

## Executive Committee

President: Greg Peter, UW-Fox Valley

President Elect: Wayne Thompson, Carthage College

Treasurer: Leda Nath, UW-Whitewater

Interim Secretary: Carol Miller, UW-La Crosse

*Sociological Imagination* Editor: Tricia Davis, UW-River Falls

Past President: Bob Greene, MATC



# WISCONSIN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter

Spring 2007

### IMPORTANT DATES!!

- ◆ Session Proposals Deadline: **May 1st, 2007**
- ◆ Paper Proposals Deadline: **September 15th, 2007**
- ◆ Nominations for Sewell, Mauksch, Floro Awards: **September 15th, 2007**
- ◆ Nominations for Student Paper Competition Awards **September 15th, 2007**
- ◆ Student Travel Grant Applications Deadline: **September 15th, 2007**

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### Fall WSA Meeting at Carthage College: It's about the students!

"Students Welcome!" The fall meeting of the Wisconsin Sociological Association is focused on students. In addition to our usual faculty presence, we want students to organize some of the sessions and present and discuss what they are doing for research, civic engagement and in their sociology clubs.

The WSA meeting is the perfect place for students to get professional experience in the discipline. We're a very welcoming, comfortable group, and we're interested in hearing about all the exciting things students are doing on the different campuses.

Many sociology programs have a research component as part of the requirements for the degree, and such papers would be perfect for presentation at the meeting, October 11-12, at Carthage College in Kenosha. We hope that instructors will encourage students to present their projects and to submit their papers for the Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. Not only can a student get valuable experience presenting results to an audience, they could actually win awards with cash prizes associated with them.

Students involved in civic engagement projects should organize sessions and discuss what they're doing, as well. We know that many students are in the community, whether they are completing an internship, a service-learning project or volunteering with local organizations, and we'd like them to come and share their experiences. The meetings are a great place to exchange ideas about how sociology can be applied to address local social issues.

We're also planning at least one session on sociology club activities and fund raising, as well as membership and organization issues.

Students at Carthage College have been conducting Diversity Circles on their own campus, and we're inviting them to organize such discussions at the meetings.

All in all, this meeting is about the students. In order to support student attendance at the meeting, WSA is offering four student travel grants up to \$100 each. Just return the completed form to WSA Treasurer, Leda Nath, UW-Whitewater, by September 15, 2007. Student Travel Grant, Membership and Session Organizer forms for the 2007 meeting at Carthage College are enclosed with this newsletter.



Student and faculty WSA members enjoying some conversation before dinner at the 2006 meeting at UW-River Falls.

## Carthage College: "It's cooler by the lake!" By Wayne Thompson— WSA President Elect

The 2007 WSA Conference will be held at Carthage College. Carthage is a private, liberal arts college located in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The campus is about a forty minute drive to downtown Milwaukee and a little over an hour to downtown Chicago via car or commuter train. Carthage is historically related to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. However, the most common religious background for students is Roman Catholic (40%); only about twenty-five percent of students have a Lutheran background. The college offers a variety of majors, including sociology, criminal justice and other social science majors. One interesting thing about Carthage is that it is the only college in Wisconsin with a clear majority of out-of-state students – about 70% of Carthage students hail from Illinois.

The campus boasts breathtaking natural beauty, laid out along the shores of Lake Michigan. The Carthage Library has an Einstein's Bagels, arguably the favorite student hangout. The campus also has a unique and really cool Starbucks. The immediate communities for Carthage College include Kenosha and Racine. With a combined population of about 330,000, these twin cities encompass an ethnic smorgasbord of interesting people and traditions. The local population includes significant African American and Latino presence but also Italian, German, and Danish ancestry groups. Kenosha County is the only area in Wisconsin that is considered part of greater metro Chicago by the United States Bureau of the Census. Near Carthage, there are interesting restaurants, including

many superb Italian ethnic Mom-and-Pop pizza places and restaurants, and a few hip coffee shops, wine and martini bars and funky restaurants with character. For instance, one "must see" breakfast and lunch restaurant is Frank's Diner. The Diner is a throwback to train-car diners of the 1920s and has been continuously operating in downtown Kenosha since 1925. Their motto, displayed above the grill is "Order what you want, eat what you get." Downtown Kenosha has a real train trolley costing only 25 cents and a Dinosaur Museum. Downtown Racine is one of Wisconsin's up-and-coming areas with lots of urban revitalization, galleries, coffee shops and ethnic and other eclectic restaurants. The lakefront is a fabulous place to go for a walk, take photos and people watch. As the locals put it, "It's Cooler by the Lake."

