Welcome to our fall 2009 newsletter. The past eight months have been eventful, challenging and refreshing. For example, our former department chair has left our department to take a position as Provost of Eastern Mennonite University. Additionally, newly minted Ph.D., Dr. Mary Byrnes, accepted a position as assistant professor at Western Carolina University. We offer our congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Fred and Mary. They will be sorely missed.

On a much happier note, we welcomed three new faculty members to our department beginning this fall: Dr. Rhys Williams from University of Cincinnati who is also our new department chair; Dr. Kelly Moore from University of Cincinnati; and Dr. Judson Everitt from Indiana University. Please check out their bios on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. We look forward to working with our new colleagues. Finally, we hope you enjoy this issue and please feel free to email any comments, corrections, ideas or suggestions to dembric@luc.edu.

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

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LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives
Message from the Chair

With cooler temperatures in the air, loads of undergraduates arriving in parents’ mini-vans, and the fading of baseball play-off hopes in Chicago, it can mean only one thing – autumn is nigh and a new academic year begins. For Loyola’s Sociology department, there are more than the usual changes of new students and new classes – we have three new faculty members, including a new chairperson of the department. And at the same time, long-time faculty member Fred Kniss has left LUC for an appointment at his alma mater, Eastern Mennonite University.

While it isn’t often that so many new people arrive in one year, and one hates to lose a faculty member as good as Fred, it is a good sign of energy and vitality in the department. Particularly in the current economic climate, that the department has been able to hire new people is a great sign of the administration’s confidence in the department. As you will see in these pages, there is so much interesting research and professional activity going on among sociology faculty and graduate students; it makes the department an exciting place to be. On top of the professional accomplishments touted here, the department has a very friendly, welcoming, and extremely collegial atmosphere. Combined with all the attractions of Chicago, this is a great place to work and study.

As one of the new people here, I can tell you directly about the positive energy and welcoming departmental culture. It has been a long time since the sociology department has had a new chair who is also new to the university (indeed, this may be a first, as no one here can remember another example!). So, while I have much to learn – everyday I learn about something else I need to learn – I also have fresh eyes for all the interesting things happening here. Along with active research and publishing, the thing I have notice the most is the active engagement between students and faculty. Faculty collaborate with students – both graduate and undergraduate – on research efforts, on service projects, and with active learning practices inside and outside the classroom. The ethic of “service” seems to receive more than just lip-service at Loyola, and it really seems to make this school and department distinct from many universities. I am pleased to be here.

I will note that as a university Loyola is in good shape, especially given the current economic climate. We have one of our largest first-year classes ever, at just over 2100 students, along with about 650 transfer students. There are lots of full classes as a result. Our department is similarly full of students, with over 130 majors, about 120 minors and over 1,400 students enrolled in our undergraduate courses. Our graduate program is also bustling with people and energy, including 18 new students this fall (giving us a total of just over 80). In addition, several of our recent graduates started their own careers at places such as Illinois State University and Roosevelt University. Our opening party, sponsored by the Graduate Association of Sociologists, had a big and boisterous crowd.

This newsletter contains short bios of all three of the newcomers, Kelly, Judson, and myself, along with an update letter from Fred Kniss, a column remembering Fred’s time at Loyola, and some great photos. There is also news on the activities of other faculty members, graduate students, 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!
Our new faculty... Welcome!

Rhys H. Williams received his B.A. from the University of New Mexico in Sociology and Political Science in 1979 and his M.A. (1985) and Ph.D. (1988) from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He taught for 11 years at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and for eight years at the University of Cincinnati, where he was also Department Head. He also had a two year research fellowship at Yale University's Program on Non-Profit Organizations. His publications include *A Bridging of Faiths: Religion and Politics in a New England City* (with Jay Demerath; Princeton, 1992), *Cultural Wars in American Politics: Critical Reviews of a Popular Myth* (Aldine, 1997), and the forthcoming *Navigating to Faith: Forming American Youth as Christians, Muslims, and Hindus* (with R. Stephen Warner, Rutgers U.P.). His articles have appeared in journals such as the *American Sociological Review, Sociological Theory, Social Problems, Theory & Society, the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, and *Sociology of Religion*. Two articles have won Distinguished Article awards, one from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (1992) and one from the American Sociological Association’s Section on the Sociology of Religion (2000).

