

# CUSS Newsletter

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## BROADWAY BOUND: Celebrating *Community & Society*

**Ray Hutchinson**  
University of Wisconsin-  
Green Bay

It sometimes seems that the origins of *Community & Society*, the official journal of the Community and Urban Sociology Section, is hidden in the past. But now that we are celebrating the 15th year of the journal, and ushering in the new editorship of Lance Freeman and Sudhir Venkatesh, it is appropriate that we take a look back to the beginning.

In the spring of 1995 I received a phone call from Harvey Choldin, who was Chair of the Community and Urban Sociology Section at the time. We first had met on one of the tours that I led for ASA at the Chicago Meetings (Discovering the Chicago School) and had communicated regu-



**Lance Freeman (L) and Sudhir Venkatesh (R) are the new co-editors of *City and Community*.**



larly after that, including discussing of bringing his textbook, *Cities and Suburbs*, in a 2nd Edition. Barry Wellman had called Harvey to suggest the need for a new section journal in community and urban sociology. Harvey called me to ask what I thought about a new journal, and how I thought publishers would respond. The first volume

or two of *Research in Urban Sociology* had recently appeared and Harvey thought I might have contacts with publishers from this association.

I told Harvey that I had long thought we needed a journal devoted to urban sociology, that while other journals included urban sociology from time to

**C&C, page 6**

## Chair's Message

**Ray Hutchinson, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay**

Spring is a busy period for CUSS and for ASA sections more generally, something that is not always visible to most members -- perhaps it is not surprising that back-

stage is very different from front stage. So in this issue of the Newsletter we have information about the CUSS elections and new editors for *City & Community*.

This year we followed a slightly different procedure to solicit names for the open positions on Council and Chair/Chair Elect, and offer a hearty **Chair, page 2**



## Chair's Message *from page 1*

**The 2015  
ASA Annual  
Meetings  
will be held in  
Chicago, Illinois  
from August 22-25.**

thank you! and well done! to Derek Hyra for serving as point guard for the nominations. The elections will close the end of this month, as this issue of the newsletter is being circulated.

The CUSS Award committees are headed by Jan Lin (Lynd Lifetime Career Award), Michael Bader (Park Award), Leonard Nevarez (Addams Award), and Alexandra Murphy (Student Paper Award).

We also thank the organizers of the CUSS Sessions for the Chicago

meeting: Ryan Centner (Urban Theory), Japonica Saracino-Brown (Sexualities and Place), Jeffrey Timberlake (Neighborhood / Residential Inequality), Rachel Woldoff (Housing) and especially Rachel Dwyer (Roundtables) who had the unenviable task of reading 78 papers for the 20 roundtables at this year's meeting! That work has also been completed and persons who submitted papers have been notified. We will have complete information about these sessions in the Summer newsletter.

And finally, a special thank you to members of the Publications Committee (Marcus Britton, Laura Tach, Chenoa Flippen, Yuki Kato, and Jennifer Parker), and especially to Bruce Haynes and Deirdre Oakley, Chairs of the Committee, for their work in soliciting potential editors, reviewing proposals, and selecting the new editorial team for *City & Community*. More information about the journal, and an interview with Lance Freeman and Sudhir Venkatesh, the new editors, will be found in the newsletter.

## Announcements

●IRCD Researchers Annual Meeting Call for Abstracts-Scholarly submissions of hazards and disasters research from all disciplinary perspectives are now being accepted for the International Research Committee on Disasters (IRCD) Annual Meeting July 23-24 in Broomfield, Colorado. The IRCD is a Committee of the ISA focusing on disaster and hazard research. The annual meeting supports scholarly presentations from re-

searchers and graduate students on all types of disaster and hazards from a variety of social science perspectives. Please e-mail abstracts to [ircdmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:ircdmeeting@gmail.com) with "IRCD Researchers Meeting Abstract" in the subject line. The deadline for abstracts is 5:00 pm EST on May 22, 2015. Notification of acceptance will occur in the beginning of June.

