



WSSA NEWS

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Featured Article

Where Did "Money" Come From ?

Reynold F. Nesiba
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This past May, marked the one hundredth anniversary of A. Mitchell Innes's (1913) publication of a paper titled, "What is Money?" in *The Banking Law Journal*. In it, this British diplomat, then living in the US, reviewed the history and usage of money and its forms in credit and coinage. On both historical and logical grounds, he asserts that the "modern science of political economy" rests on a series of assumptions regarding money and credit that are "false." One of the most important of these assumptions is the belief that "under primitive conditions men lived and live by barter." Who should we blame for this false assumption? According to Innes, it is Adam Smith (1776), the father of economics, who in turn rests his arguments on the words of Homer, Aristotle, and those writing about their travels to the New World.

Perhaps one reason Innes's work has been so widely ignored is because his critique cuts too deeply. For economists to incorporate his insights would require a wholesale rethinking of where money and credit comes from, how it works, and how it influences the economic processes of production and distribution. That said, his work on money received attention and was cited immediately after his first publication in 1913 and a second in 1914. Even John Maynard Keynes had favorable things to say about it. But then his work was ignored for almost 75 years until the 1990s when some Post-Keynesian monetary theorists brought it back to light (Wray and Bell 2004, p.12). Recent academic work in economics (Bell 2000, Wray 1998, Ingham 2004, see Nesiba 2013 for a review) and anthropology (Graeber 2010), demonstrate that the process of rethinking is underway. Regardless of this recent research, economists and principles of economics texts continue to tell
Continued on page 4

Invitation to Albuquerque

N. Prabha Unnithan
 President-Elect, WSSA
 Colorado State University, Fort Collins

Between 1999 and 2013, the Western Social Science Association has met in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a total of four times out of the fifteen Annual Conferences held. We are poised to embark on the fifth such Conference in sixteen years in April 2014. This is a record that outpaces the next two cities, Denver (where we have met twice during the period) and Salt Lake City (also twice). Although I am unable to determine the actual number, we have also come to Albuquerque before 1999 for several other such Conferences. What draws us back to this city and this region? Former WSSA President Rick Adkisson of New Mexico State University wrote in the Spring 2009 WSSA Newsletter that Albuquerque "is a regular WSSA conference venue....for good reason. The rich culture of the region is evident throughout the city. Like much of New Mexico, Albuquerque has been uniquely shaped by the intersection of Native American, Hispanic, and Anglo cultures." The city's cultural diversity along with its rich and unique mix of languages, arts, music and food will
Continued on page 2

2014-2015 Nominations page 3	The West and the 2012 Presidential Election Returns page 3	President's Soapbox page 7
On Denver and the West Page 9	Competition Results page	In Memoriam Page 2

WSSA Sections Receive Special Recognition for Denver Programs

James G. Linn
Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention

While all of the WSSA sections that developed programs for the recent annual meeting in Denver did a splendid job, several deserve special recognition for having more presentations than the previous year.

The following section coordinators deserve kudos for growing their section participation: Leo Killsback, American Indian Studies; Daniel McInerney, American Studies; Victor Conrad, Association for Borderlands Studies; Thomas Murphy, Canadian Studies; Debra Wilson, Chronic Disease and Disability; Kashi Tiwari, Economics (Business and Finance); Scott Carson, Economics (General); Monica Gallamore, History; Kevin Mitchell, Communications Studies; Ignacio Medina-Nunez, Latin American Studies; William Schaniel, New Zealand and Australian Studies; Ross Burkhardt, Political Science; Aimee Franklin, Public Finance and Budgeting; and Diane Calloway-Graham, Social Work. Their many efforts helped to lift our overall participation to the highest level in four years.

Also, Michele Companion, Coordinator of our newest section, Globalization and Development; and Theodore Ransaw, Coordinator of our very successful new Poster Sessions, continued to turn in robust performances and should receive special praise. Keep up the great work and make the upcoming meeting in Albuquerque our most successful gathering. To receive assistance in attracting and retaining section members/presenters, please contact the Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention at jlinn87844@aol.com.

