1983

1983 General Correspondence

American Society of Criminology. Division on Women and Crime

Phyllis Jo Baunach

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A belated Happy New Year. Nanci Wilson and I would like to welcome the newly elected officers and members of the Executive Board to the administration of the Division on Women and Crime. We look forward to working with you over the next year and a half. I further wanted to let you know a few things.

The planning for the November annual meeting is underway. I got a green light from Joe Scott, Program Chair, to plan 10 - 15 panels on issues related to women and crime. However, I have only two possibilities thus far. In order to have top-notch panels, we all have to beat the bushes and recruit not only panel topics and presenters. If you have organized a panel yourself last year, you may want to let someone else do that this year; however, please submit abstracts. In addition, tell your colleagues, encourage your friends to participate in this year's program.

I must have panels formed and information to Joe no later than May 1st. That means I should have all the information in mid-April to make some choices. Abstracts are due March 1--according to the latest program call for papers. Let me know of your interest and the interests of others we can contact.

We will sponsor a cocktail party again this year with the International Division. I am working on getting all the panels to be non-overlapping, as we have done in the past. In addition, I am working on getting a time slot for the business meeting that does not conflict with our panels. This is all in the formative planning stages, so nothing definite on either of these goals yet.

Nanci has mailed out the newsletter; you should receive a copy soon. If not, let her know.

I have received a few requests for information on memberships--we are making headway.

Finally, my new address is: Phyllis Jo Baunach, Ph.D.
Statistician
Bureau of Justice Statistics
Room 1158-D
633 Indiana Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20531
phone: 202/724-7759/7760

Let me know how you are doing.
PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW AWARD IN THE ASC
Prepared by Ira Silverman and Nanci Koser Wilson

I. Introduction: At last year's Division meetings we were charged with preparing a proposal for consideration of a new award to honor contributions to the topic matter of the Division on Women and Crime. This proposal is internal to the Division and does not constitute a recommendation to the ASC at this time.

II. Description of the Proposed Award: The award will recognize a significant contribution that may focus on the interplay of gender and criminal behavior, or victim vulnerability, or work place, practices, and policies in the field of criminal justice. Works which link theoretical exposition with public policy considerations will be especially sought for this award. The contributions may be either a single work, a series of articles, or an outstanding research project.

III. Rationale for the Award: Several years ago (1977), Harris noted that a major failure of criminology has been the exclusion of sex variable as a central focus in theorizing. This exclusion, he argued, "means that purportedly general theories of criminal deviance are now no more than special theories of male deviance." The research completed in the intervening years demonstrates the fruitfulness of the gender variable in explicating major facts regarding crime generally. This award, like the Sellin-Glueck Award for the outstanding contribution to international criminology, will help encourage significant scholarly work dealing with both dimensions of the sex variable. In this respect, it will broaden our understanding of how gender relates to offense patterns, victimization, and policies, practices, and practitioner-related issues in the criminal justice system. The establishment of this award as one given by the Society as a whole, rather than just the Division on Women and Crime, will emphasize the importance of this area to criminology as a whole, and the Society's commitment to a fuller understanding of its significance.
Drsse. Shoolstein
Omn. of Justice
Penn Stat W.
University Park, PA 16802

(84) 863-1190

Will work on committee or other business till August, 1986
November 18, 1983

Dear Chris,

Enclosed is the revised Constitution and By-Laws. I have incorporated the changes you noted as well as a few of my own based on discussions with others.

If this is ok or if you have any changes, would you please go over this and mail me your response as soon as possible—but definitely before Christmas. I must get this to Sarah—she has the Constitution on her word processor and can make changes quickly and get this out to the members for consideration.

Am looking into the journal issue, when nominations are due, getting stationery for our Division, and planning panels for next year's meeting. Will let you know how these progress.

It’s fun to work with you! And it was great to see you in Denver. I look forward to continuing this project with you.

Finally—if you want to chair a panel or know of anyone else who wants to do so, please let me know as quickly as possible—I want to get my bid of 16 panels in quickly.

Best wishes in this joyous holiday season.

