

# **Annual Report for the Mathematical Sociology Section**

## **For membership year 2011-2012**

**Prepared by Katherine Faust, Past Chair of the Section**

**October, 2012**



## **Introduction**

Dear Section Past Chair;

Section Annual Reports are an important tool for building your section's institutional memory and history. In addition, they are one of the most valuable tools that the Association has to assess the vitality of your section. These reports are read and discussed by the Committee on Sections at its Fall/Winter meeting. Afterwards they are retained in the ASA's Sections archive and will be available upon request for future section members and officers.

Annual Reports should cover your section's activities during your term as chair, or approximately from the end of the previous year's Annual Meeting to the end of this year's.

Please send your completed report to the Executive Office by October 15<sup>th</sup> of this year. We prefer your reports are sent in electronic format rather than in print. Any printed materials sent to us will be converted into an electronic format.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments or concerns. I am here to assist you. Thank you for your hard work and creativity over these last several years, and congratulations for the successful completion of your term as Chair of your Section.

Sincerely,  
Justin Lini, MA  
Program Coordinator for Sections, American Sociological Association.  
(202) 383-9005 x 330 - [Lini@ASAnet.org](mailto:Lini@ASAnet.org)

## **Section Governance**

*This first section of the report details your section's governance activity during the last year.*

*Elections were held during 2011-12, and new officers were installed at the business meeting.*

### *Outgoing Officers (term ended 2012)*

Past Chair: Robert Hanneman  
Secretary-Treasurer: David Wagner  
Council: Jane Sell, Robb Willer  
Student Council Member: Emma Spiro

### *Continuing officers (term ends 2013)*

Past Chair: Katherine Faust  
Council: Alison Bianchi, Peter J. Burke

### *Continuing officers (term ends 2014)*

Council: Matthew E. Brashears, Arnout van de Rijt

### *Incoming Officers (term ends 2013)*

Student Member of Council: Ashton Verdery

### *Incoming officers (term ends 2014)*

Chair-Elect: Jane Sell

### *Incoming officers (term ends 2015)*

Secretary-Treasurer: John Skvoretz  
Council: James D. Montgomery, Matthew J. Salganik

### *After 2012 ASA Meetings*

Chair: Noah E. Friedkin  
Chair-Elect: Jane Sell  
Past Chair: Katherine Faust  
Secretary-Treasurer: John Skvoretz  
Council: Alison Bianchi, Peter J. Burke, Matthew E. Brashears, Arnout van de Rijt,  
James D. Montgomery, Matthew J. Salganik  
Student Representative: Ashton M. Verdery

### *Will Continue 2011-12*

Webmaster: Matthew Brashears  
Newsletter Editors: Pamela Emanuelson, Donna Lancianese

## **Business Meeting**

*This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting's minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made at this meeting.*

The section held its annual Business Meeting at ASA (attended by 49 members). Please see the Agenda and Minutes below.

**Agenda**  
**ASA Mathematical Sociology Section Business Meeting**  
**11:30am – 12:10pm, Saturday, August 18, 2012**

**Council Members**

*Section Officers*

Katherine Faust (Chair) [kfaust@uci.edu](mailto:kfaust@uci.edu)  
Noah Friedkin (Chair Elect) [friedkin@soc.ucsb.edu](mailto:friedkin@soc.ucsb.edu)  
Robert Hanneman (Past Chair) [robert.hanneman@ucr.edu](mailto:robert.hanneman@ucr.edu)  
David Wagner (Secretary-Treasurer) [d.wagner@albany.edu](mailto:d.wagner@albany.edu)

*Council Members*

Alison Bianchi [alison-bianchi@uiowa.edu](mailto:alison-bianchi@uiowa.edu)  
Matthew Brashears [meb299@cornell.edu](mailto:meb299@cornell.edu)  
Peter J Burke [peter.burke@ucr.edu](mailto:peter.burke@ucr.edu)  
Jane Sell [j-sell@tamu.edu](mailto:j-sell@tamu.edu)  
Arnout van de Rijt [Arnout.VanDeRijt@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Arnout.VanDeRijt@stonybrook.edu)  
Robb Willer [willer@berkeley.edu](mailto:willer@berkeley.edu)  
Emma Spiro (Student Representative) [espiro@uci.edu](mailto:espiro@uci.edu)