In Memoriam

*Dr. Thomas Hoffman,
Professor, St. Mary's University
and long time member and participant
in the
WSSA Native American Studies Section
and former student of Vine Deloria
passed away on Saturday, July 27, 2013.*

He is dearly missed.

Invitation to Albuquerque

continued from page 1

again serve as a magnificent background for social scientists, presenters and panelists drawn from our 33 Sections and Affiliated Organizations when we meet next year.

As your General Program Coordinator, it is my privilege to invite your attendance and participation in the next Annual Conference in Albuquerque to be held April 2 through 5, 2014.

Please ensure your participation by sending your abstracts and to the respective Section Coordinators by December 1, 2013.

Your Section Coordinators and the WSSA Website have information about several incentive grants and awards that you and your students (both graduates and undergraduates) may

compete for. WSSA has served, through the Conference and the *Social Science Journal*, as a launching pad for many social science scholars who have taken the opportunity to present their research and to meet others who share similar or related scholarly interests in a stimulating and collegial atmosphere. We would love to see you in vibrant Albuquerque in the spring time, so please include the WSSA Annual Conference in your professional calendar for next year.

New Section Coordinator

Chelsea Schelly, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Michigan Tech University, has graciously agreed to serve as Interim Coordinator for the above section in place of the late Dwight Kiel. Chelsea got her MA from the Department of Sociology, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, and then her PhD in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. While a graduate student at Colorado State University, she served as Manager for *the Social Science Journal*.

"The West and the 2012 Presidential Election Returns"

Ross Burkhart
Boise State University

The states west of the 100th meridian, a common delineation between the American West and the eastern United States, played key roles in the 2012 presidential election campaign between President Barack Obama and Governor Mitt Romney. Three western states were considered swing states: Colorado, Nevada, and New Mexico. President Obama, by small margins (average = 52.3 percent of the two-party vote) won those states and their 20 electoral votes. Yet these swing states were a rough border between the solidly blue Rocky Mountain and Intermountain Western states and Alaska (average two-party vote for Romney = 61.63 percent), with 30 electoral votes won by Governor Romney, and the equally solidly red West Coast states and Hawai'i (average two-party vote for Obama = 60.30 percent), with 78 electoral votes won by President Obama. Simply put, the West was integral to President Obama's Electoral College triumph, providing 30% of that vote. Without the West, President Obama would have lost the election.

Furthermore, these results were fully consistent with the 2008 presidential election results, with no change in either the red or blue columns for the Western states' electoral votes. Unlike in 2008, which featured a presidential candidate from the West in Senator John McCain, neither President Obama nor Governor Romney were seen as Westerners, though Governor Romney's principal residence is in La Jolla, California. Since the removal of the Western candidate resulted in no Electoral College change, the Western electorate appears to have stalled in a fit of hyper-partisanship, as has happened in other countries (cf. Michael S. Lewis-Beck, "Class, Religion, and the French Voter: A 'Stalled' Electorate?", *French Politics and Society*, 1998).

Hyper-partisanship is frequently bemoaned as the current state of affairs in U.S. electoral politics, with Democrats and Republicans appealing to and energizing their own partisans, and placing no effort on cross-partisan
continued on page 7

Dear WSSA Colleagues,

The Western Social Science Association has been a leader in inviting academicians and practitioners to a place that offers time and space to explore 'imaginatively' the questions that matter to the social sciences and our world. The annual association meeting naturally calls us into true inquiry and a dialogue into possibilities. It raises the questions that matter.

Your participation in the association has been an essential element of WSSA's success.

I am asking you to continue supporting WSSA by self-nominating or nominating outstanding individuals to serve on the WSSA Executive Council.

By November 1, 2013, please forward a self-nomination (or nomination) to:

Tom Isern
North Dakota State University
PO Box 1390
Fargo ND 58107-1390
Phone: 701-799-2942
Email: isern@plainsfolk.com

Thank you for supporting WSSA. I look forward to seeing you at the 56th Annual Conference, April 2-5, 2014, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Best Regards,
Vic Heller
Past-President

Where Did “Money” Come From ?

continued from page 1

the Smithian or traditional story of money and credit and ignore the insights of Innes.

Over most of my 18 years of teaching at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, I too have perpetuated this error by repeating the traditional story of money. It goes something like this. In a barter economy, as in the (chronologically vague) days of old, goods were traded (in a geographically ambiguous location) for other goods without the use of money. Without money trade is only possible if there is a double coincidence of wants. If one person raises and sells potatoes and the other makes shoes, they will only engage in exchange if the one selling shoes wants potatoes and the one selling potatoes wants a new pair of shoes. Even if they each have a surplus of the good they wish to sell, no trade will occur since the potential buyer lacks anything needed by the seller. They are at an impasse.

Adam Smith (1776, 25-36) explains how money arose to resolve this economic conundrum with these words.

In order to avoid the inconveniency of such situations, every prudent man in every period of society, after the first establishment of the division of labour, must naturally have endeavoured to manage his affairs in such a manner, as to have at all times by him, besides the peculiar produce of his own industry, a certain quantity of some one commodity or other, such as he imagined few people would be likely to refuse in exchange for the produce of their industry.

So for Smith over time (and in every place and time) eventually a specific commodity—perhaps gold or silver—arises to serve as a money-thing that can be used to purchase other goods and services. Economists refer to this monetary function as a *medium of exchange*.

Over time, economists have come to define money as anything that fulfills the four functions of money. In addition to serving as a medium of exchange, money can also serve as a way to postpone purchases by serving as a *store of value*. As long as a currency is not experiencing rapid inflation, holding wealth in money form allows us to delay purchases for a sunny or rainy day. Money can also be used to pay debts as a *means of*

payment to fulfill our contractual obligations to other individuals, firms, lenders, or governmental entities. And perhaps most importantly, money serves as a way of keeping score as a *unit of account*. It is in this last function that money is not a “thing,” like a coin, but instead serves instead as a point system or standard of measurement by which sales, debts, and payments can be accounted. Just as an inch or a centimeter can be used to measure length, a dollar or euro as a unit of account can be used to measure value without actually being a money-thing.

Now for Smith, the most important function of money is to serve as a medium of exchange. Because once this is established his apocryphal story expands. As a medium of exchange money facilitates trade, encourages greater specialization and productivity, reduces transactions costs, and allows for the further flowering of capitalism. It also serves as the beginning of the banking system. As metals become the preferred medium of exchange, banks are created to store and manage these wealth holdings. The coining of metal by state governments facilitates this process by standardizing weights and degrees of alloyed purity. The bankers then issue receipts describing the amount of gold stored or deposited on its premises. Over time, bankers realize that these gold receipts are circulating as money. They also realize that only a fraction of their holdings are called for on any given day. Thus they can make loans at interest and issue gold receipts far in excess of their actual holdings. This emergence of credit further greases the wheels of capitalist exchange, savings, and investment. However, in the overall economy, money only affects prices and not the process of actual physical production.

This standard story has been repeated in uncountable numbers of articles and textbooks. And it is this story that Innes challenged 100 years ago. Innes asserts that the barter story that emerged from Smith contradicts both the logic and the historical record. In terms of logic, Smith’s story is simply not convincing. For example, if you grew up in a small town in the western US in the 1970s, you might remember that you could go to the

grocery store, pick up groceries, and simply sign a slip a paper acknowledging your receipt of the groceries. The same could be done in Smith's hypothetical example. If the shoe seller or potato seller were trustworthy, the shoe seller could simply create a record of the shoes purchased on credit by the potato seller/shoe buyer and their value in some agreed upon unit of account. This is not barter and it is not a purchase using a medium of exchange. Instead it is (p. 391) "the exchange of a commodity for a credit." And it is far easier that the use of a medium of exchange.

Is there no anthropological evidence of a society based on barter trade? In his recent book David Graeber (2010) asserts that there is not. Graeber claims that Stanley Jevons's book in 1871 "took his examples straight from Smith, with Indians swapping venison for elk and beaver hides, and made no use of actual descriptions of Indian life..." (p. 29) Similarly "around that same time, missionaries, adventures, and colonial administrators were fanning out across the world, many bringing copies of Smith's book with them, expecting to find the land of barter. No one ever did." To make his point as clear as possible, Graeber (p. 29) quotes from Caroline Humphrey's Cambridge University dissertation as the definitive anthropological work on barter. Her statement is as clear as it is emphatic. "No example of a barter economy, pure and simple, has ever been described, let alone the emergence from it of money; all available ethnography suggests there has never been such a thing." Innes knew this 100 years ago, yet the myth persists.

So if there has never been a land of barter, where did we get money and credit? Innes (p. 397) argues that systems of credit pre-date coins by over a thousand years. "The earliest known coins of the western world are those of ancient Greece, the oldest of which, belonging to the settlements on the coast of Asia Minor, date from the sixth or seventh centuries B.C." In contrast, the law of debt goes back to at least the Code of Hammurabi in Babylonia 2000 years B.C. Innes saw that the foundation of society and thereby of credit was that promises or obligations were and are viewed as sacred. In all societies (p. 391) the breaking of the pledged word, or the refusal to carry out an obligation is held equally disgraceful." He goes on to explain how wooden tally sticks and clay *shubati* tablets were used to track credits/purchases and debits/sales long before the existence of coins. And that one could repay a debt by returning a credit of the same amount to the lender. In fact, village fairs were convened so that those holding

the debts of others could match credits and debits together and thereby clear their accounts. Over time others showed up to buy and sell other goods and services or to cater to those in this most basic business of banking.

There are a variety of reasons why this matters for monetary theory and macroeconomic policy. But let me leave you with just one. From the Smithian story, it was gold and silver that backed the issuance of a paper currency. However, if Innes is right, the banking system never worked in that way. In Innes's world, money is and always has been a token representing a socially constructed debit-credit relationship. A stamped coin, \$20 bill, or tax refund check is an asset—a credit—to those who hold it and a liability—a debit—for the government who issues it. When the federal government spends, perhaps by directly depositing a Social Security recipient's check into her account, a special kind of credit is created. This credit—a new "debt" of the federal government—satisfies all four functions that are used to define money. It serves as a medium of exchange, store of value, means of payment, and a unit of account. But what gives this money value? The money is valuable because it is the only token acceptable for the payment of taxes. And when those taxes are paid, the money that had been spent into existence is extinguished. Thus, it is through federal government spending that money enters the economy and through taxation that it is destroyed. This is where Innes's 100- year-old insights lead. If these ideas are hold up under academic scrutiny, are further disseminated, and become the basis of how we understand money and credit, an entirely new paradigm will need to emerge in the study of monetary economics.

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Poster competition, student paper competition, travel grants and John Wicks Dissertation Paper Award

Theodore S. Ransaw Ph.D.

The winner of the 2013 Poster competition was Aaron Barth. This was Aaron's second time in the poster competition. As a Poster contestant winner, Aaron will receive \$250.00 and two night's free room and free registration to WSSA's 56th Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico from April 2 - 5, 2014.

In addition to the poster competition, we are offering even more student support! We have three things of note: 1) Local participant grants, 2) Travel grants and 3) the John Wicks dissertation award.

Local Participant Grants

WSSA will provide free conference registration for students from the local area (less than 250 miles) of a conference, this year, Our 56th Annual Conference will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico from April 2 - 5, 2014. Registration includes WSSA
continued on page 9

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THE 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, Canada, and Mexico; 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 \$40 (individual); \$50 (includes spouse); \$25 (student); \$25 (retired). For information, contact Larry Gould, Executive Director, WSSA, c/o Northern Arizona University, Yuma Branch Campus, P.O. 6236 Yuma, AZ 85366-6236 (Phone: 928-317-6475; Fax: 928-317-6419; E-mail: larry.gould@nau.edu)

