

THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST

Newsletter of the Association for Humanist Sociology

Winter, 2009

An Introduction to This Issue

Jim Wolfe, THS Editor

In this issue we start with announcements for AHS nominations, for book award nominations, for the AHS spring board meeting, and for papers for *Contemporary Justice Review* (see calendar). Then we focus on our upcoming AHS Annual Meeting in New Orleans calling for proposals for presentations, having Jim Pennell, as President-Elect in 2008 and now President, reflect on what going to New Orleans means to him, and capping this section off with the AHS 2009 Annual Meeting Projected Budget. Next comes board meeting minutes: first the Sunday minutes, which feature reflection on the Boston meeting with implications for the future, and then the Saturday minutes, which provide an excellent index to the reports to follow. There are condensed reports from the 2008 AHS President, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Presidents for Membership, *Humanity and Society* Editor, and the Constitutional Review Committee [Full reports are on the AHS website]. Finally, I share a speech about Gaza given at a rally organized by Palestinian Americans.

CALENDAR

April 15	AHS nominations
May 15	Book Award nominations
June 1-3	AHS Spring board meeting
June 15	Proposals for AHS annual meeting
July 15	Papers for "Contemporary Justice Review"
Nov. 12-15	AHS annual meeting in New Orleans

HELP MAKE AHS WORK

The Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for Vice President-Publications, and new Nominations Committee members. Self-nominations are welcome.

To nominate someone or yourself, contact Greta Pennell at gpennell@uindy.edu, or 317-788-3365. Deadline is April 15th

SPRING AHS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION

An AHS Executive Board meeting will be held in Indianapolis June 1-3, 2009. This meeting was proposed by the Executive Board in order to continue work begun in recent years on issues facing the Association that could not be effectively addressed at our Annual Meeting, and was approved by the membership at last year's business meeting. All members are welcome to attend AHS Board meetings. Additional information about the meeting schedule will be posted on the AHS website <www.humanistsociology.org> in coming months. Information about the operation of the AHS Executive Board is available on the AHS website. Anyone interested in attending the meeting should contact Jim Pennell at jpennell@uindy.edu.

2009 ASSOCIATION FOR HUMANIST SOCIOLOGY BOOK AWARD

Nominations for the 2009 AHS Book Award are being sought. Authors, publishers, and AHS members may nominate books for consideration. The winner will be recognized at our annual meeting in November, in New Orleans. Nominations should be for Sociology or interdisciplinary social science books that approach their subjects from a humanist perspective. As our Mission states:

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.

Eligible books should have been published in the calendar year 2008 or the first half of 2009. If a book was submitted for last year's consideration, it should not be nominated again. Please limit your nominations to two books.

To nominate a book, publishers or authors should send three copies (one copy each) to the members of our book committee listed below. Also, please send the author's (or authors') name(s) and contact information to Jim Pennell at jpennell@uindy.edu. AHS members who are nominating books but are not authors should send their nominations directly to Jim Pennell, and he will contact the publishers. The deadline for nominations is May 15th. Additional information about AHS is available at www.humanistsociology.org.

Thanks to our book award committee for serving our association this year!

AHS 2009 Book Award Committee

Dr. Reuben A. Buford May

Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
Texas A & M University
TAMU 4351

College Station, TX 77843-4351

Office: 979-862-4650

rmay@tamu.edu

Dr. Judith Gordon

Yale University
23 Wood Street
Hamden, Ct. 06517
judith.gordon@yale.edu

Dr. Jim Gallagher

128 Great Ledge Rd.
Lamoine, ME 04605
james.e.gallagher@maine.edu

CONTEMPORARY JUSTICE REVIEW

CALLS FOR PAPERS

“CELEBRATING” THE 35TH BIRTHDAY OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The editors of *Contemporary Justice Review* would like to invite scholars from all disciplines, activists, and practitioners of restorative justice to submit an essay title/abstract for a special issue on “‘Celebrating’ the 35th Birthday of Restorative Justice.” We are using as a starting point the establishment of the Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) in Kitchener Ontario by Mark Yantzi and Dave Worth in 1974. Of course, we welcome papers on the aboriginal foundations of restorative justice that long preceded programs such as VORP in the Anglo world.

Authors might wish to focus on restorative justice demonstration projects around the globe, highlighting the difficulties of establishing such programs in this era of punishment-based corrections as well as the reasons for the successes and failures of different models of restorative practices. Critical assessments of restorative justice paradigms are welcome.

Articles might assess the efficacy of the movement in its 35-year history. Was too much promised? More delivered than hoped for? Issues of co-optation of restorative practices by state officials and policies will shed light on such matters. The implementation of restorative practices might also be looked at within the theory of complex organizations, whether the managerial practices of some organizations structurally defeat the ameliorative potential of restorative justice.

We welcome re-evaluations of the theoretical foundations of restorative justice: the legal, spiritual, and psychological foundations of restorative practices? Do certain religious affiliations defeat the restoration of lives because of their inherent theological requirements?

Some authors might wish to examine films that tackle the difficult and complex issues of restorative justice, highlighting how screenwriters and directors portray the possibilities of restoration without re-victimization. *Dead Man Walking* comes immediately to mind. We are interested in the review and re-review of books that have contributed substantially to restorative justice theory and practice.

We are also looking for an examination of: (1) restorative justice practices in families, schools, and places of work as well as practices of nonviolent conflict resolution generally; (2) the various relationships between restorative justice and criminology, sociology, and psychology. How can the social sciences through theories of change offer insight into how to expand the practice of restorative justice to all arenas of social life? Where, for example, does the recent work on traumatology and the “loss of one’s assumptive world” fit into restorative justice theory and practice?

And, can restorative programs consider change realistically without taking into account social-structural conditions which militate against restoration and the successful reintegration of those harmed and wounded into “the community?” That is, are there instances of restorative programs that spin their wheels while seeking to alleviate the pain and suffering of persons affected by criminal and other forms of harmful activity?

Those with questions about the appropriateness of their work for this special issue of CJR should contact Editor-in-Chief Dan Okada at <dokada@csus.edu>. Those interested in submitting work on these topics should send title/abstract to Assistant Editor, Diane Simmons Williams <dsw27@earthlink.net> by June 15, 2009. Notification of acceptance will be made by July 15. Completed essays (see www.justicestudies.org for format requirements) will be due May 1, 2010.

