

# WELCOME



## Contents

Colleagues & friends,

If you can't have a good time at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the WSSA in Denver, then I don't know what to say to you. Take a few tips from me, because I plan to have an awesome time. (Perhaps I've been spending too much time with nineteen-year-olds lately.)

To begin with, in this century of narcissism, indulge yourself! As I am doing right now, in a nostalgic way, when I recall that I presented my first paper to the WSSA right here in Denver, in, um, 1978. I've been coming back ever since, for at least three good reasons.

It's cheap. The WSSA does not pick you clean just for trying to be an active and engaged scholar.

It's comfortable. The WSSA is a place of supportive scholarship. Here you can hear great papers, and then afterward, people actually talk about the work in a constructive way, rather than trying to score points.

It's diverse. Multiple disciplines, multiple perspectives. Advice from an old hand: get out of your echo chamber. Check out the work in some other sections. Who knows, this might be the conference where the AFIT economists and the business economists get on speaking terms. (Really, you general and business people, buy an institutional economist a drink, how about it?)

Come early and stay late, because the opening and closing receptions are awesome, too. Think about it, what other meeting can you go to where the bookends are parties with open bars?

I suppose I should close with something presidential. Welcome, and again welcome, to this gathering of scholars in the social sciences. Thank you, program chair Les Alm and all your section coordinators, for your great work in setting the table for us. All of you, colleagues and friends, travel safe and come back next year.

Tom Isern  
President  
Western Social Science Association

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Abstracts available at <http://wssa.asu.edu>

## **WSSA 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference** **Scholarship, Service & Collegiality**

### **Western Social Science Association**

The Western Social Science Association (formerly the Rocky Mountain Social Science Association) was founded in 1958 when the Social Sciences Section of the Colorado-Wyoming Academy of Science was reconstituted as an independent organization. On January 1, 1975, the name was changed to the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) to reflect the geographical representation of the Association. The purpose of the WSSA is to foster professional study, to advance research, and to promote the teaching of the social sciences. Membership is open to all who share its aims. The WSSA publishes the *Social Science Journal*, a newsletter, and an annual program and abstracts for the conference. Several affiliated organizations meet concurrently with the WSSA and share in developing the program.

### **For more information contact:**

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### **WSSA Officers**

President: Tom Isern, North Dakota State University  
Past-President: Victor L. Heller, University of Texas at San Antonio  
President-Elect: Leslie Alm, Boise State University  
Vice President/Secretary: N. Prabha Unnithan, Colorado State University

### **Executive Council Members 2012-2015**

Heather Albanesi (2013), University of Colorado Colorado Springs  
Daniel McInerney (2013), Utah State University  
Theodore Ransaw (2013), University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Ross Burkhart (2014), Boise State University  
Geoffrey Hale (2014), University of Lethbridge  
Heather Nicol (2014), Trent University  
Mary Jo Tippeconnic Fox (2015), University of Arizona  
Kristina Lybecker (2015), Colorado College  
Reynold Nesiba (2015), Augustana College

### **Ex-Officio Council Members**

Larry Gould, Executive Director, Northern Arizona University  
J. Gary Linn, Coordinator of Member Recruitment & Retention, Tennessee State University  
Scott Carson, Editor & Book Review Editor, *Social Science Journal*, University of Texas, Permian Basin  
Nina Burkardt, Association Archivist, United States Geological Survey  
Kate Herke, Editor, *WSSA News*; Conference Manager; and Administrative Associate; Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance  
Chris Hiryak, Webmaster, Arizona State University

# Join Us Next Year in Albuquerque, NM

**Western Social Science Association**  
**April 2-5, 2014**  
**Albuquerque, NM**  
**Hyatt**

Plan now to join us for another great meeting in Albuquerque. The Western Social Science Association invites proposals for presentations at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Proposals for complete panels and individual papers, as well as posters, are welcome. You can submit your proposal through the WSSA website, <http://wssa.asu.edu>. Please note the section for which you would like your proposal submitted. Also, feel free to submit your proposal directly to the section coordinators. Refer to the WSSA website for a complete list and contact information for section coordinators.

