



WSSA NEWS



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Where does your conference fee go?

Larry Gould, Executive Director
 Professor Emeritus
 Northern Arizona University

Every year we require each conference attendee to pay a fee to attend. As is the case in any large operation, the distribution of the funds collected is complex, but for the most part it goes primarily to five areas: Catering, Audio/Video, Awards & Prizes, Student Worker Support, Staff Support.

First and foremost, each hotel at which we hold the annual conference requires a minimum expenditure on catering. In return, **if** the minimum guest room pickup is met, WSSA is not charged for the meeting and breakout room space. The minimum charge for catering varies from hotel to hotel; however, the cost is increasing. At present the minimum catering cost at our next four conference sites ranges from \$45,000.00 to \$60,000 each.

The next largest expense concerns Audio/Visual. In the days of overhead projectors, we spent about \$8,000.00 per conference on A/V. Moving into the age of LCD projectors has, of course, led to much higher costs. To offset the cost of renting LCD projectors, WSSA purchased a large number of them. We transport our projectors to each conference and for a relatively small labor fee the hotel will set up our equipment and then supplement the rest of our A/V using in-house equipment. We have been able to hold increases in the A/V costs down to \$15,000 to \$20,000, depending on the location. However, our projectors will eventually fail. As this happens we will have to rent more equipment from the conference hotels, since the cost of such rentals has finally started falling. It is expected that in the future the A/V cost will increase to about \$35,000.00 per conference.

It is part of the WSSA's mission to foster professional study, and to advance scholarship,

Fee cont.

(Continued from page 1)

research, and professional exchange, across the social science disciplines. To that end, the Association funds awards for emerging scholars, prizes for research competitions, and student travel grants. We also provide free registration to selected students in the local conference are. Currently, these expenditures add up to approximately \$22,000 per year. Association officers and elected Council members are unpaid volunteers, but the salary for our Director of Communications is another expense that comes out of the conference registration fees. This is currently fixed at \$12,000. These duties include management of the registration process, on-site management of the conference, managing the website, marketing the conference and other duties as assigned.

The final major cost that is expensed to the conference fees includes the lodging and stipend for the student workers. The cost of this is about \$9,000.00

Other costs include office supplies, name badges and the cost of the printed program. This is about \$7,000.00

The average cost of the conferences over the last three years is about \$100,000.

The net revenue from the conference fees over the last three years has averaged about \$92,000. This, of course, represents a net loss for the organization. We have for the last few years been using revenue generated from the Social Science Journal royalties to cover the difference. This will not, in the future, be a healthy financial scenario, so we are working to close the gap between income and expenses.

Online Submissions

If you haven't presented at WSSA in a couple of years, you will notice some big changes in the way we are doing things now.

The biggest change is that **ALL** papers must now be submitted through the WSSA website, instead of to the Section or Program Coordinator. While this process may take some time to get used to, these changes are helping both Section and Program Coordinators to coordinate and track submissions more efficiently.

Successful submissions now generate an automatic response notifying the author that the submission has been received, and Section Coordinators are able to see at a glance the status of all of their submitted papers.

Student Paper Competitions, the John Wicks Dissertation Paper Award, the Poster Session, and Travel Grants, use the same process - everything now must be funneled through the website to the Student Grant & Awards Coordinator, a new position the Council has just created, to improve our ability to keep submissions on track .

President's Soapbox

Michèle Companion,

WSSA President 2016-2017

I love our association and conference.

I truly do! For those who know me, even vaguely, I like talking to people. I will walk up to random conference participants in the halls and chat up strangers in the elevator and in the coffee line. Over the course of the conference in Reno, I was pleased to see old friends and meet new people. A theme kept emerging in these conversations – the challenges of finding money for student participation and professional development. There were stories of extraordinary fundraising efforts and laments over papers not presented and lost opportunities to engage with amazing people and hear about their work because money could not be raised. WSSA travel grants were able to help some, but the need is always much greater than we are capable of filling.