All abstract submissions must include the

following: author name(s), title(s), address(es), telephone number(s), and e-mail(s); indicate the person that will present the paper; title of the paper; three or more keywords that identify the paper's topic; a single-spaced abstract of no more than 300 words describing your research question, methodology, and findings; and indicate whether the research has been previously presented at the Natural Hazards Workshop or IRCD Re-

searchers Meeting and if previously presented, indicate what is new for this proposed presentation.

Please contact IRCD Researchers Meeting co-chairs Michelle Meyer ([mmeyer@lsu.edu](mailto:mmeyer@lsu.edu)) or John Cooper ([jcooper@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:jcooper@arch.tamu.edu)) with any questions. <http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/workshop/current.html>.

## Editor's Note

William Holt, Birmingham-Southern College

This edition features an overview and Q&A session with the new *City & Community* editors, Lance Freeman and Sudhir Venkatesh, as the journal moves to Colum-

bia University in Fall 2015..

The 2015 ASA elections end on June 1. See page 9 to view a list of all the CUSS members who are running for section

offices.

Be sure to check out the information boxes throughout the newsletter about the 2015 ASA meetings in Chicago as well as relevant CUSS

section information.

Contact me if you have any ideas for features, photo essays or other concepts for future editions of the *CUSS Newsletter*.

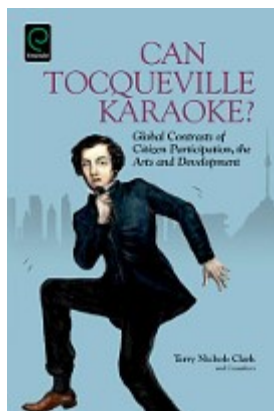
## News Books



***On Becoming a Teen Mom Life before Pregnancy*. 2015. Berkeley: University of California Press.**

-Mary Patrice Erdmans  
Case Western University  
-Timothy Black  
Case Western University

In this myth-shattering book, the authors tell the life stories of 108 brown, white, and black teen mothers, exposing the problems in their lives often overlooked in pregnancy prevention campaigns. Some stories are tragic and painful, marked by sexual abuse, partner violence, and school failure. Others depict "girl next door" characters whose unintended pregnancies lay bare insidious gender disparities. Offering a fresh perspective on the links between teen births and social inequalities, this book demonstrates how the intersecting hierarchies of gender, race, and class shape the biographies of young mothers.



***Can Tocqueville Karaoke? Global Contrast of Citizen Participation, the Arts and Development*. Begley, UK: Emerald. 2014.**

-Terry Nichols Clark  
University of Chicago

What drives workplace and political collaboration, democracy, trust, economic and population growth? Or protest against them? The Western models emerging from e.g. Putnam, Verba, Florida, Glaeser, Lloyd, stress variables that sometimes shift dramatically in Asia. Those relying on individualism and personal initiative, from Tocqueville on—which stress participation as driving legitimacy, and bohemia as innovating—often fail or shift drastically in a new study of related dynamics in China, Korea, and Japan, compared to the US, Canada, France, and Spain. Karaoke restaurants and bars can play critical roles, reinforcing workplace and family solidarity, while organized groups shift in their dynamics from the

West.

The book outlines a new framework for analysis of democratic participation and economic growth.

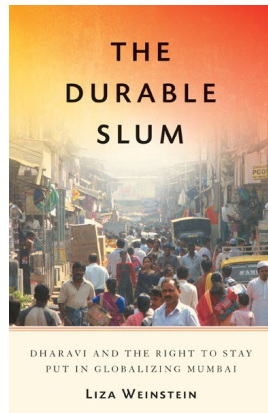
Our framework synthesizes several research streams that combine in global factors driving the articulation of culture into political/economic processes. The contexts of Toronto and Chicago are explored as both enhanced the arts dramatically, but Toronto engaged artists qua citizens, while Chicago did not. Other chapters explore cases from France and Spain and comparative analyses from Seoul, Tokyo, Chicago, and 43 democratic countries. We include multiple dimensions of democratic politics, including distinct norms of citizenship and their associated political repertoires. By analyzing global ISSP and WVS data, we identify dramatic subcultural differences: the Tocquevillian model is positive, negative, or zero in seven different subcultures and contexts that we explicate, from class politics and clientelism to Protestant and Orthodox Christian civilizational traditions.

