A FEW WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chicago conference is just around the corner and we have an exciting lineup of panels:

1) One World-System or Many? A Critical Appraisal of the Work of Christopher Chase-Dunn
2) Palestine in the Capitalist World-System
3) Global Class Relations and the New ‘Precariat’
4) Race and Ethnicity in the Capitalist World-System I
5) Race and Ethnicity in the Capitalist World-System II
6) Roundtables

The PEWS panels are scheduled for Monday, August 24, as in our reception, to be held jointly with the Marxist Sociology Section, on site in the main conference hotel. As the date draws nearer I will send out more details of our 2015 program through the list serv.

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JWSR VICTORY

JWSR Wins a Victory for Open Access Publishing!
We reported in the last issue of PEWS News that our effort to move the Journal of World-Systems Research to a non-profit, university-based publishing platform was stalled in the ASA over the question of whether all ASA journals should be contained within the SAGE platform. We are extremely happy to report that our persistence has won the day, and our proposal to move the journal to the University of Pittsburgh’s Office of Scholarly Publishing e-journal platform.

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I want to take advantage to urge all PEWS Section members to recruit new members. The ASA has recently made it very easy for faculty members to sign up students. Here are the latest (modified) guidelines from the ASA on how to do so:

“Section chairs and others wishing to give the gift of membership in their section can now purchase them directly using the new section gift order system. Visit [http://asa.enoah.com/Home/My-ASA/Gift-Section](http://asa.enoah.com/Home/My-ASA/Gift-Section) and log in using your ASA ID and password. Once in the system, you can choose a section, then search the member database by name. Only current ASA members (and those who are not already members of the selected section) are eligible to receive a gift section membership. You may purchase several memberships at one time, with an easy checkout and payment process within the secure ASA database. Section memberships will be activated immediately; recipients will receive an e-mail notifying them of the gift.”

Our membership is dangerously low at this time. If you are a faculty member please take a moment to go on line and dedicate $15 to signing up a student of yours. It should not take more than a few minutes.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Chicago.

William I. Robinson

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This move will help us streamline the review process, and more importantly it will help us raise the profile of our journal in a number of critical ways. First, the librarians who design and manage this platform are trained to help make research accessible. They are committed to defending open access to scholarly research and to helping users find information. Articles will be formatted to enhance searchability, and we will have more support in publicizing our journal to a wide audience—including a large international readership. Second, all of our articles—including those from previously published issues—will be assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), which provides a more stable link than a URL, which might change. This will further aid in our effort to help get our authors’ work to those who want to read it. Third, our journal will soon be indexed in the most common scholarly databases, and we will also be able to measure the impact of articles with a developing array of alternative metrics more appropriate to online content.

Our anticipated launch date for the new system is, appropriately, May 1, 2015. So stay tuned and get your research ready to send in!

This move represents what we see as the second generation of online publishing. Chris Chase-Dunn helped make PEWS a leader in scholarly open access publishing, and our journal is one of the oldest peer-reviewed online journals. We should take great pride in that fact. Our
JWSR VICTORY continued from pg. 2

We have learned much from this experience with the ASA about the role our work plays in our larger world-system. Whether or not we realized it, by building the Journal of World-Systems Research as an open access journal, we were contributing to shaping a new world-system based on cooperation and sharing. As the journal passes its 20-year milestone, this is becoming more apparent with the growing systemic crises we see around us. The concentration of the academic publishing industry and the related rise in journal costs have led librarians, researchers, and, increasingly, governments to take action by becoming a more self-conscious and organized movement for Open Access publishing. This movement is defining and defending the “knowledge commons” as off-limits to capitalist exploitation (for more details on this movement see “Defending the Global Knowledge Commons”).

In addition to moving to a new platform, we have some other changes in mind that we hope will strengthen our journal and enhance its impact in scholarly and activist/practitioner communities. We will be hosting a roundtable at this year’s ASA meeting in Chicago where we invite members to come learn about the new features of our online submission system, talk with our editorial team about your ideas for strengthening the journal and its impact, and find out what we’ve been learning about the growing movement for open access. We also want to discuss with PEWS members some ideas for sustaining the journal and expanding our resource base. We’d hope to eventually be able to include translations of abstracts and eventually articles, and this costs money. Please plan to attend this session during the ASA meeting in Chicago!

