



WSSA NEWS

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Scholarship - Service - Collegiality

wssa.asu.edu

Volume 41, Number 2

FALL 2009

TOP 10 Q's & A's : Why You Gotta Be In Reno In April 2010



Photo of Reno

By Gil Fowler,
President-Elect



While many of you may not have been “boy scouts” or “girl scouts”, “brownies” or “cubs” you have probably heard the scout motto of “Be Prepared.” And we want to help you “get prepared” for the 52nd Western Social Science Association Convention being held in Reno, Nevada this spring.

And at that time more than 700 educators and social scientists will gather at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino Hotel in Reno to share stories, learn about new areas of interest and concerns, and to just enjoy collegial fellowship. And we want to help you get ready for that experience.

Reno, the third largest city in the state lies 26 miles north of the Nevada state capital, Carson City, and 22 miles northeast of

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Live Life, Learn To Love, and Leave a Legacy: Reflections of Leadership

By Phadrea Ponds, Immediate Past President



There are certain qualities of leadership that were important one hundred years ago – and will still be important one hundred years from today. Elements such as demonstrating integrity, leading by example, creating a vision, motivating people, and developing talent, were important in the past and will be important as long as there is a professional working society. A true leader has the best for others in mind.

Service is probably one of the most appreciated leadership traits. Leaders who have their minds set on the needs of oth-

ers usually are successful. True leaders are also more interested in helping others to become empowered, and they have the desire to make a difference in the lives of those who follow them. When I started thinking of the leadership skills I needed to be an effective president of this Association, I started to think of the things that most impressed me about the most effective leaders I knew.

As we go through life, we are very lucky if we come across a few great leaders, who truly have a lasting impact on our lives. I have been more than lucky; I have been blessed to have one such person in my life. That person is Dr. Berton (Lee) Lamb. Lee was one of

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WSSA Coordinator's Corner

By Elizabeth Keith

St. Mary's University

This essay is intended to share with other section coordinators and the general membership the processes and procedures we used to put together program panels for the 2009 American Indian Studies (AIS) Section. My name is Elizabeth Keith and my co-coordinator is Dr. Thomas Hoffman.

First, let me say that we found our section coordinator work to be a very enjoyable experience. This was due in part to the excellent instructions and directions we received from Jack Hou, the Program Coordinator. Also, because of Dr. Hoffman's long time

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Indigenous Gaming

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Basques in Reno

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Behind the Scenes

New Manager for the Social Science Journal

By N. Prabha Unnithan, Journal Editor



During the *Social Science Journal's* stay at the Department of Sociology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins under the editorship of Prabha Unnithan, it has been managed by the following outstanding individuals:

Carla Flanhofer (now a high school teacher with the Boulder Valley School District); Chelsea Schelly (now a Sociology doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison); and, Christine Wheatley (who will soon be joining the Sociology doctoral program at the University of Texas-Austin).

Beginning this Fall, *SSJ's* manager position will be occupied by Susan Singley, a recent MA graduate from CSU's Sociology Department. She will handle all tasks associated with manuscript flow and manage the review process as well as coordinate with *SSJ's* publisher, Elsevier on all matters relating to producing journal issues.

Gary Linn to Serve as Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention



Have you ever wanted to inquire about starting a new WSSA section or increasing participation in your current section? Gary Linn from Tennessee State University, former Council member and co-chair of the Chronic Disease and Disability section, is your point of contact. Gary will be serving as the new Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention. In this role, he will report to the Council President and Executive Director. His duties will be to:

1. Monitor the performance of each section (i.e. number of sessions/presenters at annual meeting) and report findings to fall and spring meetings.
2. Follow-up on Council recommendations regarding sections that need to be revitalized (i.e., more sessions at annual meeting and increased participation).
3. Serve as a point of contact for WSSA members who desire to form a new section. Inform them of the procedures and solicit information and presentations of new section concepts to the Council.
4. Serve as an interim section coordinator for sections that have unexpectedly lost their coordinator or have a coordinator who cannot function due to health problems.

Gary can be reached at jlinn87844@aol.com or 615-415-6943. He looks forward to hearing your ideas and working with you to build stronger WSSA sections.

WSSA NEWS

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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 \$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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President's Soapbox

By Jack Hou, President, 2009-2010

In mid-summer, four past-Presidents of the WSSA, Larry Gould (our Executive Director) and I sequestered ourselves for two days in a hotel room in Denver. It was grueling work, but we reconstructed the WSSA Five-year Strategic Plan, and thoroughly updated our Constitution to reflect the current WSSA. We are now embarking on the 52nd year of the Association, yet we continue to struggle with our identity and our mission.

It is clearly stated in the Preamble of our Constitution that we "establish this organization as the Western Social Science Association, which shall be guided by this constitution". . . "to foster professional study, advance research and promote the teaching of the social sciences in our institutions of higher learning". . . This seems clear enough, yet how do we identify ourselves to our colleagues in our own narrow disciplines and to colleagues of the broader social sciences?

We all have experienced our colleagues choosing to attend the national (or regional) conferences of our discipline instead of the WSSA. Given the recent events that have led to the dissipation of travel funds, this will be a major challenge for the WSSA for the next few years, at least. What to do, what to do?

We know we have a wonderful Association. We know we have a high quality conference. We know we are a group of passionate and cordial scholars. We know we foster the development of young scholars and students. We know all of these things. Even more so, we want to share what we have with the rest of our colleagues so they too can enjoy what we have come to know.

I call upon all WSSA members to identify ourselves as

the Association that fosters interdisciplinary studies and to promote our annual conference as the ideal arena to expand one's scope of research by attending sessions outside of our disciplines. The WSSA Annual Conference is large enough to contain sessions of interest at any given time slot, yet small enough to be personable. This provides the perfect setting for a scholar to venture out of his narrow discipline and attend sessions of other disciplines to get ideas and inspiration, and to identify inter-disciplinary collaborators.

We economists have often been accused of being obsessed with quantitative analysis and not spending enough time on social issues. That may be true for economists in other associations, but in the WSSA we display a strong social science bent, just like our colleagues in the various other social sciences. My research has encompassed history, sociology, political science, and geography, just to name a few. As such, I have benefitted tremendously from my 18 years in the WSSA.

Once again, please join me in identifying ourselves as scholars interested in understanding the various aspects of the society we live in, trying to understand the many perspectives of the complex world around us, working hard to find solutions to the problems that inevitably exist in any human interaction. Please promote the WSSA and our Conference as the ideal place to foster interdisciplinary understanding and collaboration. Please invite your friends, colleagues, and students to join the WSSA and to participate in the 52nd Annual Conference.

Simply pass along our web address: wssa.asu.edu

And, see you in Reno, site of our Conference in 2010 (**Grand Sierra Resort, Reno Nevada, April 14-17, 2010**) !

PRESIDENTIAL SOAPBOX



Registration Note

By Kate Herke, Conference Manager

Reminder to Presenters:

All presenters must register by March 10, 2009.

