

**Humanist Sociology at the End of the World?**

**CONFRONTING  
CASCADING  
CRISES  
TOGETHER**

**NOVEMBER 1-4, 2023**

*Le Pavillon Hotel*  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**



**Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology.**

# Humanist Sociologists at the End of the World?

## *Confronting Cascading Crises Together*

Annual Meetings of the Association for Humanist Sociology  
November 1 - 4, 2023  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Marc R. Settembrino, President  
Anastacia Schulhoff, Program Chair

It feels like attacks are coming from all directions. Transgender people and women are losing access to life-saving medical care. Washed-up musicians angrily shoot cans of cheap beer with assault weapons and domestic terrorists are storming public libraries around the US. Meanwhile, children take to the streets and occupy state capitols demanding that legislators enact meaningful gun control. The climate crisis is intensifying. Californians are recovering from devastating floods. Communities across the southeast are sorting through rubble after weeks of deadly tornado outbreaks. However, officials in Atlanta, Georgia are razing forests and killing Indigenous protestors to make way for their “Cop City.” Corporate profits have never been higher, yet more Americans face hunger and homelessness due to price gouging on food, medicine, housing, and other basic necessities. Even our alleged Ivory Towers are under siege as reactionary politicians begin to dismantle so-called “woke” curricula and neoliberal administrators develop plans for faculty buyouts and layoffs in advance of the dreaded “demographic cliff”. I could go on, but my chest feels tight just from typing this paragraph.

It’s clear that our work as humanist sociologists is more important than ever. I invite you to join us from November 1 through 4, 2023 for our annual meetings in New Orleans, Louisiana. Our conference theme is “Humanist Sociology at the End of the World? Confronting Cascading Crises Together.” Join us as we share our academic, creative, and activist work to challenge white supremacy, cis-hetero-patriarchy, Christo-fascism, the climate crisis, and all other forms of oppression and as we engage the central question of the conference, “How can we support one another as humans/academics/activists as our communities, organizations, and institutions fail?”

# AHS Anti-Harassment Policy

The Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS) unequivocally is committed to the eradication of discrimination (both intentional and unintentional), harassment, intimidation, and violence (both physical and mental) directed at individuals and groups based on, but not limited to, race and ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, class, nationality and immigrant status, ability, and religion. Further, AHS does not condone social systems and institutions that perpetuate sexual, physical, psychological, and emotional abuse in U.S. society. As critical humanist sociologists, we are keenly aware of how systems of oppression operate to oppose those who are abused (in all forms), and against those who show courage in calling out their abusers. We condemn these systems strongly. Further, because we understand how power works, both at the individual and structural levels, AHS is strongly committed against actions and stances that would blame the victims.

AHS defines offensive and prohibited conduct as actions that may include, but is not limited to, offensive jokes, slurs, epithets, name-calling, physical assaults and threats, unwanted touching and persistent unwanted attention and invasion of personal space, intimidation, ridicule or mockery, and insults and put-downs. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is engaged in without clear affirmative consent. Discriminatory and harassing actions are prohibited both when they are directed at specific individuals and groups and when they create a hostile environment.

This policy addresses harassment that involves AHS members in general. By joining AHS, and through registering for meetings and/or partaking in any activities related to AHS, members of AHS agree to comply with the policies, rules, regulations, and by-laws of AHS. Failure to adhere to the policies, rules, regulations, and by-laws are grounds for immediate expulsion from AHS. In addition, further action may be taken to disassociate AHS from offenders to include, but not limited to, rescinding awards, titles, or other accolades given by AHS, and/or revoking membership in AHS.

\*We give credit to the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), and Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), from which much of this language is derived.

# About the Association

## **Our Mission**

These are perilous times. Crises confront human beings in the United States and around the globe. Humanist sociologists strive as professionals, as scholars, and as activists to uncover and address social issues, working with others to lessen the pain of social problems. We view people not merely as products of social forces, but also as shapers of social life, capable of creating social orders in which everyone's potential can unfold. Difficult times give humanist sociologists opportunities to apply their special skills and perspectives for the purpose of creating a more humane world.

The politics, research, and sociological work of AHS members are richly varied. We share the belief that our use of the label 'humanist' does not automatically make our concerns relevant to humanity, or our scholarship more humane. It is our shared commitment to use sociology for people, as well as the larger needs of the planet, that shape our orientation to humanist sociology.

## **Our Purpose**

We intend to be an active support network for sociologists and other scholars committed to humanist values, as they practice in institutions often hostile to such an approach. We strive to inspire, support, and learn from one another as we make our humanist practice more conscious and skillful. We welcome sociologists, scholars, and activists into our community. Please contact our President or Vice-President for Membership for additional information.

## **Officers and Appointed Positions**

President: Marc R. Settembrino, Southeastern Louisiana University

President-Elect: Daina Harvey, College of the Holy Cross

Past President: Dawn Tawwater, Austin Community College

Vice President of Publications: Joanna Hadjicostandi, University of Texas at Permian Basin

Vice President of Membership: Emily Brissette, Bridgewater State University

Secretary: Melissa C. Gouge

Treasurer: Ashley "Woody" Doane, University of Hartford

Editor, Humanity & Society: hephzibah strmic-prawl, Independent Scholar

(Venmo: @hephzibah-strmic-pawl)

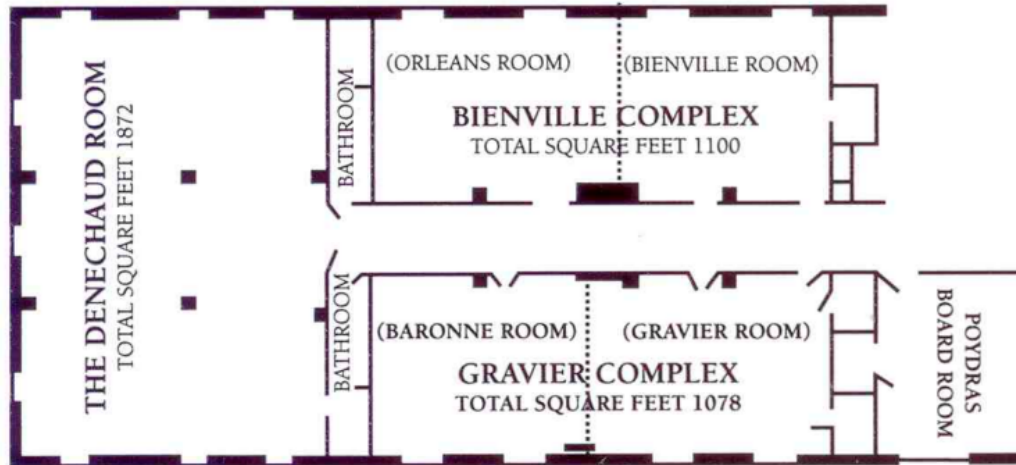
Editor, Humanist Sociologist: Jim Pennel, University of Indianapolis

