

THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST

Newsletter of the Association for Humanist Sociology

Summer, 2015

Letter from

The Humanist Sociologist Editor

Saher Selod, Simmons College

Greetings AHS Members!!! I hope you are all enjoying the summer so far. This is the last newsletter I will edit for AHS as my three-year term has come to an end. I wanted to take a minute to thank you for the past three years. I have greatly enjoyed serving as your newsletter editor. I particularly loved reading so many stories about your activism, pedagogical tools and research over the years. AHS is truly a group of dedicated and passionate scholars. It has been an honor to get to know so many of you through my work on *The Humanist Sociologist*.

In this issue you will find a letter from President Kathleen Fitzgerald describing what is sure to be a fantastic conference in Portland. The registration form for the conference is also in this newsletter. Make sure you register early! This issue also contains the Treasurer's report by Greta Pennell and the Mid-Year Conference Call report by Rebecca Hensley. In the Mid-Year Conference Call report you will find the AHS election results. Currently we are looking for someone to take over as *The Humanist Sociologist* editor. If you or someone you know might be interested, please send an email to Susan Machum at smachum@stu.ca.

Finally, if you did not know already we are thriving on social media. AHS has a Facebook page and a Twitter account. Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HumanistSociology> and follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/AHSSoci> to find out the latest AHS news!

AHS Officers

President: Kathleen Fitzgerald

President Elect: Chuck Koeber

Past President: Stephen Adair

VP for Publications: Susan Machum

VP for Membership: Johnny Williams

Secretary: Rebecca Hensley

Treasurer: Greta Pennell

Editor of *Humanity & Society*: David Embrick

Newsletter Editor: Saher Selod

Nominations Committee: Bhoomi K. Thakore
and Daina Cheyenne Harvey

Locavore Sociology:

AHS 2015 Portland

Kathleen J. Fitzgerald, 2015 AHS President

We are looking forward to a truly vibrant and engaging conference. Tony Ladd, 2015 Program Chair, and I spent some time in Portland in late May doing some conference preparations. We could not be more excited about how the conference is coming together. As the submission deadline and extended deadline have passed, Tony is hard at work putting the program together. We have a record number of presenters and sessions, thanks to all of you who encouraged a friend or colleague to join us this year. It appears that AHS members like going to the Left Coast after all, and why wouldn't we? Who wouldn't want to go to Portland? We are delighted that many sociologists already on the Left Coast will be joining us for the first time as well. The theme, *Locavore Sociology: Challenging Globalization, Embracing the Local*, has generated considerable interest. We have numerous sessions devoted to the theme, many food related, with others related to craft beers, local wineries, fair trade coffee, local social movements, and many, many more. Of course, in addition to presentations related to the conference theme, we have lots of sessions, author-meets-critics, and films devoted to the usual wide array of topics of interest to humanist sociologists. Indeed, there will be something for everyone at the 2015 AHS meetings in Portland.

We encourage you to take advantage of an AHS tradition - the *Activist Cafés*. These luncheons bring a local activist to speak about a local topic and are intended to give us a feel for issues facing the conference city. I want to give a shout-out to Tony Ladd who started the activist cafes during his presidential year in 1993 - the man has vision and good taste! These have always been one of my favorite AHS traditions - an especially fond memory for me was meeting civil rights activist Bob Zellner at an activist café during the Burlington, VT, meetings. Anyway, the food served at the Portland Activist Cafes will reflect our conference theme and will include delicious, locally sourced, sustainable foods. While we will have to wait for menu specifics for the chef to see what is available that weekend, we will have both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options, and will likely include items such as wild salmon, free-range chicken breast, organic greens, and a pesto tofu and roasted tomato casserole with saffron pine nut risotto. Hungry yet? Activist Cafés cost \$20.00 each—and are well worth it! Please join us for both luncheons on Friday and Saturday.

The Friday luncheon will feature food justice activist and Portland resident Nancy Becker who will speak on the topic of *Creating Food Justice*. Becker has spent her entire career work-

ing on food justice issues and her work has taken her from Portland area schools to Washington D.C. Portland leads the nation in progressive food policy, and Nancy Becker has played a major role in Portland's success. The Saturday luncheon will explore local efforts to address a major issue Portland shares with most major cities in America, homelessness. We will feature activist Ibrahim Mubarak, a champion for houseless rights, speaking on ***Social Justice for the Houseless Community***. Mubarak has spent decades fighting to improve the lives of the disenfranchised and the houseless community. He is the founder of Right 2 Survive and a houseless rest area in Portland called Right Too Dream 2. Right 2 Survive educates the houseless about their rights and how to resist laws established to criminalize homelessness.

There is no better way to learn about a city than through a walking tour. We have an excellent one arranged for Portland - ***A People's History of Portland Walking Tour***. Tony and I actually found out about the Right Too Dream 2 while on the People's History of Portland Tour. We highly recommend this tour - it is mostly an immigrant, racial/ethnic, and LGBT history of Portland in the face of ongoing gentrification (10:00-12:00pm Thursday, \$10.00) and takes place in the *Old Town* section of Portland. You don't have to pay in advance for this, but we would like to know approximately how many folks are planning on doing this tour, so please do note it on your registration form.