Call for Participation

The Association for Humanist Sociology 2009 Annual Meeting November 12-15, 2009

The Hampton Inn & Suites Convention Center
1201 Convention Center Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70130

Toll free reservation number: (866) 311-1200
Reservation website: www.hamptoninns.com
Hotel Website: www.neworleanshamptoninns.com
Room rates: single-double standard \$140, suite \$190 (code: AHS)

CONFERENCE THEME:

Doing Change Work: The Many Paths to Peace, Equality, and Justice

Humanist sociologists are activist teachers, community activists, and activist researchers seeking to change classrooms, communities, and societies through their work with others. We seek more peaceful, equitable, and just relations and institutions, and more sustainable approaches to the use of our world's natural resources. Our annual sharing of our work renews our commitments and is part of the fuel that keeps us going through the next year as we challenge the powerful obstacles to broad-based change and better lives for all. We also learn about the problems and change initiatives in the host cities where we meet. The history and current circumstances of New Orleans are awash with acts of violence, injustice, and damage to its natural and built environments. Through community organizations, arts initiatives, political action, and the daily efforts of its many citizens, the people of New Orleans are working to overcome the recent catastrophe that exposed the centuries of institutionalized injustice and environmental degradation to the rest of the world. Join us to learn of the continuing struggles in the Crescent City and along the Gulf Coast, experience its hospitality and beauty, and share your change work. Deadline for submission is June 15, 2009.

Send proposals for paper presentations, special sessions, panels, and workshops by mail or e-mail to:

Greta Pennell, 2009 AHS Program Chair	e-mail: gpennell@uindy.edu
Teacher Education Dept.	phone: (317) 788-3365
University of Indianapolis	fax: (317) 788-2131
1400 E. Hanna Ave.	
Indianapolis, IN 46227	

Questions about accommodations and travel should be directed to:

Jim Pennell, 2009 AHS President	e-mail: jpennell@uindy.edu
Social Sciences Dept.	phone: (317) 788-3236
University of Indianapolis	fax: (317) 788-3480
1400 E. Hanna Ave.	
Indianapolis, IN 46227	

Information about AHS and meeting updates can be found at:
www.humanistsociology.org

Report of the President-Elect
Jim Pennell, University of Indianapolis
2009 AHS Annual Meeting
Boston, MA, November 6-9, 2008

Next year's annual meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA, November 12-15, 2009, at the Hampton Inn & Suites Convention Center. The hotel is located along the Mississippi River, and a short distance from the French Quarter. My introduction to AHS was during the 1993 annual meeting, which was also held in New Orleans. The Big Easy seems a good match for AHS. We are a fun-loving group that likes a rich cultural gumbo, and this city is certainly about that. And as we all know, the city and region have suffered heavily in recent years as a result of the combination of nature and human decisions. So hopefully we can learn a bit more about what has happened in the aftermath and bring some encouragement and support to local activists. The theme of the meeting is *Doing Change Work: The Many Paths to Peace, Equality, and Justice*. The Call for Participation is included with this meeting's materials. Please copy it and share it with your colleagues and students. My loving and supportive wife Greta is program chair, so no detail should lack for attention. I have also included the projected budget for the meeting with this report.

I will be assuming the AHS presidency at a good time, since we are solvent financially, with a reasonable surplus compared to years past. But the budgets for 2008 and 2009 indicate that we are cutting into that surplus rather quickly. This is not a sustainable situation, and I will be working with the board to identify how we as an organization should address this problem. Our biggest expense is the journal, and we are now a year behind in issues due to the quick change in editors. So some of our surplus is due to unprinted issues, and our surplus will shrink substantially as we catch up.

Hopefully President Corey Dolgon's recruitment efforts this last year will attract more members, which will help our budget situation somewhat. We have had some funds earmarked for recruiting at regional meetings or the ASA meeting. I would like to see AHS members who are already attending these meetings make use of these funds, if the membership continues to support this expense.

A new expense for AHS is that we have had to hire professional accounting support to get us back in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service. This is going to be a continuing expense, since we will need ongoing help to maintain our tax exempt status once it is (hopefully) restored. So we may need to look at a dues increase and/or cost-saving measures to cover this new expense. The board of directors also voted to reinstitute a printed version of the newsletter for members. This is a minor expense compared to others, and I think a necessary one since the newsletters and directory serve as tangible artifacts of our organization in these virtual times.

We need to make some adjustments to the AHS Constitution to bring it in line with the changes in practices over the last decade. A committee has been working on this, and hopefully we can have these changes in proposal form by the next meeting. The board of directors has also recommended we revisit our philosophy and perhaps develop a mission statement that better reflects the organization at this time. Hopefully a committee will be identified and charged with this task at this meeting.

I hope those of you who have not been involved in the business of AHS will step up and contribute. There are many ways to serve, and we cannot continue as an organization unless members do their share. There are a number of positions to fill and important tasks to complete, and I hope you will volunteer to help. At a bare minimum, please let me or other board members know what you would like the organization to be doing in relation to the issues we face, and offer suggestions on what else we might do to make us a stronger association.

Going Back To New Orleans
Jim Pennell, AHS President

Many of us know that New Orleans is a very special city with a storied as well as troubled past. Some might think I picked New Orleans for the 2009 annual meeting because of the recent calamity brought by Katrina and human shortcomings. Disasters attract attention as well as opportunities for social change. Many AHSers have been involved in some manner with responses to the recent disasters along the Gulf coast. Some have volunteered their time and efforts. Others have welcomed the refugees of these disasters into their communities and schools. So yes, that was on my mind. I thought some might want to share their stories of ongoing work, both in New Orleans and elsewhere, as we struggle to promote peace, justice, and equality, and save our rapidly deteriorating natural and built environments.

We are also a national organization, and seek to attract international members who share our interest in humanist-oriented, activist sociological work. Consequently, we try to move the annual meeting to different regions of the United States. After being West and East, it was time to head South. Hopefully the typically balmy weather will be attractive to our northern and Canadian members, and the closer proximity and international flight connections will encourage participation from Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

But my primary reason for coming to New Orleans was personal. My first AHS meeting was in New Orleans in 1993. My wife Greta and I were graduate students at Rutgers University, and John Leggett, the activist sociologist and leader of the Sociology department softball team the Wobblies, convinced us over after-game pitchers of beer and mussels marinara (with the first round and mussels always on John's tab) that we should check AHS out as an alternative to the big, impersonal, careerist-oriented meetings of ASA.