Website Manager/Designer: hephzibah strmic-prawl

Nominations Committee Co-Chairs: Emily McDonald and Maretta McDonald

# Le Pavillon Hotel Layout

## THE SECOND FLOOR COMPLEX



## At a Glance Schedule

### Thursday, November 2

**9:00 am - 5pm - Registration - Denechaud**

**9:30 am - 10:30 am - Opening Board Meeting - Poydras Board Room**

**10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions**

1. Exposing Dimensions of Class and Power - *Orleans Room*
2. Poetry and Social Change - *Baronne Room*

**12:00 - 1:15 pm**

3. Activist Cafe - St. Tammany Library Alliance - *Denechaud Room*

**1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions**

4. Crime, Incarceration, Families, and Health - *Baronne Room*
5. Theorizing Humanist Sociology - *Orleans Room*
6. New Orleans transect walk: A Hands-on Introduction to Community Mapping Methodology -  
*Meet in the Bienville Room then walking*

**3:00 - 4:30 pm - Plenary Session**

7. Surviving and Trying to Thrive: Adapting to a Changing Academic Climate - *Denechaud Room*

**5:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups** - Meet in Denechaud Room or at a Designated Restuarant

**7:00 - 9:30 pm - Welcome Reception & Qween Quan's Queer Content Cabarete - *Bijoux***

**10:00 pm - 12:00 am - Hospitality Suite - *Royal Suite Room 930***

**Friday, November 3**

**7:30 am - Women's Breakfast - *Bijoux Room***

**8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Registration**

**9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions**

8. Rx Racial Healing Circles on Campus: Promoting Racial Understanding, Empathy, and Transformation - Orleans Room

9. Learning from Crises: Disaster Research & Emergency Management - Bienville Room

10. Issues in Criminal Justice Reform - Baronne Room

11. Critical Dialogue: Playful Pedagogy - Gravier Room

**10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions**

12. Getting Their Attention: Engaging Students during the Apocolypse - Orleans Room

13. Climate Change, Sustainability, and Colonialism - Bienville Room

14. What a Time to Be Alive: Living Through Political and Social Conflict - Baronne Room

**12:00 - 1:15 pm**

15. Activist cafe - Together Baton Rouge! - Denechaud Room

**1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions**

16. Critical Dialogue: Roots of Participatory Action Research to Confront Cascading Crises (Part One) - Orleans Room

17. Abolitionist and Trans-Inclusive Issues in Feminism - Bienville Room

18. Building Community and Confronting Oppression in the Classroom - Baronne Room

19. Increasing AHS Membership and Engagement - Gravier Room

**3:00 - 4:45 pm - Plenary Session**

20. Multi-disciplinary, Multi-organizational, Multi-generational, Multi-location Disaster Justice Networks: Conceptualizing "Confronting Cascading Crises Together" - Denechaud Room

**5:00 - 6:30 pm - AHS Buisness Meeting - Denechaud Room**

**6:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups - Meet in Denechaus or at Restaurant**

**8:00 pm - 12:00 am - Hospitality Suite - *Royal Suite Room 930***

**Saturday, November 4**

**8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Registration**

**9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions**

21. Putting Community in Community-based Research at Maryland's largest HBCU - Orleans

22. Social Change, Technology, Society - Bienville

23. People, Borders, and Violence - Gravier

**10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions**

24. Doing Participatory Action Research To Confront Cascading Crises (Part Two) - Orleans

25. Dismantling Race and Challenging Whiteness - Gravier

**12:00 pm - 1:15 pm**

26. Coffee with the Editor of Humanity & Society - Denechaud

**1:30 pm - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions**

27. Film Screening: Indigenous Elder Narratives of Climate Change Impacts in the Rwenzori Mountains - Denechaud

28. About Time: Abolishing the Carceral State and Ending the World as We Know It - Orleans

29. Social Inequality and COVID-19 - Baronne

30. Toying with Our Kids: The Power of Play Things - Gravier

**3:00 pm - 4:15 pm - Plenary Session**

31. We can't do this without YOU: Be the Future of AHS - Denechaud

**4:30 - 5:30 pm - Presidential Address and Awards - Denechaud**

**6:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups - Meet in Denechaus or at Restaurant**

**8:00 pm - 12:00 am - Hospitality Suite**

# Message from the President

Dear Friends,

I am excited to welcome you all to New Orleans in November! Anastacia and I have organized a program that represents **the best of contemporary humanist sociology** and encourages us to reflect on where we have been as an organization and **how to move forward together**. In the spirit of moving forward together, if you haven't already, please consider renewing your membership today!

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped with conference planning and keeping me grounded so far. **Greta and Jim Pennell** came in clutch when I needed help finding a conference hotel, evaluating proposals, and ultimately negotiating our contract. If it wasn't for them, we'd probably be meeting at my house. We've bumped heads a few times along the way, but their dedication to serving AHS is unparalleled. **Anastacia Schulhoff** has been one of my best friends and confidants since we met in graduate school. She's done a tremendous job of keeping me grounded, listening to me rant, and organizing our program. I'm also excited to see her shine as Vice-President of Publications in the coming years. My graduate assistant, **Sarah Bise** has done an outstanding job helping us prepare for the conference, especially with some of the most tedious tasks. Please thank her as well as other student volunteers from Southeastern Louisiana University, **Erin Adams, Micah Brown, Robyn Lovetro, Leah Peevy, and Suprina Howard**. I can always count on **hephzibah strmic-pawl** being a text message away when I need advice, reassurance, or encouragement. **Woody Doane** has continued to be a solid source of organizational know-how and financial advice. **Daina Harvey** and I have had many conversations about the challenges we face as an organization and how to overcome them. I am excited to congratulate him on being elected president, look forward to passing the stole on to him and collaborating with him in the coming year. Finally, **thank YOU all for your trust, patience, and encouragement**. As a burnout, former "gifted" kid with adult ADHD, serving as president challenged me in ways I never imagined.

**The world as we knew it ended in January 2020.** You all know how the story goes, so I won't repeat it here. The point is, that our global society, institutions, politics, organizations, communities, and families have changed permanently. **We can never return to the way we've always done things.**

In 2010, I attended my first AHS conference, which was also in New Orleans. As I prepared to return to where it all began, I've reflected on why I've stuck with AHS, when I've pulled away from other academic conferences and organizations. For me, it comes down to the people and spirit of AHS. We're a small organization, and because of that, **it's easier to meet people and build relationships** at our annual meetings. More importantly, **we see each other for who we are (humans)** rather than stepping stones or roadblocks in our careers. In other words, **AHS's greatest asset is our people.**



A lot has changed since 2010, even if we ignore the effects of the pandemic. However, organizationally, **our biggest change since then is that we now accept electronic payments** for conference registration and annual dues. Sure, we've had exciting international conferences in Havana and Mexico City, but generally, it's still business as usual for us humanists. Unfortunately, **our way is no longer sustainable.**

**Historically, the majority of our members were employed as academics.** To the best of my knowledge that remains true. However, many of us are finding the conditions of our employment to be increasingly precarious and simultaneously more demanding of our time and mental and emotional energy. The reality is that **many of those employed in academic positions are burnt out** and have less time and money to spare for conference travel. Meanwhile, **some are being forced out** of their academic positions, **and others are opting out of academic work** altogether. This isn't just a problem for AHS, many other academic organizations are struggling to retain and engage their members. However, we're a small organization that largely operates as if we're still in the early 2000s. **Of course, we're suffering more!**

I don't think anyone has ever said that they are looking forward to the business meeting at the annual conference. So let me be the first to go on record: ***I am looking forward to the AHS business meeting.*** During this meeting, we will need to make bold changes to our infrastructure, community engagement, and conference planning strategies, as well as critically examine the roles and responsibilities of officer positions in the organization.

**New Orleans and AHS have a lot in common.** Without making light of the challenges that New Orleansians face, the people of New Orleans live, sing, and dance, through one crisis after another. **There isn't a better place for us to reconnect and recommit to one another as we use sociology for people and the larger needs of the planet.**

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is anything I can do to support you.

In Solidarity,  
Marc Settembrino  
President, Association for Humanist Sociology  
[marc.settembrino@selu.edu](mailto:marc.settembrino@selu.edu)  
Cell: 321-795-8314

# Program Chair Welcome

Happy fall to you all! We have finalized the conference program and activities for this year's AHS annual meeting in New Orleans. What an exciting time it has been! I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to everyone attending the 2023 AHS conference "Confronting Cascading Crisis Together" at the Le Pavillon Hotel. We look forward to coming together to see how we can support one another as humans, academics, and activists as our communities, organizations, and institutions strain to meet the needs of society and the human condition. Whether you are a new member or a long-standing member, we are excited to have you be a part of this wonderful organization and look forward to seeing and supporting you in New Orleans this year. I would also like to extend my most sincere appreciation to those serving as current or past AHS officers or on one of the many committees of our organization. It is essential work, and we appreciate you. We also want to thank those who remain involved with AHS in other ways, such as interacting with us or liking AHS on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Marc and I joined AHS in 2008 and 2009 as graduate students at USF to connect, share, learn, and grow with fellow sociologists and activists nationwide. We both felt like we had found a "home" filled with sociologists who understood the human side of the work that we do and saw us as friends and comrades instead of as competition or a faceless number in the crowd. I especially want to thank Marc for his tireless leadership and work on the conference. He took the lead on every aspect of our meeting this year and made sure not to overburden me with the minutiae of planning and hotel decisions. His awareness of and dedication to equity, accessibility, and collective leadership made this a pleasurable experience. I am always amazed at his ability to lead and gather people for a common goal. Thank you for serving as the President of AHS this year, Marc. You are a rockstar!

This year we are excited to feature two Activist Café's and opportunities to share your thoughts and solutions about the future of AHS. There are also chances for uniquely New Orleans evening outings, such as the Arts District holding its monthly Art Walk on Saturday, September 2nd. Thank you to those who submitted papers this year. We have put together a robust lineup of great presentations to attend to the issues of gender, environmentalism, pedagogy, and many more timely topics. We also have stellar long-time AHS supporters and colleagues like Alan Spector, Woody, and the Pennells attending this year's meeting. We hope it will be a great time of fellowship, networking, social problem-solving, and activism in New Orleans. I hope you have a wonderful time gathering together this year and will leave with inspiration, new ideas, and comradeship.

Best wishes and safe travels to everyone.

We will see you in New Orleans!

Anastacia Schulhoff  
2023 AHS Program Chair

# Humanity & Society

*Humanity & Society*, the journal of AHS, has had a wonderful past year. The journal had a special issue, “Welcome to Your Home for Critical Humanist, Activist Scholarship,” (May 2023) emphasizing the vision and mission of the journal to publish pieces centered on social justice and humanist change. This issue highlighted the work of many of our editorial board and if you haven’t had a chance to read it yet, please do. Last month we created new guidelines for submissions for special issues, including a clear rubric for evaluation and decision making. That call is included in the program. To see (and download) any of the *Humanity & Society* calls, please see our journal information page hosted on the AHS page:

<https://www.humanist-sociology.org/call-for-papers.html>. We are always working on new initiatives to make the journal the best place it can be for humanist scholarship.

**Thank you for your support of *Humanity & Society!* ~ hephzibah strmic-pawl**

## **What can you do?**

- Submit manuscripts – As a member of AHS, *Humanity & Society* is your journal, so we particularly welcome manuscripts from members. (CFP at the end of the program)
- Spread the call for papers – Please share widely our call for papers (general call, book & media review call, pedagogy call, and special issue call) to your colleagues and on social media.
- Register as a reviewer – *Humanity & Society* is always in need of reviewers, so if you are not registered yet with the ScholarOne System, please do so. If you need instructions, please email us.
- Social Media Editor – We are currently in need of a social media editor, so if you have 1-2 hours a week to help promote the journal on social media, please contact us.
- Have other ideas for the journal? Please feel to reach out.
- For all inquiries, email: [humanityandsocietyjournal@gmail.com](mailto:humanityandsocietyjournal@gmail.com)

**And many thanks to our entire editorial board:**

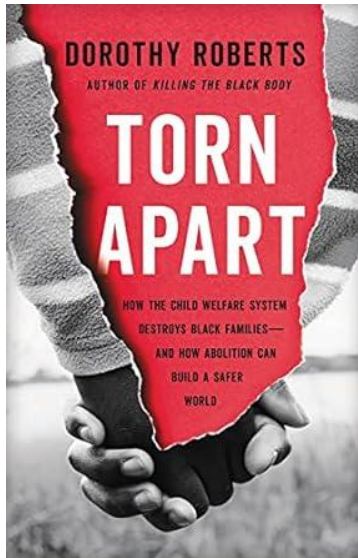
**Managing Editor:** Heidi Nicholls; **Book & Media Review Editors:** Shaonta’ Allen and Maretta Darnell McDonald; **Pedagogy Editor:** Myron T. Strong; and **Social Media Editor:** Emily McDonald (rotating off)

**Deputy Editors:** Emma Bailey, Emily Brissette, Nnenia Campbell, Ghassan Moussawi, Antonia Randolph (rotated off), and Jason Williams.

**Associate Editors:** Felicia Arriaga, Brittany Battle, Carson Byrd, Kaitland Byrd, David Embrick, Kasey Henricks, Marie-Claude Jipguep, Melissa Lavin, Wende Marshall, Austin McCoy, Zebulon Miletsky, Greta Eleen Pennell, James R. Pennell, Thomas Piñeros Shields, Ebonie Cunningham Stringer, Watoii R. Rabii, Courtney B. Ross, Joti Sekhon, Saher Selod, Marc Settembrino, Katerina Standish, Bhoomi Thakore, Mo Torres, Megan Underhill, Melissa Weiner, Johnny Williams, and Rai Wilson.

