2015 Annual Conference in Raleigh, NC!

by Dr. Bill Smith, NCSA President-Elect

I am happy to announce that this year’s annual NCSA meeting will be in Raleigh, the state capital, on Friday, February 13, 2015 at the McKimmon Center on the campus of NC State University. The general theme of the NCSA conference is “Building Community in Hard Times”. The general idea of all NCSA meetings is that Sociology has several public “faces” in North Carolina, each with potentially many applications. Community building is one of them. This year the focus will be on “community building” issues. Despite the hard times experienced in the US due to inequities, community in various forms often manages to take place – sometimes by design! Building community can be broken into several areas. Below we identify several areas for which we think Sociology has something especially important to say for North Carolina. Open sessions will include:

1. Open Session: Community and Immigration. The changing face of community is perhaps no more apparent than in the increase in the Latino/a population in NC. Here we invite scholars from across the state to present on this important trending phenomena. Session Organizer: Martha Crowley, at NCSU (mlcrowle@ncsu.edu).

2. Open Session: Urban Development. Neighborhoods are the locales of community and are very much the product of decision making about zoning, mortgage approval, laws limiting outward expansion, gentrification, Mt. Laurel-like laws (laws that distribute poverty rather than concentrate it), and a host of other issues. We open the session to this broad range of issues in urban development. Session organizer is Kristin Williams, Wake Technical Community College (kwillia@ncsu.edu).

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3. Open Session: Community, Health and Environment. Environmental issues, including contaminants, climate change, challenge communities more so today than ever. How do communities face such challenges? What can be done to buffer the adverse impacts of such issues? Session Organizer: Tom Shriver NCSU (tom_shriver@ncsu.edu)

4. Open Session: Rural Areas and Small Communities. Community in North Carolina is largely about small communities and about communities in rural areas. We open the invitation to a wide range of studies of such communities. Session Organizer: Karl Jicha, NCSU (kajicha@ncsu.edu)

In addition to these four areas, we are finalizing the organization of invited sessions (so, not “open”, so no submissions please) on Public Space Utilization (William Smith, presider, Robin Moore, Myron Floyd, Perver Baran, Jason Bocarro, all of NCSU); Community and GLBTQ populations (Amie Hess, presider, of Meredith College; Katherine McFarland Bruce of WFU, and Melinda Kane of ECU); Community and Food (Sarah Bowen, presider, of NCSU; Leslie Hossfeld of UNC-W); a Community Study of Textile Mill Workers (Beth Davison, ASU); and Community and Education (Toby Parcel, presider, of NCSU, Roslyn Mickelson of UNC-Charlotte, and Jonathan Livingston of NCCU).

Conference Registration
You can preregister for the conference and obtain your membership now by using the following secure Paypal link listed on our homepage: http://www.ncsociology.org/new/index.html.

This secure link allows you to pay with a Paypal account or a debit or credit card. This year’s registration allows you to select whether you would like to opt in or out for the conference lunch. Please also note that in order to participate in the conference you must purchase an NCSA membership.

If you are unable to pay for registration and membership before February 13th, then you will have the opportunity to pay with check or credit card on the day of the meeting but there will be an extra service fee of $1. For on-site registration, you can pay with either a check or credit card ($1 surcharge for onsite registration with credit card), but lunch is not an option for registration on the day of the annual meeting.

The following are the costs for registration, membership, and lunch by membership type:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Membership</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Annual Conference</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Membership</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Annual Meeting</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch for any participant</td>
<td>$10</td>
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Lodging Accommodations
Those coming in for an overnight stay are recommended to contact the Double Tree Hilton Brownstone Hotel. The hotel is not walking distance to the McKimmon Center (1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh 27606; 919-515-2277), and bus connections are complex, so plan on driving and enjoy the free parking at the McKimmon Center.


Group Name:NCSA meeting
Group Code: NCS
Check-in: 12-FEB-2015
Check-out: 13-FEB-2015
Hotel Name: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Raleigh - Brownstone – University
Hotel Address:
1707 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27605
Phone Number: 919-828-0811
2015 Executive Council Election Slate

Below are the volunteers who have agreed to serve on the NCSA Executive Council. Please take a moment to read over the biographies and vote for your candidates using the following link: https://je.qualtrics.com/preview/SV_cMuMX82vK6ntOlQ. PLEASE CAST YOUR BALLOTS BY FEBRUARY 9, 2014!