By the Journal of World-Systems Research Editorial Team
Jackie Smith, Editor; Danny Burridge, Managing Editor; George Weddington, Managing Editor; Jennifer Bair, Book Review Editor; and Scott Byrd, Technical Editor

PUBLICATIONS
Books:
Kevin Anderson’s book Marx at the Margins: on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Non-Western Societies, was recently published in French: Paris: Editions Syllepse, and forthcoming; Turkish: Istanbul: Versus Kitap, forthcoming

Johanna Bockman’s book Markets in the Name of Socialism: The Left-Wing Origins of Neoliberalism, was recently published in Korean by Geulhangari Press.


Could the promise of upward mobility have a dark side? In Tensions in the American Dream, Melanie and Roderick Bush ask, how does a “nation of immigrants” pledge inclusion, yet marginalize so many citizens based on race, class, and gender? The authors consider the origins and development of the U.S. nation and empire; the founding

The first of its kind, this volume provides a synthetic overview and guide to cutting edge research, theory, and debates. Laura Raynolds and Elizabeth Bennett assemble 30 chapters by the world's foremost fair trade scholars. The Handbook serves as both a comprehensive overview and in-depth guide to dominant perspectives and concerns. Chapters analyze the rapidly growing fair trade movement and market, exploring diverse initiatives and organizations, production and consumption regions, and food and cultural products. For more information, see http://cfat.colostate.edu/handbook-of-research-on-fair-trade/


The book explores the current conditions, subjectivity, and collective actions of autoworkers in the world's largest and fastest-growing automobile manufacturing nation. Based on years of fieldwork and extensive interviews conducted at seven large auto factories in various regions of China, Zhang provides an inside look at the daily factory life of autoworkers and a deeper understanding of the roots of rising labor unrest in the auto industry. Combining original empirical data and sophisticated analysis that moves from the shop floor to national political economy and global industry dynamics, the book develops a multilayered framework for understanding how labor relations in the auto industry and broader social economy can be expected to develop in China in the coming decades.

**Articles**


https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9v71n5h4


Book chapters:


Announcements

40th Annual Conference on the Political Economy of the World-System (PEWS)
University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA
April 8-9, 2016

Conference Theme:
Global Commodity Chains, Social Inequalities and Social Movements:
The Past and Present of World-Systems Research

The 40th Conference on the Political Economy of the World-System will provide a unique opportunity to take stock of enduring theoretical and empirical contributions of this perspective, and to identify promising directions for future inquiry and discussion. To this end, we look for contributions offering analytical syntheses of major fields of inquiry (e.g., the spatial and temporal boundaries of global commodity chains; the construction and challenge of various dimensions of social inequality; systemic and anti-systemic social movements). We also welcome empirical studies providing fresh insights and perspectives on these fields and key substantive premises of world-systems research, regardless of whether the aim is to endorse, challenge or reformulate.
1. The Problem of Scope and Methodologies. World-system scholars problematize the notion of unit of analysis in ways that often are ignored elsewhere in the social sciences. Moreover, world-system scholars emphasize the importance of critically assessing the types of evidence and methodologies that are most adequate to apprehend the world as a whole, over time, as the relevant unit of analysis. We want to take stock of those areas in which world-system scholars in the past 40 years have promoted methodological innovation and/or generated useful global data, and to identify questions that demand additional methodological and empirical attention going forward.

2. Global Commodity Chains. One of the most productive areas for world-systems analysis has been the study of global commodity chains (GCCs). Much of this research has focused on how the growth of GCCs has entailed spatial and temporal inequalities in the distribution of the costs and rewards of production, distribution and consumption. At times, GCCs appear to give rise to relatively stable hierarchies, but on occasion they also seem to become axes of contestation and transformation. We invite papers that assess these tensions by focusing on the past, present and future of GCCs.

3. Social Inequalities. World-systems analyses have been recasting the study of between- and within-nation country inequality as constituent aspects of a single field of inquiry: the study of inequality and social stratification as processes that always have been global in their very essence (that is, not simply the interaction of otherwise “autonomous” processes involving, for example, “national wage stratification” on one dimension, “gender” in another, “race” in a third, “global inequality” on a fourth, and so on). Global social stratification pivots around institutional arrangements that render distributional outcomes as simultaneously “national,” “gendered,” “racialized” and “global” processes. We invite papers focusing on the processes that produce, reproduce, challenge and/or undermine the various forms of inequality that have been part and parcel of the modern world-system.