We're on the Web!  
[www.viterbo.edu/wsa](http://www.viterbo.edu/wsa)

President Greg Peter,  
[gpeter@uwc.edu](mailto:gpeter@uwc.edu)

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### Letter from the Prez... By Greg Peter— WSA President

Dear colleagues,

I am happy to report that Margaret Mead was right, it sometimes only takes "a small group of thoughtful people" to change things. The group I am referring to is the outstanding WSA executive committee and their work in the last year. WSA membership is growing, our ties to the MSS and ASA are strengthening, our connections to the surrounding state societies are solid, and our journal is in good shape (and always looking for more submissions, so send them in)! While last year this time I was pondering the future of the WSA and listening to Bob Marley, this year I am confident that the future looks bright and every thing will be alright.

We have a really great meeting planned for next fall at Carthage College and have some exciting events for undergraduate students and faculty alike. As you know, WSA is the ideal place for introducing students to professional development. We have student paper awards, student travel scholarships, and plenty of opportunities for students to attend and present their own research. I know that I would not be here today without faculty mentoring and we can all pay this back by bringing our own students to the meeting this fall and encouraging others to follow suit. As usual spring break has turned into spring "work" for me, but next fall looks fantastic. I hope to see many of you at the upcoming MSS meetings in Chicago and the ASA meetings in New York, until then please check out the website to consider nominating a colleague for an award and renew your membership if you haven't already and mark your calendars for October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>!

Cheers,  
Greg, WSA President.



WISCONSIN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

President Greg Peter,  
[gpeter@uwc.edu](mailto:gpeter@uwc.edu)

Join or Renew!

## Wisconsin Sociological Association 2007 Membership Form

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(Please Print Legibly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Organizational Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Which address should WSA use for the journal and other snail mail? Check one.  
 home address  office address

Choose one of the following:

- Please send my Newsletter on e-mail (this is preferred by the WSA to save mailing expenses)
- Please send my Newsletter by U.S. mail

Membership in WSA includes a subscription to the quarterly journal *Sociological Imagination*, informative WSA Newsletters, the Roster of Wisconsin Sociologists, and reduced registration fees at WSA annual meetings. Please consider making a donation to the WSA Endowment Fund (any amount), which serves as a critical resource for funding student awards, and for meeting rising costs of the publication of *Sociological Imagination*.

### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

Sustaining (supports reduced student dues)	\$60.00
Regular	\$30.00
Student	\$10.00
Retired	\$25.00

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your **membership check** payable to "WSA."

**(OPTIONAL) WSA ENDOWMENT FUND DONATION:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_\*

\* Please make a *separate* **WSA endowment check** payable to "UWSP Foundation."

Mail your check(s) and this completed form to:

Leda Nath, WSA Treasurer  
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice  
UW-Whitewater  
800 W. Main Street  
Whitewater, WI 53190

We're on the Web!  
[www.viterbo.edu/wsa](http://www.viterbo.edu/wsa)



# W S A



## WISCONSIN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

### Call for Submissions!

***Sociological Imagination*** wants your interesting sociological research or theory article.

Get valuable feedback on your manuscript and get your article published in WSA's official peer-reviewed journal.

For submission guidelines go to <http://www.viterbo.edu/wsa.aspx?id=1584>

Send submissions to:

Tricia Davis, Editor,

Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice

KFA 334

UW-River Falls

410 S. Third Street

River Falls, WI 54022

[tricia.m.davis@uwrf.edu](mailto:tricia.m.davis@uwrf.edu)

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