Warmly,

Phyllis Jo Baunach, Ph.D.
Statistician, BJS
Chairperson, Division on Women and Crime of ASC
CONSTITUTION FOR THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

I. Name
The name of the organization shall be the Division on Women and Crime of the
American Society of Criminology, hereafter referred to as the Division.

II. Purpose and Objectives:

The Division on Women and Crime will be a constituent unit of The American
Society of Criminology and will function in accordance with the Constitution, bylaws
and policies of that Society.

The purposes and objectives are:

A. To bring together ASC members of both sexes interested in discussing issues
related to women of all ages who are professionals, victims and/or offenders
in the criminal justice system.

B. To facilitate and encourage research and theory development about women of
all ages as professionals, victims and/or offenders in the criminal justice
system.

C. To encourage appropriate and effective teaching techniques and practices and
to stimulate the development of curricula for courses on women and crime.

D. To serve as a resource network for and encourage interaction among academic,
research, practitioner and policy-making sectors in order to further the
understanding of problems faced by women of all ages who are professionals,
victims and/or offenders in the criminal justice system and their means of
resolution.

E. To organize conference sessions related to issues on women and crime.

III. Functions of the Division:

A. The Division will work with the ASC Program Committee to organize sessions on
women and crime at the Annual Meeting of The American Society of Criminology.

B. The Division will publish a newsletter at least twice a year.

C. The Division will hold its annual meeting at the time of the Annual Meeting
of The American Society of Criminology. This meeting will include brief
reports by each committee and discussion of issues raised by the membership.

Robert's Rules of Order will be followed in conducting meetings.

In conducting business, a quorum will consist of one-fifth of the Division's
members in good standing. In voting, decisions will be on the basis of a simple
majority.

IV. Membership:

Membership in this Division will be open to all American Society of Criminology
members in good standing. Members in good standing who have paid Divisional dues
will be considered eligible for voting at Divisional meetings, for election of
Divisional officers and eligible to hold office.
A. The following offices will be a part of this Division:

1. Chairperson
   a. The Chairperson will provide executive direction for the Division and will preside over Division meetings.
   b. The Chairperson will serve as a liaison with the Annual American Society of Criminology Program Chairperson to ensure the inclusion of panels relating to issues on women and crime on the program.
   c. The Chairperson will be elected by Division members and will serve for two years. However, the Chairperson elected for the first time will serve for three years. This will ensure that all officers are not elected at the same time following the first election.

2. Vice-Chairperson
   a. The Vice-Chairperson will preside over Division meetings in the absence of the Chairperson and shall be empowered to conduct all necessary business of the Division if the office of Chairperson is vacant or if the Chairperson is disabled.
   b. The Vice-Chairperson will be responsible for the creation, publication and dissemination of the Division Newsletter.
   c. The Vice-Chairperson will be elected by Division members and will serve for two years.

3. Secretary
   a. The Secretary will keep the records and minutes of the Division.
   b. The Secretary will maintain contact with the Treasurer of The American Society of Criminology who will maintain a separate account in The American Society of Criminology Treasury for the Division. The Secretary will make sure the Division is informed of the Division's balance, debts, credits, etc. and financial issues that may arise.
   c. The Secretary will record minutes of each meeting of the Division and will forward a copy to each of the other two officers and to the Executive Board.
   d. The Secretary will serve as the Chairperson of the Membership Committee.
   e. The Secretary will be elected by Division members and will serve for two years.

B. Nominees and elected officers must be members of the Division in good standing.

C. The terms of office for each incoming officer will begin with the close of the Annual Meeting, following her/his election. Elected officers may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms in the same office.
There will be an Executive Board comprised of the Division's current officers, immediate past Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and three executive counselors nominated and elected by members of the Division at the Annual Meeting. A plurality of votes of those present will determine the winners. This Board will form policies for the Division, provide advice and decide the budget for the Division, and select committee members by majority vote.

Executive Counselors will serve a one year term and may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms in this office.

- Committees:

A. Program Committee: The Program Committee will consist of the Division Chairperson and two other members of the Division in good standing. The Division Chairperson will serve as liaison to the Program Committee of The American Society of Criminology.

