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**Sociologists of Minnesota
St. Cloud Technical College
c/o Department of Sociology
Attn: Scott Foster
1540 Northway Drive
St. Cloud, MN 56303**

SOM Annual Conference

“Practice to Protest: Local to Global”

October 2 - 3, 2008 The Kahler Grand Hotel

Rochester, Minnesota

Call for Organizers

Have an idea? All areas of sociological inquiry are welcome. Sessions relating to the conference theme and topics relating to the interests of sociology students are particularly encouraged.

If you have an idea or proposal for the conference please contact 2008 Conference chair and President-elect Suzanne Gaines.

suzanne.gaines@co.hennepin.mn.us

About the 2008 annual conference.....

For the last few years, our conferences have probed different aspects of public sociology. This year we are building on that conversation.

The conference theme this year is “Practice to Protest: Local to Global.” Panels, roundtables, paper sessions and other activities are now being organized.

Do we engage with genocide in Darfur, with the factory closing in our town, with global warming, or with planned protests at the upcoming

2008 Republican National Convention in Minneapolis and St. Paul?

The theme of this conference is meant to appeal to a wide range of individuals including applied sociologists, faculty, students and others who use sociology to understand the world around them.

How does one go about deciding how to participate in the world's issues? How do we go about making our participation meaningful and effective? Come and find out.

Call for Nominations

Sociologists of Minnesota Distinguished Service Award

On October 2, 1981 the Sociologists of Minnesota resolved that:

Beginning in 1982 and thereafter, the Board of Directors of the SOM is authorized to extend special recognition on behalf of the membership, in an appropriate manner during each annual meeting, to one or more sociologists who have contributed significantly to the discipline as an educator, researcher, published scholar, or applied practitioner of Sociology during their careers in Minnesota. The process whereby nominees are secured, the criteria and mechanism for selecting recipients from those suggested, and the nature and occasion of each recognition may be decided by the Board.

Criteria

- I. It will be offered for contributions in one or more of the following areas:
 - A. For pursuing an extended line of inquiry over time involving faculty and students in Minnesota.
 - B. For contributions to a program of sociology instruction in Minnesota.
 - C. For facilitating programs relevant to the application of sociology in Minnesota.

Contact SOM President Scott Foster to nominate someone sfoster@sctc.edu

A Note from the President.....

Dear colleagues,

As I was looking through the SOM By-laws recently, I was reminded of our organizations purpose. In 1971, the year of incorporation, the Sociologists of Minnesota pledged to promote sociology and sociological practice in the state of Minnesota, provide an opportunity for cooperation between sociologists in academic and applied settings, and provide a forum for interaction between sociologists and those interested in sociology. We're living up to our founding members promise.

We have a great conference planned for this fall at the Kahler Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota. It should be an informative experience for students, applied sociologists and faculty alike. The conference will focus on strategies that we sociologists use to engage the world around us. From practice to protest, sociologists educate, advocate and engage in social activism.

SOM is a great place to introduce students to the professional activities of sociologists. Students are encouraged to attend the conference, participate in the student paper competition, present their own research, get to know other students and sociologists from around the state, and last but not least, have a good time.

I hope to see you in Rochester. Scott Foster, SOM President

A Message from the 2008 Student Paper Competition Chair

Well it's that time again. We will be inundated with piles of students' final papers and projects in the next couple of weeks. Please read these with an additional criterion in mind: potential submissions to the Annual Student Paper Contest conducted by Sociologists of Minnesota (SOM). Any paper submitted by an enrolled student during the 2007-2008 academic year is eligible.

The contest has one division: undergraduate. While there is a 20-page limit on length, shorter papers are welcomed as well. The submission deadline is Friday, August 8, 2008 but I welcome early entries. I will be commissioning a panel of three readers who have no personal or institutional paper submissions to serve as judges.

The mentoring of students has always been a cornerstone of the mission of SOM. The student paper competition is an essential component of that mission. The success of this SOM project is dependent on faculty throughout the state serving as talent scouts. I thank you in advance for giving this worthy cause your utmost attention (see rules of the competition on page 5).

Best,

Janet Enke, Metropolitan State

It's Your Turn to Serve on the Board!