From 1996-99 Williams co-edited the journal *Social Problems*, and from 2003-08 edited the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. He has served on the Executive Councils of both the SSSR and the Association for the Sociology of Religion. In addition, Williams has served as chair of the American Sociological Association’s Sections on Religion (2001-02) and Collective Behavior/Social Movements (2006-07). He is currently President-Elect of the Association for the Sociology of Religion. When not working, Williams enjoys music (he plays guitar and banjo), baseball (he is a fervent fan of the St. Louis Cardinals), and golf (because the knees won't handle real sports anymore . . .). He is very happy to be in Chicago, with its wonderful cultural, scholarly, and culinary opportunities, and is pleased to be joining the Loyola faculty.

Kelly Moore joined the Sociology Department in July 2009. She is a sociologist of science whose work focuses on public political debates over scientific knowledge.

She is the editor (with Scott Frickel) of *The New Political Sociology of Science: Institutions, Networks and Power* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2006), and the author of *Disrupting Science: Social Movements, American Scientists, and the Politics of the Military*, 1945-1975, Princeton University Press, 2008). *Disrupting Science* was awarded Honorable Mention for the 2009 American Sociological Association Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements Charles Tilly Book Award. Other work has appeared in the *American Journal*
of Sociology, Research in the Sociology of Organizations, and in a variety of other publications. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Arizona in 1993, and has held positions at Barnard College, Columbia University; Brooklyn College; and the University of Cincinnati.

Her new work is a study of the political debates over nutrition in the U.S. since 1970. Called Making the National Body, it is a study, first, of how and why American eating policy shifted from a concern over the bodies of the poor and people in ill health, to the bodies healthy people; and second, of how social class shapes the social meanings of eating. This fall, with research assistant and first-year graduate student Catherine Gillis, Moore will interview low-income people about their food experiences.

She is the outgoing Chair of the Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology of the American Sociological Association and now Past Chair of the section (2009-2011). She serves on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Sociology and as a panelist for the National Science Foundation.

She teaches courses on science and knowledge, social movements and political protest, sociology of food, environmental sociology, qualitative research methods, sociology of organizations, and introduction to sociology and will be developing a new course on the sociology of the body.

Outside of work, she likes to ride her bike(s), do yoga, play board games, travel, and garden. As she has in cities in which she has previously lived, she will likely become involved in bicycle and pedestrian advocacy in Chicago.

Judson Everitt I am coming to Loyola from Indiana University where I just completed my dissertation and Ph. D. in July 2009. This fall, I am teaching introductory courses, along with courses in social problems and inequality. I taught sociology for several years during my graduate training at IU, and taught social studies for a brief stint at the high school level prior to that. I am thrilled to be joining the department, and look forward to working with new students and colleagues here at Loyola.

My research is closely linked to my teaching, as my dissertation focuses on teacher education and the process of socialization that new teachers experience in preparation for work inside public schools. Now that the dissertation is done, I’m working to carve off slices of this project for publications that contribute to both the sociology of education as well as scholarship in teaching and learning. My additional areas of interest include work and occupations, social organizations, and ethnography.

As for my non-academic interests, I must confess my ongoing addiction to sports, both as a fan and a participant. I’ve been a distance runner for years, but I’m currently exploring the alternatives of swimming and golf due to a nagging knee injury that continues to limit my mileage. I grew up riding horses competitively, and worked on a horse farm for several years to help finance my college degree. While I no longer ride, I remain an avid fan of equestrian sports. And, in the winter, I can often be found cheering on my alma mater (Wake Forest University) and their basketball team.
We Miss You, Fred. Good Luck! By Judith Wittner

Fred Kniss joined the Loyola Sociology Department in 1991 directly after receiving his PhD from the University of Chicago. This past June, 2009, he left Loyola and the city of Chicago to assume the duties of Provost at his alma mater, Eastern Mennonite University, and to rejoin his extended family on the East coast. In the 18 years of his tenure at Loyola he became a nationally recognized scholar in the sociology of religion, publishing a series of books and articles that assembled fresh empirical knowledge about the daily practice of religion, upon which he built original theoretical contributions to the field.

