

SWS **South**



Read about the SWS-South Quilt on our website: www.swssouth.org

Newsletter Fall 2013

President's Corner

Greetings SWS-Southerners!

Happy winter to everyone! In this President's Corner I reflect upon the wonderful work this organization has done over the last year and is already planning to do this year. Your elected officers have been working hard to enact the fantastic ideas generated at our meeting in Atlanta (oh so long ago!). Marni Brown, who is in the second year of her term as Vice President, is organizing our sessions for the 2014 annual meeting. Our Membership Chair and Treasurer, Julie Wiest, has moved (congratulations on your new position!) but is keeping us on track financially. Kylie Parrotta, our Secretary, has been diligent in her coordination with SWS (hopefully you saw the report of our Coffee for a Cause event in *Network News*), and our Newsletter Editor Carmel Price, deserves our thanks for this newsletter. Congratulations and welcome to our new National Liaison, Kamala Platt, and to our two new committee chairs: Sancha Doxilly (Vision Committee) and Claudia Youakim, Awards Committee. You will hear more from both of them in this newsletter.

In Atlanta, you voted to reimagine the Vision Committee as one tasked with engaging with local organizations focused on assisting women in the communities where we have our annual meeting. This way we could focus our attention not only on promoting gender equity in the academy, but also being an organization FOR women in society. Your work collecting donations, and spending money at the auction, was our first attempt, and by all accounts, was a success. We donated (\$529) and three or four carloads of clothing and needed items to the Women's Resource Center in Atlanta. This year, our Vision Committee has an even more ambitious task ahead of us, one that situates us at the nexus of scholarship and activism. I encourage you to be involved with our campaign to support All We Want is Love, the organization in Charlotte that SWS-South will be working to support through our activist efforts this year. Sancha's column in this newsletter provides additional information; feel free to contact her for more information or to volunteer for her committee.

This is our first year running our new Awards program, another way in which SWS-South gives back to our Southern community. The Awards committee will be soliciting nominations for the Early

Career Gender Scholar Award, to be announced at the SWS-South Business Meeting in Charlotte. Think about nominating yourself or others for this award. See the announcement in this newsletter for more information.

The SSS meeting theme, led by one of our own as President (Leslie Hossfeld), is "Poverty, Social Policy, and the Role of Sociologists," a theme reminding us of our dual roles as scholars and activists in our local and extra-local communities. SWS-South is positioned to provide leadership in SSS in the execution of these dual roles due to your continued work that is highlighted in panels and paper presentations at the annual meeting. Moreover, your decision to be an organization working FOR women in the South shows we are willing to put our resources where our ideals are, literally, through our collection and donation of funds and the inclusion of local activists in our programming. I continue to be awed by the energy, drive, and compassion of the members of this organization, our ability to balance so many competing needs in our lives, and our devotion to making the South a better place for all. I know that Leslie and her program committee are excited about all of the SWS-S organized, sponsored, and led events planned for the annual meeting; I am too!

Outside of the region, SWS-South is recognized as a vibrant chapter of SWS. As members, you are involved in all aspects of SWS, from committee work to planning sessions at meetings to running for office. We have organized a panel for the Winter Meeting on the roles and responsibilities of regional chapters in an effort to foster broader conversations across the regional chapters. I hope those of you attending the SWS Winter Meeting will be able to join us at that panel.

And speaking of the SWS Winter Meeting, it is in the South again! The meeting will be held February 6-9, 2014 in Nashville, TN! Nashville has changed since the SSS meetings were held there in 1999. This year's meeting will be interrogating the complex processes through which multiple inequalities institutionally reinforce gender inequality. For more information see the SWS website: <http://socwomen.org/conferences/upcoming-conference.html>. If you are planning to attend the meeting, I suspect we will organize an SWS-South social event sometime during the Winter Meeting. Be on the lookout for this as the Winter Meeting draws nearer.

