

I have explained many times my views about present state of the world-system.

We are in the structural crisis of the capitalist world-system.

I shall not repeat how we got there and what are real choices in this situation.

The role of PEWS is now crucial

When PEWS was started, we created it as a section of the American Sociological Association (ASA) despite the fact that it was against our firm belief in the irrelevancy of disciplinary categories.

We did this for a practical reason.

We wanted to get people to come.

And the universities would pay only for one trip a year. By making it a section of the ASA, we hoped to piggyback on this one trip.

This was why we invented a spring meeting of PEWS in order to have a second meeting reflecting our own views.

This was a big mistake. The practical problem did not change. Our members still could only attend one meeting.

The situation is now even worse. Universities have less money and often will not pay even for one meeting.

PEWS should now revert to its values and cut all ties with ASA. We can then also cut the requirement that the meeting be a certain time of the year.

We can reinvent PEWS and turn it into a support for the global left in the class struggle occurring in the structural crisis of the world-system.

We may not win but we have a 50-50 chance. Let us do our best. There is no better choice.

I repeat. PEWS is our hope.

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