



**The President's Corner---Bob Palacio, CSU Fresno  
Continuing the Conversation on California's Regional Diversity**

The 2012 California Sociological Association annual conference in Riverside was by several measures, a success. I want to thank all session organizers for putting together an interesting and informative set of sessions. After communicating by email, I enjoyed meeting many of you in person. I also want to thank members of the CSA Council for their contributions in preparing and assisting with the conference.

The theme of the program, "California's Regional Diversity," a long-time interest of mine, focused on the intersection of forces of globalization and the social and economic aspects of local regions and communities. We live in particular localities, and the consequences of changing global forces, particularly political and economic, are experienced locally. Roger Waldinger's keynote address on how immigrant experiences in America are structured by homeland and local connections was very relevant to this theme as evident by the many questions and lively interaction following his presentation. In addition, several sessions and presentations focused on the current impact of global changes on various local communities in the state.

The idea of connections between global forces and local communities is not new. In their classic study, Vidich and Bensman recognized that a small community was influenced by larger and more remote political and economic forces. I use this theme in organizing material for my urban sociology course, which enables me to raise new questions about social change and social life at the local level that traditional urban/community sociology has overlooked. The traditional orientation has been to treat local communities as independent entities that generate their own distinguishable way of life.

Take, for example, social life in the San Joaquin Valley of central California. For many people the San Joaquin Valley (which is generally considered to be from the city of Stockton in the north, down to the Tehachapi Mountains in the south) is understood to be the rural-agriculture hinterland of the state. A common approach is to consider the San Joaquin Valley as basically an area best understood by its distinguishing rural characteristics. People often comment about the vast farmland they see when they travel through the valley on Interstate 5 or on State Highway 99 on their way to destinations such as the national parks in the Sierras, or to cities in the Bay Area or southern California. Some community studies (Taylor, et al., 1997) and many grant proposal narratives by local agencies also reflect this perspective. From this analytical scheme, community researchers are often concerned with what is characteristically considered the rural ways of thinking and behaving, which often results in stereotypical impressions of social life in the valley.

It seems to me that the emphasis on the traditional model of a rural-urban focus without reference to the wider global-local interconnections provides a limited understanding of what is happening in the San Joaquin Valley today. It is true that at first glance, the valley seems different from the rest of the state in many respects, particularly in its farmland and spatial arrangement of community settlements. And because the past always overlaps with the present, the San Joaquin Valley does bear an imprint of its earlier rural life that characterized much of its economic life. However, social change is currently underway in the San Joaquin Valley (as it is in other parts of the state) resulting in the expansion and influence of urban life in what Gottdiener and Hutchison (2011) refer to as a *multicentered metropolitan region*. It is increasingly evident that cities and communities in the valley are interwoven within a regional context where boundaries between cities, suburbs, and rural areas are diminishing and where global forces, particularly economic and cultural, have important implications for the study of this region.

The widespread use of cell phones, satellite or cable television, computer-based systems of communication, along with access to other mass media  
(Continued on p. 5)

**California Sociological Association  
2013 Annual Meeting  
November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>  
Berkeley Marina  
Send proposals for sessions, panels,  
workshops, and abstracts of papers to  
Chris Chase-Dunn  
(christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu)**

## Call for Proposals for 2013 Conference

### Christopher Chase-Dunn, President-Elect and Program Chair

Christopher Chase-Dunn is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Director of the Institute for Research on World-Systems at the University of California-Riverside. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Stanford University in 1975. Chase-Dunn is the founder and former editor of the electronic *Journal of World-Systems Research* and the Series Editor of a book series on global social change published by Johns Hopkins University Press. In 2001 he was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2002 he was elected President of the Research Committee on Economy and Society (RC02) of the International Sociological Association. And in 2008 he was elected Distinguished Senior Scholar of the International Political Economy section of the International Studies Association.



The theme for the CSA conference Nov. 8-9, 2013 will be "Social Change: Local and Global." Some of the participants will address issues surrounding globalization and the ways in which California and the United States are involved in global processes. Local adaptations and innovations will also be considered in comparative and global contexts.

The keynote address will be delivered by sociologist John W. Meyer, who is emeritus at Stanford University. Meyer is the progenitor and leading figure in the world society school of sociology. The title of his keynote address is "The Worldwide Cultural Reconstruction of Local Identities". Meyer's main contributions are contained in *World Society: The Writings of John W. Meyer* edited by Georg Krücken and Gili S. Drori, Oxford University Press 2010.

### Executive Director's Report

#### Ed Nelson, California State University, Fresno

We had a great meeting last year in Riverside and expect to have another great meeting in Berkeley this coming November 8 and 9.

