Hello Sociologists,

Welcome, welcome, welcome to our fall 2012 department newsletter. You’ll notice some changes from the previous newsletter—we’ve added more vibrant colors, more pictures, and more news. That said we are always looking for new ways to reconnect and share with Loyola alum. If you have any new news, old news, or just any news that you’d like to share, please send it to us. Please also feel free to share any pictures you have with us—we would love to “see” as well as “hear” from you.

As you will uncover in this newsletter our department is thriving and great things are afoot. Meet our newest faculty member. Discover what our students and faculty have been up to since this past spring and summer. Check out the fall colloquium schedule on the last page.

In addition to receiving your news items, we look forward to hearing your—comments about the newsletter, your suggestions for features and articles you might like to see. In the meantime, here’s to another great semester at Loyola and in the Department of Sociology.

Editorial Board: David G. Embrick, J. Talmadge Wright, and Chris Wolff

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Welcome to the new academic year, and we start the 2012-13 year with our regular Fall edition of the Sociology Department newsletter. After a very warm and what seemed like a short summer, Loyola’s campus is again buzzing with life.

Certainly one can see the changes on campus. Cuneo Hall – a building built in the style of Cudahy and Dumbach halls, on the footprint of old Damen Hall – has now opened. With the three red brick buildings on the west side of the East Quadrangle, and three limestone buildings on the east side (old Cudahy library, the Information Commons, Madonna della Strada chapel – with Mundelein and Coffey Halls just to the south) the center of the campus is quite attractive. Moreover, there is greenspace where there used to be a parking lot (between the chapel and Coffey), further making the lakefront of the campus attractive and comfortable.

Changes are afoot within the department. Dr. Jon Norman has left the department and LUC for a research position in the San Francisco Bay area. We will miss him and wish him the best in his new endeavor. On the plus side, Dr. Kelly Moore returned from her year away at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., and Dr. David Embrick was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Anne Figert has stepped down as Graduate Program Director after five years of excellent service; Dr. Talmadge Wright has stepped up and taken the position. Last, but certainly not least, I am very happy to report that we are joined this year by Dr. Peter Rosenblatt, who teaches and does research on urban society, particularly housing and inequality. Peter joins us from The Johns Hopkins University (read more about him below). Also, we were able to retain Dr. Jordan Brown for another year. Jordan received his Ph.D. from Florida State University this past year.

Finally, I want to do some bragging about some members of the department. Dr. Judson Everitt was recently awarded one of four Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching Freshmen. It is a university-wide competition, so Judson’s award is significant. Several other faculty and some of doctoral student instructors were also nominated. Moreover, two of our faculty were nominated for SuJack Teaching Awards last year. And I note how well Loyola Ph.D. graduates have done on the academic job market lately. In the past couple years we have placed our Ph.D.s at Indiana University, University of Louisville, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, Bridgewater State University (Massachusetts), and Simmons College in Boston, among other places. It is testimony to their abilities and to the good training and mentoring they receive from their faculty advisers in the department.

This newsletter contains news on the activities of faculty members, graduate students, undergrads, and notes from alumni. We hope you enjoy it all; be sure to drop a line with your own news, or notes of remembrance – we would love to hear from you! And if you are on the Loyola campus, be sure to enjoy the new green space and visit the department on Coffey’s fourth floor.

Our newest faculty member . . . Welcome!

Peter Rosenblatt grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, and holds a Ph.D in Sociology from Johns Hopkins University. His research focuses on housing policy, urban inequality, and education. He tries to understand the way individuals respond to constraints and opportunities in the housing market, and the way housing markets themselves shape and are shaped by housing policies. His research attempts to take into account the uniqueness of local context, and the history of a city in understanding how housing policies unfold and influence urban inequality.
Dr. Rosenblatt conducts policy-relevant research that attempts to further our understanding of how low-income and minority families respond to housing policies. While we know a lot about how patterns of mobility perpetuate segregation and inequality we do not know much about the motivating factors, decision-making processes, and experiences behind these patterns. Dr. Rosenblatt’s recent research addresses this gap. He studies the Housing Choice Voucher (formerly Section-8) program, HOPE VI, and assisted mobility programs including Moving To Opportunity (MTO) and the Baltimore Thompson mobility program.

Dr. Rosenblatt draws on mixed methods to conduct his research. He has conducted interview studies with low-income families and youth in Baltimore and Mobile, Alabama, and is currently working on a National Science Foundation sponsored study that explores how moving from public housing to the suburbs affects access to schooling opportunities for low-income families and children. He has published articles in City & Community, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and Teachers College Record, and has discussed his research at the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. His report on the impact of the foreclosure crisis on families in Baltimore city was presented at a congressional hearing.