I presented at the first Thursday session that year. I walked in with my jacket and tie, shaking in my shoes a bit, but somewhat comforted that John was one of the presenters in that session. Frank Lindenfeld was one of the other presenters. I presented something on humanizing economics, and was surprised by Frank's interest in my work, and how well it fit with his work on organizing cooperatives. I took a stack of his GEO (Grassroots Economic Organizing) newsletters, and knew I had found a fellow spirit who was working to implement what I had only read about and contemplated. At the time, I was also puzzling over what I would do for my dissertation, and was thinking about studying school alternatives such as homeschooling. Frank talked to me quite a bit about the free school movement in the early 1970s and the school he had founded and operated with others. I ended up going a different direction with my research, but I real-

ized there were a lot of AHSers who had pursued interesting lives and work that went beyond the high-pressure life of research and publication some of my Rutgers professors were pushing heavily. My intention is not to denigrate or deny the usefulness of some research, but the purpose sometimes seems fuzzy or narrowly relevant. That is rarely the case in AHS, as is evident in our journal *Humanity & Society*.

I was also blown away by Tony Ladd's presidential address at that meeting. I wasn't that familiar at the time with sociologists doing environmentally-related work. I was inspired by the important research he was doing on environmental destruction. Little did I know that Tony would become my and Greta's close friend. And I have incorporated a lot of what I have learned from Tony into my teaching, and have even brought Tony to our campus. That is what I call a real win-win scenario. Tony will be assisting in site arrangements for this meeting and guiding members to interesting places in New Orleans to eat, drink, and learn (not necessarily mutually exclusive things in the Big Easy). So thanks again, Tony, for contributing to what makes AHS a special group of people.

But the clincher for me was the inclusiveness of AHS members. As first timers, Greta and I felt welcomed immediately. A group of members was going to that great New Orleans musical institution Tipitina's one evening, and invited us along. I can't remember everyone who went that night, but I seem to recall Jerry Starr, Brian Sherman., Joan Schwartz, Chuck McKelvey, and Steve McGuire. (Those whom I've left out, please jog my dwindling memory—thanks to Steve and Greta for helping me remember this much!) The headliner that night was Texas singer-songwriter Jimmie Dale Gilmore. I had not heard of him prior to that introduction, but his high tenor, up-tempo tunes, great band, and a few beers created a nice backdrop for getting to know some of those AHSers I am pleased to call my friends and colleagues today. AHS members are very serious about sociology and social change, but we have a heck of a lot of fun when we get together to share what we do.

Although it has suffered heavily, New Orleans continues to be a great city. This meeting will be a lot like gumbo—thick and rich with a mixture of contributions from members and local activists. I am already receiving interesting proposals for sessions that will incorporate the music and culture of New Orleans. Music and food bring people together in the Crescent City, and have contributed greatly to the Katrina recovery. I will write a bit about the music of New Orleans next newsletter, having developed a deep appreciation of its musical traditions and performers. As already noted, Tony Ladd is going to put together some recommendations for food, drink, and entertainment. Any of you who frequent the city, be sure to send your own recommendations and brief comments to Tony or me and we will include your contribution to the list.

So as my Southern relatives might put it, y'all come on down, bring your colleagues and students, share your work, and have some fun, ya hear?

Pictured right: out-going AHS President Corey Dolgon passing the torch to in-coming President Jim Pennell

AHS 2009 ANNUAL MEETING PROJECTED BUDGET

Prepared for the AHS 2008 Annual Meeting
by Jim Pennell, President-Elect

REVENUE (projected)

	No. people	charge per	Totals
Full registration	90	80	7200
Student registration	30	25	750
Uindy donation			3000
Lunch Friday	90	25	2250
Lunch Saturday	90	25	2250
Publisher contributions			400
Book sale			300
TOTAL REVENUE			16150

EXPENSES (Projected)

	No. people	cost per	Totals
Lunch Friday	90	30	2700
(Including tax and service charge)			
Lunch Saturday	100	30	3000
(Including tax and service charge)			
Thurs reception	80		1,000
(Including tax and service charge)			
Reception Fri	100		1200
(Including tax and service charge)			
Reception Sat	100		1,200
(Including tax and service charge)			
coffee break Fri	70	4+	320
(Including tax and service charge)			
coffee break Sat	70	4+	320
(Including tax and service charge)			
Board mtg coffee Sun	15	4+	75
(Including tax and service charge)			
Board mtg food Thurs			0
(Free breakfast at hotel)			
Meeting room setup			600
Hospitality food & drink			400
(beer, wine, and snacks)			
Plenary speaker Fri			1,000
(Honorarium, room, and transport)			
Lunch speaker Thurs			1,000
(Honorarium, room, and transport)			
Activist café speakers	5	200	1,000
(Donations to orgs)			
Entertain Thurs receptn			400
AV equipment			1,500
Misc supplies			200
Program printing			175
Photocopying at mtg			50
TOTAL EXPENSES			16140



Wrap-Up Board Meeting November 9, 2008

In Attendance: Emma Bailey, Corey Dolgon, Kathryn Gaianguest, Jerry Gong, Judith Gordon, Heidi Henrickson, Dennis Kalob, Kathryn Lindenfeld, Greta Pennell, Jim Pennell, Gina Petinito, Estelle Record-Stanley, Jim Wolfe

Jim began the meeting at 9:15 AM. Corey provided an overview of attendance and costs for the annual meeting. Overall, attendance was good and sessions went well. A total of 171 people attended the meeting (154 registered/pre registered attendees; 17 activists with complementary registrations; Note: a formal President's Report with final figures will be submitted after the meeting). Between 8-9 presenters cancelled, a few sessions were poorly attended with one session drawing no audience. The presenters will be invited to do their workshop at the 2009 meeting.

Corey suggested that five concurrent sessions might be too many for our organization and suggested avoiding that many concurrent sessions in the future. Scheduling around the walking workshop(s) continues to be a challenge, but given the expense to the workshop leader of coming early to the meeting to get the walk organized, this may be the last year for the workshops. Judy suggested considering developing tracks in order to avoid scheduling conflicts. Heidi agreed that we should think about shared interest in scheduling sessions but acknowledged that it is hard to do because you never know for sure what will draw people.