Reminder to All Attendees : Early registration and, especially, early hotel reservations, are important in keeping our costs down, and in ensuring that we are able to order appropriate amounts of refreshments and use our break-out rooms to best effect.

Registration Dates

March 28, 2010: deadline date for online pre-registration.
March 29 – April 8, 2010: late pre-registration with \$10 price increase.
April 09 -13, 2010: no registration.
April 14, 2010: on-site registration begins at 3:00 PM

Registration Prices

Regular

◇WSSA Members, \$75 ◇Non-WSSA-members, \$105

Students (without full-time employment)

◇WSSA Members, \$45 ◇Non-WSSA-members \$55

Retirees (no longer employed full-time in field)

◇WSSA Members \$55 ◇Non-WSSA-members \$65

Non-presenting Spouse/Partner/Guest

◇ \$25

Please note that those coming from countries other than the U.S.A. should register on-line rather than using the paper form, as it is often very difficult to process checks in other currencies.



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Western Social Science Association CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

WIN FOR WRITING

**BOTH UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS
ARE ELIGIBLE**

You can win **\$500**, a free one-year subscription to the *Social Science Journal*, free conference registration at the WSSA's 2010 annual conference, and the opportunity to present your paper at the conference, held in **Reno, Nevada, April 14-17**.

HOW TO WIN

Papers are judged based on a) advancement of knowledge, b) appropriateness for a broad social science audience, c) quality and implementation of 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. Authors of excellent papers that are not chosen for the award are eligible to receive a certificate of honorable mention.

Paper Requirements

- **Papers cannot exceed 25 pages (which include bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials).** Abstracts and cover sheets do not count as part of the 25 page maximum.
- **Papers longer than the 25 page maximum will not be read (strictly enforced).**
- All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt Arial font.
- Papers may not be theses or dissertations previously presented or published.
- **Submissions must be endorsed in writing by a professor in the entrant's field of study.**
- Authors may wish to consult the *Social Science Journal's* style guide for formatting information.

Papers must be received on or before **January 15, 2010**. Please clearly indicate (**on the COVER page ONLY**) **undergraduate or graduate status**, institutional affiliation, address, phone number and e-mail address. Send an e-mail copy (Word or rich text) to:

Dr. Leila J. Pratt
E-mail: Leila-Pratt@utc.edu
Fax: (423) 425-4138
UTC - Department 7006
615 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga TN 37403

The Prize:

The winner of the best paper award receives a cash prize of \$500, a free conference registration at the 2010 conference in Albuquerque, and a one-year free WSSA membership (which includes the *Social Science Journal*). Congratulatory letters from the WSSA President-Elect will be sent to the students' department chairs, deans, provosts and any other administrators at the students' home institutions. Those who come to the WSSA conference to present their work will receive up to two nights' hotel accommodation.

Paper Requirements

For more detailed paper formatting requirements, see the "Student Paper Competition" on our website, wssa.asu.edu, linked from the "Conferences" page.

Professors' Letters of Recommendation should be sent to:

Dr. Leila J. Pratt
UTC - Department 7006
615 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga TN 37403

Or faxed to:
(423) 425-4138

Kudos, Laurels, & Milestones

Laurels Scott Carson, Professor of Economics, University of Texas, Permian Basin, won the School of Business's Award for Outstanding Research, and won the President's Award for Outstanding Research. (Submitted by *Kate Herke, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance*)

Kudos Orn Bodvarsson, Past-President of WSSA, has a new book out, "The Economics of Immigration, Theory and Policy". Written as both a reference for researchers and a textbook on the economics of immigration, it is aimed at two audiences: (1) researchers who are interested in learning more about how economists approach the study of human migration flows; and (2) graduate students taking a course on migration or labor economics. (Submitted by *Larry Gould, Northern Arizona University*)

Milestone Dr. Lillie Fears, Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, was promoted to the rank of Professor of Journalism effective July 1, 2009. (Submitted by *Gil Fowler, Arkansas State University*)

Kudos Jack Hou, Professor of Economics, CSU-Long Beach, was invited to Taiwan for a special 2-day symposium on East Asia's response to the financial crisis. This event was sponsored by the Asia Development bank, and Jack was the ONLY speaker invited from outside of East Asia. The talk will be entitled "Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Asia's Industrial Structure and Firm Activities". (Submitted by *Kate Herke, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance*)

Milestone Dennis Catlin, former member of the WSSA Council and former Section Coordinator for Criminal Justice and Criminology, has been appointed Chair of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Department at Northern Arizona University. He accepted the appointment, with the overwhelming approval of the department, and assumed his new duties on July 1, 2009. (Submitted by *Larry Gould, Northern Arizona University*)

Milestone Scott Carson, Department of Economics, University of Texas, Permian Basin, made the rank of Full Professor this year. (Submitted by *Kate Herke, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance*)

Milestone Marianne Nielsen, long time member of WSSA, has accepted an appointment as Chair of Applied Indigenous Studies at Northern Arizona University. (Submitted by *Larry Gould, Northern Arizona University*)

Milestone Orn Bodvarsson was appointed as the Chair for the Department of Management, the largest department at St. Cloud State University. (Submitted by *Jack Hou, California State University at Long Beach*)

Milestone Alex Steenstra, a long time member in the Economics Section, has moved from the University of Waikato in New Zealand to the Yuma Branch Campus of Northern Arizona University. Alex accepted the position of Department Chair of the new Business Administration Program just started on the Branch Campus. (Submitted by *Larry Gould, Northern Arizona University*)

T.H. Baughman, Professor, Department of History & Geography, University of Central Oklahoma, & WSSA History Section coordinator, led the CaSTLE group to Europe. This program, sponsored by the provost at the University of Central Oklahoma, trained six faculty members with content expertise to lead a study abroad course, taking them every step along the way from first idea through completion of the program. The faculty and students that made the trip completed the project in March, 2009.

Dr. Rita Ross, Assistant Director and Academic Coordinator, Canadian Studies, UC Berkeley, as President of the Western Canadian Studies Association, has hosted two one-day symposia entitled "Canadian Studies: On the Edge," during the 2008-2009 academic year. These interdisciplinary events at Arizona State University and UC Davis will be followed on October 9, 2009, by a symposium at USC. Please contact Rita at rjross@berkeley for further information.

Gary Linn, Associate Professor, Tennessee State University, and Thabo Fako recently published the article "Sexual Activity, Knowledge about HIV/AIDS and Willingness to Test for HIV Among Young People in Botswana" in the *Journal of Community and Health Sciences*, which is the research journal of the Faculty of the Community and Health Sciences of the University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

N. Prabha Unnithan, Professor of Sociology, Colorado State University, and Editor of the *Social Science Journal* (official journal of WSSA) published a book co-authored with Mark Pogrebin and Paul Stretesky entitled "Guns, Violence and Criminal Behavior." The book was published by Lynne Rienner Publishers of Boulder, Colorado.

Cynthia Klima, Associate Professor of German, Slavic and Humanities, SUNY-Geneseo, was recognized for 15 years of service to the university. In addition, she was elected by the student members of the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society for honorary membership. From May 17-June 15, 2009, Dr. Klima led a group of 23 students on a 4-week Humanities trip to Prague, Czech Republic, and Vienna, Austria. Among the many venues, students visited the Theresienstadt concentration camp, Kutna hora silver mines and the Sigmund Freud Museum.

