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PEWS NEWS

Political Economy of the World-System

American Sociological Association

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A Few Words (and Numbers) from the Chair, John

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I'm pleased to be serving as chair of the section for this year. I'd like to take this opportunity to briefly update you on some of the things your section officers will be working on this year.

The big news, which you have already heard, is that we made (barely!) our goal of 400 members this year, which will allow us to once again have three PEWS sessions (in addition to the roundtables) at the 2017 ASA in Montreal. The descriptions of our sessions are included in this newsletter.

Despite the fact that we made 400 members this year, the numbers are somewhat worrying. The ASA website has section membership numbers going back to 2008, and these are the numbers for PEWS:

	Low inc.	Student	Regular	Total
2008	13	134	274	421
2009	15	138	278	431
2010	12	127	247	386
2011	17	153	260	430
2012	14	148	250	412
2013	29	132	253	414
2014	24	140	253	417
2015	21	144	244	409
2016	26	166	220	412

There is a clear trend of decline in the number of regular members. The trend in student membership is less clear, but it seems to be increasing. As of last year, we had lost 30 regular members since 2008 and replaced them with about 10 more student members and 10 more low income members. In addition, the average size of the section shrank by about 10, putting us uncomfortably close to 400. Then, there is a large shift in numbers between last year and this year. We lost 24 regular members and replaced them with 22 student members. We now have 54 fewer regular members than we had in 2008, and 32 more student members. It's too early to tell if this is an acceleration of the trend or just an aberration

This is problematic for a couple of reasons. First, it means somewhat less money to support the *Journal of World-Systems Research*. Regular member dues are \$22, of which \$10 goes to the journal, while student dues are \$8, \$3 of which goes to the journal. If we replace 30 regular members with 30 student members, that is \$210 less for the journal (the total budget is around \$3000 per year). Second, many of the student members get gift memberships during our final membership push in August and September. They may not be very committed to world-systems scholarship and don't get much chance to see what our section is like. They are unlikely to renew their memberships next year, leaving us a bigger hole to fill next August and September when crunch time comes again.

Don't get me wrong; I like having a large student membership. Student members are future regular members. Most of our student members are world-systems scholars and I hope to see them as regular members soon. But we can't maintain our section if we continue to lose regular members and replace them with marginal student members recruited in a last-minute push.

Of course, we are not the only ones in this situation. Other sections also recruit student members at the last minute to make their membership targets; that's why ASA has set up a system to make gift memberships for students so easy. This is obvious to a sociologist: if ASA sets up rules that reward sections with more sessions for hitting certain membership targets, then sections will find a way to hit them, whether or not it is really beneficial to the section in the long run. However, it is not a sustainable strategy to maintain or grow our section.

Therefore, one project that the Council is working on this year is a study to learn more about why people don't join the section, or don't renew their memberships. We are envisioning a survey of PEWS members and members of related sections to ask about their perceptions of PEWS. Many of us have hypotheses about why we have a perennial membership problem; it's time to look at some data.

We are also beginning the long process of searching for a new *JWSR* editorial team. The new team would take over the journal as of January 2020. We need such a long lead time in part because *JWSR* is now an official ASA journal, so everything we do has to be approved by the ASA Publications Committee. We are also hoping to have a new team selected by early 2019,

so that they can familiarize themselves with the journal production process and insure a smooth transition. We hope to be putting out a call for editorial proposals around the time of next year's ASA meeting. We will be searching for an editorial team consisting of the journal editor, a book review editor, and a communications and outreach editor, who would be responsible for publicizing the journal and increasing readership and submissions. Anyone who is interested in learning more can contact me (john.talbot@uwimona.edu.jm), current editor Jackie Smith (jgsmith@pitt.edu) or PEWS Publications Committee chair Jeff Kentor (jeffrey.kentor@wayne.edu).

According to ASA Publications Committee guidelines, 500 is the minimum size for a section to be able to support its own journal, so we are the smallest section of ASA with our own journal. Of course, the guidelines are based on the model of a standard print journal published by a major publisher (Sage, in ASA's case) which charges for subscriptions, and we are a free, open-access journal. We don't feel that the standard guidelines can be applied to us without some modification to allow for our unique situation. Nevertheless, this is another reason why membership is so important. If we fall below 400 members for a couple of years, particularly given our membership trajectory, the ASA Publications Committee is likely to begin questioning whether we can continue to support the journal.