In addition to his important research, Fred served the profession nationally in his editorial work for major national journals (American Journal of Sociology, Sociology of Religion, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion) and through offices he held in the Association for the Sociology of Religion, the Religious Research Association, and the ASA Section on the Sociology of Religion. He won grants that allowed him to bring well-known and respected scholars in the sociology of religion to speak at Loyola, increasing the national and international visibility of our department and the university while contributing to our greater literacy in the sociology of religion. He shepherded the Chicago Area Group for the Study of Religious Communities (CAGSRC), where sociologists and others from the area discussed their works in progress, an organization that also contributed to the growth and maintenance this vibrant community of scholars.

His colleagues at Loyola called on him regularly to help run the university and the department. His many tasks and responsibilities included 6 years on the Faculty Council, Graduate Program Director (2000-2004), Interim Dean (2004-2005), Chair of the department (2005-2009), and recently, membership on the Beijing Center Academic Oversight Board. He was a fair and even-handed administrator, a true (small "d") democrat. His students loved and respected him as an accomplished and talented teacher, a thoughtful mentor, and a skillful researcher. He used a large part of the nearly one million dollars in grants that he brought to Loyola to support student research, and his students participated in gathering the interview data that was the basis of his important recent book with Paul Numrich, Sacred Assemblies and Civic Engagement: How Religion Matters for America's Newest Immigrants (Rutgers). He ran a democratic and participatory classroom, teaching not only the discipline, but also how to prepare a lecture. He encouraged students to write and deliver papers at conferences. He served on and chaired numerous dissertation committees. As Fred's next door neighbor in the department I discovered that he was never too busy to meet with the steady stream of students who appeared at his door.

Fred was a friend as well as a colleague, approachable and sweet-tempered. We'll remember fondly his enthusiasms for the White Sox, Indian food, and Chicago theatre and hope that his new home in Virginia will offer equally compelling and vital diversions.

Fred is a hard act to follow.
Greetings from Virginia! It was good to see at least a few of you in San Francisco, if only briefly. Rosalyn and I were also celebrating our 30th anniversary, so I wasn't around as much as I might otherwise have been. I'm glad for this chance to send a quick update on life in the Shenandoah Valley!

I have nearly completed my second month in the new job. It has been going very well, so far. If anyone else is thinking about becoming a provost, I recommend negotiating for a July 1 start date. July is about the only slow month in the academic year, so I had plenty of time to meet lots of people and learn, learn the things I need to know about what's going on in the institution. It was a real luxury to not have to make any critical decisions right off the bat. But with every day bringing something new to learn, I find that every evening on my drive home, my brain feels like an overloaded sponge. It is a real challenge to keep sight of the forest without getting lost in the trees.

People here have been extremely gracious and welcoming. I don't know how long a provost’s honeymoon lasts, but I'm enjoying it while it does. It will probably be over the first time I have to say “no,” but I hope I won’t have to do that too often. Things are looking pretty positive here at EMU.

The incoming class is large and strong, and the turnaround in the market is helping us to breathe a little easier about our endowments.

Outside of work, I'm enjoying our new house and its beautiful mountain views. I miss the Lake Michigan and the Chicago skyline, but Massanutten Mt. and the Blue Ridge are a good substitute. Our garden is simply amazing. We were lucky to get a property with lots of great topsoil. The sweet corn has been terrific and our sunflowers are about ten feet tall. Even the tomato plants grew taller than my head, and I had forgotten how delicious real tomatoes were. So far, in addition to the corn and tomatoes, we’ve enjoyed very tasty lettuce, basil, sweet peppers, habaneros and jalapenos, green beans, cucumbers, mustard greens and the sweetest, juiciest cantaloupes I’ve had in a long time. I even put a few extra batches of pesto and greens in the freezer.

Despite all this rural pastoral bliss, I miss the city and hope to get back there relatively frequently. I was especially sorry not to be there when Mark Buehrle threw his perfect game a few weeks ago!

If anyone can find an excuse to travel to Harrisonburg, please do. We have lots of guest space in our house, and I would love to make use of it!

All the best,

Fred

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**Update From Virginia**

Greetings from Virginia! It was good to see at least a few of you in San Francisco, if only briefly. Rosalyn and I were also celebrating our 30th anniversary, so I wasn't around as much as I might otherwise have been. I’m glad for this chance to send a quick update on life in the Shenandoah Valley!

As sociologists of religion, we were fortunate enough to get to know and work with Fred over the last two years.

