The Humanist Sociologist

SPRING 2017

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Call for Participation for the 2017 AHS Annual Meeting
- Betty and Alford McClung Lee Book Award
- Documentary Corner
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

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A Note from the President

I was twelve years old when the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista was overthrown by the Cuban population in 1958. I remember my junior high school social science teacher saying excitedly, "We'll have to pay attention and see what's going to happen next." I remember Fidel Castro's first visit to Washington, his rebuff by one U.S. President after another (which left him no choice but to turn to the U.S.S.R. for economic support), the disaster that was the Bay of Pigs invasion, the Missile Crisis in 1962, and the long line of other notable moments in the nearly sixty years of recent history shared by our two countries. Many other AHS members probably do, too.

Yet, despite the long unfolding of the story that we hope against hope is finally coming to an end, AHS has not, to my knowledge, ever taken a public stand against the economic and social violence perpetrated by the U.S government toward Cuba and its beleaguered population. This is not to criticize our past or present members, but rather to suggest that we are long overdue in demonstrating our solidarity with colleagues, only ninety miles from our shores, who have suffered continuously for more than half a century for no more than holding a political perspective that many of us purport to share.

In this time of aggressive challenge to all things humanistic, then, it is particularly appropriate that the members of AHS have committed to take on the risks and inconveniences of holding our next conference in Havana. Any lack of comfortability that we experience by doing so will only reflect in a minor way the discomfort Cuban scholars and academics have been forced to deal with for all these years while we enjoyed the luxury of being able to ignore it.

The registration fee for the conference is a bit higher than usual. This is, in part, because we have to arrange off-site venues on top of our food bills and other costs. Registration will cover at least one Cuban style buffet lunch (with a special guest speaker) as well as two evening receptions, one of which will feature live Cuban music. Mariella Castro (Fidel Castro's niece and Raul's daughter), the Director of the Cuban National Center for Sex Education and an activist for LGBTQ rights world-wide, has agreed to be our principal plenary speaker. Eduardo Bonilla-Silva and other highly respected sociologists are planning to present. And we are already working with people inside and outside AHS to formulate a Symposium on Global Economic Reform as part of the conference. Additionally, a number of off-site "adventures" – most arranged not to conflict with presentations – will be available to conference participants for an additional, but affordable fee.

A Note from the President *continued*

Another difference with having the conference in Cuba will be that everyone who goes on the trip must register for the conference to satisfy the U.S. government's requirements for visiting Cuba. Because of this, we have created a special category for "Non-presenting Participants" at a reduced registration rate. On the other hand, academic scholars in Cuba receive the same remuneration as most other workers (typically the equivalent of $30 per month). So we will comp the registration fees for about a dozen FLACSO-Cuba colleagues, who have been and will be even more critical to our successfully accomplishing this historical event.

On the AHS website, you can learn more about AHS, submit a proposal or register for November's meeting, and join our organization or pay your dues if you haven't already. You can read my report on my trip to Havana last May. You can find a list of links that will take you to movies, television shows, documentaries, and articles guaranteed to whet your appetite for all things Cuban. And (at https://www.humanist-sociology.org/conference-information), you will find all the tips and hints you need to successfully navigate making your arrangements. If you do it early, you will find it quite affordable – even for students. My flights, for example, only cost me $352 round trip.

We often discuss "structural violence" as the root cause of many social problems. Certainly, the long-standing attack on the people of Cuba by the U.S. government has demonstrated structural violence at a most egregious level: an entire population punished ruthlessly and without conscience by a government that purports to represent a commitment to the democratic principle of self-determination. Is it not our duty to stand in solidarity with our brother and sister scholars who have for so long been shut off from us, and we from them? Our very presence there will constitute our protest of this continuing economic blockade.

I hope that you'll give some thought to which companies, organizations, or individuals might want to place an ad in the program for the conference in Cuba. Since we won't be able to ship books, publishers might be particularly interested in running ads, so if you have a relationship with a publisher, please consider asking them. We need this income to cover various incidental costs for the conference.

A great deal of planning has already gone into crafting the 2017 AHS Conference in Havana. My Conference Team and I have great hope that it will strengthen and energize our organization that we love so much. AHS plays a special role in the discipline of sociology in the United States and we are confident that by scheduling our next conference in Cuba, we will be living up to the commitment we all feel to that role.