Deadline for proposals is: December 1, 2013. Please include the following information:

- Title of presentation
- Name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address (for all participants)
- Appropriate section
- Abstract (not to exceed 200 words)

Scholars willing to serve as moderators or discussants should indicate their interest to the appropriate section coordinator listed on the website. All participants are required to register for the conference prior to March 1, 2014.

For additional information, please consult the Fall 2013 WSSA newsletter or contact the WSSA Program Coordinator:

Dr. N. Prabha Unnithan  
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Looking forward to seeing you in Albuquerque!—for another  
gathering of scholarship, service & collegiality.

## **Future WSSA Conference Locations:**

### **WSSA 2015 Portland, OR**

April 18-21, 2015  
Marriot  
Portland, Oregon

### **WSSA 2016 Reno, Nevada**

April 13-16, 2016  
Grand Sierra Resort  
Reno, Nevada

### **WSSA 2017 San Francisco, CA**

April 12-15, 2017  
Hyatt Regency Embarcadero  
San Francisco, CA

# Program Overview and Special Events

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## Wednesday, April 10, 2013

WSSA Executive Council Meeting	7:30am to 4:00pm	Mt. Elbert A
Association of Borderland Studies Board Meeting	2:00pm to 4:00pm	Mt. Elbert B
Conference Registration and Book Exhibit	3:00pm to 6:45pm	Imperial Foyer
Journal of Borderland Studies Meeting	4:00pm to 5:00pm	Mt. Elbert B
<b>WSSA Welcoming Reception</b> <i>All attendees invited</i>	<b>6:00pm to 7:30pm</b>	<b>Imperial Ballroom</b>

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## Thursday, April 11, 2013

Conference Registration	7:30am to 5:00pm	Imperial Foyer
Concurrent Panel Sessions	8:00am to 6:00pm	
Publishers' Book Exhibit	8:00am to 6:00pm	Imperial Foyer
Coffee Break	9:15am	Imperial Foyer
ABS Plenary Session: Documentary "Paraiso for Sale"	11:30am to 12:45pm	Mt. Columbia
Association for Institutional Thought Business Meeting	11:45am to 1:00pm	Mt. Evans
ABS Plenary Session: Lifetime Achievement Award	1:00pm to 2:30pm	Mt. Columbia
Coffee Break	2:30pm	Imperial Foyer
Association for Institutional Thought Conference Dinner	6:00pm to 9:30pm	TBA
American Indian Studies Business Meeting	6:15pm to 7:15pm	Maroon Peak

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## Friday, April 12, 2013

Conference Registration	7:30am to 5:00pm	Imperial Foyer
<b>Full Burrito Breakfast</b> <i>All attendees invited</i>	7:00am to 9:00am	Imperial Ballroom
<i>WSSA Give-Back: At this complimentary breakfast, donations will be received for the Food Bank of the Rockies.</i>		
<b>Poster Session</b>	7:30am to 9:00am	Imperial Ballroom
<i>Scholars' Choice Award for Best Poster to be decided by attendee vote. Poster session co-located with WSSA complimentary breakfast.</i>		
Publishers' Book Exhibit	8:00am to 6:00pm	Imperial Foyer
Concurrent Panel Sessions	8:00am to 6:00pm	
<b>Presidential Luncheon: Ticketed Event</b>	11:30am to 1:00pm	Imperial Ballroom
<i>WSSA President Tom Isern: "Agency, Complexity, Memory: A Scholarship of Western Places"</i>		

### Graduate Paper Prizes

**1st Place: Jinkook Lee**, Dept. of Economics, Texas A&M University, College Station, "Airport-Airline Vertical Contract Market Power in the US Airline Industry." **Honorable Mention: Jeff Cook**, Dept. of Political Science, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, "Are We There Yet? A Roadmap to Understanding National Park Service Rulemaking."

### Undergraduate Paper Prizes

**1st Place: Kellam Barta**, Dept. of English, North Dakota State University, Fargo, "The Mascot Effect 2: Social Factors Influencing Pronunciation of the Word *Coyote*." **Honorable Mention: Trevor Serrao**, Dept. of Economics, Applied Statistics and International Business, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, "A Coincident Economic Indicator for the Las Cruces Metropolitan Area."