*Unofficially ex-officio*

Pam Emanuelson (Newsletter Editor) [Pamela.Emanuelson@ndsu.edu](mailto:Pamela.Emanuelson@ndsu.edu)  
Donna Lancianese (Newsletter Editor) [donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu)  
Matthew Brashears (Website Manager) [meb299@cornell.edu](mailto:meb299@cornell.edu)

**Business**

1. Overview of section highlights and council activities (Katie Faust)
  - a. Mathematical Sociology Databank update (Matt Brashears)
  - b. Section Newsletter (Pamela Emanuelson and Donna Lancianese)
  - c. Section Website (Matt Brashears)
2. Acknowledge new and incoming council members and officers
3. Budget update (Dave Wagner)
4. Awards (presented by Jane Sell, Alison Bianchi, and Noah Friedkin)
5. Other business

**Awards Presented in 2012**

1) James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Award to John Skvoretz. Committee: Jane Sell (Chair), Arnout van de Rijt, and Bob Hanneman

2) Outstanding Article Award to Andreas Wimmer and Kevin Lewis, for their article "Beyond and Below Racial Homophily: ERG Models of a Friendship Network Documented on Facebook", 2010 American Journal of Sociology. Committee: Noah Friedkin (Chair), Matthew Salganik, Damon Centola, and Emma Spiro

3) Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to David Melamed and Scott Savage, for their paper "Predicting Social Influence: A Model at the Intersection of Sociology and Psychology". Committee: Alison Bianchi (Chair), Will Kalkhoff and Omar Lizardo

4) Note, the Dissertation in Progress Award is not being given this year, since there were no nominees. Committee: Robert Shelly (Chair), David Wagner, Gene Johnsen, and James Montgomery

**Membership counts from ASA**  
**July 31, 2012**

<b>Current Member Counts 7/31/2012</b>		<b>Section Mathematical Sociology</b>
<b>Current Memberships</b>	<b>Low income</b>	0
	<b>Student</b>	60
	<b>Member</b>	152
	<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>
<b>Historical Comparison</b>	<b>New Member Count</b>	5
	<b>Last Month's Growth %</b>	2.4%
	<b>Total 7/1/2012</b>	207
	<b>2011-2012 difference</b>	-11
	<b>Total 7/27/2011</b>	223
<b>Member Percentages</b>	<b>Low income</b>	0.0%
	<b>Student</b>	28.3%
	<b>Member</b>	71.7%

**Minutes**  
**Mathematical Sociology Business Meeting**  
**August 18, 2012, 11:30 to 12:10 pm**

49 people (23% of section members) attended the Business Meeting.

1. Faust gave an overview of section highlights and council activities, including progress on the Mathematical Sociology Databank (Matt Brashears), Section Newsletter (Donna Lancianese), and Section Website (Matt Brashears).
2. Faust acknowledged new and incoming council members and officers.
3. Budget update. Dave Wagner distributed copies of the section budget and summarized the state of Section finances.
4. Awards. All award winners were present and accepted their awards. Barbara Meeker and others took photographs.  
Jane Sell presented the James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Award to John Skvoretz.  
Noah Friedkin presented the Outstanding Article Award to Andreas Wimmer and Kevin Lewis, for their article "Beyond and Below Racial Homophily: ERG Models of a Friendship Network Documented on Facebook".  
Alison Bianchi presented the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to David Melamed and Scott Savage, for their paper "Predicting Social Influence: A Model at the Intersection of Sociology and Psychology".
5. Other business. 1) Robert Shelly discussed the state of the Dissertation in Progress Award and encouraged people to contribute to the fund. 2) There is enthusiasm for continuing the Joint Japan-North America Mathematical Sociology Conference, though there was some concern about the timing of this year's Joint Conference since it was held on the same day as the Group Processes meeting (the day before ASA).

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## **Section Council Meeting**

*In this portion of the report, please discuss your section's deliberations at its Council Meeting. This portion of the report should include an agenda, a count or list of members present and a copy of the meeting's minutes. If no minutes are available, please provide a summary of decisions made by the Section Council. Please include information on all other Council Meetings conducted during the previous year.*

The Section Council Meeting was held as a breakfast meeting during ASA. We discussed the section budget (including the Dissertation in Progress Award fund), section awards, the newsletter, the section website, a Data Bank initiative (in conjunction with the publisher of *Mathematical Sociology*), and possible steps we might take to better inform and integrate student members. Please see the Agenda and Minutes of the council meeting.