Faculty Kudos and Announcements

Congratulations to Judson Everitt, one of four recipients of the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching Freshmen. Nominations for this award are submitted by students. The award “recognizes faculty who build community with first-year students by teaching 100-level freshmen classes. Exemplary faculty foster cura personalis (care of the whole person) in new students by providing necessary support and challenging them to become fully integrated into the Loyola community.” Also receiving student nominations were Edward Flores, Elfriede Wedam, Jordan Brown, and a few graduate students Zubeyir Nisanci, Beth Dougherty, Crystal Jackson and Joel Ritsema who were not eligible, “but it’s really nice they were recognized,” wrote, Nancy C. Tuchman, Vice Provost. She went on to say “it was wonderful that so many of your faculty were recognized . . . a real testimony to the kind of teaching in your department.”

Rhys H. Williams will have a paper appear in the Fall 2012 issue of the Canadian Review of American Studies, titled, “Immigration and National Identity in Obama’s America: The Expansion of ‘Culture Wars’ Politics.” The article is part of a special issue resulting from a conference last year at the University of Quebec at Montreal.

Also, Williams had a paper titled “Public Islam in the Contemporary World: A View on the American Case.” accepted for publication in the journal Studies in Contemporary Islam.

This fall, Williams will give the Presidential address at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Phoenix, AZ. The theme of the meeting is “Religion, Race, and National Identity.”

Talmadge Wright, David Embrick and graduate student Andras Lukacs published a completed edited volume this past Spring with Lexington Press titled, “Social Exclusion, Power and Video Game Play: New Research in Digital Media and Technology.”

Tal has just published a chapter, “Social Justice, Ethics and Advocacy in Street Research,” describing the ethical dilemmas in research with homeless street people in Professional Lives, Personal Struggles, edited by Martha Trenna Valado and Randall Amster with Lexington Press also in July.
Graduate Report

From Dr. Talmadge Wright, Graduate Program Director

Well folks, as the new Graduate Program Director I not only appreciate the honor of working with our graduate students, but also in maintaining and strengthening our graduate education and expanding the ties our students have with the community, both on campus and off campus.

I am proud of the graduate student accomplishments, which are many, and the ability of our graduate students to consistently rank in the top tier of teachers and researchers not only in the College of Arts and Sciences but across the campus in general and the university community at large in the Chicago area. I look forward to working with our new incoming MA and Ph.D. students as well as our faculty.

Several of our students received fellowships for 2013 academic year. Congratulations to Catherine Gillis, Pre-Doctoral Fellowship; Melissa Howell, Advanced Doctoral Fellowship; Gwendolyn Purifoye, Advanced Doctoral Fellowship, Chez Rumpf, Advanced Doctoral Fellowship; Matt Hoffmann, Schmitt Fellowship; Crystal Jackson, Schmitt Fellowship. Well done!

Jennifer Cosseyleon received her M.A. in May, and presented her thesis: “Family in Context: (Re)Entry Narratives of Formerly Incarcerated Individuals” at the Chicago Ethnography Conference 14th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL and “Work Games: Finding Employment as a Convicted Felon” with D. Wheelock and H. Hlavka at the Midwest Sociological Society, 75th Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN.

She received the Richard Block Prize for Best Thesis in Urban/Public Policy from the Sociology Dept. and a Public Service Award in April from the Wisconsin Association of Homicide Investigators because she was a part of the Milwaukee PD Homicide Task Force Cold Case Unit in 2009 who helped close Walter Ellis Serial Killer case.

This summer she was granted a 14 week fellowship in the Cook County Government in the Office of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. She worked in the Justice Advisory Council planning “Breaking Down Barriers: Forum on Re-entry,” a conference attended by more than 75 service providers, for the purpose of discussing reentry barriers and making suggestions for policy changes.

Lucas Sharma presented his thesis research at the Pacific Sociological Association conference in San Diego. He also gave a presentation on his research at the Graduate School conference, and was asked to give a presentation to Archdiocese of Chicago parish leaders in conjunction with Loyola’s Institute for Pastoral Studies. He received his MA in May. Lucas has decided to enter the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and will move to Los Angeles, CA in the fall to begin the novitiate.

Patrick Polasek accepted a tenure-track position at Benedictine University.

Kasey Henricks’ work was recently published or accepted to be published in the following outlets:

- “White Capital: Ways Racial Stereotypes are Symbolic Systems of Power” accepted to be published in the peer-reviewed specialty journal Understanding and Dismantling Privilege.
- “Celebrating a Return to the Jim Crow Era?: Persisting Segregation in ‘Post-Racial’ America and How to Measure It” (co-authored with Bill Byrnes and...
Congratulations to the sixty-four majors who marched in May! Double congratulations to the twenty-one students who graduated as members of Alpha Kappa Delta, as well as to the fifteen students who graduated with honors in the major. We hope that you’re off to good work and to good lives. Keep in touch!