Participants said they felt there was a nice flavor to the program. The use of drama to convey issues was powerful and it was nice to see more of those kinds of sessions. Gina indicated that the former presidents and members session exceeded her expectations. Corey agreed.

Heidi volunteered to coordinate a session for international sociology for next year. Greta requested that the Business meeting be held on Friday rather than Saturday in order to give committees sufficient time to do their work.

Feedback regarding the new Salon session was mostly positive. It was well-attended and although the timing was a slight problem, Corey reported enough positive aspects of this kind of thing warrants exploring how to do it again. Some of the comments from others about the Salon included: a wish for more time with a person because it was hard to get into depth; provided an opportunity for students to talk to many more people than they would in a semester; while it was hard for presenters to eat having food may have been a key to the Salon's success (one person wondered if many people would come to a student poster session if there wasn't any food); students were pleased with the informality; some of the students had wonderful visuals needed a nice way to display them.

Discussion then turned to the role of session facilitators and the importance of reflexive statements for presenters. Several sessions did not have adequate time for question/answer/discussion/interaction. Heidi noticed that reflexive statements seemed to be missing and that presenters needed to be reminded that we should not be reading papers. Clear communication regarding the moderator/facilitators role is needed, especially when the person is new to AHS and/or when they are assigned the role at the last moment. Heidi also suggested that within the submission process, presenters are asked to include a reflexive statement.

While the physical layout of the Hancock Center Conference hotel was perfect for a group of our size, Corey strongly recommended avoiding the two-hotel situation for future meetings. It created logistic issues and made things a bit more difficult. There were some questions in relation to accessibility for people with disabilities. On the other hand, the free wifi and printing facilities were great. Everyone agreed that the food was outstanding (quality, availability, presentations) and the hotel's location was great because it allowed people to see a lot of Boston. The carbon footprint of the meeting was brought up as a concern because so much plastic was used. A request was made for a concerted effort in future conferences to go more green.

The final aspect of Corey's report and feedback regarding the meeting focused on finances. Corey projected costs to exceed revenue for the meeting by about \$1000. For example, the hotel charged \$15 per person for the unlimited access to beverages and snacks, but we only charged participants \$5 each. Gina noted that we approved a budget with a \$500 shortfall so a \$1000 shortfall isn't so bad. Corey noted that being able to pull off the meeting at such an expensive city during the midst of a large economic downturn required doing a lot of fund raising. Mary noted that Corey did a great job raising more money than ever before, in part by offering departmental sponsorships.

Vice President for Publications

A new VP for Publications is needed. Responsibility for filling the position for the next election cycle will be left with the Nominations Committee. In the interim, the current president may delegate responsibilities to other board members and if needed appoint someone to fulfill the duties in the wake of Tammy Shapiro's resignation.

Gina volunteered to write up a job description for review at the Spring Board meeting.

Frank Lindenfeld Graduate/Undergraduate Student Paper Award

Corey proposed establishment of this award in recognition and memorial of Frank's contributions to AHS. Emma Bailey will look into establishing an endowment for contributions. Some money was already donated from this meeting. The goal of the award is to recognize student scholarship in areas of humanist sociology that Frank was passionate about (i.e., papers on workplace democracy and co-operative organizations & movements.) The top paper(s) will be formally reviewed and cultivated for publication in H&S. Kathy Tieman will prepare the exact text describing the award, a general statement of intent, as well as more exact guidelines for its implementation, and establish a committee to review submissions. Concerns/questions included: What does cultivated mean does it send a message implied that the paper will be published? Kathleen choose the cultivating language very specifically to fit the role of an H&S editor (as opposed to typical journal editor). Might be a lot to ask of an editor? Will this be ready for 2009?

A motion to approve the award in concept & empower the executive board to work out exact wording and implementation for the award was passed unanimously.

VP for Membership Report

Based on registration forms received from Dan Egan, we may have gotten 10-11 new members. The VPs requested that all registration forms and materials be sent to them, with the money from the meeting sent directly to Mary. Corey will make sure everything from the meeting gets to the right people.

Institutional Affiliate – comments from the business meeting will be integrated into revised proposal. The revised proposal will be reviewed by the board for preliminary approval and then will be published in THS newsletter for comment. It was suggested that a review the constitutions of other organizations to see how they deal with it could be part of the information that goes out to the membership in the newsletter when the proposal is presented. The final version will be brought to the summer board meeting. This proposal falls somewhat in middle ground as to whether or not it requires a constitutional amendment. The board decided to error on side of transparency and seeking a larger endorsement by the membership via a mail vote.

Regional Representatives – Dennis and Chris can use receptions hosted by regional reps at regional meetings as a recruitment tool. Providing members with small budget to host such receptions could empower them to hold the office.

It was requested that the date of paid membership be printed on all mailing labels in parentheses.

Editor of The Humanist Sociologists Report

Jim voiced concerns regarding clarity (or lack thereof) regarding the role of the newsletter editor. We need to do better at sticking to our deadlines and what the function of the newsletter is. Is it simply an archive of meeting minutes and an official record of the association's actions or is it a newsletter or both. Formatting and extent of editing depends on having these competing functions clarified. Jim also asked how we get the material we need to make it a really good newsletter?

Chris said that is always a challenge to get material – but minutes go into the newsletter. One way to improve readability of the newsletter might be to archive meeting minutes and reports on the web and then remind people of that in the newsletter. This would clean up the newsletter, reduce redundancy and make the newsletter more user friendly with a total length of just 7-8 pages. It was also recommended to use photos and visuals, especially from Michael Weinstein.

Jim Pennell reaffirmed that there will be hard copies of the newsletter produced and mailed to everyone. The newsletter will also be posted on the website. One of the things that we must get operational is the announcement list that the membership voted to create for the purpose of specific AHS related announcements. Gina indicated that the old announcement list seems to be stuck at Miami University and is no longer useful.

Hard copies of minutes and reports would be good things to send to the Archive at Miami University. It was suggested that the AHS website should have information on how to submit material to the archive.