**Agenda**  
**ASA Mathematical Sociology Section Council Meeting**  
**August 18, 2012**  
**7:00am to 8:15am, Altitude Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency, Denver**

**Council Members**

*Section Officers*

Katherine Faust (Chair) [kfaust@uci.edu](mailto:kfaust@uci.edu)  
Noah Friedkin (Chair Elect) [friedkin@soc.ucsb.edu](mailto:friedkin@soc.ucsb.edu)  
Robert Hanneman (Past Chair) [robert.hanneman@ucr.edu](mailto:robert.hanneman@ucr.edu)  
David Wagner (Secretary-Treasurer) [d.wagner@albany.edu](mailto:d.wagner@albany.edu)

*Council Members*

Alison Bianchi [alison-bianchi@uiowa.edu](mailto:alison-bianchi@uiowa.edu)  
Matthew Brashears [meb299@cornell.edu](mailto:meb299@cornell.edu)  
Peter J Burke [peter.burke@ucr.edu](mailto:peter.burke@ucr.edu)  
Jane Sell [j-sell@tamu.edu](mailto:j-sell@tamu.edu)  
Arnout van de Rijt [Arnout.VanDeRijt@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Arnout.VanDeRijt@stonybrook.edu)  
Robb Willer [willer@berkeley.edu](mailto:willer@berkeley.edu)  
Emma Spiro (Student Representative) [espiro@uci.edu](mailto:espiro@uci.edu)

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Pam Emanuelson (Newsletter Editor) [Pamela.Emanuelson@ndsu.edu](mailto:Pamela.Emanuelson@ndsu.edu)  
Donna Lancianese (Newsletter Editor) [donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu)  
Matthew Brashears (Website Manager) [meb299@cornell.edu](mailto:meb299@cornell.edu)

**Business**

1. Introductions
2. Overview of section highlights (Katie Faust)
  - a. Membership etc.
  - b. ASA meeting
  - c. Joint Japan-North America Conference
  - d. Awards
    - i. Dissertation in progress:
      1. Increase award amount to \$1500 (council has approved this, it now needs to be submitted for bylaw change)
      2. No nominations for 2012
    - ii. Awards given in 2012: Outstanding Article, Graduate Student Paper, James S. Coleman Distinguished Career (note Mathematical Sociology Dissertation in Progress was not given). See next page for list
    - iii. Awards to be given in 2013: Outstanding Article, Graduate Student Paper, Dissertation in Progress, Outstanding Book
3. Budget update (Dave Wagner)
4. Mathematical Sociology Databank update (Matt Brashears)
5. Section Newsletter (Pamela Emanuelson and Donna Lancianese)
6. Section Website (Matt Brashears)
7. Other business

**Awards Presented in 2012**

1) James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Award to John Skvoretz. Committee: Jane Sell (Chair), Arnout van de Rijt, and Bob Hanneman



2) Outstanding Article Award to Andreas Wimmer and Kevin Lewis, for their article “Beyond and Below Racial Homophily: ERG Models of a Friendship Network Documented on Facebook”, 2010 American Journal of Sociology. Committee: Noah Friedkin (Chair), Matthew Salganik, Damon Centola, and Emma Spiro

3) Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to David Melamed and Scott Savage, for their paper “Predicting Social Influence: A Model at the Intersection of Sociology and Psychology”. Committee: Alison Bianchi (Chair), Will Kalkhoff and Omar Lizardo

4) Note, the Dissertation in Progress Award is not being given this year, since there were no nominees. Committee: Robert Shelly (Chair), David Wagner, Gene Johnsen, and James Montgomery

### Membership counts from ASA July 31, 2012

Current Member Counts 7/31/2012		Section Mathematical Sociology
Current Memberships	Low income	0
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	Total	<b>212</b>
Historical Comparison	New Member Count	5
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	Total 7/27/2011	223
Member Percentages	Low income	0.0%
	Student	28.3%
	Member	71.7%

**Minutes**  
**Mathematical Sociology Council Meeting**  
**August 18, 2012, 7:00am**

Attending:

Katherine Faust (Chair)  
Noah Friedkin (Chair Elect)  
David Wagner (Secretary-Treasurer)  
Alison Bianchi  
Matthew Brashears  
Peter J Burke  
Jane Sell  
Arnout van de Rijt  
Emma Spiro (Student Representative)  
Donna Lancianese (Newsletter Editor)  
John Skvoretz (Incoming Secretary/Treasurer)