Fred was instrumental to our growth as scholars through his formation of the Religion Working Group and his encouragement of our participation in CAGSRC and other professional organizations, and we will miss his support in these endeavors. More than that, however, we will miss Fred for his dedication to his students and the discipline, along with his dry wit which never failed to make the Religion Working Group feel less like work and more like fun.

We wish Fred continued luck in his career and look forward to future opportunities to talk with and work with him. We also would like to formally welcome Rhys Williams and Kelly Moore into our department, and are excited about the new energy and perspective they will bring to Loyola.

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**Fred Kniss Will Be Missed at Loyola University**

By Todd Fuist, Courtney Irby, and Thomas Josephsohn

As you are aware, Fred Kniss, the former chair of the sociology department, has left Loyola University Chicago to become the provost of Eastern Mennonite University.

As sociologists of religion, we were fortunate enough to get to know and work with Fred over the last two years.

Fred was instrumental to our growth as scholars through his formation of the Religion Working Group and his encouragement of our participation in CAGSRC and other professional organizations, and we will miss his support in these endeavors. More than that, however, we will miss Fred for his dedication to his students and the discipline, along with his dry wit which never failed to make the Religion Working Group feel less like work and more like fun.

We wish Fred continued luck in his career and look forward to future opportunities to talk with and work with him. We also would like to formally welcome Rhys Williams and Kelly Moore into our department, and are excited about the new energy and perspective they will bring to Loyola.
Dr. Richard Block, Professor Emeritus, presented two papers at the NIJ/MAPS conference in New Orleans August 19-22: 1) a new method for predicting the anchor point of serial offenders, and 2) the using of mapping in the evaluation of Chicago Ceasefire. He will also be presenting a paper on the Micro Analysis of Robbers’ Choice of Target Neighborhood at the American Society of Criminology meetings in November. And he is looking forward to teaching a grad course for us this fall.

Japonica Brown-Saracino presented the following papers this year

- "From the Lesbian Ghetto to Ambient Community: The Perceived Costs of Integration for Community." American Sociological Association Conference.


Kelly Moore has been busy! She presented:


And earlier this year as an Invited Speaker, Kelly delivered the following lectures:

- February 16, 2009, Invited Speaker, Loyola University Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, “Making the National Body.”
Rhys Williams gave two invited talks in 2009:

- “Interdisciplinarity’ and the Social Science of Religion: The Epistemological Divide.” Presented at the “Religion & American Culture Conference,” Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, June 2009, and
- co-authored a paper with Jeffrey Timberlake of the University of Cincinnati, titled “Effects of Region of Origin on Stereotypes of Immigrants to the United States,” that was presented at the 2009 American Sociological Association meetings in San Francisco, August. The findings in the paper were written up in an article published in TIME.com on August 12, 2009, and picked up by several subsequent news sources.

At ASA this past August, J. Talmadge Wright organized and presided over a panel on the Critical Sociology of Play and Culture for the Marxist Section in an attempt to move critical sociology into an direct engagement with fantasy, play, and the importance of hope, as Ernst Bloch would term it.

Tal Wright was interviewed on WBEZ, Chicago's Public Radio, in early September. The interview was a short discussion of his work on the Tranquility City homeless huts set up in 1991-92 on the West Side of Chicago. “In 1991, I was invited to speak at the Randolph Street Gallery on homelessness and both through the artists, members of the Coalition on Homelessness, and HOME (Homeless on the Move for Equality) I met the persons living in the huts and spent time taking my students down there and doing interviews. All of this is recounted in my book Out of Place. I also discussed the current economic and policy conditions which guarantee the persistence of homelessness and poverty in the US.”


PUBLICATIONS


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marcel Fredericks has had a busy summer. He recently returned from Limerick, Ireland where he had productive and successful meetings in Medical Sociology at the University of Limerick. He has also submitted three papers on EMR (Electronic Medical Records) for publication. Our students are included in the publications.

Continued
Phil Nyden has a research leave of absence this academic year (1/2 time over two semesters) to do additional work on what produces stable racially, ethnically, and economically diverse communities in the U.S. This is partially a follow up on a 1998 study funded by HUD and published in HUD’s policy journal, Cityscape ([http://luc.edu/curl/projects/past/documents/cityscape/vol4num2/current.htm](http://luc.edu/curl/projects/past/documents/cityscape/vol4num2/current.htm)). After identifying census tract clusters of stable diverse communities in the top 30 U.S. metropolitan areas, he will be following up with interviews with local leaders to understand factors contributing to the stability, e.g. community-based organization advocacy, government policy, impact of large employers (universities and hospitals), immigrant ports-of-entry, and housing stock.