Constitutional Review Subcommittee – Gina reported that since this is the last annual meeting that she is required to attend as an elected officer, she is turning the reins over to Kathy Gaianguest who will serve as Coordinator of the Constitution Committee. Kathy indicated that she has a long list of things to do. In order to get the conversation about what is the function of the constitution underway, she will be contacting others and looking for suggestions of other organizations to contact. One caveat to think about is whether revisions to constitution should be done prior to 501 c3 status reinstatement.

Kathy indicated that the best way to have communication is to send to Jim and then he send to all committee members at the same time. She also asked that we keep in mind that her new occupation as a grandmother means that she's traveling a lot it. Therefore, Kathy asked to allow 1-3 weeks before requiring a response to e-mail and to collectively help remind her of the deadline.

Kathy shared a handout regarding Mission/Vision Statements.

Motion to approve Chet as addition to committee was approved.

Looking Ahead to 2009 – Jim Pennell

Proposed timeline:

Jim will try to formalize a timeline for when various tasks need to be done to be included in the AHS procedure manual that is under development. This will include timelines chart for the election for officers; Book Award nomination and selection process; Lindenfeld award deadlines. If other things that need to be added to time line, let Jim know.

Issue of committee work that board needs to review and see how to include them should be included in the manual.

Goal is to have draft of procedure manual for the Spring Board Meeting that will be held in Indianapolis. Specific dates will be announced in newsletter and put it on website as details are confirmed.

It was requested that the Final Program for the Annual Meeting be posted online.

Looking ahead to 2010 – Emma Bailey

Emma reported that she received lots of feedback regarding meeting locations and program chair suggestions. She'll be soliciting more feedback.

Other business –

Judy indicated that the Threats to Academic Freedom Committee of ASA has been dropped. What might our role be in relation to the freedom, protection, and support of sociologists who get attacked on blogs?

Jim Pennell formally thanked Gina for all of her hard work serving on the board and as President and welcomed to Emma to the board. He indicated that he will strive to use the Woody Doane model of open and often communication over the next year, because "It isn't going to work unless we make it work." Jim concluded the meeting by thanking Corey. Boston was a great meeting. We heard a lot of positive things about the meeting and the association. Jim reminded us those of us, who have been with AHS a long time that we might notice the little problems, but new people are blown away and we need to reach out to them and invite them to "Nawlins." It was there he got his first taste of AHS camaraderie and feeling very welcomed and he's looking forward to sharing that with old and new members to the AHS family. [recorded by Greta Pennell]

Minutes from the Association for Humanist Sociology Annual Business Meeting - Boston, MA Saturday, November 8, 2008, 3:40-5:20 pm

Prepared by Joti Sekhon, Secretary

President's Report

Corey Dolgon introduced Program Chair Dan Egan, and recognized the great job he did with the program. There was enthusiastic applause.

Corey decided to call a Spring Board Meeting in June. Much of that meeting was devoted to strategic planning. There was a lot of work done on getting a procedures and policy handbook to pass on to new officers of the Association, as transitions have not always been smooth in terms of processes being handed down.

The rest of the year was devoted to organizing the annual meeting. Though this was the most expensive annual meeting in terms of the cost, Corey felt that we would break even eventually. He recruited aggressively for the meeting, and 160 people registered for the conference.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Chayko passed around copies of the report, and reported on the work done to get AHS incorporated, and reinstate its tax exempt status. The process is now almost complete. After a 12 month review period, it is hoped that AHS will regain its tax exempt status. There was some discussion and elaboration of the issue of tax exempt status of AHS.

Mary next went over the budget for 2008. A big expense was to get the books in order for which the services of an accountant were necessary. She also presented the projected budget for 2009.

May was thanked and applauded for the enormous amount of work she did to get AHS back on track in terms of its 501 – C3 status, and getting its books in order for IRS tax purposes.

Secretary's Report

Joti Sekhon reported on the elections held in the Spring, and reported that this was her last year as AHS secretary, and that a new secretary would need to be appointed before the next meeting. There was general applause in recognition of her services.

Vice-Presidents for Membership Report

Dennis Kalob and Chris Dale reported on the progress with creating a new membership database on excel that can be updated quickly and easily. A hard copy of the list is available, and members were asked to check it for inaccuracies. Dennis will send out reminders for renewals for 2009.

Denis Kalob introduced a proposal to establish a new membership category for organizational affiliates of AHS. There was considerable dis-

cussion on how a decision will be made to allow a particular organization to become an organizational affiliate. Suggestions included: looking at the values and policies of the organizations; not allowing academic departments to be affiliates; allowing progressive peace and justice organizations to join etc. The VPs for Membership were asked to draft a proposal and submit it to the Board, and invite further discussion from the membership.

Vice-President for Publications

Corey Dolgon reported that the Vice President for Publications had stepped down. An interim Vice-President would be appointed until the Nominations Committee can get nominees for a fresh election for the post. The new editor for the AHS journal *Humanity and Society* is now on board, and the journal will soon be on schedule. Also, there is a new editor of the newsletter, *The Humanist Sociologist*.

Constitution Review Committee

Gina Petonito went over the process of the review of the AHS Constitution over the last several months. All the issues and questions raised were posted on the AHS website for the membership to review and comment on. Gina then stated that she would like to focus more on developing the AHS archives and the history of AHS. President Corey Dolgon thanked Gina for all the hard work she had done on the constitutional review. Kathy Gaianquest would now take over the work related to the constitutional review. Kathy invited anyone interested in being on the committee to come forward.

Nominations Committee

Greta Pennell passed around a sign-up sheet asking people to nominate themselves or others for the various positions that are open. The next elections will be for the President Elect, three members for the Nominations Committee, and the Vice-President for Publications. Greta also asked if anyone was interested in being the Secretary to please come forward or suggest someone for that position. There was also a need for members of the Book Award Committee and the values and mission review committee.

President-Elect's Report

Jim Pennell went over his written report, and presented the budget for the next AHS meeting in New Orleans in 2009. Corey Dolgon moved to pass the budget for the 2009 meeting, and Chris Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sociologists Without Borders

Corey welcomed Kerry Iyall Smith of Sociologist's Without Borders to speak on future cooperation between AHS and SWB. They were going to have a big project on human rights in the US Constitution before the ASA meeting in San Francisco, and invited AHS to be part of the project. They were looking for partners among other like-minded progressive organizations.