**Friday, April 12, 2013 continued**

Coffee Break	2:30pm	Imperial Foyer
Latin American Business Meeting	2:45pm to 4:15pm	Mt. Princeton
ABS Plenary Session: Public Policy and the Border	2:45pm to 4:15pm	Mt. Yale
WSSA Business Meeting	4:30pm to 5:00pm	Maroon Peak
Section Coordinators Meeting	5:00pm to 6:00pm	Maroon Peak
Arid Lands Studies Business Meeting	5:00pm to 6:00pm	Summit Peak
ABS Business Meeting	6:00pm to 7:00pm	Mt. Columbia
Public Finance and Budgeting Studies Section Meeting	6:00pm to 7:00pm	Torrey's Peak
Welcome Reception <i>by invitation to Association of Borderlands Studies members only</i>	7:00pm to 9:00pm	Mt. Elbert B

**Saturday, April 13, 2013**

Conference Registration	7:30am to 12:00pm	Imperial Foyer
WSSA Executive Council Meeting	8:00am to 12:00pm	Mt. Evans
Publishers' Book Exhibit	8:00am to 1:00pm	Imperial Foyer
Concurrent Panel Sessions	8:00am to 6:00pm	
Coffee Break	9:15am	Imperial Foyer
ABS Plenary Session: Indigenous Ainu People	11:30am to 12:45pm	Mt. Columbia
ABS Plenary Session: The BRIT-ABS Nexus	1:00pm to 2:30pm	Mt. Yale
Slavic Studies Business Meeting	4:30pm to 6:00pm	Ex. Suite 2606
<b>WSSA President's Reception</b> <i>All attendees invited</i>	<b>6:30pm to 8:00pm</b>	<b>Mt. Elbert A &amp; B</b>

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Methodology Workshop on Qualitative Comparative Analysis:** Claude Rubinson (University of Houston-Downtown)  
Friday 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Pikes Peak

QCA offers an alternative to conventional statistical methods based on the analysis of set-theoretic relationships:  
Demonstration of the best practices for conducting QCA.

**CEC Workshop:** "Visualizing North America's Changing Environment"  
Saturday 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Imperial Ballroom

This hands-on workshop, conducted by Karen Richardson and Jeff Staub of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, will use GIS layers from the North American Environmental Atlas to explore environmental issues. Participants are welcome to use workshop materials or bring their own laptop to follow the discussion.

**Rural Studies Field Trip:** "Moo, Mint, and Mile High LowDo: A Rural & Agricultural Studies Field Trip"  
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Tour of important sites in Denver area. Open to all conference participants, space permitting. RSVP to tamato@smsu.edu

**Walking Tour of Denver**

Saturday, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

"Gentrification and Grass Roots Resistance in Inner-City Denver: A Political-Economy Walking Tour"

Tour Guide: Tony Robinson, University of Colorado Denver

Meet in Lobby of the Grand Hyatt at 3 p.m. to be transported to northeast Denver for start of tour. The tour will end at the Whiskey Bar, 2203 Larimer Street, for general discussion.

## **The Social Science Journal: 50 Years of Growth and Service**

The March 2013 issue of The Social Science Journal (SSJ) marks the 50th anniversary of The Journal's publication. As the Western Social Science Association's (WSSA) flagship publication, it is appropriate to take stock and assess the path the SSJ has taken and where it stands currently. SSJ's primary objective is to publish high quality scholarly work in the social sciences. Social science research that is narrative and descriptive has always been welcome along with theoretical and qualitative as well as statistical and mathematical work. In recent decades, it is safe to say that the social sciences have become less descriptive and more analytical (as well as quantitative). Similar to other general social science journals, articles in the SSJ have also become increasingly quantitative, with an emphasis on testing a variety of theoretical propositions. Similarly, the growth, scope, and expanded coverage of the SSJ parallels that of the WSSA. Founded as the Colorado-Wyoming Social Science Association, the WSSA has grown from six disciplines in American Studies, Geography, History, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology to more than thirty sections. The WSSA has expanded from a small group of regional scholars who gathered in unused university classrooms to a respected international organization that holds its Annual Conferences in large hotels and convention centers. The WSSA is currently a multi-disciplinary network incorporating far-flung social science scholars devoted to advancing top-level research. While the SSJ is sponsored by the WSSA, the journal's submissions are international and its appeal global.