ASA PEWS Sessions for Montreal 2017

Below are the PEWS sessions for the 2017 ASA meeting in Montreal. There will also be a regular session on world-systems, which we get in every odd-numbered year. But we have no control over that session; the ASA Program Committee chooses the organizer. If you are submitting a paper to any open submission session at ASA, be sure to request that, if the paper is not accepted for that session, it is forwarded to the PEWS roundtables, to assure yourself of a place on the program.

The overall theme of our sessions is, how does world-systems analysis help us to understand the current crises, focusing on three aspects: ecological crisis, political crisis of legitimacy, and destabilization of some of the fundamental political-economic structures of the world-system. I expect some excellent papers and stimulating discussions.

‘Women, Nature, and Colonies’: Unpaid Work and World Accumulation, 1492-2017

Organizers: Laura A. McKinney, Tulane University; Jason W. Moore, Binghamton University

The feminist critique of capitalism and social reproduction has long been central to world-systems analysis. And yet, as social and socio-ecological reproduction has returned to center stage in historical social science, there have been few efforts to locate reproduction and unpaid work as central to capitalist development. The proposed panel pursues the line of critique

opened by Maria Mies and Claudia von Werlhof in the 1980s, through which discursive, cultural, and material forms of domination, appropriation, and exploitation constitute the key nexus of world accumulation. Rather than consider gendered and ecological forms of violence and appropriation as discrete domains of historical change, this panel pursues questions opened by world-ecology arguments concerning the centrality of unpaid work/energy – delivered by “women, nature, and colonies” (Mies) – in the history of capitalism, including the 21st century’s unfortunate conjuncture of climate change, financial instability, and an expanding “surplus humanity.”

World-System Disorder

Organizer: Albert Bergesen, University of Arizona

This session seeks papers dealing with the growing global disorder. All topics will be considered. The key is that they deal with furthering our understanding of the general unraveling and spreading disorder that increasingly characterizes our 21st century world-system. Possible topics include the geopolitics of regions such as Russia/Ukraine, civil and proxy wars in the Middle East, boundary disputes in the South China Sea, and the erosion of the North/South divide because of changes in the organization of the global economy.

Populist Politics in the World-System

Organizer: Jennifer Bair, University of Virginia

In a 2016 address to the United Nations, U.S. President Barack Obama expressed concern about the worrying rise of “crude populist” politics in both rich and poor countries. While the candidacy of Donald Trump and the Brexit vote in the U.K. were routinely cited as notable manifestations of this trend, some observers have pointed to the strength of Bernie Sanders’ insurgent campaign for the Democratic nomination as an expression of leftist populism. Meanwhile, debate persists about the relationship between populism and myriad movements of an ethnonationalist and/or religious fundamentalist character.

This panel will examine the wave of populist politics breaking across the world-system. We invite papers that explore, among others, the following questions: How do today’s populist politics differ in form, content and scope from those of the past? How do they relate to questions of hegemonic transition? What is the relationship between populist movements in different parts of the world-system? And are the prevailing conceptions of populism even adequate for understanding contemporary social and political developments, or do they need to be reformulated?

PEWS Roundtables and Business Meeting

Roundtable organizers: Samantha K. Fox, Binghamton University; Marilyn Grell, Universite de Neuchatel

Conference Announcements:

PEWS 2017: CALL FOR PAPERS

The theme of the 41st Annual Conference on the Political Economy of the World-System (PEWS) is “Migration in the World-system.” The conference will be held at Texas A&M University (College Station, TX, USA) on April 28-29, 2017. Paper proposals (around 3-500 words) should be sent by October 15, 2016 to Denis O’Hearn (PEWS17@tamu.edu).

