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American Sociological Association

# WORLD ON THE MOVE

Newsletter of the Section on International Migration

Newsletter 10 – Fall 1999

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## FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

Charles Hirschman

University of Washington

What exactly does the Chair of an ASA Section actually do? The first thing, and one of the most important, is to show up at the all the sessions and functions of the Section. As the incoming chair, I had no formal responsibilities at last year's ASA meetings, but was available to be introduced by Chair Phil Kasinitz as the target for all future inquiries. I particularly enjoyed our reception at the Chicago meetings. This event, jointly sponsored by the journal Ethnic and Racial Studies, was held to honor ASA President (and Section member) Alejandro Portes. In addition to the pleasure of chatting with old friends, these occasions provide a very nice opportunity to meet many new members of the Section. I was really pleased when several people introduced themselves and expressed a willingness to become more active in Section activities. All were promptly taken up on their offers.

In the weeks following the ASA meetings, the chair faces a series of deadlines for the planning of next year's meetings and other organizational matters. The most important task is to organize our Section's sessions for the 2000 ASA meetings. The aim in organizing sessions is to try to have a catchy title that attracts interest, but one that is also general enough to accommodate the research interests of most of our members. We are very fortunate that Luin Goldring agreed to serve as the organizer for one session on "Comparative Studies of International Migration," and that Luis Falcon agreed to organize another session on "Immigration and Ethnicity in the United States." Audrey Singer will be organizing our Section Roundtables that have proven to be so popular at prior meetings. In the "Call for Papers for the ASA 2000 Meetings," (recently mailed to all ASA members) you will be able to find the necessary information to submit a paper for one of these sessions and others on next year's ASA program.

The chair also deals with frequent requests, reminders, and follow-up reminders from the ASA for names—the names of members serving on the Section's committees: the nominations committee, the Thomas and Znaniecki Award committee, the Outstanding Student Paper Award committee, the Distinguished Career Award committee, and so on. Keeping track of messages from missed phone calls, email correspondence that went astray because of job changes or sabbaticals, and various ASA directives and guidelines was sometimes a losing battle. Fortunately, I was able to call upon help from Past-Chair Phil Kasinitz, Secretary-Treasurer Brendan Mullan, and Newsletter Editor Steve Gold. They were able to provide

the correct information for the ASA machinery, more or less on schedule.

My other activity as chair is to muse on the juxtaposition of the accomplishments of the Section's membership and our perennial struggle to keep our membership above the 300 minimum to keep our Section alive. In addition to Alejandro Portes, who has just completed his term as ASA president, our Section is represented in ASA leadership circles by president-elect Douglas Massey, and vice-president elect Richard Alba. As I scan the list of our Section members, I predict that there will be several more ASA presidents from our fairly small numbers. Clearly, our area of interest is attracting many of the most talented scholars in the discipline. Perhaps, this is why our sessions are so lively and well attended at the annual meetings.

How does this "success" square with our relatively small Section membership? As my predecessors have done in prior years, I am expecting to gear up a membership drive next summer, including (I am told) the likelihood of paying the membership dues of prospective graduate student recruits. My guess is that our small numbers reflect the reality that our area is primarily a research specialty rather than a teaching area in the discipline. We are drawn from many other areas, including race and ethnicity, demography, social psychology, urban ecology, and political sociology. This diversity of interests and backgrounds certainly contributes to our wide ranging and interesting sessions. But it also means that we are less likely to have a core constituency defined by those who teach courses in international migration and immigration on a regular basis. In a concerted effort to bring up Section membership, and to bring a bit of coherence to my jumbled life, I have decided to start teaching new courses this year on "Immigration and Ethnicity" and "International Migration." I will let you know how it works out.