Here on campus, this fall marks the first semester with a revised Core Curriculum. Our Sociology 101 course has been revised as “Society in a Global Age” and is one of the four foundational courses in Social and Cultural Knowledge. Other previous core classes are now offered as “Tier II” core, and we continue to offer several “Engaged Learning” courses. The Sociology department also continues to be active in Loyola’s Learning Communities, offering courses for the Wellness and Urban Issues Learning Communities this semester.

Over fall break, Loyola’s Alternative Break Immersion (ABI) program will offer a Chicago “Urban Immersion” experience. Students can spend the weekend in the Pilsen neighborhood at St. Procopius Jesuit Parish, or in the Bridgeport neighborhood at the Br. David Darst Center. In both immersions students will visit the neighborhood, meet local people, learn about current issues in Chicago, and participate in service and justice activities. Students who participate in the domestic ABI trips can take Socl 127 in the spring to fulfill their “Engaged Learning” requirement.

Three sociology students have recently earned special recognitions. In the spring, the Student Environmental Alliance (SEA) received the Damen Award for student organizations—the highest honor given by the university. Alexandra Vechicco was one of the members of the Executive Board to accept the award on behalf of SEA. She’s been very active in environmental issues since her freshman year in the Green Learning Community.

David Blount, double major in Sociology and International Studies, received a Gilman International Scholarship to study abroad in China during this fall semester. And Christopher Benson, a double major in History and Sociology/Anthropology, won a 2012 Critical Language Fulbright Scholarship to study Arabic in Morocco.

If you are inspired by these accomplishments, I strongly encourage you to explore double majors, languages, and the many avenues for engaged learning here at Loyola. The Fellowship Office and Center for Experiential Learning, as well as your sociology faculty advisors, can help you find and prepare for these opportunities.

Dr. Krogh
Honors Reception, April 27, 2012

Undergraduate and graduate students, along with faculty and staff, celebrated the end of the academic year at our annual Awards Ceremony and Reception, April 27. We had 58 graduating Sociology majors, and six Sociology/Anthropology majors.

Departmental honors, available to students who achieve a 3.4 grade point average overall and in their major and: either write a satisfactory Honor’s Thesis under the supervision of a faculty member in Sociology or take two graduate courses in the Sociology program (as electives toward their undergraduate major) and receive a grade of B or better were bestowed upon

- Jacylyn Bartow
- Emily Bockrath
- Elizabeth Brandner
- Katelyn Corrigan
- Alexandra Flatley
- Blake Haynes
- Connie Kalble
- Emily Leitner
- Samantha Lewandowski
- Morgan McDonald
- Gabriel Mendoza
- Justin Mercurio
- Jessica Oester
- Yasmeen Shaban
- Natalie Tepeli

The GALLAGHER AWARD for Outstanding Sociology Senior was presented to Alexandra Flatley (right). Samantha Lewandowski received the DURKHEIM AWARD for Outstanding Sociology/Anthropology Senior. Travis Olson was the recipient of the ROSS P. SCHERER AWARD for Outstanding Sociology Junior.

This year eighteen new members were inducted into Alpha Kappa Delta, the international sociology honor society. Membership is open to students who are at least juniors, have an overall GPA of 3.4 and a 3.6 GPA in Sociology, and have completed five or more Sociology courses. Twenty-one graduating seniors were presented with their AKD honors cords, which were worn proudly at graduation ceremonies in May.

The presentation of awards was followed up with a celebratory feast, as is our custom!

Congratulations to all!
Our annual Awards Ceremony and Reception in April gave us the opportunity to celebrate the following graduate students for their work during the academic year:

**DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE INSTRUCTOR AWARD:**
**Joel Ritsema**

**RICHARD L. BLOCK PRIZE for Student Research in Urban Sociology/Public Policy:**
**Jennifer Cossyleon,** for her thesis *Family in Context: (Re)entry Narratives of Formerly Incarcerated Individuals.*

**PETER WHALLEY AWARD for Outstanding Graduate Scholarship:**
**Reuben Miller**

**ROBERT MCNAMARA AWARD for Student Research in the Sociology of Religion:**

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD for Service to the Department:**
**Lucas Sharma**

Victoria Brockett) is forthcoming in the Association for Humanist Sociology’s newsletter *The Humanist Sociologist.*


Kasey was honored on four different occasions by regional and national associations for various research projects:

- “Counter-Revolutions in the Name of Emancipation: The Regressive Character of Racial and Gender Progress” (co-authored with Victoria Brockett) received honorable mention for the Frank Lindenfeld Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Competition of the 2012 Annual Association for Humanist Sociology Conference.
- “High Stakes Education Finance: How State-Sponsored Policy Reproduces Race and Class Inequality” was awarded 1st place in the Doctoral Paper Competition of the 2012 Annual National Civil Rights and Human Rights Conference sponsored by the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, and was a finalist in the Graduate Student Paper Competition of the 2012 Annual North Central Sociology Association Conference.