One of the most important processes in the formation and reformation of the world-system is the movement of people. The contemporary media is filled with accounts of Syria, where nearly five million people have migrated to other countries and more than six million are displaced within Syria. In North America, a presidential campaign is dominated by rhetoric of the dangers imposed by migrants from the Global South and East and a perceived “need” to close borders by walls and other means. In Europe, a liberalized policy to allow free movement of people among countries within the EU is under threat. Of course, this is hardly a new phenomenon but just the latest episode in an ongoing history of migration and resistance to migration. The 41st conference of the PEWS section of the ASA seeks to examine the role of migration in the changing world-system by examining the following themes:

1) gender, race, ethnicity and migration

A recent issue of the *Journal of World-systems Research* called for reconceptualizations in how we understand the racial or ethnic dimensions of exploitation in the world-capitalist system. Transformations in world capitalism, it is argued, pose new challenges to Western theories of race. The same might be said for theories of gendered dimensions of exploitation and social formation. How do gender, race and ethnicity shape the patterns of migration in the world-system? And, in turn, how do the gendered and racialized patterns of migration shape the economic institutions, politics, and cultures of the places to which people move and from where they move? How does this challenge our conceptualizations of gender, race, and ethnicity?

2) political conflict and migration

One of the most persistent features of the world-system is the emergence and re-emergence of wars and other forms of conflict and violence. This always causes the displacement of people, as we have so recently seen in the mass movements of people within the Middle East and from the Middle East to Europe, or from conflicted regions of Central and South America to the North. How are patterns of political conflict in the world-system related to the movements of people? And, in turn, how does such movement affect the world-economy, the interstate system, and their parts?

3) migration in history from 1492 (and before)

How has migration related to patterns of change of the capitalist world-system. To what extent is population movement patterned or not and does this make a difference in how we understand the development of world capitalism and its divisions of labor? How has migration mitigated or exacerbated environmental crises and problems associated with maintaining the “four cheaps” of labor-power, food, energy, and raw materials? Why, despite repeated attempts by governments to regulate it and economists to pronounce it “unnecessary” for global accumulation, has migration been so persistent?

4) impact of migration on localities such as Texas

One of the most important aspects of migration is the impact it has on the localities or regions to which people move. Nowhere is this more obvious than in a region like Texas and the US Southwest, where this conference is being held. Among the most obvious changes are those concerning the division of labor in and the economic structures of regions such as Texas. But migration also produces long term changes in the politics of such localities and regions. Texas, for example, is undergoing a rapid demographic shift that may completely change its place in US politics. German politics have been profoundly changed by generations of migration from Turkey/Kurdistan. How have migrations affected regional and local divisions of labor in the world-system, as well as the political/cultural transformations of those regions?



The 38th Annual Hawai'i Sociological Association Conference

February 25-26, 2017 • Windward Community College, Kanē'ohe, Hawai'i

Call for Papers

Land, Sea, and Food: Sociology and Environmental Change

Our conference theme this year highlights the link between changes in our ecosystems, social inequalities, and food production. Studying both global policies and local activism, social scientists have renewed attention to food systems, addressing government involvement and corporate control over food policies as well as recent developments of communities taking control of their food supplies. Sociological research on environmental and food justice is increasingly addressing how race, ethnicity, class, and gender inequalities inform the interrelationship between economics, politics, culture and food. For island societies and indigenous communities, effective policies governing agriculture production and distribution and land and ocean resources are needed globally. Climate change is forcing families to relocate from their homes disrupting cultures, food access and practices, and livelihoods. Laws governing oceans and seas are currently in transformation as corporations seek to increase deep-sea mining in an underwater land grab that can harm marine resources which many island populations depend upon for sustenance. In the Pacific's "sea of islands" and throughout the globe, groups, organizations, and communities are developing strategies and avenues to reclaim environment and address ecological shifts forced upon them by global capitalist expansion.

We welcome papers that present analysis on how economic systems, culture, society, and private and public institutions are shaping and responding to climate change, organizing food production and consumption, or affecting the livability and sustainability of our planet for all beings. Research papers that focus on a single community, social group, or institution, or untangle the relationships among various scales - global, national, community, or island - are encouraged. We invite participants from a range of disciplines that can support social science insight for advancing social and environmental justice, sustaining the health of the kai (sea) and 'aina (land), and provide a basis for social action.