Table of contents:  
<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/doi/book/10.1108/S1479-3520201411>

**ASA Election  
deadline is  
5:00 PM EDT on  
June 1, 2015.**

**CUSS Day  
at the  
2015  
ASA Annual  
Meetings  
will be on  
Saturday,  
August 22, 2015**

## New Books, from page 3



***The Durable Slum: Dharavi and the Right to Stay Put in Globalizing Mumbai.* Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 2014.**

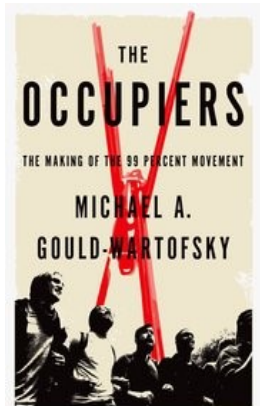
-Liza Weinstein  
Northeastern University

Directly opposite Mumbai's newest and most expensive commercial developments, lies Dharavi, where as many as one million squatters live in make-shift housing on 535 acres of prime urban land. As property prices are booming and cities are now vying to be "world class," governments across India, and throughout the world, are facing new pressure to clear settlements like these. But Dharavi and its residents have endured for a century, holding on to what has become some of Mumbai's most valuable land.

In *The Durable Slum*, Liza Weinstein draws on a decade of work, including more than a year of firsthand research in Dharavi, to explain how, despite innumerable threats, the slum has

persisted for so long, achieving a precarious stability. She describes how economic globalization and rapid urban development are pressurizing authorities to eradicate and redevelop Dharavi—and how political conflict, bureaucratic fragmentation, and community resistance have kept the bulldozers at bay. Today the latest ambitious plan for Dharavi's transformation has been stalled, yet the threat of eviction remains, and most residents and observers are simply waiting for the project to be revived or replaced by an even grander scheme.

Dharavi's remarkable story presents important lessons for a world in which most population growth happens in urban slums even as brutal removals increase. It demonstrates that these settlements may be more durable than they appear, their residents retaining a fragile but hard-won right to stay put.



***The Occupiers: The Making of the 99 Percent Movement.* New York, NY: Oxford University Press. 2015**

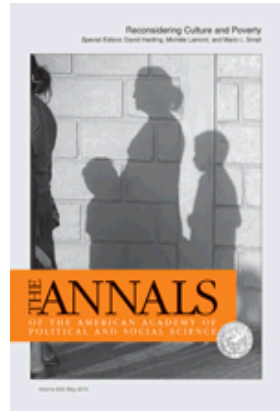
-Michael A. Gould-Wartofsky  
New York University

Occupy Wall Street burst onto the stage of history in the fall of 2011. First by the tens, then by the tens of thousands, protesters filled the streets and laid claim to the squares of nearly 1,500 towns and cities, until, one by one, the occupations were forcibly evicted. Through the use of material gathered in the course of eighty interviews and two years of participant observation, Gould-Wartofsky traces the occupation of Zuccotti Park—and some of its counterparts across the United States and around the world—from inception to eviction, and paints a vivid picture of everyday life in the square. The book then takes up the challenges the occupiers faced, the paradoxes of

**New Books, page 5**



direct democracy, and the dynamics of direct action and police action, and explores the ways in which occupied squares became focal points for the emergence of new urban social movements. Much of the discussion of the Occupy phenomenon has treated it as if it lived and died in Zuccotti Park, but Gould-Wartofsky follows the evicted occupiers into exile and charts their evolving strategies, tactics, and tensions as they seek to resist, regroup, and reoccupy. Displaced from public spaces and news headlines, the 99 Percent movement has spread out from the financial centers and into communities still struggling to recover in the aftermath of the economic crisis. Even if the movement fails to achieve structural reform, Gould-Wartofsky maintains, its offshoots may well accelerate the pace of change in the United States in the years to come.



***Reconsidering the Urban Disadvantaged: The Role of Systems, Institutions, and Organizations. 2013. Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.***

-Mario L. Small, ed.  
Harvard University  
-Scott Allard, ed.  
University of Washington

Over the last 25 years, social science on urban poverty has grappled primarily with evidence of deindustrialization and the loss of low-skilled manufacturing jobs. In turn, structural economic change has transformed family structure, educational attainment, crime, and geographic concentration of the poor. Researchers have approached these issues from a limited set of theoretical perspectives wherein the core units of analysis, aside from the market, have been the individual and the neighborhood. The editors argue that, today, understanding the conditions of these highly disadvantaged populations requires a focus on not only individuals and

their neighborhoods but also, and perhaps more importantly, on the organizations that structure their lives, the systems in which those organizations are embedded, and the institutions that regulate both.

The recent economic recession and a sluggish recovery have made conditions especially precarious for the most disadvantaged members of the urban poor population—those with criminal records, health conditions, undocumented status, or unstable housing. The fewer the resources to which people have access, the more their circumstances will depend on the organizations in which they participate, the systems in which these organizations operate, and the institutions governing the behavior of both. We call for a renewed focus on systems, institutions, and organizations among researchers who study urban disadvantage, and review studies that show the promise of these perspectives. <http://ann.sagepub.com/content/647/1/6>

**CUSS will host four panels as well as roundtables at the 2015 ASA Annual Meetings**

## C&C, from page 1

time, it would benefit the section (and section members) to have a dedicated publication. We agreed to continue the discussion by email – which we did, and by the end of the day, we had drawn up a list, I had contacted and received confirmation from several persons, and we had assembled a group to serve on an exploratory publications committee. The original publications committee included myself, Harvey Choldin, Lyn Lofland, Barry Wellman (head), and Sharon Zukin (and I think also Jan Lin and Min Zhou). I drafted the first statement for the committee shortly afterward, based in part on the documentation I had prepared about the need for the inclusion of urban sociology in the Research in... titles published by JAI Press, and we began to discuss possible publishers for the new journal.

In June of 1995 I sent the following note to members of the committee:

*If we are able to plan for a journal which will provide timely publication of research in urban and community studies, we will fill an important need within the discipline. I would imagine that this might result in fewer edited volumes from other publishers, particularly if we can develop a number of high-quality contributions in the first year or two of publication. Finding a publisher for the journal probably will not be difficult; this past semes-*

*ter I mentioned our project to a colleague with extensive publishing experience, and he indicated that several of the publishers he has worked with were actively soliciting new journals because the subscriptions--even if only a couple of hundred--provide capital up front to support other parts of their business. In the past, I have often wondered, "who needs another journal?" but now the answer appears to be not only us, but the publishers as well... What activities do we need to complete before the August meetings? Can we develop a timetable and assign some work tasks to bring this together?*

*I look forward to seeing all of you in Washington*

Later that summer, Barry Wellman sent us a note saying that he would on leave for the coming year, and so the work would have to be delayed for a year while he was away. I wrote back and suggested that during this year we could move forward with contacting publishers, and that I could take over this work if others on the committee agreed. And so that is what we did. I made the first presentation of our plans at the CUSS section meeting held in Washington (August 1995). As I recall, the presentation was met with some skepticism – did people really have difficulties publishing existing journals, would publishers really be interested in another journal,

and the like.

We did continue our work during the next year, finalizing a statement to send to publishers, and during the spring and summer I began sending letters to publishers about the journal. JAI Press (publisher of the Research in Urban Sociology Series) was very interested in publishing the new journal. We had some questions about going in this direction, perhaps justified when JAI sold their titles to Elsevier the following year. I wrote the initial letter that we sent to Blackwell Publishers, and reported on these activities at the CUSS section meeting in Toronto (August 1996). This presentation was also met with some skepticism, particularly as we began to discuss the costs associated with the journal, recognizing that publishers would want to have these costs as part of the section membership dues (similar to ASR and ASR publications).