And back here at Loyola:


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In June 2012, Jiannbin Shiao, Thomas Bode, Amber Beyer, and Daniel Selvig (henceforth Shiao et al.) published “The Genomic Challenge to the Social Construction of Race” in Sociological Theory, in which they argue that recent advances in “research on the human genome challenges the basic assumption that human races have no biological traits” (p. 68), and that theory on race and ethnicity must take the genetic effects of ancestry into account if sociologists are to address the shortcomings of social constructionist theories of race. Rather than taking a purely biologicist or constructionist perspective on race and ethnicity, they argue for a “bounded-nature alternative” that “envisions the relationship of society and human biology as thoroughly entangled and invites researchers to explore its complex causal chains of social determination, gene-environment interactions, and gene-environment exaggerations” (2012: 83).

The dominant theoretical paradigms of the last five decades have relied mostly on constructivist approaches to problems of race and ethnicity, although explanations for the source of racial and ethnic tensions have ranged from the spatial collisions between racial and ethnic groups (Gordon 1964; Park 1950) to class antagonisms (Bonacich 1972; Cox 1970 [1948]) to the restructuring of state political institutions and how whites have reacted to the increasing political power of non-white minorities (Bonilla-Silva 1997, 2001, 2010; Omi and Winant 1994). Although sociologists today often disagree on how much importance and emphasis should be placed on “race” as a variable in social relationships (Bonilla-Silva 1997, 1999; Loveman 1999), and even whether American racial categories can be used to describe racism in other national contexts (Bourdieu and Wacquant 1999), it is rare to find those who explicitly argue for the inclusion of a model of biosocial causation.

To put it succinctly, old habits die hard. It is no secret that, until the Civil Rights movement of the 1960’s, the few sociologists who did bother to problematize U.S. race relations more often than not helped create the racial and ethnic divisions they were trying to explain; first through purely biological racism (McKee 1993), and later on through a more “enlightened” social science focusing on the so-called “pathological” cultural traits of racialized groups (Lewis 1966; Wilson 1987). The usage of cultural pathology as an explanation for racial differences is less accepted in the sociological field today, but it is still largely used in mainstream circles as a ready explanation for why differences exist between whites and non-whites (D’Souza 1996). However, one does find occasional examples of biological racism that unfortunately make their way into the mainstream.

Probably the most famous example of the past twenty years is that of Richard Herrnstein and Charles Murray’s The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life (1994). Over the course of almost nine hundred pages, they systematically try to explain the predictive power of IQ scores in terms of social class differences in crime rates, poverty, and single-parent households, among other “pathological” social phenomena. In what would become the book’s most controversial section, they argued that there are differences in IQ scores among minorities (specifically blacks and Latinos) that are, in part, hereditary. They note that since IQ is an unchanging, inherited trait, no amount of social program spending can alleviate racial inequalities.

The book, which Herrnstein and Murray never submitted for peer review prior to publication, contained numerous specious claims (which space constraints prevent me from enumerating here), especially about how and why IQ scores shape the life chances of racial minorities (Fischer 1996). Unfortunately, the damage had been done: the book became a best seller and served as a conservative rallying cry for decreases in social spending based on “scientific” data and analysis. The popularity of their book, and the American public’s apparent willingness to accept many of its conclusions, arguably made other, more nuanced sociological studies of racial inequality difficult to gain acceptance in the mainstream.

Schiao et al. also argue for biological differences, although not in the same way as Herrnstein and Murray. They argue that the pure constructionist approach to race has shortcomings that can be corrected for if recent genomic research is taken into account. Specifically, they believe the analytical tool they refer to as “clinal classes” can help make up for these shortcomings. In short, “clines” are the differences we see when we observe a specific species over a large swath of geographic areas. For example, if we were to take a walk northward from the equatorial regions of Africa, we might observe groups of people with gradually lighter skin tones. Because clines are imperfect and statistically clustered,” Schiao et al. argue that clinal classes can be used to explain differences among races:

Relative to clines, clinal classes are a complementary measurement of ancestry in terms of how both physical geography and mating restrictions have produced clusters in human genetic variation with direct consequences for individual morphology and psychology and second-generation consequences for social processes, such as racial formation and stratification, which potentially feed back on morphology, psychology, mating practices, and social geography. (2012: 72)

They also note that recent research has been able to show that genomic clusters are “homologous to racial and ethnic categories,” and that “these findings strongly suggest replacing the refutation of biology in racial constructionism with a version of the feminist distinction between biological sex and socially constructed gender” (2012: 71-72).

Schiao et al.’s article poses a variety of challenges to sociologists who study race and ethnicity. In the face of continuously...
**Ethan Frelly** (2008) “My wife, Daniela Lostumbo (2006) and I met in Dr. Wedam’s class in first semester of 2002, and started dating later that year. We were married at St. Ignatius Church on August 14, 2010 and moved to Portland, Oregon. Daniela is a Licensed Massage Therapist working at The Allison Inn and Spa in Newberg. I am a Financial Representative at COUNTRY Financial. I meet with my clients and “diagnose” possible financial holes in their plans and “prescribe” insurance (home/renters, auto, life, disability and long term care) and investment (like IRAs, Mutual Funds, Annuities, and college savings plans) products to protect their financial security. It is a really rewarding job because I am helping people, young and old, take their financial future into their own hands.”

**Joseph F. Corcoran** (1968) “In January 2006, I completed my career shift from the US private sector to the International Development/Humanitarian sectors within the NGO arena. Over the past six years I enjoyed a variety of challenging roles in Africa and Asia, including: Field Manager, Country Operations Coordinator, Project Manager for the MDR/TB Program, Lesotho.”

“At present I maintain a home in Kampala, Uganda. Since 2008, Kampala served as my East African operating base while working in support of programs in Uganda, Pakistan and the Republic of South Sudan. I am a US citizen with family and a voting address in Chicago, Illinois. I am open to interesting and challenging opportunities in both the US and Africa within the extended family of NGO programmatic options.”

**Larry Loughlin** “I continue to work (at the age of 77) as a Children Social Worker for Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services. I got tired of being retired (law enforcement and the military) and got my current position because of my degree in Sociology from Loyola of Chicago. Frankly, I didn’t know what I was getting myself into. I’m afraid I mentally put the emphasis on “social” when it should have been on “worker”.

**John Powers** (1967) “I have written the Broadway musical Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up? and have written four novels: The Last Catholic in America; Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?; The Unoriginal Sinner; and The Ice Cream God (based on my experiences at Loyola on Rush Street), and my first nonfiction book, Odditude. My first three books have been reprinted by Loyola Press as part of their Classic series. I have just completed my newest nonfiction book, How to Keep the Promise You Make to Yourself.

“I hold a Ph.D. from Northwestern University in the field of Mass Media (my doctoral dissertation was on the media career of Studs Terkel), and was a professor of Speech & Performing Arts at Northeastern Illinois University.

“For the past twenty years, I have been a professional speaker and have been the keynote speaker for major corporations, associations, educational and civic groups throughout the country. My web site is www.johnpowers.com. I live in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin with my wife, JaNelle. My older daughter, Jacey Elizabeth, graduated from NYU in 2008, lives in New York and is pursuing a career in acting. My younger daughter, Joy Victoria, will graduate from Emerson College this December with a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

“I know that both Loyola University and my majoring in Sociology have played a major role in my life.”

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In July Tal presented conference papers, with David Embrick, at the 9th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference in Paris, where he also organized a panel on “producing the Political-Social in Digital Play: Pleasure, Play and Electronic Fantasies.” He then went on to Mansfield College in Oxford, England where he presented a paper, “Virtual Play Spaces, Power and Social Order,” at the 1st Global Conference, Making Sense of Play.”

Kelly Moore served as Program Director for the National Science Foundation Science, Technology and Society Program, and the Ethics Education in Science and Engineering Program during the 2011-2012 school year.


Kelly gave a talk at Massachusetts Institute of Technology on engineering and social movements in February 2012.

Kelly Moore was elected to the Council of the Society for Social Studies of Science.

Ed Flores has signed a book contract with NYU Press, for the project tentatively titled, “Reformed: The restoration of Chicano manhood through barrio ministry.”


David Embrick, Tal Wright and Andras Lukacs, eds., Social Exclusion, Power and Video Game Play: New Research in Digital Media and Technology, was published by Lexington Press.

In addition to the paper with Talmadge Wright delivered at the Paris conference, David gave the following presentations:

- At the Conference on Diversity and Inclusion, Feb. 17, Stonehill College, Keynote Speaker Address. “Multi-culturalism, Diversity & Inclusiveness: Examining Diversity Ideology in the Post-Civil continued on page 11
The Graduate Association of Sociologists is the organization in charge of planning social and academic events for the graduate students in the Sociology Department. We organize and host the New Student Picnic for our incoming cohort, in conjunction with the department’s new student orientation. Last year we hosted a chili contest dinner for students, faculty and staff, and held a series of brown-bag lunches on topics of interest to academic careers such as writing CVs and getting published. GAS is planning to hold more events this semester but as many of its members graduated last semester, we need more people to help out.

Contact your G.A.S. representatives if you’re interested in joining us, or have an idea for an event!

Representatives for 2012-2013: Jennifer Cossyleon: jcssyleon@luc.edu, and Travis O’Rear torear@luc.edu.


- “‘Every Place Has a Ghetto…’: The Significance of Whites’ Social and Residential Segregation.” April 4-7. Southwestern Sociological Association (annual meetings). San Diego, CA.