This is a broader trend in higher education that scares me. States are cutting funding to universities and colleges, creating a chain reaction of increased tuition for students and reduced benefits for faculty and staff. This is putting the dreams of higher educational attainment further and further out of reach for first generation and low income students. I was reminded recently of how critical these opportunities are for multiple generations of a single family. I was honored to sit on a Masters board, where our student discussed this. She recounted her frustration with trying to get off government assistance, but being thrown into repeated cycles of poverty as a single working parent. For example, she would work extra hours to pay bills, then find out she had earned \$20 too much and lose her food stamps. She was determined to stop this cycle. She is the first person in her family to go to college. Now, she has an MA, has inspired several of her siblings to go to junior college, and is demonstrating to her kids the importance of education every day.

She worked through her entire educational process, made sacrifices, and struggled to fund her dreams. Listening to the pride in this vibrant, confident woman as she talked about the positive changes that her journey has made, I was inspired. At the same time, it made me sad to think of so many who share this dream, drive, and desire, but are reaching for a bar that is being moved farther away because of short-sighted politicians and other socio-economic trends.

Would that I had a magic wand and could conjure a permanent solution to this issue! But I don't. I can make a difference though. I contribute to scholarship funds, mentor my students so they feel supported, and help them with scholarship applications and establishing crowdfunding sites. I know many of you do the same and, if you are able, I urge you to do more. Think about ways to help your students on their journey and remember the ripple effect – so many people will be touched along the way. As I reflect, I want to give a shout out to AIS for always managing to bring a large number of students to the conference each year and to all of you who do the same. I am looking forward to meeting you and your students in San Francisco!

Featured Article

A Forty Years' Partnership:

The Association For Borderlands Studies And The Western Social Science Association

Steve Mumme
Colorado State University

When the Western Social Science Association gathered in Reno last spring (April 2016), it marked a milestone of sorts, the 40th anniversary of the longstanding partnership between WSSA and the Association for Borderlands Studies. As many WSSA'ns are aware, ABS is one of WSSA's oldest "affiliated" organizations, and, for much of its history the largest. Their close ties are historically manifest in the leadership of the two organizations. Since ABS's inception, two of its presidents (David Hornbeck and Jim Peach) also presided over WSSA, and many more ABSers have held positions on WSSA's executive council. Over the years, the links between these two distinct professional organizations and their joint contributions to each other's development have been constructive, symbiotic, and cordial even as both associations periodically experienced their challenges and growing pains. These historic ties should not obscure the fact that these are different organizations with overlapping professional aims and objectives that occasionally strain as well as bind. A short review of ABS's development and WSSA ties may be helpful for understanding the state of this symbiosis today.

The Association of Borderlands Studies (originally the Association for Borderlands Scholars) was officially established in 1976 in affiliation with WSSA as an initiative of a small but growing body of scholars in various disciplines, most located at U.S. border state colleges and universities, who saw the need for a professional body to facilitate systematic study of the rapidly urbanizing U.S.-Mexico border region— within a comparative international context. A number of these scholars—sociologist Ellwyn Stoddard and geographer David Hornbeck, for example—were WSSA members, participating through one of its disciplinary or interdisciplinary sections. Less than two decades old, WSSA's umbrella organizational structure and its Western regional orientation had considerable appeal at a time when mainstream disciplinary organizations had little interest in scholarly exotica like border studies.

From its inception, ABS membership grew rapidly. By 1983 ABS boasted 276 members, many of whom joined WSSA. From the beginning, the ABS sought to stimulate border studies across international boundaries, taking advantage of new border institutes in Mexico, the U.S., and Canada, as well as interest in border studies in Europe. In 1986, ABS launched its own journal, the *Journal of Borderland Studies*, aimed at broadening its international professional impact. In 1991, the ABS received a substantial two-year grant of \$20,000 from the Ford Foundation to stimulate borderlands scholarship in Mexico through stipends supporting travel and accommodations at the WSSA conference, a grant renewed biannually for six years that supported as many as 20 Mexican scholars annually to participate in ABS panels at the WSSA

Featured cont.

conference. Such developments were mutually beneficial and contributed significantly to an international presence at the WSSA/ABS conference.