If you haven't seen our new web page, please go to <http://www.cal-soc.org> and take a look at it. Among other things it lists the dates and location of our future meetings through 2015 under conferences/future meetings.

Our membership in 2012-13 showed a 17% increase from the previous year. We have 145 dues-paying members. A little less than 30% of our membership is students and 70% is faculty and practitioners. We are also doing well financially. Our fiscal year is from September 1 through August 31. At the end of our last financial year (August 31, 2012) we had \$21,448 in our account which was an increase of about \$2,500 over the previous year.

Thank you all for joining the CSA. Please spread the word to other sociologists about the CSA. Send them the URL for our web site and encourage them to join the CSA and to come to the conference in Berkeley and make a presentation at our conference.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Berkeley on November 8 and 9.

## California Sociological Association Newsletter

Editor

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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.

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## **2012 Conference—Student Awards, Keynote**

A highlight of the annual conference is always the Friday evening student awards and keynote address followed by the buffet reception with the chance to eat and mingle with friends and colleagues.

The 2012 keynote speaker was Professor Roger Waldinger who spoke on the global controversies over population movements across boundaries. His presentation “Cross Boundaries: International Migration in the New Century” emphasized the ongoing connections between home and host countries and the continuing importance of the national interests and identities that impede migration.

This year the California Sociological Association undergraduate award was given to Tatiana Daniels. She is a Sociology Major with three minors (Psychology, Spanish and Creative Writing) at CSU Sacramento. (She attended Sacramento City College prior to attending CSUS.) Her present overall GPA is 3.07, but what is impressive is that the GPA with which she entered CSUS was 2.57, increasing each year, with her major displaying a much higher GPA (3.44), graduating this past Fall, 2012. While she has performed a high level of scholarship in her major classes, her academic ability goes beyond grades. Ms. Daniels participated in the McNair Scholar’s Program, which holds a high level of merit. While all projects that derive from such programs are of a high quality, Ms. Daniels project displayed a level above that of most students, not to mention a high level of difficulty. She conducted a qualitative interview study on why black males in an urban area began selling drugs in their adolescence, tying her findings to Merton’s strain theory. Her project not only impressed the faculty with which she worked, but was recognized beyond. For example, for this research project, along with her oral presentation skills, she was awarded second place at the SAEOPP/McNair National Conference in Atlanta, GA. Ms. Daniels plans to continue her work in sociology as she enters into a Ph.D. program with the intention of becoming a professor in her continued pursuit of research on urban experiences.

## **New Officers and Council Members 2012-13**

The California Sociological Association has a governing council made up of an Executive Board and of Governors-at-Large who represent constituency groups. Each year we elect a new President Elect who serves as program chair for the conference that year and becomes the president the following year. Some new officers are also elected each year so there is continuity on the governing council. At the end of the 2012 annual meeting in November, Bob Palacio (CSU, Fresno) became the president for 2012-13 and Christopher Chase-Dunn (Riverside) became President Elect and Program Chair for the 2012-13.

Two regional vice presidents are elected for two-year terms. One represents members Kern county and south, and the other vice president represents the northern region. The vice-president assists the program chair when the annual conference is held in his/her region, and serves as secretary for the organization the other year. Aya Kimura Ida (CSU Sacramento) was elected Vice President North. Aya is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at California State University - Sacramento. She received her Master's and Ph.D. in Sociology at University of Akron (a joint program with Kent State University) in Northeast Ohio. She’s been studying the effects of discrimination and ethnic/racial identity on health and recently developed interests in child-rearing experiences and parenting self-efficacy of new immigrants. After collecting data from Japanese parents in California, she is now in the process of data collection from Japanese parents in the Midwest.

In addition to these officers who form the Executive Board, a seven-member Governing Council representing the constituency groups in the association is elected to three-year terms. The constituency groups are students, practitioners, community colleges, private colleges and universities, the California State University System, and the University of California. David Smith (UC Riverside) was elected UC Representative; Susan Fellows (CSU Dominguez Hills) became the CSU Representative, Robin Franck represents Practitioners, and Laura Enriquez (UCLA) was reelected Student Representative.

Here is some detail about the new members of the governing council:

- UC Representative--David Smith – Professor of Sociology at UC Irvine with interests in world systems analysis, urbanization, development, comparative-historical sociology, and dependent development in east Asia. He is the editor of the International Journal of Comparative Sociology.