Judy Wittner spoke at an ASA session on the life and work of Arlene Kaplan Daniels. Speakers included Michael Burawoy, Marjorie Devault, Myra Marx Ferree, Elizabeth Higgenbotham, and Pam Roby.

The evaluation model of the CHHP project developed by Anne Figert, Christine George, Jenna Chernega (Ph.D. in Sociology recently tenured at Winona State University) was highlighted in a recent publication by HUD’s Office of Policy Development and Research to publish in its quarterly publication, Evidence Matters. The article featured the CHHP project as a model that addresses homelessness for chronically ill persons. Also found at: http://www.huduser.org/portal/evidence.html

Elfriede Wedam was invited to talk at the Instituto Superior de Estudios Eclesiásticos in Mexico City on 27 March 2012. The theme of the conference was the “La transmisión de la fe en el mundo actual” (Transmission of the Faith in the Actual World) Elfriede’s talk was on “Urban Transformations in Two Chicago Parishes.”

Peter Rosenblatt has an article coming out this fall: Rosenblatt, Peter and Stefanie DeLuca. Forthcoming, 2012. “’We Don’t Live Outside, We Live in Here’: Residential Mobility Decisions of Low-income Families.” City & Community.
along with Bhoomi Thakore, has assumed co-editor duties for the Society for the Study of Social Problems’ Division on Racial Minorities newsletter.

Melissa Gesbeck Howell, with Mary Dominiak and Christopher Skrable will present “Institutionalizing Inter-disciplinary Undergraduate Community-based Participatory Research Courses: Critical Questions for Institutional Practice” at the International Association for Research in Service-learning and Community Engagement (IARSCLE) Conference in Baltimore, MD (September 24, 2012)

Bhoomi Thakore recently accepted a position as Clinical Research Associate at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. She is currently working on a project funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) to better understand the low percentage of underrepresented minorities pursuing faculty positions in the bio-medical sciences. The project provides a coaching intervention to experimental groups of biomedical PhD students and uses qualitative methods to understand the experiences of these students in their graduate programs and their decisions on whether or not to continue in academia.

This summer, Bhoomi presented a paper based on a chapter of her dissertation entitled, “Prime-Time Characters: South Asians in American Media” at the Society for the Study of Social Problems in Denver, CO. This fall, she will also present papers at the Social Science History Association meeting in Vancouver, CAN and the Association for Humanist Sociology meeting in Nashville, TN. She is also serving as a committee member on the Association for Humanist Sociology’s 2012 Book Award.

Ma’ruf T. Allison officially became a PhD candidate and was awarded a Dean’s Merit Award Fellowship for the year by the graduate school.

Gwendolyn Purifoye presented several papers, including:

- “Do you see me?: The Homeless in Their Occupied Spaces.” at the ASA annual meeting in Denver, CO, August 2012.
- “Hey baby, let me get that number”: The man effect and public spaces and places,” at the 14th Annual Chicago Ethnography Conference, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, April 2012.

At the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society, Minneapolis, MN, March 2012, Gwedolyn presented a paper, and was a panelist:

- “Restricting Access to Equal Opportunities: Racialized educational systems and the ‘American Dream’.”
- “Advice on Teaching: From One Graduate Student to Another.” Panelist.

Andras Lukacs sends exciting news from Yellowknife, Northwest Territories “Hope all is well. Just wanted to let you all know, that we had a baby a week ago (8/28). His name is László Hemstreet Lukács, 20 inches and 6-7. Both Kim and Laszlo are doing well.”

Reuben Miller is another grad student who has been quite busy with publications:

**Application Deadlines**

**Sept 21** Loyola’s **Urban Immersion Weekend Oct 5-8** in the Pilsen or Bridgeport neighborhoods. Contact Campus Ministry for an application.

**Oct 19** Loyola’s domestic and international **Alternative Break Immersion** trips during spring break and in May. Contact Campus Ministry for an application.

**Feb 15** **ASA Honors Program** to attend annual meeting (Requires faculty letter of nomination) Go to [www.asanet.org](http://www.asanet.org) (click on “Teaching & Learning” and then “Students: Undergraduate”) for more information and an application form.

**March 1** **Loyola Fellowships:**
- CURL - Take a leadership role in an engaged research project
- Provost - Pursue a research project in collaboration with a faculty mentor
- Research Mentoring - Be a summer assistant to a Ph.D. student
  
  Go to [http://www.luc.edu/lurop/about.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/lurop/about.shtml) (click on LUROP Programs)

**April TBA** **Sociology Department Research Symposium**

**April 20** (Saturday) **LUC Undergraduate Research Symposium**

**May 1** **Fellowship Incentive Grants (FIG)** Go to [http://www.luc.edu/fellowshipoffice/index.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/fellowshipoffice/index.shtml)

**Undergraduate Publishing & Paper Competitions**

**Oct 12** for **Illinois Sociological Association Undergraduate Paper Competition**

**Jan 7** for the journal **Righting Wrongs**, from Webster University

**Jan 9** Application due for **Midwest Sociological Society undergraduate paper and poster competition**

Open Submission for **The Journal for Undergraduate Ethnography** (JUE).