We are so proud to feature our Friday evening plenary speaker, **Dr. Daniel Wildcat**. Wildcat is a professor at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, and an accomplished scholar who writes on Indigenous knowledge, technology, environment, and education. He is director of the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center, which he founded with colleagues from the Center for Hazardous Substance Research at Kansas State University. Wildcat helped design a four-part video series entitled, *All Things Are Connected: The Circle of Life* (1997), which dealt with the land, air, water, biological, and policy issues facing Native nations. A Yuchi member of the Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma, Wildcat recently formed the American Indian and Alaska Native Climate Change Working Group, a tribal-college-centered network of individuals and organizations working on climate change issues. In 2008, he helped organize the Planning for Seven Generations climate change conference sponsored by the National Center for Atmospheric Research. He is the author of *Red Alert! Saving the Planet with Indigenous Knowledge* (2009). He will speak on his forthcoming book on indigenous ingenuity.

We are proud to offer a couple of workshops as well. The first features Bill Bigelow's ***How Will We Feed the World? Teaching About La Via Campesina, The Largest Social Movement You'll Never Read About*** in a Textbook. Bill Bigelow began teaching high school social studies in Portland, Oregon, in 1978, and taught for almost 30 years. He now works as the curriculum editor for *Rethinking Schools* magazine and is co-director of the Zinn Education Project. He has authored or co-edited numerous books

on teaching, including *Strangers in Their Own Country: A Curriculum on South Africa* (Africa World Press), *The Power in Our Hands: A Curriculum on the History of Work and Workers in the United States* (Monthly Review Press), *Rethinking Columbus, Rethinking Our Classrooms, Vols. 1 and 2, Rethinking Globalization: Teaching for Justice in an Unjust World, The Line Between Us: Teaching About the Border and Mexican Immigration*, and *A People's History for the Classroom* (all published by Rethinking Schools). Most recently he co-edited *A People's Curriculum for the Earth: Teaching Climate Change and the Environmental Crisis*, which is the foundation for the workshop he is leading at AHS.

Sociologist Janine Schipper, Northern Arizona University, will offer a workshop entitled ***Mindfulness for Scholar Activists***. In this workshop participants will explore how mindfulness practices may effectively be used to support personal and social transformation. Participants will engage in "insight meditation practice" and learn how to take this practice into their everyday lives and social justice activities. We will inquire into how mindfulness practices may illuminate the ways that our internal belief systems reproduce injustices, power, and privilege. Together we will delve into the possibilities and challenges of drawing on mindfulness practices to support our scholarship and activism.

As you can see, while this is only a small sample of what we will offer, the program is exciting. Please contact me if you would like buy an ad in our conference program, as it is quite a bargain; encourage your publisher to advertise your latest book or encourage your department to advertise your graduate program in the AHS conference program. Also, please get your conference registration in by Sept. 15 to take advantage of the pre-registration rate of \$100.00. For more information about the conference please visit the website at: <http://www.humanist-sociology.org/#!portland-2015/c1c3k>. You can register online at: <http://form.jotform.us/form/51691913772159>.

We even have a ***post-conference activity option***. While many of us will have to, sadly, leave Portland on Sunday, some of you may be lucky enough to stay for another day or two. Or maybe you plan to take a red-eye flight home late Sunday night (I love those!). If so, here is an opportunity you may wish to participate in: Want to get out of the city and hear the howls of a wolf pack high in the mountains above the Alsea River? Then plan to visit the ***White Wolf Sanctuary*** near Tidewater, a 3 1/2 hour drive south of the Portland airport. There, 10 arctic wolves roam 47 acres. Founded and operated by Lois White Tulleners, she has rescued the wolves from fur farms, zoos, and private owners while at the same time she educates the public about these magnificent animals. Tullener is emphatic that all the wolves were born in captivity and cannot be released into the wild. To learn more about White Wolf Sanctuary and to make reservations for a tour while you are at the conference, go to their website: www.whitewolfsanctuary.com. AHS member Cheryl Joseph and colleagues are organizing this trip. If you would care to take part in this activity, please let me know and I will put you in contact with Cheryl.

HUMANITY & SOCIETY EDITOR AND THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST EDITOR NEEDED!

AHS is looking to fill two editorial positions. The first is the Journal Editor for *Humanity & Society* for the Fall of 2016. David Embrick's term will end next year. You can contact Dave with questions about this **three-year position** at dembric@luc.edu.



AHS is also looking to fill the position of Newsletter Editor for *The Humanist Sociologist*. Saher Selod's term ends with this issue. This is also a **three-year position**. Feel free to contact Saher Selod at saher.selod@simmons.edu about the position.

If interested in either of the editorial positions please contact Susan Machum, Vice President of Publications, at smachum@stu.edu.