President Elect's report

Emma Bailey spoke about the possible choices for holding the AHS meeting 2010. These included El Paso and Denver, and other cities in the Southwest.

Jerry Starr

Michael Weinstein shared the news that long-time member of AHS, Jerry Starr, was very sick and had written a letter to be shared with the AHS members. Michael read out the letter.

2008 AHS President's Report ***Corey Dolgon***

This has been an exciting year for me as President and I think for AHS in general. We have addressed a number of important areas of concern, while meeting traditional obligations with great success. I will highlight a number of areas below and try to wrap it up with a few comments on where I think we are poised to go in the future.

Publications

Humanity and Society

We have now succeeded in making the transition that brings the journal to the University of North Dakota under the editorial command of Kathleen Tiemann. Kathleen is quickly catching up with the publication schedule and as you will see in her report, she has been able to keep Managing Editor, Jason Graham, on board while adding some new elements to the journal including media editor, Emma Bailey. Kathleen will also be working along with whomever takes the reigns as publications VP to move towards having *Humanity and Society* available as full text on the internet. Without a doubt, this is the next important step for the journal as so much research is done on-line, for *Humanity and Society* to maintain significance as a publisher of research, it needs to be accessible in this format.

The Humanist Sociologist

Now under the leadership of Editor Jim Wolfe, the newsletter will continue to be our most important means of serious communication. While the listserv allows us to inform one another about events and other issues, and AHStalk permits in depth conversations, the newsletter is still charged with communicating the actual workings of the organization—reports, meetings, budgets, etc. We should all, however, make it a point to do more for the newsletter in the way of short essays on sociological reflections, political engagements and the like. I had the good fortune to be able to publish my remarks from Frank Lindenfeld's memorial in the newsletter and I would like to see other folks contribute similar types of materials in the future.

In general, the publications committee is the next piece of AHS to enter a moment of crisis. Just as we had cleared up the transition of the journal and newsletter to new and excellent hands, Tammy Shapiro, the VP of publications, had to step down. Unfortunately, she had taken on many tasks from the Spring Board meeting that still are in need of attention. The most pressing of these tasks relate to web-based communications, publishing, payments for membership and conferences, etc. But there are others. This is a crucial position for AHS in the future and some of our success in addressing the need to communicate our engaged scholarship as well as the organizational nuts and bolts will be determined by whoever takes on this position.

Finances and Budget

For the first time in many years, AHS is rebuilding its financial foundation as the Treasurer has gotten us reincorporated and is about to have our 501C3 status restored. These steps, along with getting a good accounting of where we are financially and what the future looks like, are vital for our ability to continue our publications, membership, and annual meetings. Mary continues to do yeoman's work and we appreciate everything she has done for AHS.

Annual Meeting

In general, I believe the Boston meeting of 2008 was a tremendous success. We had over 170 people attend, a variety of excellent plenary and special sessions, and we seem to have come close to breaking even. Most sessions were very well attended, participants seemed engaged and inspired, and everyone raved about the food and the settings in general.

While Boston provided a fun and exciting backdrop, the Hancock Center was a cozy and hospitable place to provide essential meeting spaces, etc. And the endless snack bar was an amazing perk.

It was, however, an expensive meeting. We did do an amazing amount of fundraising which included bringing in vendors and book publishers, offering various sponsorships from regional departments, and offering advertising in the program. While I believe we are still waiting for a couple of outstanding debts, the final costs of the Annual Meeting will be approximately \$23,950 with the final revenues about \$21,744. I project an overall loss of about \$2000-\$3000. Given the in our current financial position, I believe the loss will be easily absorbed and the quality of the meeting, as well as, the numbers of attendees, and potential memberships, far outweighs the small financial cost.

Various Events, etc.

As President, I represented the AHS at a variety of venues including the Regional Conferences of the Eastern (New York) and Southern (Richmond) Sociological Societies. At the Easterns we hosted a session and a reception, and had a wonderful attendance of almost 50 folks by the end. At the Southern, we shared a table with the Progressive Writers Cooperative and I was able to talk to dozens of folks about our organization. I know at least 4 people who attended the Boston meetings because of this connection at Richmond.

I also represented AHS at the Frank Lindenfeld Memorial Service in Bloomsburg, PA. Rick Eckstein and I traveled from Philadelphia out to BU. Kathryn Lindenfeld had asked us to have someone speak and my prepared remarks were published in the last newsletter. We will all miss Frank very much, but I am excited that we are in the process of establishing a Frank Lindenfeld award to continue his work and memory. And I wrote a piece about AHS for the Eastern Sociological Society's Newsletter—*ESSays*.

I believe we accomplished a lot during the brief two and a half days of our Spring Board Meeting. We were able to discuss constitutional changes and new initiatives at length, as well as go over in depth what Board responsibilities were and need to be in order to maintain the operations of the organization. I believe that it will be important for AHS to maintain these Spring Board meetings at least for the short run. We still need to do some long range strategic planning, especially in relation to the possibility of having a permanent, part-time position as executive operations administrator.

Looking towards the Future

The two most important reasons attracting people to AHS are our focus on embracing, supporting and promoting the political aspects and implications of our work, and the ways in which as an organization we live out our humanists goals together—providing a nurturing intellectual and social environment for our members to present scholarship and find solidarity. This will and should be our strengths.

But we need to continue to grow or face the problem of fading into obscurity as a club. The mission has always been to exist as an alternative that also communicates with the dominant and mainstream—especially in our critique. But we will fail in this mission if we become so marginalized and small that our voice becomes shrill and insignificant. Our membership is back to almost 130 or so and will undoubtedly be 150 by next year's meetings. I believe we could easily become a group of 200 or so and find some new strength and new blood.

These renewed numbers may help us carry on the logistical work of the organization which requires stable and responsible people filling positions on the Board as well as on publications, etc. But I believe that we have been in a continued crisis of leadership for some time. Even as we were getting our finances and journal in order and organizing a huge conference, we lost out publications VP and the bottom fell out of a number of tasks. In other words, no matter how big we become and how good our leadership is, things happen.

As I leave the presidency, I would like to see us make a concerted effort to establish a permanent position for someone to address the logistical needs of month-to-month and year-to-year operations.

