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2006 Joint Sociologists of Minnesota/Wisconsin Sociological Association
Annual Conference:

Public Sociology: What's Next and Where do We Fit In?

October 5-6, 2006

River Falls, Wisconsin

Make plans to join us in beautiful River Falls, Wisconsin! We have an exciting conference lineup, a stellar keynote speaker, and a chance to get together with our Wisconsin colleagues for conversation and connections.

The conference will be held at Hagestad Hall at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. Hotel accommodations are available at the Super 8, Best Western, and Country Inn. Details are inside.

- ü Send in your registration and membership renewal by September 16.
- ü Make your hotel reservations now.
- ü Put together a student team for the Problem Solving Competition! Give your students the chance to take what they've learned out for test drive.
- ü Bring a friend!

Sociologists of Minnesota
c/o Social Research
Associates, Inc.
5638 Glen Ave
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952/974-0892

www.sociologistsofmn.org

Sociologists of Minnesota Bylaw Amendments

This year the Board of Directors reviewed the bylaws to see if any updates or changes were needed. Past Co-Presidents Paul Schmid and Dane Peterson led the effort to assure our bylaws were up-to-date. Many thanks to Dane and Paul for their careful attention to detail!

Members: Please review the following two (2) proposed amendments to the SOM Bylaws. They will be presented for a vote at the Business Meeting on October 6, 2006 during the annual conference. Your attendance to vote on these amendments at the Business Meeting on October 6, is appreciated.

(1) The Board of Directors of Sociologists of Minnesota recommends to its membership the following bylaw addition:

To Article VIII, Committees, Section 2, a new sub-section, (e), that will read:

(e) An Archival Committee, which shall collect and organize historical information about Sociologists of Minnesota; its members; its associations with faculty, schools and universities; and its community participation.

(2) The Board of Directors of Sociologists of Minnesota recommends to its membership the following bylaw revision, conditional to the approval of the first recommendation:

To Article IV, Board of Directors, a revision of Section 1 (strikethrough in bold capitals indicates deletion):

The Board of Directors shall be constituted of a President, a President-Elect, a Past President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, three (3) Student Representatives, three (3) Faculty Representatives, three (3) Representatives from Applied Settings, ~~the~~ **archivist**, and the Minnesota state representative to the Midwest Sociological Society. The latter ~~two~~ shall be an ex-officio and non-voting members of the Board.

Conference Location

The Conference will take place at Hagstead Hall at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. Thumbnail maps are printed on page 6. Campus maps, city maps, and an interactive route guide are also available online at:

http://www.uwrf.edu/wisconsin_map.html.

Hotel Reservations

Special conference hotel reservation and rates have been established at the following vendors. (We apologize in advance for the tight timetable.)

Country Inn

715-425-9500 (LeAnn)

1525 Commerce Ct., River Falls

15 rooms, all nonsmoking, double queen

\$62.00 tax exempt

Mention: "WI/MN Sociology"

Cut off for reservations at conference rate: **Sept 4.**

Super8

715-425-8388 (Lori)

1207 St. Croix, River Falls

20 rooms - all nonsmoking (no availability October 6)

\$55.00 tax exempt

Mention: "WI/MN Sociologists"

Cut off for reservations: **Sept. 4**

Best Western

715-425-6707

708 N. Main, River Falls

15 rooms

single \$49.00

double \$59.00

Mention: "WI Sociology"

Cut off for reservations: **Sept. 4**

“Public Sociology: What’s Next and
Where do We Fit In?”

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday

9:00 – 12:00 Student Problem Solving Competition
Paul Schmid, organizer

12:00 - 12:30 Registration

12:30-2 Session I

- A. Thematic Session: “Teaching Public and Critical Sociologies” (Joyce Bell, University of Minnesota)
- B. Gender, Sexuality, and Society (Ann Meier, University of Minnesota)
- C. Undergraduate Research Panel (Leda Nath, WSA)

2:15-3:45 Session II

- A. Thematic Roundtable: “Service Learning, Civic Engagement and Sociological Citizenship” (Lynn Guenette, Rochester College)
- B. The Sociology of Religion (Wayne Thompson, WSA)
- C. Opportunities in Applied Sociology (Paul Schmid, SOM, Past-President)

4-5:30 Session III

- A. Teaching Sociology: Issues and Challenges (Carol Miller, WSA)
- B. Race, Ethnicity and Immigration in the Upper Midwest (Pao Lee, University of Minnesota)
- C. Roundtable on Sociology Clubs: What To Do and How to Do It Better (Megan Schiller, Augsburg; Jenna Covey, Minnesota State, Mankato)

6:00 Dinner

7:15 Keynote Address: Barbara J. Risman,
University of Illinois, Chicago

Friday

8:30-10 Session IV

- A. Thematic Session: “Putting Private Lives in Public Contexts: An Exercise Introducing the Sociological Imagination” (Teresa Toguchi Swartz, University of Minnesota)
- B. Wisconsin Sociologists and the People of Wisconsin (George Floro, WSA)
- C. Panel Discussion: “So You Want to Go to Graduate School?” (William Fleischman, University of Minnesota, Duluth)
- D. Sociological Perspectives on Current Topics

10:15-11:45 Session V

- A. Thematic Session: “Education and Advocacy on Genocide in Rwanda and Darfur” (Ellen Kennedy, University of Saint Thomas)
- B. Criminology / Domestic Violence (Marti Dettman, WSA)
- C. SOM Caroline Rose Student Awards Panel (Monte Bute, Metro State)

12:00 Presidential Address and Discussion Panel

“Public Sociology, Midwest Sociologists, and the Sociological Imagination.” (Douglas Hartmann, University of Minnesota and SOM President-Elect)

1:00 Luncheon and Awards

2:15 Business Meetings

3:30 Adjournment

Sociologists of Minnesota

Society for Applied Sociology 2006 Student Problem Solving Competition

Overview:

The Student Problem Solving Competition gives students the opportunity to apply sociology to a problem. One nonprofit organization (the Client) presents its problem to the student teams and students have the opportunity to ask questions at a two to three hour introductory session. Students then return to their campuses and have four weeks to research the issue, write their report, and submit it for judging. Reports are judged by an evaluation team – which includes a representative from the Client. Winners are announced in *Sociograph* and will receive their award at the 2007 Annual Conference.

Eligibility:

Teams are comprised of from one to five students (undergraduate or graduate), sponsored by a faculty member. A school can send one team or multiple teams to the competition. Teams can be comprised of just undergraduate students, just graduate students, or a mix of both.

Process:

At the conference, the Client will offer an informal presentation to introduce the students to the organization, describing the organization's history, leadership, and needs. There is plenty of time for question and answer at this session, which usually lasts about two hours.

After the conference, students return to their campuses and begin meeting together as a team to brainstorm and research solutions to the client's problem. During this stage, students can email the client and the exercise coordinator questions. The coordinator will circulate answers to follow-up questions to all teams.

Each team develops a written team report and submits it to the exercise coordinator.

The client and an evaluation committee read the reports, ranking them on a series of dimensions (see Evaluation Criteria, below). A winner is determined. The exercise coordinator collects feedback from the client and evaluation committee members and distributes these to all the teams.

Evaluation Criteria:

- § Coverage of the questions described in the problem-solving description.
- § Review of relevant sociological literature related to the exercise topic.
- § Use of applied social research methods.
- § Integration of theory and methods
- § Appropriateness of assumptions and solutions/plan of action.
- § Creativity in addressing questions and providing solutions/plan of action.
- § Discussion of solution/plan limitations.
- § Overall quality of the report design and presentation.
- § Ability to summarize the report in the executive summary
- § Clarity of analysis, writing, and organization of ideas.

Date: The Student Problem Solving Competition will be held Thursday, October 5, 2006, from 9 am to noon. Reports must be postmarked by November 10, 2006.