Call for Papers

Racial Resistance in an Era of Inclusion and Diversity

Special issue of *Humanity & Society*

Special Issue Editor: Alfred w. DeFreece Jr., Roosevelt University

Contemporary racism has been aptly described as having a “now you see it, now you don't” quality. That is, despite clear evidence that racism continues to be pervasive in the US, the dominant racial commonsense suggests that racism no longer drives inequalities and that race itself is an antiquated concept, unable to comprehend the complexity of life chances in present-day US society. Such pronouncements do not issue solely from the conservative end of the political spectrum, but are wholly consistent with a broader liberal framework, which recognizes racism as a durable if waning force, yet sees its inevitable decline in the unfolding of a relatively more diverse and inclusive society, like the one we inhabit today. For young people of color coming of age in a society that can claim to have overcome its darkest moral dilemmas, this mainstream narrative of racial progress offers many seductions. It comports with their deference to those who lived through Slavery and Jim Crow – instances of “real racism” - and with their experiences of increased public visibility and regard. For many, this narrative confirms that our nation can move toward racial justice - and that this generation might even be the one that gets us there. Contemporary youth of color are in the odd position of reconciling a drive to embrace cultural difference with a desire to see difference dissolved in a world devoid of race and its vagaries.

The pitfalls on this ideological terrain have been further complicated by a number of recent atrocities. In a society where we have become accustomed to Black (and Brown, and other) faces in high places, it becomes increasingly easy to cast the murders of Oscar Grant, Trayvon Martin, Rekia Boyd, Miriam Carey, Tanisha Anderson, and most recently (as of this writing) Freddie Gray as mere aberrations instead of as manifestations of a white supremacist social structure. Moreover, youth of color and their allies who would suggest that race and racism played some part in these events are portrayed as preferring victim status to personal responsibility. In the public debate, they face a false choice between resisting racism and moving beyond race.

While we have developed adequate explanations of Whites' embrace of colorblindness with its underlying neo-liberal logics, scholarly accounts of the formation of racial ideology among youth of color lags behind. This special issue aims to advance our understandings of the ways in which youth of color make sense of racial stratification and racialized oppression, through considering the imposition of dominant racial ideologies, but also investigating the development of critical and oppositional strands of thought, with particular attention to how contradictory positions are reconciled and/or establish a basis for subsequent action.

Preferred approaches will be sociological in nature, but interdisciplinary perspectives will be considered.

Manuscripts that use a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches are welcomed.

Papers may include, but are not limited to the following themes:

- Teaching and Learning Anti-Racism
- Critical Media Literacy
- Socio-political Development
- Politicization/Depoliticization of Racial/Ethnic Identities
- Intersectional/Oppositional Political Consciousness
- Activism and Protest

All final submissions will need to conform to the formatting guidelines of *Humanity & Society* (see has.sagepub.com).

To submit your proposal, email the title, extended abstract (300 words maximum), and contact information for the primary author to the guest editor, Alfred DeFreece (adefreece@roosevelt.edu), with the subject line “ATTN: HaS SPECIAL ISSUE PROPOSAL.” Prospective authors should feel free to communicate with the guest editor about the appropriateness of their papers. All papers will be subject to the standard review process practiced at *Humanity & Society*.

Proposed Special Issue Timeline:

Submission of Extended Abstracts due August 1, 2015

Proposers of accepted abstracts will receive notification by August 15, 2015

Submission of Full Manuscripts due November 15, 2015

Release of Special Issue, May 2016

News from AHS Members

Publications and Research

Several AHS members published articles and books. Congratulations on all of your hard work!

Paul Chang, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Harvard University

Chang, Paul Y. 2015. *Protest Dialectics: State Repression and South Korea's Democracy Movement, 1970-1979*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Chang, Paul Y. and Andrea Kim Cavicchi. 2015. "Claiming Rights: Organizational and Discursive Strategies of the Adoptee and Unwed Mothers Movement." *Korea Observer* 46(1): 145-180.

David Embrick, Associate Professor of Sociology at Loyola University Chicago

Saenz, Rogelio, David G. Embrick, and Nestor Rodriguez (Editors). 2015. *International Handbook of the Demography of Race and Ethnicity*. New York, NY: Kluger/Springer.

Embrick, David G. [forthcoming] "Two Nations, Revisited: The Lynching of Black and Black Bodies, Police Brutality, and Racial Control in 'Post-Racial' Amerikkka." *Critical Sociology*, Vol. 41(6): 1-10.

Hughey, Matthew W., David G. Embrick, and Ashley "Woody" Doane [forthcoming]. "Paving the Way for Future Race Research: Exploring the Racial Mechanisms within a Color-Blind, Racism and the Racialized Social System." *American Behavioral Scientist*.

Embrick, David G. and Kasey Henricks. 2015. "Two-Faced -isms: Racism at Work and How Race Discourse Shapes Classtalk and Gendertalk." *Language Sciences*, DOI:doi:10.1016/j.langsci.2015.03.004.

Embrick, David G. [forthcoming] "On Diversity in the United States." In *Sociology and Your World: How Culture Designs Power and Privilege in our Everyday Lives*, edited by Dawn Tawwater. New York, NY: Cognella University Readers.