When Barry Wellman returned from the year in Israel, the work of the committee turned to final contacts with publishers and institutional arrangements with ASA that would lead to the final contract with Wiley-Blackwell, selection of the first Editorial Board, which included the original members of the planning committee, and selection of Anthony Orum as the first editor of the journal. The first issue of *City & Community* appeared in March, 2002 and featured a discussion

of Los Angeles and the Chicago School, led by Michael Dear's article and followed by responses from Andrew Abbott, Harvey Molotch, Robert Sampson, Saskia Sassen, and Terry Clark (the first Chair of the Community and Urban Sociology Section). In 2010 the editorship moved from Chicago to Providence, under the guidance of Hilary Silver. Now, the journal moves to New York under the guidance of and Lance Freeman and Sudhir Venkatesh. And so while the journal enters the 15th year of publication, the history goes back even further, to the summer of 1995.

As we celebrate the first 15 years of the journal, and welcome a new editorial team to the helm, it is important to recognize the very capable leadership of both the first editor, Tony Orum, and the second editor, Hilary Silver, for their time and commitment in bringing forward the new journal and establishing its position as a leading publication in community and urban sociology. With the leadership of Lance Freeman and Sudhir Venkatesh we of course enter into a new era, and look forward to continuing the very good work of the past, and to opening new horizons.

## Q & A with the new C&C editors

### •Why did you decided to pursue the C&C editorship?

We wanted to bring our relative perspectives together. We have different ways of viewing the city— and we have contrasting research backgrounds. It was our hope that this diversity could be a point of strength for the journal.

### •Describe your visions for C&C.

In a relatively short time, under both Anthony Orum and Hilary Sliver's leadership, respectively, *City & Community* has become a well-respected journal in urban and community research. Though anchored in sociology, the Journal has attracted submissions in various social science disciplines as well as related fields such as public policy and urban planning. We believe the journal has featured strong empirical papers, and has made contributions to basic sociological research on urban social life.

Our objective is to continue attracting strong academic research papers that are either grounded in systematic empirical inquiry or speculative but supported by sound theoretical underpinnings. We also hope to move the Journal in several new directions. We are guided by three criteria:

(a) Expand opportunities

for scholars to draw on the Journal to develop their intellectual pursuits in urban and community-related research.

(b) Ensure that C&C feature the widest possible range of scholarship in these areas.

(c) Strategically look for debates and topics that might promote interchange among varying perspectives—methodological, theoretical or substantive.

Although no journal can be a home for every academic research perspective, but we believe our editorial responsibilities are to seek out high-quality submissions that faithfully represent the diversity of perspectives in existence. The following are some of the gaps and areas that we feel could be developed further: invigorating theorization on the city.

-One of the original promises of C&C was to serve as a space for theoretical reflection and debate.

There is stiff competition for papers that address urban issues from a theoretical perspective in the social sciences. Several current publications, including the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* and *Public Culture*

consistently feature strong conceptual essays in this area. However, we will work actively to recruit submissions that address a range of theoretical issues, including:

-Innovations in computational sciences—and related perspectives such as demography and network analysis—that are deepening our ability to conduct scientific research on urban structure and process. The era of “Big Data” has transformed our ability to use data to understand social structure and social behavior. We believe C&C could do more to help scholars understand the implications for studies of urban social life

-Essays on globalization and urbanism that situate the modern metropolis in a global analytic perspective.

-The “sociology” of planning and policy making. Planners and political scientists have developed their own paradigmatic perspective to describe how plans and policies are made and implemented. This is a domain, however, that would benefit from the theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches of urban sociologists. Moreover, C&C can provide an arena for the cross fertilization of disciplinary approaches within this and other areas of inquiry.

-Expanding the theoretical debates in C&C requires that a broader set of scholars currently look at C&C as a viable place

***“In a relatively short time, under both Anthony Orum’s and Hilary Sliver’s leadership, respectively, City & Community has become a well-respected journal in urban and community research. “***

**-Lance Freeman**

## Q&A, from page 7

**The ASA 2015  
Meeting pre-  
registration  
deadline is July 8**

to develop their research. We believe that the use of symposia, special call for papers, and invited essays might help us to accomplish this goal.