By the mid-1990's, ABS's international presence had broadened well beyond its original focus on the U.S.-Mexico border with its own affiliations with European centers and border studies outposts in Latin America and Africa. With its strong WSSA base it could afford to occasionally meet elsewhere, hosting conferences in border cities like Tijuana and Nogales. ABS members joined European colleagues at various continental venues on a regular basis. Even so, when challenges arose, as they did, first, with the Ford Foundation's termination of its grant program for Mexican scholars, and later, with ABS Secretariat mismanagement in 2005, WSSA proved its worth as an organizational cushion and venue for ABS renewal.

In 2006, ABS took a decisive step toward greater internationalization when its secretariat transitioned to the University of Victoria. Under the able management of Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly as Executive Secretary, and Michael Patrick, Martin van Der Velde, and Henk van Houtum as JBS editors, closer links were forged with Canadian institutions, the Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) network in Europe, and Asian border research institutes. This further diversified participants and scholarship at the WSSA/ABS meetings. In 2014, with the ABS Secretariat relocated to the University of Eastern Finland, the ABS took another step forward by organizing its First World Conference in Joensuu, Finland. Buoyed by its success, the ABS board aims to sponsor such an event at various international locations every five years going forward.

ABS's evolution, its greater internationalization and diversification as a professional body, while occasionally complicating WSSA's conference planning, has certainly been synergistic for both parties. WSSA continues to anchor the smaller ABS, and ABS continues to sustain, internationalize, and diversify the WSSA. Recent ABS trends point to greater involvement of European scholars and institutions driven both by ABS's internal goal of strengthening its international components and by the reality of greater institutional support for borderlands scholarship within the European Union. These structural trends will deepen. But it is also true that ABS continues to have some of its strongest scholarly roots and ties in North America and along the U.S.-Mexico border, which continues to serve, as founder Ellywn Stoddard so often observed, as a remarkable scholarly laboratory for borderlands studies. ABS's transcontinental membership, growth, and outreach will continue to benefit from legs across the pond, its North American shoe firmly planted in WSSA.