# Betty & Alfred McClung Lee Book Award

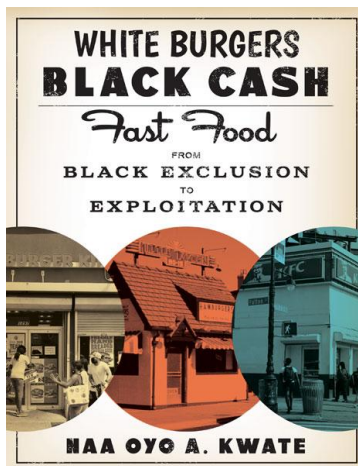
Congratulations to the co-winners of this year's book award! Although they are unable to join us this year, we hope to see them at next year's conference and/or in a virtual event soon.



## **Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families - And How Abolition Can Build a Safer World**

By Dorothy Roberts

Many believe the child welfare system protects children from abuse. But as *Torn Apart* uncovers, this system is designed to punish Black families. Drawing on decades of research, legal scholar and sociologist Dorothy Roberts reveals that the child welfare system is better understood as a “family policing system” that collaborates with law enforcement and prisons to oppress Black communities. Child protection investigations ensnare a majority of Black children, putting their families under intense state surveillance and regulation. Black children are disproportionately likely to be torn from their families and placed in foster care, driving many to juvenile detention and imprisonment.



## **White Burgers, Black Cash: Fast Food from Black Exclusion to Exploitation**

By Naa Oyo A. Kwate

*White Burgers, Black Cash* traces the evolution in fast food from the early 1900s to the present, from its long history of racist exclusion to its current damaging embrace of urban Black communities. Deeply researched, compellingly told, and brimming with surprising details, this book reveals the inequalities embedded in America's popular national food tradition.

Many thanks to Cindy Brooks Dollar (Chair), Eve Darian-Smith, and Johnny Williams for serving on the 2023 Book Award Committee. If you're interested in serving on the book award committee, please email our incoming VP of Publications, Anastacia Schulhoff at [schulhoffam@appstate.edu](mailto:schulhoffam@appstate.edu). Keep an eye out for the Call for Nominations in Spring 2024!

# Note for Presenters & Facilitators

In keeping with AHS tradition, presenters are asked to begin with a short reflexive statement. This is a statement of the author's values and perspectives with respect to the subject area.

AHS is committed to sessions that maximize the exchange of ideas. Toward that end, we have adopted the following guidelines for program presentations:

1. Presenters are asked not to read papers, but instead to talk about the major ideas and findings in their work;
2. AHS meeting sessions do not, except in special circumstances, include a discussant. Instead, the entire audience serves as discussant;
3. Presenters should plan presentations to leave adequate time for other presentations and group discussions; and
4. Session facilitators are asked to set time limits, keep track of time, help guide discussion, and pose questions where appropriate.

## Reflexive Statement Example

I began practicing yoga in 2015 to cope with my father's death and the stress of being on the tenure track. Like most White yoga practitioners in the West, I approached yoga as a treatment to soothe my pain and escape the troubles of my daily life. That approach worked. I began to sleep easier, and I was generally less agitated. I appreciated these benefits and wanted to share them with others. In 2017, entered a yoga teacher training program where I began to engage in yoga philosophy and understand the politics of yoga. I acknowledge that what we call "yoga" today, originated in South Asia generations ago. I understand that these practices were suppressed by colonization and are now exploited by global capitalism. However, like many other yoga practitioners and teachers around the world, I also understand that yoga is a liberatory practice that challenges the limited worldviews presented by white supremacy, capitalism, and hetero-patriarchy to name a few. Soon after completing my yoga teacher training, I began incorporating various yoga practices in sociology courses to promote embodied learning and to help students begin to reconnect with their humanity. In this paper, I reflect on how college students respond to yoga in the classroom.

Marc Settembrino in "Yoga, Pedagogy, and How I'm Learning to Connect with My Students and Our Shared Humanity"

# Schedule of Sessions and Events

Wednesday, November 1

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Registration - Denechaud

5:30 pm - Early Arrivers Dinner Groups

7 - 9:00 pm - Big Easy Sisters Mobile Altar Procession of  
Remembrance of All Souls on All Saints Day

Join the Big Easy Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for this year's mobile altar procession of remembrance of All Souls on All Saints Day Tuesday. The procession starts at neutral ground across from The Phoenix/Mags 940 on Elysian Fields. The first stop is The New Orleans AIDS Memorial in Washington Square Park where we will offer a blessing of remembrance. From there they proceed through the Quarter/Marigny and the processional ends where it ends.

This event is FREE and Open to ALL.

Participants are invited to bring an offering of remembrance for anyone (even a beloved pet) to place upon our mobile altar (all offerings whether an object, picture, or note are kept safe in reverence for use in future Big Easy Sister remembrances) Candles for the altar are available (in addition to any personal offering) but donations are appreciated. Monetary offerings/donations are NOT required and any funds collected go to local New Orleans Charities.

Can't make it? You can send the Sisters a remembrance virtually which they will place on the altar for you; email: [thebig easysisters@gmail.com](mailto:thebig easysisters@gmail.com). You can also make monetary offerings/donations via Venmo @Nola-Sisters (reference All Souls)

Masking, Dress, Costume, or makeup is always encouraged and Not required but should be appropriate to the celebration or with your own

# Thursday, November 2

9:00 am - 5:00 pm - Registration

9:30 - 10:30 am - Opening Board Meeting

Poydras Board Room

10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

## 1. Exposing Dimensions of Class and Power

### **Orleans**

#### *Exposed*

Deborah Burriskitchen, Tennessee State University, [dburriskitchen@tnstate.edu](mailto:dburriskitchen@tnstate.edu)

#### *Rejecting False Binaries of Race and Class--A Persistent Global Problem*

Alan Spector, [aspector2020@gmail.com](mailto:aspector2020@gmail.com)

#### *Complexities of Class*

Stephen Adair, Central Connecticut State University, [adairs@ccsu.edu](mailto:adairs@ccsu.edu)

## 2. Poetry and Social Change (panel session)

### **Baronne**

#### **Session Organizer: Carolyn Howe**

Presider: Daina Harvey, College of the Holy Cross, [dharvey@holycross.edu](mailto:dharvey@holycross.edu)

Participants: Carolyn Howe, College of the Holy Cross, [chowe@holycross.edu](mailto:chowe@holycross.edu)

Joshua Lew McDermott, Southeastern Louisiana University,  
[joshua.mcdermott@selu.edu](mailto:joshua.mcdermott@selu.edu)

This session will explore how poetry and sociology can work together to address the injustices and crises of our day. How do poetry and sociology work together to enhance critical pedagogy and public intellectual work? How can poetry help bring a humanist perspective into the classroom? How can we bring a humanist sociological perspective to the broader community through poetry? We know the power of song in social movements, but can poetry and sociology help create a better world? Presenters will share their insights, read a poem that inspires them, and read one or two original poems. After the presentations, the session will be open for general discussion and sharing of poems by participants.

12:00 - 1:15 pm - 3. Activist Cafe - St. Tammany Library Alliance

**Denechaud**

**Featuring Kristen Luchsinger and Mike Luschinger**



Did you know that St. Tammany Parish is ground zero for the fascist movement to censor materials in public libraries? The St. Tammany Parish Library Alliance is a grassroots group of people and organizations defending our parish libraries so they may continue to provide a public, neutral space with accessibility to a wide spectrum of materials for all citizens without censorship or interference by political groups, according to our First Amendment Rights.

1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

4. Crime, Incarceration, Families, and Health (paper session)

**Baronne**

**Moderator: Corey Dolgon**

*Effects of Crime on Hypertension in a Midsized Metropolitan Area*

Chenesia Brown, University of Delaware, [clbrown@udel.edu](mailto:clbrown@udel.edu)

*Activation and Creation: Using Social Connections to Build Success Upon Release from Prison*

Victor Tademy, Southeastern Louisiana University, [victor.tademy@selu.edu](mailto:victor.tademy@selu.edu)



## 5. Theorizing Humanist Sociology (paper session)

### **Orleans**

*What Makes a Social Theory Humanistic?*

Jim Pennell, University of Indianapolis, [jpennell@uindy.edu](mailto:jpennell@uindy.edu)

*Integral Ecology as Humanist Sociology*

Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts,

[kalob\\_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu](mailto:kalob_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu)

*Against Humanist Sociology: Weberianism, Psychological Determinism and Original Sin as Enemies of Social Change*

Alan Spector, [aspector2020@gmail.com](mailto:aspector2020@gmail.com)

## 6. New Orleans Transect Walk: A Hands-on Introduction to Community Mapping Methodology (interactive workshop)

**Meet in Bienville then walk**

**Session Organizers: Emily McDonald and Melissa Gouge**

There is an urgent need for more community ownership and participation among scholars and in scholarship. Participatory methods allow for scholarship that is reflective and inclusive of community concerns, and community building among participants. Together, we can identify and address increasingly urgent social problems.

One way for us to work together to share our skills and to learn from our neighbors is a transect walk. In this workshop, we will offer a hands-on experience utilizing a methodology grounded in liberatory sociology (Feagin & Vera, 2015) that can be utilized by humanist sociologists and their communities after the meeting.

Please note that you will participate in a transect walk during this session. Please wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing.

## 3:00 - 4:30 pm - Plenary Session

### 7. Surviving and Trying to Thrive: Adapting to a Changing Academic Climate (community forum)

**Denechaud**

**Session Organizers: Marguerite Hernandez and Sarah Webb**

This is a forum for a critical dialogue focused on challenges and camaraderie in higher education today. Participants will discuss the current challenges faculty are facing in their institutions, such as layoffs, resource constraints, increased demands on faculty, limited institutional support, and state legislation threatening academic freedom. Participants will further discuss various ways faculty are addressing these issues, including innovative teaching practices and course design, organizing, and activism. Through this critical dialogue, we hope participants will collaborate and generate creative ideas on how to foster supportive and enriching institutional environments to work and learn in.

## 5:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups

**Meet in Denechaud or at a Designated Restuarant**

## 7:00 - 9:30 pm - Welcome Reception with J. Reese and Qween Quan's Queer Content Cabarete

**Bijoux**

Reconnect and make new friends at our Welcome Reception featuring the acoustic talents of The Swamp Bard, J. Reese, and a special edition of Qween Quan's Queer Content Cabarete. Don't forget to bring cash to tip New Orleans' most scintillating trans and queer entertainers!



10:00 PM - 12:00 AM - Hospitality Suite  
Royal Suite - Room 930

## Friday, November 3

7:30 AM - Women's Breakfast

**Bijoux - Please sign up at the Registration Desk**

8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Registration

9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions

### 8. Rx Racial Healing Circles on Campus: Promoting Racial Understanding, Empathy, and Transformation (2 hours)

#### **Orleans**

#### **Workshop Organizer: Felicia P. Wiltz**

With the growing backlash and attacks on the education of race and racism, it is more important than ever for colleges and universities to continue their efforts to increase racial knowledge and understanding. This workshop will demonstrate a shortened version of a Rx Racial Healing Circle, a methodology developed by Dr. Gail Christopher. Racial Healing Circles are practices adapted from indigenous communities that focus on community building and racial understanding. Circles are comprised of a diverse group of individuals who share their stories and truths, engaging in courageous discussions to address the false beliefs of racial hierarchies and the legacies of racism, colonialism, and white supremacy. As part of the Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) initiative on our campus, we developed a Faculty and Professional Learning Community (FPLC) of diverse faculty, staff, and administrators to engage in Rx Racial Healing Circles (RHCs) for an academic year. Our circles focused on community building and narrative change in an inclusive and supportive manner to bring about transformative and sustainable personal change. Through these circles, we engaged in our own education of racism, uncovered unconscious biases, and addressed misbeliefs learned in our own socialization. The FPLC went on to conduct RHCs for other campus members centered around campus-wide readings on race and racism.

This workshop will review the fundamentals of RHCs and attendees will participate in a shortened version of a circle.

## 9. Learning from Crises: Disaster Research & Emergency Management

### **Bienville**

*Bad Magic, Disasters, and Social Change*

Mitch Stripling, Mailman School of Public Health; Columbia University  
[ms6478@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:ms6478@cumc.columbia.edu)

Jordan Pascoe, Philosophy Department, Manhattan College;  
[jordan.pascoe@manhattan.edu](mailto:jordan.pascoe@manhattan.edu)

*Web Analytics of Landfalling Hurricanes*

Molly McGraw, Southeastern Louisiana University, [mmcgraw@selu.edu](mailto:mmcgraw@selu.edu)

*CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule: Examining the Relationships Between Nursing Home Facility Characteristics and Regulatory Deficiencies*

Tihara Richardson Sommers, Tulane University, [trichardson@tulane.edu](mailto:trichardson@tulane.edu)

## 10. Issues in Criminal Justice Reform (paper session)

### **Baronne**

#### **Session Organizer: Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts**

*Criminal Justice Reform in an Unlikely Place: Louisiana*

Dennis Kalob, Wheaton College Massachusetts  
[kalob\\_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu](mailto:kalob_dennis@wheatoncollege.edu)

*The Visiting Room Project*

Marcus Kondkar, Loyola University New Orleans  
[kondkar@loyno.edu](mailto:kondkar@loyno.edu)

*What the Trump Presidency and its Aftermath Tells Us About the Urgent Need for Structural Reform in the Criminal Justice System*

Chris Dale, Bentley University  
[cdale@bentley.edu](mailto:cdale@bentley.edu)

## 11. Critical Dialogue: Playful Pedagogy

**Gravier**

**Session Organizer: Greta Pennell**

Participants: Amanda Miller, University of Indianapolis [milleraj@uindy.edu](mailto:milleraj@uindy.edu)  
Terrence Harewood, Synergistic Transformations, LLC,  
[synergistictransformations@gmail.com](mailto:synergistictransformations@gmail.com)  
Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis, [gpennell@uindy.edu](mailto:gpennell@uindy.edu)

An old adage says that you can catch more flies with sugar than vinegar. A similar effect may be found when teaching sociological concepts dealing with social problems, any number of “-isms,” and sociological theories that challenge students’ pre-existing or predominant understandings of their worlds. In this highly interactive session, presenters share specific strategies for teaching tough topics using toys, games, and other playful pedagogical techniques in conjunction with self-assessment tools. Participants will have a chance to play and actively engage with the games and toys while brainstorming additional ways that they can help sociology majors and non-majors understand concepts such as ableism; gender, racial and ethnic discrimination; sociological theory, and heterononnormative/binary views of gender.

10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

## 12. Getting Their Attention: Engaging Students during the Apocalypse

**Orleans**

**President: Stephen Adair**

*Getting Around the System: Individualized Learning Plans as a Radical Pedagogy Tool*

Staci Newmahr, Buffalo State University, [newmahsd@buffalostate.edu](mailto:newmahsd@buffalostate.edu)

*Evaluating Online Course Engagement*

Jeffrey Dowd, Rutgers University, [jdowd@sociology.rutgers.edu](mailto:jdowd@sociology.rutgers.edu)

*Going to Zion! Experiencing Environmental Sociology in an Iconic National Park*

David Burley, Southeastern Louisiana University, [david.burley@selu.edu](mailto:david.burley@selu.edu)

## 13. Climate Change, Sustainability, and Colonialism

**Bienville**

**Presider: Joti Sekhon**

*No Rain, No Cattle: Effects of Extreme Climate Change on Namibian Pastoralists*  
Kellen Gilbert, Southeastern Louisiana University,  
[kellengilbert@southeastern.edu](mailto:kellengilbert@southeastern.edu)

*Climate Change in the Mountains of the Moon: Bakonzo Elder Narratives of Climate Impacts on Indigenous Livelihoods*  
Heidi Renate Ballard, Otterbein University, [hballard@otterbein.edu](mailto:hballard@otterbein.edu)

*Sustainable Beer: How Green Is The US Beer Industry?*  
Ellis Jones, College of the Holy Cross, [ejones@holycross.edu](mailto:ejones@holycross.edu)

*Addressing Patriarchal Colonialism in Ciderland*  
Daina Cheyenne Harvey, College of the Holy Cross, [dharvey@holycross.edu](mailto:dharvey@holycross.edu)

## 14. What a Time to Be Alive: Living Through Political and Social Conflict

**Baronne**

*MAGA's Revanchist Roots: The Tale is in the Tropes*  
Jerry Lembcke, Holy Cross College  
[jlembcke@holycross.edu](mailto:jlembcke@holycross.edu)

*The Re-emergence of Imperial Conflict*  
Ricardo A. Dello Buono, Manhattan College  
[ricardo.dellobuono@manhattan.edu](mailto:ricardo.dellobuono@manhattan.edu)

*Living Queer on Louisiana's Northshore: Results from a Community Survey*  
Sarah Bise, Micah Brown, Robyn Lovetro, Erin Adams, Haleigh  
Byrne-Rancatore, Kailyn Duncan  
Marc R. Settembrino, Southeastern Louisiana University,  
[marc.settembrino@selu.edu](mailto:marc.settembrino@selu.edu)

12:00 - 1:15 pm 15. Activist Cafe - Together Baton Rouge

**Denechaud**

**Featuring Abel Thompson (Organizer) and members of Together Baton Rouge**



Together Baton Rouge is a broad-based coalition of congregations and community-based organizations in the Greater Baton Rouge area, with the capacity to address community problems large and small. TBR is deliberate about crossing the lines of race, religion, neighborhood, and political affiliation. TBR organizes to build the power to address issues affecting families and communities and is strictly a non-partisan organization.

1:30 - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

16. Critical Dialogue: Roots of Participatory Action Research to Confront Cascading Crises (Part One)

**Orleans**

**Session Organizer: Emma Bailey**

Participants: Alexandra Pineros-Shields, Brandeis University- [apineros@brandeis.edu](mailto:apineros@brandeis.edu)  
Thomas Pineros-Shields, U of Mass Lowell-  
[Thomas\\_PinerosShields@uml.edu](mailto:Thomas_PinerosShields@uml.edu)

Participatory Action Research (PAR) has been a powerful tool that academics and community activists have used for decades that emerged in liberatory struggles around the world with different epistemological traditions. In this session we look at the roots of PAR and present key components from its genealogical, geographical and epistemological lessons for our challenges, confronting cascading and simultaneous crises for social justice. After attending this session, please join our workshop where we look at tools and case studies, and invite you to engage with us.

## 17. Putting the T(rans) in Feminist Research

### **Bienville**

*The Impact of the Colonial/Modern [Cis] Gender System: A Life History Approach of A Transgender Rarámuri Woman in Ciudad Juárez*

Selene Diaz, Virginia Tech, [selene@vt.edu](mailto:selene@vt.edu)

*The State of Intimate Partner Violence in Transgender Lives: Findings from the US Transgender Survey*

Xavier Guadalupe-Diaz, Framingham State University,  
[xguadalupediaz@framingham.edu](mailto:xguadalupediaz@framingham.edu)

*Aging as Nonbinary: Disrupting Notions of "Successful" Aging*

Renee Beard, College of the Holy Cross, [rbeard@holycross.edu](mailto:rbeard@holycross.edu)

## 18. Building Community and Confronting Oppression in the Classroom

### **Baronne**

#### **Moderator: Corey Dolgon**

*First-Generation College Students' Sense of 'Belonging' & Multifaceted Identity Construction: Does Students' Use of Individualistic Narratives/Schemas Correspond with their Awareness/Access of Supportive Services?*

Danielle Docka-Filipek, University of Minnesota--Duluth, [dock0069@d.umn.edu](mailto:dock0069@d.umn.edu)

Dr. Linda Waldron, Christopher Newport University & The Center for Education, Research, & Policy, [lwaldron@cnu.edu](mailto:lwaldron@cnu.edu)

Linnea Rogge, University of MN-Duluth, [rogge055@d.umn.edu](mailto:rogge055@d.umn.edu)

Carlie Carter, College of William & Mary, [carlie.carter.17@cnu.edu](mailto:carlie.carter.17@cnu.edu)

Abigale Sloniker, Christopher Newport University, [abigale.sloniker.22@cnu.edu](mailto:abigale.sloniker.22@cnu.edu)

*Photovoice as Humanist Pedagogy: Engaging Students in the Age of COVID-19*

Anastacia Schulhoff, Appalachian State University, [schulhoffam@appstate.edu](mailto:schulhoffam@appstate.edu)

## 19. Increasing AHS Membership and Engagement (interactive workshop)

### **Gravier**

#### **Workshop Organizer: Mary Barr**

During this working session, we will write a panel proposal to submit for the Southern Sociological Society (SSS) conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 9-12, 2025. The purpose of the panel is to spread the word about AHS and increase membership. If you are interested in participating on the panel or have other membership recruiting ideas, please attend this brainstorming session.



## 3:00 - 4:45 pm - Plenary Session

### 20. Multi-disciplinary, Multi-organizational, Multi-generational, Multi-location Disaster Justice Networks: Conceptualizing "Confronting Cascading Crises Together"

**Denechaud**

**Panelists:**    **Kris Peterson, Lowlander Center**  
                      **Shirley Laska, Lowlander Center**  
                      **Simone Domingue, Tulane University**  
                      **Hannah Friedrich, University of Arizona**  
                      **Pauline Hurst, Pauline Hurst Mercy Center, Lake Charles, LA**  
                      **Cynthia P. Robertson, Micah Six Eight Mission, Sulphur, LA**  
                      **Julie Maldonado, Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN)**  
                      **Noah Patton, National Lower Income Housing Coalition, DC**  
                      **Naomi Yoder, Healthy Gulf, Houston, TX**

Southwest Louisiana was struck dramatically in 2020 and 2021 by four weather crises that had a cascading quality: Hurricanes Laura and Delta, a winter severe freeze, and a spring flood. While the Southwest Louisiana communities were immersed in the initial recovery efforts from each of these events, Category 4 Hurricane Ida directly hit South Central coastal Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes in August 2021. The challenges of recovery from such a "comprehensive" set of crises revealed the shortfall of human and organizational resources if each recovery specialty is recruited and targeted independently for only one aspect of the recovery of each disaster in isolation. In addition, if specialists must be geographically local even more stress is placed on recovery. Two disaster recovery professionals with a wide range of professional connections -- Julie Maldonado (Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network) and Kristina Peterson (Lowlander Center) -- reached out through their networks to address the extreme challenges in a more resource-comprehensive approach: invite engaged individuals from a wide variety of organizations to come together weekly via online communications to address the extreme, serious recovery challenges, forming the Disaster Justice Network (DJN).

## 5:00 - 6:30 pm - AHS Business Meeting

**Denechaud**

## 6:30 pm - Dinner Group Meet-Ups

**Meet in Denechaud or at the Restaurant**

8:00 PM - 12:00 AM - Hospitality Suite

Royal Suite - Room 930

Saturday, November 4

Registration 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

9:00 - 10:15 am - Concurrent Sessions

21. Putting Community in Community-based Research at Maryland's largest HBCU (panel session)

**Orleans**

**Session Organizer: Ellen Kang**

Participants: Kiaron Bailey, Morgan State University, [kiaron.bailey@morgan.edu](mailto:kiaron.bailey@morgan.edu)  
Marvin Perry, Morgan State University, [marvin.perry@morgan.edu](mailto:marvin.perry@morgan.edu)  
Sabriya Sturdavant, Morgan State University,  
[sabriya.sturdavant@morgan.edu](mailto:sabriya.sturdavant@morgan.edu)  
Julian Walker, Morgan State University, [julian.walker@morgan.edu](mailto:julian.walker@morgan.edu)  
Lawrence Brown, Morgan State University, [lawrence.brown@morgan.edu](mailto:lawrence.brown@morgan.edu)

This session will be a critical dialogue about how an urban health equity research center approaches racialized health disparities. The presenters are faculty and staff of the new Center for Urban Health Equity (CUHE), at Morgan State University. Hence, CUHE'S geographic focus is Baltimore, a city with a majority black population. CUHE's mission is to conduct applied research through community partnerships. To this end, CUHE has both a research faculty team and a community engagement team. The research faculty focus on both specific areas of health as well as the social and structural determinants of health (dimensions of societal inequality that contribute to disparities in health outcomes) in underserved communities. One of the two main areas of research is community mental health and well-being in youth and re-entry populations. The other area is food insecurity, especially how urban agriculture may be employed to improve fresh, healthy food access for residents of lower-income neighborhoods. The community engagement team's mission is to build trust and partnerships with CUHE researchers, public health officials, and community leaders in marginalized populations that have a history of mistreatment and/or neglect within the healthcare system. Active participation of community members serves to ensure the integrity and authenticity of CUHE's efforts as it endeavors to be responsive, accurate, and appropriate in assessing needs and priorities. In this way, academic expertise and grassroots knowledge are synthesized in applied research that addresses racialized health crises in Baltimore.

## 22. Social Change, Technology, and Society (paper session)

**Bienville**

**Moderator: Corey Dolgon**

*Race, Standing, and the Boundaries of Legitimate Protest*

Emily Brissette, Bridgewater State University, [erbrissette@gmail.com](mailto:erbrissette@gmail.com)

*Housing action and mutual aid: Lessons from Brussels and New York City*

Amy Foerster, Pace University, [afoerster@pace.edu](mailto:afoerster@pace.edu)

*How We Can Best Choose Our News: A New Rating System for the Integrity & Bias of Media Sources*

Ellis Jones, College of the Holy Cross, [ejones@holycross.edu](mailto:ejones@holycross.edu)

*A randomized vignette experiment using images generated using artificial intelligence (AI) to examine unconscious racial bias among college students*

Leah Peevy and Suprina Howard, Southeastern University

## 23. People, Borders, and Violence (paper session)

**Gravier**

**Moderator: Douglas De Toledo Piza**

*Racial Biopower, Sovereignty, and Security: Operation Lone Star on the Texas-Mexico Border*

Jennifer G. Correa, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, [jcorrea@tamusa.edu](mailto:jcorrea@tamusa.edu)

*“Giving Back”: Intersecting Constraints and Immigrant Mothers in Schools and Community Organizations*

Melanie Jones Gast, University of Louisville

Sarah Ovink, Virginia Tech, [sovink@vt.edu](mailto:sovink@vt.edu)

Solomon Amoatey, University of Louisville

*Mnemonic Activism of Nikkei in Brazil: Acknowledgement and Reparation for the Internment of Japanese Brazilians in the 1940s*

Douglas de Toledo Piza, Lafayette College, [detoled@lafayette.edu](mailto:detoled@lafayette.edu)

*From Crisis to Disaster: Anti-Migration Violence During Latin American Transit*

Nancy Rios-Contreras, Chapman University, [RiosContreras@chapman.edu](mailto:RiosContreras@chapman.edu)

## 10:30 - 11:45 am - Concurrent Sessions

### 24. Doing Participatory Action Research To Confront Cascading Crises (Part Two)

**Orleans**

**Workshop Organizer: Alexandra Piñeros Shields**

Participants: Tom Piñeros Shields, UMASS Lowell - [thomas\\_pineross Shields@uml.edu](mailto:thomas_pineross Shields@uml.edu)  
Emma Bailey, Universidad Veracruzana - [baileyeg@gmail.com](mailto:baileyeg@gmail.com)

In this workshop, we will present case studies and the strategies/tools those cases leveraged to ensure that marginalized communities can step into their power to become co-researchers using a Participatory Action Research (PAR) paradigm. The goal of the workshop is to present a toolbox of democratic power-sharing techniques that level decision-making power in research design and promote community-driven inquiry. We will practice a few of these techniques so participants get hands-on experience.