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"The West and the 2012 Presidential Election Returns"

continued from page 3

appeals. However, if one element is a constant in electoral politics, it is that in spite of periodic stalls, electorates can and do change in dramatic ways. For instance, the "Solid South" for the Democratic Party was a fact of life during the 20th century until the 1970s. More youthful political generations know nothing of this political monolith, and instead are prepared to believe that the South will be the Republican Party bedrock for decades to come. Yet beware: political power and political coalitions that support power are, by nature, ephemeral. The West is in a good position to be on the front lines of these changing electorates, because the West has the country's most youthful population as well as the lion's share of the "minority majority" ethnicities, two demographic elements that are notable for their fluidity in voting patterns.

In short, for these several reasons, the West will remain relevant in 2014 and 2016 electoral politics. Coastal Red and Interior Blue will be speckled with swing states, though as a warning shot to the Republicans, these states have experienced very high growth rates of Latinos, whose political clout will only increase over time along with their increasing demographic position. The Republicans appear to be behind the Democrats in their ability to appeal to this key Western constituency (Governor Romney won 27% of the Latino vote in the 2012 general election), and could make the West be even more competitive for them should they find a way to appeal to Latinos. While temporarily stalled, the West can look forward to being the fulcrum of tomorrow of U.S. electoral politics.

President's Soapbox

The Western Social Science Association's (WSSA) annual conference, held in Denver last April, was a resounding success due to the diligence of the presenters and the myriad of topics covered in a professional and collegial manner. We invite you to join us in Albuquerque next April where you will not only enjoy the beautiful scenery and friendly people of New Mexico, but will once again participate in vibrant discussions spanning the scope of the social science disciplines.

What makes the Western Social Science Association conference distinct is its emphasis on embracing the full scope of the social science disciplines. [Take a glance at the number and variety of sections listed in the last program for WSSA's Denver conference.] In today's world of economic uncertainty and social upheaval, social scientists are in a unique position to observe and comment in a systematic way on the everyday workings of the policy-making process. In this regard, the efforts of social scientists have resulted in countless manuscripts, essays, reports, analyses, and books describing the intricacies involved in governance. These efforts, based on social scientists' perspectives, are important because they offer specific insight into the way our democratic system continues to sustain itself through

challenging times. Moreover, these works are presented across multiple disciplines along both applied and theoretical settings in each and every session that the Western Social Science Association's conference offers.

The interaction across disciplines is singularly important because there is strong evidence to suggest that scientists' disciplinary backgrounds influence their approaches to research questions and how evidence is presented, leading to divergent interpretations of data and different ways of combining information. More to the point, it has been shown that single-discipline training tends to produce scientists who view problems in a narrow manner, from the perspective of their discipline, rather than from a more integrated, holistic view. In short, the way one perceives how science interacts with public policymaking has a lot to do with how one is trained, be it in fields of study such as political science, economics, sociology, psychology, anthropology, geography, and history, as well as interdisciplinary fields such as policy science, human ecology, and management.

On the negative side, to date, some social scientists have paid little attention to the research
continued on page 8



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President's Soapbox

continued from page 7

has not always succeeded in making politics appreciably more rational, political debates more intelligent, or policies more certain of success. There also seemingly exists a failure of the social sciences to communicate with one another. It even appears that, at times, social scientists, insecure about their scientific status and aspiring to replicate the "scientific" success achieved by the physical sciences, are generally not accorded the same (higher) status as natural scientists.

On the positive side, it is imperative to note that many observers—including many natural scientists—believe that the social sciences pose greater complexities, difficulties, and challenges than the natural sciences. Lynton Caldwell, in comparing the natural sciences to social sciences, states: "The behavior of humans, individually and socially, is the most complex of these and the least amenable to objective investigation." Along this same line of thought, Eville Gorham talks about "the relative simplicity of the physical sciences and the extreme complexity of the social sciences," and Edward O. Wilson observes that the social sciences are hyper complex, "inherently far more difficult than physics and chemistry."