B. Membership Committee: The Membership Committee will consist of the Division Secretary as Chair and two other members of the Division in good standing. This Committee will solicit new members and update the membership list as needed.

C. Newsletter Committee: The Newsletter Committee will consist of the Vice-Chairperson of the Division as chair and two other members of the Division in good standing. This Committee will obtain items for publications and compile the newsletter at least twice a year. The newsletter will include, at a minimum, minutes of the previous Annual Division meeting, summaries of committee reports, election results, call for nominations, information pertaining to the upcoming Annual Meeting.

This Committee will also develop other information, such as a list of names and addresses of persons engaged in various types of research on women and crime, and will disseminate this material in response to requests from the field.

D. The membership of these committees will be determined by the Executive Board and announced at the Annual Meeting of the Division. Committee members will serve for one year and may be reappointed.
Dues:

Initial annual dues will be five dollars ($5.00), subject to the approval of the Executive Board of The American Society of Criminology, and will be due at the time annual dues to The American Society of Criminology are paid.

Amending the Constitution and Bylaws:

1. Amendments may be proposed by any member of the Division, but the written support of a fifth of the Divisional membership in good standing is required for a further action.

2. A qualified proposal for amendment, determined qualified by the Executive Board, will be approved when it receives a two-thirds vote by mail ballot submitted to members in good standing. The Nominations Committee will manage the distribution and counting of ballots. The results will be reported to the Chair of the Division and the Executive Board.

3. Approved amendments shall take effect two months after the next Annual Meeting of The American Society of Criminology. Amendments are subject to the approval of The American Society of Criminology Executive Board.
I. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

A. Officers:

The Chairperson will appoint a Nominations Committee consisting of two people who are members of the Division in good standing. This committee will receive names in nomination for each office to be vacant. From these names the Division's Executive Board will select two names to be included on the ballot for each office. These names will be forwarded to the ASC Central Office for inclusion on the ballot. Completed ballots will be returned to the ASC Central Office and counted by members who count the ASC ballots.

The ASC Central Office will notify the Division chairperson of election results. Results will be published in the Division newsletter. Voting will be limited to Division members in good standing.

B. Executive Counselors:

Executive Counselors will be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Division. Nominations will be taken by the Chairperson from the floor. A plurality of votes of those present will determine the winners.

II. BUSINESS MEETINGS:

A. RULES OF ORDER:

Robert's Rules of Order will be used in conducting meetings.

B. Quorum:

In conducting business, a quorum will consist of one-fifth of the Division's members in good standing. In voting, decisions will be on the basis of a simple majority.
MEMO TO: Division on Women and Crime Officers and Executive Board
FROM: Phyllis Jo Baumach, Chairperson
DATE: December 2, 1983
SUBJECT: Update from the Chair

I hope that you all enjoyed the conference and arrived home safely to further enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday.

The purpose of this brief memo is to provide you with an update of what I have been doing since the conference.

1) Letter to Sarah Hall: Enclosed is a letter to Sarah outlining a number of items that we discussed at ASC that require her response. Rather than reiterating them here I refer you to the letter for details. Topics include: letterhead, banquet tickets, nominations and elections for the Division, solicitation of list of committee members for ASC committees and constitution changes.

2) I called Joe Weis in Washington state. Joe said he has not yet taken over as the Editor of CRIMINOLOGY formally and won't until next spring. Thus, he felt it was too early to commit himself to an entire issue devoted to any topic. He said he was not sure that he would want to allow an entire issue to be devoted to one topic but would think about it. I indicated that one advantage to him from a practical standpoint is that that would be one less issue to worry about. In addition, he said very firmly that he would not want to relinquish his role as editor for any issue. From his response, I think he is ardent in this stance on the editorship.

He did, however, say that even if he decided against allowing an issue to be devoted to a single topic, he would consider having more than one article in an issue on a single topic.

I will call him in the spring to touch base again and see where he stands. We may be able to get a whole issue for issues on women and crime.

Comments?

3) I sent letters to Freda and Barbara Price asking them formally to serve on our Nominations Committee.

4) Based on our discussions, I revised the constitution and sent it off to Chris Rasche for her review and comments before Christmas so that we can get it out to the membership as quickly as possible. I will send you all copies once she provides comments.