1. Introductions.
2. Faust gave an overview of section highlights, including membership, ASA meeting schedule, the Joint-Japan North America Mathematical Sociology Conference, and Awards for 2012. There was discussion of what “in progress” means for the dissertation award and how we might better communicate to graduate students that a dissertation proposal may be submitted as “in progress” work.
3. Wagner reported on the state of the Section budget, including the main account and the Dissertation in Progress Award account. Both accounts have seen reasonable gains, including substantial donations to the Award Account. In 2011-2012 Section Council voted to increase the Dissertation in Progress Award from \$1000 to \$1500, and there was some discussion of whether, given the size of the fund and its recent income, it might make sense further increase the award.
4. Brashears reported on progress establishing a Data Bank archive, in conjunction with the Mathematical Sociology journal and its publisher Taylor & Francis. There were some negotiations with T&F regarding when and how data accompanying an article should be submitted. T&F will put information in the front matter of the journal and will put a link to the data bank website. The website is currently hosted at UCLA, but eventually this will have to move. Other data, not from the journal, could also be included in the Data Bank. There will be a standard reference format, but we want to keep requirements low so authors are not discouraged from making data available. We discussed other data repositories and emphasized that this is not a competition. The Data Bank needs to be set up so that it is not a burden on the section, because we want the effort to be sustainable. There might be external funding available to help support the Data Bank, for example, if we need to purchase more storage space.
5. Lancianese outlined plans for the Section Newsletter, including blurbs on award winners, spotlights for graduate students, articles relevant to Math Soc, books, what people are currently reading, or interviews with senior members.
6. Brashears reported on the Section Website. In addition to the newsletter, information can be submitted to the webmaster for posting. There was some discussion of whether the Section had, or wanted, a facebook page. Current sentiment seems to favor having one well

maintained site. Eventually the website will have to migrate from its current server and we might need more storage.

7. Other business. Wagner commented that the Social Psych Section had recently completed a survey of their graduate students and got lots of information about how students could be better integrated into the section. Spiro noted that graduate students could use more information about the section. We could have an ad hoc committee consider this.

8:00am adjourned.

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## State of the Section Budget

*Did your section operate within its budget for this year? Please include a copy of last year's projected budget and compare it with actual expenses.*

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This is the budget that was included in the 2010-2011 Annual Report

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2011

#### Section Account (37)

##### INCOME AND EXPENSES

###### Income:

Section Budget Allocations	\$1082
Total Income	1082
Expenses*	0
Increase/(Decrease in Net Assets)	1082

##### NET ASSETS

Beginning Balance	1.11.11	\$2572
Increase in NET Assets		1082
Current Balance	8.15.11	3654

\*Anticipated 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter expenses include Graduate Student Paper Award, reception expenses and council breakfast expenses. In the previous budget year, these expenses totaled \$2073.

#### Dissertation Award Fund

##### INCOME AND EXPENSES

###### Income:

Interest	\$4635.77
Contributions	5000.00
Total Income	9635.77
Expenses*	0
Increase/(Decrease in Net Assets)	9635.77

##### NET ASSETS

Beginning Balance	1.11.11	\$123,522.25
Increase in NET Assets		9635.77
Current Balance	8.15.11	133,158.02

\*Anticipated 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter expenses include Dissertation Award of \$1000.

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## An operating budget for the coming year approved by the Section Council.

*A separate spreadsheet is provided to calculate the planning budget and track expenses. Please work with your Section's Secretary Treasurer on this point. The budget is of critical importance to the Committee on Sections and **must** be included with the section's annual report.*

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2012

#### Section Account (37)

INCOME AND EXPENSES		NET ASSETS	
Income:			
Section Budget Allocations	\$1,117	Beginning Balance	\$2,141
Total Income	\$1,117	Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$1,117
Expenses*	0	Current Balance	\$3,258
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$1,117		

\*Anticipated 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter expenses estimated to be \$1,500 include award plaques, council breakfast, and joint reception with Rationality and Society.