Additionally, we believe that going to Cuba and interfacing with our Cuban colleagues will be life-changing for everyone who makes the trip to participate since Cubans in general have much to share with us about facing and overcoming the challenges of neo-liberalism with which we are increasingly struggling ourselves.

Rebecca Hensley
AHS President

Visit www.humanist-sociology.org/cuba2017

Call for Participation

2017 Annual Meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology

"Imagining Possibilities: Humanists Connecting to Better Fight Oppression"

Havana, Cuba November 1-5, 2017

To submit an abstract or to propose a session (**submission deadline, April 30th**) , click here.

Look for a registration form at www.humanist-sociology.org, soon.

To learn all the things you need to know to plan your trip to Havana, click here.

Visit www.humanist-sociology.org/cuba2017 to find all information about the upcoming conference!

"In what period have so many [people] been so totally exposed at so fast a pace to such earthquakes of change?" ~ C. Wright Mills

When an organization establishes itself with the stated intention of standing unapologetically for justice and working to make the world safer and more equitable for all its inhabitants, its members must make every effort to reflect on its evolution as a collective body that it might more consciously implement that intention for its duration. The Association for Humanist Sociology was formed in 1976 by a group of sociologists, educators, scholars, and activists with precisely that intent.

No single individual or organization could possibly imagine a path certain to lead us to a successful resolution of the challenges with which we are now presented. New and more intense challenges require brave new commitments to our own growth in all areas and renewed energy to apply to the work at hand.

It is with this in mind that AHS has chosen to hold its annual conference in 2017 in Havana, Cuba. This will demand of us that we plunge headfirst into a process that will broaden our vision as academics and activists in the world as we commit ourselves ever more strongly to our original mission. To accomplish this, AHS is excited to partner in this exciting adventure with the Faculty of Latin American Social Scientists at the University of Havana. We anticipate being joined by others who are hungry to engage in next level critical dialogue with like minds across myriad boundaries.

The conference theme calls for us to examine how class, race, gender, and sexuality have been used over the past five centuries to establish and maintain inequalities around the world. As the concentration of wealth has expanded exponentially, conditions have developed that threaten the sustainability of our eco-system, the concept of community, the dignity and joy of personhood, and the survival of the human race. We believe that the importance of examining this set of developments with an eye toward moving in new directions cannot be overstated.

We encourage those who want to participate in this extraordinary event at this key moment in history to register early so that you can begin the process of arranging the necessary matters. Submissions related to the conference theme or more broadly to the AHS mission of equality and social justice should be sent to **AHSCuba2017@gmail.com**

Betty and Alfred McClung Lee Book Award

The Association for Humanist Sociology is pleased to announce their 2017 Betty and Alfred McClung Lee Book Award. Authors, publishers, and AHS members may nominate books for consideration. The winner will be recognized at our annual meeting November 1-5, 2017 in Havana, Cuba. Nominations should be for Sociology or interdisciplinary social science books that approach their subjects from a humanist perspective.

As our Mission states:

Humanist sociologists strive as professionals, as scholars and as activists to uncover and address social issues, working with others to lessen the pain of social problems. We view people not merely as products of social forces, but also as shapers of social life, capable of creating social orders in which everyone's potential can unfold. Difficult times give humanist sociologists opportunities to apply their special skills and perspectives for the purpose of creating a more humane world. Additional information about AHS is available at www.ahssociology.org

Eligible books should have been published in the calendar year 2016 or the first half of 2017. If a book was submitted for last year's consideration, it cannot be nominated again. Edited volumes and textbooks are not eligible for this award.

To nominate a book, authors/publishers/nominators should e-mail a letter of nomination with the subject line "***AHS 2017 Book Award Nomination***" to Anastacia Schulhoff at amsv36@mail.missouri.edu Authors/publishers should then send one copy of the book to each of the award committee members listed below.

The deadline for nominations is **June 15, 2017**.

AHS 2016 Book Award Committee

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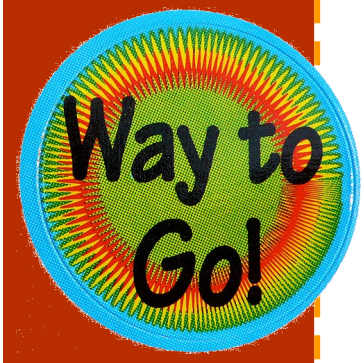

Congratulations to AHS Members

Rick Eckstein: Published a new book; *How College Athletics are Hurting Girls Sports: the Pay to Play Pipeline.*

Mary Erdmans and Tim Black: Received the William J. Goode Book Award, Honorable Mention 2016, for *On Becoming A Teen Mom: Life Before Pregnancy,* Section of the Sociology of the Family, American Sociological Association

Karen Tejada: Awarded tenure at University of Hartford. Now an Associate Professor of Sociology.

Jerome Rabow: Published memoir; *Passing the Butter and Picking up the Penny* and *The Transformation of Gender Identity for Women and Men In a University Classroom* will be published in 2017 in Sociology Mind. In 2017, we will also have an article published: Keisha E.Payne, Philyaw,Z.,Rabow, Yazdanfar,S., (2016,) *Names: A New Dimension of Transformation Race, Ethnicity and Education*

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
-Helen Keller

AHS Officers

President	Rebecca Hensley *Southeastern Louisiana university*
President-Elect	David G. Embrick *University of Connecticut*
Past President	Chuck Koeber *Wichita State University*
Vice-President Publications	Bhoomi Thakore *Elmhurst College*
Vice-President Membership	Marc Settembrino *Southeastern Louisiana University*
Secretary	Dawn Tawwater *Austin Community College*
Treasurer	Woody Doane *University of Harford*
Nominations Committee	Stephen Adair, Joti Sekhon, Walda Katz-Fishman, Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl, Codie L. Stone

Thank you

The AHS Board wishes to express great appreciation to Jay Graham. He has dedicated time and energy, for over a decade, to complete the layout for the organization's newsletters. Although AHS is transitioning to completing the newsletters entirely "in-house", Jay's service to this organization is and will always be highly valued.

Thank you Jay!

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

– Andrew Carnegie

CUBA!

Dean Felix Julio Alphonso Lopez of University of Havana and AHS President Rebecca Hensley

AHS President Rebecca Hensley discusses the conference with Dean Felix Julio Alphonso Lopez of University of Havana, Conference Liaison Ricardo Dello Buono, and FLACSO-Cuba Scholars Dr. Jose Bell Lara and Dr. Tania Caram

Documentary Corner

Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment

Synopsis: Guaranteed to stimulate critical thinking and discussion, the film features archival footage, flashbacks, post-experiment interviews with the prisoners and guards, and comparisons with real prisons. It documents the surprise arrests by city police and vividly shows the pathology that developed among participants, forcing the two-week study to be terminated after only 6 days. Viewer-tested previews reveal its value across many high school and college courses and among a variety of community audiences, including correctional, judicial, military, and civic.

Topics: Criminal justice system, ethics in research, social pressure

For further information, visit www.prisonexp.org/quiet-rage.

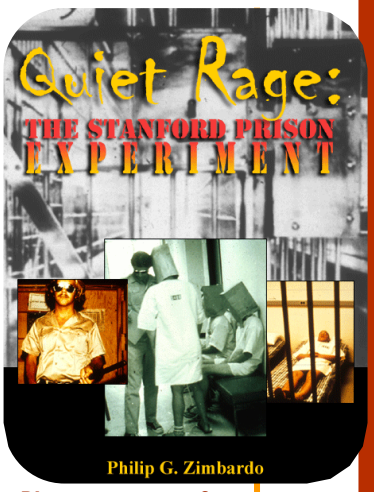

Photo courtesy of prisonexp.org

1. What police procedures are used during arrests and how to these procedures lead people to feel confused, fearful, and dehumanized?
2. What prevented "good guards" from objecting or countermanding the orders from "tough" or "bad" guards?
3. Why did the prisoners try to work within the arbitrary prison system to effect a change in it (e.g. setting up a Grievance Committee), rather than trying to dismantle or change the system through outside help?
4. Do you think kids from an urban working class environment would have broken down emotionally in the same way as did our middle-class prisoners? Why? What about women?
5. Was it ethical to do this study? Why or why not?
6. Knowing what this research says about the power of prison situations to have a corrosive effect on human nature, what recommendations would you make about changing the correctional system in your country?