Tom Hoffman, St. Mary's University, chaired the undergraduate core curriculum revision committee during the 2008-2009 academic year. After the committee got the approval of the faculty, the academic administration, and the University Executive Council, in April, 2009, St. Mary's Board of Trustees accepted the committee's proposed overhaul of the entire undergraduate core curriculum.

Leila J. Pratt, Professor of Economics, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, was nominated by the mayor and unanimously approved by the Chattanooga City Council to serve a four year term on the Wastewater Regulations and Appeals Board. This board is charged with setting wastewater discharge guidelines and sewer rates and with hearing appeals of violations to the wastewater code from industrial users.



Indigenous Gaming and the Politics of Perception¹

By Jeff Corntassel, University of Victoria



As we make our way to Reno, Nevada for the April 2010 meeting of the WSSA, the first image that usually comes to mind of this “biggest little city in the world” is casinos. After all, Reno is where Harrah’s Entertainment got its start seventy-two years ago before becoming “the world’s largest provider of branded casino entertainment”.² In addition to running casinos in Egypt, Uruguay, and South Africa, Harrah’s has

also established partnerships with four Indigenous nations in the U.S. to manage casinos on native homelands.³ Since negotiating its first partnership agreement with the Ak-Chin Indian Community (Arizona) in 1994, Harrah’s has entered into management agreements with three other Indigenous nations: the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (North Carolina), the Rincon San Luiseño Band of Mission Indians (California), and the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation (Kansas).

This diversification of gaming interests by corporations such as Harrah’s demonstrates that the nature of casino gaming has changed dramatically in the U.S. with the passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) in 1988. As a reflection of this, in 2008, Reno gaming experts claimed that the expansion of Indigenous casinos in California would “seriously impact the economic future of the Reno, Nevada, gambling market.”⁴

IGRA requires that Indigenous governments negotiate compacts or legal contracts with state governments before beginning casino-style, or class III, gaming operations on Native homelands.

Today, approximately 240 (43 %) of the 562 federally recognized Indigenous nations engage in some form of gaming by operating more than 400 casinos and bingo halls throughout 28 states. Incidentally, while there are approximately seventeen First Nations’ casinos currently operating in Canada, they haven’t been as prevalent as in the U.S., often due to jurisdictional and revenue-sharing disputes with provincial and federal authorities.⁵ However, there have been success stories, such as Casino Rama on Mnjikaning First Nation territory (Ontario), which opened in 1996 and is currently managed by Penn National Gaming, Inc.

Despite the current economic crisis, U.S. Indigenous gaming revenue in 2008 totaled \$26.7 billion, which was an increase of 2.3 % from the prior year.⁶ On the other hand, general commercial and racetrack casino sectors (excluding Indigenous gaming) experienced a 3.4 % decline in gaming revenues in 2008, generating a total of \$36.2 billion. These statis-

tics can be misleading, however, as the global economic downturn has negatively impacted Indigenous casino profits in several regions. For example, the Foxwoods Resort and Casino operated by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and the Mohegan Sun operated by the Mohegan Tribe in Connecticut reported slot revenues of \$1.6 billion in 2008, representing a drop of about 7 % from 2007.⁷ Seneca Gaming, which operates three Class III casinos in upstate New York, reported an 8.7 % decline in the third quarter and an almost 10 % decline in the fourth quarter of 2008. Indigenous casinos in California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado also showed significant declines in gaming revenue towards the end of 2008.

Even amidst a financial crisis, Indigenous nations are increasingly likely to exert their influence and utilize their resources in the U.S. electoral process through lobbying, voting and other forms of political mobilization. For example, Indigenous nation soft money donations to political parties have spiked up dramatically since 1988, from \$113,671 in 1992 to \$10,257,230 in 2008.⁸ Yet these figures require some context. Even though lobbying has been a diplomatic strategy that Indigenous nations have engaged in since first contact with colonial powers, their recent increase in lobbying expenditures is often regarded with suspicion and, on some occasions, led to increased regulatory oversight by federal, state and local policymakers. However, lobbying undertaken by countries, corporations, and other organizations continues unabated. As a point of comparison to Indigenous lobbying efforts, in 2004, California spent \$154,969,269 on lobbying activities.⁹

New Casino Pit Boss Stereotypes

While most Indigenous nations operating casinos break even under the best of economic circumstances (fewer than 20% of Indigenous nations operating casinos generate about 70% of the \$26.7 billion in revenues), there are widespread public perceptions of Native peoples as wealthy and/or holding “special” privileges or rights. Images of “rich” Indigenous peoples are now a widespread and recognizable feature of U.S. popular culture. Despite the fact that indigenous nations engage in several other forms of economic development (eco-tourism, agriculture, motor fuels, tobacco sales, etc.), the general public appears fixated on the existence and success of Indigenous gaming operations.

The public fascination with Indigenous gaming has led to the creation of new stereotypes of Indigenous peoples as “pit bosses” and “casino dwellers” that have even made their way into high school history textbooks. According to a systematic review of widely used U.S. history textbooks in high school classes by researcher Jeffrey Hawkins, contemporary portrayals of Indigenous peoples in these textbooks tend to be “in association with casino gaming or gambling, and appears to replace or reinforce previously determined stereotypes.”¹⁰ Such stereotypes run counter to the lived realities of Indigenous peoples as self-determining, treaty-based nations in existence long before

the formation of the United States.

Anthropologist Kate Spilde refers to the post-IGRA phenomenon as one of “rich Indian racism,” where false images related to indigenous gaming are created and propagated by governmental and media entities.¹¹ These stereotypes motivate and enable state policymakers to deny indigenous self-determination in two interrelated ways: (1) By insisting that Indigenous nations prove that they still need self-determining authority/sovereignty in order to be self-sufficient and (2) By challenging the “authenticity” of Indigenous nations who operate casinos, thus undermining their claims to political independence.

Consequently, rich Indian racism places Indigenous peoples in a precarious position, where they constantly have to justify their existence both in terms of the legitimacy of their self-determination powers and proof of the “authenticity” of their identities. An example of this mentality in action took place during Arnold Schwarzenegger’s 2003 gubernatorial election campaign in California, which ran on the platform of “It’s time for them [indigenous nations] to pay their fair share.” As former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, Wilma Mankiller, has observed, “Perception is as much of a threat as anti-sovereignty legislation. We have to regain control of our image.”¹²

So how do Indigenous nations regain control over our image? It’s much more than initiating a public relations campaign – it’s ultimately about cross-cultural education. For example, after the police raid of the Narragansett Tribe’s Smoke Shop in 2003, the nation transformed the shop into the Narragansett Sovereignty Protection Headquarters. People in the shop educated the public about Narragansett history and nationhood while selling T-shirts proclaiming “Sovereignty” and “Homeland Security: Fighting terrorism since 1492. In support of the Narragansett Tribe, July 14, 2003.” My own nation (Cherokee Nation), which operates seven casinos throughout Oklahoma, developed a Cherokee Nation History course that helps debunk common misperceptions about Cherokee culture and contemporary self-determination struggles. As with other Indigenous nations running casinos, the Cherokees have also begun printing informative brochures entitled *Where the Casino Money Goes*. In 2008, for example, forty percent of the Cherokee casino income (\$174 million) went toward operating expenses, while thirty percent of the money (\$131.7 million) went towards employee payrolls (most of whom are Cherokees). Another twenty-six percent (\$116 million) went towards new job creation and services for Cherokee elders, youths and communities and the final four percent (\$18.9 million) was earmarked for gaming compact fees with the state. As these figures and the long histories of Indigenous nations suggest, gaming was never meant to be the main engine for all Indigenous economic development – it is only one pathway that Indigenous nations choose to implement based on their self-determining authority.