**-Urban Institutions**  
Recent discussions online (within COMURB) and at the CUSS Section meetings have raised the need for C&C to invite essays of a more reflective nature. We agree that the journal should be a forum for scholars who want to take stock of intellectual trends and innovations. However, we do not believe the Journal can serve the purpose of a blog or online magazine, namely a forum devoted to personal opinion or journalistic essays. However, one way to encourage reflective thought is to solicit essays from scholars that take address particular urban topics. We propose a regularly occurring feature, entitled *Institutions*, which focus on a key institutional sphere of urban life—e.g., the media, government, education, arts and culture organizations. We will ask authors with particular subject matter expertise to provide an appraisal of emerging intellectual developments, critical debates, and innovative research that area. These essays will be peer-reviewed and offer authors an opportunity to help introduce current research to a wider group of interested participants.

**-Culture & Technology**  
We will actively recruit submissions that exam-

ine the impact of contemporary transformations in information technology on urban social life. (We note that C&C has already featured a number of well-researched articles in this area.) We also hope to feature articles that address methodological issues as well as those showcasing original research. We believe that the possibilities for conducting research in the contemporary digital era are not widely understood...

**-International Perspectives**  
We will include more comparative research and extra-US based research in C&C. Comparative perspectives often help to sharpen our understanding of the city by bringing into relief phenomena that are nation specific and those that span across multiple cultural and national settings. Broadening the influence of C&C to include more international scholarship will also enhance the journal's citation impact as a broader pool of schools will become familiar with and cite the scholarship in C&C.

**•What editorial changes do you plan to make with C&C?**

We seek to continue the great work accomplished under Hilary Silver's editorship. We want to continue attracting high quality empirical work, but we'd like to feature more conceptual and theoretical essays. And, we're planning a new

section in which leading scholars can offer critical, synthetic reviews of literatures on urban affairs and community structure and process.

**•Explain the types of articles you will be looking for in future editions. Are you planning any special editions?**

At the moment, we are still finalizing our editorial board. Once this occurs, we will have a better sense of special issues. However, we are always interested in receiving proposals for special editions.

**•Describe the staff and organizational structure you are establishing at Columbia for C&C.**

We have hired two graduate student assistants and a third graduate student will contribute time on an ad-hoc basis. These students will work with us until August after which time we will hire a Managing editor.

**•With C&C a large portion of CUSS dues, why would you suggest a new member pay the section fee for C&C?**

Membership in CUSS provides complete access to the content of *City and Community*. We hope to continue to publish outstanding scholarship that will be of interest to urban sociologists and other urbanists.



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Sociological  
Association  
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Web

[http://  
www.commur.org](http://www.commur.org)

## News & Notes

**-Kevin Fox Gotham,**  
Tulane University, has  
published the following  
articles:

"Mechanisms of Mutation:  
Policy Mobilities and the  
Gulf Opportunity (GO)  
Zone." *Urban Geogra-  
phy*. 35(8): 1171-  
1195. November 2014.

"Racialization and  
Rescaling: Post-Katrina  
Rebuilding and the Loui-  
siana Road Home Pro-  
gram." *International Jour-  
nal of Urban and Region-  
al Research*. 38(3):773-  
90. May 2014.

"Beyond the New Normal:  
Trauma, Diversity, and  
the New Orleans Long-  
Term Urban Research  
Area Exploratory (ULTRA  
-Ex) Project," with Mike  
Blum and Richard Cam-  
panella. *Cities and the  
Environment (CATE)*. 7  
(1) (article 4). 2014.

### REMINDER

## CUSS ELECTION SLATE

**Vote by June 1**

Chair Elect		1 year term
Mele	Christopher	University at Buffalo - SUNY
Oakley	Deirdre	Georgia State University
Secretary/Treasurer		
Next Election in 2017		
Council Members		3 year term
Deener	Andrew	University of Connecticut
Haynes	Bruce	University of California at Davis
Weinstein	Liza	Northeastern University
Woldoff	Rachel	West Virginia University
Student Council Members		1 year term
Howell	Junia	Rice University
Loughran	Kevin	Northwestern University
Publications Committee		3 year term
Centner	Ryan	London School of Economics
Jones	Nikki	University of California at Berkeley
McCabe	Brian	Georgetown University
Owens	Ann	University of Southern California
Publications Committee-Student		1 year term
Hyde	Zachary	University of British Columbia
Parker	Jeffrey	University of Chicago