- CSU Representative--Susan Fellows has been a lecturer at CSU Dominguez Hills for over 30 years, including 10 years in the corporate world. She has a BA in Sociology/MA in Behavioral Science (1978 CSU Dominguez Hills), and a Doctor of Criminology (D. Crim.) later in 1995. She is a former statewide Associate VP for Lecturers in the California Faculty Association. Her research and teaching interests include minority and cross-cultural education, the sociology of alcohol and other drug use, and currently, social psychology.
- Robin Franck represents practitioners and the wide variety of roles that sociologists play in public and private organizations as consultants and in other capacities. She is a faculty emeritus at Southwestern College. In 1978 she founded System Design Associates, a research and communications consulting firm specializing in survey research. Her clients have included political candidates, business organizations, city government organizations, county government agencies, newspapers, jury selection, health corporations, non-profit organizations and other special interest groups. She is a past president of the CSA.
- Student Representative is Laura Enriquez, a Ph.D. student at UCLA.

### **College of the Canyons Students at the 2012 Conference**

Sociology students from the College of the Canyons worked as volunteers at the 2012 conference. They worked with registration and audio visual equipment, as well as other ways. It was a learning experience for them., and after the meeting they sent us the following message:

Dear CSA,

The Sociology Club at College of the Canyons recently attended the 2012 California Sociological Association Conference at Riverside. In attendance from the club were Javier Chavez, Kyle Evanoff, Cecilia Gomez, Carlo Pena, Tracy Reed, and Yasamin Roozbeh. Our members benefitted from this experience greatly and thank you for the opportunity to attend. At the conference, we assisted lecturers in presenting their talks and helped with the conference's logistics. One of our members, Tracy Reed, presented on the topic of "Compassion Fatigue" and was well received. The conference was very informative and our members learned both about Sociology as a field of study and the implications of various topics of Sociological research. The club hopes to continue being a part of the annual CSA conference, and we hope that to see you at future events.

Thank you again,  
College of the Canyons Sociology Club

### **Call for Sessions: 2013 Conference at the Berkeley Marina**

The 2013 CSA Meeting will be November Nov. 8-9 in Berkeley. We have met there many times before and always enjoyed the building and the beautiful setting. It is time to organize sessions and panels. The California Sociological Association meeting provides a wonderful opportunity to interact with sociologists from all over the state. Because the gathering is smaller than the ASA and regional conferences, there are more opportunities for informal discussion. The CSA has a tradition of broad involvement. There will be sessions for undergraduate and graduate student presentations. Applied sociologists and community college teachers are encouraged to participate.

For more information on the CSA, contact Ed —ednelson@csufresno.edu.

For information on the 2013 conference, contact Chris-christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu

#### **2013 Sociological Conferences**

##### **American Sociological Association**

August 10-13  
New York City  
[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org)

##### **Pacific Sociological Association**

March 21-24  
Reno/Sparks, NV  
<http://www.pacificsoc.org>

**The President's Corner ...**(Continued from p. 1)

sources, requires a different conception of what is meant by community. As the region's population grows we have begun to see the development of daily commuting along transportation corridors and roads throughout the valley involving work, business, shopping and numerous other activities by residents. Housing developments fan out into former farmland or into the foothills, creating "rural" bedroom communities. Along major highways intersections, cities and communities we have seen the proliferation of fast-food outlets, strip malls, gas stations, or in other words, the McDonaldization of just about everything. In some cases people living in such areas as Stockton, Modesto, Manteca, Tracy and Los Banos commute daily into the San Francisco Bay area to work, making their respective communities "edge" cities. The opening of gaming casinos and the establishment of prison facilities have created new human activity in previously isolated areas. Immigration from various areas of the world has introduced many ethnic groups, with their own language, religion, and cultural heritage, creating new ethnic group dynamics with respect to lifestyles, attitudes, and access to political power and influence in many communities in the region.

Another common characteristic of the San Joaquin Valley region, which is connected to its economic base, is the extremes of poverty and wealth. From a global-regional perspective, we come to understand a number of political economy issues, such as the uneven economic development that maintains a "two-tiered" stratification structure, higher than state average unemployment and poverty levels, lower than state average education attainment, environmental health problems, and the housing crisis.

While the global-local links issues are too numerous to discuss in this space, I am certain that these connections can be found in many regions of California, not just in the San Joaquin Valley. The Inland Empire, the Imperial Valley, and the desert communities of Lancaster-Palmdale, and Barstow, for example, have experienced similar forces of regionalization. We at California State University, Fresno have been engaged for many years in research on these regional topics; we are also fortunate to have two organized research resources for conducting research (although funds are scarce at this time). First, the Social Research Laboratory, directed by Ed Nelson has conducted field surveys in the region for over twenty-five years. Second, the Center for the Study of Social Life in the San Joaquin Valley, which I direct, has organized symposia around some of the issues referenced above. We believe that the global-regional perspective is important for understanding urban growth in California. We are also interested in communicating and perhaps collaborating with researchers from other regions.