So as you finish reading this article, what are some of the first images that come to mind when you think of Indigenous peoples today? Your answer will reflect the work we have

ahead in taking back our futures as Indigenous peoples and representing ourselves on our own terms.

For further reading:

1. Belanger, Yale. *Gambling with the Future: The Evolution of Aboriginal Gaming in Canada* (Purich Publishing Limited, 2006).
2. Bruyneel, Kevin. *The Third Space of Sovereignty: The Postcolonial Politics of US-Indigenous Relations* (University of Minnesota, 2007).
3. Cattelino, Jessica. *High Stakes: Florida Seminole Gaming and Sovereignty* (Duke University Press, 2008).
4. Corntassel, Jeff. *Forced Federalism: Contemporary Challenges to Indigenous Nationhood* (University of Oklahoma, 2008).

Endnotes

- 1 This article is based on findings from my book, *Forced Federalism: Contemporary Challenges to Indigenous Nationhood* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2008).
- 2 Harrah’s has a workforce of over 85,000 employees according to the Harrah’s Entertainment website, available at: <http://www.harrahs.com/harrahs-corporate/>
- 3 I often get asked for the “best way” to refer to native peoples in the U.S. My response is that it is best to make reference to a specific nation’s preferred community designation (ie. Cherokee Nation) since none of the terms attempting to blend all indigenous people into a single category are adequate. Some researchers and indigenous peoples themselves make a case for preferring some terms, such as “Native American,” over others, such as “tribe.” However, terms like “Native American” are imprecise in that they include Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawai’ians) as well as referring to all Indigenous peoples residing within the entire continent of the Americas. For the purposes of this paper, I refer to indigenous nations by their preferred community designations whenever possible but understand that group members may self-identify using broader terms, such as “Native” or “Indigenous,” to place their identities in a wider context.
- 4 “Tribal casinos pose major threat to Reno,” April 4, 2008. International Gaming and Wagering Business. Accessed at: http://www.igwb.com/CDA/Articles/Headlines/BNP_GUID_9-5-2006_A_1000000000000302430
- 5 For more on this see Yale Belanger, *Gambling with the Future: The Evolution of Aboriginal Gaming in Canada* (Purich Publishing Limited, 2006).
- 6 “NIGC Announces 2008 Revenues”, June 3, 2009. National Indian Gaming Commission. Accessed at: <http://www.nigc.gov/ReadingRoom/PressReleases/PressReleasesMain/PR113062009/tabid/918/Default.aspx>
- 7 “2008 National Commercial Casino & Racino Gaming Revenue Analysis”, accessed at: <http://casinodiv.com/revisedsitework/homepage/2008National.pdf>
- 8 “Indian Gaming: Long-Term Contribution Trends”, Accessed at: <http://www.opensecrets.org/industries/indus.php?ind=G6550>
- 9 The Center for Public Integrity, “Lobby Watch”, accessed at: <http://projects.publicintegrity.org/lobby/profile.aspx?act=states&st=CA>
- 10 Jeffrey Hawkins. 2005. “Smoke Signals, Sitting Bulls and Slot Machines: A New Stereotype of Native Americans?” *Multicultural Perspectives*, 7(3): 51-54.
- 11 Kate Spilde. “Acts of Sovereignty, Acts of Identity: Negotiating Interdependence through Tribal Government Gaming on the White Earth Indian Reservation.” PhD diss. University of California, Santa Cruz, 1998.
- 12 Indianz.com. “Mankiller Says Perception a Threat to Sovereignty,” June 16, 2005, <http://indianz.com/News/2005/008785.asp>





Vine Deloria, Jr. at Bellingham, WA. 2005

WSSA – American Indian Studies

CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS

**BOTH UNDERGRADUATE AND
GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE
ELIGIBLE**

The **Vine Deloria, Jr. American Indian Studies Student Paper Award** will be given for the best paper submitted. The award will be \$500.

Criteria for Best Paper¹

Papers are evaluated based on a) advancement of knowledge, b) appropriateness for an American Indian Studies audience (broadly defined), c) theoretical foundations, d) analytical/critical thinking, e) writing skills, and f) research methods (if applicable). Undergraduate and graduate papers are evaluated separately.

Paper Requirements

- **Papers cannot exceed 25 pages (which include bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials).** Abstracts and cover sheets do not count as part of the 25 page maximum.
- **Papers longer than the 25 page maximum will not be read (strictly enforced).**
- All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt font.
- Papers may not be theses or dissertations previously presented or published.
- Authors may wish to consult the *Social Science Journal's* style guide for formatting information.

Papers must be received on or before **December 15, 2009**.

Please clearly indicate (**on the COVER page ONLY**) Name, undergraduate or graduate status, institutional affiliation, address, phone number and e-mail address. Send an e-mail copy (Word) to:

Dr. Thomas J. Hoffman

E-mail: dr_tomh@swbell.net

PLEASE POST

¹ Students who wish to present their papers at the WSSA conference in April, 2010 in Reno need to submit a separate proposal for presentation to dr_tomh@swbell.net by December 1, 2009. Go to <http://wssa.asu.edu/> for further information on the conference.

Basques in Reno

By Cynthia A. Klima, SUNY-Geneseo



In 1996, I attended our annual WSSA conference which took place in Reno, Nevada, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. The name "Ascuaga" is Basque and the Basque restaurant Restaurante Orozko

is located in the Nugget (see below for address and telephone number). I thought it was interesting to learn that there were indeed many Basques living in the areas of Reno. In fact, it turns out that there are thousands of descendants of Basques living in the American West. Their history is rich, their culture is filled with song, dance and food and their contribution to the development of the United States dates clear back to 1492.

