UCSB SCHOLAR TO LEAD AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

William Bielby, a professor of sociology at UC Santa Barbara, has been elected president of the American Sociological Association (ASA).

Bielby's term will begin in August 2002 and run through August 2003.

He will serve as president-elect until taking office.

The ASA is a 13,000-member national organization for sociologists which seeks to promote the vitality, visibility and diversity of sociology.

"It is an honor to be elected and recognized by my peers," Bielby said.

"I think it also says something about the kind of sociology we do at UC Santa Barbara."

Bielby received his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in 1976.

He received a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois in 1970.

He has been on the UCSB faculty since 1977.
Much of his early research focused on areas of social inequality.

His current research is in three areas:

Gender and racial discrimination in the workplace.

Media and popular culture.

Applications of social science research in complex litigation.

Though he doesn't take office for a year, Bielby's duties have already begun.

Chief among them is planning for the ASA's 2003 annual meeting in Atlanta.

Editors: Photo of Dr. Bielby

in jpg format available on request

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**About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.