Saenz, Rogelio, David G. Embrick, and Nestor Rodriguez. 2015. "Introduction: A Framework for Understanding the Race and Ethnic Transition." Pp. in *International Handbook of the Demography of Race and Ethnicity*, edited by Saenz, Rogelio, David G. Embrick, and Nestor Rodriguez. New York, NY: Kluger/Springer.

Walther, Carol S., David G. Embrick, Bhoomi Thakore and Kasey Henricks. 2015. "Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Vietnam." In *International Handbook of the Demography of Race and Ethnicity*, edited by Saenz, Rogelio, David G. Embrick, and Nestor Rodriguez. New York, NY: Kluger/Springer.

Janine Schipper, Professor, Northern Arizona State University, Department of Social Work and Sociology

Schipper, Janine. 2015. "Letting Go and Getting Real: Buddhist Perspectives into Addressing Environmental Crisis," in Donna King and Kay Valentine (eds.) *Letting Go: Feminist and Social Justice Insights and Activism*. Vanderbilt University Press.

Awards

Paul Y. Chang was awarded the 2015 George Kahrl Excellence in Teaching Award offered by the Department of Sociology, Harvard University.

David Embrick was the recipient of several awards. Congratulations Dave! Well earned!

Recipient of the "Mentor Excellence Award." *Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction* (SSSI).

Recipient of the "Division of Racial and Ethnic Minorities Kimberle Crenshaw Outstanding Article Award." *Society for the Study of Social Problems* (SSSP).

Recipient of the "Robert L. Perry Mentorship Award." *National Association for Ethnic Studies* (NAES).

Recipient of the "Graduate School Award for Graduate Faculty Member of the Year, 2015." *Awards Committee of Graduate Schools—Loyola University Chicago*.

Recipient of the "Sujack Research Award—Master Researcher." *College of Arts and Sciences—Loyola University Chicago*.

Kasey Henricks was a co-recipient of the 2015 American Sociological Association, Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities, James E. Blackwell Distinguished Graduate Student Paper Award for his paper "'I'm Principled Against Slavery, but ...': Colorblindness, Three-Fifths Debate, and the Racial Ideology Complex."

DOCUMENTARY CORNER

Documentaries are a great teaching tool in the classroom. It can be hard to keep up with the latest films. For this reason we would like to start a documentary corner for the newsletter where a few documentaries are highlighted in each issue. Please consider writing a review of a documentary you enjoyed watching recently or one that you showed in your classroom. You can include a list of the classes this documentary can be shown in and maybe even some interesting discussion questions that could accompany the film.

We hope to make this a regular part of *The Humanist Sociologist*.

Serve on the AHS Nominations Committee!

Interested in Serving AHS? Run as a Candidate for the AHS Nominations Committee!

The AHS Nominations Committee plays the role of identifying candidates to run for elected office. The Committee is comprised of 5 members with rotating 2 year terms, and Committee members are required to attend the two AHS meetings that occur during their term.

The Nominations Committee is responsible for choosing nominees for AHS President, VP for Membership (when necessary), VP for Publications (when necessary), and incoming members of the Nominations Committee. Committee members solicit nominations at the fall meeting, confirm interest with the nominees, and forward their list of candidates to the AHS Secretary. The AHS Secretary shares the list with the AHS Board members who discuss and approve the list, and then distribute the names for AHS elections the following spring.

At the 2015 meeting, the Nominations Committee will be tasked with identifying the nominees for AHS 2018 President and the 2 expiring Nominations Committee terms. Please consider nominating yourself or your colleagues to us at the AHS meeting in Portland!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bhoomi K. Thakore, AHS Nominations Committee Co-Chair (2014-2016)

Daina Cheyenne Harvey, AHS Nominations Committee Co-Chair (2015-2017)

Matthew Hughey at Southeastern Louisiana University *by Rebecca Hensley*

On March 25th, the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Southeastern Louisiana University hosted a presentation by AHS member and sociologist Matthew Hughey of the University of Connecticut on how racism in the U.S. has affected the history, development, and operation of fraternities in America.

Hughey has seen five of his books on race published since 2011, including *Race and Ethnicity in Exclusive and Secret Orders: Blood and Shadow*. After a University of Oklahoma fraternity video went viral because of its racist content in the Spring of 2015, Dr. Hughey was interviewed on the topic by CNN and featured on the Op-Ed page of the New York Times. "Why do some Greek-letter organizations seem to bring out the worst in people?" wrote Hughey in the Times editorial. "Historically white fraternal groups can be key mechanisms in the intergenerational transmission of white wealth, power and status. The stakes for belonging are high, and the culture must legitimate its own existence, forcing out those who fail to conform. Fraternities and

sororities can also create lifelong bonds, increase first-generation college students' chances of graduation, and help with social mobility after college. Greek life on campus is worth preserving. But before the next shocking video surfaces, schools must confront the inequality that the Greek system has also managed to preserve."