But what are "Basques?" In his work "The Basques of Reno and Northeastern Sierra Nevada", Dr. Joxe Mallea-Oleatxe states that recent DNA reports have pinpointed Central Asia as the origin of the Basques.ⁱ They immigrated into the Pyrenees over 35,000 years ago and brought with them their culture and strong work ethic. In medieval Spain, the Basques became an economic force and were involved in many business venues. The most well-known of these venues is Basque participation in Columbus' discovery of America in 1492 aboard the Santa Maria. It was then that the Basques made contact with the New World, bringing their skills as sheepherders with them. In the year 1598, the future state of New Mexico was colonized by Juan Oñate. He brought the first domesticated sheep into the American Southwest.ⁱⁱ Further emigration by Franciscan friars who built missions, and subsequent Basque migration into the area of San Francisco during the years 1775-76, added to the Basque population in the American West. In addition, the Basques were attracted by the California goldrush in 1849, the discovery of silver in the area of Virginia City in 1859 and the subsequent development of the railroad. The American West became an inviting area for the Basques, and the Sierras, with their climate and altitude, assisted the Basques in their art of sheepherding. If one is lucky, one can

run across some of the 30,000 arborglyphs (tree carvings) on the Aspen trees in the mountains. The Basque shepherds recorded their history and left behind drawings depicting their experiences as well as their every-day activities.

The Basque language is certainly unusual and is not related to any Indo-European language. In fact, it is so unique, it is currently placed by many scholars into a family of its own. The language, called Euskara, may be related to the Berber languages of Africa or even to the Quechua of Latin America.ⁱⁱⁱ These are but theories and the origin of the language remains as unusual as the origin of the Basques themselves. The language and the culture are certainly tied together. In the past years, the popularity of the Basque language has grown in the United States and many descendents of Basques are choosing to learn the language of their heritage. On Easter Sunday, the festival Aberri Aguna is celebrated as a Basque national heritage holiday in the Basque area of the Pyrenees. In the United States, a festival takes place in New York City for Aberri Aguna and, on July 4-5, there is a large Basque festival in Elko, Nevada.^{iv}

The Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada-Reno offers studies in the Basque language as well as a study abroad program in San Sebastián. UNR has also collected a large number of oral histories that are available on-line. These oral histories reflect the interesting background of many newer Basque immigrants as well as descendents of sheepherders. Language courses in elementary through intermediate Basque are regularly scheduled at the university in addition to various courses on Basque culture and history. There is also a large photo collection of arborglyphs available for viewing in case one cannot make it up into the Sierras to see them in person.

Should anyone be interested in sampling Basque hospitality and food in the Reno area, I have listed several possibilities below. Hotels were an especially attractive business for the Basques to own, as they helped to house new immigrants into the American West and allowed the Basques to keep their culture intact via their hotel restaurants. You will

not be disappointed with the paella, brochette, roast lamb or tasty sheep cheese. I hope that you will be able to venture to one of the venues below to obtain a taste of the Basque culture.

Louis' Basque Corner
301 E. 4th Street
Reno, Nevada 89512
Tele: (775) 323-7203

Restaurante Orozko
John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel
1100 Nugget Avenue
Sparks, Nevada 89431
Tele: (775) 356-3300 Ext. 4232

Sante Fe Hotel (serves a unique Basque cocktail called "Picon Punch")
235 N. Lake St.
Reno, Nevada 89501
Tele: (775) 323-1891

Further information:

Amerikanuak: Basques in the New World by William A. Douglass and Jon Bilbao. Reno: University of Nevada Press, 2005.

The Basques of Reno and the Northeastern Sierra Nevada by Joxe Mallea-Oleatxe. South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2009.

Websites:

<http://www.basque.unr.edu/> - Center for Basque Studies with samples of arborglyphs and oral histories.

<http://www.nabasque.org/index.htm> - North American Basque Organizations. This site contains information on festivals and general Basque information in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

i Mallea-Oleatxe, Juan. The Basques of Reno and Northeastern Sierra Nevada. Charleston SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2009. See back cover of work.

ii Mallea-Oleatxe 2.

iii For further information on the language, see the University of Nevada-Reno website at <http://basque.unr.edu/16/16.1t/16.1.1.faqsl.htm>

iv For further information on Basque festivals, see the following website: http://www.nabasque.org/Pages/nabo_news.htm



Behind the Scenes

By Larry A. Gould, Executive Director



What does it take to keep an organization like WSSA running? The organization as a whole, not just the Annual Conference, although that is a huge task in itself. The Annual Conference planning starts about five years prior to the Conference, with the selection of the site. The real work of planning begins in the September prior to the Conference meeting in April, and it involves about

50 people with a variety of assignments, each critical the success of the Conference. These include the WSSA officers and Council, the 40+ section coordinators, all those who arrange special panels and the various affiliate activities, the conference manager, and the student workers.

Much of the work that goes into creating an excellent conference goes on behind the scenes and is never noticed or recognized by the members or attendees. This is as it should be! We want you to be able to focus on the important academic work that you present at the conference.

There is, however, another level of planning done on an annual basis, in which we attempt to look into the future and predict the needs of the Association. Again, very few people are actually aware of the work that occurs at this level, all of it necessary to keep WSSA running smoothly. This level of planning includes development and review of a business plan, growth of future leaders, revitalization of our strategic plan, review and, when necessary, revitalization of our constitution, and a constant review of the academic scene to insure that WSSA is meeting the goals set forth in its mission statement.

How does this happen? First, through the efforts of a dedicated set of officers and board members on the WSSA Executive Council. The Council meets for two days in the Fall to review processes, accept and review financial reports, and strategize for the future. The Council also meets the day before the Annual Conference to make final preparations for the conference, review the Journal and Book Editors' reports, and, amazingly enough, to start the initial planning for the next conference. Also included in the work done during the Spring meeting is development of the WSSA News, review of relationships with affiliates, and a report from the Executive Director. It is much like running a corporation.

The work does not stop there. It is often the case that either the Council members or some members at large are charged with committee responsibilities that take place between the meetings. A most recent example of this was a meeting held in Denver, Colorado, at which four past presidents (Orn Bodvarsson, Phadrea Ponds, Diane Calloway-Graham, Nina Burkardt), the current President, Jack Hou, and

the Executive Director, Larry Gould, met for two days to draft a new strategic plan, rewrite the constitution and start on the drafting of an operations manual. These documents when they are completed, reviewed by Council and approved by the appropriate authorities, will guide the Association for at least a decade.

So . . . as you are enjoying the opportunity to either deliver a paper at the Annual Meeting or listen to the prepared works of your colleagues take a moment to remember that behind every cup of coffee, behind the smiling faces at the registration table, behind the Conference Program, behind all of the work that makes WSSA, a success there are dozens of people working hundreds of hours to make it happen, and then repeat the work again in the next year.

Council Decisions, April 2009

- ▶ Larry Gould, WSSA Executive Director, past Presidents Jack Hou and Jim Peach and current president Gil Fowler will meet this summer to develop a mission statement and five year strategic plan for WSSA. These documents will be presented to the Executive Council for their consideration at the fall meeting.
- ▶ The Council created a new position, Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention, with a three-year term. The first coordinator will be Gary Linn, Tennessee State University.
- ▶ The new due date for election ballot returns will be approximately January 15, to facilitate putting the election results into the Spring issues of the *WSSA News*.
- ▶ Stephen K. Shaw, Northwest Nazarene University, and Yohannes Woldmariam, University of Massachusetts, will be the new Section Coordinators for the Political Science section.
- ▶ Stephan Paul Edwards, of the University of Montana-Missoula, will be the section coordinator for the Anthropology section.
- ▶ The Council gave the Newsletter Editor permission to solicit articles outside of the Council.
- ▶ We will begin putting a "Suggestion Box" in a prominent location at the conference registration areas, and encourage suggestions on specific targets.
- ▶ WSSA will provide some support for attendance of officers at some other conferences, as part of our marketing efforts.