AHS Treasurer's Report ***Mary Chayko***

For Boston, MA Annual Meeting, November 2008

This has been a very busy year. We began with a balance of 55,906 and several tasks to accomplish, specifically a) finding an accounting firm; b) incorporating the association (this also involved obtaining legal assistance), c) obtaining an official central address for the organization, d) registering as a charitable organization with some state (for now, this is NJ); e) bringing order and organization to our books; f) reporting past due tax information to the IRS; and g) gaining reinstatement of our tax-exempt status. I am happy to report that items a) through f) have been accomplished and that g) is pending.

Our organization is now incorporated: our legal name is the Association for Humanist Sociology, Inc.

Our official address is P.O. Box 473, Convent Station, NJ 07961-0473. It is not necessary for everything to be sent there – it is still acceptable to send checks to the membership chair, etc., but it is important that there be a central address.

We are now registered as a charitable organization with the state of NJ. This is necessary to have any chance to regain tax-exempt status. This must be done, and follow-up information sent, every year. We can register with any state, but it makes sense for it match the state in which the P.O. Box is kept and the treasurer resides.

We are now filing tax returns annually with the IRS and the state of NJ, and having our books independently audited annually.

It has been both time-consuming and expensive to bring order to our books because in filing the request for reinstatement of tax-exempt status the IRS required complete, detailed information of our activities and financial statements for the past five years and the equivalent of tax returns for two of those five years. This required many hours of collecting and sorting checks and receipts, gathering information, and reconciling statements, in addition to creating and filing the document and preparing the argument that AHS should not have to pay back taxes or fines. In addition, this document and our finances in general have had to undergo an independent audit, which our accountants arranged. It was my initial concern that significant back taxes and fines might be incurred as it is the first time these figures have been reported. At this time the accountants are confident that any back taxes or fines will either be waived or very minimal.

Our accounting firm has been MSPC Certified Public Accountants and Advisors, NY, NY. They charge \$145 per hour; I was not able to find a better rate for the type of work we needed done to recreate our past financial records, reinstate the tax-exempt status and organize our finances, and my research (including Corey's accountant friend who advised for free all last year) indicates this is a fair and reasonable rate. This firm provided many hours of work pro bono this past year as they had much to learn about the history of our organization, its fiscal issues and activities; they spent many unpaid hours at my house going through piles of old papers, receipts, and checks and informally tutoring me on this process throughout the year. They estimate that from this point forward it should take 20 to 30 hours per year to do all the financial tasks we require; it had to take well over 100 this year, 60 of which have been charged; 30 for the 2007 returns and audits and 30 (which was a gift) for all the back paperwork and returns and tax-exempt status application. Of course, there is still two months left in the year in which work may need to be done. If anyone has suggestions for how this could all be done less expensively without sacrificing quality or professionalism, or adding too much additional time, I am open to it. One possibility may be having a bookkeeper do some of the simple bookkeeping and turning the results over to the accountant; I am not sure how much money this will save if any, but I am investigating this.

Report of the Secretary: 2007-08

Joti Sekhon

Association for Humanist Sociology, November 6, 2008

My primary responsibility in the past year was to conduct the election for officers of the Association. After considerable activity on the part of members of the Nominations Committee, the slate of candidates for President-elect and two positions on the Nominations Committee was finalized in April 2008. The slate of candidates was approved electronically by all Board members. Ballots were mailed on April 28, 2008 to the 70 paid members sent to me in an updated membership list from Vice-Presidents for Membership, Dennis Kalob and Chris Dale with. Thirty seven ballots were completed and returned postmarked by May 21, 2008. I counted the ballots, and took them along with the vote totals to the mid-year Board Meeting in Boston from June 9-11. Two members of the Board counted and verified the vote-count.

I also noted down and recorded the proceedings of the 2007 opening Board meeting and the Business meeting held in Henderson, Nevada. I then typed up the minutes, and sent them to all Board members. The minutes were approved at the mid-year Board Meeting in Boston on June 11, 2008. They were sent to newsletter editor James Wolfe to include in *The Humanist Sociologist*. I also took minutes of the proceedings at the mid-year Board Meeting held in Boston from June 9-11, 2008. I also took minutes of the proceedings at the mid-year Board Meeting held in Boston from June 9-11, 2008.

As I had to leave early on Sunday, Greta Pennell graciously agreed to take down the minutes for the closing Board meeting.

Report of the Vice Presidents for Membership

Chris Dale and Dennis Kalob

November 2, 2008

During this past year, our first year of our term serving as VPs for Membership, we have accomplished the following:

- Reviewed existing membership records [70 in 2007].
- Sent out 2008 renewal notices to members along with some selective follow-up [87 members by June 2008].
- Created a database in Excel of our paid up members for 2008.
- Added to this list, members who so far have renewed or joined for 2009 [58 members by Nov. 2008 with 20 brand new].
- We sent renewal notices to those 2008 members who have not renewed yet. We will follow-up with some emails and/or phone calls.
- We sent membership checks to our treasurer and sent periodic updated membership data to selected members of our board as requested.
- We created a 2008-2009 membership directory, which includes all those who have paid up for 2008 and/or 2009. We would like to send directories to the 122 listed in the directory.
- Drafted the proposal (suggested by our president) for the new Institutional Membership category.

Proposed Motion for the Establishment of an Institutional Membership Category

We propose the creation of a special category of membership. This would provide membership to organizations who share our values and goals. The details of the membership costs and benefits are as follows:

Organizations who share AHS's commitment to peace, justice and progressive social change may join us as members. This special Institutional Membership costs \$25-100 annually. The exact fee is voluntarily set, based on the ability to pay.

The benefits of membership are:

- A presence on our website, including a link to the organization's home page.
- Recognition in our newsletter, *The Humanist Sociologist*.
- A journal subscription.
- The organization's members may attend the AHS annual meeting at AHS member fees.
- Networking possibilities, which include the sharing of membership lists.

Humanity & Society-Editor's Report

Kathleen Tiemann

November 2008, Boston, MA

The editorial transition was eased by the willingness of Corey Dolgon and Tammy Shapiro to complete an issue of the journal while I got started. I thank them, Jason Graham, the associate editors, reviewers and authors for their help. Thanks also to Woody Doane for his work with EBSCO and on the web page.