Open Submission for **Sociological Insight**

Dates vary for **National Science Foundation-Research Experience for Undergraduates**

See the undergraduate section of the department website and click on “Publishing, Papers, and other Opportunities” for more details [http://www.luc.edu/sociology/UnderGrad_Publishing.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/sociology/UnderGrad_Publishing.shtml)

**Reminder**

**There are three ongoing speaker series open to undergraduates**

⇒ **Master of Urban Affairs and Public Policy (MUAPP) Practitioner Series**

⇒ **Friday morning seminars** • 10:30-12:00 • Center for Urban Research and Learning

⇒ **Sociology Colloquium Fridays** • 3:00-4:30 • Lake Shore Campus
Sociology Club: A Semester of Growth
Submitted by President Katherine Nieweglowski

Now that former leaders and students have moved on to other opportunities, Sociology Club is ready to gain new members and explore all kinds of fresh possibilities. Our goals for this upcoming semester are laid out into a two-tiered mission. The first tier is the foundation, which consists of events and collaborations with the Sociology Department. We will be hosting our 4th Annual Sociology of Horror with a lecture by graduate student, Todd Fuist. There will also be another graduate student discussion panel where undergraduates can learn about furthering their education in sociology. Towards the end of the year, we will have the annual departmental research symposium giving both graduate and undergraduate students the chance to provide snapshots of the work going on across the department. Any involvement in Sociology Club will give students opportunities to connect with the department and faculty as a major resource.

The second tier of our mission is where we have room to grow. Our goal is to incorporate the interests of our members into volunteer work and educational excursions around the Chicago area. Vice President, Julie Kim, would like to see Sociology Club get more involved in social justice issues. There are also many on-campus organizations that we would love the chance to collaborate with. Students can join Sociology Club on OrgSync to receive further information on our upcoming activities. The first meeting will be scheduled during the week of September 10th where will be discussing our goals in greater detail. We encourage everyone to attend and contribute their own ideas.

Ask yourself: What would you like to see out of Sociology Club?
For more information contact Kathleen Nieweglowski at knieweglowski@luc.edu.

Alumni News

Jeff Jenks (2001) “I graduated from Loyola in 2001. I finished medical school in 2010 with an MD and MPH, and am currently an Internal Medicine resident at Boston University Medical Center in Boston, MA. I will finish up residency in June of 2013 and start an infectious disease fellowship in July 2013.”

Ashley Amador (2005) is a partner in the family-owned business Gracianna Winery in Sonoma Valley. They have recently opened a tasting room on Westside Road outside Healdsburg. The winery made its first vintage in 2007. Ashley Amador runs the business and her brother, Jose “Trini” Amador IV, is winemaker.

The tasting room is located at 6914 Westside Road. Appointments to visit can be made by contacting tasting-room@gracianna.net or calling 486-3771. “If you are ever in wine country please stop by and visit us!”

John Crnokrak (1962) finished the second edition of First Daring & Different! You can find it on Amazon. John says, “I’m very proud of this edition which has about 77 more pages and will provide you the reader with some positive and provocative thoughts and references for future use.”

Alumni Outreach

What about the rest of you?
Let us know your news—we will be happy to pass it on.
Send all news to:
David Embrick (dembric@luc.edu).

A Message from Alumni Relations

Have you moved or want to let classmates know what you’ve been doing since graduation?
Our online alumni directory is your complete source for finding friends and updating your contact information for the University. Log into your directory profile to revise your information and never miss the latest news from your alma mater at http://LUC.edu/alumni/directory. For other alumni questions, please contact LUC-alum@luc.edu.
growing knowledge about the human genome, it is tempting to once again consider the possibility that the construction of races depends (at least partly) on genes, alleles, and other biological phenomena. A full critique of the article is not possible here, but I believe it is important to revisit the dangers that accompany biologically-based explanations for “differences” between racial groups.

The most obvious problem is that this article signals a return to the biopolitical past, which sought to link racial and ethnic inequalities with “inferior stocks” of racialized peoples (Gossett 1997 [1963]; McKee 1993). Schiao et al. claim “backdoor” racism is a possibility as a result of gene-based explanations for racial differences, “but [they] regard that possibility as resulting from a social perception of the findings rather than an essential characteristic of them” (2012: 83). In addition, they appear to neglect the fact that the racial categories they claim are expressed by various genomic structures are actually categories that have been sociohistorically created by whites and imputed onto other groups. As evidence that there is a genetic basis for race, they write, “membership in these statistically identified genetic clusters appears to be concordant with at least one individual characteristic: racial/ethnic self-identification” (2012: 71). Little attention is paid to the fact that whites imposed racial identities on groups deemed “not white” that have now become a source of common identity and resistance to white hegemony (Cornell 1988; Davis 1991; Espiritu 1992; Jordan 1974; Wu 2002).