When the WSSA was established in 1958, initiating a journal was a high priority. Regional academic associations were common in the early and mid-20th century, and the number of social science faculty in the Rocky Mountain region increased faster than the number of scholarly articles they produced. The result was that from its inception, the Association's highest priority was to establish a journal where regional social scientists could publish their scholarly work. In 1958, Oscar H. Lentz, Bentley B. Gilbert, and Mary Lewis were charged with creating The Journal, and Lentz spearheaded the effort. Lentz received his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Texas, Austin and taught at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden. He was a particularly energetic supporter of an Association journal that would have a broad social science perspective and became The Journal's first editor. The SSJ's original name was the Rocky Mountain Social Science Journal, and its first issue was published in early 1963. However, not long after The Journal first appeared, Lentz died at age 44 of a stroke while on a research trip to New York City.

Including Lentz, there have been ten editors of The Social Science Journal. Sidney Heitman, a Colorado State University (Fort Collins) historian, took over and served for an extended period between 1963 and 1972. D. Stanley Eitzen, a sociologist also from Colorado State University, assumed the editorship in 1972 and served for six years. In 1978, Robert Regoli, a sociologist-criminologist, and R. P. Cuzzort, a social theorist, both from the University of Colorado in Boulder were selected as co-editors of SSJ; the only such team effort so far. David Howard Davis, a political scientist at the University of Wyoming, became the SSJ's editor in 1986 followed by Michael Katovich, a sociologist from Texas Christian University, in 1989. David Freeman, a political philosopher at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, has been the SSJ's longest serving editor from 1994 to 2006. In 2006, the SSJ returned to where it first began when N. Prabha Unnithan, a sociologist-criminologist at Colorado State University in Fort Collins assumed the editorship serving until 2012. Scott Alan Carson is the current editor of the SSJ. Carson is an economist at the University of Texas, Permian Basin.

As we look back, we marvel at how far the SSJ has progressed from its original quarterly print platform covering six areas in American Studies, Geography, History, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology. In its current form, The Social Science Journal is recognized as a leading interdisciplinary international social science journal that is accessed much more online than in print. Judging from its broad set of social science disciplines, its increasing impact factor, the skyrocketing number of manuscript submissions along with a steeply declining acceptance rate, the SSJ has come a long way, boasting a solid history of academic productivity, diversity, and inclusiveness. Writing on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the two of us, as its immediate past and current editors, believe that SSJ's future is clearly brighter than its past.

**N. Prabha Unnithan**

**Scott Alan Carson**

## **WSSA Benefit: Food Bank of the Rockies**

The Western Social Sciences Association will be hosting a fund drive to benefit **Food Bank of the Rockies**.  
<http://www.foodbankrockies.org>

Attendees of the Denver annual conference will have the opportunity to donate at Friday's full burrito breakfast and poster session (April 12th, 2013; 7-9 am; Imperial Ballroom). WSSA has committed to make a double-matching donation, with a minimum of \$500 and maximum of \$1000 portion of the contribution coming from the WSSA.

Food Bank of the Rockies (FBR) is the largest private hunger-relief organization in the state of Colorado. They serve the 1 in 7 Coloradans who face food insecurity. Nearly half of their clients are children. Food Bank of the Rockies is an efficient organization, using only about 4 cents of every dollar for administration. It has received a 4-star Charity Navigator rating for three consecutive years.