**MINUTES TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
ASA SECTION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION –  
TUESDAY AUGUST 10, 1999 IN CHICAGO AT 1:30 PM**

### Introductions

The annual meeting of the International Migration Section was brought to order at 1:35pm by Phil Kasinitz, Chair. Approximately 50 people were in attendance. The Chair welcomed the membership and thanked all those who had participated in the section's sessions, which were well attended and interesting. The Chair especially welcomed the new incoming Chair (Charles Hirschman) and the new

members of the section's Council (Mehdi Bozorgmehr, Peggy Levitt) and Chair-Elect (Victor Nee).

### **Secretary-Treasurer Report**

In his report the secretary-treasurer (Brendan Mullan) focused on four major themes: 1) the section's current financial status, 2) preliminary budget for 2000, 3) Section membership, and 4) other issues.

### **Current Financial Status**

The section remains within budget. We have just paid the production and distribution costs associated with the Spring Newsletter and miscellaneous costs associated with WWW home page maintenance and purchase of awards. Like many other sections, we were unable to underwrite the cost of a reception at the annual meetings in Chicago, but through the good efforts of Phil Kasinitz, we nevertheless did host a reception with generous support from Ethnic and Racial Studies. Options being considered to enable the holding of receptions at subsequent ASA meetings include combining with other sections and/or hosting the reception away from the official hotel conference site.

### **2000 Draft Budget**

The 2000 draft budget will be finalized and submitted with our section's annual report to ASA by 10/15/99. The major items of expenditure will be costs associated with the production and distribution of our bi-annual newsletter, ASA reception costs, and awards and miscellaneous costs.

### **Membership Issues**

As of 9/30/98 our section membership totaled 283, a decrease from the 305 members reported on 9/30/97. A section membership of 300 is required by ASA. This is a serious issue and the secretary-treasurer exhorted all members present to lobby colleagues, students, and other relevant constituencies in a concerted attempt to get our membership back above the critical 300 level. (As of 9/30/1999 the section's membership is above 300).

### **Other Issues**

The secretary-treasurer specifically thanked Dr. Steve Gold for his truly outstanding work in producing what has been acknowledged as one of the best section newsletters of all sections. (Our newsletter World on the Move is now available on the WWW in easy to access HTML format). The secretary-treasurer sincerely thanked Tom Kuecker for his excellent work in creating, monitoring, and maintaining our WWW home page. At its annual meeting, the Section Council raised a number of suggestions to enhance the value and viability of the web site. These include threaded discussion groups, making related course syllabi available, and creating an extensive set of links to related sites. Working closely with the

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, the secretary-treasurer agreed to implement these changes.

### **Awards**

The highlight of this year's meeting was the presentation of our Thomas and Znaniecki Award and our Student Paper Award. Guillermino Jasso presented the Thomas and Znaniecki award to Min Zhou and Carl L. Bankston III for their book Growing up American: How Vietnamese Children Adapt to Life in the United States (New York : Russell Sage Foundation, 1998). Milton Vickerman presented the Student Paper Award to Irene Bloemraad (Harvard University) for her paper "A Macro-Institutional Approach to Immigrant Political Incorporation: Comparing the Naturalization Rates and Processes of Portuguese Immigrants in the U.S. and Canada." A special honorable mention award went to Elizabeth Grieco (Florida State University) for her paper: "The Effects of Migration on the Establishment of Networks: Caste Disintegration and Reformation among the Indians of Fiji." *Respectfully Submitted by Brendan Mullan.*

### **GROWING UP AMERICAN WINS THOMAS & ZNANIECKI AWARD**

The Thomas and Znaniecki Distinguished Scholarship Award is given annually to the outstanding book or research monograph in the sociology of immigration published during the preceding two years. The Award given in

August 1999 was for work published in calendar years 1997 and 1998. The winner was Growing up American: How Vietnamese Children Adapt to Life in the United States written by Min Zhou (UCLA) and Carl L. Bankston III (University of Southwestern Louisiana).

**Book Award Winners Min Zhou and Carl L. Bankston  
III**

**IRENE BLOEMRAAD WINS  
STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

Milton Vickerman

The winner of the 1999 award for best paper written by a graduate student in the area of immigration goes to Irene Bloemraad for her paper, "A Macro-Institutional Approach to Immigrant Political Incorporation: Comparing the Naturalization Rates and Processes of Portuguese Immigrants in the U.S. and Canada." Using a combination of quantitative and qualitative data, Ms. Bloemraad argues that though their study is neglected, institutional processes are the most powerful predictors of the rates at which immigrants will naturalize. The Canadian government actively aids immigrants in their quest to naturalize, while the American government does not. This leads to unintended consequences since Portuguese immigrants in America, lacking state support, compensate by engaging in intense self organization; while, in Canada, state support for naturalization leads to relatively little activity among immigrants and, consequently, fewer organizing and political skills. Ms. Bloemraad concludes that the macro-institutional context of immigration impacts immigrants more significantly than do factors peculiar to particular groups of immigrants.

Ms. Bloemraad is a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at Harvard.

Honorable mention goes to Elizabeth Grieco for her paper, "The Effects of Migration on the Establishment of Networks: Caste Disintegration and Reformation among the Indians of Fiji." Using migration histories and ethnographic data, Ms. Grieco argues that the strength and density of network ties among immigrants, as well as the degree of cultural reformation among immigrants in receiving societies, depend on the auspices that originally established the community. By comparing Indian immigrants in different receiving societies, she shows that those who experienced free, non-labor migration have been able to recreate caste related behavior and caste consciousness in their new societies. In contrast, Indians who immigrated as indentured laborers have become "caste free," because the auspices under which their immigration occurred militated against the continuation of caste related behavior.

Ms. Grieco is a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology at Florida State University, and her paper has been published in International Migration Review (Vol.32, No 3).

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

**SECTION ANNOUNCES**

**ANNUAL AWARDS FOR 2000**

**THOMAS AND ZNANIECKI AWARD TO BE GIVEN IN  
2000 FOR OUTSTANDING BOOK**

The Thomas and Znaniecki Distinguished Scholarship Award is given annually to the outstanding book or research monograph in the sociology of immigration published during the preceding two years. Named after the authors of the landmark classic, The Polish Peasant in Europe and America, the Award to be given in August 2000 is for work published in calendar years 1998 and 1999. Please send the name and publisher of the book you are nominating to the Committee Chair by February 1, 2000; a letter nominating the book must be sent by March 1, 2000. ALL SECTION MEMBERS ARE URGED TO SUBMIT THEIR NOMINATIONS OF WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO HAVE BEEN THE MOST OUTSTANDING BOOK[S] IN THE FIELD PUBLISHED IN 1998 OR 1999.

Professor Mary C. Waters, Chair  
Thomas and Znaniecki Award Committee  
Department of Sociology  
Harvard University  
530 William James  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
mcw@wjh.harvard.edu

**Winner Bloemraad and Paper Committee Chair  
Vickerman**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE DISTINGUISHED  
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The Section on International Migration invites nominations for its annual Graduate student paper competition. All papers on the topic of international migration (broadly defined) authored by graduate students during 1998, 1999 and the spring of 2000 are welcome. Papers co-authored with faculty members cannot be considered. Any ASA member may nominate a paper. Please send all submissions and a brief letter of nomination to each of the following committee members by May 1, 2000.

Peggy Levitt, Chair  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology  
Wellesley College  
Wellesley, Mass. 02481  
plevitt@wellesley.edu

Elizabeth Clifford  
Department of Sociology  
Connecticut College  
270 Mohegan Avenue - Box 5306  
New London, CT 06320  
ejcli@conncoll.edu

Phil Yang  
Department of Sociology and Social Work  
P.O. Box 425887  
Texas Woman's University  
Denton, TX 76204-5887  
pyang@twu.edu

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD FROM THE SECTION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

The Section on International Migration invites nominations for the 2000 Distinguished Career Award. The award, which is given biannually, recognizes a lifetime contribution to the field of the sociology of international migration. The first award was given to Alejandro Portes in 1998. The letter of nomination should include a statement of the lasting significance of the research conducted by the nominated scholar over the course of her or his career. The nomination should also include a copy of the scholar's curriculum vitae, and an assurance that the nominee has given her or his permission for the nomination for the award.

To be eligible for the Distinguished Career Award, scholars must be members of the American Sociological Association and the Section on International Migration at the time of the receipt of the award (not required at the time of nomination). Officers and members of the Section Council are not eligible to be nominated while they are in office. All nominated candidates will remain active for at least two rounds of the award. Scholars nominated in 1997-98 will be considered for the 2000 award.

Nominations will be evaluated by the voting members of the Council of the Section. Please submit all nominations by March 15, 2000 to:

Charles Hirschman  
Department of Sociology  
Box 353340  
University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98198-3340

**CALL FOR PAPERS:  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION  
SECTION SESSIONS AT ASA MEETING,  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
2000**

You are invited to submit papers to be presented during the 2000 ASA meeting. The Section program will consist of two regular sessions and a roundtable session. Please submit papers to the organizer by January 10, 2000.

**1. Comparative Studies of International Migration in the World System (Joint with the Section on the Political Economy of the World System).** Organizer

Luin Goldring, York University  
CERLAC, 240B York Lanes, 4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M3J 1P3  
Tel: 1-416-736-2100, ext: 60311, Email:  
goldring@yorku.ca

**2. Immigration and Ethnicity in the United States.**

Organizer: Luis Falcon, Department of Sociology,  
Northeastern University  
500 Holmes Hall, Boston, MA 02115  
Tel: 617-373-4988, Email: falcon@neu.edu

**International Migration Roundtables** (to be scheduled in the hour before the Section business meeting).

Organizer: Audrey Singer  
International Migration Policy Program  
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace  
1779 Mass. Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202-939-2317 Email: asinger@ceip.org

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL**

## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR 2000-2001

### Religion and Immigration

The SSRC offers predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships for research on the relationship of religion to the incorporation of immigrants into American life. The goal is to foster innovative research that will illuminate how immigrant and native-born religious beliefs, practices, identities, groups, and institutions affect patterns of immigrant settlement in the United States. Funding is available to scholars of diverse disciplinary specializations and applicants are encouraged, but not required, to adopt historical or transnational perspectives and to focus on religion as it affects immigrants' participation in American civic life.

### International Migration to the United States

The SSRC offers predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships for research that will advance theoretical understandings of the origin, processes, and outcomes of immigrant and refugee settlement in the United States. Applicants are encouraged to develop the theoretical implications of their research by adopting comparative regional, group, and/or historical perspectives on a wide range of topics including, but not limited to the economic, political and socio-cultural transformation of the lives of both immigrants and native-born Americans.

### Minority Summer Dissertation Workshop

Students from minority ethnic and racial backgrounds can apply for fellowships to participate in a three-week summer workshop designed to help their development of dissertation research projects and funding proposals on all topics related to international migration to the United States.

**Applications must be postmarked by: January 12, 2000. For application forms and information regarding eligibility requirements contact:**

Fellowships on Religion and Immigration  
OR

Fellowships on International Migration to the United States. Social Science Research Council, 810 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019 USA. *email:* [religion@ssrc.org](mailto:religion@ssrc.org) [migration@ssrc.org](mailto:migration@ssrc.org) *web:* [www.ssrc.org](http://www.ssrc.org)

Funds provided by The Pew Charitable Trusts and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