WSSA COORDINATOR'S CORNER

By Elizabeth Keith
St. Mary's University

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

association with the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) AIS Section as well as other Native American groups and Associations, he had accumulated a sizable email list.

We met in mid-May to make plans and lay out a schedule for our tasks. A key component was that we meet on a regular basis, usually a few hours each week, to check our progress and be sure we stayed on track.

The first task was to reconcile the names and email addresses on Dr. Hoffman's lists. Then we did on-line research for the names and email addresses for faculty and staff associated with various university Native American Studies Programs and relevant social science departments, including those of Native American Colleges and Tribal Councils. Those names were added to and reconciled with the original mailing lists, thereby giving us a wealth of potential program participants.

Our next step was to send out an informal call for proposals in mid-June. This allowed us to introduce ourselves and acquaint participants with the process for submitting proposals. Attached to each email were instructions for preparing abstract, of no more than 200 words, and places to indicate their particular audio-visual needs and if they were willing to serve as panel moderators. We sent out requests for proposals in August and October and a final reminder in November. The deadline for submission was December 1. The August and October letters included a note requesting recipients to share the message with others in their institutions, departments and councils, etc. Also included was information regarding dates and location for the upcoming conference and a link directing recipients to the WSSA web page for registration and related information. We encouraged recipients to organize complete session(s) or panel(s), providing the panel topic and 3 or 4 participants and a moderator. We also asked recipients to encourage their students to participate in the student paper competition and stressed the cash award and certificate.

Between June and November 30 we received, reviewed and responded to numerous questions concerning procedures for participation, provided backup to participants trying to put together a panel of related topics, and coordinated with other sections for cross listings. All activities were reported to the Program Coordinator on a regular basis. By mid-September we began receiving abstracts. Although at this point we had no way of knowing how many or what types of panels we would eventually have, we prepared a template for the AIS Section Program, set up according to the format outlined in the Section Coordinator Handbook. Once all the abstracts had been submitted and panels named and assigned, the information was typed into the prepared template. It was important to start this process early because printed copies of the section program and abstracts were required to be completed and emailed to the Program Coordinator by December 15.

To build our panels, we used an old corkboard, about 4' x 6', index cards and thumb tacks. On this board we outlined the days and times for each proposed panel. For example, Panel 1: Animal Peoples could be held on Thursday, from 8:00 to 9:30am. Each proposal's title and description was placed on a separate card. Cards with thematically similar subjects were placed together, a moderator and panel name were assigned, a day and time were designated, discussants were identified, and the cards were pinned to the board. We limited each panel to no more than four papers, preferably three. Where participants had designed and named their own panels, we assigned them the day and time they had requested. Each panel was allowed one and half hours. Using the large poster board gave us the option of moving panels around, which was sometimes required to accommodate late proposals submitted via the WSSA website. Once this process was completed, the section program was typed.

The next major project involved organizing and typing the abstracts according to the designated format laid out in the Coordinators Handbook, typed in alphabetical order by last name of the author. Abstracts were some-

times edited to ensure that they did not exceed 200 words. Copies of both the abstracts and programs were emailed to all program participants for their review and corrections. At the same time we prepared a list of moderators and their email addresses, with a list containing the types of A/V equipment required for each panel. Participants were encouraged to identify their A/V equipment requirements early, since this keeps down the cost charged to the WSSA conference. The Section Program, Abstracts and A/V and Moderator lists were all submitted to the Program Coordinator for publication on or before the December 15 deadline.

Once Jack Hou, Program Coordinator, had created a draft of the overall program, we sent our portion (AIS Section) out to our participants for any corrections (name spelling, institutional affiliation mistakes, etc). We collated that feedback and sent it on to Jack. When the Association Program was finalized sometime in late January, we sent it out to all participants, with a list of the names and e-mails of all participants, so they could communicate with each other prior to the conference (sharing papers, for example).

During the Conference, we followed up by attending each Panel session, checking to be sure the A/V equipment requested was present, and making sure all presenters and moderators were present. When necessary, we coordinated the Panel needs with the Program Coordinator. During these sessions we also introduced ourselves to audience participants and, if appropriate, invited them to consider participating in the program next year. A number of these people have been added to our initial email list. For the 2009 conference, AIS had 14 panels and 44 presenters.

On our return home, we wrote an email thanking all who presented for the AIS Program Panels. We noted that their participation was important to the success of the program. Also, we thanked those who let us know their A/V needs prior to the start of the conference, because WSSA is charged extra for A/V equipment not scheduled prior to the beginning of the conference.

In order to facilitate continued success of the AIS Section program coordination, we are preparing a list of activities involved in the process to pass along to those who follow us as coordinators of AIS.

Letter to the Editor

As President-elect (2008-09), I was the Program Coordinator of the Albuquerque conference. I would like to, once again, express my gratitude to the Section Coordinators; you are truly the engine of the WSSA. I would also like to thank all who attended the conference; it is your effort that makes our conference what it is. I have been told by our Executive Director (Larry Gould) that we actually had a small surplus this conference, which is a rarity in recent years. Many thanks to all!

The welcoming reception was well attended, as was the Presidential Reception at the closing of the conference. There were many "firsts" this year, of which two are most noteworthy. We had our first wedding (at the conference), and please join me in sending our best wishes to the newlyweds. Of course, we are looking to follow the tradition, please plan your wedding at the Reno conference next year!

Jack W. Hou President, Western Social Science Association
California State University, Long Beach

The *Social Science Journal* needs book reviewers.

if interested, contact Rich Greene, Book Review Editor, at rgreene@niu.edu



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TOP 10 Q's & A's : Why You Gotta Be In Reno In April 2010

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lake Tahoe. Known as "The Biggest Little City in the World", it is famous for its casinos, and is the birthplace of Harrah's Entertainment.

And while I don't have the space to tell you ALL you can do there, I suggest you at least prepare yourself for the "event of a lifetime" because you don't want to end up saying "I Wish I Had" when you learn about all that goes on this spring. So whether you like all kinds of good food, or visiting with wonderful colleagues, or playing the tables, we're going to do a "top 10 Questions & Answers" to prepare you for WSSA-Reno in 2010.

#1 – SO WHERE ARE WE STAYING?

The Conference Hotel is the **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino**. Housed in the shadow of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada, the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino is a complete destination resort offering 2,000 guest rooms and suites, a large casino, and 45 breakout rooms.

Guest rooms are at least 425 sq. ft., some of the largest rooms in the industry, with many amenities. The resort also has a pool, health club, shopping promenade, and numerous entertainers and entertainment events on a daily basis. For additional information, go to www.grandsierraresort.com or call 1-800-501-2651.

#2 – SO WHAT CAN I DO WHILE I'M THERE?

Whether you're "playing the machines", wanting something grand to fill the palate, seeking out top-notch entertainment, or just history and art, Reno has it all ... And whatever your specialty, WSSA has a division to address your interests. With over 30 special interest sections, WSSA can provide an intellectual, scholarly complement to your experience.

The resort also includes a 50-lane bowling alley; 24-hour video arcade;

kids' adventure center; pottery studio; movie theater; and golf driving range.

#3 – AND IS THE FOOD GOOD?

Outstanding by all accounts ... our conference hotel has nine restaurants under its roof to fit every taste: steak, seafood, Italian cuisine, and casual dining.

The downtown area offers many other casinos within walking distance, and there are over 200 restaurants in the downtown area.

#4 -- SO IS IT EASY TO GET TO RENO?

Reno, Nevada, may not be on the way to "everywhere" but it is certainly a convenient destination to get to regard-



The Truckee River, Reno, NV

less of where you live. The Reno/Lake Tahoe airport, as symbolized by RNO in your destination box when checking airline connections, is served by many of America's major airlines.

#5 -- AND IS THE HOTEL CLOSE TO THE AIRPORT?

A short, convenient 1.5 miles. The hotel offers a free airport shuttle, and taxi fare is only about \$6.00.

#6 – AND IS IT AFFORDABLE?

Absolutely. Rooms, double or single, carry a special conference rate of **\$89/night for guest rooms** and \$110/night for their luxurious Summit rooms, plus Washoe County room tax of 12%.

#7 -- SO HOW DO I DO REGISTER?

WSSA Conference Registration has never been easier. Simply go to the WSSA website (<http://wssa.asu.edu>) click on the "conferences" box, and choose the

kind of registration you want. You should also download a conference flyer to post on bulletin boards around your campus. It's a very attractive 4-color piece that provides conference paper submission guidelines and addresses. And if you have questions now, go ahead and pose them to Gil Fowler, program chairman, (gfwler@astate.edu) or to the particular section coordinator for whatever interest area you want to work with.

Proposals for both complete panels and individual papers are welcome and as in past years, the Deadline for proposals is: December 1, 2009.

#8 – WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT RENO?

There are many websites that can assist you with details about our convention site. Three good ones are

Reno - Wikipedia ... [www.http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reno,_Nevada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reno,_Nevada); The Reno Travel & Lodging Guide ... [www.http://www.reno.com/SECTION/&Profile=1013](http://www.reno.com/SECTION/&Profile=1013); and Visit Reno ... <http://www.visitrenotahoe.com>. Or just call the Grand Sierra Resort at 1-800-501-2651

#9 – SO HOW CAN I "BE PREPARED"?

... go ahead and request a Reno Visitor's Planner ... go to the

Reno website www.visitrenotahoe.com or visit Reno planner www.visitrenotahoe.com/travel-professionals/visitor-planner ... don't forget those coupons ... visit www.visitrenotahoe.com/coupons ... learn about the 200+ restaurants ... visit www.visitrenotahoe.com/what-to-do/dining

... study the arts & culture ... visit www.visitrenotahoe.com/reno-tahoe/what-to-do/arts-culture

... learn about the nightlife ... visit www.visitrenotahoe.com/reno-tahoe/what-to-do/nightclubs

#10 – SO IF IT'S THAT SIMPLE, WHY DON'T I MEET YOU THERE !!!

Now that is a good question ... quit wasting time, get those research papers submitted, make those reservations and we'll see you in Reno in April 2010 ...

Reflections on Albuquerque, 2009

By Phadrea Ponds, Immediate Past President



Our 51st conference was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the Hyatt Regency, April 16-18, 2009. Albuquerque is traditionally a very special and most popular meeting location for WSSA. This is usually our largest conference with the most attendees, papers, and panels. This time we tried a few new things and honored many of our traditions.

Planning a conference is not an easy task. We have to plan for the unexpected long before our members hit the registration floor. Sometimes we are better prepared than others. And this time in Albuquerque, I think we were really well prepared. We had more than 500 people pre-registered for the conference and quite a few registering during the conference.

This number of pre-registrants was lower than at any other time that I can remember, for a conference in Albuquerque. This was a particularly difficult time to travel and one that we won't soon forget because almost everyone talked about decreased (or non-existing) travel and conference funds. Many people told me that WSSA is the only annual conference they attend and that they come on their own nickel. Well, that tells me a lot about the caliber and quality of WSSA!

We are planning to have more "special" events at each annual conference. The movie – "Made in LA" – was a big hit. Larry Gould's Professional Development Luncheon was a huge success for students and anyone on the path to promotion and tenure. Larry provided very practical and timely instructions on how to prepare a promotion package and how to keep an up-to-date vitae. I found myself taking a

page full of notes over the lunch hour. During this same luncheon we presented the student paper awards to Tatjana Rosev (best graduate paper), Veronica Menard (best undergraduate paper), and Amy Lewis (honorable mention).

This year something great happened. I was personally invited to attend six different panels. I am not sure if it was because I was the president or not, but I honored these invitations. These were the BEST presentations I have ever encountered during my life time at WSSA. This is a testimony about these presentations and all of the presentations at the conference. I typically come to WSSA to attend and visit with my colleagues in my discipline and I have rarely ever had time to attend other presentations. This year as I roamed the corridors, I noticed more than ever how really interdisciplinary and diverse WSSA truly is. One panel especially stands out and I will mention my reaction here. When I walked into a Rural Studies panel and I was warmly received by the moderator and the discussants – this set the tone. As I read the title of the first presentation -- "Monkey Business" – I had an interpersonal struggle with missing another presentation in my "home discipline." However, as the presenter (Brian Thompson) told the story about the history of monkey fur, I was truly fascinated and wondered why the room wasn't packed with historians, economists and natural resource professionals. Second, through Sandra Reddish's account of Nebraska's Hidden Nisei, I was able to understand the interdisciplinary nature of WSSA. This was not simply a presentation about a hidden culture; it was more about the hidden wonders of this Association.

I know that you have many choices of conferences to attend each year. I am grateful that you chose to join us.

Student Winners, Paper Competition 2009

Cynthia A. Klima, Past Vice-President of WSSA
Organizer of the 2009 Outstanding Graduate and Undergraduate Paper Competition

The Executive Board announced the undergraduate and graduate winners of our Outstanding Paper Competition at the annual WSSA Conference in Albuquerque, NM, in April 2009. There were many entries and competition was fierce. We had excellent submissions and this certainly made our decisions very difficult. Our graduate and undergraduate recipients received checks for \$500 and our Honorable Mention received a check for \$250. Each recipient read her paper at the conference on a separate panel. The recipients were:

Outstanding Graduate Paper:

Ms. Tatiana K. Rosev

Department of Communication and Journalism
University of New Mexico

Reaching for the Stars: Acculturative Experiences of German Sojourners on a Southwestern Air Force Base.