Publication Update:

My primary focus has been soliciting manuscripts. The previous editor summarily rejected over 30 manuscripts. To mend those relationships, I sent an email message to the authors telling them about the editorial change. I also promised to review their work. Twelve people responded. I also sent messages to people who presented papers at regional meetings that sounded promising. Finally, I contacted graduate directors and asked them to let their students know about the journal. A couple of you also located promising manuscripts and the authors sent them to me. In sum, I received 31 manuscripts since March (as of Oct 31). Two were unsuitable and were not reviewed.

Because I want to make Action Notes a regular feature, I've asked several past presidents to follow up with activists who presented at our conferences. I thought it would be nice to have updates on their activities. I haven't received anything yet, but hope to soon.

Volume 32(1) is complete. This is the last issue that will have a picture on the cover. We save over \$600 per issue with this change. Corey and Tammy completed 32(2). You should have seen 32(3) early in 2009. We have one special issue on policy and health care that will come out next year. The guest editor is Dennis Raphael.

I have had two challenges that have slowed down getting the journal to you. One is finding reviewers. It would be helpful if you would suggest an appropriate reviewer to me when you cannot complete a review yourself. This broadens the reviewer pool and saves me a lot of time. The second challenge is getting the mailing labels to Sheridan in a timely fashion. Not being able to get all of the labels held us up for approximately 3 weeks.

Editorial Board:

I see the AHS editorial board as a working board and expect to send each editor about three manuscripts per year. My goal is to have one associate editor review each article.

I've made some changes to the editorial board. Emma Bailey agreed to serve as the multimedia review editor, but Daniel Egan will continue as book review editor. Betsy Lucal and Lora Bex Lempert have resigned from the editorial board due to other commitments. Steve Groce and Eric Mielants have not joined AHS so I am replacing them. I am pleased to welcome several new associate editors--Gina Petonito (Miami University), Stephen Adair (Central Connecticut State University), Andrew Scott Ziner (DeSalle University), Abdallah Badahdah (University of North Dakota) and Kurt Bourchard (University of Nebraska at Kearney).

Humanity & Society - Proposed Budget 2009

Costs to Produce Four Issues:

Journal two color glossy cover (320 copies each)	\$9,220*
Blue Lines (4@\$25 each)	\$100
Mailing	\$880**
Subtotal	\$10,200

Personnel Costs:

Production Editor \$400 per issue (4 issues)	\$1,600
Total	\$11,800

* Unsure of number of copies needed due to number of claims received

** Estimate based on previous mailing costs-postage will increase next year

Summarized Report from the Constitutional Review Committee

Submitted: Oct. 31, 2008

Gina Petonito, Chair
Steve McGuire, Katie Gaianguest and Greta Pennell members

The Constitution Review Committee has been in dialogue with the Board in 2007 and 2008 about proposed revisions and will submit them to the membership for a vote by the 2009 annual meeting or perhaps delay that vote until 2010 depending upon the members' comments and the extent of the revisions.

We might revise the provision that "A person may only serve once each as President or Vice-President of the Association" to allow a former President to serve again after an appropriate hiatus of about 15 years, and we might clarify that provision regarding whether a President could serve once or twice as a Vice President since there are two VP slots, VP for Publication and VP for Membership.

The Constitution provides for regional representatives, positions that have been underutilized in recent years.

One member suggests that we have the President-Elect take over the position of the Presidency, in the event of a vacancy.

The Board's having "virtual" meetings and making decisions via email needs to be squared with the Constitution.

The Constitution has two positions that are rarely, if ever filled. They are the Director of National Liaisons, who promotes "activities with other organizations sharing goals and concerns with AHS," and the Director of Media Relations, who is "concerned with all aspects of media relations, including coordinating public relations efforts for the annual meeting." The Board feels that there is a need for these positions singly or as a combined position. Here are tasks the person or persons holding these positions could do:

1. Help maintain our presence at ASA
2. Broaden relations with other national organizations
3. Increase general presence at other professional meetings
4. Graduate department outreach
5. Increase/improve our identity and image
6. Promote/communicate about member and organizational accomplishments
7. Maintain media kit
8. Maintain speaker's bureau
9. Coordinate with volunteer organizations at a national level
10. Coordinate with regional reps

Speaking on Gaza Jim Wolfe

Day after day and night after night
we have been bombarded
with appalling scenes of carnage in Gaza,
carnage caused by the illegal use
of planes and weapons
which the United States gave to Israel.
We Americans are complicit;
Our hands are soaked in blood.

This war on Gaza is unjust.
This war is unjust
because it is basically pre-emptive
as it willfully and forcefully brings to a head
a long-simmering feud.
This war is unjust
because the means used are disproportionate
to the provocation.
This war is unjust
because of heavy harm to non-combatants,
including the bombing of a UN school.
Above all, this war is unjust
because it has no reasonable chance of success.

You cannot root out alleged terrorism by terrorizing.
You have to address the root conditions that breed terrorism.
The over-40-year occupation of Palestine must end.
Israel has a right to exist,
safe and secure within its own borders,
and the Palestinians have a right
either to a nation of their own
or to first-class citizenship within a larger whole.

Warfare cannot get us to where we need to go.
War is not the solution;
war only exacerbates the problem
and postpones conflict resolution.

The earliest humans were hunters and gatherers
who cooperated and shared equally and knew no war.
We need to learn from the wisdom of our ancestors.
We need to replace the savagery of civilization and empire
with the mature values of earth community.

When will we ever learn to pacify our reliance on warfare? When
will we outgrow our addiction to war as a force that gives us
meaning? When will our Abrahamic religions realize that our
mutuality outshines our differences as we dispense with separate
identities and in faith do the works that make for peace?

The sordid invasion of Gaza is occurring during an interregnum
on the American scene. I am hopeful that a new Administration
will address both the short-term and long-term issues. The war
must cease. The noose around Gaza, which cruelly constricts
emergency food and medicine as well as impeding prospects for
economic development, must be loosened. And diplomatic solu-
tions to the Israeli-Palestinian problem must be found and pur-
sued with the determination of the warrior for the sake of peace.



THE HUMANIST SOCIOLOGIST

James Wolfe
Dept. of Social Sciences
University of Indianapolis
1400 East Hanna Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46227-3697

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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.