Fee: \$25 per team for competition. Please submit along with \$25 team registration fee. Check payable to *Sociologists of Minnesota*. Please add a note on the check that it is for the Student Problem Solving Competition.

For more information: Contact Paul Schmid at psschmid@aol.com.

Sociologists of Minnesota
 Society for Applied Sociology 2006 Student Problem Solving Competition
 Team Registration Form

Team Information:

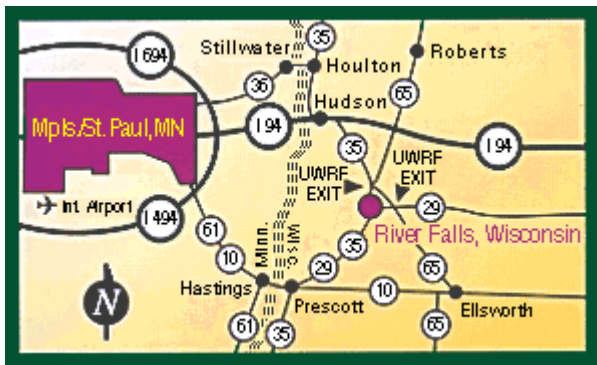
Team Name:		
School:		
Faculty Sponsor:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Team Contact Name and Phone:		
Team Contact E-Mail (Print LEGIBLY):		

Team Member Information:

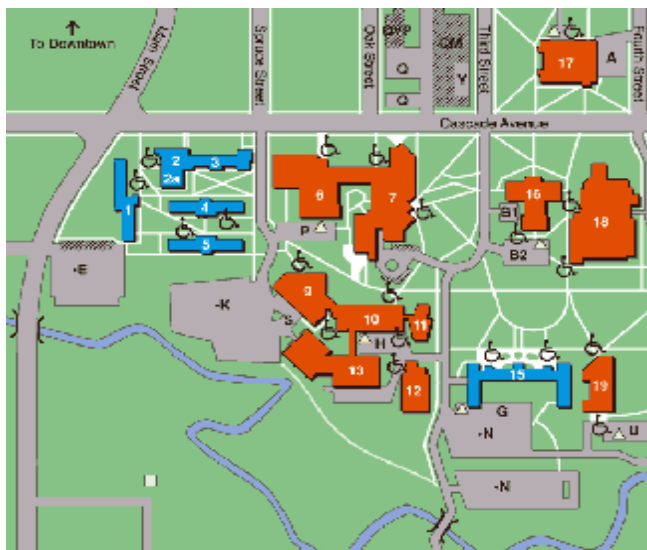
	Mark ONLY one	
	Undergraduate Student	Graduate Student
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Contact Paul Schmid at psschmid@aol.com to reserve space for your team; bring this completed form to the competition.

Getting to River Falls



The University of Wisconsin – River Falls is located in River Falls, Wisconsin. River Falls is located 30 miles east of St. Paul, Minnesota, USA.



The conference sessions will be held at Hagestad Center, #7 on this map. More maps (to River Falls, to campus, and on campus) are located at:

http://www.uwrf.edu/wisconsin_map.html

About the Keynote Speaker

Barbara J. Risman

Professor and Chair of Sociology
University of Illinois, Chicago

When we settled on the theme of public sociology for this year's annual meetings, our first call in search of nominations for a keynote speaker was to Michael Burawoy, the former ASA President who had made public sociology the calling card of his term in office. Having given one of his first formal presentations on public sociology at the joint meetings we hosted with the Wisconsin group three years ago at St. Paul's Bandana Square, Burawoy knows our organization and its values and traditions very well. The name at the top of his list was Barbara J. Risman. We didn't have to look any further.

The new Chair of the Sociology Department of the University of Illinois, Chicago, Risman is obviously an accomplished scholar and leader in the discipline. She is the author of *Gender Vertigo* (Yale 1998), a frequent contributor to the leading journals in the field, and editor (or co-editor) of numerous journals, collections, and anthologies including the landmark Gender Lens Series. She has served as President of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS), on the ASA Program Committee and Council, and as co-author of the "Report Card on Gender and Women Friendly Sociology Departments" that appeared recently in *Footnotes*. What made Risman the choice to deliver the keynote for this year's conference, however, is her commitment to and understanding of public sociology.