The California Sociological Association is an active voice in this continuing conversation on California's regional diversity. I invite sociologists and others with research interest in the global-local connections in California to communicate with us to help extend our understanding of social, economic, and cultural patterns whose causes lie beyond the local community.

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Gottdiener, Mark and Ray Hutchison. (2011). *The New Urban Sociology*. Westview Press.

Taylor, Edward J., Philip L. Martin, and Michael Fix. (1997). *Poverty and Prosperity: Immigration and the Changing Face of Rural California*. The Urban Institute Press, Washington, D.C.

**Many Thanks to Departments Who Contributed  
to the 2012 Conference**

**California State University, Channel Islands**

**California State University, Dominguez Hills**

**California State University, Fresno**

**California State University, Northridge**

**California State University, Stanislaus**

**Humboldt State University**

**Sonoma State University**

## CSA Membership Chairs

Several years ago faculty on a number of campuses were asked to be membership chairs for their campuses. They were asked to inform faculty and students about the CSA and to encourage them to become active in our organization. Here is a list of membership chairs for 2012-13. (If no one is listed for your campus and you are willing to do this, please email Ed Nelson at [ednelson@csufresno.edu](mailto:ednelson@csufresno.edu).)

### CSUs

Gary Cretser	Cal Poly Pomona
Rhonda Dugan	CSU Bakersfield
Beth Hartung	CSU Channel Islands
Tony Waters	CSU Chico
Fumiko Hosakawa	CSU Dominguez Hills
Steve Borish	CSU East Bay
Ed Nelson	CSU Fresno
Alison Grace Cliath	CSU Fullerton
Gabriela Fried-Amilivia	CSU Los Angeles
Jackie Carrigan	CSU Sacramento
Sharon Elise	CSU San Marcos
Ann Strahm	CSU Stanislaus
Judith Little	Humboldt State University
David Gauss	San Diego State University
Melinda Milligan	Sonoma State University
Nancy Martin	CSU Long Beach
	CSU Monterey Bay
	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
	San Francisco State University
	San Jose State University
	CSU Northridge

### Community Colleges

Claude Gratton	Antelope Valley College
Amy Holzgang	Cerritos College
Anne Marengo	College of the Canyons
Roberto Halili	Chaffey Community College
Jeff Basham	College of the Sequoias
Vern Cromartie	Contra Costa College
Obed Vazquez	Diablo Valley College
Marcel Morales	East Los Angeles College
Bernard Navarro	Fresno City College
Richard Karnei	Glendale Community College
Sarah Barfels	Kirkwood Community College
Michael Agopian	Los Angeles Harbor College
Sally Raskoff	Los Angeles Valley College
Robin Huigen	Madera/North/Willow Int'l
Frances Borella	Mt. San Antonio College
Kathleen Grove	Palomar College
Mitra Hoshier	Pierce College
Philip Mancus	Redwoods College
Fatima Rodriguez	Reedley College
Karen Bishop	Porterville College
Allison Camelot	Saddleback College
Christine Schultz	Santa Monica College
Tonmar Johnson	Solano College and Truckee Meadows College
Laura Moore	Ventura College
Albert Chen	Ventura College
Vera Kennedy	West Hills College

### UC's

Jonathan Mermis-Cava	UC Davis
Pauline Manaka	UC Irvine
Jonathan Turner	UC Riverside
Laura Enriquez	UCLA
Manny delaPaz	UC San Diego

### Private Colleges and Universities

Tim Larkin	Biola University
Mike Moodian	Brandman University
Jonathan Cordero	California Lutheran
Laura Nichols	Santa Clara University
Phylis Martinelli	St. Mary's College
Ed Clarke	Vanguard University
JoyceSwan	Woodbury University

## Volunteers Needed for the 2013 Conference

If you live in the north, this is a good year to help with the CSA conference. A local arrangements committee will be needed to take care of responsibilities such as local planning, programs, registration and name tags, and audiovisual needs in the meeting rooms. Contact Chris--[christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu](mailto:christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu) or Aya--[kimuraa@saclink.csus.edu](mailto:kimuraa@saclink.csus.edu)

# **Call for Proposals**

**California Sociological Association  
24th Annual Meeting  
“Social Change: Local and Global.”**

**November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Berkeley Marina**

**Send proposals for sessions, panels, abstracts of papers to**

**Chris Chase-Dunn** ([christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu](mailto:christopher.chase-dunn@ucr.edu))

Please Post and Distribute

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