

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY  
OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.**

**Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2008 and 2007**

**(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)**



**LATTIMORE BLACK MORGAN & CAIN, PC**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

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**LATTIMORE BLACK MORGAN & CAIN, PC**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors of  
The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Inc. (the "Society") as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Inc. as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Lattimore Black Morgan & Cain PC*

Knoxville, Tennessee  
May 4, 2009

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

Statements of Financial Position

December 31, 2008 and 2007

	<u>Assets</u>	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 41,429	\$ 54,722
Investments	410,006	536,445
Accounts receivable	210,118	136,255
Prepaid expenses	1,027	-
Equipment, net	<u>14,328</u>	<u>12,219</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 676,908</u>	<u>\$ 739,641</u>
 <u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u> 		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 87,925	\$ 52,686
Deferred revenue	<u>275,306</u>	<u>203,273</u>
Total liabilities	<u>363,231</u>	<u>255,959</u>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Unrestricted	229,470	400,736
Temporarily restricted	1,174	546
Permanently restricted	<u>83,033</u>	<u>82,400</u>
Total net assets	<u>313,677</u>	<u>483,682</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 676,908</u>	<u>\$ 739,641</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## Statements of Activities

Years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>Changes in unrestricted net assets:</b>		
<b>Unrestricted revenues, gains, and other support:</b>		
Contributions	\$ 6,496	\$ 4,566
Annual meeting	81,690	83,119
Journals and publications	330,369	309,501
Membership dues	143,628	110,637
Dividends and interest income	14,351	31,626
Net unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(142,678)	13,500
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>685</u>	<u>-</u>
Total unrestricted revenues, gains, and other support	<u>434,541</u>	<u>552,949</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Executive office	162,294	137,893
Annual meeting	82,186	92,352
Journals and publications	287,312	233,219
Board governance	8,460	26,199
Committees	38,248	32,968
Awards, scholarships, and related expenses	<u>27,307</u>	<u>28,160</u>
Total expenses	<u>605,807</u>	<u>550,791</u>
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	<u>(171,266)</u>	<u>2,158</u>
<b>Changes in temporarily restricted net assets:</b>		
Temporarily restricted revenue	1,313	546
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>(685)</u>	<u>-</u>
Increase in temporarily restricted assets	<u>628</u>	<u>546</u>
<b>Changes in permanently restricted net assets:</b>		
Contributions - Sustaining membership program	600	1,600
Contributions - Joseph B. Gittler fund	<u>33</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Increase in permanently restricted assets	<u>633</u>	<u>51,600</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(170,005)	54,304
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>483,682</u>	<u>429,378</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 313,677</u>	<u>\$ 483,682</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ (170,005)	\$ 54,304
Adjustments to reconcile changes in net assets to cash flows provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	6,052	2,930
Net unrealized (gain) loss on investments	142,678	(13,500)
Permanently restricted contributions received	(633)	(51,600)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(73,863)	12,566
Prepaid expenses	(1,027)	1,694
Other assets	-	2,000
Accounts payable	35,239	5,160
Deferred revenue	<u>72,033</u>	<u>9,032</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	10,474	22,586
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of equipment	(8,161)	(12,407)
Proceeds from sale of investments	90,000	51,000
Purchases of investments	<u>(106,239)</u>	<u>(72,359)</u>
Net cash used by investing activities	(24,400)	(33,766)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Collection of restricted contributions	<u>633</u>	<u>51,600</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash	(13,293)	40,420
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>54,722</u>	<u>14,302</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 41,429</u>	<u>\$ 54,722</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

# THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

(1) Nature of operations

Founded in 1951, The Society for the Study of Social Problems, Inc. promotes research on and serious examination of problems of social life. The Society works to solve these problems and develop social policy based on knowledge. The Society is primarily supported through membership dues and subscriptions from its journal and publications.

(2) Summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements of the Society are presented on the accrual basis. The significant accounting policies followed are described below.

(a) Basis of presentation

Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Society and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Unrestricted net assets - Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Temporarily restricted net assets - Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met either by actions of the Society and/or the passage of time.

Permanently restricted net assets - Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that they be maintained permanently by the Society.

All contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Amounts received that are designated for future periods or restricted by the donor for specific purposes are reported as temporarily restricted or permanently restricted support that increases those net asset classifications. However, if a restriction is fulfilled in the same time period in which the contribution is received, the Society reports the support as unrestricted.

(b) Cash equivalents

The Society considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of less than three months to be cash equivalents.