Reflections on Reno and other news

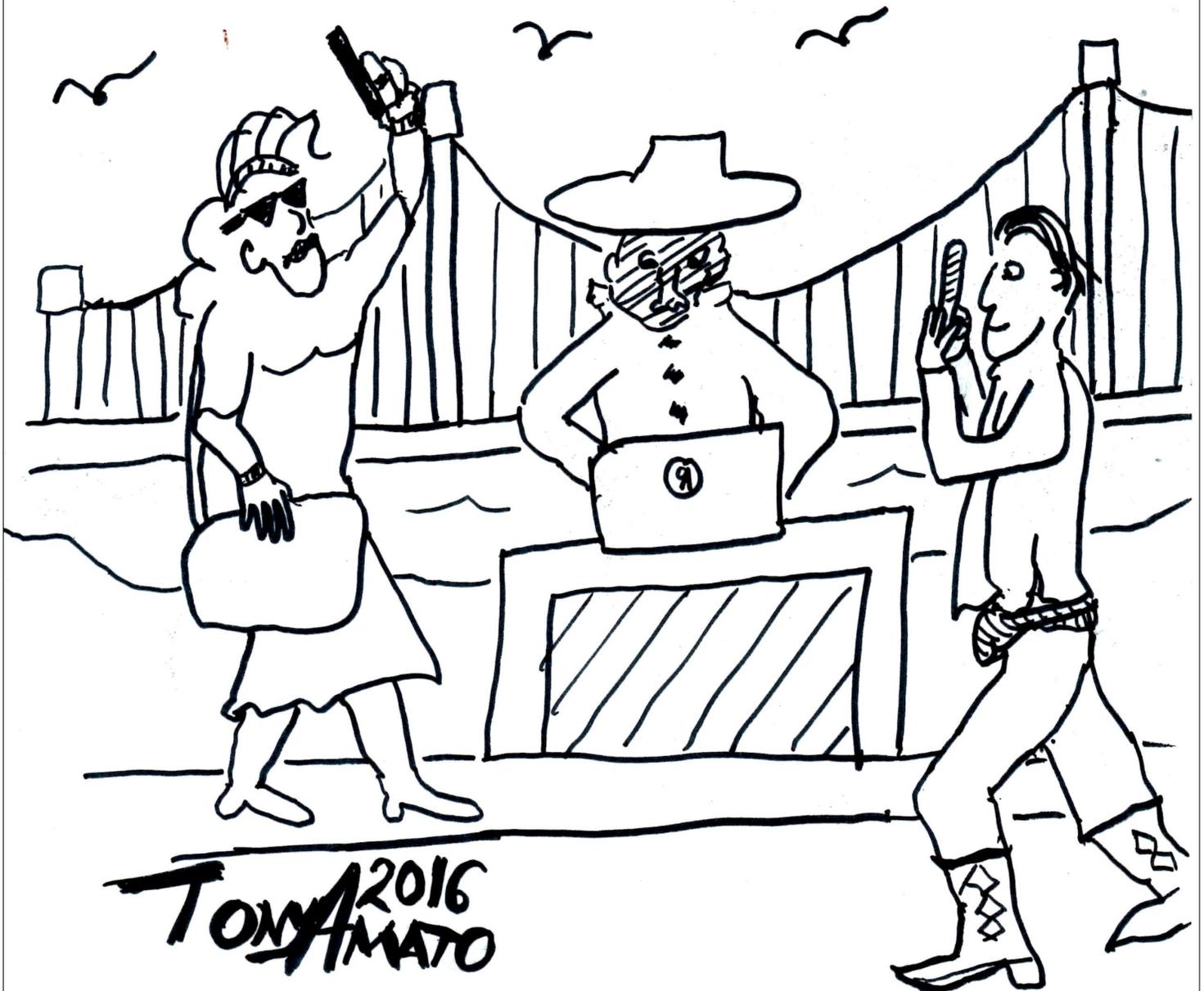
Michèle Companion,
WSSA Program coordinator 2015-2016,
President 2016-2017

Reno was a great conference! We had a total of 570 participants. Besides reconnecting with old friends, we got to meet new colleagues. Our 2016 Outstanding New Scholar Award winners were really pleased with the WSSA and the hospitality and collegiality of our members. KuoRay Mao (Colorado State University – Immediate Past President’s awardee), Liat Ben-Moshe (University of Toledo – President’s awardee), and Julie Maldonado (University of California – Santa Barbara – President-Elect’s awardee) are excited to come back. Mahalia Newmark (Arizona State University) was thrilled to receive the 2016 Vine Deloria, Jr., Student Paper Competition Award at her first conference ever! I want to congratulate all of our award winners for their amazing work and contributions to the social sciences. I also want to thank our friends at the University of Nevada, Reno, for sending students and faculty to participate and for providing suggestions for restaurants and things to do in their community.

With the end of a conference year comes new changes – we say a heartfelt “Thank you!” and a sad “goodbye” to Executive Council representatives and officers who have finished their terms and welcome in new ones. Your Executive Council has been really busy! As you all know, we have migrated our submission process to an entirely on-line system. We appreciate your patience with the process and your suggestions regarding improving the experience. We will be working to implement some of these suggestions over the summer.

The Executive Council also agreed to make some major changes to the conference program. First, the WSSA is seeking to go a little greener. We are looking into offering participants a choice of the printed copy of the program, an e-copy, or both. The printed copy will still be available at no charge. You will be asked for your preference when you register. Second, the program that you receive at the conference will no longer be the official or final version of the program. You will note a line in the header of the program on each page stating, “Draft program: not for vita verification purposes.” The final, official version of the program will be released on line AFTER the conference has concluded. This allows us to remove people who have cancelled their appearances after the program has been printed and account for people who simply did not show up. Only the abstracts of papers presented will be published.

THE WESTERN ANTI-SOCIAL SOCIAL MEDIA CONFERENCE



How It Works: Section Coordinators

Michèle Companion,
WSSA Program coordinator 2015-2016,
President 2016-2017

The WSSA is heavily reliant on our volunteers. We are so grateful for all of the hours they put in on our behalf! In particular, we could not function without our incredible Section Coordinators. They are a vital component in building our membership and overall conference program each year.

Section Coordinators do quite a bit of work for us. They are responsible for disseminating our call for abstracts to previous conference participants and to their network of peers. This year, we have tasked our Section Coordinators with really promoting our Student Poster Competition, which takes place at the Friday Breakfast, where we also hold our “WSSA Give Back” fundraiser for the local food bank. To encourage more participation, the Executive Council authorized an additional prize. Our first place winner will still receive \$250, but we will also begin to offer a second place award (\$100) in San Francisco! This is a great way for advanced undergraduates and junior graduate students to get their ideas out there, to get feedback, and to network. I am always blown away by the amazing projects. Please help us and our Section Coordinators to promote this experience!

Our Section Coordinators are responsible for extending our reach by contacting departments and peers in their topical areas to build up their section membership, promote the conference, and disseminate information about our various competitions. They thematically organize abstract submissions into panels of four or five presenters, stay in contact with submitters about the panel compositions, times, and other pertinent information, and provide the program coordinator with a list of papers not presented by the end of the conference.

Some Section Coordinators volunteer to serve; others are elected by their membership. Sometimes, it is a combination of both. Many sections rotate coordinators on an annual basis through a formal process. Others may serve for renewing terms at the will of their section members. If section members feel that their section coordinator is not fulfilling the role properly, they can replace that person with a new coordinator at the beginning of the new conference year.

There are always ways to become more involved and being a Section Coordinator is a great way to meet new colleagues and network! As an organization, we build our membership and outreach through the networks of our Section Coordinators in particular. If you are interested in serving as a Section Coordinator, I urge you to contact the Program Coordinator for 2017, Barbara Bonnekennen (bbonnekennen@pittstate.edu).

I want to thank all who have served in this vital role in the past and encourage more to volunteer to help us keep moving forward into the future. Thank you for all of the amazing work that you do! We couldn't do it without you!

2016 Award Winners

Presented at the WSSA President's Luncheon, on Friday, April 10, 2015

Past-President's Outstanding New Scholar Award

Dr. KuoRay Mao, Sociology, Colorado State University

President's Outstanding New Scholar Award

Dr. Liat Ben-Moshe, Disability Studies Program, University of Toledo

President-Elect's Outstanding New Scholar Award

Dr. Julie K. Maldonado, Anthropology, University of California – Santa Barbara

Presented at the WSSA President's Reception on Saturday April 11, 2015

WSSA Distinguished Book Award

Susan Starr Sered (Suffolk University) and Maureen Norton-Hawk (Suffolk University: *Can't Catch a Break: Gender, Jail, Drugs, and the Limits of Personal Responsibility* (2014, University of California Press).

Larry Gould Best Article Award

Lacey N. Wallace. June 2015. "Responding to violence with guns: Mass shootings and gun acquisition." *The Social Science Journal* 52(2): 156–167.

John Wicks Dissertation Award

Joseph Kellner, University of California - Berkeley, "The End of History: Belief and the Soviet Collapse"

WSSA Student Paper Competition Awards

Graduate – Best Paper, Co-Winner – Jesus Madrigal, University of California - Berkeley, for "My Moving Frescoes": Sergei Eisenstein and Mexican Muralism.

Graduate – Best Paper, Co-Winner – Jared L. Talley, Boise State University, for "Look What the Cat Dragged In: Domestic Cats, Their Prey, and Socially Constructed Policy"

Graduate – Honorable Mention – Reuben Addo, Colorado State University, for "Homeless Individuals' Social Construction of a Public Park".

Undergraduate – Best Paper – Luke Koran, North Dakota State University, for "A Journey from Frontiersmen to Historian: The Letters of George Northrup".

Bert & Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science

Quinn Massaroni, Bryant University, "A United States Sustainable Energy Transition Based on Successful International Models "

Vine Deloria, Jr., Student Paper Competition

Mahalia Newmark, Arizona State University, "Reclaiming Dene Womanhood in Our Stories"

Are You Feeling Lucky?

Test your knowledge of the next WSSA Conference site, San Francisco, CA

Kristina Lybecker
The Colorado College

The Western Social Science Association's 2017 conference will take place in San Francisco, California, April 12, 2017 through April 15, 2017. How appropriate to meet in the Golden State, just after meeting in the Silver State, Nevada. This article focuses on some lesser-known state tidbits. Test your knowledge of San Francisco and California trivia and learn some interesting details about our next conference site.

1. The Chinese fortune cookie was invented by a Japanese resident of San Francisco.
(a) True; (b) False
2. What is the steepest street in San Francisco?
(a) Lombard Street; (b) Filbert Street; (c) Market Street
3. San Francisco was part of Mexico until the Mexican-American War of _____.
(a) 1812; (b) 1861; (c) 1848
4. In 1867, San Francisco instituted America's first "ugly law," which prohibited unsightly people from showing their faces in public.
(a) True; (b) False
5. The bear on California's state flag is modeled after a California _____ named Monarch, who was held at Golden Gate Park.
(a) black bear; (b) brown bear; (c) polar bear; (d) grizzly bear
6. What famous document was drafted and ratified in San Francisco in 1945.
(a) The United Nations Charter; (b) The U.S. Constitution; (c) the recipe for Coca-Cola
7. What was the original name of the Oakland Raiders?
(a) Oakland Aces; (b) Oakland 49ers; (c) Oakland Señors; (d) Oakland Oaks
8. Which San Francisco mayor became a Union general in the Civil War?
(a) John Geary; (b) James Van Ness; (c) James Otis; (d) Art Agnos
9. The first _____ epidemic in the continental US broke out in San Francisco's Chinatown in 1900. (a) ebola; (b) bubonic plague; (c) tuberculosis; (d) measles
10. Which famous symbol of freedom traveled San Francisco for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915?
(a) The Declaration of Independence; (b) The Magna Carta; (c) The Liberty Bell; (d) George Washington
11. Which San Francisco resident was the youngest performer ever to win an Oscar?
(a) Tatum O'Neal; (b) Shirley Temple; (c)
12. More Oakland sports: When the A's had their glory years in the early 1970s, they had famous

players such as Reggie Jackson and Vida Blue and Rollie Fingers. But the most famous person from the team turned out to be a ballgirl, Debbie Sivyver. Why?

13. Clint Eastwood is well-known as the title character in "Dirty Harry." Who was originally supposed to be the San Francisco police inspector?
(a) Frank Sinatra; (b) Ronald Reagan; (c) Chuck Norris; (c) Michael Douglas
 14. During the Great Depression, not a single San Francisco-based bank failed.
(a) True; (b) False
 15. The city's _____ are the only National Historical Monument that can move.
(a) Alcatraz Prison; (b) BART transportation system; (c) cable cars
 16. When Al Capone was held at Alcatraz, he gave regular Sunday concerts with the inmate band, the Rock Islanders. He played the _____.
(a) tambourine; (b) guitar; (c) banjo
 17. Before Sacramento became the state capital in 1854, the capital shifted among three Bay Area cities. What three cities were they?
 18. What legendary musical group gave their last full concert at Candlestick Park on August 29, 1966? (a) The Grateful Dead; (b) The Beatles; (c) Kiss; (d) U2
 19. The Oakland Bay Bridge and the Golden Gate Bridge were both constructed during _____.
(a) World War I; (b) World War II; (c) The Great Depression; (d) visits by aliens.
 20. The "Summer of Love" started in which season?
(a) Spring; (b) Summer; (c) Fall; (d) Winter
1. a. True
 2. b. Filbert Street, between Hyde and Leavenworth Streets, 31.5 degrees.
 3. c. 1848
 4. a. True. It has since been repealed.
 5. d. grizzly bear
 6. a. The United Nations Charter
 7. c. The Oakland Señors, though, the name had already been changed by the time they played their first game.
 8. a. John Geary, San Francisco's first mayor.
 9. b. bubonic plague
 10. c. The Liberty Bell
 11. b. Shirley Temple She was 6 years and 310 days old when she earned a special Oscar in 1935.
 12. Debbie Sivyver married a Portola Valley investment adviser named Randall Fields. In 1977, she opened Mrs. Fields Chocolate Chippery in Palo Alto.

