



Newsletter of the Section on Environment and Technology of the American Sociological Association

A Brief History of the Environment and Technology Section

Riley E. Dunlap
Washington State University
dunlap@wsu.edu

Since our section will celebrate its 25th anniversary at the 2001 ASA meeting, I have been asked to give a brief history of its existence. As I hope will become clear, our Section has very interesting roots.

Our origin can be traced to a resolution introduced at the 1973 ASA Business Meeting (presumably by C.P. Wolf, although I am not certain) in response to a perceived need to strengthen sociologists' ability to contribute to "environmental impact assessments" which had recently been mandated by national legislation. Specifically, the resolution (published in ASA Footnotes, Dec., 1973, p. 8) read as follows:

WHEREAS the 1969 Environmental Protection Agency guidelines, updated in 1972, contain a mandate for primary and secondary socio-cultural impact analysis, and

WHEREAS sociologists have had little input to date in the formulation of such statements, and

WHEREAS it is necessary for sociologists to coordinate their efforts to set quality guidelines and criteria for professional input into environmental impact analysis;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ASA establish a committee to establish guidelines for sociological contributions to environmental impact statements.

In response to this resolution the ASA Council authorized formation of a committee to develop such guidelines.

Interestingly, and quite strategically in retrospect, it was

named the "Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental Sociology." C. P. Wolf was appointed Chair, and the other committee members were Hobson Bryan, William Catton, Albert Gollin, Patrick Jobes, Samuel Klausner and Pamela Savatsky. Wolf proved to be very entrepreneurial, putting out a newsletter titled *Environmental Sociology* (which evolved into our Section newsletter) and circulating it to a rapidly expanding network that reached over 300 within a year.

More importantly, he initiated the process that directly led to the formation of our Section.

The April, 1975 issue of *Environmental Sociology* (No. 6, pp. 4-5) contained a "Statement of Purpose for an Environmental Sociology Section" within ASA that stated: "Four main concerns have prompted the desire to form an Environmental Sociology Section within ASA: (1) an intellectual concern with environmental sociology as a field of human knowledge; (2) a professional concern with advancing scholarly and applied research on this broad topic; (3) a pragmatic concern with problems of environmental quality and preservation; and (4) an organizational concern with providing structure for supporting these interests" and then went on to discuss each concern in more detail. Listed as "Collaborators in the preparation of this statement" were William Catton, Riley Dunlap, Robert Gutman, Kenneth Hornback, Patrick Jobes, Samuel Klausner, Denton Morrison, Eugene Wilkening and C. P. Wolf, but Wolf clearly took the lead in its preparation. He also drew up a set of proposed By-Laws for the "Section on Environmental Sociology" that was published in the same issue (pp. 5-6) continued on page 4

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Officers of the ASA Section on Environment and Technology

Chair:

Carole Seyfrit (1999-2001)
Phone: 757-683-3460
Fax: 757-683-3004
cseyfrit@odu.edu

Chair-elect:

Loren Lutzenhiser (1999-2001)
Phone: 509-335-6707
Fax: 509-335-6419
llutz@wsu.edu

Secretary-Treasurer:

Ken Gould (2000-2003)
315-229-5395
Fax: 315-229-5803
kgould@stlawu.edu

Council Members

Stella Čapek (1998-2001)
501-450-1308
capek@hendrix.edu

David Pellow (1998-2001)
(303) 492-1016
pellow@colorado.edu

Steve Couch (1999-2002)
(570) 385-6071
src@psu.edu

Adam Weinberg (1999-2002)
315-228-7076
aweinberg@mail.colgate.edu

Angela Mertig (2000-2003)
517-355-6644
mertig@msu.edu

Rik Scarce (2000-2003)
(517) 353-4599
scarce@msu.edu

Student Council Representative:
Melissa Toffolon-Weiss (2000-2003)
907-786-4654
afmmt@uaa.alaska.edu

Committees, 2000-2001

Program: Loren Lutzenhiser

Publications: Susan Roschke
Scott Frickel

Webmaster: Rik Scarce

Nominations/Elections:
Steve Brechin

Telecommunications Committee:
J. Timmons Roberts

Membership:

Notes from the Editor



*Welcome to the Winter 2001 issue
of ET&S and the beginning of
a year-long celebration of
the 25th anniversary of the
Environment and Technology Section*

That's right, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Environment and Technology Section of the ASA! We're kicking off the year with a remembrance from one of the Section founders—Riley Dunlap. If you have thoughts on the Section—its history or its future, or, more generally, on the subdiscipline of environmental sociology—that you'd like to share, please send them along for one of this special anniversary year's ET&S issues. Just think, these could become collectors' items!