Leslie Hossfeld, President-Elect Candidate

Dr. Hossfeld is Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Dr. Hossfeld is trained in Rural Sociology from North Carolina State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She has extensive experience examining rural poverty and economic restructuring and has made two presentations to the United States Congress and one to the North Carolina Legislature on job loss and rural economic decline.

Kim Ebert, Executive Council Candidate

Kim Ebert is Assistant Professor of Sociology at North Carolina State University. Her research focuses on how ethnoracial inequality is maintained and contested in grassroots mobilization and in the formal political sphere. She completed her Ph.D. in sociology at the University of California, Davis. She has a forthcoming piece challenging theories of group threat in explanations of anti-immigrant activity in Social Problems (with Dina Okamoto). Her work has also appeared in American Behavioral Scientist, Du Bois Review, Latino Studies, Social Forces, and Social Problems.

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Dodson and Zimmer Receive Lifetime Achievement Awards

by Cameron Lippard and Lee Dodson

The North Carolina Sociological Association presented its 2014 Lifetime Achievement Awards to Lee Dodson and Cathy Zimmer.

Lee Dodson is a retired professor of sociology from Rockingham Community College. Dr. George Conklin, a former president of the NCSA and its current webmaster, made the presentation at this year’s annual meeting in Charlotte, NC. This is the second award presented to Dodson by the NCSA. In 1996, the NCSA presented him its “Contributions to Sociology” award and honored him with a lifetime membership.

Lee Dodson encountered sociology during the first semester of his freshman year at Duke University when he enrolled in Ida Harper Simpson’s introductory seminar. He went on to take other courses with Kurt Bach, Joel Smith, George Maddox, and Edward Tiryakian before completing his BA in May 1974 (with a double major in sociology and religion). Dodson continued his education at Vanderbilt University where he received an MA in May 1976.

Like too many other graduates in the mid-1970s, Dodson did not immediately find a job in his field. In order to make ends meet, he worked as substitute teacher in the public schools and as a part-time copy boy and later copy editor for the Winston-Salem Sentinel. After teaching part-time at Forsyth Technical Institute for several terms, he was hired to teach at Rockingham Community College in September 1977.

During his many years at RCC, Dodson taught not only sociology courses but also courses in general anthropology, world religions, philosophy, and ethics. He was soon recruited by students to become advisor to THE ROCK, the campus newspaper, and later to both the Science Fiction Club and the Musicians’ Guild. He received a Meritorious Service Award from his students and colleagues for his work with student activities. From 1999 until 2013, Dodson performed with Campus Tradition—a quartet of college employees who enjoyed playing bluegrass, country, and gospel music. Together they recorded 3 CDs and performed in schools, nursing homes, local festivals, benefit concerts and on live radio. Dodson retired from teaching at the end of the fall semester 2013 after more than 36 years at RCC.

Dodson became a member of the North Carolina Sociological Association during the 1980s and volunteered to become the editor of its newsletter in 1987. During his time as editor, the newsletter underwent a number of transformations in both name and format. By the 1990s, Dodson began to post an electronic version of THE BULLETIN online. In 1996, the NCSA recognized his efforts on behalf of the association and presented him its “Contributions to Sociology” award and with a lifetime membership.

Dodson has always believed in the mission of the NCSA to provide a place where sociologists from a variety of institutions across the state can come together to share their interests and concerns. He has consistently tried to make the work of the NCSA and of the discipline of sociology accessible to the public as well as to professionals.

Dr. Cathy Zimmer also received a Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to sociology and NCSA. Cathy Zimmer served as a President of NCSA, as well as Treasurer tirelessly for over ten years.

In addition to her responsibilities for the NCSA, Cathy has continued to work and serve others in other professional organizations (ASA and SWS), has maintained a vibrant research and publication agenda, has taught several seminars, and continues to tutor students in quantitative
methods in her official job at the Odum Institute at UNC. She juggled all of these responsibilities whilst managing the books for NCSA, often working really long hours.

Thanks to Lee and Cathy for all of their hard work and dedication to sociology and the North Carolina Sociological Association!

