did mention that over the coming two years the leadership of the TSQ will change with the end of Peter's term, with the Publications Committee putting forward a recommendation at tomorrow's Board Meeting. The Publications Committee is very pleased with the relationship with Blackwell as publisher of TSQ.

*The Sociological Quarterly*

*Peter Kivisto*

Peter Kivisto provided the report for the TSQ. He has had conversations with the proposed new team regarding the transition. He has provided a detailed report if people would like one. Submissions are substantially up, and the turn-around time for new submissions is down to 44 days. We've had a wonderful working relationship with Blackwell, and a terrific managing editor. Most of our submissions come from outside of the MSS (almost 70%). Some international submissions are coming in as well, of which some are accepted. Peter also has the table of contents for the next two issues. The issue after those is still being planned.

*The Midwest Sociologist*

*Kevin Leicht*

Kevin Leicht from the TMS gave the report. TMS is now coming out regularly. The TMS is going to be changing format over the year, with different colors, color pictures, changes with logo. This is going to be an experiment. If you have any ideas for TMS features, please send an email. Kevin also announced that committee chairs need to send in their reports to TMS in the next two weeks.

**XIII. Standing Committee Reports**

*Endowment Committee / Endowment Committee Awards*

*Marsha Smith*

Marsha Smith presented the Endowment Committee Awards. The award winners from last year presented their papers at this year's conference. Lori Peek received an award this year. The other award winners were not presented as they were not in attendance at the Business Meeting.

*Finance Committee*

*Bob Wazienski*

Bob Wazienski presented the Finance Committee report. The committee is trying to grow the Crockett Foundation for two reasons: First, to provide stability to the MSS for operating budget. Second, to increase our ability to give out awards and stipends. We are going to try to grow the Foundation to two times the annual expenditures for the MSS, and then use the enhanced fund to subsidize endowments that we choose as a membership. We will be starting a Capital Campaign over the next five years. It takes about \$200,000/year to run the organization, and the fund will be increased to \$400,000. Over five years the committee will try to raise about \$168,000. Lauren

Tiffany has spent many years doing non-profit fundraising and will be a great asset in this venture.

*Long Range Planning*

*Chris Prendergast*

Chris Prendergast presented the report from the LRP. The LRP has been busy bringing proposals to the Board. Last fall, a series of awards was approved by the Board. The Ex Officio membership of the MSS committees was also reduced. Terms of service on some committee were extended, and some committee changes made. A new set of proposals are to be brought to the Board soon. A draft vision statement will be provided to the Board, with a draft plan of action to follow. The main point of the vision statement is to distinguish the MSS in a number of ways over the upcoming years.

At the meeting, another idea regarding the business meeting was discussed. Rather than have a stand-alone Business Meeting, we are going to try and schedule it at a different time before the First Board Meeting of the new Board (which occurs on the last day). It would occur the hour before the First Board Meeting. No reports will be given, but members will have the opportunity to come forward with any concerns, issues, motions, and other business. The time of the Business Meeting will be used for other purposes. No objections to this proposal were raised from the 49 parties in attendance.

*Membership*

*Gary David*

Gary indicated that the Secretary is the Chair of the Membership Committee, and the committee is comprised of all of the State Directors. As such, much time was spent discussing how to stabilize membership in those years in-between the Chicago meetings. One idea was tried last year at the ASA, which involved having an informal social event for members of the MSS in attendance at the ASA. The point was to bring the MSS to the members, rather than relying on members coming to the MSS. This will be done again at the ASA meeting in New York in August. Also, we discussed how to retain student members when they are no longer students. Finally, Gary said that everyone should be in touch with their State Directors, as they are their direct pipeline to the Board.

*Minority Scholars*

*Teresa Guess*

Teresa Guess provided the report of the Committee. This year, the committee did well with their t-shirt fundraiser. Last time the committee raised money, they made \$255. This year they made close to \$400 which will be contributed to the funding of Minority Scholars. Melissa Walls from University of Nebraska will be the new chair of the committee.

*Nominations and Elections*

*Beth Tracton-Bishop*

Phyllis Baker provided the report of the Nominations and Elections Committee. We have been pursuing the recommendations of the committee for open slots. Phyllis also discussed the changes to the Presidential election in terms of timing, and the extended terms of State Directors.

*Professional Issues and Standards*

*Tracy Ore*

Tracy said last year the committee had drafted a policy and procedures for the code of ethics, which mirrors that of the ASA. Only one informal complaint has been filed, but no formal complaint. Since then, no other complaints have been filed. They have been discussing how to be more proactive to educate the membership, and will be doing a session tomorrow. More sessions will be proposed for next year as well. Three workshops will also be proposed.

*Social Action*

*Dawn Rothe*

Dawn reported that the committee sponsored several sessions at this conference, and next year they will propose five sessions. The general theme will be the transnational social action to focus on activism in the international arena as well as at the local level. They are looking for new members to be on the committee as well.

*Sociological Practice*

*Luis Posas*

Jim Sikora presented the report for the Sociological Practice committee. They wanted to plug into President-Elect Susan Stall's theme for next year which is the public side of sociology. What they are trying to do is provide different faces of public sociology, including what to do with a degree, how practitioners can become a part of the MSS, workshops, and other types of practice related issues. Anyone interested please contact him or Susan Stall.

*Student Issues*

*Allison Hicks*

Allison said that today the committee discussed ways that the MSS can benefit the student members, including the hospitality suite. Sixty travel awards were issued, and the Student Night out will be at the ESPN Zone today. The committee cosponsored two sessions with great success.

*Teaching and Learning*

*Anne Cross*

Martha Thompson presented the report. A teaching award was established last year, but needs more publicity. It is for a department that emphasizes teaching. The committee has, over the last several years, sponsored teaching sessions, but will do fewer sessions next year and hope for better times in the schedule. The committee wants to improve the quality of paper presentations, which will include circulating materials to help with this on the website and in TMS.

*Women in the Profession / Jane Addams Award*

*Susan Wortmann*

Susan reported that a couple of things occurred. Last year they had a lot of discussions regarding giving an award to someone doing service to women and girls, which is the Jane Addams award. The award is to those who work on promoting and improving the status of women in the society. Martha Thompson received the award for her work in sociology as well as her community work, much of which focused on self-defense and anti-violence. The committee is also engaged in an ongoing data project, which has been in process for some time. A session was held regarding "Women in the profession: where are we", which included this data. While overall women are represented, they are underrepresented in certain types of sessions, and as organizers and discussants. They want to work on diversifying the committee as well.

**IX. Old Business**

Peter asked everyone to give a standing ovation to Lauren Tiffany. No other Old Business was reported.

**X. New Business**

No New Business was reported.

**XI. Turn gavel over to 2007-08 President Helen Moore**

The gavel was passed at 5:46pm. Helen's first act as President was to give recognition and thanks to Peter and Patti Adler. She gave her sincerest appreciation for their assistance to Peter, Patti and Tanya. Given their wonderful conference in Omaha, their leadership, and presence in the Society, Helen presented the Adlers with plaques in recognition and gratitude for their service to the MSS.

**Adjourn Meeting** Meeting was adjourned 5:49pm.