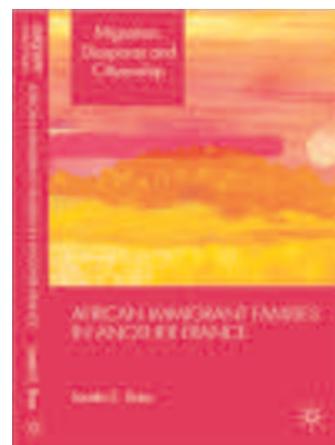
Nearly 200 students and faculty attended the presentation in the University Center and many stayed for the question and answer period afterward. Students later called the presentation "thought-provoking and compelling," and complimented his use of humor to get his point across. One student said, "It's crazy to think about how fraternities and sororities are more segregated than the colleges themselves...I guess it just goes to show that if we don't study the history of things and how they've come to be, then history really does repeat itself."

For Your Review:

African Immigrant Families in Another France

by Loretta E. Bass,
University of Oklahoma, U.S.A.

The incorporation of Sub-Saharan African immigrant families is a key issue for France and Europe at large. Using the voices of first and second-generation immigrants to describe their integration experiences, this book illustrates how racial and immigrant statuses are assigned simultaneously and inseparably for those of African-descent in France, and in turn limit employment and social cohesion, often irrespective of an individual's qualifications or citizenship documents. First- and second-generation African youth report being, "French on the inside, African on the out," because they hold a French mentality but are continually treated as outsiders. This research also connects individual-level cultural and religious factors that shape varied levels of resilience and immigrant outcomes. And, this research explains how the practices of French universalism and secularism together have become a straightjacket and ostrich policy for France, as the difficulties of incorporation are obfuscated by data regulations that limit the ability to measure social inequalities patterned by ethnic or immigrant descent. ISBN: 9780230361959, October 2014



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AHS member Marc Settembrino shepherding a group of study-abroad students from Southeastern Louisiana University in Cuba this past May

Association for Humanist Sociology, Inc. Board Meeting Conference Call, June 8, 2015

Board Members Present: Stephen Adair, David Embrick, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Rebecca Hensley, Chuck Koeber, Susan Machum, Greta Pennel, Bhoomi Thakore, Johnny Williams.

Minutes taken by Rebecca Hensley.

President's Report: Because there was a good bit to discuss about other matters and some of the Board had other commitments to attend to before this meeting would be over, and in view of the fact that Kathleen has been sending emails on a regular basis to keep the membership apprised of new developments concerning the Annual Meeting, she simply reported that everything is in place for the our meeting in the fall and that it appears that attendance will be good because schools in the area are showing an interest. She did remind all Board members to bring reports for the opening Board Meeting on Wednesday, October 21st.

Kathleen asked if it would be possible to have the Opening Board Meeting on Wednesday evening, since the conference program is quite full and members who would like to attend the Board Meeting might not want to miss sessions. Some Board Members were not sure they could make it to a meeting on Wednesday evening, so the issue will need to be resolved later. She also asked about the projectors that belong to the organization. Chuck said he has two. Greta said she has one. And both agreed to bring them to the meeting.

Election Results:

Stephen Adair reported that these AHS positions were filled as follows:

- President (2017) – Rebecca Hensley
- Treasurer – Greta Pennell (appointed by the Board to replace Chuck Koeber, now President-Elect)
- Nominations Committee – Daina Cheyenne Harvey (Co-Chair)
Codie Stone
Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl

Treasurer's Report: Greta Pennell has officially taken over as Treasurer of AHS, but Chuck Koeber has been working closely with her as she makes the transition. Chuck suggested that, in the future, when a new treasurer is taking over, AHS would do well to subsidize both being at the annual meeting a day early to switch banks, etc., face to face, which would save a great deal of time for the new treasurer. Greta wrote an extensive mid-year Treasurer's report. Main points included:

- Our new bank is PNC bank, chosen for cost, services, and convenience.
- The Square account we use to accept payments at the Annual Meeting is now connected to the PNC account.
- The transition to our new website in February worked seamlessly with Square.
- Our website domain name is renewed until 3/12/2024.
- All necessary paperwork and the filing fee for our federal and state filings have been submitted to our CPA, Sal Patti, and were to be completed by the end of June.
- A separate annual report to remain in good standing as an incorporated entity has to be filed each January in New Jersey, where our articles of incorporation are registered.
- Sage has taken responsibility for the charges to store past issues of *Humanity & Society*.
- As of June 2, our total bank account balance was \$28,727.85.
- AHS has 117 members, including 2 complementary memberships and one life membership.
- Starting in 2016, all member renewals will be on the dues schedule approved by the membership in Spring of 2014. Any renewals received after September 1st will be counted for 2016 and those members will receive issue #4 of 2015, as well as all 4 of the 2016 issues.

Publication Report: David Embrick reminded the Board that his tenure as the Editor and Kasey Henricks' tenure as the Managing Editor of *Humanity & Society* will be up December of 2016. He reported that the journal is now two issues ahead and that they're already working on the February issue. He suggested that an overlap from August to December would be advisable to provide a smooth transition, at least partly because there is a learning curve to working with Sage.