The Bert and Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science

The Bert & Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science is sponsored by Negotiation Guidance Associates on behalf of the extended Lamb family. The deadline for receiving applications or nominations is February 20, 2017.

We are pleased to announce that the recipient's travel expenses to attend the annual conference of the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) will be reimbursed.

[Click Here](#) for the Application and Nomination process. Undergraduates who intend to apply may sign up for updates.

In 2017, the Bert & Phyllis Lamb Prize in Political Science will be presented at the annual conference of WSSA in San Francisco, CA, on April 12-15, 2017. [Click here](#) to see the conference webpage and register for the WSSA conference.

You can read more about the Prize by going to the webpage at LambPrize.org. Please [Click Here](#) to be directed to the webpage for the 2016 recipient.

Registration Schedule

Attendees may pre-register for the San Francisco conference with a bank card, by submitting an online preregistration form (*preferred*), or with a check, by mailing in a paper form.

Pre-registration, at the discounted rate will be available August 1, 2016, online (see link below) through March 27, 2017.

- \$150 for regular registrants,
- \$90 for students, (full-time students, only)
- \$110 for retirees (for persons no longer employed in their fields)

Late Online Pre-registration, at the regular rate, will be available from March 28, 2017 through April 5, 2017.

- \$180 for regular registrants,
- \$110 for students, (full-time students, only)
- \$120 for retirees (for persons no longer employed in their fields) .

There will be no registration activity between midnight on April 5 and 3:00pm PDT, on April 12, when On-Site Registration opens at the conference site.

Paper Pre-Registration forms will be available on our website, starting October 15, 2016. Paper pre-registrations must be received by March 27, 2016, for the regular pre-registration price, or by April 6, 2016, for the late registration price.

There will be no registration activity between midnight, EST, on April 6 and 3:00pm PST, on April 13, when On-Site Registration opens at the conference site.

WSSA NEWS

2016 - 2017

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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, and around the world; 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, four 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 \$45 (individual); \$60 (includes spouse); \$35 (student); \$30 (retired). For information, contact Larry Gould, Executive Director, WSSA, 2307 Chof Trail, Flagstaff, AZ 86005. (Phone: 928-606-2248) E-mail: larry.gould@nau.edu

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Future Conferences

2018 San Antonio, Texas –
Hyatt Regency – April 4, 2018
through April 7, 2018

2019 San Diego, California –
Manchester Grand Hyatt –
April 24, 2019 through April 27,
2019

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) is soliciting applications for the position of Editor of the Society's flagship journal, *Social Problems*. The three-year term will begin with the operation of the new editorial office in mid-year 2018. The new editor will be responsible for editing and promoting Volumes 66-68 (years 2019-2021). We seek a diverse pool of editorial candidates. Applicants must be members or become members of the SSSP by the time of their application and continue to be a member during their tenure as editor.

Candidates must have distinguished scholarly records, previous editorial experience, strong organizational and management skills, and the ability to work and communicate well with others, including with scholars in academic and non-academic settings. For a full description of the position and application process, please visit: (http://www.sssp1.org/file/announcements/Social_Problems_Editor.pdf). Deadline for applications is January 15, 2017.

Please direct all inquiries, nominations, expressions of interest, and application materials to Dr. Corey Dolgon