(c) Investments

Investments consist primarily of mutual funds with readily determinable fair values and certificates of deposit, which are shown at their fair values in the statements of financial position. Investment income consists of interest, dividends, and realized and unrealized gains and losses, net of investment expenses. Investment income is reported in the period earned as an increase in unrestricted net assets unless the use of the assets received is limited by donor-imposed restrictions.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2008 and 2007**

**(d) Accounts receivable**

Accounts receivable relate primarily to amounts due from the University of California Press ("UC Press") and are uncollateralized obligations due under the terms as set forth in the UC Press agreement (Note 6), in which UC Press collects the subscription fees and remits them to the Society approximately one month from the receipt of the subscription fees. Late or interest charges on delinquent accounts are not recorded until collected. The carrying amount of accounts receivable is reduced by a valuation allowance, if necessary, which reflects management's best estimate of the amounts that will not be collected. It is the Society's policy to charge off uncollectible accounts receivable when management determines the receivable will not be collected. Management has not recorded an allowance for doubtful accounts as of December 31, 2008 and 2007.

**(e) Equipment**

Equipment is stated at cost. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method, generally three to five years.

Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are expensed when incurred. Expenditures for renewals or betterments are capitalized. When equipment is retired or sold, the cost and the related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts, and the resulting gain or loss is included in operations.

**(f) Income taxes**

The Society is exempt from federal income taxes under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), and, accordingly, no provision for income taxes is included in the financial statements.

**(g) Revenue recognition**

Revenues from journals and publications and membership dues are recognized ratably throughout the subscription or membership period. Other revenues are recognized as earned, which is generally when received.

Subscription and membership dues received in advance are recorded as deferred revenues and recognized as income over the subscription and membership period.



THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

(h) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(i) Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2007 financial statements in order for them to conform to the 2008 presentation. These reclassifications have no effect on net assets or changes in net assets as previously reported.

(3) Concentrations

The Society occasionally maintains cash on deposit at banks in excess of federally insured amounts. The Society has not experienced any losses in such accounts and management believes the Society is not exposed to any significant credit risk related to cash.

(4) Investments

A summary of investments, stated at fair value, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 is as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 310,006	\$ 436,445
Certificates of deposit	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
	<u>\$ 410,006</u>	<u>\$ 536,445</u>

(5) Equipment

A summary of equipment as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 is as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Computer equipment	\$ 35,376	\$ 27,215
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(21,048)</u>	<u>(14,996)</u>
	<u>\$ 14,328</u>	<u>\$ 12,219</u>

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

(6) Contractual agreements

The Society has entered into an agreement with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Department of Sociology of the College of Arts and Sciences (the "University"), whereby the Society agrees to serve as an intellectual and professional resource in exchange for access to the University's resources, free office space, and overhead expenses for the Society's executive office. This agreement is renewable on an annual basis each January. The current agreement expires on December 31, 2009 and is expected to be renewed when it expires.

The Society uses the University's purchasing and disbursing services. Unreimbursed expenses owed to the University from the Society were \$10,324 and \$8,178 at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. These amounts are included in accounts payable.

The Society has entered into an agreement with UC Press. Under this agreement, UC Press serves as the sole publisher of *Social Problems*, a quarterly journal sponsored by the Society. Management believes that, if necessary, an alternate publisher could be obtained. However, unexpected events could cause a delay in publication, and accordingly, a possible loss of revenues.

Subscriptions to *Social Problems* are charged on an annual basis. *Social Problems* is distributed to library subscribers and Society members. Library subscriptions are administered and collected by UC Press and remitted to the Society approximately one month after receipt. Accordingly, accounts receivable from UC Press relate to subscriptions collected before year end, which will not be remitted to the Society until the following year. Subscription revenues collected in the current year for the following year are deferred and recognized as earned. Society memberships, which include a one year subscription to *Social Problems*, are remitted directly to the Society. The Society is billed for the direct operating expenses incurred in publishing the journals for subscribers and Society members. These expenses for the final publication of the current year are not paid until the following year, and thus are included in accounts payable at December 31, 2008 and 2007.

The current UC Press agreement expires on December 31, 2009. This agreement will be automatically extended for subsequent periods of five years each unless request for revisions or notice of termination is submitted in writing by either party to the other not later eighteen months preceding the date of expiration.

(7) Board designated assets

The Erwin O. Smigel Award Fund was established in 1976 to expand employment opportunities in the field of sociology. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to develop information for unemployed and underemployed colleagues in their efforts to find work and to enable such colleagues to attend the annual meeting.

# THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

The Lee Founders Award Fund was established in 1981. This annual award recognizes significant achievements that consistently promote the ideals of the founders of the Society and especially the humanistic tradition, as exemplified in the contributions of Alfred McClung Lee and Elizabeth Briant Lee. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to purchase a plaque for the winner.

The Social Action Award Fund was established in 1990. This award is given annually to an organization in the area where the Society holds their annual meeting. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to pay an award to the organization selected that has a history of challenging social inequalities, promoting social change, or working toward the empowerment of marginalized people.

The Lee Student Support Fund (formerly the Alfred McClung Lee Support Fund) was established in 1992. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to help defray the cost of conference participation for student members.

The Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund (formerly the Scholar-Activist Support Fund) was established in 1992. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to emphasize support for scholars in countries whose economies are weak and activists who have limited funds to attend the annual meeting.

The C. Wright Mills Award Fund was established in 1964. This annual award is given to the author of the book published in the past year that best exemplifies outstanding social science research and an understanding of the individual and society in the tradition of the distinguished sociologist, C. Wright Mills. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to pay a stipend to the author.

The Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund (formerly the Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund) was established in 1995. This annual fund is given for support of graduate study and commitment to a career of scholarly activism. The designated funds and future contributions will be used to provide scholarships to the winners.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

The board has designated assets as of December 31, 2008 as follows:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Investments</u>	<u>Total</u>
Erwin O. Smigel Fund	\$ 2,730	\$ -	\$ 2,730
Lee Founders Award Fund	-	6,720	6,720
Social Action Award Fund	-	8,876	8,876
Lee Student Support Fund	2,429	-	2,429
Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund	1,288	-	1,288
C. Wright Mills Award Fund	3,991	-	3,991
Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund	-	204,645	204,645
Joseph B. Gittler Fund	<u>134</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134</u>
	<u>\$ 10,572</u>	<u>\$ 220,241</u>	<u>\$ 230,813</u>

The board has designated assets as of December 31, 2007 as follows:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Investments</u>	<u>Total</u>
Erwin O. Smigel Fund	\$ 3,092	\$ -	\$ 3,092
Lee Founders Award Fund	-	8,794	8,794
Social Action Award Fund	-	12,333	12,333
Lee Student Support Fund	1,943	-	1,943
Lee Scholar-Activist Support Fund	998	-	998
C. Wright Mills Award Fund	3,974	-	3,974
Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Fund	-	358,470	358,470
Joseph B. Gittler Fund	<u>30</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30</u>
	<u>\$ 10,037</u>	<u>\$ 379,597</u>	<u>\$ 389,634</u>

All of the above board designated amounts are included in unrestricted net assets on the statements of financial position for each respective year.

(8) Permanently restricted net assets

In 2000, the Society established the Sustaining Membership Fund. This fund allows members the opportunity to pay \$1,700 (\$1,200 prior to 2007) for a sustaining membership. One hundred dollars of the membership is recorded as a payment of dues in the year that the individual becomes a sustaining member. The remaining funds are placed in an interest and/or dividend bearing account and is not refundable or transferable to another person. The yearly dues of sustaining members will be paid from the account's earnings.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS, INC.

Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2008 and 2007

Permanently restricted net assets at December 31, 2008 and 2007 consist of cumulative contributions to the Sustaining Membership Fund of \$33,000 and \$32,400, respectively. The investments held in the Sustaining Membership Fund have a fair market value of \$28,974 and \$42,694 as of December 31, 2008 and 2007. Unrealized gains (losses) in fair market value for those funds amounted to \$(4,026) and \$10,294, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007. The unrealized gain has been recorded in the statement of activities in unrestricted revenues, gains and other support as a portion of investment income.

Interest and/or dividend income from the Sustaining Membership Fund for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 was \$1,096 and \$2,463, respectively, and is included in unrestricted revenue since the Society's policy is to record income as unrestricted if any restrictions related to it are met in the same year as the income is earned.

During 2007, the Society received a bequest from the estate of Joseph B. Gittler in the amount of \$50,000. The earnings from this permanently restricted contribution will be used to fund an annual Joseph B. Gittler Award for a most scholarly contribution in the area of ethical components in the resolution of social problems. The investment is made in a certificate of deposit, which earned \$1,313 and \$546 in interest for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The interest is recorded in unrestricted revenue as the earnings were used in the year earned for the award.