The Frank Lindenfeld Outstanding Student Paper competition has received no submissions. It was suggested that it might be because the topic must advocate in some way for more humanistic workplaces. Nevertheless, it was felt that this was the original intent of the award and it is only appropriate to keep it consistent with that intent.

The *Humanity & Society* Distinguished Paper Award – After some discussion, it was clarified that Susan Machum is in charge of the process to make this award, but that it is chosen by the Deputy Editors of *Humanity & Society*, along with the Managing Editor. The Managing Editor chairs the committee, but does not cast a vote, except in the rare instance of a tie vote. Under normal circumstances, Sage Press will provide the award certificate, but in order for this to occur, the decision has to be made at least 2 months prior to the Annual Meeting. If we are unable to meet the deadline this year as a result of the stated lack of clarity, AHS may have to purchase the award certificate for the 2015 award.

The Betty and Alfred McClung Lee Book Award has received 71 nominations.

The AHS Distinguished Service Award has had no nominations to date. This is our first year to make the award and we would like to do so at the Annual Meeting, if an appropriate member is nominated. Kathleen agreed to email the membership about the award and Greta Pennell reminded us that self nominations are not accepted for it.

The *Humanist Sociologist*: Susan Machum reminded the Board that we need a new Editor for *The Humanist Sociologist*.

Secretary: Greta Pennell reminded the Board that a new Secretary will have to be appointed at the end of the Annual Meeting in October because Rebecca Hensley will then be taking her position as President-Elect.

President-Elect's Report: Chuck Koeber reported that the 2016 Annual Meeting will be held at the Hilton Doubletree Hotel in the Denver Tech Center in Greenwood Village, Colorado, 20 miles south of downtown Denver. He and Bhoomi Thakore explored the area and feel confident that it will serve AHS well and offer a good opportunity to consider the contradictions of capitalism and racial inequality, as well as the impact of urban development and sprawl, all with a view of the mountains. He is exploring, among other things, the possibility of finding a speaker who was among the leadership in the marijuana legalization movement and can speak to building grassroots movements generally.

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Hensley.

Treasurer's Report Submitted by Greta Pennell

The transition of the AHS treasury has proven to be much more complicated and time-intensive than initially expected. At this point the transition is nearly complete, but will likely require another month or two. The biggest issue we encountered, and the one that necessitated us switching to a different bank, stemmed from service issues with Bank of America (BOA). In 2012 the board considered discontinuing the BOA account because of ethical concerns regarding BOA business practices. However, logistical demands for online membership payment and other consid-

erations kept us with BOA at that time (see Treasurer's report 2012). With the establishment of a Square account that can be routed to any bank account we were no longer tied to BOA. Moreover, the complete absence of any BOA banking centers or ATMs in Indianapolis made it necessary to switch banks. While some banking functions could be done via online banking, depositing payments made by traditional checks still requires going to a bank or ATM. Amazingly, the closest BOA location to Indianapolis for processing deposits, including an ATM, is in Cincinnati, OH. While the use of "Square" has reduced the number of traditional checks that we receive, it has not eliminated them entirely. So, from March to May, I met with representatives from various banks, including local savings and loans to find a new bank that would meet our needs. Ultimately, PNC bank was identified as the best alternative (as defined by cost, services offered, and convenience). While it still isn't as good as a local savings and loan (as measured by indicators like Ellis Jone's *The Better World Shopping Guide*) it is a step in the right direction (from F to D rating) and recently PNC Financial stopped backing projects connected to mountain top removal for coal extraction in Appalachia (see: *The Hightower Lowdown* v17, n5, May 2015)

The change to a new bank does require expenditures that were not included in the approved 2015 budget (see budget update at the end of this report). This will be an important thing to keep in mind for future transitions for the treasurer office. Specifically, fees for new checks amounted to \$48.69 and we will now have a \$10/month fee. However, with this fee we will have access to Merchant Services for electronic payments that should be an improvement in terms of functionality over Square. There was a \$195 set up charge for these services, but as soon as we make a transaction using them, we will receive a \$200 rebate to offset the charge. In addition, individual transaction fees under the new system can potentially be less than the 2.75% we currently pay to Square, depending on the mode of payment people use (i.e., if people use a debit card rather than a credit card with a reward program, our transaction fees will only be 2% making our total expenditures for bank related fees equal to what they are now, even with the \$10 monthly fee factored into the equation). We can continue to use Square, especially for onsite registration payments, and the Square account is now connected to the new PNC account.

AHS chose and began using "Square" in April, 2014 to process payments for membership and conference registrations/luncheons. The online payment does seem to be facilitating prompt payments. However, the downside of this system is that deposits come in a single lump sum for a given 24 hour period. Someone (currently Erin Mundus, Budget Analyst at Wichita State who works with Chuck Koeber) has to manually match up the email forms that come separately from the Square transaction record with the information for a specific person making the purchase. A challenge for 2015 will be finding ways to disaggregate individual transactions from the summary deposits from Square, especially during high volume times immediately prior to our annual meeting. An advantage of Square is that AHS has complete

freedom to change websites without having to worry about implementing a new and compatible online pay structure. The transition to our new website in February, 2015 worked seamlessly with Square. Square also provides detailed reports which will help us analyze the effectiveness of the new dues structure that went into place in 2015. The various levels were determined before we started working with Square, so we will need to evaluate whether another increase will be needed to offset the processing fees we are experiencing.