#### Dissertation Award Fund (73)

INCOME AND EXPENSES		NET ASSETS	
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<i>Income:</i>			
Interest	\$10,119.32	Beginning Balance	\$135,205.55
Contributions	\$1,000.00	Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$11,119.32
Expenses*		Current Balance	\$146,324.87
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$11,119.32		

#### BUDGET 2012-2013

<i>Section Account (37)</i>		<i>NET ASSETS</i>	
<i>Income:</i>			
Projected Section Budget Allocations*	\$1,200	Beginning Balance	\$3,258
Total Income	0	Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	(\$1,800)
Expenses**	\$3,000	Projected Balance	\$1,458
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	(\$1,800)		
<i>Dissertation Award Fund (73)</i>		<i>NET ASSETS</i>	
<i>Income:</i>			
Interest	\$11,000	Beginning Balance	\$135,205.55
Contributions	0	Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$10,000.00
Expenses**	\$1,500	Current Balance	\$145,205.55
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets)	\$10,000		

\*Project allocation in 2013 and interest earned in 2013. \*\*Expenses of \$1,500 incurred in 2012 (see above) plus projected meeting expenses for 2013 and projected expenses for dissertation award in 2013.

## Statements, Notes, Observations

*Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.*

It appears that section expenses (excluding the Dissertation in Progress Award) are running a bit higher than total income. This suggests that either belt tightening or fundraising (or both) might be necessary in the future.

# The Previous Year

*This section discusses your section's activities during your term as Section Chair.*

## Overview

*Please provide an overview of your section's programming for the last year. We also invite you to include information on the state of the section, sentiments of the members, important issues in the field.*

## 2012 ASA

*Overview:* The Mathematical Sociology Section had two paper sessions at ASA. One session was devoted to Models and Model Adequacy and the other to Empirical Applications of Mathematical Models (see below). Both sessions were open submissions and were organized by Carter Butts (UCI). Section awards were presented at the business meeting (see below). We held a joint reception with Rationality and Society and Evolution, Biology, and Society. The Council meeting was held during breakfast on the day of the Math Soc section sessions. The Section Business meeting was held following the shorter paper session. The day before ASA, the Mathematical Sociology Section co-sponsored the 5<sup>th</sup> Joint Japan-North America Mathematical Sociology Conference (see below).

### Mathematical Sociology Section Sessions at ASA

#### *Paper Session (one-hour). Models and Model Adequacy*

Abstract: Papers in this session focus on the selection, calibration, and/or assessment of formal models for social phenomena. Approaches ranging from mathematical and computational analysis to empirical assessment are represented.

Sat, Aug 18 - 10:30am - 11:30am

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Carter T. Butts (University of California-Irvine)

*Models of Interacting Particle Systems for Social Processes*

Joseph M. Whitmeyer (University of North Carolina-Charlotte)

*Using Luminosity as a Proxy for Economic Statistics: New Results and Estimates of Precision*

Xi Chen (Quinnipiac University)

#### *Paper Session. Empirical Applications of Mathematical Models*

Abstract: Papers in this session focus on applications of mathematical models to empirical data. Applications from a wide range of sociological domains are represented.

Sat, Aug 18 - 2:30pm - 4:10pm

Session Participants:

Session Organizer: Carter T. Butts (University of California-Irvine)

*Justice and the Linear Tax System*

Guillermina Jasso (New York University), Bernd Wegener (Humboldt University-Berlin)

*Modeling Relational Events: A Case Study in an Open Source Software Development Project*

Guido Conaldi (University of Greenwich), Eric Quintane (University of Lugano), Alessandro Lomi (Università della Svizzera Italiana), Marco Tonellato (University of Lugano)

*Stability and Conformity in Scientists' Research Strategies*

Jacob Gates Foster (University of Chicago), Andrey Rzhetsky (University of Chicago), James A. Evans (University of Chicago)

*Waves of Coverage: Positive Feedback, Path Dependence and Inequality in Media Attention to Social Movement Organizations*

Charles F. Seguin (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

*Weighted Reciprocity in Human Communication Networks*

David S. Hachen (University of Notre Dame), Omar A. Lizardo (University of Notre Dame), Zoltan Toroczkai (University of Notre Dame), Cheng Wang (University of Notre Dame), Anthony Strathman (University of Notre Dame), Nitesh Chawla (University of Notre Dame)

We also had a joint reception with Rationality and Society and Evolution, Biology, and Society. The reception was well attended by all three sections.

### ***Awards Presented at ASA***

The Section presented three awards this year. All award winners were present to accept their award, which were presented by the chairs of the award committees.