For further discussion questions, visit www.prinsonexp.org/discussion-questions.

Treasurer's Report

2016 AHS Treasurer's Report *(submitted by Greta Pennell, October 28, 2016)*

STARTING BALANCE		**$ 31,487.77**
2016 INCOME		
Subtotal Membership Dues/Donations (collected 2016)		$6680 (c.f. $9,231 in 2015)
2016 $4645		
2017 $2035 (as of 10/25/16; please renew by 12/31/2016)		
Subtotal 2016 Annual Meeting Income		*$16,435** (c.f. $16,095 F15 proj)
Registrations	$11, 620	
Additional Onsite Registrations (projected)	$2900*	
Luncheons	$575	
Program Ad revenue	$750	
Museum Tour	$90	
Book Sale Revenue (projected as of 10/22/15)	$500*	
Subtotal Other Income		$ 55
Royalties	$0	
Lindenfeld Fund Contributions	$55	
TOTAL 2016 INCOME (excluding Lindenfeld Fund)		**$23,015**
2016 EXPENSES		
2016 Annual Meeting Expense Subtotal		*-$16,350**(c.f. $15,890 F15 proj)
Meeting Promotion (Posters/Mailings/Pd. Ads)	-$ 0	
Site Visits (in both 2015 & 2016)	-1035.35	
Hotel Rooms	-300*	
Hotel Food & Beverage (projected as of 10/30/15)	-$13,000*	
Three speakers (honoraria)	-$900	
Travel for Wilkes	WSU support	
Museum Tour Donation	-$110*	
Hospitality Suite & Student Party (projected)	-$500*	
Program Printing	-$ 0 WSU support	
Nametags/Folders	-$ 0 WSU support	
AV/Technology	-$100*	
Misc. Expenses (parking, supplies, printing, etc)	-$60*	
Shipping (FedEx & Hotel Receiving)	-$200*	
2017 Conference Expenses		-$800
Havana Site visit (paid in 2016 for Johnny & Rebecca)	-$800	
Down Payment (est. $500 down pymt due May, 2017)	-$ 0	
Subtotal Organizational Expenses		-$25755.12
Administrative and Clerical Projects	-$ 0 (cf previously $1000 budgeted)	
Banking Fees (checks, Merchant Services)	-$181.10*	
Online Pay charges ("Square"@ 2.75% per transaction+)	-$400*	
Registered Agent Fees (represent, report, reinstate fees)	-$119	
Journal ($5 per member per year to Sage)	-$646.25	
Newsletter production and supplies (two issues in '16)	-$300	
Humanity & Society Managing Editor Support	-$400*	
Accountancy *NOTE: 2016 Fee Pd in 2015; $850/yr*	-$0	
NJ State Tax Filing Fee & Corporation Fees	-$60*	
Website (WIX Contract)	-$ 149	
Postage and supplies	-$65*	
Book Award Plaques	-$172.37	
Service Award Plaque	-$ 0	
Lindenfeld Award & Plaque (taken from Lindenfeld Fund)	-$250*	
Humanity & Society Managing Editor Plaque	-$82.50	
TOTAL 2016 EXPENSES		**-$19,725.46**
Adjustment for Denver Down Payment in 2016		$2,250.
OVERALL GAIN/LOSS for 2016(Income minus expenses)		**$ 3,390***
ENDING BALANCE as of 12/31/16 (projected)		**$ 34,877.77***
FRANK LINDENFELD MEMORIAL BALANCE (NOT included in above final balance)		**$ 850***

Summary/Explanation for 2016

The 2016 budget report reflects the actual amounts spent and received in 2016 as of Oct. 21, 2016 with projected expenses and revenues for the remainder of the year. Thanks to Chuck stretching every penny and finding every opportunity to cut costs to the organization, including making personal donations for the good of the cause, we should end the year well in the black. We were able to keep our operating expenses to an absolute minimum in large part because Chuck negotiated institutional support from Wichita State University and we worked together to make do with minimal administrative support for processing payments and day-to-day record keeping. While this probably isn't sustainable over the long run, this year it was especially vital and noteworthy because it provided us a buffer against sluggish membership renewals.

Sustaining and building our membership numbers will be key to the financial health of AHS both in the immediate short run of the next two months and in the longer run. Currently we've only received $2035 in dues for 2017 from 32 members in contrast to $4941 this time last year. This doesn't necessarily mean that annual membership numbers are drastically lower than in years past (We have 116 members in 2016, 125 members in 2015), but this is a troubling slow start. We currently average $84/person in membership dues across our sliding scale. With $5,000-$7,000 each year in operating expenses (excluding the annual meeting) it will be important for all of us to renew our memberships soon and encourage the many new colleagues that we meet at this meeting and elsewhere to join AHS. Our membership goal should be 144 people in 2017 to meet our obligation to Sage.

Treasurer's Report *continued*

Summary/Explanation for 2016 *continued*

Online payment using "Square" continues to work fairly well for domestic transactions, although the fees did increase on July 1, 2016 (the fee increased from 2.95% to 2.9% of the transaction amount, plus an additional flat fee of thirty cents/transaction). While the Square store has streamlined getting payments into the bank, it doesn't work seamlessly with our website, the jot-form system, or for payments originating from outside the U.S. Furthermore, because our current Square account was created by Chuck, it technically "belongs" to him and cannot be transferred to another user (He can authorize other users for the account, but it can not be transferred to another person). Therefore, it is time to re-evaluate whether Square is still our best option for collecting electronic payments, and set up a new account as part of the transition to a new treasurer. While electronic payments are fairly efficient, we still have a sizeable group of folks who prefer to pay by mailing a check, so I recommend that we continue paper registration and membership renewal options.

Conversations are underway with PNC to ensure that the bank account can quickly and smoothly transfer to a new treasurer. If we need to change banks, we will have the procedures in place for that to happen as well. The PayEasy/Merchant services associated with our PNC bank account has been cancelled, effective October, 2016 because of two key issues/problems we encountered: (1) it did not integrate with either the jot-form registration system or our website, and (2) we could not meet the federal regulations for secure phone lines to collect credit card data, so using it would put AHS at tremendous liability risk if there was a case if identity theft or breach of credit card information.

Last year at the business meeting we passed a motion to provide "modest" financial support for a student who takes on Humanity & Society's Managing Editor role in order for them to attend and participate in the annual meeting. More specifically, the motion states "For the duration of their tenure as Managing Editor, this support could come in the form of annual membership to AHS, the absorption of conference fees, and hotel accommodations when attending the annual meeting." Without a maximum dollar amount specified, it is difficult to budget for this line. I propose that this support be capped at $500 per year, but that this amount is not guaranteed or set honorarium. This will preserve the original intent to provide support for the managing editor to attend our annual meetings AND the flexibility presidents may have in using complimentary rooms and other means of providing this support. Therefore, I move that:

MOTION: In order to support any student or post-doctoral student who takes on the role and responsibilities of the Managing Editor of Humanity & Society involvement and participation at the annual meetings, AHS provide modest financial support in the form of annual membership and conference fees. Additional support, not to exceed a total amount or value of $500 per year, may include hotel accommodations and travel costs when attending the annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report *continued*

Summary/Explanation for 2016 *continued*

This would allow flexibility (e.g., combining complementary hotel rooms or space in the hospitality suite with reimbursement for airfare) while at the same time clearly defining what constitutes "modest" support.

The Lindenfeld Funds are donations specifically earmarked to support the Frank Lindenfeld Outstanding Student Paper Award. When AHS had 501(c)3 status, we tended to get more donations to that fund because the donations were tax deductible. That is not the case under our current tax identification. Nevertheless we have some regular, albeit small, contributions to the fund every year. Please notice that the balance of this fund is separated out in the annual budgets. A concern has been raised the past few years that very few papers are submitted to for consideration for the paper award. One potential deterrent for students may be how the award is defined: "The author of the most outstanding paper will be invited to present her or his work at the annual meetings of AHS and will receive a $250 honorarium to defray travel expenses and a free year of membership in AHS." If students know or doubt that they can attend the annual meeting, they may think that means they are ineligible. At the same time, I believe the original intent of the cash award was to encourage students to become involved in AHS so the honorarium was defined as a travel allowance, and that is how it is described to winners in their notification letter. I propose a two-tiered award that might help increase submissions for the award while still honoring the goal of engaging these young scholars with the organization.

MOTION: The Frank Lindenfeld Outstanding Student Paper Award includes a cash award of $100 and one year AHS membership. Award winners are invited to present their paper at the AHS annual conference. For winners who attend the meeting to present their paper an additional $150 reimbursement will be awarded to help defray travel costs along with complimentary conference registration.

Building on the progress we made last year in terms of careful notation of every expenditure we've been able to develop a budget development worksheet that is based on actual past budgets to assist future presidents and program chairs in creating realistic and informed estimates and projections to develop their budgets. The worksheet is shared with the budget committee via a Google doc and the proposed budget for 2017 was developed using it.

Over the past two years I've learned that the treasurer position is a labor of love (and details). I'm deeply appreciative of those who have done this work so admirably in the past, especially those who like Mary Chayko, Chuck Koeber, and Don Goodman who served multiple terms and through difficult financial times. It has been my honor to serve AHS as treasurer and I thank you all for the opportunity. At the same time, I simply cannot continue into a second term. While the procedures for transfer of the treasury are in place, it will take some time. And, the sooner we can start that process the smoother the transition will be. Therefore, it is paramount that we find a new treasurer before the end of our meeting here in Denver. I will assist and support the next treasurer as best I can to ensure a smooth transition of this key office.

Treasurer's Report *continued*

2017 Proposed Budget (*submitted by Greta Pennell & Rebecca Hensley, October 28, 2016*)

STARTING BALANCE			**$ 34,800**
2017 INCOME			
Membership Dues/Donations		$10,600	
Subtotal 2016 Annual Meeting Income		*$18,875.00*	
Registrations	$17, 525		
Presenting Participant (member) - $165 (est. 75)	+$12375.00		
Presenting Participant (non-member) - $190 (est. 15)	+$2850.00		
Non-presenting Participant - $100 (est. 15)	+$1500.00		
Student - $100 (est. 8)	+$800.00		
FLACSO-Cuba Registrants (est. 12)	comp		
Sponsorship – Critical Sociology	$750		
Program Ad revenue	$600		
Subtotal Other Income (Lindenfeld Fund Contributions)	$ 100		
TOTAL 2014 INCOME (excludes Lindenfeld Contributions)			**$29,475**
2016 EXPENSES			
2016 Annual Meeting Expense Subtotal		*-$18,820*	
Meeting Promotion (Posters/Mailings)	comp		
Meeting Promotion – Paid Advertisements	-$450		
Site Visit (includes $800 in 2016 & $800 for 2017)	-$1600		
Facility Fees (includes est. $500 deposit due in May,2017)	-$5,000		
Luncheons & Receptions	-$9,250		
2 luncheons/reg (incl venue) @22 plate *125 ppl			
2 Receptions/reg (incl venue) @15/head *125 ppl			
Band for Reception	-$100		
Speaker Honoraria (3 speakers)	-$1,000		
Luncheons for 2 speakers (comp)	-$ 50		
Lodging for Special Guests/Students	-$ 250		
2 nights Book Award Winner (comp)			
Student Housing (see Hospitality Suite below)			
Hospitality Suite & Student Party	-$ 650		
Program Printing	comp		
Nametags/Folders	-$250		
AV/Technology	-$0		
Shipping (additional baggage $110/bag *2)	-$220		
2018 Conference Expenses		-$1000	
Site visit (to be paid in 2017)	-$500		
Deposit (for 2018 venue)	-$500		
Subtotal Organizational Expenses		-$7570	
Administrative and Clerical Projects	-$1000		
Banking Fees (checks, esp. if we change banks)	-$150		
Online Pay charges (*"Square"@ 2.9% + $.30 per transaction*)	-$860		
Registered Agent Fees (*represent, report, reinstate fees*)	-$150		
Journal ($5 per member per year to Sage)	-$800		
Journal Managing Editor support	-$500		
(*annual meeting attendance & membership if necessary;max $300*)			
Newsletter production and supplies (*$160/issue*3 issues*)	-$480		
Accountancy	-$900		
NJ State Tax Filing Fee & Corporation Fee	-$60		
Postage/supplies (*suitcases;software;records to new treasurer*)	-$500		
Book, Service, and Paper Award Plaques	-$300		
Lindenfeld Award	-$250		
TOTAL 2017 EXPENSES			**-$27, 390**
OVERALL GAIN/LOSS for 2017 (Income minus expenses)			**$ 2085**
ENDING BALANCE as of 12/31/16 (projected)			**$ 36,885**
FRANK LINDENFELD MEMORIAL BALANCE (NOT included in above final balance)			**$ 700**

Summary/Explanation for 2017 Proposed Budget

As with all budgets it is understood that the amounts proposed are estimates. The figures presented in the budget are not, however, mere stabs in the dark. They have come out of discussions with restaurant and catering professionals by FLACSO -Cuba colleagues who are very committed to this project because they have a vested interest in it being successful. Not only do they long to meet and interface with us at our conference, but they hope that a successful result will create more opportunities for them to host other conferences for other scholars.

While considerable effort has gone into constructing a realistic budget, our past practice of securing detailed signed contracts with hotels and other vendors more than a year in advance isn't the norm in Cuba. Havana was frozen in time fifty years ago and at that time it was not a location for holding conferences. It was a resort area. Consequently, hotels tended to be smaller (in the European tradition) without "meeting rooms" or "breakout rooms." Therefore, instead of contracting with a single hotel/venue for all our conference needs, conference participants will make their own lodging arrangements from a list of options near our conference venue at *Collegia de San Geronimo* in Old Havana, ranging from bed and breakfast accommodations running as little as $30 per night or as high as $143/night at the Hotel Ambos Mundos (where Ernest Hemingway used to stay when he was in Havana) just across the street and down a half a block from our conference venue. A list linked to websites for suggested hotel or bed and breakfast accommodations will appear on the AHS website by the end of January, 2017.

Treasurer's Report *continued*

Summary/Explanation for 2017 Proposed Budget *continued*

The line for facility charge on the budget is for the spaces that we will use for lunches, receptions, and the meeting itself at various venues, but primarily for facilities of the University of Havana arranged through FLACSO-Cuba, an organization of Latin American Social Scientists connected to that university.

The registration fee for the conference is a bit higher than previous years, however it will cover two Cuban style buffet lunches (with speakers) and two evening receptions, one of which will feature live Cuban music. In addition, the registration fee ensures that we can support our Cuban colleagues participation at the meeting.

U.S. restrictions on shipping to Cuba (e.g., maximum value of shipped items capped at $200) combined with less than reliable systems within Cuba means that while we will incur costs to get program and other needed conference materials to Cuba they won't be via the usual postal/FedEx channels we've used in the past. Instead the budgeted amount for shipping reflects our best estimate to cover the cost of taking extra baggage (such as a suitcase with the programs in it) as part of officer travel either for the pre-conference site visit in May or to the conference itself.

Additionally, there will be no AV/Technology available unless we take it in personally. The U.S. government has so severely restricted what Cuba (even Cuban scholars and educational institutions) may access through the wall of the blockade, that they will suffer for years to come even after the blockade is finally lifted. For example, items we take for granted, but Cuban scholars typically lack – and dream about include (prices taken from Amazon and not necessarily the best prices available):

HD video projector	$700
Portable video projector	$250
Video projector replacement bulb(s)	$90
Ultra PC laptop(s) suitable for field work	$900
2-pk Black Original Laser Jet Toner (HEWCB435D – 35A CB435D)	$135
12 m HDMI projector cable(s)	$15
Professional wireless microphone	$45
Laser pointers/PowerPoint Remote	$25
Wireless PC mouse	$15
Ultra Slim 4T external hard disk(s)	$130

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"While you are looking, you might as well also listen, linger, and think about what you see."
-Jane Jacobs

For more information.....

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Visit:

www.humanist-sociology.org

To read the Meeting Minutes from Denver 2016, visit:

www.humanist-sociology.org/metting-minutes

If you would like to nominate someone for the Board or Nominations Committee, please email Hephzibah Strmic-Pawl at:

Hephzibah.Strmic-Pawl@mville.edu

For more information about Cuba, visit:

www.humanist-sociology.org/conference-information

For questions about the 2017 AHS Annual Meeting, email:

AHSCuba2017@gmail.com