In fact, social scientists are playing a mediating role between the physical scientists and policy makers. More and more, we witness social scientists helping policy makers understand the intricacies of the scientific process and helping natural scientists to clarify their own personal biases. Social scientists are providing better explanations (hopefully leading to better understanding) of such important concepts as environment, health, clean air, cost, truth, and uncertainty. Simply put, social scientists have special expertise in framing issues. That is exactly where our training lies. We study the policy process, and are in an ideal position to frame policy issues in a way that make the issues more accessible to those—including policy makers—who do not always have a clear grasp of the way science works.

The good news is that the boundaries between disciplines appear to be blurring, or at least overlapping, and there is hope that a paradigm will emerge that will lead social scientists of all stripes to common perceptions of social existence without requiring them to surrender their unique identities. It is the goal of the Western Social Science Association to move the social sciences in this direction and the annual conference provides a unique opportunity to do just that.

Wishing you well,
Les Alm, WSSA President,
Boise State University

On Denver and the West

That was a great meeting last April in Denver, wasn't it? I told you it would be awesome. The numbers say so, too: panels are up, papers are up, registrations are up, enthusiasm is up. I said it officially, and I'll say it again: from Les Alm the program chair (now president) to every participant, from the WSSA exec and the section leaders right through to the Grand Hyatt Denver staff who worked around the construction to maintain their high level of hospitality, it was good work all around.

The highlight for me was that no one, I mean no one, walked out in the middle of my presidential address after the Friday luncheon. Oh, I know Larry Gould was missing in action, but he sneaked away before it started, because he is of a certain age and needs to get a little shuteye after lunch. He probably thought I wouldn't notice, and of course, I'll never mention it again. Really.

Another thing that made the Denver meeting a pleasure for me was that my graduate students were presenting all over the place. Those of you who are directing graduate work, Isn't this what we are in the game for? Don't you love getting sympathetic butterflies when they get up to make their inaugural presentations as scholars? Doesn't your heart swell when they do well? Bring your graduate students to the WSSA. This is the perfect venue for them to get an attentive hearing and constructive advice and to make professional connections that will serve them well over the decades.

Although I had executive duties to attend to, I made it a point to get to sessions and reconnect with colleagues in two sections with which I have long been associated, Rural Studies and New Zealand & Australian Studies. You see, in this house with many rooms that is the Western Social Science Association, the scale of relationships is important. The sections, which bring together scholars of kindred interests, are of a size that you can have *continued on page ??* serious conversations, rather than the sort of drive-by discourse characteristic of huge disciplinary gatherings. Come on, admit it, you not only have a better time, you also have better conversations at the WSSA.

Now having shed executive responsibilities, I look forward to doing more of what I used to do, that is, dropping in on the proceedings of sections outside my own familiar turf. For instance, I want to hang out more with the American Indian Studies crowd in Albuquerque, and maybe even the History people, since I do hold a PhD in the field. Think about it, there is some area you are curious about, or maybe need to know about, but haven't explored because of your professional focus. Explore it at the WSSA, and we won't tell your dean on you. (Aquinas was wrong. Getting off the track of your obligatory studies is a good thing.)

And finally, before I sign off—Don't you just love meeting in these *western* cities? Isn't it grand every spring to head for some place in the mountains, the deserts, the forests of this fabulous American West? Denver was awesome. Albuquerque will be, too.

Tom Isern
Immediate Past President

Poster competition, student paper competition, travel grants and John Wicks Dissertation Paper Award

continued from page 6

membership, the president's luncheon and a year subscription to the Social Science Journal. Students awarded the local travel grant must present either a paper or poster at the same conference or serve as a member of a panel and be certified by their dean.

Any authorized Dean of a higher education institution within the designated local area may certify up to five students from his or her institution to receive these awards. The list of dean certified students must be forwarded to me at: ransawth@msu.edu by March 1, 2014.

Travel Grants

For 10 students who are traveling more than 250 miles, WSSA will provide \$500 toward travel expenses to the conference. Students awarded a travel grant must present either a paper or poster at the same conference or serve as a member of a panel and be certified by their dean. Students will need to submit a travel grant application letter to me Theodore S. Ransaw confirming conference participation by ...The list of certified students must be forwarded to me at: ransawth@msu.edu by March 1, 2014.