### ASA STUDENT FORUM

To: All Section Members. Hello! My name is Victor Thompson and I am the co-editor of the Student Forum newsletter, Studentlink, and would like to introduce the Student Forum to each of the Sections. The Student Forum was created by the ASA as a means of facilitating student involvement within the Association and as a way for students to come together and share their

experiences, desires and troubles with the discipline. One of the goals we would like to accomplish is a more active involvement in ASA Sections in addition to the Association as a whole, and would like to begin this involvement by introducing ourselves to all of the ASA Sections. In addition, we would like to make ourselves available for any input regarding student participation in sections or the ASA and how we can become more involved in them. With a large proportion of ASA members being students we see ourselves as an integral part in the future of both the ASA and the discipline of sociology. A strong participation in the sections is just one of the ways we hope to facilitate the transition from student to sociologist. On behalf of the Student Forum and its Officers I would like to extend our help to each of the Sections and offer ourselves as a resource for reaching the student population of the ASA. So feel free to contact me at <[vtthompo@uiuc.edu](mailto:vtthompo@uiuc.edu)> or Lisa Dobransky, co-editor, at <[Imd4@rabbit.INS.CWRU.Edu](mailto:Imd4@rabbit.INS.CWRU.Edu)> regarding the Student Forum or our newsletter, Studentlink, which can be accessed through the ASA home page at <http://www.asanet.org>. We look forward to your correspondence. ASA Student Forum Officers include: Patrick McGinty, (Chair); Lisa Geason, (Chair-Elect); Diane Bessel, Benjamin Bolger, Kate Clegg, Lisa Dobransky, Alex Gunz, Kevin Irwin, Emily Johnson, Alexandra Marin, Victor Thompson, (Student Advisory Board).

## CALLS FOR PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS

### ASA SESSIONS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

**Immigrant Families.** Mia Hui Tuan; Department of Sociology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1291; (541) 346-5010; [tuan@oregon.uoregon.edu](mailto:tuan@oregon.uoregon.edu)

**Immigration.** Yen Le Espiritu; Ethnic Studies, University of California-San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0522; (619) 534-5206; [yespirit@weber.ucsd.edu](mailto:yespirit@weber.ucsd.edu)

**Transnational Asia-Asian American Linkages: Views from Asia.** Alvin Y. So, Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong; (852) 2358-7782; [soalvin@ust.hk](mailto:soalvin@ust.hk)

**Transnational Asia-Asian American Linkages: Views from Asian America** (one-hour). John Lie, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, 326 Lincoln Hall, MC-454, 702 South Wright Street, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 333-1950; [jlle@uiuc.edu](mailto:jlle@uiuc.edu)

**Immigration and Religion** (co-sponsored with the Section on Sociology of Population). Peggy Levitt, Department of Sociology, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA 02481; (781) 283-2186; plevitt@wellesley.edu

**Great Plains Research: A Journal of Natural and Social Sciences** announces a special issue for Fall 2000. "The Latino Experience in the Great Plains" Co-Editors: Gustavo Carlo, Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Miguel A. Carranza, Department of Sociology and Institute for Ethnic Studies, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

This special issue will cover a number of scientific developments related to the dramatically increasing numbers of Latinos and Latinas in the Great Plains. Manuscripts from both the natural and social sciences are of interest and will be considered. We hope to include relevant manuscripts from a wide range of scientific disciplines, including agronomy, anthropology, archeology, biological sciences, climatology, criminology, ecology, educational psychology, environmental studies, family studies, geography, history, law, literature, political science, psychology, sociology, social work and zoology.

Preliminary Inquiries are welcome (gcarlo1@unl.edu) See our web page for guidelines: <http://www.unl.edu/plains.instruct.htm>  
Deadline for submitting papers: 15 March 2000. Send three copies of the manuscript to Gustavo Carlo Ph.D., Associate Editor, **Great Plains Research**, 1215 Oldfather Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0317; Tel.: (402) 472-6970; Fax (402) 472-0463; E-mail: <gpr@unlinfo.unl.edu>

*Special thanks to Lisa J. Gold for help in preparing this issue of **WORLD ON THE MOVE**.*

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RECENT PUBLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION</b></p>
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Philip Q. Yang recently published two articles: (1) "Sojourners or Settlers: Post-1965 Chinese Immigrants" in **JOURNAL OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES**, Vol. 2, No. 1, pp. 61-91.; (2) "Quality of Post-1965 Asian Immigrants" in **POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT**, Vol. 20, No. 6, pp. 527-544. Yang's book **INTRODUCTION TO ETHNIC STUDIES: A READER** was released by Kendall/Hunt Publishers in June 1999.