The past-president serves as chair of the nominating committee for SOM. Although elections do not take place until the annual business meeting in October, nominations may be made at any time. A list of current board members and officers, and their terms of office, may be found on SOM's website: www.sociologistsofmn.org.

Contact Doug Hartman *today* to nominate a colleague or yourself for a board position.

Douglas Hartmann, Associate Professor Sociology, University of Minnesota, 909 Social Science Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55455 hartm021@umn.edu 612-624-0835

Congratulations to Lynn Guenette of Rochester Community & Technical College's sociology department. Lynn was recently named one of 18 distinguished educators by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

The 2008 meeting of the SOM will be held at the Kahler Hotel in downtown Rochester

Room reservations may be made for the nights listed below. We have a minimum number of rooms that need to be used so make your reservations before the September 11, 2008 deadline! After this time, rooms will be available on a space available basis. When making your reservation be sure to indicate that you will be attending the SOM meeting. You need to make reservations directly with the hotel to receive the discounted rate.

DAYS:

Wednesday, October 1 - Friday, October 3, 2008

Check-in: 3:00pm Check-out: 12:00pm

RATES:

Standard King or Standard Double \$89.00 + 11% tax

Reservation Method: Reservations can be made through calling the reservation hot line 800-533-1655. Rooms not reserved by the September 11, 2008 deadline will be released to the general public.

Parking: Complimentary parking will be provided to the registered attendees within the hotel, commuting guests will pay the regular parking fee. Restaurant Discounts: The attendees will be offered 15% discounts in the on-site restaurants.

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We are on the web @
www.sociologists of mn.org

Sociologists of Minnesota Caroline Rose Student Paper Competition

One Division
Undergraduate

FIRST PRIZE \$100 SECOND PRIZE \$75 THIRD PRIZE \$50

RULES OF THE COMPETITION

1. The competition is open to any student who has written a paper while enrolled in a college or university in Minnesota during the 2007-2008 academic year. Single-authored papers only.
2. The paper should not exceed 20 double-spaced pages, excluding appendices and references, and should also include a brief abstract.
3. The name or institutional affiliation of the author must not appear in the text or in the abstract. The title of the paper should be included at the top of the first page of the text.
4. The name, telephone number, e-mail address, and mailing address of both the student and the faculty sponsor should be included in a separate cover page. This page should also include the title of the paper.
5. Students who submit papers to this competition may submit the same paper to sessions at the annual meetings of the Midwest Sociological Society or the American Sociological Association.
6. The winning authors are expected to be available to present their papers at the annual conference in October.
7. Papers involving human subjects must have Institutional Review Board (or its equivalent) approval, and must note the receipt of approval in the methodology section of the paper.

Submit an electronic version of the paper to: janet.enke@metrostate.edu by August 8, 2008.

Janet Enke
Social Science Department
Metropolitan State University
700 East 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55106

All entrants receive free conference registration, meals, and membership in SOM. Prize winners also receive motel accommodations.

Memories.....

Next time you clean out your file cabinet, desk or closet think of the Sociologists of Minnesota! Any past Sociographs, pictures, meeting programs or notes will find a home in the SOM archives. Anything associated with the Sociologists of Minnesota is worth preserving. Right?

Contact Barbara Johnston of the SOM Archive Committee
barbara.johnston@nhcc.mnscu.edu

Practice to Protest: Local to Global

The preliminary program for our conference includes sessions oriented to students:

So You Want to Go to Graduate School?

Applied Sociologists in Government

Research in Process (graduate student panel)

Sessions focused on the development of the profession:

SOM Caroline Rose Undergraduate Paper Competition Award Winners

A Sociological View of SOM (forum)

Thematic sessions:

Civic Engagement: Alternative Approaches

Policy Issues & Sociological Responses

Collaborative Environmental Sociology

Participatory Research & Social Action

Sessions oriented to teaching:

The Carla B. Howery Session on Undergraduate Education – New Technologies for Teaching

Preparing Your Student Problem-Solving Team for 2009's Competition

Organizers may be contacting you to participate and other organizers are being sought. If you want to organize a session or participate in one, please contact Suzanne Gaines at 612-348-5653 (office), 715-949-1802 (home) or suzanne.gaines@co.hennepin.mn.us