Risman's brand of public sociology is important, inspiring and unique. We can look forward to hearing more about Risman's new research projects on gender and sexual identities among white and African American middle school children and the recent institutional transformations in social service provision when Professor Risman delivers our keynote this October.

Sociologists of Minnesota 2006 Annual Meeting - October 5 - 6

University of Wisconsin - River Falls

Held jointly with the Wisconsin Sociological Association

Name:*		
Organizational Affiliation:*		
Address		
Address (cont)		
City:	State:	Zipcode:
e-mail address:	Add me to the SOM list serve <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

* Please list your name and affiliation exactly as you wish for it to be listed on your name badge

CURRENT POSITION *(NOTE: please check appropriate position box)*

<input type="checkbox"/> College/University Faculty	<input type="checkbox"/> Emeritus/Retired	<input type="checkbox"/> Applied, nonprofit organization
<input type="checkbox"/> High School Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> Applied, for profit organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Applied, government
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate	<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate

CONFERENCE (PRE) REGISTRATION FEE *(NOTE: please check appropriate Registration/Membership box)*

Full Registration (Includes all sessions, Thursday banquet and reception, and Friday Lunch)	IF Post Marked by Sept 16	IF Post Marked After Sept 16 or on site registration
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$ 50	\$ 60
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Member	\$ 60	\$ 70
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 20	\$ 30
Thursday Only (Includes all Thursday sessions, banquet and reception)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$ 35	\$ 45
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Member	\$ 45	\$ 55
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 15	\$ 20
Friday Only (Includes all Friday sessions and lunch)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$ 25	\$ 35
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Member	\$ 35	\$ 45
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 10	\$ 15
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION \$ _____		

MEMBERSHIP FEE *(Note: please check the appropriate membership box)*

<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsoring (supports student activities and SOM Awards)	\$ 40
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (supports student activities)	\$ 20
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	\$ 10
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$ 5
The membership year begins with the Annual Conference. If you are registering for the conference at the 2006 member rate, you must include payment of the membership fees.	
2006 MEMBERSHIP FEES \$ _____	

DONATION

Your tax-deductible donation will help keep student fees low:	Donation: \$ _____
Total Amount Paid \$ _____	

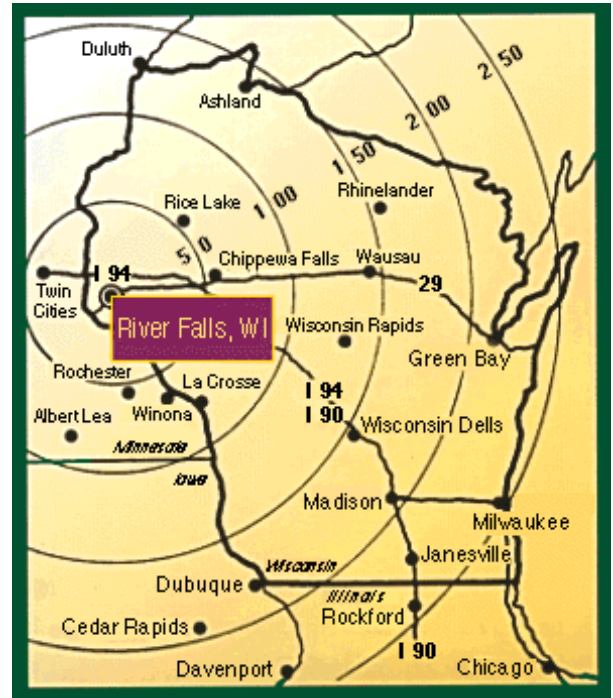
Please make checks payable to: *Sociologists of Minnesota*

Send registration and payment to: Sociologists of Minnesota 2006 Conference: Attn/ W. Fleischman, 228 Cina Hall, 1123

University Dr., University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN 55812-3006
8/29/06

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