5) It is never too early to start planning for next year's ASC conference. We have 16 panel slots allocated for women and crime issues. If you would like to organize a session or know someone who does, please don't be bashful. I would like to have all the panels assembled— as least structurally—by February.
I am also working on developing a plenary session on women who have been successful in the criminal justice system. Barbara Price and Rita Warren have agreed to participate and I am in the process of getting approval from Lois Herrington, who was the Director of the President's Task Force on Victims and is now currently Director of the Office of Justice Assistance Research and Statistics (OJARS), which is the umbrella agency for BJS. Other suggestions?

Well, that's all from this end. Please provide any comments, questions and thoughts. They are always welcomed.

My very best wishes for a most joyous and blessed holiday season.
November 28, 1983

Phyllis Jo Baunach, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Division on
Women and Crime of ASC
12203 Winder Place
Ft. Washington, Maryland 20744

Ms. Sarah Hall,
Administrator
American Society of Criminology
1314 Kinnear Road
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Dear Sarah,

Pursuant to our recent phone discussion, the following are the bases for future discussions:

1) At the annual business meeting of the Division, we discussed the mock up letterhead you provided. The Division voted unanimously to obtain letterhead and envelopes. Enclosed is a revised version of the mock up you sent me. We have allocated $75 for letterhead and envelopes. Could the printer make another mock up along the lines of the enclosed copy so I could see what it will look like? Also, how many sheets and envelopes will $75 buy us? How do we go about getting the money from the treasury to do this transaction?

2) The Division also unanimously decided that we would like to enable paid student registrants at the annual convention to attend the banquet by starting a ticket recycling program. Under this scheme, we would like to advertise in the program and at the registration desk that those who are paid registrants and who will not attend the banquet can return tickets to the banquet to the registration desk by a specified date and time—determined by you and your staff, since you take care of the desk—and that these tickets will be recycled to students who have paid registration for the convention and who otherwise would not be able to attend the banquet. Tickets would be distributed on a first come—first serve basis. This program will also enable you to get an idea of the number of extra banquet tickets, if there are any left. We suspect that many students will take the opportunity to obtain a banquet ticket if available. Thus, there may be even fewer tickets left over than in other years.

The Division sees this as a service to the Society that will benefit us all. Given our suggestion, we would like to include in the program along with an announcement of this plan, mention that the Division on Women and Crime is the sponsor.
3) The program for the 1983 ASC conference was nicely assembled with one exception. The announcement of the Division's meeting was not made clearly. For the 1984 conference, would it be possible to devote an entire page to the announcement (time, date, place) of the Division meetings? Perhaps a half page for each of the two divisions would be appropriate. In addition, could we include a mention of the meeting in the time slot in which it will appear? Thirdly, could we include an announcement of the Division meeting in the preliminary program so that interested parties may be aware of it in planning their arrival and departure to the conference? With these changes, more people will be aware of and be able to plan to attend the Division meetings.

4) As you know, this year, the Division on Women and Crime will hold its first official elections for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. As our constitution stipulates, I have asked two people, Barbara Price and Freda Adler, to serve as the Nominations Committee. In our recent conversation, you were not sure when ballots must be prepared for mailing. I have communicated this to the Committee but asked that they get me names and affiliations by the end of January, 1984 so that there is time to ensure agreement to appear on the ballot and to obtain some biographical material from nominees. Please let me know as soon as possible how the dates for mailing ballots are shaping up.

5) In addition, as I mentioned on the phone, a committee of the Division's Executive Board is currently making revisions of the constitution. As soon as these are completed, I will mail them to you for mail out to Division members for their approval.

6) Finally, I have not yet received a copy of the list of names of persons on committees for ASC for this year. Please send that at your earliest convenience. May I also have a copy of the minutes of the two ASC Board meetings held at the 1983 conference?

My sincerest appreciation for your continued support and assistance in the work of the Division on Women and Crime. You are a very valuable resource for the Division.

My very best wishes to you and your sister in this season of peace and joy.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Jo Baunach, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Division on
Women and Crime
Division on
Women and Crime
of the
American Society of Criminology

Please reply to: