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## Council Establishes Task Force on Contingent Faculty

In response to the “Resolution in Support of Contingent Faculty Remuneration” brought forward at the ASA Business meeting in August 2015, and based on preliminary research by John Curtis, Director of the ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession, Council has voted to establish a three-year Task Force on Contingent Faculty.

The charge to this Task Force is to explore the dynamics and implications of the recent growth of contingent employment among sociologists in the context of the broader structural transformations now underway in U.S. universities and in comparison to other disciplines.

The Task Force is asked to examine and document:

- *Employment trends:* the growth of lectureships, adjuncts, and part-time teaching jobs, and the extent to which such contingent positions are replacing traditional tenure-track positions;
- *Conditions of employment:* wages, benefits, security, stability, teaching loads, extent of involvement in teaching graduate-level courses, support from teaching assistants, unionization, etc.;
- *Position of contingent faculty in the university:* relationship to graduate students, other faculty, and administration (e.g., inclusion in departmental deliberations and in other forums of shared governance);
- *Careers:* how individual sociologists came to be contingent faculty, the demographic composition of contingent faculty compared to those in traditional tenure-track or tenured positions, the extent to which contingent faculty are actively seeking full-time tenure-track employment, their ability to carry out scholarly research, their experience to date, and how they see their futures; and
- *Consequences for higher education:* how the growth of contingent employment affects the quality of classroom teaching and the education of students; how it affects academic freedom.

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## ASA Joins AERA et al. in Fisher v. UT-Austin Amicus

The American Sociological Association joined the American Educational Research Association (AERA) along with eight other scientific societies in filing an amicus curiae brief in the U.S. Supreme Court’s reconsideration of Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin. The scientific societies urge the court to consider an overwhelming body of scientific evidence relevant to the case. The court heard oral arguments in the case on December 9. Below is a shortened version of the AERA press release.

The co-signers of the brief are the American Association for



The United States Supreme Court

the Advancement of Science, the American Anthropological Association, the American Political Science Association, the American Sociological Association, the American Statistical Association, the Association for the Study of Higher Education, the Law and Society Association, the Linguistic Society of America, and the

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## 2016 ASA National Election Candidates

The American Sociological Association is pleased to announce the 2016 slate of candidates for ASA Officers, Committee on Nominations, Committee on Publications, and Committee on Committees. Ballots for the 2016 ASA election will be sent in spring 2016.

### President-Elect

Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, Duke University  
Brian Powell, Indiana University

### Vice President-Elect

Vincent J. Roscigno, Ohio State University  
Christopher Uggen, University of Minnesota

### Council Members-At Large

Nina Bandelj, University of California-Irvine  
Mabel Berezin, Cornell University  
Monica McDermott, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

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from the executive officer

## Sociology Is a STEM Discipline

*In her absence, we are reprinting the February 2013 Vantage Point column below by Executive Officer Sally Hillsman. This article is the single most widely circulated and downloaded Vantage Point column ever.*

Last week ASA received a call from a sociology department chair who was deeply concerned about a proposed change to her institution's General Education curriculum. Under the existing curriculum, students are required to take two courses within the area of "Scientific Investigations"—one in the natural sciences and one in the social sciences. Under the revised Gen Ed curriculum, the social science requirement would be eliminated.

This illustrates a larger and disturbing effort by some significant forces to marginalize and delegitimize the social sciences and sometimes the liberal arts as a whole. Earlier this month in an *Inside Higher Ed* article, Carol Geary Schneider, President of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, described it as "a dangerous assault," citing House Majority Leader Eric Cantor's (R-VA) recent proposal to eliminate all federal funding for research in the social sciences. In the article, Schneider discusses a current proposal in Florida to establish lower tuition rates for "STEM" majors (narrowly defined as the physical sciences, engineering, and mathematics) and a higher tuition for all other majors (February 8, 2012).

We cannot afford to ignore these efforts or set them aside as policy proposals too extreme to actually pass. A bill cutting all funding for political science at the National Science Foundation (NSF) passed in the House of Representatives in June 2012, Congress will be negotiating the 2013 budget over the next few weeks, and threats to the social sciences are likely to be raised again.

### What Do We Do?

Sociologists can take concrete

actions. One of which is to help our students and the larger scholarly communities within which we work to understand that sociology is a scientific discipline offering vital insights to the 21<sup>st</sup> century global community.



Sociologists know this to be true, but we may be less adept at explaining it to

others. To do so does not need to undermine the humanistic side of sociology as we also defend the liberal arts. (ASA is an active member of both the

Consortium of Social Science Associations and the National Humanities Alliance, which are long-standing and effective advocacy organizations that address scholarly, educational, and science policy issues in our nation's capital.)

### Educate and Advocate

*Sociology is part of the national science community.* Make sure the curriculum committee members and administrators at your institution are familiar with the facts that reflect sociology's recognition as a discipline within the national science community. Two key pieces of evidence are the prominence of the Sociology Program at the National Science Foundation, and the fact that the number two person at NSF, Cora Bagley Marrett, is a sociologist. She has also served as Acting Director of NSF, a \$7-billion independent federal agency that is the only government science agency charged with advancing all

fields of fundamental science and engineering research and related education. NSF Director Subra Suresh, a distinguished engineer, recently addressed the contributions and inter-relationship of the natural sciences and the social sciences:

The 21<sup>st</sup> century is the century of science and engineering for the average citizen of the world. Not for the scientist. Not for the engineer. But for the average human being on the planet that means how a non-scientist, average citizen,

engages with science and engineering is going to determine how we, as inhabitants of the planet, are going to achieve or fail at the end of

the century. It is crucial that 21<sup>st</sup> century scientists and engineers understand the life of the average citizen of the world. **This invariably calls for a seamless integration of discoveries and approaches between the natural sciences and social sciences.** (emphasis added)

An example of such "seamless integration" is a 2012 article by Cornell and Waite in ASA's *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* "Social Network Resources and Management of Hypertension." (see [hsb.sagepub.com/content/53/2.toc](http://hsb.sagepub.com/content/53/2.toc)). Research conducted by scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and under its extramural grant programs encompasses significant sociological studies. This is reflected in the existence of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research within the Office of the Director of the NIH, Francis S. Collins, a geneticist who lead the

Human Genome Project between 1993 and 2008.

The social sciences, including sociology, hold a central place in the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general science organization. The social sciences have their own AAAS section—the Social, Economic, and Political Sciences—that provides scientific expertise to AAAS-wide projects. Last year I had the honor of being elected as an AAAS Fellow, joining the ranks of many other sociologists. This year, at the 2013 AAAS Annual Meeting, the Plenary Lecture, titled "The Robotic Moment: What Do We Forget When We Talk to Machines?" was given by sociologist Sherry Turkle, the Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology in the Program in Science, Technology, and Society at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

*Sociology is a core part of applied science.* Evidence of the growing importance of sociology and the social sciences, generally, to applied science is illustrated in the new MCAT exam. Starting in January of 2015, all aspiring medical doctors will take a revised MCAT that includes sections on the social and behavioral sciences, with specific question on basic sociology. (For more on MCAT changes and implications for departments see *Footnotes* July/August and December 2012.)

### Sociology in the Classroom

*Sociology is a gateway to science for undergraduates.* To further advance sociology as a scientific discipline (the mission of the ASA), it is our job as members to ensure that undergraduate majors understand the scientific base of sociology and that they can articulate how they have used data and analysis as part of their sociology major. I would encourage all sociology departments to review their program curricula to ensure the empirical base of the discipline is

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## ASA Welcomes its Newest Congressional Fellow

The American Sociological Association has named Elizabeth Pearson as the 2015-2016 ASA Congressional Fellow. Pearson recently received her PhD in sociology from the University of California-Berkeley. Her research focused on state-level fiscal policy, federalism, and social policy. As a Rhodes Scholar, she also earned her MPhil in Development Studies from the University of Oxford.



Elizabeth Pearson

Prior to earning her PhD, Pearson worked at the Iowa Policy Project, where she analyzed tax and budget issues in Iowa. In particular, she analyzed the state budget, examined the impacts of a national carbon tax on low-income Iowa families, and estimated the state and local tax payments of Iowa's undocumented immigrants.

"When I decided to pursue a sociology PhD, I was a fiscal policy analyst in my home state of Iowa at the onset of the Great Recession," wrote Pearson in her application. "All the charts I created that year, whether illustration trends in child poverty, unemployment, or budget deficits, climbed to the same unsettling peak. I became a sociologist so I could investigate the institutions driving

these patterns of inequality—and, in particular, how tax and budget policies shape these outcomes....I am eager to apply my new perspective and skills to the fast-paced work of a staff member in a congressional office."

"This is probably the easiest letter of recommendation I have ever written," wrote Peter Fisher, Research Director for the Iowa Policy Project, "as Beth is simply an outstanding intellect and a fine person. Her ability to take on an entirely new subject area and then to research and write authoritatively about it in a very short time span is simply remarkable....And it is not long after she delves into a new subject before she is providing original insights and making everyone else wonder: Why didn't we think of that, or see it in that light?"

During her fellowship year on Capitol Hill, Pearson will apply her experience and expertise in the office of Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), where she will be working on economic policy issues.

Pearson is eager for the opportunity to work as an ASA Congressional Fellow. "Even academics who study policymak-

ing rarely have the chance to be immersed in these environments and learn from them," said Pearson. "I believe my time working in Congress will enrich my thinking about the intersection of politics and policymaking and profoundly

shape my career as a scholar and policymaker." 

For more information on the ASA Congressional Fellowship, see the Funding page on the ASA Website. The deadline to apply is February 15 of each year.

### Where Are They Now?

Past fellows have ended up in a variety of fields, but often continue with science policy work in one way or another. Here is where a few recent Fellows have ended up.

**Lindsay Owens**, 2014–15 ASA Congressional Fellow, is now a legislative aide in Senator Elizabeth Warren's office.

**Beth Wikler**, 2013–2014 ASA Congressional Fellow, is now a legislative aide in Senator Richard Durbin's office.

**Dennis Bogusz**, 2011–2012 ASA Congressional Fellow, is Academic Advisor and Coordinator of Coterminal Advising in Undergraduate Advising and Research, part of the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education at Stanford University.

**Ashley C. Rondini**, 2010–2011 ASA Congressional Fellow, is Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology at Franklin and Marshall College.



Former ASA Congressional Fellows Ashley Rondini, Lindsay Owens, Dennis Bogusz

## Three Sociologists Elected as AAAS Fellows

In October 2015, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Council elected three sociologists—Chloe E. Bird, Thomas A. DiPrete, and Jerald Hage—among its newly elected 347 fellows. The new AAAS Fellows will be recognized for their contributions to science and technology at the Fellows Forum on February 13, 2016, during the AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. These individuals will receive a certificate and a blue and gold rosette as a symbol of their distinguished accomplishments. The new Fellows are in the Section on Social, Economic, and Political Sciences. The sociologist Fellows are:

**Chloe E. Bird** is a senior sociologist at the RAND Corporation where she studies women's health

and determinants of gender differences in health and health care. She is also a professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School and Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Women's Health Issues*. She is principal investigator of a study assessing and mapping gender disparities in quality of care for cardiovascular disease and diabetes among VA patients in California and Texas. Her recent work includes NIH-funded research on the impact of neighborhoods and behaviors on allostatic load, morbidity, and mortality. In her book *Gender and Health: The Effects of Constrained Choice and Social Policies*, Bird and coauthor Patricia P. Rieker explore how policymakers and other stakeholders shape men's and women's opportunities to pur-

sue a healthy life. She received her PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**Thomas A. DiPrete** is Giddings Professor of Sociology, co-director of the Center for the Study of Wealth and Inequality at Columbia University, and a faculty member of the Columbia Population Research Center. He holds a PhD from Columbia University and has been on the faculty of the University of Chicago, Duke University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison as well as Columbia. His research interests include social stratification, demography, education, economic sociology, and quantitative methodology. His recent and ongoing projects include the study of gender differences in educational perfor-

mance, educational attainment; and fields of study; the determinants of college persistence and dropout in the United States; a comparative study of how educational expansion and the structure of linkages between education and the labor market contribute to earnings inequality in several industrialized countries; and the study of how social comparison processes affect the compensation of corporate executives.

**Jerald Hage** is Director of the Center for Innovation, University of Maryland. He started studying organizational innovation in the 1960s, and since then has also worked on institutional analysis in health, education, and welfare—primarily with comparative studies of Europe.

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## Space for Affiliates and Other Group Activities

The ASA provides two services for individuals or groups desiring to use meeting space at the Annual Meeting. ASA Council policies on the use of such space are outlined below. Because ASA Sections have been allotted program time, they are excluded from these provisions.

### Meeting Space

Groups wishing to meet in conjunction with the 2016 Annual Meeting may request space by sending a formal letter of request with signature (e-mail messages or files are not acceptable) to ASA Meeting Services by **February 26, 2016**. Rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, one meeting per group. In the event that space exceeds demand, requests for a second meeting will be considered. Please Note: Space is limited in Seattle; submit your meeting space request as early as possible.

Space requests are categorized as follows:

- Small groups sponsored by ASA members requesting space for the purpose of conducting sessions focused on a special aspect of sociology will be allocated one time slot from 6:30-8:15

p.m. on the first or third evening (August 20 or August 22). The topic to be discussed should be clearly stated in the request, along with an estimate of the size of the group expected to attend the session.

- Groups or organizations wishing to gather for other meetings such as those of a religious, political, or special interest nature are required to submit a petition containing the signatures of 10 ASA members who support the request. These groups will be assigned one meeting room from 8:00-10:00 p.m. on the second night of the meeting (August 21). If the number of requests exceeds the available space, groups will be assigned to the 6:30 p.m. time slot on August 20 or 22.
- Those groups or organizations wishing to hold receptions, dinners, or other social gatherings should also submit requests for space by the February 26 deadline. Space availability is normally limited to 6:30-8:15 p.m. on August 20 or 22, and to 8:00-10:00 p.m. on August 21.

An announcement of each meeting will be included in the "Activities of Other Groups" listing and in the body of the program schedule. These listings will include the name of the group or title/topic of the session, name of organizer/sponsor if appropriate, and date and time of the meeting. Room assignments are printed in the Final Program only.

### Table Space

ASA members may apply for table space to display literature about related non-profit organizations or socio-logically pertinent projects. Available space is assigned without charge on a first-come, first-served basis. ASA Sections are excluded from these provisions because two general display tables are provided for sections in the ASA registration area; requests from individual sections for tables cannot be considered.

Due to the number of requests and the limited space available for displays, two parties are usually assigned to each table. There are no general storage facilities beyond the space beneath each table, so each party is solely responsible for the security of its display materials. Policies on use of table space are that (1) nothing may be sold


and (2) nothing of an offensive nature may be displayed.

### Deadline and Notification

Formal letters of request for meeting space and/or table space must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than February 26, 2016. Letters should be printed or scanned in PDF-format on the official stationery of the sponsoring organization or member's institution and must include sender's signature. All letters requesting meeting space should identify the nature of the meeting, the number of people expected to attend, desired room setup or other physical space needs, and the scheduling preference of the group within the parameters given above.

Send space requests to: ASA Meeting Services, 1430 K Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005, Fax: (202) 638-0882 or e-mail at [meetings@asanet.org](mailto:meetings@asanet.org)

### Confirmation of Meeting Space

Groups requesting meeting space will receive notification regarding the request no earlier than **April 28, 2016**. You may also confirm your request was received and approved by searching for the name of your event in the online preliminary program schedule. 

### Election

From Page 1

Andrew J. Perrin, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
 Robin W. Simon, Wake Forest University  
 Veronica Terriquez, University of California-Santa Cruz  
 Frederick F. Wherry, Yale University  
 Earl Wright II, University of Cincinnati  
 Ruth E. Zambrana, University of Maryland

### Committee on Nominations

Japonica Brown-Saracino, Boston University  
 Hector Cordero-Guzman, Baruch College-CUNY  
 Louis Esparza, California State University-Los Angeles  
 Dorit Geva, Central European University  
 Carla Goar, Kent State University

Regine Jackson, Agnes Scott College  
 Kathleen E. Jenkins, College of William and Mary  
 Samuel R. Lucas, University of California-Berkeley  
 Julia McQuillan, University of Nebraska  
 Gilda Laura Ochoa, Pomona College  
 Jeralynn Sittig Cossman, University of West Virginia  
 Tom J. Waidzunas, Temple University

### Committee on Publications

Jennifer Elyse Glick, Arizona State University  
 Tim Hallett, Indiana University  
 Matthew W. Hughey, University of Connecticut  
 Ronald N. Jacobs, University of Albany  
 Joseph Oscar Jewell, Texas A&M University  
 Michael Kimmel, SUNY-Stony Brook  
 John W. Mohr, University of California-Santa Barbara

David A. Smilde, Tulane University  
 Quincy Thomas Stewart, Northwestern University


### Committee on Committees

*Member-at-Large*  
 Tristan Bridges, SUNY-College at Brockport  
 David L. Brunsmma, Virginia Tech University  
 Nilda Flores-Gonzalez, University of Illinois-Chicago  
 Jennifer L. Hook, University of Southern California

### PhD-Granting Institutions


Susan C. Pearce, East Carolina University  
 Isaac Ariail Reed, University of Colorado-Boulder

### Non-Academic Institutions

Tomas E. Encarnacion, U.S. Census Bureau  
 Vivian Louie, WT Grant Foundation 

### AAAS Fellows

From Page 3

Hage has authored or co-authored 16 books and over 100 papers. His work in organizations and societies reflects his belief that the problem of societal change necessitates a multi-level approach. His major goal is to write a theory of societal change that respects alternative pathways and distinct historical periods, focusing on the interface between organizations and institutions. With a team of researchers, he is engaged in a collaborative project that unites the macro, meso, and micro levels of analysis by focusing on the causes of major discoveries in bio-medicine. Another long-term interest of his is the integration of economic and sociological theory. 

For more information on AAAS Fellows, visit [www.aaas.org/elected-fellows](http://www.aaas.org/elected-fellows).

job announcement

## ASA Executive Officer

American Sociological Association, Washington, DC

American Sociological Association (ASA) seeks an energetic, highly capable, and entrepreneurial leader to serve as its next Executive Officer. The Association, founded in 1905, is a non-profit membership association based in Washington, DC dedicated to advancing sociology as a scientific discipline and profession serving the public good. With nearly 12,000 national and international members, ASA encompasses sociologists who are faculty members at colleges and universities, researchers, practitioners, and students. About 20 percent of the members work in government, business, or non-profit organizations.

The Executive Officer oversees all the work of the Association and is responsible to its member-elected leadership. ASA publishes nine professional journals and magazines, holds an annual convention of over 6,000 people, and supports the work of 52 sections organized around specific areas of disciplinary specialization. The Executive Officer also represents the Association and its interests with various outside groups, alliances, and stakeholders. The next Executive Officer will need to ensure that the Association remains a well-run, financially strong organization with significant events, programs, and publications to serve the membership and to promote the discipline.

Applicants for ASA's Executive Officer position will be expected to have a demonstrated commitment to social science and the field of sociology; a doctoral degree in social science, preferably in sociology; experience in/knowledge of social science research scholarship; the ability to be proactive, seize opportunities, and energize staff and members; significant management experience in higher education,

research, foundations, or government together with a leadership style that is collaborative and transparent; the ability to undertake a strong representational role; the ability to be strategic and to see connections while also working at a detailed operational level when needed; comfort with technology and the digital world; the ability to effectively partner with and follow policies made by the ASA Council; experience recruiting and motivating a high performance team; and interest in making a long-term commitment to the organization.

ASA has engaged Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in the search. Nominations, inquiries, and applications should be sent electronically and in confidence to:

**Nanette M. Blandin, Associate Principal**  
**Jane Gruenebaum, Vice President**

**Jeff Kessner, Associate**

**Isaacson, Miller**


**1300 19th Street NW, Suite 700**

**Washington, DC 20036**

**Phone: 202-552-5503**

**www.imsearch.com/5615**

**jkessner@imsearch.com**

*The American Sociological Association is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes a diverse pool of candidates for this search.* 

*Inquiries, nominations, and applications should be submitted via the website above.*


### Task Force

From Page 1

The Task Force will also review past and present efforts of other scholarly associations to address these issues, and make recommendations to ASA Council as to how the Association can best address the challenge these developments present to our field.

#### Call for Task Force Volunteers

The Task Force will have representation from different types of

colleges and universities and will have a term of three years, starting in March 2015 and concluding in August 2018. It will meet on a regular basis through conference calls; task force members will have opportunities to engage in gathering and analyzing data, developing recommendations, and writing. If you are interested in serving on this task force, send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to John W. Curtis, ASA Director of Research, [research@asanet.org](mailto:research@asanet.org), by **Monday, February 1, 2016.** 

### Nominations Sought for 2016 Section Awards

Each year the ASA's 52 sections celebrate the achievements of sociologists working in their topic areas. Awards are given to authors of books, dissertations, or articles, to students, and to celebrate career achievements. Please consider nominating colleagues and students who are doing outstanding work. For more information about individual section awards, see [www.asanet.org/sections/section\\_awards.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/sections/section_awards.cfm).

### ASA Congressional Fellowship

*Deadline: February 1*

The ASA Congressional Fellowship brings a PhD-level sociologist to Washington, DC, to work as a staff member on a congressional committee or in a congressional office, or as a member of a congressional agency. This intensive 6- to 11-month experience reveals the intricacies of the policy-making process to the sociological fellow and shows the usefulness of sociological data and concepts to policy issues. The fellowship stipend is \$20,000 for six months or \$30,000 for 11 months.

Each applicant should have a general idea about the area of interest, some experience in client-driven work, good writing skills, and a commitment to the policy process. It is helpful to investigate some placement possibilities in advance or to suggest some in the letter of interest. The application should highlight the link between one's sociological expertise and a current policy issue. Be sure to specify the time span available to do the fellowship placement.

ASA will join with other associations to offer orientation, meetings, and support for the person selected. The person will work closely with the ASA's Spivack Program on Applied Social Research and Social Policy, with possibilities for congressional staff or press briefings, public speaking, writing issue papers, and other opportunities.

For additional information and complete application materials, visit [www.asanet.org/funding](http://www.asanet.org/funding). Direct questions or comments to [spivack@asanet.org](mailto:spivack@asanet.org) or (202) 383-9005 x322.

# Challenges and Rewards of Community Action Research

Rebecca L. Som Castellano, Boise State University

I came to sociology by accident. I was passionate about understanding the changing agriculture and food system, and the inequalities that lie therein. When searching for a place to attend graduate school, I happened upon some inspiring sociologists studying just that. I was impressed at the time with the ways in which many of these scholars did not just study communities, but actively engaged with communities in the research process. This has motivated me to pursue similar research projects, including a recent project funded by an ASA CARI grant, which examined food accessibility and related issues at the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

In order to address this problem, I set out to use ASA Community Action Research Initiative funds to work with the Duck Valley Indian Reservation (Duck Valley) to assess their food security concerns and needs. I integrated my research findings into the work of local organizations focused on agrifood system change, including the Idaho Hunger Relief Task Force (IHRTF). I worked collaboratively with Duck Valley community members to conduct a survey and focus groups. The results were disseminated via a research report and community presentations. Engaging in this community action research project involved some great challenges and great rewards, which I will briefly discuss here.

## The Challenges

Duck Valley, which straddles southern Idaho and northern Nevada, is extremely rural and isolated. Accessing the reservation from my home in Boise requires a three-hour drive through largely uninhabited countryside. Due to the elevation, travel during the winter was at times treacherous. These geographic facts, combined

with cultural differences, contributed to some of the greatest challenges I faced with the project. For example, the project was designed to be participatory and community based. However, the distance, isolation, and my unfamiliarity with community norms and the time needed to develop relationships at times impacted my ability to connect effectively with community members and maintain momentum with the project.

The isolation and culture of Duck Valley led to other challenges as well. For example, getting a representative sample for the survey was impossible. At Duck Valley there is not consistent phone or e-mail access and many people lack a permanent address, making a mail survey impractical. In addition, due to the spread of the population, it was also not realistic to go door to door.

I found that community-based research also challenged my typical research process. I consistently had to readjust my expectations, including my timeline, in part because the active inclusion of community members in the research process required a different set of tactics.

I encountered some unexpected personal challenges as well. For example, I found it difficult to “let go” after the research was complete. Prior to my academic career, I worked for non-profits doing programming, and I found it difficult to not interject myself into the programming work that was started after the research was complete. I was trying to work against a legacy of “in and out” research in American Indian communities. However, my position at the non-profit did not necessarily enable this. The CARI project forced me to reflect on the role of academics as they bring together teaching, research, and service—the benefits are great, but the boundaries of our work have the potential to become blurred.

## The Rewards

Despite these challenges, the research project was rewarding, and some visible community impacts emerged from the work. Some of the benefits accrued largely to those who participated in the research process. Many of the community members who participated in the project enjoyed the research process; they were passionate about their community, and enjoyed being involved in collecting data and seeing findings emerge. There were also some small economic impacts for these community members, as most of the grant money was used to pay those who aided in data collection. Further, at the start of the project, I observed a lot of self-blame for many health problems, including being overweight or having diabetes. Throughout the project I saw some participants connect these personal health problems with structural issues, including recognizing the ways in which the current food environment prevented them from being able to access the foods they would like to eat and that they perceive as healthy.

The research also affected the community more broadly. The data were used by community members to speak about the status of food security in Duck Valley at the 2014 Hunger Summit, a biennial event put on by the Idaho Hunger Relief Task Force. In addition, the data are being used to garner support from tribal leadership, organizational partners, as well as grant funding agencies to support the development of initiatives on the reservation that can help Duck Valley achieve greater control over food production, distribution, and consumption. Thus, the project findings are being used to advocate for change and improve the local food



A hoop house, or greenhouse, being built on the Duck Valley reservation.

environment.

Another reward of the project involved student mentoring. Well into the project I found a Boise State student from Duck Valley to serve as a research assistant. The student was invaluable in helping me gather and organize data. But, more importantly, she acted as a sounding board, eased communication, and helped me navigate what was at times a complicated network of relationships in Duck Valley. Benefits for the student included receiving course credit and developing a deeper understanding of the research process. In addition, I was able to connect her with employment after graduation. A partner organization for the research project was looking for an AmeriCorps Vista member to implement programming based on the project findings. I was able to connect the student with the organization, and she is now in the process of training for that position. In the end, working with this student was one of the greatest personal rewards of the project. 🍋

*Want to know more about the project or about applying for CARI funding? Please feel free to e-mail me at [rsomcastellano@boisestate.edu](mailto:rsomcastellano@boisestate.edu).*

# TRAILS Welcomes Julie Pelton as its New Editor

Doug Hartmann, University of Minnesota

It is my pleasure to introduce Julie Pelton as the new editor of TRAILS, ASA's online Teaching Resources and Innovation Library for Sociology (trails.asanet.org). Having come to know and deeply respect Pelton, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, while working together on the Board of the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS), I am honored to make this announcement.

Pelton received her PhD in sociology from The Pennsylvania State University in 2006, with a minor in women's studies and a specialization in Theory. Her dissertation, "The Power of Discourse: Silencing Political Opposition through Debate over Dissent," was completed under the direction of Alan Sica. In it, Pelton examined the role of culture in social movements and the impact of movements on contemporary American culture, particularly the discourse about dissent and protest in mainstream national newspapers during the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.

While she remains active in the study of culture and political sociology, Pelton has devoted the bulk of her research in recent years to the Sociology of Teaching and Learning. At the core of this research is Pelton's work with her undergraduate theory courses to understand how sociology majors learn and how we can improve student learning outcomes in writing-intensive theory courses more generally.

One of Pelton's first studies along these lines found that using an active learning-based film assignment reduced anxiety about writing theoretically and improved student confidence in their ability to theorize. In another project Pelton investigated the learning strategies typically used by sociol-

ogy majors—whether and to what extent they engage in metacognitive strategies and whether teaching about learning results in students reporting greater use of self-regulatory behaviors.



Julie Pelton

Pelton's research revealed that students report greater use of higher-level cognitive learning strategies such as critical thinking and are more intrinsically motivated as a result of learning more about how they learn. Pelton has also analyzed the effectiveness of teaching seminars for reducing anxiety and increasing confidence in graduate student teachers.

In the classroom, Pelton currently teaches courses at

both graduate and undergraduate levels including Social Inequality, Social Stratification, and the Development of Sociological Theory as well as a Seminar on Teaching at the college level. Her other teaching interests include social problems, environmental sociology, sociology of gender, social movements, and culture. As Online Program Coordinator at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Pelton also brings a wealth of experience in online course development, instruction, and advising.

All of this pedagogical research and classroom experience will serve Pelton well in her new role. TRAILS includes the entire corpus of ASA Teaching Resources Center Syllabi sets as well as a growing number of newly published teaching resources. With the completion of the graduate training seminar and Council's decision to make TRAILS a member benefit, it is all but assured that the resource will be in the hands of more sociology instructors than ever before. It is an exciting time for teaching and learning in American sociology and this isn't even to mention ASA Council's recent, long-awaited approval of disciplinary standards for high school sociology (*Footnotes* Sept/Oct 2015).

As a teacher-scholar who has utilized TRAILS from its incep-

tion, Pelton's vision for the future is multifaceted and ambitious. Among other initiatives, the priority goals outlined in her editor application include:

- continuing to expand the scope and quality of teaching resources, especially those utilizing new technologies and/or related to service learning and greater engagement with social justice issues;
- strengthening connections between TRAILS and other teaching-related resources such as *Teaching Sociology* (whose board she also serves on), The Society Pages, and Sociological Images;
- meeting the needs of a variety of sociology instructors, including those who teach online, in high schools, and at community colleges; and,
- ensuring that TRAILS plays a role in the professional development of graduate student teachers.

I mentioned that I came to know Pelton while serving with her on the Board of MSS. Perhaps this is appropriate since the Midwest is an organization that is so well-known and respected for its emphasis on teaching and learning. Indeed, in her new national editorial role Pelton will be succeeding none other than former MSS President Diane Pike. Pelton is well prepared to continue this legacy. Among an amazing group of Midwestern scholars, Pelton has consistently distinguished herself with her professionalism, her dedication and dependability, and her selfless, unquestioning willingness to step up and do whatever our society needed her to do. I know that she will bring all of these qualities to her work at TRAILS. My only disappointment about Pelton being tapped for the TRAILS editorship is that the demands of the position forced her to withdraw her candidacy for the MSS presidency. But the MSS's loss is the ASA's gain, and it is both exciting and reassuring to have Julie Pelton at the helm for the next generation of TRAILS.



## Want an ASA Award Winner to Speak at Your Conference? Apply for Sorokin Lecture Funding

Since 1967, a winner of one of ASA's distinguished awards has traveled to a regional association to speak.

### Applications Process

Any of the winners of major ASA awards in the past two calendar years may be available to deliver a lecture at a state, regional, or aligned sociological association meeting, or on a campus. ASA covers the costs of travel and up to two days of hotel costs. The host covers registration and meals. Contingent upon available funding, the ASA can support up to four such lecture trips each calendar year.

A restricted fund, named for past ASA President Pitirim Sorokin, underwrites the costs for the visiting lecturer.

To apply, send a letter of inquiry with specific information about the event and the audience as well as the lecturer preferred. Executive officers or presidents of associations, or faculty (with chair's support) in departments may apply to host a lecturer. Submit these materials and any questions to:

Governance, American Sociological Association, 1430 K St. NW #600, Washington, DC 20005; [governance@asanet.org](mailto:governance@asanet.org).

Requests should arrive by February 1, 2016, for 2016 events. Plan early. Preference is given to groups who have not previously hosted a lecturer.

**Amicus Brief**

From Page 1

National Academy of Engineering.

This is the second time that the *Fisher* case has gone to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case was initiated in 2008 as a challenge to the university's policy of using race as a factor in admissions decisions. In 2013, the court ruled that a lower court did not apply the correct legal standards under the Constitution, and sent the case back to lower courts.

Accordingly, the AERA et al. brief provides summaries and citations of pertinent studies to aid the court's deliberations on (1) whether

student body diversity remains a compelling governmental interest and (2) whether the policy is narrowly tailored.

The brief lays out the research evidence demonstrating that diversity leads to important educational

**“Numerous studies demonstrate that student body diversity leads to important educational benefits, such as the reduction of prejudice; growth in cognitive abilities, critical thinking skills, and self-confidence.”**

benefits and prevents the harms of racial isolation. Numerous studies demonstrate that student body diversity leads to important educational benefits, such as the reduction of prejudice; growth in cognitive abilities, critical thinking skills, and self-confidence;

the promotion of civic engagement and skills needed for professional development and leadership; and

improved classroom environments and curricula.

The brief also covers how recent research addresses key issues raised by the plaintiff in *Fisher*, such as how institutions must rely on context to determine the “critical mass” of students necessary to promote diversity and how pursuing diversity along multiple dimensions, including socioeconomic status, can help advance racial and ethnic diversity and an institution's overall mission.

Finally, the AERA et al. brief summarizes research showing that race-conscious policies are neces-

sary to achieve diversity and that race-neutral policies, such as the top-10-percent plan or policies that replace race-conscious measures with class-based preferences, are, by themselves, insufficient for advancing a diversity interest.

The Supreme Court will release its decision before the summer of 2016. For more information, visit [www.aera.net/EducationResearch/LinkingResearchtoPublicInterest/AmicusBriefs/FishervsUniversityofTexasAustin/PressBriefing/tabid/13378/Default.aspx](http://www.aera.net/EducationResearch/LinkingResearchtoPublicInterest/AmicusBriefs/FishervsUniversityofTexasAustin/PressBriefing/tabid/13378/Default.aspx).

**2016 Annual Meeting: Call for Papers**

The 2016 Annual Meeting Call for Papers Online Submission System is available online at [www.asanet.org/AM2016/callforpapers.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/AM2016/callforpapers.cfm). The online submission system opened on November 3, 2015. Authors may submit their scholarly work to Regular Session topics, Section Paper Sessions and roundtables, and Open Refereed Roundtables. **The deadline for all submissions is January 6, 2016.**

**ASA Community Action Research Initiative (CARI) Grant**

Deadline: February 1

The ASA encourages applications for the Community Action Research Initiative (CARI). The purpose of this grant is to encourage sociologists to undertake community action projects that bring social science knowledge, methods, and expertise to bear in addressing community-identified issues and concerns. Grant applications are encouraged from sociologists seeking to work with community organizations, local public interest groups, or community action projects. Funding will run for the duration of the project, whatever the time span might be.

Applications are encouraged from sociologists in academic settings, research institutions, private and non-profit organizations, and government. Advanced graduate students are eligible to apply, but funding cannot be used to support dissertation research. While ASA membership is not a criterion for applying or being selected for this grant, if and when a grant award is made, the recipient must be a current ASA member. ASA membership involves acceptance of and adherence to the ASA Code of Ethics, which is critical to the implementation of the grant project. Grantees must also provide documentation of pertinent IRB approval for the funded project.

For additional information and complete application materials for both funding opportunities, visit [www.asanet.org/funding](http://www.asanet.org/funding). Direct questions or comments to [spivack@asanet.org](mailto:spivack@asanet.org) or (202) 383-9005 x322.

**SOCIUS**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Editors: Lisa A. Keister and James Moody, Duke University

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# Top-Cited Articles in Sociology Journals, 2010–2014

Jerry A. Jacobs, University of Pennsylvania

What are the most frequently cited articles published in sociology journals in the past five years? With the advent of software that organizes journal citations in an assessable manner, this question has become easier to answer. This information may well be of interest to sociologists striving to keep up-to-date with recent research, especially widely-discussed developments outside of their own areas of scholarship. This report is based on, and partly excerpted from, my forthcoming paper in *The American Sociologist* (Jacobs, 2016).

Table 1 lists the most cited papers published in sociology journals during the period 2010-2014. This list was obtained as part of my study ranking 140 sociology journals; Harzing’s “Publish or Perish” (PoP) software was used to analyze Google Scholar citation data (Harzing 2015). Previous research points to the validity of these data: a very high percentage of links are indeed functioning connections to sources that cite the article in question (Jacobs 2009).

## Themes

While each of the authors in the attached list deserves congratulations, special mention goes to Tom A.B. Snijders and Christian E.G. Steglich, both Professor of Sociology at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. Their paper in *Social Networks* was the most cited paper in the 2010–2014 period; they are also co-authors on another top 10 paper (published in *Sociological Methodology*). Paul Amato, Professor of Sociology at Pennsylvania State University, also warrants recognition for the fact that his is the only name to appear in the most-cited article list for the period 2000–2009 as well as the 2010–2014 list presented here.

Substantively, the theme of social networks plays a prominent role in many of these papers. Four are explicitly about networks; the article by Neil Brenner, Jamie Peck, and Nik Theodore has cross-country policy networks as a prominent theme, and the study by Ezter Hargittai examines usage of the Internet, the world’s largest active network. In terms of their approach, most of the top papers can also be characterized as methodological

contributions, review essays, or synthetic theoretical essays.

## Surprises

The main surprise in this list is how few of the most-cited articles appeared in the top-ranked journals. None of the top-cited papers was published in one of the three top generalist journals, *American Sociological Review* (ASR), *American Journal of Sociology* (AJS), or the *Annual Review of Sociology*. In contrast, the leading specialist journals, such as *Social Networks*, the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, and the *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, are well represented. Hargittai’s study was published in *Sociological Inquiry*, a journal that is not usually included in the top quartile of sociology journals. And two appeared in journals that may not be familiar to some sociologists—the *Journal of Consumer Culture* and *Global Networks*.

The visibility of papers outside the set of elite journals may be viewed as evidence that that electronic search processes are leveling the playing field and enabling greater visibility across the broad spectrum of journals. This

“Internet-accessibility” hypothesis has been advanced by Larivière and his colleagues (2009), among others. In other words, the broader accessibility of journals due to the ready availability of search tools may make it easier for researchers and scholars to find potentially important papers in a wider range of outlets. On the other hand, broader measures of the gap between papers in elite and other journals do not support the idea of an equalizing trend across sociology journals.

## An Asterisk on the Results

This list identifies the articles that have generated the most interest, or are the most visible. It makes no claims regarding quality. If readers will permit me to make an analogy to movies, this list is closer to the “Weekend Box Office Results” than it is to the Academy Award nominees. There are surely many worthy pieces of scholarship that are not on this list. This is true for a number of reasons, including: some research domains are currently less active than others; journals that do not publish in English tend to garner less visibility; and some articles may

*Continued on Page 10*

**Table 1. Articles Published in Sociology Journals with 400+ Cumulative Citations in Google Scholar between 2010-2014**

Cumulative Count	Article Reference Citation
681	Snijders, Tom A. B., Gerhard G. van de Bunt, Christian E. G. Steglich. “Introduction to stochastic actor-based models for network dynamics.” <i>Social Networks</i> 32(1): 44-60.
646	Ritzer, George and Nathan Jurgenson. 2011. Production, Consumption, Prosumption: The nature of capitalism in the age of the digital ‘prosumer.’ <i>Journal of Consumer Culture</i> 10(1):13-36.
620	Mood, Carina. 2010. “Logistic Regression: Why We Cannot Do What We Think We Can Do, and What We Can Do About It.” <i>European Sociological Review</i> 26 (1): 67-82.
582	Brenner, Neil, Jamie Peck and Nik Theodore. 2010. “Variiegated neoliberalization: geographies, modalities, pathways.” <i>Global Networks</i> 10(2): 182-222.
577	Opsahl, Tore, Filip Agneessens and John Skvotetz. 2010. “Node centrality in weighted networks: Generalizing degree and shortest paths.” <i>Social Networks</i> 32(3): 245-251.
546	Amato, Paul. 2010. “Research on Divorce: Continuing Trends and New Developments.” <i>Journal of Marriage and the Family</i> 72(3): 650-666.
543	Hargittai, Eszter. 2010. “Digital Na(t)ives? Variation in Internet Skills and Uses among Members of the “Net Generation” <i>Sociological Inquiry</i> 80(1):92-113.
413	McCright, Aaron and Riley E. Dunlap. 2011. “The Politicization of Climate Change and Polarization in the American Public’s Views of Global Warming, 2001-2010.” <i>Sociological Quarterly</i> 52(2):155-194.
406	Peggy A. Thoits, 2011. “Mechanisms Linking Social Ties and Support to Physical and Mental Health.” <i>Journal of Health and Social Behavior</i> 52(2): 145-161.
402	Steglich, Christian. Tom A. B. Snijders and Michael Pearson. 2010. “Dynamic Networks and Behavior: Separating Selection from Influence.” <i>Sociological Methodology</i> 40:329-393.

Source: Author’s analysis of Publish or Perish (PoP) data.

Note: The fact that the articles on the list are dated 2010 and 2011 simply reflects the fact that these papers have had more “exposure,” that is, more time to be cited, than those published more recently.

# Student Retention in the Sociology Major: First Generation, Students of Color, and Low-Income Students

Richard Paul Devine, Eastern Connecticut State University

Student retention is an important and enduring concern for all colleges and universities. However, of particular concern are students in at-risk groups, such as low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college students. Sociology departments might be especially concerned about student retention since they offer students from at-risk groups. Moreover, sociologist professors are likely to have special concerns for at-risk students because of our disciplinary focus on issues such as inequality.

This report provides a brief overview of the results of my qualitative research with students, sociology faculty, and administrators at Eastern Connecticut State University (typically called “Eastern” since ECSU is part of the State University System along with Southern, Central, and Western). Below are some of the key results of this study; of special note are new concepts to improve student retention.

- I found that the category “first-generation college students” is not well defined. It typically refers to students whose parents did not graduate from college. First generation students, therefore, are thought to lack the knowledge about the culture of college that characterizes students whose parents did graduate from college. And lacking that family background, college advisors believe that such students need more attention about study habits, planning ahead to be sure to register for the courses they will need, and similar habits more familiar to second- or third-generation students.
- To be more precise about this issue, in questioning students, I asked if the student has older siblings or close friends who’ve already entered college. These students, similar

to those whose parents have attended college, can be expected to be more likely to persist in their studies because they begin with more “first-hand” knowledge of the requirements of successful college study.

- The conventional at-risk definitions have considerable overlap since students of color and/or students of lower income families are more likely to also be first-generation.
- Eastern advisors told me that they believe that students of color at Eastern are supported to do well in their college studies because of a “critical mass” of students of color at Eastern. The “critical mass” includes not only African American students but also Afro-Caribbean students as well as students born in Africa. These students may often not be counted as international students since they now have U.S. citizenship, as I’ve found true of several students in my own classes. There are also many Asian and Hispanic students at Eastern although there are relatively fewer Native American students.
- Eastern faces an unusual competitive problem because the University of Connecticut is 15 miles away. Many interviewed students told me that they would have preferred to go to “U Conn.”
- However, several faculty told me of students who came back to Eastern after transferring to “U Conn” because “U Conn” was “just too big.”

## Drop Outs or “Stop Outs?”

Through my prior research at the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE), I’d learned that “stop outs” are not the same as “drop outs,” the latter referring to students who never return to

complete their studies while “stop outs” stop attending school for a semester or more—often to aid their families. Interviewed sociology faculty and advisors spoke of “stop outs” who returned to complete their degree. In some cases, students returned after several year absence, determined to complete their courses in sociology and to earn their bachelor’s degree.

## Eastern’s Statistical Prediction Model

All Eastern freshmen initially may benefit from a statistical prediction model, the “Targeted Advising Cohort” or TAC, which includes two categories of advising concern: high academic risk students; and students at risk of leaving due to non-academic predictive factors such as low income. The TAC system is designed to target university advising resources to first-year students most in need of aid. However, at the sophomore and higher levels, once a student

has a faculty advisor, the Academic Services Center advisors are no longer directly involved. This fact underscores the central importance of faculty advisement for retention once students have a declared major, including sociology, which is often not chosen until a student’s sophomore year.

## Orientations of Sociology Faculty to Student Retention

In addition to student online questionnaires, I also did qualitative, focused interviews with freshmen intending to major in sociology as well as with upper-division sociology majors. I shared my findings from these data sources in interviews with seven full-time sociology faculty as well as with four adjunct faculty. In general, sociology faculty at Eastern are highly motivated to provide academic and counseling support for at-risk students to stay enrolled at Eastern.

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## Articles

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be “ahead their time,” that is, they will become established as classics but only after the scholarly community has had more time to absorb their insights.

Harzing’s PoP software can be used in a number of ways. It can be used to generate a variety of statistics about journals, along with each publications’ most-cited articles. In this way it can serve as a useful tool strategically, for assessing the visibility of a given journal, but also bibliographically, as PoP identifies articles in a way that the standard Journal Citation Reports do not. PoP can also be used as a general search tool as well as for obtaining information on the citations of individual researchers. Perhaps tools can be developed to quickly identify the top-cited books in the field as well.

As the number of journals continues to grow, it becomes harder and harder to keep up with

the literature, especially beyond our own specialties. I hope that the presentation of this list represents a step in the direction of improving communication in our widely diffused field. 

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## A Report from PubsComm

Jennifer Barber, University of Michigan,  
Chair of the ASA Committee on  
Publications

One of the most exciting things ASA does is publish the top journals in our field—this includes nine journals plus *Contexts* magazine and the ASA Rose Series in Sociology for monographs. Given this huge portfolio, there is a specific elected committee—the ASA Committee on Publications or ‘PubsComm’ for short—to oversee and support these activities, to occasionally hear issues from ASA members, and to work with the editors and ASA staff. The bulk of our work is to recruit and nominate editors for these publications. But we also consider a wide range of other issues, some of which I will describe below.

Since 2008, the outgoing chair of PubsComm has written an article for Footnotes at the end of his/her term. I took the reins from outgoing chair, Erin Kelly, in September 2014, and my term ended after the August 2015 ASA Annual Meeting in Chicago,

when Kathleen Blee took over. During my term, the elected members of PubsComm included myself, Kathleen Blee, Doug Hartmann, Erin Kelly, Vincent Roscigno, and Amy Wharton. At the end of my term, Erin Kelly and Vincent Roscigno also completed their terms, and the committee will now be joined by incoming members Matthew Hunt and Claire Renzetti. PubsComm also includes the past president of the association (Annette Lareau during my term) and the secretary of the association (Mary Romero). We are also joined by the excellent ASA staff members who actually make these publications happen – Karen Edwards (ASA Director of Publications and Membership), Rachel Pines (Publications Assistant), as well as Sally Hillsman (ASA Executive Officer). We are occasionally joined by other ASA staff members, such as when John Curtis (ASA’s Director of Research) came to the August, 2015 meeting to discuss archiving information about journal submissions and reviews (see below). In addition, in

response to a referendum on the ASA ballot last year, the ASA membership overwhelmingly approved an expansion of the committee from six to nine elected members, in response to the growing number of ASA journals. The expansion will gradually occur over the next three years.

My term as chair saw the appointment of new editors, and the completion of the terms of other editors. We welcomed new editors Duane Alwin (*Sociological Methodology*), Mustafa Emerbayer (*Sociological Theory*), and the team of Omar Lizardo, Rory McVeigh, and Sara Mustillo (*American Sociological Review*). And we thanked outgoing editors Tim Liao (*SM*), Neil Gross (*ST*), and the team of Larry Isaac and Holly McCammon (*ASR*). We also appointed subcommittees to recruit and review applications for the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* and *Sociology of Education* for 2017–2019. One of the things I saw most clearly during my term as chair was just how hard our journal editors work to maintain our journals’ excellence.

PubsComm considers other issues related to the intellectual functioning of the journals. During my term, in addition to the editorships, some of our major discussions focused on publication ethics, the annual editors’ report on submissions, archiving journal manuscripts and reviews, ASA’s new open access journal *Socius*, the future of *Contexts*, gender-neutral pronouns, and subscription rates.

### Publishing Ethics.

We began by discussing a recent case of (self-) plagiarism, where an author submitted a manuscript to a journal that had already appeared in an edited book, and broadened into a discussion of whether submission requirements should be clarified, and whether the review process is rigorous enough to identify this type (and others) of plagiarism. We also discussed (and approved) a proposal from the editor of *Sociology of Education* that authors be asked, upon submission, to provide infor-

*Continued on Page 14*

## ASA Awards Five FAD Grants to Advance Sociology

Member donations keep the fund going

The American Sociological Association (ASA) is pleased to announce five awards from the June 2015 round of proposals to the Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD). The FAD program is jointly funded by the ASA and the National Science Foundation (NSF), and serves to provide seed funding (up to \$8,000) for innovative research projects and conferences that advance the discipline of sociology. All PhD sociologists are eligible to apply, and individuals who are early in their careers or based at institutions without extensive support for research are especially encouraged to submit a proposal. Applications are reviewed by an advisory panel composed of members of the ASA Council and Director of Research.

The FAD program, in existence since 1987, has funded nearly 400 projects. Proposals are accepted biannually, in June and December, and the selection process is competitive. Although NSF provides significant

funding, ASA members can help extend the strong FAD tradition of supporting innovation and diversifying the discipline by donating online (by logging into the ASA website and clicking “contribute”), by phone at (202) 383-9005, or by mail to FAD, c/o Business Office, American Sociological Association, 1430 K Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005.

The most recent projects selected for award are listed below. More information about the program is available on the ASA website ([www.asanet.org/funding/funding\\_and\\_grants.cfm](http://www.asanet.org/funding/funding_and_grants.cfm)).

**Meghan A. Burke**, Illinois Wesleyan University, for *Summit: New Frontiers in the Study of Colorblind Racism* (\$8,000).

The award will support a conference bringing together scholars, a campus community, and a local community to invigorate new directions for research on contemporary racism. As Burke notes, the central ideology that sustains contemporary racial

inequality is that of “color blindness,” the notion that racial inequality is attributable to individual or cultural differences rather than historical racism and its ongoing legacy. The conference seeks to push the concept of (and the research agenda on) colorblindness in new directions, and should be effective in getting young scholars involved in this research. The “summit” conference is expected to lead to an edited volume of groundbreaking new research, a toolkit for educators teaching about contemporary racism and the creation and dissemination of a public sociology brief about the relevance of this work for nonprofits, policymakers, and activists.

**Martha Crowley and Stacy De Coster**, North Carolina State University, for *Emotion Management by African American Consumers* (\$7,992).

Existing sociological perspectives on emotions in service work focus on “feeling rules” that require employ-

ees to manage their own and others’ emotions, most commonly to ensure a pleasant consumer experience. This study will instead investigate the emotion work that African American consumers must do to manage the feelings of service workers as they navigate the racist microaggressions that permeate consumer settings. The project will draw on semi-structured interviews to advance our understanding of emotion work and African Americans’ use of agency to navigate microaggressive contexts, while examining variations associated with age, gender, and social class. The review panel noted that research in the field of emotional labor has been dominated by studies of white middle-class women; an intersectional analysis is sorely needed and this project promises to begin to fill the gap.

**Danielle Kane**, DePauw University, and **Ke Li**, Indiana University, for *The Gendered Transition to Adulthood in Urban and Rural China* (\$7,910).

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## FAD

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While research in the West suggests that socioeconomic change has led to a decreased concern with achieving markers of adulthood such as marriage, job, and parenthood “on time” and in order, residents of China have experienced more dramatic and compressed social transformations while still believing that such markers should be reached according to a strict timeline. Kane’s project will investigate gender and geographic differences in the transition to adulthood in China, as well as the role played by the natal family in navigating this transition, through interviews conducted in two locations. The urban-rural cleavage is a major nexus of inequality in China, where the household and family formation process is further constrained by a near-universal household registration system. The project aims to globalize our understanding of

emerging adulthood through an in-depth investigation of a non-Western case while helping to specify the links between socioeconomic change and beliefs about the timing and ordering of markers of adulthood. It will fill a gap in the research literature since most previous work has been done through surveys.


**Daniel Schneider**, University of California-Berkeley, and **Kristen Harknett**, University of Pennsylvania, for *Employment Precarity and Family Well-being: Evidence from San Francisco’s Predictable Scheduling and Fair Treatment of Retail Employees Ordinance* (\$7,596).

Precarious and unstable employment, exemplified by practices like involuntary part-time work and on-call scheduling, can have pernicious economic effects as well as negative effects on family life. San Francisco recently passed an ordinance that will require some employers to provide hourly workers with advance

notice of work schedules and the opportunity to move from part-time to full-time work. This pilot study will assemble a team of undergraduate and graduate students to interview affected workers with children about the intersection of their work and family lives. It is the first wave of a longitudinal qualitative study to assess how the new ordinance may affect family life and will also lay the groundwork for a quantitative assessment using existing administrative data or original survey data. The research will advance our understanding of how predictable scheduling legislation affects the lives of workers in San Francisco and inform national debates in the wake of the emergence of a broader movement across the country.

**Christopher Wetzel**, Stonehill College, for *The Dynamics of Gaming Legalization* (\$8,000).

Over the last century gaming transitioned from being effectively banned to a relatively acceptable

form of recreation throughout the United States, with 2009 total gross revenue of \$89 billion in 48 states. Even so, gaming is not monolithic and the challenges associated with normalizing various types of wagering have differed across states. This project will use in-depth interviews and archival research to compare three state cases: Massachusetts, a state that allows casinos, lotteries, and pari-mutuel wagering; Nevada, a state that still prohibits lotteries but permits casinos and pari-mutuel wagering; and Hawaii, one of two states that does not allow any gaming. The project includes a connection to pedagogy. The research promises to enhance our sociological understanding of morality and moral politics; the paradoxical impacts of neoliberalism and attempts to increase state revenue through gaming, individualizing economic risk in the process; and the race, class, and gender dynamics of the three state case studies of gaming legalization. 

## Vantage Point

From Page 2


evident and fully integrated across course levels. Even students in introductory sociology can benefit from the experience of working with quantitative data as well as rigorously analyzed qualitative data. For ideas about doing this, see the 2006 *Teaching Sociology* article “Integrating Data Analysis (IDA): Working with Sociology Departments to Address the Quantitative Literacy Gap” by Carla Howery and Havidán Rodríguez. (Also see [www.TeachingWithData.org](http://www.TeachingWithData.org).)

Research findings from the ASA Department of Research on the Discipline and Profession shows clearly that undergraduate majors who are able to describe their data analysis skills in a job interview are significantly more likely to find employment related to their major, and they are significantly more likely to report being satisfied with their job (Spalter-Roth and Van Vooren 2008 at <http://bit.ly/ZkOYU1>).

The power and joy of sociology as a STEM discipline is that it

addresses systematically the lived experience of students from many racial and ethnic backgrounds, many of whom are also first-generation college students. More than one-quarter of graduating sociology majors have parents with a high school diploma or less. Sociology can provide a meaningful entrée to the scientific method for those who don’t initially think they are interested in science, but find themselves powerfully engaged by the substantive issues discussed in sociology classes and literature. The experience of sociological thinking can help them better understand the social contexts within which they live (Spalter-Roth et al. 2012).

Faced with misguided and sometimes deliberate efforts to marginalize and delegitimize the social sciences, sociologists must be able to articulate that sociology is a scientific discipline that offers vital insights to the 21<sup>st</sup> century global community. We can do this by actively and articulately advocating for sociology. We can demonstrate the significant role sociology plays within national science organizations. We can be knowledgeable

about the contributions sociology makes to the interdisciplinary and global scientific knowledge base. And we can effectively carry out our responsibility as undergraduate teachers to help students understand the scientific foundations of sociology, how it can enhance their understanding of daily life, and how it can provide a solid foundation of skills to help them meet the next challenges in life. 

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# ASA Forum for Public Discussion and Debate

## Milestones in Sociology

Several months ago, while I was searching online for milestones in health quality improvement, I saw a post, titled “Medical Milestones – the Past 500 Years.” The commentary was about a *New England Journal of Medicine* editorial (“Looking back on the millennium in medicine”). The editorial, published in 2000, charted key events and findings in medicine from the previous millennium. My search also yielded an interesting post based on an article in the *British Medical Journal*, which, in 2007, published an article that reported readers’ choices of the most important medical milestones. In many respects, milestones in medicine overlap with milestones in public health, but the list is definitive, clear, concise, and evidence-based. What is most significant is that the medical postings clearly identified *contributions to the betterment of*



*society.* I searched the term “sociological milestones,” and did not find anything similar to the medical milestones articles. The ASA website has a narrative of our history and there are numerous papers on the history of sociology. But, you won’t find ASA’s history page or any papers on the evolution of sociology when you Google sociological milestones. So, I wondered, what can we say that is definitive about sociology’s contributions and what developments are universally accepted? How many sociological contributions have made us, or most of us, know more, understand better, or live longer? How have we improved the world based on how we study ourselves? I focus briefly on language and the study of stratification.

### Language

There are four words or terms that are so diffuse in our language that most people don’t realize that

sociologists contributed them: life-style, role model, standard of living, and dysfunctional (see Merton, Robert and Alan Wolfe “The Cultural and Social Incorporation of Sociological Knowledge” *The American Sociologist*, Fall 1995:15-39). Other sociological terms that are used frequently, such as: underclass, division of labor, and white collar crime.

### Stratification, Race and Racism

Any listing of the contributions of sociology that have improved society should include the relentless examination of how we categorize, organize, and value ourselves differently. Our lives are continuously shaped by our race, ethnic or tribal group, gender, income level or class. Together with anthropology, we do stratification in human groups earnestly.

### Feedback Needed

So, what do you think are the most significant sociological findings that have made our lives better in some way? I respectfully ask all readers, all sociologists (for that matter) for feedback. Send your nominations to sociology\_milestones@gmail.com.

What shall be the criteria for

this list of sociological milestones? Primarily, that the contribution improves our lives in some way—we know more, we are more informed about ourselves. There is a public access dimension to this as well. The benefits of this sociological development should apply to all. There should be no competition or restriction in benefits; all members of the public should be able to avail themselves of this finding or development to improve their awareness of self or their lives in some way. The finding could promote self-protection to avoid risk, harm, injuries or death.

The Nobel Committee does not award any prizes for milestones the social sciences. Are they missing out on sociological contributions that have made the “greatest benefit to mankind?” There is one very significant contribution of sociology, in my opinion, that allows us to uncover nuanced human behavior so that we can be a better society. My choice is the elegant social distance scale. This most original way of uncovering our personal biases should be recognized by the Nobel Committee.

Yoku Shaw-Taylor

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## Retention

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### Conclusion

The Eastern Sociology Department benefits from an effective predictive model for freshmen advisement to aid in retaining students at academic risk as well as providing support to students at higher predictive risk of leaving for other reasons. The Sociology Department has taken additional steps to aid students who choose to major in Sociology. These include proactive measures such as offering independent study; referral to the tutoring and academic services centers; and using learning management systems (i.e., Blackboard).

Sociology departments at other universities might benefit from the nascent model provided

in the results of this research endeavor in three ways. First, departments should be attending not only to academic needs of students but also to personal issues, such as those that may lead to “stopping out” or even “dropping out” due to external pressures. Second, departments should cooperate with the advising staff of the college or university to provide the best array of student support services. Third, departments should provide support within the department for improving advising skills of the department faculty. Not all great teachers are necessarily good advisors. Learning to be an effective advisor is, like student learning, a skill that can be developed even for those who did not start with those “natural” abilities.

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**ASA Forum**

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**ASA and Independent Scholars**

My original intent was to suggest the cooperative integration of Independent Scholars into the American Sociological Association and the field of sociology. However, because of an unfortunate incident at the 2014 ASA Annual Meeting, I am now in a less cordial mood. According to a sociologist and ASA member who is also a member of the National Coalition of Independent Scholars ([www.ncis.org](http://www.ncis.org)), when she was being introduced before her presentation, the chair of the session—who had never heard of NCIS—questioned her affiliation in a way that led her to feel publically humiliated and demeaned. It seemed to her that her professional standing and competence was questioned in front of the panel and audience.

For those in academia, I can understand not being aware of NCIS, or perhaps even of independent scholars in general, though they have been growing in vis-

ibility and recognition for decades. The independent scholar, usually academically trained and degreed, is one who does professional level peer-reviewed research, writing, and publishing without being affiliated with academic institutions.

The modern organized independent scholar movement in the United States began in the mid 1970s ([ncis.org/ncis-history](http://ncis.org/ncis-history)), largely by women. Other populations that turned to independent scholarly careers included gay men and lesbians and politically committed individuals who had been purged from university life. For many in these groups, recognition and publication was frequently more difficult because of institutional biases. Membership in NCIS is vetted via a Membership Committee that looks at education/degree history, peer-reviewed publications and/or presentations, participation in professional life, other scholarly affiliations and additional factors, taken as a whole.

In the fall of 2015, there were about 15 NCIS sociologist members (about 10% of membership). In 2004, I did a survey for NCIS on the membership. At that time, most members were white, female,

and aged 55 and over. Nearly all members had a graduate degree, with 65 percent having a doctorate (including MDs and JDs). Social scientists accounted for 12 percent of membership. The reasons why members were independent scholars were varied, with desire for independence in their research, difficulties in finding an academic position, and discontent with institutionalized academic values and personalities given as the major reasons. History and Languages and Literature were the fields most represented in 2004 and that continues to be the case in 2015. There appears to have been a slight increase in social science and STEM-degreed members.

In recent years, there have been upticks in membership applications from Asia and the Middle East, from adjuncts, from graduate students, and from those with emeritus status lacking access to academic resources. Recently, NCIS members note a definite disadvantage in getting beyond the paywalls that often block access to electronic journals and data. Many academics do not realize that their libraries contractually restrict access to only their institution's faculty, staff, and students.

Given the pervasiveness of independent scholars, what can academic sociologists do to increase the diversity of ASA? Some worthwhile efforts come immediately to mind. Promote the open access movement and expand university-wide positions for visiting scholars. Include the term "independent scholar" in calls for papers, Association positions, journal editorial positions, conference topics, and funding. Devise support strategies for unaffiliated post-degree research and arrangements so that Independents may have sanctioned relationships with IRBs that are unavailable or too expensive outside of academia. Other options hopefully will come out of ASA's abandonment of its fortress mentality as it reforms the assumptions and language of an insulated and isolated academia. 

David Sonenschein, Independent Scholar

**Endnotes**

1. *Independent Together: The 2004 Membership Survey*, National Coalition of Independent Scholars, 2004. A PDF copy is available from the author, [sondav549@gmail.com](mailto:sondav549@gmail.com).
2. A relationship between NCIS and ASA's Options in Retirement Network was explored at the 2015 annual meeting.

**PubsComm**

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mation about the source of funding for their research (if applicable) and to affirm that any research on human subjects has been reviewed and approved by an appropriate ethics committee (such as an IRB). Publishing ethics, of course, is an ongoing and evolving conversation for PubsComm, and will most likely be discussed at every meeting in some form or another.

**The Annual Editors' Report on Submissions.**

A major accomplishment of the committee during this period was to change the annual editors' report format. The table, published annually in the April *Footnotes*, has been revised to give authors a better sense of the probability of a submitted manuscript being accepted—after the initial submission, or after revision. It also

provides the average editorial lag time from submission to decision for both new and revised submissions.

**Archiving Journal Manuscripts and Reviews.**

We are currently finalizing a survey to get member input on whether the ASA should retain journal manuscripts and reviews for research purposes, and whether that would affect authors' and reviewers' willingness to submit and review manuscripts to ASA journals. The ASA currently has 500+ boxes of historical editorial records from 1990-2009. Many scholars feel that these records are vitally important for research on the history of the discipline and the sociology of knowledge. Look for the survey in your e-mail inbox soon!

**ASA's New Open-Access Journal, Socius.**

The journal is now accepting manuscripts! The editors, Lisa Keister

and James Moody, are committed to publishing high quality, innovative, rigorously-reviewed scientific research with quick decisions (and limited revise and resubmits).

**The Future of Contexts.**


Editors Syed Ali and Philip Cohen have proposed an examination of the current publication model of *Contexts* to consider whether ASA can continue its outstanding performance but reach a broader audience through a new publication model and business plan. PubsComm proposed to ASA Council that they form a joint committee of PubsComm, Council, Executive Office and Budget Committee (EOB), and the Task Force on Engaging Sociology.

**Gender-Neutral Pronouns.**

A member directly approached me with a question about the *ASA Style Guide* and the use of gender-neutral

pronouns, particularly the use of "they" rather than "he" or "she". The committee was briefed that this is an issue under consideration by another subcommittee specifically formed for this and similar issues.

**Subscription Rates.**

The PubsComm meeting is also attended, at least in part, by our representative from SAGE publications. During my term, that was Thomas Mankowski. He reported that ASA has a very strong institutional subscriber base and usage of the ASA journals is extremely strong. ASA journals already had half a million downloads for the year in August 2015 and would likely reach a million or more by the end of the year. Every ASA journal grew in 2014. And, the *American Sociological Review* was again ranked the top journal in sociology using impact factor and citation data. 

announcements

Call for Papers

Publications

**Community Psychology in Global Perspective** invites submissions for a special issue on "Structural Violence." Structural violence refers to the production and maintenance of social inequality and oppression. The concept signifies the mechanisms through which social systems produce and normalize exclusion and marginalization along lines of race, class, gender, ethnicity, nationality, and other invidious categories. *Community Psychology in Global Perspective* publishes work that is of relevance to community psychologists as well as scholars and professionals from a diverse array of other backgrounds with shared interest in community-focused work. Deadline: January 15, 2016, Contact: Urmitapa Dutta at urmitapa\_dutta@uml.edu. For more information, visit [www.siba-ese.unisalento.it/index.php/cpgp/index](http://www.siba-ese.unisalento.it/index.php/cpgp/index).

**Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research (CPFR)**, an annual series that focuses on cutting-edge topics in family research around the globe, is seeking manuscript submissions for its 2016 volume. The 2016 volume of CPFR will focus on the theme of "Divorce, Separation, and Remarriage: The Transformation of Family." While the family remains a core social institution in every society, it is, nonetheless, an institution which continues to evolve. Manuscripts should be submitted directly to the editors in MS WORD format. Manuscripts should not exceed 40 double-spaced pages (not including tables, figures, and references). Manuscripts should adhere to the APA format. An abstract of 150-200 words should be included. Deadline: January 23, 2016. Contact: Giovanna Ganesini at [giovanna.ganesini2@unibo.it](mailto:giovanna.ganesini2@unibo.it) and Sampson Lee Blair at [slblair@buffalo.edu](mailto:slblair@buffalo.edu).

**Nineteenth Century Studies** invites brief reviews of publications relevant to the journal's publishing mission on the online NCS forum. The journal publishes studies of interest to scholars of the nineteenth century in all humanistic fields. As in the past, NCS posted a list of possible review titles related to both their previous and upcoming Nineteenth Century Studies Association conference themes. Contact: Jennifer Hayward at [jhayward@wooster.edu](mailto:jhayward@wooster.edu). For more information, visit [www.english.selu.edu/ncs/online\\_reviews.php](http://www.english.selu.edu/ncs/online_reviews.php) and [www.english.selu.edu/ncs/online\\_reviews.php](http://www.english.selu.edu/ncs/online_reviews.php).

**Policing Segregated Bodies** submissions are being sought for an edited volume on the policing of minority and ethnic communities. Proposals may include topics addressing police practices in segregated communities as well as how Black and Latino bodies are policed in public spaces. The goal of this project is to highlight

and critically evaluate the complex and oftentimes problematic relationship between law enforcement, social control, and communities of color. Please submit a 500-word abstract. Deadline: February 1, 2016. Contact: Alan Brown at [browna84@southernct.edu](mailto:browna84@southernct.edu); or Cassi Meyerhoffer at [meyerhoffec2@southernct.edu](mailto:meyerhoffec2@southernct.edu).

**Social Sciences** invites submissions for a special issue on "Women, Gender and Politics: An International Overview." This Special Issue focuses on women, gender, and politics in international perspective with a particular emphasis on the interaction between local organizing and transnational politics; public policy and constructions of gender; effects of women's participation in electoral office, national governmental agencies, and international governance; gender differences in political participation, activism, and policy outcomes; and queer and transgender politics and policies. Deadline: January 10, 2016. Contact: [socsci@mdpi.com](mailto:socsci@mdpi.com). For more information, visit [www.mdpi.com/journal/socsci/special\\_issues/Women\\_Gender\\_and\\_Politics](http://www.mdpi.com/journal/socsci/special_issues/Women_Gender_and_Politics).

**Society and Mental Health** seeks scholarship on public sector mental health, with focus on the role of structural and behavioral correlates of mental health disparities and the consequences of social inequality for those systems that meet the needs of individuals with severe mental disorders. Of particular interest is scholarship that explores the role of the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion. Manuscripts which elucidate the unique contributions sociologists can make to mental health services research are also welcome. Articles will be peer reviewed and 4 to 6 papers selected for inclusion in this special issue. The guest editor will provide a brief historic overview of developments in public mental

health care. Please submit papers using the journal's online system. Deadline: March 15, 2016.

Conferences

**Biennial Conference of the European Association for Research on Adolescence (EARA)**, September 16-19, 2016, La Barrosa, Spain. Theme: "¿Qué será, será? Adolescent Research into the Future: Visions and Challenges." Submissions are invited that contribute from a broad array of topics within research on adolescence. The Suggested topics include, though not exclusively: young people and their social groups, developmental transitions, social institutions, risk, deviance and the law, mental and physical health, leisure, identity, gender roles, minorities, technology, sports, cross-cultural differences, interventions, and relevant and innovative research methods. Deadline: March 31, 2016. For more information, visit [www.eara2016.com/](http://www.eara2016.com/).

**Comparative Historical Sociology Section Mini Conference**, August 19, 2016, Seattle, Washington. Theme: "Can Comparative Historical Sociology Save the World?" The Comparative Historical Sociology section of the American Sociological Association and the Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) program at Northwestern University are pleased to announce a mini-conference. Interested in submissions that employ comparative and historical methods to examine important issues of our day, such as (but not limited to) global market regulation, questions of immigration and citizenship, poverty, environmental insecurity, and protracted race, gender and class inequality. Deadline: January 30, 2016. Contact: [mailto:chsminicon@gmail.com](mailto:mailto:chsminicon@gmail.com). For more information, visit [www.form.jotform.us/form/52724660569160](http://www.form.jotform.us/form/52724660569160)

**Ethnography and Qualitative Research 6<sup>th</sup> Conference**, June 8-11,

2016, Bergamo, Italy. Theme, "Submerged Conflicts. Ethnography of the Invisible Resistances in the Quotidian." Since 2006, the Bergamo conference of ethnography has become an increasingly recognized and established scientific meeting for social researchers at the Italian national level. In 2014, the conference has been opened to international participants adopting English as a second language. Deadline: January 15, 2016. Contact: [psait@gmail.com](mailto:psait@gmail.com) or [erq.conference@unibg.it](mailto:erq.conference@unibg.it). For more information, visit [www.etnograficercerqualitativa.it/?page\\_id=62](http://www.etnograficercerqualitativa.it/?page_id=62).

**Global Awareness Society International's 25th Annual Conference**, May 26-29, 2016, Budapest, Hungary. Theme: "Growing Up in a Globalized World." Submissions are invited focused on social issues related to globalization with a special focus on the challenges, opportunities, responsibilities and futures of the globe's younger population. Papers are generally 15 minutes in length and are presented in sessions with 3 to 5 others in a common thread. Contact: Hiram Martinez at [hiram.martinez@millersville.edu](mailto:hiram.martinez@millersville.edu). For more information, visit [www.orgs.bloomu.edu/gasi](http://www.orgs.bloomu.edu/gasi).

**International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE) 2016 Conference**, December 17-20, 2016, Kuwait City, Kuwait. Theme: "Legitimate Tradition." This conference seeks to ask: What role does tradition play in legitimating practices that produce place-based or placeless built environments? In the particular context of tradition, legitimacy can have several meanings, including authenticity, legality, and the possession of value or worth. These aspects of legitimacy are not inherent within traditions themselves, but are bestowed by agents for particular reasons. Papers will explore the following themes: building legitimacy through

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The Drug Policy Alliance is proud to announce Robin Room as the recipient of its biennial Alfred R. Lindesmith Award for Achievement in the Field of Scholarship. Dr. Room's extraordinary and prolific work over the past fifty years, driven by both his profound curiosity and a commitment to dealing with drug use and problems in ways consistent with scientific evidence, compassion and human rights, have powerfully informed and bolstered the global movement for drug policy reform. We are delighted that this award coincides with the launch of DPA's new Office of Academic Engagement to be directed by Julie Netherland. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Room.

## announcements

tradition; legitimizing tradition; tradition and the ethics of practice. Deadline: February 16, 2016. For more information, visit [www.iaste.berkeley.edu/conferences/2016-conference](http://www.iaste.berkeley.edu/conferences/2016-conference).

**Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)** invites submissions for the 66th Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA, August 19-21, 2016. The theme, selected by President David A. Smith, is "Globalizing Social Problems." The submission deadline is January 31, 2016. SSSP is an interdisciplinary community of scholars, practitioners, advocates, and students interested in the application of critical, scientific, and humanistic perspectives to the study of vital social problems. In SSSP you will meet others engaged in research to find the causes and consequences of social problems, as well as others seeking to apply existing scholarship to the formulation of social policies. Contact: [sssp@utk.edu](mailto:sssp@utk.edu). For more information, visit [www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/655/](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/655/).

**Sociology of the Arts 9<sup>th</sup> Midterm Conference**, September 8-10, 2016, Porto, Portugal. Theme: "Arts and Creativity Working on Identity and Difference." The arts are undergoing deep changes in the social, cultural, economic and ecological environments and governance frameworks in which they operate today. A specific combination of various factors increases the challenges faced by arts and the potential for sociological inquiry. The European Sociology Association Research Network Sociology of the Arts aims to provide the sociological contexts for understanding multifaceted and interwoven aspects which characterize the art worlds in societies nowadays. Deadline: February 15,

2016. For more information, visit [www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn2-sociology-of-the-arts/59-rn2-call-for-papers.html](http://www.europeansociology.org/research-networks/rn2-sociology-of-the-arts/59-rn2-call-for-papers.html).

**Summit on New Frontiers in the Study of Colorblind Racism**, May 12-14, 2016, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL. This workshop style summit will bring together scholars, a campus community, and a local public to invigorate new directions for research on contemporary racism, with a number of scholars-only sessions to develop new lines of thinking and research. Summit attendees will be encouraged to contribute to a special issue of *Sociological Perspectives* and to help develop a toolkit for educators and a public sociology brief. This summit is sponsored by an NSF-backed ASA Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (FAD) grant, which provides a travel stipend of up to \$550 for up to eight scholars to attend the summit. Deadline: January 8, 2016. For more information, visit [www.meghanburke.weebly.com/summit-new-frontiers-in-the-study-of-colorblind-racism.html](http://www.meghanburke.weebly.com/summit-new-frontiers-in-the-study-of-colorblind-racism.html).

## Meetings

**February 25-26, 2016.** Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Jackson, MS. Theme: "The State of Sociology in Alabama and Mississippi." For more information, visit [www.a-msa.org](http://www.a-msa.org).

**March 3-5, 2016.** Global Status of Women and Girls, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA. This interdisciplinary conference seeks to foster inquiries into the complex and multifocal issues faced by women and girls around the world, both histori-

cally and today. The keynote speaker is Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalist Sheryl Wu Dunn. For more information, visit [www.globalstatusofwomen-conf.org/](http://www.globalstatusofwomen-conf.org/).

**March 4-5, 2016.** Annual Conference from the Council on Contemporary Families (CCF). Austin, TX. Theme: "Families as They Really Are: Demography, Disparities, and Debates." For more information, visit [www.contemporary-families.org/category/news/news-and-upcoming-events/](http://www.contemporary-families.org/category/news/news-and-upcoming-events/).

**March 23-26, 2016.** Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) and the North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) 2016 Joint Conference, Chicago, IL. Theme: "Inequality, Injustice, and Intersectionality."

**June 13-15, 2016.** International Conference on Unequal Families and Relationships, Edinburgh, Great Britain. Theme: "Unequal Families." For more information, visit [www.crfr.ac.uk/international-conference-2016/](http://www.crfr.ac.uk/international-conference-2016/).

**June 23-25, 2016.** Work and Family Researchers Network (WFRN) 2016 Conference, Washington, DC. Theme: "Careers, Care, and Life-Course 'Fit': Implications for Health, Equality, and Policy." The Work and Family Researchers Network is an international membership organization of interdisciplinary work and family researchers.

**July 10-14, 2016.** International Sociology Association Third Forum of Sociology, Vienna, Austria. Theme: "The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggle for a Better World." The WebForum is an experimental space for intellectual debate on the broadly conceived theme. For more information, visit [www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/](http://www.isa-sociology.org/forum-2016/).

## Funding

**Advertising Educational Foundation 2016 Visiting Professor Program**, is a two-week fellowship of professors. The objective is to expose professors to the day-to-day operations of an advertising agency, marketing or media company; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between academia and industry. The VPP gives professors a greater understanding of and appreciation for the industry while host companies have an opportunity to develop closer ties to academia. Deadline: January 31, 2016. Contact: Sharon Hudson at [sh@aef.com](mailto:sh@aef.com) or (212) 986-8060 x15. For more information, visit [aef.com](http://aef.com).

**American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Digital Extension Grant** program, made possible by the assistance of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will support teams of scholars as they enhance existing digital projects with the goal of engaging new audiences across a range of academic communities and institutions. The Digital Extension Grant program builds upon the successes

of ACLS's recently concluded Digital Innovation Fellowship program, which over ten years funded 60 scholars pursuing computationally sophisticated approaches to humanistic research. ACLS will award up to six Digital Extension Grants. Each grant provides up to \$150,000 in funding, supporting a range of project costs, for terms of 12 to 18 months. Deadline: February 2, 2016. For more information, visit [www.acls.org/programs/digitalextension/](http://www.acls.org/programs/digitalextension/).

**Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies at the University of Ottawa** is inviting applications for its Bank of Montreal Visiting Scholar in Women's Studies for 2016-2017. The purpose of this fund is to attract highly qualified researchers working on feminist, women's, or gender issues. The Visiting Scholar's stay should be from three to six months within the university's academic year, September to April. The recipient will receive a maximum of \$4,000, which may be used to supplement research and/or travel expenses. The Visiting Scholar will be required to present their ongoing research project in conferences and/or seminars and to interact with the community of students and colleagues. Deadline: December 31, 2015. Contact: [mcharbo@uottawa.ca](mailto:mcharbo@uottawa.ca). For more information, visit [www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/fem/applications-bank-montreal](http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/fem/applications-bank-montreal).

**National Institutes of Health Common Fund** announces the FY 2016 funding opportunity for the NIH Director's Early Independence Awards (EIA). The EIA initiative allows exceptional junior scientists to accelerate their transition to an independent research career by skipping the traditional postdoctoral training. To be eligible, candidates at time of application must be within one year, before or after, of completion of their terminal degree or clinical residency. In addition, at time of application, candidates must not be in an independent position. Each institution may submit up to two applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement. Deadline: December 29, 2015. For more information, visit [www.commonfund.nih.gov/earlyindependence/faq](http://www.commonfund.nih.gov/earlyindependence/faq).

**National Institute of Nursing Research** is offering a research project grant funded by the National Institute of Health. The purpose of this initiative is to stimulate research in promoting caregiver health using self-management. Caregiving is an important science area since the number of people living longer with chronic conditions is growing. Informal caregivers are defined as unpaid individuals involved in assisting others with activities of daily living and/or medical tasks. Formal caregivers are paid. This concept focuses on informal caregivers. Deadline: March 3, 2016. Contact: Isabel M. Estrada-Portales at [Isabel.estrada@nih.gov](mailto:Isabel.estrada@nih.gov) or (301) 496-7859. For more information, visit [www.ninr.nih.gov](http://www.ninr.nih.gov).