John Wicks Dissertation Award

Additionally WSSA will award a \$1,000 stipend to the based on a dissertation in progress or completed before January 15 of the Conference year. The list certified students must be forwarded to me at: ransawth@msu.edu by January 15, 2014.



Western Social Science Association
Conference Registration – Membership Renewal - for 2014
Conference: April 2 - 5, 2014, in Albuquerque, New Mexico
Hyatt Regency, Downtown
330 Tijeras Ave NW
(505) 842-1234

**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 2014 WSSA **conference registration will include membership** from 04/01/2014 to 03/31/2015. Pre-registration must be done online or received by mail no later than March 21, 2014, to receive the rates shown below. Late registration rates will apply after March 22, 2014. Paper pre-registrations will not be accepted after March 26; online registration will be closed after March 27; onsite registration will begin at 3:00pm on April 2. Cancelled registrations cannot be refunded after March 27.

To pre-register on-line for the 2014 conference please go to <http://wssa.asu.edu/>
(available after September 15, 2013)

Late and on-site registration is \$30 more than for all categories noted below.

Conference pre-registration rates:

- \$125 individual members
- \$80 student member (full-time students, only)
- \$90 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 4, 2014
- ___ # of tickets _____ Total amount for tickets

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

\$ _____ for WSSA 2014 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, PO Box 6236, Yuma, AZ 85366-6236

**Mailed pre-registration forms
 must be received by March 26, 2014.**

IF you **know** that you will not be attending the 2014 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, 2014), 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: _____)

Western Social Science Association

56th Annual Conference



Albuquerque, New Mexico

April 2 - 5, 2014

Hyatt Regency, Downtown

330 Tijeras Ave NW

(505) 842-1234

Or for online hotel registration please go to:
<http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences>

Call for Presentations and Panels

**Paper or Panel Proposals Due to Section Coordinators by
December 1, 2013**

**For more information
and a list of Section Coordinators,
see the WSSA web site at:**

<http://wssa.asu.edu>

Or Contact:

Dr. N. Prabha Unnithan

Department of Sociology

Colorado State University

Fort Collins, CO 80523

Phone: 970-491-6615

Email: prabha@lamar.colostate.edu

Please Share This Information With Your Colleagues



Western Social Science Association

Call for Papers

2014 Student Paper Competition

Students can win **\$500**, a free one-year subscription to the *Social Science Journal*, free conference registration at the annual WSSA conference in **Albuquerque, NM**, April 2 - 5, 2014, and the opportunity to **present your paper** at that conference. Each winning paper will also receive one room/2 nights free lodging. **WOW, what a deal!**

Competition Guidelines

Papers are judged based on a) advancement of knowledge, b) appropriateness for a broad social science audience, c) development and implementation of valid research design, d) definition and significance of topic, e) analysis of findings and discussion of their implications and f) clarity and cogency of writing. Undergraduate and graduate papers are evaluated separately, and multiple-authored papers will be considered separately if quality papers are submitted. Authors of high quality papers that are not chosen for the award are eligible to receive an Honorable Mention Certificate, a \$100 cash award, and free conference registration.

Paper Requirements

- **Papers, including bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials, cannot exceed 25 pages. This requirement will be strictly enforced; papers longer than 25 pages will not be read.** Abstracts and cover sheets are not included in the page count.
- The paper packet must include an abstract (not to exceed 200 words), with the title of the paper, but **NOT** the author(s)/affiliation(s).
- All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt font, with one inch margins.
- Papers may not be theses or dissertations previously presented or published, and papers are to be written solely by students; papers co-authored with faculty or post docs will not be accepted.
- **All submissions must be endorsed through submission of a cover sheet that is signed by the student and faculty advisor. The cover sheet is available through the WSSA Website. Papers without the sponsoring professor's endorsement will not be accepted.**
- Authors may wish to consult the *Social Science Journal's* style guide for formatting information.
- Winners of the student paper competition are expected to attend and present their paper in order to receive their cash award.
- The paper and the cover sheet discussed above are to be submitted by EMAIL and must be received on or before **January 15, 2014**. Please EMAIL the paper as a Word file with a scan of the cover sheet, with faculty signature and endorsement, to the chair of the WSSA Student Paper Committee by the 15 January 2013 date:

Theodore S. Ransaw Ph.D.
Office of K-12 Outreach
College of Education
620 Farm Lane, Room #253
Erickson East Lansing, MI 48824
Office: 517-432-9627
Email: ransawth@msu.edu

Submission Cover Sheet
Western Social Science Association (WSSA)
2014 Student Paper Competition

Student's name: _____

Department and university affiliation: _____

Address where student can be contacted: _____

Student's phone number and EMAIL address: _____

Student Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the paper I am submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is not part of a completed dissertation or master's thesis. This is work I have done on my own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Student's signature: _____

Faculty Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the student signing above is a student in our department currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree. Also, the paper the above student submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is not part of a completed dissertation or master's thesis. This is work the student has done on his or her own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Sponsoring faculty member's name and department (please print):

Sponsoring faculty member's signature:



Call for Papers

2014 John Wicks Dissertation Competition

Students can win **\$1,000**, a free one-year subscription to the *Social Science Journal* and free conference registration at the annual WSSA conference in **Albuquerque, NM, April 2 – 5, 2014**. The winning author will also receive one room/2 nights free lodging at the 2014 conference.

Competition Guidelines and Submission

The winner of the Dissertation Award must present his or her paper at the 2014 WSSA conference in order to receive the award.

All papers must be written by a student currently pursuing a doctoral degree and be based on his or her original research. The work cannot be co-authored with a faculty member or post-doc. All submissions must include a cover sheet that is signed by the student and endorsed by the dissertation advisor confirming that the student is a member of his or her department and that the paper is based on the student's dissertation.

The paper and cover sheet should be submitted by EMAIL to Dr. Theodore S. Ransaw (ransawth@msu.edu) in the form of a Word file for the paper and scan of the cover sheet. The submission must be received on or before January 15, 2014. Papers are judged by a committee chaired by the Vice-President of WSSA. The cover sheet is available at <http://wssa.asu.edu>.

Paper Requirements

Papers, including bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials, cannot exceed 25 pages. This requirement will be strictly enforced; papers longer than 25 pages will not be read. Abstracts and cover sheets are not included in the page count.

Submissions should include an abstract (not to exceed 200 words), with the title of the paper, but NOT the author(s)/affiliation(s).

All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt font, with one inch margins.

Papers must be original and not have been published or presented at another conference.

Submission Cover Sheet
Western Social Science Association
(WSSA)
2014 John Wicks Dissertation Competition

Student's name:

Department and university affiliation:

Mailing Address where student can be contacted:

Student's phone number and EMAIL address:

Student Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the paper I am submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is based on a dissertation in progress or completed before January 15, 2014. This is work I have done on my own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Student's signature: _____

Faculty Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the student signing above is a student in our department currently pursuing a doctoral degree. Also, the paper the above student is submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is based on a dissertation in progress or completed before January 15, 2014. This is work the student has done on his or her own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Sponsoring faculty member's name & title (printed):

Sponsoring faculty member's signature:

Western Social Science Association

56th Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico

April 2 - 5, 2014

Poster Competition

*Winner will receive \$250.00 at the 2014 conference
and two night's free room and free registration to the conference in 2015!*

Poster Competition Abstracts Due to Section Coordinators by
December 1, 2013

For more information and a list of Section Coordinators,

See the WSSA
website

at

<http://wssa.asu.edu>



Or Contact:

Theodore S. Ransaw Ph.D.

Office of K-12 Outreach

College of Education

620 Farm Lane, Room #253

Erickson

East Lansing, MI 48824

Office: 517-432-9627

Email: ransawth@msu.edu

Please Share This With Your Colleagues