



The President's Corner—Anne Marengo, College of the Canyons

Now is the time of the year when I start thinking about my students, especially those who don't seem to be grasping the concepts from class. I often will stop professors in the hall or email professors I know and explain what particular issue a student is having with regard to the class material and inquire as to what that professor does to get students to understand this particular concept. I teach online and face-to-face and with OER materials. I have flipped a classroom and I teach a learning community section. It does seem as though those in the learning community grasp the concept much better than those not in a learning community because they have the built in support of the community. Those in the OER sections are more likely to have read the textbook before they come to class but there are still a few who don't get the concepts. I find myself asking "is it me or them?" I find that the online sections often have the most confused students, although most students are not confused even in online sections. The problem is that I'm not there to explain things to them in a variety of ways, and there is no community support since students don't reach out to each other in the anonymous environment of an online section. As I ponder the "is it me or them?" question, my thoughts turn to conferences and especially to CSA. I relish the time spent sharing knowledge and research findings, and also of sharing pedagogical techniques with my fellow professors. I urge you to try something new. If you have a particular technique that you would like to try, I am positive that someone at CSA will have tried it and can be a resource to you. I look forward to seeing some familiar faces and also some new ones. Please find me and introduce yourself at the conference this year. I know that David has planned a tremendous line up of sessions and I anticipate learning something new that I can take back to Santa Clarita and continue to share with my colleagues.

2015 Conference-President-Elect and Program Chair-David Smith, UC Irvine

We have many interesting sessions planned for this conference. I hope that many of you will attend this event, participate in sessions, and join us for the Friday night buffet, student awards and the keynote address by William Robinson of UCSB. His address at the conference will be drawn from his most recent book *Global Capitalism and the Crisis of Humanity* (2014 Cambridge University Press). [The preliminary program starts on page 3.]

Constituency Group Meetings at the Annual Meeting

The CSA has several constituency groups that often meet at the conference—Undergraduate Students, Graduate Students, Practitioners, Part-time Faculty, Community College Faculty Caucus, CSU Chairs. If you'd like to meet this year, contact Dave Smith about setting up a room and time.

Do You Have a New Publication?

Bring a copy to the conference and we'll have a display of publications.

Volunteers Needed for the 2015 Conference

If you live in northern California, please help with this year's conference, contact Elvia Ramirez (eramirez@csus.edu)..

Tenure-Track Positions Open at CSU Long Beach

CSU Long Beach has two tenure-track positions (one in Social Psychology and one in Sociology of Education) to be effective Fall, 2016. (For more detail: <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/5938> and <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/5953>.)

Member News and Notes

Please send your news for a section on members—updates on student-award winners, publications, honors, promotions, new jobs, ideas for teaching, retirements. Send to elizn@csufresno.edu.

**California Sociological Association
2015 Annual Meeting
November 13th and 14th
Holiday Inn-Capitol Plaza, Sacramento
"Social Realities, Social Change: The
Importance of Global Context"**

Book Rooms at the Hotel and Register for the Conference

It's important that the CSA make its guarantee for the total number of room nights in order to avoid further charges, so please stay in the conference hotel. We have a block of rooms reserved at the special conference rate of \$115 per night. You can book rooms for November 12, 13, or 14th at that rate, but you must do it by October 21. Make your reservation early to be sure you have the dates you prefer. Make your reservation by phoning 916-446-0100 and asking for reservations. Tell them that you are making a reservation for the California Sociological Association meetings on November 13 and 14. If they ask for an identification code, tell them ASO. (Please email Ed Nelson if you have any problems.)

Register for the conference and pay your dues (You'll pay a lower rate if you do it before November 1st)

To Register and pay dues online:

Go to our website at <https://cal-soc.org> and click on "Registration and Membership" in the menu bar at the top of page.

- Under "Pay Registration" click on the drop-down arrow and select the appropriate category.
- Under "Pay Membership Dues" click on the drop-down arrow and select the appropriate category. (Note full-time employed members have the option of paying their membership dues two years at a time saving \$10.)
- Fill in the rest of the information.
- Under "Status" click on the dropdown arrow and select your current status.
- Be sure to enter your name and your institutional affiliation as you would like them to appear on your name badge at the conference. The amount to be paid will be computed for you and appear below your name and institutional affiliation.
- Fill in the name of the person sending the payment. (Usually, but not always, this is you.)
- If you would like to receive the CSA newsletter by email, check the appropriate box.
- Please check the disclaimer box indicating that you understand that registering for the conference gives permission for your image to be in video recordings of sessions.
- You may pay with your PayPal account or use your credit card. To pay with you credit card, click on "Don't have a PayPal Account" and then indicate that you want to pay with your credit card. (You will have the option of creating a PayPal account if you wish.)

If you want to pay by check, mail in your registration and payment with the paper form, use the form included with this newsletter—or you can print the form from our website, click on "paper form" below the CSA logo.