## **M.E. Sharpe, Inc.**

Founded in 1958, M.E. Sharpe, Inc. is a privately held, internationally renowned publisher of academic books and journals in the social sciences and humanities, including economics, business, political science, public administration, management, information technology, history, sociology, philosophy, and literature. We also publish both original works and translations in Asian and East European studies. A broad and ever-growing array of textbooks, handbooks, and other academic titles are also available in digital format from the Sharpe E-Text Center, as well as from college and retail e-bookstores and library e-book vendors. Under the Sharpe Reference imprint, we publish award-winning reference works designed for students and researchers from high school through college. In 2009 we launched Sharpe Online Reference (SOLR), a digital reference platform that offers multidisciplinary coverage of U.S. and global history and culture. All M.E. Sharpe publications are available internationally through an extensive distribution network.



## 2013 SECTION COORDINATOR LISTING

### **African American Studies**

Stephen Brown  
Dept. Social Work, Brandman University

### **American Indian Studies**

Leo KILLSBACK  
Dept. of American Indian Studies  
Arizona State University

Cheryl Bennett  
Arizona State University

### **American Studies**

Daniel J. McInerney  
Dept. of History, Utah State University

### **Arid Lands Studies and Geography**

Daniel D. Kuester, Ph.D.  
Dept. of Economics  
Kansas State University

### **Asian Studies**

Linda H. Chiang, Ed. D.  
Dept. of Foundations and Transdisciplinary  
Studies  
Azusa Pacific University

### **Association of Borderlands Studies**

Victor Konrad  
Dept. of Geography and Environmental  
Studies  
Carleton University, Canada

### **Canadian Studies**

Rev. Thomas Murphy, S. J.  
Seattle University

Denver Lewellen  
University of California, Berkeley

### **Chicano Studies**

Debra D. Andrist  
Dept. of Foreign Languages  
Sam Houston State University

### **Chronic Disease and Disability**

J. Gary Linn  
Optimal Solutions in Healthcare  
Nashville, TN 37212

Debra Rose Wilson  
School of Nursing  
Middle Tennessee State University

Steven Brown  
Center on Disability Studies  
The University of Hawaii at Manoa

### **Communication Studies**

Kevin Mitchell  
College of Southern Nevada

### **Criminal Justice and Criminology**

Ross Burkhart (Interim Coordinator)  
Dept. of Political Science  
Boise State University

### **Economics: Association for Institutional Thought (AFIT)**

John Hall, Professor  
Economics and International Studies  
Portland State University

### **Economics: Business and Finance**

Kashi Nath Tiwari  
KNT's Academic Financial Research  
Dallas, TX

### **Economics: General**

Scott Carson  
University of Texas at Permian Basin

### **Environmental Policy and Natural Resources**

Dwight C. Kiel  
Department of Political Science  
University of Central Florida

### **Globalization and Development**

Michèle Companion  
Department of Sociology  
University of Colorado Colorado Springs

### **History**

Monica Gallamore  
Oklahoma City University

### **Latin American Studies**

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Jesús Ruiz-Flores  
Departamento de Política y Sociedad  
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### **Mass Communication**

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Lily Zeng  
Department Radio-Television  
Arkansas State University

### **New Zealand and Australia Studies**

William C. Schaniel  
International Services & Programs  
University of West Georgia

Suzanne Kelley  
New Rivers Press at  
Minnesota State University Moorhead

### **Political Science**

Ross Burkhart  
Department of Political Science  
Boise State University

### **Poster Session—All Disciplines**

Theodore Ransaw  
Michigan State University

### **Public Administration**

Viola Fuentes  
NAU-East Valley Extended Campus

Christina Medina  
New Mexico State University

### **Public Finance and Budgeting**

Boris Morozov  
Public Administration Institute  
Louisiana State University

Aimee Franklin  
Political Science Department  
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### **Rural & Agricultural Studies**

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Jessica Clark  
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### **Slavic Studies**

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### **Social Psychology Studies**

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Dept. of Sociology  
University of Colorado—Colorado Springs

### **Social Work Studies**

Diane Calloway-Graham  
Social Work Program, Utah State University

Bill Pederson  
Yuma Campus, Northern Arizona University

Moises Diaz  
Social Work Program  
Utah State University

### **Sociology and Anthropology Studies**

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### **Urban Studies**

Thomas Sammons  
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University of Louisiana at Lafayette

### **Women's and Gender Studies**

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Barbara Bonnekessen  
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