I believe Schiao et al.’s work also signals an important and somewhat more alarming shift in discourses surrounding the interactions of race and biology. Their work mystifies race relations as a “social perception of ancestry” (2012: 69) rather than a system of domination with different real-world consequences for various racial groups (Bonilla-Silva 1997, 2001). Their new biology is not a replacement of, but is rather sutured to, constructivist approaches to race relations. This opens up the theoretical space for broader acceptance of the biological basis of racialized difference while still maintaining a constructivist viewpoint. It thus makes it more difficult to call the biological aspects of their theory into question, which ultimately reinforces the conception that “race,” and its associated inequalities, are ahistorical, immutable, and above all, natural.

Sociologists should read Shiao et al.’s article as a challenge: despite developing technologies that make it possible to identify new genes and alleles, we need to continue fighting the perception that “race” is a construct rooted in concrete biological reality. If we accept the idea that races are biologically real, the implication is that white hegemony and racial domination will have been reinforced and, to a certain extent, vindicated. It has been the job of sociology over the last several decades to denaturalize supposed human difference. This job is, apparently, not yet finished.

References
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<td>Department Meeting (full time faculty)</td>
<td>Coffey 425</td>
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<td>Wed., Oct. 17</td>
<td>Department Meeting (full time faculty)</td>
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<td>CAGSRC meeting</td>
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<td>Wed. Oct. 24</td>
<td>Grad instructor meeting</td>
<td>Coffey 425</td>
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<td>Department Meeting (full time faculty)</td>
<td>Cuneo 417</td>
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<td>Fri., Dec. 7</td>
<td>Department Holiday Party (students, faculty, staff)</td>
<td>McCormick Lounge</td>
<td>4:00 – 6:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Dec. 12</td>
<td>Department Meeting (full time faculty)</td>
<td>Coffey 425</td>
<td>2:00 - 3:30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dean’s Holiday Party (faculty, staff)</td>
<td>McCormick Lounge</td>
<td>5:00 - 6:30</td>
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**Fall 2012 Colloquium Series**

All events are 3 - 5 pm unless otherwise noted

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**Fri., Sept 14**

**DR. JORDAN BROWN**

_Instructor_

Loyola University Chicago

**CONSTRUCTING THREAT, CREATING COOPERATION: THE USE OF EMOTIONS IN FOREIGN POLICY FRAMING”**

Coffey Hall

McCormick Lounge

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**Thurs., Sept 20**

**NORMAN SOLOMON**

_Journalist_

**MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY: THE DEEFPENING CONFLICT**

Crown Center

Auditorium

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**Fri., Sept. 28**

**REUBEN MILLER**

_Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology_

Loyola University Chicago

“DEVOLVING THE CARCERAL STATE”

Mundelein

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**Fri., Oct. 12**

**DR. MELISSA WEINER**

_Assistant Professor of Sociology_

College of the Holy Cross

“EXPLORING RACIALIZATION BY INVESTIGATING WHITENESS: EDUCATION IN THE NETHERLANDS”

Mundelein

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**Fri., Oct. 19**

**DR. RASHAWN RAY**

_Assistant Professor of Sociology_

University of Maryland

“IS IT REALLY ONE MIDDLE CLASS: THE EFFECT OF RACE ON SOCIAL CLASS IDENTIFICATION”

Mundelein

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**Fri., Oct. 26**

**DR. FRANCE WINDDANCE TWINE**

_Professor of Sociology and filmmaker_

University of California at Santa Barbara

“FIREARMS, FEMINISM, AND MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULT”

Coffey Hall

McCormick Lounge

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**Fri., Nov. 2**

**DR. ERICA CHITO CHILDS**

_Associate Professor of Sociology_

Hunter College

TBA

Coffey Hall

McCormick Lounge

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**Fri., Nov. 9**

**DR. EVREN SAVCI**

_Postdoctoral Fellow, Sociology_

Northwestern University

“SUBJECTS OF RIGHTS AND SUBJECTS OF CRUELTY: THE PRODUCTION OF AN ISLAMIC BACKLASH AGAINST HOMOSEXUALITY IN CONTEMPORARY TURKEY”

Coffey Hall

McCormick Lounge

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**Fri. Nov. 16**

**DR. MATTHEW W. HUGHEY**

_Assistant Professor of Sociology_

Mississippi State University

“WHITE BOUND: NATIONALISTS, ANTIRACISTS, AND THE SHARED MEANINGS OF RACE”

Crown Center

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