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California Sociological Association Newsletter

Editor

Elizabeth Nelson

CSU Fresno

elizn@csufresno.edu

The California Sociological Association Newsletter is a publication of the California Sociological Association, a not-for-profit organization that represents sociologists in education, research, sociological practice, and government service.

Officers of the California Sociological Association

President

Anne Marengo

College of the Canyons

anne.marengo@canyons.edu

President Elect (2014-15)

David Smith

UC Irvine

dasmith@uci.edu

VP North (2014-16)

Elvia Ramirez

CSU Sacramento

eramirez@csus.edu

VP South (2013-15)

Thea Alvarado

College of the Canyons

tsweoalvarado@gmail.com

Executive Director (2012-15)

Ed Nelson

CSU Fresno

ednelson@csufresno.edu

Website:

www.cal-soc.org

Preliminary Program (as of October 1st)

Session 1: "Restructuring California Tax Policy in Times of Growing Concern about Economic Inequality: Challenges and Opportunities," Organizer and Presider: Carl Stempel, California State University-East Bay, carl.stempel@csueastbay.edu

Session 2: "Race and Ethnicity Issues and Concerns," Organizer and Presider: J. Vern Cormartie, Contra Costa College, j_vern_cormartie@yahoo.com (Saturday, 11:00 to 12:45)

Session 3: "Pedagogical Techniques and Teaching Practices," Organizer and Presider: Christina Mendoza, Chabot College, cmendoza@chabotcollege.edu

Session 4: "Current Issues in Latino/a Research," Organizer and Presider: Alicia Gonzales, California State University-San Marcos, amgonzal@csusm.edu

Session 5: "Making Sociology Matter" (Graduate Student Session), Organizer and Presider: Alicia Gonzales, California State University-San Marcos, amgonzal@csusm.edu

Session 6: "Race Matters" (Graduate Student Session) Organizer and Presider: Alicia Gonzales, California State University-San Marcos, amgonzal@csusm.edu

Session 7: "Undergraduate Research: CSUSM," Organizer and Presider: Alicia Gonzales, California State University-San Marcos, amgonzal@csusm.edu

Session 8: "Wage Theft: Sociological Research," Organizer and Presider: April Brenner, San Diego State University, april.j.brenner@gmail.com

Session 9: "Subcultures in American Society: Continuity and Change," Organizer and Presider: Dan McMillin, California State University-Bakersfield, dmcmillin@csb.edu

Session 10: "Global Social Change 1," Organizer and Presider: Chris Chase-Dunn, University of California-Riverside, chriscd@mail.ucr.edu

Session 11: "Global Social Change 2," Organizer and Presider: Chris Chase-Dunn, University of California-Riverside, chriscd@mail.ucr.edu

Session 12: "Globalization in the 21st Century," Organizer and Presider: Alexis Alvarez, UC Riverside, alexisalvarez@earthlink.net

Session 13: "Social Movements," Organizer and Presider: Timothy Kubal, Fresno State, tku-bal@csufresno.edu

Session 14: "Student Research: College of the Canyons," Organizer and Presider: Robert Wonser, College of the Canyons, Robert.Wonser@canyons.edu

Session 15: "Undergraduate Research: Sonoma State," Organizer and Presider: Cindy Stearns, Sonoma State University, stearns@sonoma.edu

Session 16: "Undergraduate Research: East Los Angeles College," Organizer and Presider: Eileen Ie, East Los Angeles College, IEEF@elac.edu

Session 17: "Cultivating Organic and Sustainable Farming in the Salinas 'Salad Bowl': Insights from a Community Based Learning Project," Organizer and Presider: Hortencia Jimenez, Hartnell College, hjimenez@hartnell.edu (fully scheduled):

Session 18: "CSA, PSA and Regional Associations in Sociology," Organizer and Presider: David A. Smith, University of California-Irvine, dasmith@uci.edu

Session 19: "Open Educational Resources," Organizer and Presider: Anne Marengo, College of the Canyons, Anne.Marengo@canyons.edu

Session 20: "Undergraduate Research: CSU Sacramento," Organizer and Presider: John Kincaid, CSU Sacramento, jdkincaid@ucdavis.edu

Session 21: "Labor and the Global Economy," Organizer and Presider: Elizabeth Sowers, CSU Channel Islands, elizabeth.sowers@csuci.edu

Session 22: "Politics, Power, and Participation in Urban Space," Organizer and Presider: Sukari Ivester, CSU East Bay, sukari.ivester@csueastbay.edu

Session 23: "Sociology of Education," Organizer and Presider: Patricia Jennings, CSU East Bay, pat.jennings@csueastbay.edu

Session 24: "New Directions in Survey Research" Organizer and Presider: Ernest Cowles, CSU Sacramento, ecowles@ranchomurieta.org

Session 25: "Revisiting Borderlands in the Age of Cultural Appropriation," Organizer and Presider: Pamela Williams-Páez, College of the Canyons, pamela.williams-paez@canyons.edu