Keep up with the NCSA between newsletters by joining our Facebook page!

We regularly post links to items of interest to North Carolina sociologists, along with updates about NCSA events.

Our page can be found at http://www.facebook.com/NCSOCIOLGISTS

Contact Cameron Lippard for more information (lippardcd@appstate.edu).

After-Action Report: 2014 Annual Conference

by Cameron Lippard

Not that I am biased since I organized the conference (⊙) but I thought that our 2014 NCSA Annual Conference was a blast! With our partnership with the Southern Sociological Society, we were able to have a great location and venue at the Marriott in Charlotte, North Carolina. This partnership was really successful in increasing our attendance and decreased the costs.

This conference focused on the traditions of sociology and was able to arrange 10 paper sessions with up to four papers per session, showcasing research by undergraduate and graduate students, as well as research from professionals across the state of North Carolina. We were also able to host a panel discussion on the Moral Monday demonstrations tackling recent NC legislation decisions. We also had a mini workshop on online teaching and best practices with technology. All of the sessions were well attended with a record attendance of 92 participants, which 20 more than the previous years.

Some other the highlights of the conference included:

- Two students receiving Himes Paper Awards.
- Recognizing Lee Dodson and Cathy Zimmer’s service to sociology and NCSA with Lifetime Achievement Awards.
- A great lunch and discussion of future prospects for NCSA.
- Meeting one of NCSA’s founding members, Dr. Isabelle Powell.
- Great President’s Retreat that brought together 30 folks to fellowship over great food and beverages at Rock Bottom Brewery.

It was a great pleasure to organize this conference and work with everyone to make it come off without a hitch. I particularly would like to thank Dr. Beth Davison for taking care of registration and Dr. Dave Brunsma, who helped create a great partnership with the Southern Sociological Society. I hope that we continue our traditions of bringing North Carolina students and professionals together to share ideas and talk about great what sociologists can do to address to social issues that face us in the 21st century!

A Special Visit from Dr. Isabelle Powell!

Members of the North Carolina Sociological Association received a surprise visitor to the annual meeting in Charlotte. Dr. Isabelle Powell, a founding member of the association and a former secretary/treasurer, paid a visit and shared her recollections of the early days of the association with those at the luncheon.

“I just wanted to see how well you’d kept things going,” the ninety-year-old Dr. Powell told the audience. “There were times when we weren’t sure the association would make it—but we did!” she added with glee.

Powell shared her recollections of some of the founding members: Joe Himes, David Pratto, Catherine Harris, Vaneeta D’Andrea, and George Conklin. She and Conklin joked about the early computer system (an Apple II) used to keep track of the membership.

Students Win Himes Award

At the 2014 conference, two students were awarded with the Himes Paper Awards. This award recognizes outstanding research and writing by sociology undergraduate and graduate students. The winners were:

Mimi Bergman (undergraduate) - Wake Forest University
Kristin Sumpter (graduate) – University of North Carolina - Wilmington.

Congrats!!
New *Sociation Today* Issue!

*by* George Conklin

I am pleased to announce the release of the Fall/Winter edition of *Sociation Today*, www.sociationtoday.org. The direct link is: http://www.ncsociology.org/sociationtoday/v122/outline24.html

The issue contains an important article by Steve McNamee. The article updates his observations on The Myth of Meritocracy, which was published 10 years ago now. The article in *Sociation Today* has been cited more than 200 times and also is reproduced in several course packages. The update by Steve shows how little has changed.

There is also an article on Du Bois, and an essay on bullying in rural areas (actually show a higher rate in early grades than urban areas), and the results of a pilot study to predict problems in the juvenile justice system. Lastly, there is a review of the book “David and Goliath,” with a focus on his discussion of how patterns of STEM majors works out in the United States. It turns out that Harvard and Hartwick College each have similar patterns, despite the large difference in SAT scores. Enjoy the issue.

**SOCIATION TODAY**

Call for Papers

George Conklin
Editor, *SOCIATION TODAY*

Articles may be submitted at any time. Articles should be sent to the webmaster, George Conklin (gconklin@nccu.edu).

A cumulative, searchable index of *SOCIATION TODAY* is available from the Directory of Open Access Journals.

Hope to see everyone at the 2015 NCSA Conference in Raleigh, NC!