**AMERICA BECOMING: RACIAL TRENDS AND CONSEQUENCES IN THE UNITED STATES**, edited by Neil Smelser, William Julius Wilson, and Faith Mitchell,

National Academy Press. Hardcover, 350 pp., \$49.95, ISBN 0-309-06495-3.

Fenggang Yang, **CHINESE CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA: CONVERSION ASSIMILATION, AND ADHESIVE IDENTITIES**. 272 pages / 4 figures / 6" (1999). Penn State University Press. ISBN 0-271-01916-6 / Cloth: \$50.00, ISBN 0-271-01917-4 / Paper: \$18.95

Martin Bulmer and John Solomos (eds.) **RACISM**. Oxford University Press, 400 pp. \$21.95 paper.

Michele Dillon **CATHOLIC IDENTITY: BALANCING FAITH, REASON, AND POWER**. Cambridge University Press, 288 pp. \$19.95 paper.

**JOURNAL OF POPULATION ECONOMICS**. This journal has recently published many articles on international migration. Information can be found on its web site: [www.iza.org](http://www.iza.org)

Miri Song **HELPING OUT: CHILDREN'S LABOR IN ETHNIC BUSINESS**. Temple University Press, 1999. The growing body of literature on ethnic businesses has emphasized the importance of small family-based businesses as a key form of immigrant adaptation. Although there have been numerous references to the importance of "family labor" as a key ethnic resource, few studies have examined the work roles and family dynamics entailed in various kinds of ethnic businesses. **HELPING OUT** addresses the centrality of children's labor participation in such family enterprises. Discussing the case of Chinese families running take-out food shops in Britain, Miri Song examines the ways in which children contribute their labor and the context in which children come to understand and believe in "helping out" as part of a "family work contract." Song explores the implications of these children's labor participation for family relationships, cultural identity, and the future of the Chinese community in Britain. While doing so, she argues that the practical importance and the broader meanings of children's work must be understood in the context of immigrant families' experiences of migration and ethnic minority status in Western, white-majority societies. **HELPING OUT** Labor Studies / Asian American Studies 224 pp., 3 tables cloth ISBN 1-56639-708-1; \$59.50 paper ISBN 1-56639-709-X \$19.95.

**CULTUREFRONT**, the magazine of the New York Council for the Humanities, has published a special issue on the cultural impacts of immigration entitled "The New Immigrants: Neither Here Nor There". (Summer, 1999, Volume 8, No. 2). It contains essays on assimilation and transnationalism by former section chair Philip Kasinitz, Historian David Reimers and Literary Critic Sylvio Torres-Saillant, as well as over view pieces on Arab Americans, the new Irish immigrants and the children of immigrants, as well as several outstanding photo essays.

**CULTUREFRONT** is available from the New York Council for the Humanities, 150 Broadway, Suite 1700, New York, NY 10038 (\$7 per issue). Virtually the entire issue is also available on line at "www.culturefront.org".

**AMERASIA JOURNAL**, The Journal of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, has published a special issue on "Second Generation Asian American's Ethnic Identity," edited by Pyong Gap Min and Kyeyoung Park (Volume 25, No. 1, Spring 1999). The issue features essays by section members Min Zhou, Nazli Kibria, and Mia Tuan, among many others. **AMERASIA JOURNAL** is available from the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, Box 951546, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546 (\$13 per issue).

WORLD ON THE MOVE welcomes your submissions. To facilitate publication, please send them to the newsletter editor on computer disk or as e-mail attachments.