## ASA footnotes

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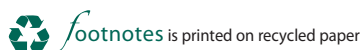
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Article submissions are limited to 1,000 words and must have journalistic value (e.g., timeliness, significant impact, general interest) rather than be research oriented or scholarly in nature. Submissions will be reviewed by the editorial board for possible publication. "ASA Forum" (including letters to the editor) contributions are limited to 400-600 words; "Obituaries," 500-700 words; and "Announcements," 200 words. All submissions should include a contact name and, if possible, an e-mail address. ASA reserves the right to edit all material published for style and length. The deadline for all material is the first of the month preceding publication (e.g., February 1 for March issue).

Send communications on material, subscriptions, and advertising to: American Sociological Association, 1430 K Street, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 383-9005; fax (202) 638-0882; email [footnotes@asanet.org](mailto:footnotes@asanet.org); <[www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org)>.

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announcements

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NR-16-003.html.

**Sakip Sabancı International Research Award** involves a Jury Prize of \$25,000 awarded to an individual who has made contributions to the theme. An independent and international jury will select the Awardee. In addition, Essay Awards will be given to researchers under 45 years of age. This category includes \$10,000 for each of the three award-winning essays selected by the same jury. Submissions that make general and specific contributions to this subject from a wide and interdisciplinary academic perspective are welcome. Deadline: January 15, 2016. For more information, visit [www.award.sabanciuiniv.edu](http://www.award.sabanciuiniv.edu).

**Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)** is soliciting applications for the 2016 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Persons identified as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Asian-American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or American Indian or Alaska Native and accepted into an accredited doctoral program in any one of the social and/or behavioral sciences are invited to apply for the \$15,000 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Two students will be funded. Applicants will be notified of the results by July 15, 2016. All applicants must be a current member and a citizen or permanent resident of the United States when applying. Deadline: February 1, 2016. Contact: Dr. Shirley A. Jackson, Chair, Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship Committee at [jacksons1@southernct.edu](mailto:jacksons1@southernct.edu). For more information, visit [www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/261/Racial/Ethnic\\_Minority\\_Graduate\\_Scholarship/](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/261/Racial/Ethnic_Minority_Graduate_Scholarship/).

**Fellowships**

**American School of Classical Studies at Athens** announces the academic programs and fellowships for the 2016-2017 academic year at the Gennadius Library. The Gennadius Library holds a collection of over 125,000 books and rare bindings, archives, manuscripts, and works of art illuminating the Hellenic tradition and neighboring cultures. The Library has become an internationally renowned center for the study of Greek history, literature, and art, especially from the Byzantine period to modern times. Many fellowships are being offered. Deadline: January 15, 2016. For more information, visit [www.ascsa.edu.gr/index.php/gennadius/EducationalPrograms](http://www.ascsa.edu.gr/index.php/gennadius/EducationalPrograms).

**Beyster Professorship, Fellowship, and Related Fellows Programs** from Rutgers University. Fellowships are for sociologists with an interest in economic sociology, the sociology of organizations, the sociology of work, labor movements, and political sociology for the 2016-2017 academic year to study employee stock ownership plans. Fellowships in the amount of

\$12,500-\$25,000 will be offered by Rutgers University's School of Management and Labor Relations to doctoral candidates, recent PhD graduates and pre- and post-tenure scholars in the social sciences. Submit a 1,500 word statement, a curriculum vitae and three letters of reference sent separately by email. Deadline: December 31, 2015. Contact: Joseph Blasi at [blasi@smmr.rutgers.edu](mailto:blasi@smmr.rutgers.edu) or [fellowship\\_program@smmr.rutgers.edu](mailto:fellowship_program@smmr.rutgers.edu). For more information, visit [www.smmr.rutgers.edu/research-and-centers/fellowship-programs](http://www.smmr.rutgers.edu/research-and-centers/fellowship-programs).

**Mercatus Center Academic and Student Programs** announces its Adam Smith Fellowship, which is awarded to graduate students attending PhD programs in a variety of fields including economics, philosophy, political science, and sociology. The fellowship aims to introduce students to and encourage them to critically engage key thinkers in political economy that they might not otherwise encounter during their graduate studies. As such, Smith Fellows spend three weekends during the academic year and one week during the summer in residence at George Mason University participating in workshops and seminars on the Austrian, Virginia, and Bloomington schools of political economy. For more information, visit [www.grad.mercatus.org/content/adam-smith-fellowships](http://www.grad.mercatus.org/content/adam-smith-fellowships).

**University of New Mexico (UNM) Center for Health Policy 2016-2017 Doctoral Fellowships.** The UNM Health Policy Doctoral fellowship is a prestigious doctoral fellowship program for PhD students with educational and research interests that include health and health policy analysis. Fellows will receive up to four years of funding support including paid in-state tuition, a paid position of up to \$24,000 awarded through an annual research assistantship, and student health insurance. Deadline: February 12, 2016. For more information, visit: [www.healthpolicy.unm.edu/phdfellowships](http://www.healthpolicy.unm.edu/phdfellowships).

**Competitions**

**National Science Foundation** has published a new solicitation for the 2016 and 2017 competitions for RIDER (Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the SBE Sciences). The RIDIR Program supports the development of user-friendly large-scale next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques to advance fundamental research in SBE (social, behavioral, economic) areas of study. Successful proposals describe products that have significant impacts by enabling new types of data-intensive research. Deadline: February 29, 2016. For more information, visit [www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=505168](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505168).

**Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize for Visual Sociology** recognizes students

who incorporate visual analysis in their work. The contest is open worldwide to undergraduate and graduate students. Rachel Dorothy Tanur (1958–2002), was an urban planner and lawyer who cared deeply about people and their lives and was an acute observer of living conditions and human relationships. Entries will be judged by members of the Visual Sociology group of the International Sociological Association (ISA). Up to three prizes will be awarded at the Third ISA Forum of Sociology, The Futures We Want: Global Sociology and the Struggles for a Better World, held in Vienna, Austria on July 10-14, 2016. Attendance at the forum is not a requirement but is encouraged. First prize is \$2,500; second prize is \$1,500; and third prize is \$500. Deadline: January 25, 2016. For more information, visit [www.racheltanurmemorialprize.org/](http://www.racheltanurmemorialprize.org/).

**Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)** announces the 2016 Student Paper Competitions and Outstanding Scholarship Awards. In order to be considered for any of the Student Paper Competitions, applicants are required to submit their papers through the Annual Meeting Call for Papers, [www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/655/](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/655/). This will ensure that winning papers are both designated and included in the program. Note that students may only submit to one division and that each division has its own deadline and submission process. Contact: [sssp@utk.edu](mailto:sssp@utk.edu). For more information, visit [www.sssp1.org/file/2016AM/2016\\_STUDENT\\_PAPER\\_COMPETITIONS.pdf](http://www.sssp1.org/file/2016AM/2016_STUDENT_PAPER_COMPETITIONS.pdf)

**In the News**

**Corey Abramson**, University of Arizona, was quoted and his book, *The End Game: How Inequality Shapes Our Final Years*, was mentioned in an October 13 *New York Times* article, "Income Inequality Ages Badly."

**Edwin Ackerman**, University of California-Berkeley, was quoted in an August 22 NPR.org article, "Tracing the Shifting Meaning of 'Alien,'" and interviewed about the same topic on NPR's *Code Switch*. He was also mentioned in an August 12 *Pacific Standard* article, "Why Did We Ever Call Undocumented Immigrants 'Aliens?'"

**Javier Auyero**, University of Texas-Austin, wrote an October 4 *Houston Chronicle* op-ed, "Auyero: If We Don't Push Back Now on Campus Carry, Will We Ever?," an October 5 *TIME.com* column, "Why I'm Scared on My College Campus," and an October 3 *Huffington Post* column, "The University of Texas Faculty Are Watching Oregon Uneasily."

**Liberty Barnes**, University of Cambridge, was quoted in an October 27 *Washington Post* article, "Why Men Should Also Worry About Waiting Too Long to Have Kids."

**Bernadette Barton**, Morehead State University, was quoted in an October 17 article, "A Sociologist Explains the Cult Behavior in this N.Y. Murder Church," on Vice's "Broadly" website.

**Joel Best**, University of Delaware, was quoted in an October 30 *Baltimore Sun* article, "Halloween Activities Address Adult Fears, Too."

**Monica Boyd**, University of Toronto, was quoted about temporary workers and undocumented migrants in the June 11 issue of *Maclean's Magazine*.

**Barbara Brents** and **Kate Hausbeck**, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, were quoted in an October 15 *CNN.com* article, "Nevada Brothels: Things to Know in Wake of Lamar Odom's Collapse."

**Esteban Calvo**, Columbia Aging Center and the Institute of Public Policy at Diego Portales University in Chile, was quoted in an October 29 *Washington Post* article, "This Is Your Brain on Retirement."

**111th ASA Annual Meeting**  
**August 20-23, 2016**  
**Washington State Convention Center**  
**Seattle, WA**

**RETHINKING SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: CAN CHANGING THE CONVERSATION CHANGE THE WORLD?**

111TH ASA ANNUAL MEETING AUGUST 20-23, 2016 WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER SEATTLE, WA

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## announcements

ment — Not Nearly as Sharp, Studies Are Finding.”

**Bradley Campbell**, California State University-Los Angeles, was interviewed on September 28 on NPR/WBUR's *Here and Now*, about a paper, “Microaggressions and Moral Cultures,” he wrote with **Jason Manning**, West Virginia University.

**Jennifer Carlson**, University of Toronto, was quoted in an October 9 NPR.org article, “Gun Debate Divides Nation’s Police Officers, Too,” and was interviewed on NPR’s *Morning Edition* about the same topic.

**Victor Tan Chen**, Virginia Commonwealth University, wrote an October 18 *Atlantic* column, “Forget Denmark: The United States Should Emulate Canada.” Additionally, his book, *Cut Loose: Jobless and Hopeless in an Unfair Economy*, has been featured on a number of NPR shows and other radio shows, including WNYC’s “The Leonard Lopate Show.”

**Katherine Cross**, CUNY Graduate Center, wrote a November 3 *TIME.com* column, “Crowdsourced Terrorism Spurred SXSW to Cancel My Event.”

**Jenny Davis**, James Madison University, was quoted in an October 25 article, “Creepypasta: Memes Are the New Myths,” on Vice’s “Broadly” website.

**John Diamond**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, was quoted in September 15 and October 28 *Education Week* articles, “Schools Deemed ‘Discriminatory’ Struggle to Erase Disparities” and “Schools Seek to Diversify Gifted, Honors Classes.” He was also interviewed on September 18 on Wisconsin Public Television’s “Here and Now” with **Frederica Freyberg** about his new book, *Despite the Best Intentions: How Racial Inequality Thrives in Good Schools*.

**Michele Dillon**, University of New Hampshire, was interviewed on September 21 on NPR’s *The Exchange*, quoted in September 23 *Boston Globe* and September 26 *Buffalo News* articles, and authored a September 23 *New York Times* letter to the editor, all on issues related to Pope Francis’ visit to the U.S. She also wrote a July 9 *Irish Times* online opinion editorial on variation in attitudes on abortion and same-sex marriage.

**John Dombrink**, University of California-Irvine, was quoted in an October 9 *Orange County Register* article, “UC Irvine Author: Social Conservatism Declining.”

**Anne Esacove**, University of Pennsylvania and Muhlenberg College, was recently interviewed on public radio station WHYI’s “The Pulse” about Death Salons and the death positive movement.

**Robert Faris**, University of California-Davis, was quoted in an October 5 CNN.com article, “Why Some 13-Year-Olds Check Social Media 100 Times a Day.”

**David Grazian**, University of Pennsylvania, was quoted in an October 13 *Washington Post* article, “Sociologist Takes Lively Look at Animals and the People Who Fence Them In.”

**Akiko Hashimoto**, University of Pittsburgh, was quoted in a July 11 *Japan Times* article, “The Politics and Pitfalls of War Memory and Apology,” an August 12 *Wall Street Journal* article, “World War II Anniversary Opens Old Wounds in Japan Over How Much to Apologize,” an August 12 *Mainichi Shinbun* article, “The Never-ending Postwar,” an August 15 *Japan Times* article, “Abe Statement Was Vague in All the Wrong Places,” and a September 10 *London Review of Books* article, “Short Cuts.”

**Laurel Hilliker**, University of Michigan-Flint, was quoted in an October 29 *Kansas City Star* article, “Cremation’s Popularity Is Changing Death’s Rituals.”

**Lane Kenworthy**, University of California-San Diego, was quoted in a November 1 *Christian Science Monitor* article, “So How’s the American Middle Class, Really?”

**Nikki Khanna**, University of Vermont, was quoted in a June 12 *Pacific Standard* article, a June 14 *USA Today* article, a June 15 *Richmond Times-Dispatch* article, and a June 16 Associated Press article, which appeared in a number of media outlets including *The Washington Post*, ABCNews.com, and *U.S. News and World Report*, about the Rachel Dolezal controversy. She also talked about the controversy on CBC Radio 1, “The Current” with **Anna Maria Tremont**, BBC’s “Newsnight,” and WCAX Burlington Vermont’s “The 30.”