- James S. Coleman Distinguished Career Award to John Skvoretz. Committee: Jane Sell (Chair), Arnout van de Rijt, and Bob Hanneman
- Outstanding Article Award to Andreas Wimmer and Kevin Lewis, for their article "Beyond and Below Racial Homophily: ERG Models of a Friendship Network Documented on Facebook", 2010 *American Journal of Sociology*. Committee: Noah Friedkin (Chair), Matthew Salganik, Damon Centola, and Emma Spiro
- Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award to David Melamed and Scott Savage, for their paper "Predicting Social Influence: A Model at the Intersection of Sociology and Psychology". Committee: Alison Bianchi (Chair), Will Kalkhoff and Omar Lizardo

### ***Joint Japan-North America Mathematical Sociology Conference***

The Mathematical Sociology Section, along with the Rationality and Society Section of ASA and the Japanese Association for Mathematical Sociology co-sponsored the Fifth Joint Japan-North America Mathematical Sociology Conference on August 16, 2012, the day before ASA. This year's conference was the largest to date, with around 70 attendees and two simultaneous paper sessions. There was great enthusiasm for the conference and for continuing the tradition.

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## Recruiting and Retention Efforts

*What efforts did your section make to retain last year's members and reach out to new members? What were the results of the section's retention efforts?*

Encouragements to join the section and to recruit new members (especially students) were included in both section newsletters and in the Chair's statements in those publications. The Chair's general welcome and update announcements on the section listserv also included encouragements to join. The Joint Japan-North America Mathematical Sociology Conference was held the day before ASA, facilitating ASA attendance by Japanese scholars.

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## Communications Strategy

*How does your section communicate with its members? Did it begin using any new technologies or techniques, if so were they effective? Please include links to your section's website, newsletter and other electronic media used.*

Most communications are done through the section listserv, newsletter, and website.

The Mathematical Sociology Section maintains both a newsletter (published in fall and spring) and a website. Both the newsletter and website are at

<http://mathematicalsociology.org/>

<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/soc/groups/mathsoc/index.php>

Matthew Brashears is section webmaster. Pamela Emanuelson and Donna Lancianse co-edit the newsletter. The website includes information about the section, posts current announcements, and hosts a blog on Mathematical Sociology (Permutations). The section is also developing a Data Bank archive (in collaboration with the journal Mathematical Sociology) that will host data sets relevant to mathematical sociology. This year we added a second newsletter editor, since the task of compiling two newsletters each year seemed more than one person could accomplish. We anticipate that having two editors will enhance the newsletter offerings and ensure that we continue to publish it twice each year.

To facilitate communications with the section, the webmaster and the two newsletter editors are included in Section Council communications and are invited to the Council Meeting at ASA. They also have permission to post email messages to the Section listserv.

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## Statements, Notes, Observations

*Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.*

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## The Coming Year

This portion of the report discusses your section's plans for next year.

### Elections and Nominations

*This section details who is on the section's Nominations Committee and how they were appointed. If your section does not have a standing Nominations Committee, please discuss your process for nominating candidates for next year's elections.*

*Nomination procedures:* The Past Chair serves as chair of the Nominations Committee (Section Bylaws, para. I.C), which consists of all Section Officers. Committee members suggest names of people to run for all open positions. Nominees for each position are ranked by all committee members. Candidates are then approached in the order of the aggregate ranking and asked whether they will run for the office for which they were nominated.

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### Plans for the coming year.

*What sort of programming will your section conduct for next year's Annual Meeting. Will the section begin any new projects before then?*

We anticipate an active presence at ASA in New York, with section sessions, Council and Business meetings, and a joint reception with Rationality and Society and Evolution, Biology, and Society.

The Data Bank archive has received its first data submissions and we anticipate that it will continue to grow and hopefully become a notable Math Soc Section contribution. The newsletter co-editors have an active agenda of possible features and highlights. Adding a second newsletter editor will enhance the extent and range of newsletter offerings. The section website remains a source of current news and also hosts blogs about Mathematical Sociology.

At the Section Council meeting we discussed ways that students might become more involved in the section. One possibility is to conduct a survey of student concerns, followed by a report with suggestions to Council and to the Section.

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### Statements, Notes, Observations

*Please feel free to use this space for anything that does not fit above.*

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## **The Association and the Executive Office**

*This is your opportunity to put items onto the agenda of the Committee on Sections and ASA Staff.*

### **What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to the ASA Council and Committee on Sections?**

*This is your opportunity to make policy suggestions or discuss any difficulties that your section encountered during your tenure as Section Chair.*

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### **What issues would you like raised or recommendations would you like to make to ASA Staff?**

*Please feel free to suggest improvements to sections procedures or services provided to sections.*

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### **Statements, Notes, Observations**

*Please feel free to use this space for anything that doesn't fit above.*

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