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Make sure to renew your SWS-South membership with Julie Wiest (jwiest@gmail.edu). Print copies of the membership form to share with your students and colleagues who you think would benefit from membership in SWS-South. In fact, you could just pay for their initial membership as a gift! Check us out on

Facebook, where Annie Neimand regularly posts thought-provoking articles on gender as well as useful information about SWS-South. And don't forget to make your plans to attend the meeting in Charlotte! Please feel free to email me about anything SWS-South related as well.

Happy New Year...

*Shannon Davis
President, SWS-South*

Notes from the Membership Chair/Treasurer

Happy winter! I hope your semesters went well. It was wonderful seeing many of you in Atlanta in April, and I wish to extend another warm welcome to our new members. Sixteen new members joined us in 2012-13, and we have 20 new members so far in the current membership year!

Our membership year is April 1-March 30. As of October 1, we had 179 members. Of those, 119 could be considered active members (i.e., they have paid dues within the last three years), and 56 have paid dues for 2013-2014. Thank you to those who responded to my recent membership renewal reminder and for helping to recruit new members at your home institutions. Remember, you can renew/pay dues or ask me about your membership status any time of the year. Dues are relatively inexpensive (\$10 for new members, \$15 for continuing non-student members, and \$5 for students), so perhaps think about a gift membership for a colleague or student. The membership form is included in this newsletter; you can print it to mail with your dues for the year or give it to a prospective new member. You also may renew or join on our website: <http://www.swssouth.org>. Speaking of the website, a big thanks is owed to our webmistress, Perry Threlfall, for getting our new site up and running and also to Cathy Zimmer for her efforts with the former site – thank you!

The membership committee is continuing to work on recruitment. In what has become a yearly activity, we contacted all of the SWS chapters in the Southern region in September to re-introduce our organization, explain the benefits we offer, and invite their members to join; we hope to welcome a few new members from these efforts. We also are planning to continue the Southern Hand program at the 2014 SSS meeting in Charlotte. Because of the hard work of Southern Hand Coordinator Nick Guittar and our wonderful members volunteering as mentors, we were able to extend a Southern Hand to 17 newcomers at the SSS meeting in Atlanta. Thank you to those who participated in this important program. Unfortunately, we did not have enough volunteers to provide a mentor for each of the 24 people who requested one. So we hope that even more of you will consider serving as a mentor for newcomers at the Charlotte meeting so we don't have to turn anyone away. This program is important for our membership recruitment and retention efforts, and it doesn't have to be a big commitment (you can bring your mentee to the business meeting or reception/auction, or just sit down with her or him for a half-hour coffee break). Look for the call for mentors in the spring from Stephanie Gonzalez Guittar, our new Southern Hand Coordinator, and please consider helping out.

We will soon begin planning our "Coffee for a Cause" reception and silent auction at the 2014 SSS meeting. Please plan to attend and bring donations for the auction so we can replicate – or even surpass – the success we had with this event in Atlanta. The first \$150 raised will go toward our new awards program, which identifies outstanding papers on gender presented at the SSS meeting, and the rest will be donated to "All We Want is

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2: Notes from the Membership Chair/Treasurer

L.O.V.E.,” a Charlotte-based nonprofit that fights human trafficking. Our Vision Committee has more exciting activities planned to support this organization; look for details on the listserv and in our newsletters.

The membership committee this year consists of Lanier Basenberg, Denise Bissler, Kris De Welde, Nick Guittar, Stephanie Gonzalez Guittar, Annie Neimand, Joanna Neville, and Brandy L. Simula. All are welcome to join! If you would like to join the committee, or just have questions, comments, or suggestions for the committee, please contact me at jbwiest@gmail.com.

Financially, we are in good shape as an organization. As of October 1, we had \$1,235.97 in the bank. This is after reimbursing Sancha Medwinter, our former SWS National Liaison, for her expenses related to attending the 2013 SWS Winter Meeting, as well as donating \$529 (from auction proceeds and donations) to the Women’s Resource Center in Atlanta. Expected expenses this year include sending our new liaison, Louise Seamster, to the 2014 SWS Winter Meeting and providing a small amount to our Vision Committee to support the activities they are planning for the meeting. We will once again apply for SWS funds to pay for renewing the domain name and host for our website, as well as the “Coffee for a Cause” reception.