Sponsoring professor: Dr. Janice Ellen Schuetz, Professor of Communication Journalism

Outstanding Graduate Paper – Honorable Mention:

Ms. Amy Lewis

Department of Political Science
Colorado State University

Conservation, but for Whom? Indigenous Natural Resource Control, Social Movements, and the Struggle for Legitimacy in Mexico and Chile

Sponsoring professor: Dr. Stephen Mumme, Professor of Political Science

Outstanding Undergraduate Paper:

Ms. Veronica Menard

Department of Sociology
Metropolitan State College at Denver

The Perception of Homelessness in Urban and Suburban Settings

Sponsoring professor: Dr. Emily Beth Watson, Assistant Professor of Sociology

The Executive Board congratulates all of the recipients. Further information on the Outstanding Paper Competition for 2010 in Reno can be found in this newsletter. We hope you will encourage your outstanding students to participate in this prestigious competition. All recipients will be given the opportunity to read their papers on a separate panel at the annual WSSA Conference in Reno, NV, in April 2010. Supporting professors are also welcome to attend their students' presentations.



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Western Social Science Association
Call for Papers

Reno, Nevada April 14 – 17, 2010
Grand Sierra Resort

The Western Social Science Association (WSSA) is committed to multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary scholarship, service, and collegiality. The WSSA advances scholarship, teaching, service and professional exchange across the social science disciplines.

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 31 disciplines, or "sections," from across the United States, Canada, Europe, the Pacific Rim, 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 semi-annual newsletter.

The Grand Sierra is offering a group rate of \$89.00 for guest rooms and \$110 for their luxurious Summit rooms, single or double occupancy, plus Washoe County room tax (currently 12%).

For information on Registration, Membership and Section Coordinators please go to our website at <http://wssa.asu.edu> .

WSSA Sections

African-American Studies
American Indian Studies
American Studies
Anthropology
Arid Lands Studies
Asian Studies
Association of Borderland Studies
Canadian Studies
Chicano Studies
Chronic Disease and Disability
Criminal Justice and Criminology
Economics (Association for Institutional Thought)
Economics (Business and Finance)
Economics (General)
Environmental Policy & Natural Resource Management
Geography
History
Human Communications
Latin American Studies
Mass Communication
New Zealand and Australia Studies
Philosophy
Political Science
Public Administration
Public Finance and Budgeting
Rural Studies
Slavic Studies
Social Psychology
Sociology
Urban Studies
Women's Studies

Program Coordinator:

Gil Fowler, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for The Honors College
South Central Region VP, Phi Kappa Phi
PO Box 2259
State University, AR 72467-2259
Phone: (870) 972-2308
Fax: (870) 972-3884
Email: gfwler@astate.edu or gilfowler@hotmail.com





Western Social Science Association

Pre-Registration Form
 52nd Annual Conference
 Reno, Nevada, USA
 April 14 - April 17, 2010

**PLEASE
 PRINT
 CLEARLY**

NON-USA REGISTRANTS : Please Use Online Registration

Name _____

As you want it shown on your namebadge

Mailing Address _____

street address

street address, line 2, if needed

city

state

postal code

Affiliation _____

your college/ university, agency, or other organization, as you want it shown on your namebadge

E-mail address _____

*members: this is required, if you want on-line access to *The Social Science Journal**

Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Make check payable to: Western Social Science Association

Mail form and check to: WSSA, c/o Larry Gould, NAU-Yuma, Box 6236, Yuma AZ 85366-6236

Pre- Registration forms must be received by March 25.

Later registrations must be made online at <http://wssa.nau.edu>

Check all that apply (*Prices are in U.S. Dollars*)

REGISTRATION

(note: "Members" prices apply to members of WSSA who have paid dues for 2009, or are paying dues with this form.)

- Members, Regular - \$75
- Members, Student - \$45 (*send copy of student ID*)
- Members, Retiree - \$55 (no longer employed in field)

- Non-Members, Regular - \$105
- Non-Members, Student - \$55 (*send copy of student ID*)
- Non-Members, Retiree - \$65 (no longer employed in field)

- Non-Presenting Guest - \$25

- President's Luncheon, Panel Discussion,
 & Awards Ceremony (*Friday*) - \$25: # of tickets _____

MEMBERSHIP

for 2010 calendar year

- Regular - \$40
- Student - \$25 (does not apply to members with full-time employment)
- Retiree - \$25 (no longer employed in field)
- Joint - \$50 (member and spouse or partner)

If "Joint", enter name of spouse or partner:

TOTAL

\$ _____

Western Social Science Association
c/o Larry Gould, Chief Executive Officer
Northern Arizona University - Yuma Campus
P.O. Box 6236
Yuma, AZ 85366-6236
SBS 1100

Live Life, Learn To Love, and Leave a Legacy: Reflections of Leadership

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the first person to encourage me when I was a young wide-eyed neophyte researcher fresh from the steps of Oregon State University. He also very kindly introduced me to the Western Social Science Association. And he also thought that I would make a pretty decent president one day – following in his footsteps.

There are several axioms that come to mind when I think about Lee's leadership style and ability. But one that sticks out the most is a quote from Dwight Eisenhower: "Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it." Lee is that kind of leader. He knew, without a doubt, how to persuade me into action. Somehow, he saw my abilities and my desires to make something happen before I openly acknowledged it. Lee always listened and shared the enthusiasm or frustration I encountered along the way as I pushed towards my goals. He didn't just listen to me because he had to - he listened because he wanted to.

If you haven't met him, Lee is a person of exemplary character. As a leader he is trusted and known to live his life with honesty and integrity and because of that, I hold him up as being trustworthy as a leader. Over the years I have seen him "walk the walk" and in doing so he has earned my admiration. A good leader keeps the main goal in focus and is able to think analytically. A good leader not only views a situation as a whole, but is able

to break it down into sub parts for closer inspection. Not only is the goal in view, but a good leader can break it down into manageable steps and make progress towards it.

Lee has been enthusiastic about his work but most importantly about his role as leader and mentor and friend. I've always noticed that people seemed to respond more openly to him because of his passion, dedication and commitment to excellence. Over the years, Lee has been a source of inspiration and motivation (and a little frustration) not only because he maintains high standards, but because he is very practical about raising the bar in order to achieve excellence in all areas (both professionally and personally). Lee was highly concerned about my success as a researcher, but at the same time, he was equally concerned that I stayed up all night to nurse a sick child. As a leader I was impressed that Lee took the time to know me as Phadrea and not just as an employee or as a person he managed.

In order to be a good leader you should consider taking a lot of training. If you want to be an excellent leader – then you should purposefully seek one out. Find someone who listens more than "tells you what you should do." Find one who is willing to show respect versus demand it. Find someone who is willing to leave a legacy without losing themselves. Find someone who is focused on the long-term side of relationships; who is not just about the short-term reason for their influence. Find someone who understands that real leadership takes a lifetime of personal learning and growth. And finally, look for someone who realizes that they need to continually improve themselves. It wasn't easy, but I have.



FUTURE
CONFERENCE
SITES

2011
Salt Lake City, UT

2012
Houston, TX
2013
Denver, CO

2014
Open, but looking at
Calgary, Albuquerque
or San Diego