Submission are open to all sociological related topics and do not have to relate to the conference theme. Papers and sessions on teaching methodologies and professional development (e.g. non-academic careers in sociology, preparing for the job market, graduate school, the tenure track) are welcomed. For more information on how to submit an abstract go to:

www.HawaiiSociologicalAssociation.Org

Keynote Speaker: Ivy Ken, Associate Professor, George Washington University
 "Powdered Potatoes on Chiloé: Corporate Intrusion into School Food in Chile"

Important Dates: Abstract Submission Deadline — November 21, 2016
 Notification of Acceptance — December 22, 2016
 Payment deadline for low-cost accommodations at Lincoln Hall at the East West Center: December 20, 2016 (transportation from East-West Center to Conference venue will be covered with conference registration)

PEWS AWARDS 2016

PEWS Distinguished Book Award:

Jason Moore, *Capitalism in the Web of Life*, Verso 2015

Jason Moore's book offers us an outline of a new paradigm for understanding the relationship between capitalism and the environment, which he calls world ecology. He argues that we have not yet fully transcended the dualism of Society and Nature; we still tend to think of society as acting on the environment to produce environmental problems. He bases his paradigm on the concept of the *oikeios*, "the creative, generative and multi-layered relation of species and environment." (p. 4) Thus, "historical change – including the present as history – must be understood through dialectical movements of humans making environments, and environments making humans." (p. 28) He calls this relationship the "double internality." One implication is that the existence of historical capitalism implies the existence of historical nature, as they co-evolve. Further, human conceptualizations of "the environment" are part of the process of "making the world legible for capital accumulation." (p. 199) The Society/Nature dualism itself facilitated capitalism's appropriation of value from the non-human elements of the *oikeios*. Finally, the environment does not set limits on the development of capitalism. Rather, what we face today is a crisis of capitalism as a project of organizing nature. Moore does not present this work as a fully developed paradigm, but "as a series of proposals and reflections on how to move beyond the Cartesian dualism" (p. 28) in order to gain a deeper understanding of the current crisis. There are many more provocative and fruitful proposals in the book than can be sketched here. In our opinion, this is a major contribution that will influence the work of social scientists for many years to come.

PEWS Article Award:

The 2016 recipient of the PEWS Article Award goes to Matthew Mahutga for his paper "Global Models of Networked Organization, the Positional Power of Nations, and Economic Development," which appears in the *Review of International Political Economy*. Matthew's paper is path breaking along both theoretical and methodological grounds, offering a novel synthesis of ideas developed in the global commodity chains, global value chains, and global production networks literature. Specifically, Matthew applies firm-level theories about bargaining power in buyer-driven and producer-driven industries to understand developmental trajectories among nation-states. Using network data on international trade in the garment and transportation equipment industries, Matthew finds that a country's positional power in these networks almost fully accounts for observed wage differentials between world-system zones. Members of the PEWS community will benefit greatly from reading this study as it significantly advances our understanding of today's global political economy.

PEWS Awards continued...

Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper Award

We congratulate **Benjamin Marley, the 2016 recipient of the Terence K. Hopkins Student Paper award.** His article, “The Coal Crisis in Appalachia: Agrarian Transformation, Commodity Frontiers, and the Geographies of Capital” published in the *Journal of Agrarian Change* 2015, contributes a historically grounded socio-ecological approach to understanding the coal crisis in Appalachia’s central coal fields. Seeking to move beyond what Marley describes as the “energetic fetishism” of more recent scholarship on energy commodities (p.2), he draws on the concept of commodity frontiers to demonstrate the dialectical relationship between agrarian and energy frontiers that shape the geographical movement of capital, labor and resources in often contradictory ways. Premised on the under-reproduction strategies that allowed capital to appropriate the unpaid work of nature (including humans) (p. 4), Marley argues that the rise of the coal commodity frontier was at the same time a product and producer of far-reaching environmental transformation tied to agrarian change, political ecology of development, an expanding world-economy and competing fuel frontiers over the long twentieth century (p.7). In this case, the rise of an agrarian frontier in the Midwest and the exhaustion of the Appalachian agrarian frontier in the nineteenth century coupled with capital’s under-reproduction strategies, allowed for the rise of the coal frontier. Yet, these strategies would also translate into the reconfiguration of production and reproduction that cut into the subsistence needs of humans and the rest of nature as evident by the long-term intractable poverty and environmental devastation that would plague the region by the 1950s, particularly as other energy sources became substitutable and competitive. Marley has effectively demonstrated that geographies and ecologies of difference in relation to regional commodity production matter. They can either enable or constrain capital’s ability to appropriate and exploit the abundance of wealth available in a given region.