### 25. Dismantling Race and Challenging Whiteness (paper sessions)

**Gravier**

**Facilitator: hephzibah strmic-pawl**

*The Value of Community in Undoing Whiteness*

Annie Ferguson, Arizona State University, [annie.ferguson@asu.edu](mailto:annie.ferguson@asu.edu)

*Students' Experiences with Whiteness in an Honors College: A Critical Analysis and Reflection for a Post-Affirmative Action Era*

Elizabeth B. Roberts, Virginia Tech, [ebr@vt.edu](mailto:ebr@vt.edu)

*"You've Got Some Racism on Your Sleeve:" On Dismantling White Rage, Fragility, Silence and Racial Innocence in Scholarship*

Staci Newmahr, Buffalo State University, [newmahsd@buffalostate.edu](mailto:newmahsd@buffalostate.edu)

*Reflections on the Life and Work of a Race Traitor*

Mike King, Bridgewater State University, [mikeking0101@gmail.com](mailto:mikeking0101@gmail.com)

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

26. Coffee with the Editor of Humanity & Society

**Denechaud**

**Session Organizer: hephzibah strmic-pawl, Editor in Chief of Humanity & Society**

Humanity & Society is the official journal of the Association for Humanist Sociology. Come learn about the perspective and mission of the journal. As editor, I will also share tips and strategies for successfully publishing in an academic journal. There will be time for Q&A so come prepared with your questions.

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm - Concurrent Sessions

27. Film Screening: Indigenous Elder Narratives of Climate Change Impacts in the Rwenzori Mountains

**Denechaud**

**Organizer: Heidi Ballard**

Professor Heidi Ballard screens her video-recorded interviews with Bakonzo tribal elders who describe the devastating impacts of climate change on their traditional, subsistence farmer livelihoods in a valley of the Rwenzori Mountains on the southern border of Uganda and the DRC. Video recorded by Sky Jackett, Heidi's son and film studies/photography college student, the 2022 recordings were made at the homes of each elder on the slopes of a Rwenzori Mountain valley and contribute to the growing documentation of global indigenous climate change stories. Video and 15 min. Q & A to follow.

## 28. About Time: Abolishing the Carceral State and Ending the World as We Know It (workshop 90 mins)

**Orleans**

**Workshop Organizers: Nina Johnson and Carrie Hutnick**

Participants: Susan Clampet Lundquist  
John Pace  
David Buckley  
Bri Murphy  
Terrell Carter  
Don Jones  
Frank Campanell - not attending  
Vern Robinson - participating via Zoom

Pennsylvania is among the most punitive states in the nation and those incarcerated and under the supervision of the state are disproportionately Black and Brown. Many believe that at minimum a reduction in the incarcerated population is critical to any shared just future. Our workshop will focus not only on the devastating impacts of the carceral state, but it will highlight work that builds hope and mitigates harm, increases the capacity of communities to wage a more effective fight, prepares the way for incarcerated people to return home as welcome contributors to our communities, and, as institutions continue to fail, usher in ways to collectively keep us safe and cared for.

## 29. Social Inequality and COVID-19 (paper session)

**Baronne**

**Presider Needed**

*Seeing Class Privilege during the COVID-19 Pandemic*  
Jerome Krase, Brooklyn College CUNY, [jkrase@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:jkrase@brooklyn.cuny.edu)

*A Sociological Analysis of Covid-19 Misinformation On Social Media Among Racially Marginalized Communities*  
Melissa Brown, Santa Clara University, [mbrown3@scu.edu](mailto:mbrown3@scu.edu)

*Planetary Urbanization, Social Inequality and the COVID-19 Pandemic*  
Harris Ali, York University, [hali@yorku.ca](mailto:hali@yorku.ca)

## 30. Toying with Our Kids: The Power of Play Things (paper session)

**Gravier**

**Session Organizer: Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis**

*Cyber-wars: How U.S. Foreign Policy is Romanticized within Video Games*

William Lugo, Eastern Connecticut State University

[lugow@easternct.edu](mailto:lugow@easternct.edu)

*Identity Crisis in Toyland*

Greta Pennell, University of Indianapolis

[gpennell@uindy.edu](mailto:gpennell@uindy.edu)

*Virtual Playthings: Toys on YouTube*

Bhoomi K. Thakore, University of Connecticut

[bhoomi.thakore@uconn.edu](mailto:bhoomi.thakore@uconn.edu)

3:00 pm - 4:15 pm - Plenary Session

## 31. We can't do this without YOU: Be the Future of AHS

**Denechaud**

**Panelists: Wood Doane and Other Board Members, Past and Present**

Learn about opportunities to get involved and serve within AHS. Together, we'll reflect on where we've been and chart our course ahead with you in mind. During this interactive plenary session, identify pathways to joining the AHS "leadership" as well as brainstorm strategies for building our membership.

4:30 - 5:30 pm - Humanist Sociologists at the End of the World?  
Confronting Cascading Crises Together

**Denechaud**

**Presidential Address by Marc Settembrino**

6:00 pm - Dinner Groups

**Meet in Denechaud or at the Restaurant**

8:00 PM - 12:00 AM - Hospitality Suite

**Royal Suite - Room 930**

# Publish in Humanity & Society!

[Humanity & Society](#), the official journal of the Association for Humanist Sociology, was first published in 1977 and has been published quarterly since 1978. *Humanity & Society* is a peer-reviewed Sage journal with abstracts of published articles appearing in *Sociological Abstracts*. It features “humanist sociology,” which is broadly defined as a sociology that views people not only as products of social forces but also as agents in their lives and the world. We publish activist-oriented, public scholarship that directly applies a social justice lens. We encourage work that engages in how to advance movements and how to participate in our collective, social struggle.

*Humanity & Society* (H&S) publishes:

- Activist-oriented, public scholarship that directly applies a social justice lens. Work should engage in how to advance movements and how to participate in our collective, social struggle.
- Sociological work that has interdisciplinary and global perspectives, including but not limited to critical ethnic studies, women & gender studies, queer theory, history, and geography.
- Theoretical orientations that map onto or reflect a humanist agenda such as anti-imperialism, Black feminisms, decoloniality, community and social movements, critical class analyses, critical disability studies, critical race studies, indigenous studies, intersectionality, Marxist humanist theories, postcolonial theories and perspectives, settler colonialism, queer theory, and queer of color critique, and women of color feminisms.
- Methodologies can be varied and critical; novel approaches are welcome.
- Manuscripts that challenge or deviate from the traditional paper organization and push the boundaries of sociological styles of writing.

*Humanity & Society* general paper submissions should be 8,000 - 10,000 words and may include original research, theoretical examinations, & historical analyses.

Other manuscript types include:

- Pedagogy: Manuscripts with innovative teaching approaches, either empirically and/or theoretically, that focus on social justice and social change (approx: 3500-4000 words).
- Book and Media Reviews: Critical essays on books and media such as television shows, films, podcasts, social media content, video and other games, and blogs/vlogs (approx: 900-1000 words).
- Dispatches: Our new [online blog](#), welcomes critical commentaries, essays from activists on the ground, and brief pedagogy or media reviews (approx: 500-1500 words).

H&S is committed to an open, peer review process that encourages dialogue. To that end, authors and reviewers are all non-anonymous to one another. In our view, this open method of reviewing creates a more open and honest dialogue between authors and reviewers.