

# FINAL Call for Proposals

**EXTENDED DEADLINE**

**15 February 2016**

51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the **Southern Anthropological Society**



Hosted by the [Department of Sociology & Anthropology](#)  
Marshall University  
Huntington, West Virginia

**Thursday 07 – Saturday 09 April 2016**

*Reinventing and Reinvesting in the Local for Our Common Good*

## CONNECT. EXCHANGE. IMPACT.

Connect. Exchange. Impact. That is our conference tagline and it is what I want to see from our membership. An earnest coming together to connect with one another as well as our partners in allied disciplines and in our own communities to exchange ideas and strategies that have lasting, demonstrable impact for the common good. What will YOU do for our common good?

Here are just some of the highlights that you can look forward to:

- A **keynote address** from Dr. Melinda Wagner, Professor Emeritus of Radford University, on “Celebrating the Local” in and through our work as anthropologists in which we will be asked to consider what makes us relevant at a time when so many of our programs are threatened.
- Fantastic **research presented** on such diverse topics as race in community dialog, multicultural festivals and conceptions of diversity in America, local food movements, and anthropological analyses of consumption
- **Workshops** on topics such as service learning and other pedagogical topics to reinvigorate your work in and out of the classroom.
- **Tours and fieldtrips** highlighting local examples of reinvention and reinvestment in the local including:
  - The [Marshall University Visual Arts Center](#)

- The **Keith Albee Theatre**—a 1928 Thomas Lamb masterpiece of the vaudeville era and one of the few remaining
- The [Heritage Farm and Museum](#) (a Smithsonian Affiliate)
- A downtown-wide, evening **welcome by the community of Huntington** to all SAS attendees in the form of a “Shop, Sip, and Stroll” celebration of our own local revitalization.
- **Live music, art, and creative performances** at the concert venue that express our conference theme.
- Marshall University **students** who are absolutely pumped to be your hosts.

**Won't you partake? Please join us in defense of what makes the work that we do an essential part of our common good.**

With our orienting theme for the 2016 meeting of the Southern Anthropological Society being a **publically engaged, locally committed social science**, we particularly seek proposals for organized sessions (papers, posters, performances) and special events (roundtables, workshops) as well as individually volunteered papers and posters that bring together a variety of ***inter-disciplinary and non-academic*** interpretations, document processes of change at the local level, and imagine possible, resilient futures for the people and places where we live and work.

*We envision a dynamic meeting space that will **connect** both academics and non-academics in an **exchange** of experiences, ideas, and plans that can lead us to have positive **impact together** in our communities.*

**Orienting Questions for Our Theme:** The *SAS Proceedings* edited volume will be derived from outstanding papers that *effectively address* this year's theme.

- How do we go about theorizing “the local”?
- How might we connect dynamic world history to our contemporary impulses for doing public social science locally? What can we learn from earlier work in this vein?
- While earnestly valuing “local knowledge,” have we tended to seek this only within certain groups—sidestepping those who are closest to our own life-worlds?
- To what extent is an historical detachment between academic and applied social science reconciled in public engagement through local action by social scientists working in partnership with their communities?
- What kinds of collaboration should we be forging between institutions of higher education and their communities in order to create opportunities for meaningful, prosperous work and good quality of life for all?
- How can we engage in the serious work of retooling our traditional anthropological and other *pedagogies* through real and sustained attention to doing research locally?

## **Conference Site:**

The conference will be hosted by the [Department of Sociology & Anthropology](#) at **Marshall University** and held in the **Big Sandy Conference Center** in downtown Huntington, West Virginia. The city of Huntington is enjoying an exciting downtown redevelopment and boasts a wide variety of interesting shops and diverse restaurants, including many that are locally owned and operated. Come join us on the banks of the Ohio River in beautiful western West Virginia—we are the northernmost southern state, the southernmost northern state, the easternmost mid-western state, and the westernmost eastern state. We're the middle of it all! For useful travel information on Huntington and the surrounding area, please visit the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau's website at [www.wvvisit.org](http://www.wvvisit.org).

## **Accommodations & Travel Information:**

Please see the SAS Conference website [http://mds.marshall.edu/sas\\_conference/](http://mds.marshall.edu/sas_conference/) for information.

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**Proposal Submissions are DUE Monday February 15, 2016**

***Information and instructions regarding registration and proposal submission portals are available at***

**[http://mds.marshall.edu/sas\\_conference/](http://mds.marshall.edu/sas_conference/)**



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Use the hashtag [#SAS2016WV](#)