Honorable Mention:

Camba, Alvin Almendrala. 2015. "From colonialism to neoliberalism: Critical reflections on Philippine mining in the “long twentieth century”." *The Extractive Industries and Society* 2(2): 287-301.

Camba develops a historical within case comparison of different mining regimes in the Philippines. He covers an impressive amount of territory by analyzing the late colonial period, state-led development, authoritarianism, and neoliberalism into the contemporary period. The study makes links between the rhythms of global capital and local mining in each historical epoch. This is an impressive empirical account of processes that are often discussed in very abstract and conceptual terms. Camba convincingly demonstrates that the relentless extraction of precious and base metals from the Philippine subsoil is only possible by the availability of

“cheap nature” or the subsidies received to mining capital from rivers, forests, and super-exploited labor. He also provides a powerful case study highlighting the eco-socialist perspective of capitalism undermining its own conditions of production via pollution and exhaustion of land use. The research combines mixed methods of archival data and historical mapping with extensive field research at multiple mining sites in several geographic regions. In summary, the study provides a powerful model for others doing historical comparative work on the links between global capital and local resource extraction.

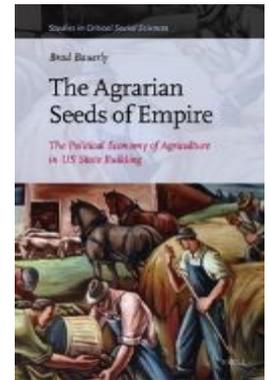
Alvin Camba has been selected for the inaugural pre-dissertation fellowship from the Southeast Asian Research Group. <http://seareg.org/>

Publications

Books

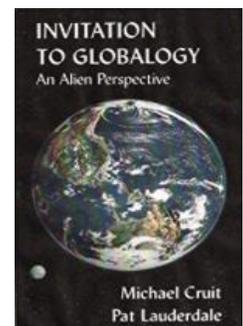
Bauerly, Brad. 2016. *The Agrarian Seeds of Empire: The Political Economy of Agriculture in US State Building*. Brill: Boston.

The *Agrarian Seeds of Empire* outlines the influence of agrarian movements on the process of US institutional capacity building between 1840-1980. It reveals how out of the mix of the developing new Nation and the expanding capitalist system emerged strong farmer’s movements and rural class struggle. In response emerged strong state building processes that would be central to American political development as the forces of state building and social movements converged to produce agro-industrialization. This agro-industrial developmental project was instrumental in both the development of the industrial food system and the US Empire as the institutional capacities and model of agro-industrial development were used to impose the same project outside of the US. These findings link together and augment existing approaches to capitalist development, American Political Development, International Relations, and theories of the state and the food system.



Cruit, Michael and Pat Lauderdale. 2016. *Invitation to Globalology and Hegemony*. Phoenix, AZ: SRI Press.

Invitation to Globalology reveals that the Earth’s global community — flora and fauna, including humans — has moved into new and possibly dangerous territory. The best way to explore this new territory is from a global perspective. This book presents a refreshing analysis of the intersections among consumerism, education, drug consumption, wars, and neoliberalism, the symbiotic connections among these areas and the current climate change of the planet. The text is rooted in exploring factual realities of these important issues and intersections as the authors give us a unique interdisciplinary global view.



Deonandan, Kalowatie and Michael L. Dougherty (Eds., 2016) *Mining in Latin America: Critical Approaches to the New Extraction*. Routledge: London.

The last two decades have witnessed a dramatic expansion and intensification of mineral resource exploitation and development across the global south, especially in Latin America. This shift has brought mining more visibly into global public debates and spurred a great deal of controversy and conflict. This volume assembles new scholarship that provides critical perspectives on these issues.

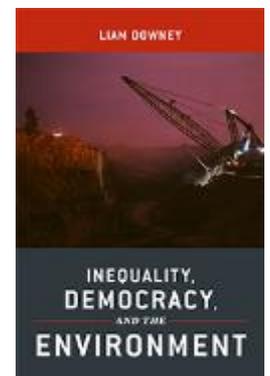
The book marshals original, empirical work from leading social scientists in a variety of disciplines to address a range of questions about the practices of mining companies on the ground, the impacts of mining on host communities, and the responses to mining from communities, civil society and states. The book further explores the global and international causes, consequences and innovations of this new era of mining activity in Latin America. Key issues include the role of Canadian mining companies and their investment in the region, and, to a lesser extent, the role of Chinese mining capital. Several chapters take a regional perspective, while others are based on empirical data from specific countries including Bolivia, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru.



Downey, Liam. 2015. *Inequality, Democracy, and the Environment*. New York University Press. ISBN: 9781479843794.

*Recipient of the ASA Environmental and Technology Section's Alan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award.

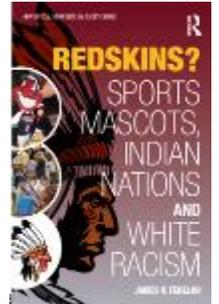
The world currently faces many severe social and environmental crises. Using a novel theoretical argument developed by the author, *Inequality, Democracy, and the Environment* sheds new light on the structural causes of these crises and explains how they are linked to each other. Specifically, Downey argues that these crises are to a significant degree the product of organizational, institutional, and network-based inequality, which provides economic, political, military, and ideological elites with the means to develop and control organizational networks and undemocratic institutions that they use to achieve environmentally and socially harmful goals in the face of resistance from others. To demonstrate the validity and widespread applicability of his theoretical argument, Downey presents a series of case studies that (a) highlight several of the world's most important elite-controlled organizations, institutions, and networks and (b) show that these organizations, institutions, and networks play a key role in shaping some of the world's most critical human, social, and environmental crises. These case studies further demonstrate that undemocratic and elite controlled organizations, institutions, and networks as diverse as the World Bank, agricultural commodity chains, policy planning networks, the military, and the news media



belong to a single category of social mechanism that is responsible for much of the social and environmental devastation the world currently experiences.

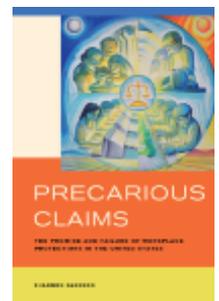
Fenelon, James V. 2016. *Redskins? Sports Mascots, Indian Nations and White Racism*. Routledge. ISBN-13: 978-1612057408.

This book assesses the controversies over the Washington NFL team name as a window into other recent debates about the use of Native American mascots for professional and college sports teams. Fenelon explores the origin of team names in institutional racism and mainstream society's denial of the impact of four centuries of colonial conquest. Fenelon's analysis is supported by his surveys and interviews about the "Redskins" name and Cleveland "Indians" mascot "Chief Wahoo." A majority of Native peoples see these mascots as racist, including the National Congress of American Indians—even though mainstream media and public opinion claim otherwise. Historical analysis divulges these terms as outgrowths of "savage" and "enemy icon" racist depictions of Native nations. The book ties the history of conquest to idealized claims of democracy, freedom, and "honoring" sports teams.



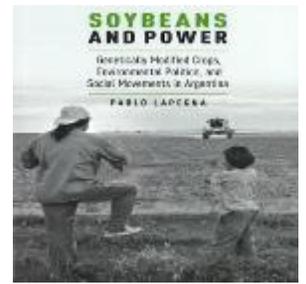
Gleeson, Shannon. 2016. *Precarious Claims: The Promise and Failure of Workplace Protections in the United States*. University of California Press. doi: <http://doi.org/10.1525/luminos.19>.

Precarious Claims tells the human story behind the bureaucratic process of fighting for justice in the U.S. workplace. The global economy has fueled vast concentrations of wealth that have driven a demand for cheap and flexible labor. Workplace violations such as wage theft, unsafe work environments, and discrimination are widespread in low-wage industries such as retail, restaurants, hospitality, and domestic work, where jobs are often held by immigrants and other vulnerable workers. How and why do these workers, despite enormous barriers, come forward to seek justice, and what happens once they do? Based on extensive fieldwork in Northern California, Gleeson investigates the array of gatekeepers with whom workers must negotiate in the labor standards enforcement bureaucracy and, ultimately, the limited reach of formal legal protections. The author also tracks how workplace injustices—and the arduous process of contesting them—carry long-term effects on their everyday lives. Workers sometimes win, but their chances are precarious at best.



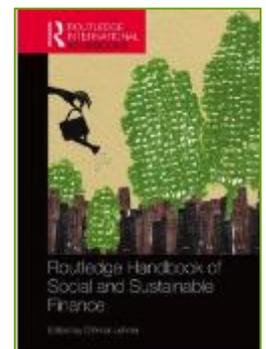
Lapegna, Pablo. 2016. *Soybeans and Power: Genetically Modified Crops, Environmental Politics, and Social Movements in Argentina*. New York: Oxford University Press. <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/soybeans-and-power-9780190215149?lang=en&cc=us#>.

In *Soybeans and Power*, Pablo Lapegna investigates the ways in which rural populations have coped with GM soybean expansion in Argentina. Based on over a decade of ethnographic research, Lapegna reveals that many communities initially resisted, yet ultimately adapted to the new agricultural technologies forced upon them by public officials. However, rather than painting the decline of the protests in an exclusively negative light, Lapegna argues that the farmers played an active role in their own demobilization, switching to tactics of negotiation and accommodation in order to maneuver the situation to their advantage. Lapegna offers a rare, on the ground glimpse into the life cycle of a social movement, from mobilization and protest to demobilization and resigned acceptance. Through the case study of Argentina, a major player in the use and export of GM crops, *Soybeans and Power* gives voice to the communities most adversely affected by GM technology, as well as the strategies that they have enacted in order to survive.



Pitluck, Aaron Z. 2016. "The Convergence Paradox of Islamic Finance: A Sociological Reinterpretation, with Insights for Proponents of Social Finance." Pp. 364-380 in *Routledge Handbook of Social and Sustainable Finance*, edited by O. Lehner. Basingstoke: Routledge.

Routledge Handbook of Social and Sustainable Finance brings together an international cast of leading authorities to map out and display the disparate voices, traditions and professional communities engaged in social finance activity. With a clear societal or environmental mission, foundations, individual and group investors, as well as public bodies around the world have become increasingly eager to finance and support innovative forms of doing business. Together, founders and established businesses alike are embracing new sustainable business models with a distinct stakeholder approach to tackle social or environmental problems in what they see as a failed economic system in crisis. As a result, the topic of social and sustainable finance is at the forefront of financial economic thought. This Handbook is divided up into three parts. The first, 'The Landscape of Social and Sustainable Finance and Investments', comprises of chapters from a multitude of perspectives in an effort to grasp the entirety of the landscape. The second, 'Challenges, Suggestions, Critiques and Debates', focuses on areas ranging from sociological underpinnings to critical takes on markets, and the identification of specialized business models. Amongst ethical considerations, topics include the scaling of impact, an analysis of sustainability as risk prevention and comparative analyses of various methods of justification and measurement. In the third and final section, 'Markets and Institutions', contributions range from various perspectives on sustainable banking to environmental marketplaces, and finally on to practical cases and country specific observations. This volume is essential reading for both academics and students in economics and finance. It is also of interest to those who study environmental economics, microeconomics and banking.



Articles

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Karl Polanyi: with preface ‘Socialism and the embedded economy,’” *Theory and Society*. DOI: 10.1007/s11186-016-9276-9. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11186-016-9276-9>

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Journal of World-Systems Research: Assessing our Impact

As PEWS members may know, it has only been a year since our section’s journal, the *Journal of World-Systems Research* began publishing with the support of a professional online journal platform. Before that time, the journal was published independently, produced and supported by editorial teams and based on different internet servers. Under the current editorial team, we’ve worked to systematize the journal’s procedures and help make the journal more visible on search engines and research indices. This has not been an easy process, and we are grateful for your patience as we work through some of the obstacles.

The online system, operated by librarians in the University of Pittsburgh's Library System, enables us to better track submissions and to monitor the usage of published pieces. For each published item, users can see the number of abstract and full text views, and this data is provided by Plum Analytics, which is working to provide innovative metrics to assess scholarly research published in digital form. Please note that while the data for content published since summer 2015 is accurate, any content published prior to our shift to this publishing platform will not have full usage counts, since the system is currently only tracking the newly assigned URL. We are currently working to integrate the previous URLs into this tracking system. Stay tuned for updates on this process.

Our editorial team has also been working to make more effective use of social media to promote the journal, and this seems to have some effect, based on a rather limited set of observations. Our number of Facebook members has doubled to more than 400 over the past year. Tanya Golash-Boza's piece in the recent issue, "The Parallels of Mass Incarceration and Mass Deportation," has already generated 426 shares/likes and comments on social media and 536 Full text views. We had featured this paper on the JWSR/PEWS Facebook page and she also shared it on her own page. Thus, it seems that authors can help generate interest in journal content, and we hope to be able to do more to make use of our social media tools. You can directly track articles in the JWSR and other journals by going to <https://plu.mx/pitt>. To link directly to JWSR, visit: <https://plu.mx/pitt/g/journals/issn-1076156x?selectedFilterIds=artifactType.countType%3AARTICLE>.

Another feature of the journal is occasional symposia on critical themes, and the Winter/Spring 2016 symposium, "Race in the Capitalist World-System" generated considerable attention. Ramon Grosfoguel's essay, "'What is Racism,'" was particularly popular, generating 1689 views overall, which basically dwarfed all the other pieces in that issue. Two other essays in that symposium had over 500 views. Another noteworthy article from the same issue is Sharae Deckard's "World Ecology and Ireland: The Neoliberal Ecological Regime," which was published in our special issue on Ireland in the World-System and had 706 total views. I believe that topical symposia can be helpful in drawing readers to our journal and encouraging a more diverse audience to read the journal's other content, and over time we will be better able to see whether or not this is so.

Finally, I provide an update on the submissions and other relevant data for 2015-2016. Please note that we are still in a transition period in regard to the new system, and we are working to ensure that our counts are accurate. But since this year we've been uploading archives and learning the nuts and bolts of the system, some errors may exist in this report, particularly in regard to submissions/acceptance rates. **Total usage:** For 2016 (this includes Volume 22, Issues 1 and 2) JWSR had 4,219 Abstract views; 7, 858 full text views and 1237 HTML views (as of October 10, 2016). **Submissions:** 38 research articles submitted for peer review have completed

the peer review process. This does not count articles that were re-submitted and remain under review or articles reviewed and given a revise and resubmit decision. This is up from previous years, which hovered around 30 submissions. The acceptance rate for this pool of 38 papers was 68%, but note that that figure does not include revise and resubmit decisions (we are working to set up the system tracking to help us account for this). The length of our review process remains within our targeted average of 12 weeks or less, and we hope—with the help of PEWS section reviewers—to maintain this respectable turn-around time.

I must end with a plea for help. We run our journal mainly through volunteer help, and we need more support to keep up the high quality of the journal while extending our reach. Our over-worked editorial team is doing its best to track the impacts of the journal and to improve our reach to a diverse, global audience. We need your help to spread the word about the journal and to encourage high quality research submissions. We are also looking for help from a PEWS member interested in serving as our **Communications and Outreach Editor**. This new role replaces the previous Technical Editor, and will help us enhance the journal's impact and our connection with Section members. Please get in touch with us if you're interested in learning more about this position, which is described in more detail below (jwsr@pitt.edu). We also welcome volunteer reviewers, copyeditors, and translators.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

JWSR Communications and Outreach Editor

The communications and outreach director is responsible for helping maintain regular contact with PEWS section members and other volunteers who help support the Journal as volunteer copy editors, translators, and reviewers. In addition to recruiting volunteers and supporting their involvement in the journal, this editor helps advance the journal's work to educate both PEWS members and a broader audience about the political importance of Open Access publishing and translation. Working alongside the other editors, this person will develop a plan for sustained, quality open access publishing, within our limited financial means. Our aim is to keep the JWSR free to readers and contributors, and this will depend upon raising resources and volunteer support from a variety of sources.

The second major task of for the communications and outreach director is to lead the work of promoting the journal through a variety of professional and other networks and social media, with the aim of enhancing the journal's visibility with diverse audiences around the world. In both of these roles, this editor will have the support of other editorial team members, including the managing editor, as well as a team of PEWS section volunteers who regularly assist with communications and outreach. The communications and outreach editor will also support other members of the editorial team in the production work for each issue. Please contact jwsr@pitt.edu for more information.

**Thank you for all those that contributed to this issue. Look
for the Spring Issue of PEWS NEWS in April 2017.**

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