Best of luck with the upcoming semester, and I’ll see you soon!

Julie B. Wiest
Membership Chair, SWS-South

TREASURER’S REPORT	
SWS-SOUTH	
2012-2013	
BALANCE 3/23/12	\$1102.79
INCOME	
Dues and contributions	\$947.76
Auction proceeds and contributions	\$940.00
Interest payments	\$.58
TOTAL	\$1888.34
EXPENSES	
SWS National Liaison reimbursement (Conley)	\$498.64
SWS National Liaison reimbursement (Medwinter)	\$767.43
Brees Dream Foundation donation in memory of April Brayfield	\$940.00
Ribbons for meeting	\$95.38
Highland Bakery (cupcakes – to be reimbursed by SWS)	\$160.92
Bank expenses	\$10.42
Checks	34.04
TOTAL	\$2506.83
BALANCE 04/24/13	\$484.30

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie B. Wiest
Treasurer, SWS-South

Announcements & Celebrations!

Shelia Cotten moved from the Sociology Department at the University of Alabama at Birmingham to the Department of Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media at Michigan State University this past August. She also won the 2013 Public Sociology Award from the Communication and Information Technologies section of the American Sociological Association.

Diane D. Everett is now an Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at Stetson University, with primary responsibilities revolving around faculty issues.

Linda Treiber and **Jackie Jones** won the Kennesaw State University Foundation Prize for Scholarship for their paper “When the 5 Rights Go Wrong: Medication Errors from the Nursing Perspective” published in the *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. Cash and faculty development funds awarded at \$5,000 each.

Julie B. Wiest started a new job this fall as Assistant Professor of Sociology at West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

Keep news and announcements coming, send to **Carmel Price** at carmel.price2967@furman.edu, SWS-South wants to help celebrate your many milestones and accomplishments!

Welcome to SWS-South Christin!



Christin Munsch recently joined the Department of Sociology at Furman University as an Assistant Professor and is a long-time member of Sociologists for Women in Society. Christin has been a member of SWS for 9 years and had the opportunity to perform a number of services for SWS. She has served on both the Academic Justice Committee and the Membership Committee for the past two years. She is also on the Welcoming Committee. As a member of the welcoming committee, she has hosted in the hospitality room at each of the meetings she has attended over the past two years. She has also been a HAND mentor at 3 meetings,

volunteered at the registration desk, and reviewed articles submitted for publication in *Gender & Society*.

Christin values the work done by SWS given her interest and passion for justice. Before pursuing a Ph.D. in sociology, she worked in domestic violence shelters and volunteered at a rape crisis center. She describes her decision to return to school with “the parable of the river.” In the parable, a town organizes to rescue children floating down a nearby river. Each day the number of children increases, as do the villagers’ efforts, until one day someone goes upstream to find out why the children are being thrown into the water. She says her intent as a social worker was to help women in need, whereas her intent as a sociologist is to look upstream, ask important questions, and create empirical knowledge that promotes the equity and well-being of women and members of other disenfranchised groups.

Upon joining the faculty at Furman University, Christin joined SWS-South. She will be in attendance at the SWS Winter Meeting in Nashville, TN – please join us in welcoming her to SWS-South.

Early Career Gender Scholar Award!

Junior scholars who are making a noteworthy contribution to our understanding of the sociology of gender will have an opportunity to apply for the Early Career Gender Scholar Award. Nominees should be the first author to a groundbreaking article, a series of articles, or book (which may be co-authored) that advances the scholarship of gender.

Eligibility: Assistant professors, postdoctoral scholars, contingent faculty, research associates, or other early career scholars who hold a Ph.D. are eligible for this award. The work must have been published within the past 3 years.

Nominees may come from the applicant or from a third party nominator and are due March 1, 2014.

Nominees must be affiliated with an institution in the South.

Nominations: Nomination packets should include the following:

1. One nomination letter detailing the merits of the nominee's work,
2. A copy of any articles or books* to be considered for the award, and
3. A current CV of the nominee.

*Books, but not articles will be returned to the nominator.

Winners will receive a plaque, alongside a one-year membership to SWS-South. In addition, the winner will be featured in the following year's SWS-South newsletter and will present her or his work at an SWS-South/SSS special session.

Please mail all nominations directly to the SWS-South Awards Committee Chair:

Claudia Youakim
Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law
University of Florida
3219 Turlington Hall
P.O. Box 117330
Gainesville, FL 32611

A Comment on Elections by SWS (National) Past-President Patricia Yancey Martin

Greetings one and all! I am writing to you as SWS Past-President whose primary responsibility for the 2013 year (the third of a 3-year commitment upon being elected "president-elect") is to identify nominees for the positions we elect. We have a four-person committee (two members are elected each year) to help with this task. Without question, the task is daunting. SWS has a very large number of positions for which we elect--including president and treasurer annually (with each having to commit to a 3-year term); and a vice-president, secretary and student representative every other year (for two-year terms). On top of that, we elect all committee chairs and several committees have co-chairs, thus requiring four nominees. We elect two members annually to the Nominations Committee and the Publications Committee (again, requiring four nominees each). We even elect the members of some committees--e.g., one for Academic Justice, one for Career Development, and so on.

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So, what's the big deal? The big deal is this: Finding enough willing candidates who "fit" the position (see below), can commit to devoting the time to the job, and can (and will) promise to attend the winter meetings for their term of office is a major task. With travel funds limited--as they are these days, the latter commitment is sobering, particularly for members whose employers provide little or no travel support. The issue of "fit" is this: Some committees have suffered in the past when we elected an inexperienced chair. The issue is not that the person was uncaring or lax; rather, it is that the committee is hurt when an inexperienced person does not know what the committee is about, how it works, who can be called up to fulfill its obligations, or whatever. As SWS becomes larger and more complex, we urgently need knowledgeable and experienced committee chairs. Of course, this condition applies to Council as well--president, VP, treasurer, secretary, Newsletter editor, media person, and so on.

As a result of my experiences this year, I urge SWS-South members to come up with ideas for new possibilities. A possible one is to adopt a system that allows for (more) appointed members, with rotating terms of course. If a person's opposite number on a ballot is better known, the less well known person is unlikely to win. Appointments (over elections) allow new and unknown SWS members to assume positions of responsibility where they can learn about how SWS works. As you know, the Southern Sociological Society President (this year, one of our own: Leslie Hossfeld) appoints a number of committee members each year, usually to a rotating term. For example, she/he appoints two new people to the Honors Committee, two to the Committee on the Status of Women, and so on. Those appointees serve and rotate off the committee in time. While on the committee for a few years, they work with appointees of prior presidents and successive presidents as time passes. An advantage of appointments over elections is that people who are brand new, not known, and/or without experience are given a chance to observe and learn about SWS.

As I leave my year as Past President, I shall leave current SWS President Bandana Purkayastha with a list of people who asked or were suggested for positions this year. Since we were unable to find spots for them on the ballot, I hope Bandana will appoint them to a committee where they can observe, learn, and contribute. If this were done regularly, the Nominations Committee would have a larger pool of experienced nominees to consider and fewer positions to address. Perhaps our Bylaws now under revision can allow the conversion of some elected positions to appointed ones.

In any case, thanks to all in SWS-South for your good efforts. I look forward to seeing you at a future SWS meeting.

Visit our website for more information on SWS-South, including archived newsletters: <http://www.swssouth.org/>

“T-Shirt for A Cause Day” will be observed on Thursday April 3, 2014 in Charlotte, NC



SWS-South is happy to announce that we will be spearheading a national campaign in SWS to spread awareness of the inhumane practice of human trafficking. The goal is to make scholarship and activism around human trafficking visible and impactful in our home cities and in those cities where sociologists hold our meetings. Our flagship event will be our “STAND against SEX Trafficking” campaign held in conjunction with the SSS Annual Meeting in Charlotte North Carolina April 3-6th, 2014. We are partnering with a Charlotte organization that works to prevent victimization of women and girls who are trafficked through this corridor. Jillian Mourning is the founder of our chosen organization **All We Want is Love** and was herself, a victim of sex trafficking. Our effort is two-fold: 1) we will be placing 500 wristbands inscribed with the Trafficking hotline toll-free number in local gas stations, schools, strip clubs and conference hotels with the hope of these wristbands getting into the hands of a victim; 2) a 6-month “T-shirt for a Cause” campaign which kicks off this October and goes through the annual meeting date in April. We encourage members to

purchase a T-shirt through our site now and forward the link to family, friends, and colleagues on other listservs to do the same. We are hoping to sell 500 T-shirts by the annual meeting date of April 2nd 2014. 100% of the proceeds will go to **All We Want is Love** to fund the work they do. SWS-South and SSS members attending these meetings will all wear their T-shirts on the “T-shirt for A Cause Day” on Thursday April 3rd, 2014 (also the day of our auction). We will wear our T-shirts throughout the conference sessions and during sightseeing to increase awareness of our stand against sex trafficking of girls and women everywhere, including Charlotte, on this day. So please look out for follow-up announcements and purchase in advance your “SWS-South Stands...against Trafficking Women and Girls...And I Do Too!” T-shirts through the SWS-South website (www.swssouth.org). For more information about our programming at the conference, including our T-shirt fundraiser, contact Sancha Medwinter, SWS-South Vision Committee Chair (sld28@soc.duke.edu). For more information about SWS-South, including membership opportunities, contact Julie Wiest (jbwiest@gmail.com).

Order now at:

http://www.swssouth.org/promotional_tee.html

SWS-South Officers 2013-2014

- President:** Shannon Davis, George Mason University (sdavis@gmu.edu)
Vice President: Marni Brown, Georgia Gwinnett College (marnialyson@gmail.com)
Secretary: Kylie Parrotta, Delaware State University (kylie.parrotta@gmail.com)
Treasurer/Membership Chair: Julie B. Wiest, West Chester University (jbwiest@gmail.com)
Newsletter Editor: Carmel E. Price, Furman University (carmel.price2967@furman.edu)
Awards Committee Chair: Claudia Youakim, University of Florida (cyouaki1@ufl.edu)
Vision Committee Chair: Sancha Medwinter, Duke University (sld28@soc.duke.edu)
SWS National Liaison: Kamala Platt (kamalap@earthlink.net)
Southern Hand Coordinator: Nick Guittar, University of South Carolina – Lancaster (nguittar@mailbox.sc.edu)
Southern Hand Coordinator: Stephanie Gonzalez Guittar, University of South Carolina – Lancaster (sguittar@gmail.com)
Electronic List Keeper: Sandra Godwin, Georgia College & State University (sandra.godwin@gcsu.edu)
Archivist: Diane Everett, Stetson University (ddeveret@stetson.edu)
Webmistress: Perry Threlfall, George Mason University (pthrelf1@gmu.edu)

SOCIOLOGISTS FOR WOMEN IN SOCIETY - SOUTH MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name (please print): _____
 Home Address: _____ Work Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Please place an asterisk next to your preferred mailing address.

1. Are you interested in serving on a committee in the Southern Sociological Society? If so, check the committees in which you are interested and for which you feel qualified to serve.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on the Profession | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Selection Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elections Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on the Status of Women |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Honors | <input type="checkbox"/> Publications Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Sociological Practice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities | | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Sociology in Community and Small Colleges | | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on the Status of Students |

2. Are you interested in running for an office or serving on a committee in SWS-South? If so, check the office in which you are interested and for which you feel qualified to serve. Many of the officers have committees. Write "Committee Member" beside the officer with whom you would like to serve.

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President | <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer/Membership Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Editor | <input type="checkbox"/> SWS-South Archivist | <input type="checkbox"/> SWS-National Liaison | |

Dues: \$10 New member \$15 Regular \$5 Students and Unemployed Contribution: \$ _____
 (The membership year is April 1 - March 31)

PLEASE MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM, ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK FOR DUES TO:

Julie B. Wiest
 West Chester University
 Department of Anthropology & Sociology
 Old Library Building
 West Chester, PA 19383