4. Social Movements: Systemic and Anti-systemic. Social movements lead us to periodically reevaluate the boundaries between the “systemic” and “anti-systemic.” In this regard, we are interested in critically exploring the ways in which the enduring legacy of Karl Polanyi’s concept of the “double movement” unintentionally may have served to bias world-systems research towards reading all forms of resistance to markets as “anti-systemic,” and movements relying on market mechanisms as “systemic.” In fact, a world-historical approach calls for greater sensitivity to the manifold ways in which such boundaries change over time and space. We welcome all paper proposals that reassess the meaning of “systemic” and “anti-systemic” in past and present social movements.

Submissions and Support:

Paper proposals (around 500 words) should be sent by September 30, 2015 to [PEWS-2016@umd.edu]. Please include institutional affiliations and contact information for all authors. We will respond to all submissions by October 16, 2015.
Conference participants presenting papers will be provided lodging and meals during their stay. Selected papers will be considered for publication in an edited book.

Please direct your questions to [PEWS-2016@umd.edu]. A Facebook page [facebook.com/pews2016] will offer important updates, schedules, and an opportunity to communicate with other conference participants.

Conference organization:

Scott Albrecht and Patricio Korzeniewicz, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 20782, USA.

DCSS Annual Banquet

All sociologists in the greater DC area are invited to the annual banquet of the District of Columbia Sociological Society, which is always a lot of fun. This year, we will have a panel discussion "Bringing Social Science Research into the Policy Process" with Amy Best (George Mason University), Kelly Joyce (Drexel University), Roberta Spalter-Roth (ASA and George Mason University), and Patricia White (NSF).

Banquet
Thursday, May 28th, 2015, 6-10pm
Busboys and Poets, 14th & V St, NW
$35 per person
More info: [http://www.dcsociologicalsociety.org/events.html](http://www.dcsociologicalsociety.org/events.html)
Contact: Johanna Bockman, DCSS President

PEWS Mentoring Program

PEWS Council and Mentoring Committee invite you to participate in the second annual PEWS Mentoring Program at the 2015 ASA meeting in Chicago. PEWS Council discussed and unanimously approved this program at our 2014 meeting, and if you are a member of other ASA sections, you may know that several of them have instituted similar programs.

At this year’s meeting, we will be matching graduate student members with junior faculty and junior faculty with senior faculty based on their shared research and professional interests. Participants will arrange to meet during the ASA meeting in order to get to know one another, discuss questions or concerns about academic life, and gain a mentor outside of their home institutions. All PEWS Section members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Space may be limited, but we will do our best to include everyone who sends us their materials by the deadline.
Graduate students and faculty members interested in participating in the mentoring program should contact PEWS graduate student representative Zach McKenney, zmckenne@vols.utk.edu by July 1, 2015.

Awards

Paul Almeida, University of California-Merced, received the 2015 Distinguished Scholarship Award from the Pacific Sociological Association (PSA) for his book, Mobilizing Democracy: Globalization and Citizen Protest (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014). The Award was presented April 3, 2015 at the 78th annual PSA Conference in Long Beach, CA.

Paul Almeida, University of California-Merced, received a Fulbright Scholar Fellowship from 2015-2017 in Honduras for his project entitled, “Nongovernmental Organizations and Community Well-Being.”

Stefanie Israel, University of Notre Dame, was awarded a Fulbright Study/Research Grant and a Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship.

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It has been my privilege to serve as the PEWS NEWS editor for the past three years. What a wonderful experience to dialogue with section members and learn of your accomplishments and important work in the field!! Thank you to all of the section officers who helped me construct various issues of PEWS NEWS, as well as members who contributed stories, reviews, research and announcements.

Please join me in welcoming the new PEWS NEWS editor, Benjamin Marley of Binghamton University (bmarley1@binghamton.edu). And be on the look out for his first issue in the fall of 2015!!

See you in Chicago!!

Nicole Shortt