I have a debit and credit card for the account and have given Erin access to the online banking statements so that she can continue to help keep the bookkeeping up to date. She does an amazing job keeping all the records up to date – no small task as things seem to come up daily.

By July I plan to have the new e-commerce functions for our PNC account set up and integrated with the AHS website, so that we can close the BOA account completely. If we decide that we don't like PNC's merchant services, we can cancel them but then minimum account balances (\$15,000) must be maintained to avoid additional fees.

Other pending issues

I've encountered a steeper than expected learning curve in taking over the treasurer responsibilities. Chuck has been invaluable in helping me trouble shoot issues and giving me a heads up about potential pitfalls. Our CPA, Sal Patti, files an extension for our federal tax filings every year because the date for the Federal filing is a month earlier than the deadline for the NJ filings (May vs. June respectively; our articles of incorporation are in NJ so it serves as our state tax home – thanks Mary Chayko!). All of the paperwork and the \$30 non-profit tax filing fee have been submitted to Sal, and I expect that both the federal and state filings will be completed by the end of June.

It seems that filing deadlines for non-profits are multiple and varied. In addition to filing our taxes (which the accountant has typically waited until November to do) there is an additional "annual report" with a \$119 fee that must be filed each January to remain in good standing as an incorporated entity with the state of NJ. This is the filing that slipped through the cracks last year, resulting in a substantial "reinstatement" fee. My contact information is now on file with Registered Agent Solutions, Inc. (RASI), the company that helps with this report along with their affiliate All State Corporate Services. An automatic email reminder has been set up to notify us 90, 60, and 30 days prior to the report deadline.

My contact information and automatic renewal info has been added to the Enomcentral account – this is the group that "owns" our domain name for our website. We are renewed until 3/12/2024, so we're OK for a while but this is one of those things that we have to check periodically and make sure nothing changes or slips through the cracks. Daina Harvey is also listed as an email contact and should receive updates and alerts about the account.

In late March we received an invoice from Sheridan for almost \$900 for storage of past issues of the journal. Past editors, Janine Schipper and Shawn Bingham were very helpful in terms of providing e-mails to suggest that Sage was taking care of these costs. Since March I've been in contact at least weekly with our representative from Sage, Thomas Mankowski, to resolve this issue. As of June 9th we have confirmation and documentation from Sheridan that these charges have been removed and our balance due to Sheridan is zero.

Bottom Line

As of June 2, 2015 our total account balance is \$28,727.85. We have 117 members for 2015, including the two complementary memberships and our one life-time member. The average amount collected per paying member was \$82.95 with the most common memberships being for \$100. Note, that because many members renewed their 2015 memberships in 2014 some members renewed under the old fee schedule. Further, when the "items" were listed on Square memberships for people with incomes between \$70-89,999 was priced at \$100 rather than \$110. This has been corrected and starting in 2016 all member renewals will be on "new" schedule that was approved by the membership in Spring of 2014. Any renewals that are received after September 1 will be counted for 2016 (renewals received between Sept. 1 and Sept 18th will receive issue #4 from 2015 of *Humanity & Society* as well as all 4 issues in 2016).

Summary/And Looking Ahead

A detailed audit of all receipts and deposits for 2014 was conducted as a routine step in the transition to a new treasurer. As noted by outgoing treasurer, Chuck Koeber, accounting is complicated when invoices/deposits are received or paid in one calendar year for the previous or future year. Attached is a revised 2014 end of year report that reflects the actual amounts spent and received in 2014 with an attempt to notate expenditures that while budgeted for 2014 were not paid until 2015. The good news is that the budget and membership seem to be rebounding. However, to remain fiscally sound, it will be critical for the board to monitor expenditures closely and stay within budget. Therefore, I intend to provide line allocations in conjunction with expenditures to make the relationship between what we planned and what is actually spent more transparent.

I also plan on grouping all costs associated with each annual meeting together, so that the board can more clearly track all expenses relative to each meeting with the goal of meeting the constitutional obligation that meetings are budget neutral for the organization. For example, site visit and promotional expenses incurred in the year(s) prior to the meeting need to be kept with the overall meeting budget for that year. It does mean that it might not be possible to determine a meeting's bottom line gain/loss for AHS until the next calendar year, but it should help future Presidents and Program Chairs to plan a successful & fiscally sound meeting.

2014 AHS Treasurer's Report (year-end; amended by Greta Pennell, March 2015)

STARTING BALANCE		\$22,816.46
2014 INCOME		
Subtotal Membership Dues/Donations (collected 2014)		\$10,200.80
2014	\$4615	
2015	\$5586	
Subtotal Annual Meeting Income		\$11,244
Registrations and lunch fees	\$10,584	
Program Ad revenue	\$125	
Book Sale Revenue	\$535	
Subtotal Other Income		\$1,600
Midwest Regional Meeting	\$1295	
Royalties	\$255	
Lindenfeld Fund Contributions	\$50	
TOTAL 2014 INCOME		\$23,045
2014 EXPENSES		
2014 Annual Meeting Subtotal		-\$14,132.33
Hotel Charges	-\$11,112	
Three speakers (honorarium)	-\$1,250	
Four Activists	-\$600	
Travel/Lodging for Perry	-\$500	
Hospitality Suite &	-\$462	
Misc. conference expenses	-\$138	
FedEx	-\$70	
Subtotal Non-2014 Conference Expense		-\$5,245.19
Administrative and Clerical Projects (Erin Mundus)	-\$600	
Online Pay charges ("Square"@ 2.75% per transaction)	-\$368.8	
Registered Agent Fees (represent, report, reinstate fees)	-\$804	
Journal (\$5 per member per year to Sage)	-\$328.75	
<i>NOTE: invoices for 2 issues of v 38 paid Jan. 2015</i>		
Regional Outreach (Midwest Annual Meeting)	-\$300	
Newsletter production and supplies (electronic distribution)		
(Jason Graham, two issues)	-\$300	
Accountancy <i>NOTE: 2014 Fee of \$850 Pd in 2015</i>	-\$0	
Website (Yearly Fee + Domain AHS.ORG for 10 years)	-\$408	
Postage and supplies	-\$199.91	
Book Award	-\$200	
Secretarial support for mailings, etc	-\$0	
Trip to Cleveland for meeting Preparation	-\$414	
2015 Annual Meeting		
Down payment for Portland Hotel (2015 site)	-\$500	
Meeting Promotion (flyer design & printing)	-\$135.45	
2016 Meeting		
Trip to Denver for site visit	-\$685.35	
TOTAL 2014 EXPENSES		-\$19,377.49
OVERALL GAIN/LOSS for 2014(Income minus expenses)		\$ 3,667.63
ENDING BALANCE as of 12/31/14		\$ 26,484.09
FRANK LINDENFELD MEMORIAL BALANCE (included in above final balance)		\$ 1,045

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

2015 Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology
“Locavore Sociology: Challenging Globalization, Embracing the Local”
October 21-25, 2015
University Place Hotel, Portland, OR 97201

You must pre-register by **Sept. 15, 2015** to be eligible for the registration discount!

Name _____

Address _____

Work Phone () _____ Home or Cell Phone () _____

E-mail(s) _____

Organizational Affiliation _____

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FEES

Regular Member	\$100.00 (\$120.00 after Sept. 15)
Non-member	\$120.00 (\$140.00 after Sept. 15)
Student/Unemployed	\$ 45.00 (\$ 55.00 after Sept. 15)
Guest	\$ 35.00

(“Guest” is a non-member who is not presenting and is an invited guest of an AHS member. Guests receive a name badge and are entitled to attend all conference activities including sessions and receptions.) _____

Donation to the Frank Lindenfeld Fund (not tax deductible) _____

ACTIVIST CAFE REGISTRATION

Both lunches will adhere to our locavore theme and feature delicious, locally sourced foods, with both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. Thus, specifics will have to wait for the chef to see what is available that weekend. Some likely options: wild salmon, free-range chicken breast, organic greens, and a pesto tofu and roasted tomato casserole with saffron pine nut risotto.

Friday Luncheon: Featured speaker is food justice activist and Portland resident Nancy Becker speaking on the topic of “**Creating Food Justice.**” She will talk about her experiences as a life-long food justice activist which have has taken her from Portland area schools to Washington DC.

Cost \$20.00 _____

Saturday Luncheon. Featured speaker, activist Ibrahim Mubarak, a champion for houseless rights, will speak on “**Social Justice for the Houseless Community.**” Mubarak has spent decades fighting to improve the lives of the disenfranchised and the houseless community. He is the founder of Right 2 Survive and a houseless rest area in Portland called Right Too Dream 2. Right 2 Survive educates the houseless about their rights and laws established to criminalize homelessness.

Cost: \$20.00 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED..... \$ _____

If you are planning on going on the People’s History of Portland walking tour on Thursday at 10:00, please check here. You do not pay in advance (\$10.00), but we need to give the tour guides an estimate on the number of people they can expect.

_____ Yes, I hope to participate in the People’s History Tour

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THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST



ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Who Are We The Association for Humanist Sociology

Our Past: The Association arose out of growing disenchantment with conventional sociology and a need for a more clearly value committed emphasis in sociological work. We came together in 1976, not out of shared politics or similar "schools" of sociology, which were, and still are, richly varied, but out of a common concern for "real life" problems of peace, equality, and social justice.

Our Philosophy: Humanists 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.

Our Purpose: Accordingly, humanist sociologists study life with a value commitment to advance that possibility through scholarship and practice. We intend to be an active support network for sociologists committed to humanist values, as they practice sociology in institutions often hostile to such an approach. To this end, we produce a quarterly journal, *Humanity & Society*, as well as a newsletter, *The Humanist Sociologist*; we organize national meetings and have sessions at regional sociology conferences.