Session 26: "Career Options for Sociology Undergraduates," Organizer and Presider: Charles F. Holm, California State University, Dominguez Hills, chohm@csudh.edu

Session 27: "Medical Sociology," Organizer and Presider: Rhoda E. Macdonald, California State University, Stanislaus, rmacdonald@csustan.edu

Session 28: "Community College Roundtable," Organizer and Presider: Thea Alvarado, College of the Canyons, tsweoalvarado@gmail.com

Session 29: "Undergraduate Research: East Los Angeles College," Organizer and Presider: Christine Rodriguez, East Los Angeles College, cro62@att.net

Session 30: "CSA Origins and History," Organizer and Presider: David A. Smith, University of California-Irvine, dasmith@uci.edu

Instructional Materials Using the General Social Survey and SPSS

Ed Nelson has been developing instructional exercises that can be used to introduce students to quantitative analysis in sociology classes. They utilize data from the 2014 General Social Survey and use SPSS to analyze the data. Each exercise includes the exercise itself, notes to the instructor, the data in SPSS format, and the SPSS syntax and output files.

This is an ongoing project, but at the moment there are four sets of exercises:

- sixteen exercises for an introductory course in statistics,
- four exercises focusing on religion and including concepts such as religious preference, religiosity, and fundamentalism,
- three exercises on tolerance that are based on questions from Samuel Stouffer's classic book, *Communism, Conformity, and Civil Liberties*, and
- two exercises focusing on attitudes toward abortion using the seven abortion questions from the GSS.

The exercises are on the Social Science Research and Instructional Council's website at <http://ssric.org/trd/exercises>. Feel free to modify and adapt the exercises to your classes--Just let Ed know how you are using the exercises. For more information, please email Ed at ednelson@csufresno.edu.

**CALIFORNIA SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP/DUES AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

November 13-14, 2015
Holiday Inn – Capitol Plaza, Sacramento

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Preferred mailing address for newsletter: (Please include street address, city, state, and zip code)

Institutional Affiliation: _____

E-mail: _____

Are you:
 undergraduate student part-time employed retired
 graduate student full-time employed

2015-16 Membership Dues (September 1, 2015-August 31, 2016)
 \$40 for full-time employed*
 \$15 for students, retired, part-time employed
 \$300 for lifetime membership (can be paid over three years)
 [Already lifetime member]
NOTE: All individuals on the program at the annual meeting must pay dues and register for the conference

\$ _____

*You may now pay your membership dues two years at a time. You only have to pay \$70 for a two-year membership. This is a savings of \$10. If you choose to do this, please check below.
 \$70 for two years

\$ _____

2015 Conference Registration All attendees except student observers must be members of CSA (Registration includes buffet dinner on Friday night)
Early Registration (postmarked by October 31st)
 \$45 for full-time employed
 \$20 for retired, part-time employed, student presenters
 \$10 per day for student observers – check which day(s)
 Friday (\$10)
 Saturday (\$10)
Late registration (postmarked after Oct. 31st and on-site registration)
 \$55 for full-time employed
 \$25 for retired, part-time employed, student presenters
 \$10 per day for student observers – check which day(s)
 Friday (\$10)
 Saturday (\$10)

\$ _____

Contributions – If you would like to make a contribution to the CSA to help the organization meet its mission, please indicate amount.

\$ _____

Total (Make check payable to California Sociological Association)

\$ _____

NAME TAG INFORMATION: (Print **exactly** as you'd like it on your name tag)
 Name: _____
 Affiliation: _____

Please note that by registering for this conference you are giving permission for your image to be included in video recordings of sessions.

Please send to Ed Nelson, Executive Director, Department of Sociology M/S SS97, Fresno CA 93740.

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President (2014-15)

Anne Marengo
Sociology
College of the Canyons
anne.marengo@canyons.edu

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Sociology
UC Irvine
dasmith@uci.edu

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Sociology
College of the Canyons
tsweoalvarado@gmail.com

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Elvia Ramirez,
CSU Sacramento,
eramirez@csus.edu

Executive Director (2012-15)

Ed Nelson
Sociology
CSU, Fresno
ednelson@csufresno.edu

Archivist/Newsletter Editor

Elizabeth Nelson
Sociology
CSU Fresno
elizn@mail.fresnostate.edu

Webmaster

Tim Kubal
Sociology
CSU, Fresno
tkubal@csufresno.edu

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Susan Fellows
Sociology
CSU Dominguez Hills
sfellows@csudh.edu

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Christopher Chase-Dunn
Sociology
UC Riverside
christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu

Community Colleges (2014-17)

J. Vern Cromartie
Sociology
Contra Costa College
j_vern_cromartie@yahoo.com

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(2014-17)
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Vanguard University of Southern CA
eclarke@vanguard.edu

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rfranck@swccd.edu

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Sociology
UC Riverside
alexisalvarez@earthlink.net

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Christopher Chase-Dunn
Sociology
UC Riverside
christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu

Elizabeth Nelson
1142 E. Menlo
Fresno CA 93710