**Eric Klinenberg**, New York University, was mentioned in a recent Associated Press article about **Aziz Ansari**’s new Netflix show, *Master of None*. The article appeared in a number of media outlets including ABCNews.com, the *Telegram & Gazette*, and WKRG.com on Nov. 3

**Annette Lareau**, University of Pennsylvania, was mentioned in a November 3 *Washington Post* article, “The Most Powerful Thing We Could Give Poor Kids Is Completely Free.”

**James Loewen**, Catholic University of America, was quoted in a November 3 *Baltimore City Paper* article, “Differing Strategies: Experts and Activists Weigh in on Confederate Monuments in Baltimore.”

**Clark McPhail**, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, was quoted in an October 16 *Wall Street Journal* article, “The 400,000 Man March? A Brief History of Crowd Counting.”

**Joe Michalski**, King’s University College at The University of Western Ontario, was quoted in a November 4 *London Free Press* article, “Poverty Research Centre at London’s King’s University College to Undertake Study on Precarious Work.”

**Guðmundur “Gummi” Oddsson**, Northern Michigan University, was quoted in an October 26 *Business Insider* article, “The American Dream Is Alive and Well in Sweden.”

**Silvia Pedraza**, University of Michigan, was quoted in a September 17 *Foreign Policy* article, “U.S. History with Iraqi and Afghan Refugees Hints at Delays for Syrians.” She was also interviewed on August 15 on Al Jazeera America’s *Inside Story* about the possibility of Cuban Americans returning to Cuba, given the re-establishment of relations between the U.S. and Cuba, and on the BBC World Service, about Cuban American attitudes towards the re-opening of the U.S. Embassy and new U.S.-Cuba relations. Additionally, she was interviewed on October 5 for Capital City Recap, Lansing, Michigan, 1320 WILS, regarding the U.S. experience in resettling refugees, with implications for the Syrian refugees.

**Clinton R. Sanders**, University of Connecticut, was quoted in an October 7 *Boston Globe Magazine* article, “How Did We Become Such Shameless Dog Lovers?”

**Leonard Saxe**, Brandeis University, was quoted in a November 3 *Jewish Week* article, “New Study Challenges Bleak Outcomes Of Inter-marriage.”

**Juliet Schor**, Boston College, was the subject of an October 7 *Atlantic* Q&A article, “Can There Be a Less Materialist American Dream?”

**Philip Schwadel**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was quoted in an October 27 *Deseret News* article, “Does College Make People Less Religious?”

**Pepper Schwartz**, University of Washington, was quoted and **Susan Brown**, Bowling Green State University, was mentioned in an October 31 *New York Times* article, “After Full Lives Together, More Older Couples Are Divorcing.”

**Maren Scull**, University of Colorado-Denver, was quoted in a July 13 *Independent* article, “Male Strippers Strip Because it Makes Them Feel Good, Not for Money, U.S. Study Finds,” about her research on male strippers who dance for women. She and her research were also mentioned in articles in *Pacific Standard* on July 2, the *Daily Mail* on July 9, *The Telegraph* on July 10, *The Australian* on July 13, and many other media outlets.

**Diane Vaughan**, Columbia University, was mentioned in an October 16 *New Yorker* article, “An Engineering Theory of the Volkswagen Scandal.”

**Lisa Wade**, Occidental College, wrote an October 26 *Pacific Standard* article, “The Persistence of Child Poverty,” which quotes **Philip Cohen**, University of Maryland-College Park.

**Adia Harvey Wingfield**, Washington University in St. Louis, wrote an October 30 *Atlantic* article, “What Would it

Take to Have an Economy Full of Good Jobs Again?,” which mentioned **George Lipsitz**, University of California-Santa Barbara, **Arne Kalleberg**, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, **Jake Rosenfeld**, Washington University-St. Louis, **Donald Tomaskovic-Devey**, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, **Ken-Hou Lin**, **Christine L. Williams**, **Chandra Muller**, all of University of Texas-Austin, **Kristine Kilanski**, Stanford University, **Deirdre Royster**, New York University, **Melvin Oliver**, University of California-Santa Barbara, **Thomas Shapiro**, Brandeis University, and **Joan Acker**, University of Oregon.

## Awards

**Monica Boyd**, University of Toronto, received the 2015 Major Contribution Award to Sociology by the Canadian Sociological Association. This award recognizes exceptional scholarly merit and contributions to Canadian sociology.

**Elizabeth Hodge-Freeman**, University of South Florida, was awarded the inaugural state-wide Florida Campus Compact Engaged Faculty Special Award for Global Engagement for her research and teaching in Brazil.

**Stephen J. Morewitz**, California State University-East Bay, won an annual San Jose State University Author Award for his ninth book, *Kidnapping and Violence. New Research and Clinical Perspectives* (Springer, 2015).

**Merril Silverstein**, Syracuse University, was awarded a \$1.49 million grant from the John Templeton Foundation for a three-year study titled “Religious Transitions, Transmission and Trajectories Among Baby-Boomers and Their Families.” He was also awarded a National Institute of Health grant of \$401,072 for the project “Religiosity and Mortality Risk in Later Life.”

## Transitions

**Barbara A. Anderson**, University of Michigan, was named the new chair to the U.S. Census Bureau’s Scientific Advisory Committee.

**Yingyi Ma** was named the Director of the Asian/Asian American Studies Program at Syracuse University.

## People

**Jennifer Karas Montez**, Syracuse University, gave a briefing on Capitol Hill regarding the impact of Education on Mortality and Health. Jennifer was also recently invited by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to participate in an expert panel meeting on women’s health and longevity. “Raising the Bar-The Health of American Women: A National Perspective on Women’s Health, held in Washington, DC, in September.

**J. Steven Picou**, University of South Alabama, received the title of Distin-

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guished Professor of Sociology by the USA Board of Trustees.

**New Books**

**David Karp**, Skidmore College, **Gregory Stone**, **William Yoels**, retired, **Nicholas Dempsey**, Eckerd College, Eds., *Being Urban: A Sociology of City Life*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Praeger Publishers, 2015).

**Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman**, University of South Florida, *The Color of Love: Racial Features, Stigma, and Socialization in Black Brazilian Families* (University of Texas Press, 2015).

**Doug Meyer**, University of Virginia, *Violence against Queer People: Race, Class, Gender, and the Persistence of Anti-LGBT Discrimination* (Rutgers University Press, 2015).

**Stephen J. Morewitz**, California State University-East Bay, *Kidnapping and Violence. New Research and Clinical Perspectives* (Springer, 2015).

**Frances V. Moulder**, Three Rivers Community College, *Exiting the Extraordinary: Returning to the Ordinary World After War, Prison, and Other Extraordinary Experiences* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015).

**Christopher Pieper**, Baylor University, *Sociology as a Spiritual Practice: How Studying People Can Make You a Better Person* (Kendall Hunt, 2015).

**Caught on the Web**

**Criminal Justice Pursuit** is a free educational resource specializing in criminal justice and law enforcement education and careers. They also have an extensive compilation of stats, trends and news on criminal justice. The website is designed to help people and potential students get started in their careers in the criminal justice field. Featuring spotlights on careers with information on specific salary, job growth, and how to get started in criminal justice. Including employing a team of industry experts. For more information, visit [criminaljusticepursuit.com](http://criminaljusticepursuit.com).

**New Programs**

**Linghan University** announces its new PhD and MPhil in sociology and/or social policy. Established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong: the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS). The Fellowships are very well funded by the RGC under the HK Government's University Grants Committee. Fellowship awardees currently receive a monthly stipend of HK\$20,000 (US\$1=HK\$7.8) as well as other research expenses support. The RGC's intention is to make this programme prestigious and highly international. Contact: [socsp@LN.edu.hk](mailto:socsp@LN.edu.hk) or (852) 2616-8750. For more information, visit [www.ln.edu.hk/socsp/](http://www.ln.edu.hk/socsp/).

**University of California–Merced** announces its new degree option for both master's and doctoral degrees in sociology. Sociology students at UC Merced previously could only obtain a PhD in social sciences. Having a formal PhD in sociology will better equip those students to find research jobs and open doors of opportunity as professors at colleges and universities. Current and prospective students can now enroll in the new sociology degree program and UC Merced. For more information, visit [www.ucmerced.edu/news/2015/standout-sociology-program-earns-approval-grad-degrees](http://www.ucmerced.edu/news/2015/standout-sociology-program-earns-approval-grad-degrees).

**Summer Programs**

**University of Michigan Summer Enrichment Program (UM SEP) in Health Management and Policy** is designed to familiarize undergraduate students with the inequalities in health status and health care that confront communities of color across the United States. Many Michigan hospitals, health centers, and other health organizations in the Detroit-Ann Arbor area have agreed to provide paid (\$3,000 for the summer) eight-week summer internships in health management and policy to qualified undergraduate students interested in the elimination of racial/ethnic health inequalities. Deadline: January 15, 2016. For more information, visit [www.sph.umich.edu/sep](http://www.sph.umich.edu/sep).

**Deaths**

**Jorge Chapa**, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, a professor at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs (IGPA), passed away unexpectedly on October 20, 2015.

**Viola Lee Hamilton**, Hong Kong Baptist University, died on June 12, 2015, after a protracted struggle with Lewy body dementia. She is perhaps best remembered for her early work on attribution of responsibility.

**George Kourvetaris**, Northern Illinois University, who clocked 38 years at Northern Illinois University, died October 20, 2015 at the age of 81.

**Obituaries**

**George A. Kourvetaris 1933-2015**

My father, George A. Kourvetaris, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Social Thought, Northern Illinois University (NIU), died on October 20, 2015, in DeKalb, Illinois. He was born in Elaiohorion, Arcadia, Greece, on November 21, 1933. He survived the horrors of World War II and subsequent Greek Civil War (which contributed to his early sociological interest in civil-military relations), depression, hypertension, colon cancer, and open heart surgery, but his strength gave out in his fight with pneumonia and complications associated with it. He is

survived by his three children, Sophia, Nicholas, and me, Andreas; and six grandchildren, Kristopher, Zachary, Alexander, Lukas, Violetta, and Jonah.

Coming to the United States in 1959, my dad's immigrant story was marked not only by hope for better opportunities but also by life experiences of prejudice, discrimination, violence, perseverance, failure, and success. He settled in Chicago, where a maternal uncle lived. He recalled signs in storefronts that read "No Dogs or Greeks Allowed," and he often spoke of Americans violently insulting him because of his thick accent and otherness. I recall him saying that the common, nativistic refrains in that abuse were: "You dirty, fucking Greek! Go back to where you came from!" and "If you're in America, you speak American!" Achieving a higher education, however, was his primary pursuit despite the obstacles.

My father was the first in his family to go to college. He earned his associate's degree in 1955 from the Teacher's College in Tripolis, Arcadia, Greece; BS in 1963 from Loyola University Chicago; M.A. (with honors) in 1965 from Roosevelt University; and PhD in 1969 from Northwestern University. The late military sociologist, Charles Moskos, served as the principal advisor for his doctoral dissertation. To pay for his studies and other living expenses, he worked as a waiter at Frank and Marie's restaurant at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. He regularly served such public figures as Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa and Superintendent of Schools Benjamin Willis (who became infamous for instituting the so-called "Willis Wagons" in predominantly majority black schools during the 1960s). In addition, he marched with Martin Luther King, Jr.

Upon completing his PhD in sociology in 1969, he began his appointment as an assistant professor at NIU. He was promoted with tenure in due course. In 1973, he founded the *Journal of Political and Military Sociology* (JPMS), which became a leading, award-winning publication. After 33 years of publication, the JPMS was re-launched as *Political and Military Sociology: An Annual Review* following my father's retirement in 2006. In his 38 years at NIU, close to 150 publications and countless presentations bear his name.

In 2003, augmenting his long academic career was educational video production; he founded the *Paideia Projects*, a non-profit organization that produces educational videos on such themes as democracy, freedom, music, mythology, sports and celebrations, theater, and family relations in ancient Greece. The *Paideia Projects* produced and released eight videos; another ten were in various stages of production.

My father romanticized the old country and immersed himself in work to both forget and remember it. My siblings and I will always admire his drive and determination. We are extremely proud of his accomplishments. He told us once that his greatest regret was not spending more time with us as we grew up. We have long justified his absences as striving to "make it" in the university and in America. He worked extremely hard and, in our eyes, had "made it" long before any other person, organization, or institution recognized it. We loved our dad regardless of his faults.

As for me, I tend to think of him more as a good teacher than a good father; but as I write this, I struggle to focus on the father rather than the scholar. He was always private in his personal affairs. And, yet, his hidden personal life was normal for us. I know he took great pride in us, his children, and tried helping us any way he could. I am grateful for that. To be sure, I miss his critical analysis, encyclopedic knowledge, and wisdom, but it's the father rather than the scholar that I wish I had more time with. I wish I could kiss him on both cheeks again, which was our usual greeting and parting, speak with him again face-to-face, and, this time, ask him about his life. Most of all, I wish I could see his Dionysian abandon again. His passions were always education and, of course, Greece. I now smile to myself thinking about the time he displayed utter bliss: as soon as a reggae band in Montego Bay, Jamaica started to play "Never on Sunday" for him, he shot up from his seat and Greek-danced solo for the audience, for himself, and, it seemed to me, for Greece and all Greeks in the Diaspora. Γεια σου, μπαμπά! Όπα!

Andreas Y. Savas Kourvetaris.  
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American Sociological Association  
1430 K Street NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005

call for nominations

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