Of course, other submissions are needed as always—publications and member news, brief pieces on current research (especially if you've got a graph to go with it), department spotlights, partnerships essays, point-counterpoint debates, etc.

Please note that this issue also contains the call for awards nominees. If you know a student who needs a little push to compete for the Olsen Award, do give it. Or, if you know a young scholar deserving of recognition such as the Boguslaw Award, do recommend her or him. This field is full of talented young scholars, and the Section is poised to encourage them!

Also, we are still looking for a membership chair and committee. Volunteer today! Graduate students are welcome to serve, too. (This is a great way to build your network.)

Award Committees, 2000-2001

Olsen Student Paper Award:
Harry Potter, Chair
Lori Hunter & John Talbot

Distinguished Contribution Award:
Ken Gould

Boguslaw Award (to be awarded in 2001):
Allan Schnaiberg, Chair
Phil Brown & Nancy Stein

Outstanding Publication Award
to be awarded in 2002

2001 Extra-Conference Workshop:
Timmons Roberts, Jeffrey Broadbent,
David Pellow, and Tom Rudel

Environment, Technology, and Society Newsletter

Editor: Susan H. Roschke

Planning Director
City of Norwood
4645 Montgomery Rd.
Norwood, OH 45212

Phone: 513-458-4515
Fax: 513-458-4597
E-mail: plan_norwood@fuse.net

Publication Schedule: ET&S is published quarterly. The deadline for submissions for the next (Spring) issue is March 15. If at all possible, please submit text items electronically or on IBM-formatted 3.5" diskette, as this greatly facilitates the newsletter production process. Articles on current research that can be represented graphically on the front page are especially sought.

ET&S is printed on recycled paper.



The Environment and Technology Section on the Internet:

♦ Listserv: Envtecsoc.

To subscribe, send an email to: listserv@csf.colorado.edu with the message text: sub envtecsoc yourfirstname yourlastname

♦ **Resources:** The listserv archives and additional resources for environmental sociologists:

<http://csf.colorado.edu/envtecsoc>

♦ Section Websites:

New! <http://www.lbs.msu.edu/ets/ets.html>

<http://www.asanet.org/Sections/environ.htm>



ET&S is a publication of the American Sociological Association, Section on Environment and Technology. The newsletter is a member benefit.

Please note that you must be a member of the ASA in order to join a Section. Contact the American Sociological Association, Membership Services, at 1307 New York Ave, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20005

Come to Anaheim for a Celebration of 25 Years of Environmental Sociology

Loren Lutzenhiser, Washington State University

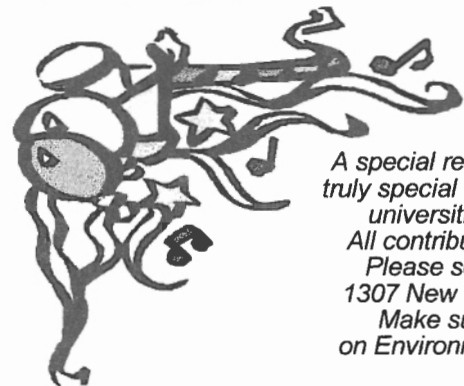
As Chair-elect, it falls to me to organize this year's annual meetings in Anaheim. As ever, it's a "good news" and "bad news" story. Because the ASA Council and staff have decided on a four-day meeting format (instead of the five-day format of years past), a realignment of "section days" was necessary. These section days are the officially designated days on which various sections conduct their business meetings and hold most of their paper sessions. They rotate from year to year, assuring that each section will have the same exposure to the advantages and perils of meeting on the first day of the meetings, the last day, etc. Last year, our section day fell on the final day of the Washington, D.C. meetings. Because of the decision to compress the meetings this year, section days had to be reassigned. The upshot is that the Environment and Technology Section Day is, once again, the last day of the meetings. That's the bad news. The good news is that ASA has given us an extra paper session to compensate for this (and we may be eligible for yet another with special pleading).

But there is more bad news. Since we had assumed that we would be meeting on the first day of the conference this year, we planned a symposium the day before that in cooperation with the Political Economy of the World System (PEWS) Section. That event—a "Mini-Conference on Globalization and the Environment: Prospects and Perils"—will proceed as planned. This means that many Section members will be in Anaheim for at least five days. The good news is that this will allow us to lobby for the spreading of environmental sessions more evenly across the meetings. Adam Weinberg, who is organizing the regular sessions on the environment, has been allocated 3 sessions. These are in addition to our 4-5 Section sessions, and we will also have a full complement of roundtable sessions. Hopefully, ASA will spread these across at least two days of the meetings, so that we can minimize scheduling conflicts. The elongated meeting schedule will also allow members to take in the local attractions, and perhaps allow for more informal social and professional interaction among Section members than we've been used to. I'd love to hear from anyone located in (or hailing from) Southern California who might be willing to help with planning for some informal activities.

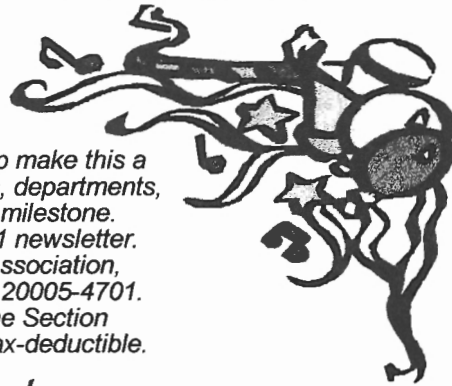
Finally, these meetings will mark the 25th anniversary of the Section. A special session on the past, present and future of environmental sociology has been planned, featuring (in alphabetical order) Fred Buttel, Riley Dunlap, and Allan Schnaiberg, with John Bellamy Foster as discussant. A number of other lively and interesting paper sessions are in the works as well.

Our continued health 25 years after the Section's founding is cause for celebration and a certain amount of self-congratulation. I hope that all 400+ Section members can join in what promises to be an interesting set of meetings, with plenty of opportunities for exchange, reflection and renewal.

Environment and Technology Section 25th Anniversary Reception



The 2001 Annual Meetings of the
American Sociological Association
mark the 25th Anniversary of the founding
of the Environment and Technology Section.



A special reception is being planned. Your support will help make this a truly special event. We welcome donations from individuals, departments, universities, or other organizations to help us mark this milestone. All contributors will be acknowledged in the summer 2001 newsletter. Please send your check to the American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-4701. Make sure you designate the funds as a donation to the Section on Environment and Technology. Donations to ASA are tax-deductible.

Let's make this a night to remember!



Call for Papers

The *American Sociological Review*—Charles Camic and Franklin Wilson, Editors—seeks manuscripts from members of the Section on Environment and Technology. *ASR*'s mission is to publish the best contemporary scholarship from all areas of sociology. Without a strong volume of sub-missions on environment and technology, this goal is seriously compromised. We thus invite members of the Section on Environment and Technology to submit their work for possible publication in *ASR*.

The *ASR*'s Deputy Editors and the members of the journal's Editorial Board for 2001 are listed on the enclosed page. Together they comprise the largest and most intellectually diverse editorial team in *ASR*'s history. The editorial team joins the Editors in welcoming a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches and contributions from all substantive areas of the discipline. Also, *ASR*'s current editorial policies are highly flexible as to form and can accommodate manuscripts of various lengths and styles. (Full information about manuscript requirements is available in the February and August 2000 issues of the journal, at the *ASR* website (www.pop.psu.edu/ASR/asr.htm), or upon request to asr@ssc.wisc.edu.)

As a result of these editorial changes, we hope to publish more than our fair share of the best contemporary work on environment and technology. We therefore strongly encourage Section members to submit their manuscripts to the *American Sociological Review*.

and continues, with some modification, to guide our Section's activities.

The July, 1975 issue of *Environmental Sociology* (No. 7, p. 15), which was circulated to 543 people, laid out an agenda for an "organizing meeting" for the Section to be held at that year's ASA meeting in San Francisco. The key item of business was the election of officers. It was left open as to whether those elected at this meeting should serve on a "temporary" basis until a mail ballot could be used to elect a formal slate of officers, or whether they would in fact be the "official" officers for the new Section. Here the record becomes vague, and so does my memory, but it appears that only temporary officers—if any—were elected. As is noted in the December, 1975 *Environmental Sociology* (No. 8, p. 1), "At the organizing meeting in San Francisco it was agreed that the Ad Hoc Committee would continue functioning informally to facilitate Section formation." Thus, my sense is that the Committee, and Wolf in particular, functioned as temporary officers for the Section-in-formation.

What is clear is that those who attended the meeting agreed that a Section should be established, and efforts were mounted to reach ASA's requirement of 200 dues-paying members to achieve formal Section status. It was noted at the meeting that once 200 ASA members paid dues, the new Section would be allotted three sessions at the 1976 meeting and be able to conduct a mail ballot to elect officers and ratify the proposed by-laws. I also recall that nominations for permanent officers were taken at that meeting, and that a slate of candidates was drawn up for the subsequent election.

The December, 1975 issue of *Environmental Sociology* was the last one edited by Wolf. The next issue (No. 9) did not appear until October, 1976, and was put out by Bill Catton and myself after the Section had been formally established that year—as 229 ASA members paid the Section dues of \$3.00. Prior to the August 1976 ASA meeting in New York a mail ballot had been conducted, and in addition to Catton being elected Chair, William Burch was elected Chair-Elect; Richard

Gale was elected Secretary-Treasurer, and Rabel Burdge, Sue Johnson, Riley Dunlap, Samuel Klausner, William Michelson, and Ruth Love were elected Council Members for various terms. Catton presided over the first official business meeting of the Section on Environmental Sociology that year.

In addition to the first Section Business Meeting, there were three Section-sponsored sessions in 1976, including one chaired by Wolf on "Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment," one by Arthur Shostak and Elizabeth Huttman on "Housing," and one by Catton on contributed papers. (On a personal note, I should mention that one of the presentations in the latter session, by Catton and myself, entitled "The Development of Environmental Sociology: Why Not Human Ecology?" was never written up as such—but contained the seeds of our first five articles on environmental sociology that offered a definition of the field and discussed its paradigmatic implications [see, e.g., Catton and Dunlap, 1978; Dunlap and Catton, 1979].) There were also a number of relevant sessions on the "regular" ASA program that year, including "Conservation and Environmental Problems," "Social Implications of Energy," and "Ecology and the Social Uses of Space."

The formal establishment of the Section in 1976 generated a great deal of enthusiasm among members. Buttel (1987:466) subsequently captured the spirit of the times when he wrote,

"During the early years of the ASA Section on Environmental Sociology, there was a vibrant esprit de corps that a new sociology was being nurtured—one that recognized the role of physical-biological factors in shaping social structures and behaviors, that was aware of the impacts of social organization and social change on the natural environment."

Besides social impact assessment, popular topics for early Section sessions were energy and resource scarcity in general, environmental attitudes and activism, housing and the built environment, and various conceptual and theoretical issues facing the new field.

For a better sense of the kinds of empirical work being done at the time see Dunlap and Catton (1979) and Buttel (1987).

The Eighties and the Reagan era proved to be a difficult time for our field (and sociology in general), and after reaching an early peak of 321 members in 1979 Section membership declined and fell below 280 in both 1983 and 1985 before beginning an upward trend in the late 1980s and 1990s (Dunlap and Catton, 1994:9). (On another personal note, I found this terribly frustrating as I was Section Chair from 1981-83 and did my best to encourage people to maintain their memberships—but it was a losing battle.) Since I have tried to chronicle changes in the broad outlines of the field, albeit not the Section per se, in other places (Dunlap and Catton, 1994; Dunlap, 1997) as have others (e.g., Buttel, 1987; 1996; Freudenburg and Gramling, 1989; Gramling and Freudenburg, 1996; Laska, 1993), I shall not attempt to extend this history any further except to note two significant developments.

Most notably, at the 1988 ASA meeting the Section Council voted to change the Section's name to its current Section on Environment and Technology. Shortly thereafter the newsletter was renamed *Environment, Technology, and Society*, its title beginning with the Winter, 1988 (No. 51) issue. My recollection is that a key stimulus for this change was the fact that the Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology had either just been formed or had changed its name to include "technology" and some members of our Section were worried that people with strong interests in technology (e.g., nuclear power) might leave our Section for "SKAT." Of course, the fact that many members of our Section had strong interests in energy and other technologies no doubt contributed directly to support for such a name change.

A second change that has occurred since the early days of our Section is that the original strong representation of people with major interests in housing and the built environment has declined over the years. Their initial

Continued on page 5

involvement and leadership (e.g., William Michelson served as Section Chair) was stimulated by the Section By-Laws which noted that, "The term environment is understood to encompass both 'natural' and 'built environment' as they relate to social behavior and social organization." But despite this explicit inclusive orientation of the Section, and subsequent efforts to portray the field as encompassing both built and natural environment specialists (e.g., Dunlap and Catton, 1983), there seems to have been a gradual decline in the proportion of Section members with strong interests in housing and the built environment. My sense is that some have migrated to the Section on Community and Urban Sociology, although I have no hard data on this.

Literature Cited:

- Frederick H. Buttel, "New Directions in Environmental Sociology," *Annual Review of Sociology* 13 (1987): 465-488.
- Buttel, Frederick H., "Environmental and Resource Sociology: Theoretical Issues and Opportunities for Synthesis," *Rural Sociology* 61 (1996):56-76.
- William R. Catton, Jr. and Riley E. Dunlap, "Environmental Sociology: A New Paradigm," *The American Sociologist* 13 (1978):41-49.
- Riley E. Dunlap, "The Evolution of Environmental Sociology: A Brief History and Assessment of the American Experience," Pp. 21-39 in M. Redclift and G. Woodgate (eds.), *The International Handbook of Environmental Sociology*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 1997.
- Riley E. Dunlap and William R. Catton, Jr., "Environmental Sociology," *Annual Review of Sociology* 5 (1979): 243-273.

Riley E. Dunlap and William R. Catton, Jr., "What Environmental Sociologists Have in Common (Whether Concerned with 'Built' or 'Natural' Environments)," *Sociological Inquiry* 53 (1983):113-135.

Riley E. Dunlap and William R. Catton, Jr., "Struggling with Human Exemptionalism: The Rise, Decline and Revitalization of Environmental Sociology," *The American Sociologist* 25 (1994):5-30.

William R. Freudenburg and Robert Gramling, "The Emergence of Environmental Sociology," *Sociological Inquiry* 59 (1989): 439-452.

Robert Gramling and William R. Freudenburg, "Environmental Sociology: Toward A Paradigm for the 21st Century," *Sociological Forum* 16 (1996):347-370.

Shirley Bradway Laska, "Environmental Sociology and the State of the Discipline," *Social Forces* 72 (1993):1-17.

25 Years

Journal Announcements

Blazing Tattles

You can have *Blazing Tattles*, an international, alternative news magazine focusing on Planetary and Personal health since the Gulf War, delivered to your door. Delivery can be arranged through a subscription at <http://www.blazingtattles.com>. Or call 813-936-2374 and place an order by phone.

Every monthly issue of *Blazing Tattles* has a section on "Planet." The latest issue had articles which include: "Surfers hot over warming," "The Green Party condemns the role of U.S. in the breakdown of the Global Warming Conference" [and breaking news about a meeting in Ottawa of members from the U.S. and the E.U. with the hope of coming to agreement before the next scheduled meeting], "Thirteen earths?," "Environmentalism, David Brower, passes on," and "It Makes Me Wanna Cry Department" [a sample of recent news about transgenic engineering].

The issue in progress has the latest word on forest fires and their implications, overcoming a lot of "common sense" beliefs about them. The article is based primarily upon the latest scientific findings being presented the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union-taking place right now. Another environmental article is also included, "Proper 'punishment' for John Stossel and ABC." There are more in the pipeline, but space always limits them. A continuing theme is how chemicals and pollution in our air, water, food, clothing, personal care products, and structures impact our health and what can be done to mitigate or reverse the effects.

Other topics of vital interest are frequently offered, such as social justice articles, or a two part article currently running, "Your stolen vote-the missing pieces of the puzzle."

Blazing Tattles seeks to keep honest, alternative news available to the public. Your support helps *Blazing Tattles* achieve this goal. **\$\$ Mention that you are an E&T member and receive \$10.00 off the regular subscription price. \$\$**

Organization & Environment

Contents, March 2001, 14.1: Thomas D. Beamish: Environmental Hazard and Institutional Betrayal: Lay Public Perceptions of Risk in the San Luis Obispo County Oil Spill; Michael Dreiling and Brian Wolf: Environmental Movement Organizations and Political Strategy: Tactical Conflicts over NAFTA; Marla Perez-Lugo: The Mass Media and Disaster Awareness in Puerto Rico: A Case Study of the Floods in

BarrioTortugo; **Citation Classics and Foundational Works:** Peter F. Cannavo: American Contradictions and Pastoral Visions: An Appraisal of Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden*; **Archives of Organizational and Environmental Literature:** Brett Clark and John Bellamy Foster: William Stanley Jevons and The Coal Question: An Introduction to Jevons' "Of the Economy of Fuel"; William Stanley Jevons: Of the Economy of Fuel; **Art and the Natural Environment:** Ceiridwen Terrill: Romancing the Bomb: Marine Animals in Naval Strategic Defense; James Iredell: Only the Geese Know What to Do; Ian Marshall: Henry Thoreau's *Transcendental Skating*; **Book Reviews:** Julie Urbanik: *Feminism and Ecology*, by Mary Mellor; Jason W. Moore: *Ecology and the World System*, Edited by Walter Goldfrank, David Goodman and Andrew Szasz; Brett Clark: *Urban Recycling and the Search for Sustainable Community Development*, by Adam S. Weinberg, David N. Pellow, and Allan Schnaiberg.

Contents, December 2000, 13.4: Elisabeth Ryland: Gaia Rising: A Jungian Look at Environmental Consciousness and Sustainable Organizations; John Bellamy Foster and Paul Burkett: The Dialectic of Organic/Inorganic Relations: Marx and the Hegelian Philosophy of Nature; Jeannie Gaines and John M. Jermier: Symposium on Vivisection, Animal Equality, and Organizations Animal Inequality and Organizations: Introduction; Joan Dunayer: From Vivisection to Animal Rights; Joan Dunayer: "In the Name of Science: The Language of Vivisection," A preprint of Chapter 8 from the forthcoming book, *Animal Equality: Language and Liberation*; Carol J. Adams: A Feeling for the Language, Comments on "In the Name of Science: The Language of Vivisection"; Jonathan Balcombe: Verbal Vivisection, Comments on "In the Name of Science: The Language of Vivisection"; Michael Allen Fox: The Case Against Animal Experimentation, Comments on "In the Name of Science: The Language of Vivisection"; **Archives of Organizational and Environmental Literature:** Brett Clark and John Bellamy Foster: Henry S. Salt, Socialist Animal Rights Activist: Introduction to Salt's *A Lover of Animals*; Henry S. Salt: A Lover of Animals; **Art and the Natural Environment:** Deborah Fleming: Resurrection of the Wild: Ohio Ecology as Regeneration; Michael D. Burke: from *Me and Sid: A Journey by Rivers*; **Dialogues and Debates:** Victor Wallis: Species Questions [Gattungsfragen]: Humanity and Nature from Marx to Shiva; **Film Review:** *Drumbeat for Mother Earth*, Coproduced by Greenpeace and the Indigenous Environmental Network.

Minutes of the August 16, 2000

Environment and Technology Section Business Meeting



The meeting was called to order by Section Chair Carole Seyfrit. Secretary-Treasurer Dorceta Taylor presented the minutes of last year's business meeting which were approved unanimously. Dorceta Taylor also reported on the Section's budget. She reported a balance of \$2,154.21 in the Section's general funds after current meeting expenses. She also reported \$2,985.11 in the Boguslaw Scholarship fund. The Section awarded \$200.00 to the winner of the Olsen Student Paper. There was no Boguslaw Award in 2000 since that award alternates with the new Distinguished Publication Award.

Three awards were presented at the meeting. Dorceta Taylor presented the Distinguished Contribution Award to Shirley Laska of the University of New Orleans and Riley Dunlap presented the Outstanding Publication Award to Jeffrey Broadbent of the University of Minnesota. The Outstanding Student Paper Award went to Allison Short of University of California - Santa Cruz. Andrew Szasz accepted the award in Allison's absence.

The Chair reported that this year the Section was allotted three regular and 12 roundtable sessions. Plans were under-way to do joint sessions with Rural Sociology next year.

Steve Couch announced that there were 358 members in the Section; we needed to have 400 by September 30 to retain the number of sessions we currently have. He encouraged members to recruit new members. Steve discussed the policy regarding student memberships: students pay for their ASA memberships and the Section pay for their Section dues. Both the Section and ASA dues were half price till December 31. Carole Seyfrit Tom Rudel outlined the procedure: students should submit their forms to her and she would send them to the ASA.

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be held in Anaheim, California from August 18-22, 2001. Since it was the 25th anniversary of the section, Carole suggested that we do some fundraising to pay for a more elaborate reception. Plans were to make special pleas to departments and members, etc. to make a special contribution to the reception fund.

Loren Lutzenhizer, Chair Elect, reported on the next year's program. The section was allotted 3 regular sessions and 12 roundtables. Adam Weinberg would be in charge of selecting papers for the regular sessions. The preliminary call for papers was already out. The final call for papers would go out later this year. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Section, Loren proposed organizing sessions around (a) the founders of the section, (b) cutting edge research in the section, and cities of the future, the new urbanism. Send suggestions to Loren.

Carole Seyfrit reported on the status of several committees. Steve is the chair of the Nominations committee, however, that committee will need a chair and one member. Susan Roschke has agreed to continue as head of the Newsletter/Publications committee. However, Susan needs an apprentice to help with the newsletter. Ken Gould will chair the Distinguished Contribution Award Committee. Lori Hunter will continue as chair of the Olson Student Paper Award Committee, but two new people are needed for that committee. Alan Schnai-berg is the chair of the Boguslaw Award Committee, but that committee also needs two people. In addition, two people are needed for the Council. Section members were invited to submit nominations for future positions in the Section.

Susan Roschke, editor of *Environment, Technology, and Society*, reported on the status of the newsletter. She would like more submissions from members.

Timmons Roberts announced that the Political Economy World Systems (PEWS) Section was having a mini-conference on August 17, 2000 -- one day before the ASA. The cost of registration will be \$20. Since the E&T Section Day is August 18th, there was a possibility to do some joint activities with PEWS.

Timmons, Jeffrey Broadbent, and Tom Rudel would act as liaisons between PEWS and E&T.

It was also announced that SSSP was also meeting in Anaheim on August 19th. They would be leading a toxic tour for anyone who was interested.

The meeting ended with several members making announcements about jobs openings at various campuses.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dorceta E. Taylor,
Secretary-Treasurer

Mini-Conference

The PEWS (Political Economy of the World-System) and Environment and Technology (E&T) Sections of the ASA are proud co-sponsors of a Mini-Conference on "Globalization and the Environment: Prospects and Perils" to be held August 17, 2001, the day before the ASA 2001 meetings in Anaheim, California, and in the same hotel as the ASA.

The purpose of this mini-conference is to link theoretical and empirical advances and real world (practical) activities related to both globalization and the environment. The mini-conference is a follow-up to "Globalization and Politics: Opening the Black Box" held the day before the 2000 Meetings in Washington, D.C. (which was co-sponsored by the PEWS and Political Sociology sections). These sessions focused on the political responses to globalization, rather than the environmental side.

The format will include an opening Plenary, two thematic panels, and a closing plenary with brief commentary on the day's discussion (by the same speakers as the opening plenary) plus plenty of time for open discussion. Plenary speakers will include Al Bergesen, Fred Buttel, Stephen Bunker, and others to be named later.

The organizers realize the time conflict given ASA's recent change to the 2001 Meeting schedule. They hope many E&T members will still choose to attend—perhaps then taking a mid-ASA vacation break to one of many nearby destinations!

Department Spotlight

University of Colorado at Boulder

by Lori Hunter

Environmental Sociology represents one of several focal areas of research and teaching in the Department of Sociology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The Sociology Graduate Program offers a Ph.D. degree and, in general, seeks to educate creative and productive scholars and teachers. The Department maintains strong emphases in the theories and methods of the discipline to provide students with sound basic training regardless of their area of specialization. These include classical, contemporary, and modern theory, and qualitative and quantitative research methods and analytical techniques. Specific to Environmental Sociology, graduate seminars are offered in: Environment and Society, Environmental Justice, Human Dimensions of Environmental Change, Corporations and Society, Natural Hazards and Risk Communication.

The Environmental Sociology faculty at CU-Boulder include:

Dennis Mileti, chair of the Department of Sociology and Director of the Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center (<http://www.colorado.edu/IBS/hazards/>). Dr. Mileti is a leading expert in natural hazards research, having just recently compiled results of the Second National Assessment of Research on Natural Hazards. The Second Assessment was a multi-year project sponsored by the National Science Foundation with supporting contributions from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey. The report is being used across the globe by communities as they plan for sustainable development aimed at reducing hazard losses. Dr. Mileti has also published extensively with regard to environmental risk perception and communication.

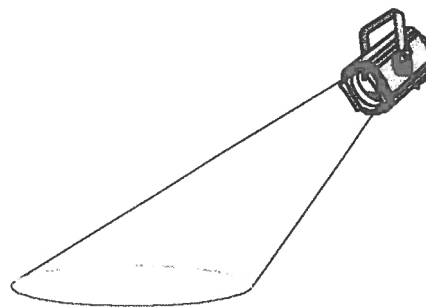
David N. Pellow is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Department of Ethnic Studies. Dr. Pellow's research is mainly focused on the intersections between social inequality and environmental degradation, often referred to as environmental justice research. Pellow is specifically interested in the causes and consequences of the widespread exposure to toxic hazards that workers and residents in poor and people of color communities confront in the U.S. and around the globe. Recent and on-going research projects include: a study of the impact of oil refinery accidents on workers, residents and the ecosystems in working-class neighborhoods and communities of color; an historical and ethnographic examination of the impacts that a range of solid waste facilities has had on workers and communities in Chicago's communities of color since the late 19th century; a social and environmental study of Silicon Valley's computer industries on the region's ecosystem and its immigrant workforce; an analysis of the effects of the global trade in hazardous industrial waste on Third World nations. Dr. Pellow is also associated with the Institute of Behavioral Science's Program on Environment and Behavior.

Lori Hunter is an Assistant Professor of Sociology whose primary areas of expertise are Demography and Environmental Sociology, with the intersection between the two areas providing a framework for her examination of human-environment interactions. In a broad sense, Dr. Hunter's research interests encompass the interrelations between human populations and their environmental context. In a more specific sense, her work to-date has examined four areas of human-environment interactions, 1) migration and environmental risk, 2) the social distribution of environmental hazards, 3) public perception of environmental issues, and 4) population, land use change, and biodiversity. Dr. Hunter is a Faculty Research Associate with the Program on Environment and Behavior, of the Institute of Behavioral Science (<http://www.colorado.edu/ibs/EB/eandbweb.htm>).

Guy Burgess and Heidi Burgess, Co-Directors of the University's Conflict Research Consortium, focus their research interests on intractable international and public policy conflicts, many of which are environmental conflicts. While they are currently involved in a study of the framing of growth controversies in Colorado, in the past Guy has been involved in research on environmental hazards and risk assessment, Heidi has studied land use and facility siting controversies and both Heidi and Guy have done research on social and political adaptation to environmental change, particularly global warming. They both have practical environmental conflict management experience, having acted as mediators and facilitators on a number of large-scale environmental conflicts.

The Boulder campus is, in general, renowned for its environmental focus in both teaching and research. A Graduate Certificate Program in Environmental Policy offers the opportunity for students of all disciplines to gain interdisciplinary experience with environmental issues. Environmental issues obviously transcend ordinary academic boundaries, and policy analyses to deal with these problems must integrate insights and information from many different disciplines. The Graduate Certificate program draws on courses in Anthropology, Economics, EPO Biology, Geography, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, the College of Architecture and Planning, the College of Engineering and Applied Science, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and the School of Law.

Environmental Sociology is a growing focal area within the Department of Sociology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. We are excited about the future! Feel free to contact either Lori Hunter (Lori.Hunter@colorado.edu, 303-492-1006) or David Pellow (David.Pellow@colorado.edu, 303-492-1016) for further information.



Section on Environment and Technology Awards Call for Nominees for 2001

The Environment and Technology Section of the ASA is seeking nominations for the following three awards to be presented at the 2001 Annual Meetings in Anaheim, CA. The deadline for all nominations is May 1, 2001.

The Marvin E. Olsen Graduate Student Paper Award

This award is given annually at the American Sociological Association meeting to recognize an outstanding graduate student authored paper accepted for presentation at the annual meeting. It is named after Marvin Olsen to recognize his contributions to environmental sociology.

The award is announced at the section business meeting. The recipient receives a certificate and \$200 to help defray the costs of participating in the meeting.

Graduate students, and their advisors on their behalf, are encouraged to submit papers to this competition. The deadline for submitting papers to the Olsen Student Paper Award Committee is May 1, 2001. Send them to Harry Potter, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 1365 Stone Hall, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1365; potter@sri.soc.purdue.edu, 765-494-4712.

The Robert Boguslaw Award for Technology and Humanism

This award for a doctoral student or young investigator (Ph.D. within last five years) whose recent (within the past two years) unpublished paper or published article investigates the relationship between technology and humanism. To submit nominations or to get more information, contact: Allan Schnaiberg, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208

Distinguished Contribution Award

This award recognizes individuals for outstanding service, innovation, or publication in environmental sociology or the sociology of technology. It is intended to be an expression of appreciation, to be awarded when an individual is deemed to be extraordinarily meritorious by the Section. Please send nominating letters to: Kenneth Gould, Department of Sociology, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY 13617



Book Announcement

New Book Addresses Race, Equity and Smart Growth

Atlanta, Georgia, February 9, 2000 - Robert Bullard, Glenn S. Johnson, and Angel S. Torres, researchers at the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University, have recently edited a book entitled: *Sprawl City: Race, Politics and Planning in Atlanta* (Island Press 2000). A serious but often overlooked impact of the random, unplanned growth—commonly known as "sprawl"—that has come to dominate the American landscape is its effect on economic and racial polarization. Sprawl-fueled growth pushes people further apart geographically, politically, economically, and socially. Atlanta, Georgia is experiencing one of the most severe cases of sprawl in the country, and offers a striking example of sprawl-induced stratification.

Sprawl City uses a multi-disciplinary approach to analyze and critique the emerging crisis resulting from urban sprawl in the ten-county Atlanta metropolitan region. Local experts including sociologists, lawyers, urban planners, economists, educators, and health care professionals consider sprawl-related concerns as core environmental justice and civil rights issues. All of the contributors examine institutional constraint issues that are embedded in urban sprawl, considering how government policies, including housing, education, and transportation policies, have aided and in some cases subsidized separate but unequal economic development, segregated neighborhoods, and spatial layout of central cities and suburbs.

Contributors offer analysis of the causes and consequences of urban sprawl, and outline policy recommendations and an action agenda for coping with sprawl-related problems, both in Atlanta and around the country.

The book illuminates the rising class and racial divisions underlying uneven growth and development, and provides an important source of information for anyone concerned with these issues, including the growing environmental justice movement as well as planners, policy analysts, public officials, community leaders, and students of public policy, geography, planning, and related disciplines.

Robert Bullard is the Ware Professor of Sociology and director of the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University. He is author of eight books including *Dumping in Dixie* (Westview Press, 2000) and *Just Transportation* (New Society Publishers, 1997). Glenn Johnson is assistant professor in the department of sociology, and research associate in the Environmental Justice Resource Center at Clark Atlanta University. Angel Torres is a GIS specialist with the Environmental Justice Resource Center.

The book is available from Island Press, see www.islandpress.org/ecocompass/community/sprawl.html. ISBN: 1559637900 (paper). For more information contact: Marie Green, Communication Specialist, Environmental Justice Resource Center, by phone: (404) 880-6914 or e-mail: mgreen@cau.edu.