David G. Embrick was:
- nominated and selected to serve a two-year term as a board member of the American Sociological Association’s Honors Program Advisory Panel.
- an invited panelist in a Diversity Program Hosted by Chicago United and the University of Illinois at Chicago: “Diversity in an Era of Uncertainty.” May 21st. Mid America Club, 200 East Randolph Street, Chicago, IL.
- the Faculty Speaker for Loyola University Chicago’s Inaugural 1st Legacy Multicultural Graduation Ceremony. May 6th.
- appointed to the Faculty Affairs University Policy Committee (FAUPC), LUC

Kelly Moore has been involved in the following (National Level) Professional Services:
- Panel Member, National Science Foundation (name of panel withheld for confidentiality)
- Chair, American Sociological Association Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology (through August 15, 2009)
- Past Chair, American Sociological Association Section on Science, Knowledge and Technology (August 15, 2009-August 15, 2011)
- Editorial Board, American Journal of Sociology

J. Talmadge Wright is a co-participant on a 4-year National Science Foundation grant with colleagues in several chemistry departments in the Midwest and Africa, (including Loyola's chemistry dept.). The project is to develop a virtual gateway for students in Africa to learn how to run chemical instrumentation remotely. My position will be to monitor the social interactions and look for patterns of learning that can be coded and then used to design new training procedures to operating advanced equipment. We are still waiting to hear if the project will be funded.

Congratulations! This past spring Dr. Marcel Fredericks and Dr. Lauren Langman were honored at a luncheon as they finished significant anniversary years at Loyola. Marcel completed 45 years and Lauren finished 40 years. Thank you for all you have contributed to the department.

David Embrick was elected Chair-Elect of the American Sociological Association’s Section on Race and Ethnic Minorities, 2009-2010.

Graduate Report

From Dr. Anne Figert, Graduate Program Director

We welcome 18 new students in the graduate program this fall: 6 in the Ph.D. program, 9 in the MA program, 2 in the applied MA program and 1 student at large. Classes are full and the Graduate Lounge is busy. Students have come from all over the U.S. and abroad to study in the department. If you see a new student, stop and ask how they are doing. If you are a new student, be sure to introduce yourself to the other students in the program.

We also congratulate Meghan Burke, Kim Fox, Kersten Priest for successfully defending their Ph.D. and Melissa Howell, Courtney Irby, Joseph Renow, and Kerry Lanigan for finishing their M.A. degree over the summer.

During the coming year, the Graduate School will be focusing upon ways to improve graduate student culture. Look for a dedicated Graduate Student Study Space and Lounge in Cudahy Library and research and service opportunities/events throughout the year. There is also a new web site that is available called GradShare which is on on-line community site for graduate students. Loyola will soon be an institutional subscriber but you can check it out now at http://www.GradShare.com.

Look for future announcements about a graduate/undergraduate research mentoring award ($1,000), dissertation and thesis support groups and other initiatives/deadlines from the Graduate School.

The department is also working on systematizing the professional socialization of our graduate students. Look for future workshops on creating cv’s, emails about opportunities to present your work at conferences and external funding opportunities and opportunities in the mentoring and teaching of undergraduates.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following Graduate Student Awards were presented at the department’s Annual Awards Ceremony and Reception, which was held on April 24.

Distinguished Graduate Instructor Award was awarded to Kim Fox

Robert McNamara Award for Student Research in the Sociology of Religion was awarded to Kersten Priest for her Ph.D. thesis: “Caring for the least of these: Christian women’s short term mission travel.”

Richard L. Block Prize for Student Research in Urban Sociology/Public Policy was awarded to Cesraea Rumpf for her MA thesis: “The Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence: A Study of Victims’ Experiences in Chicago’s Criminal Domestic Violence Court.”

Peter Whalley Award for Outstanding Graduate Scholarship was awarded to Dennis Watson

Outstanding Graduate Student Award—Service was presented to Bhoomi Thakore

Special Commendation for Graduate Student Service to the Department was presented to Todd Fuist, Courtney Irby, and Joseph Renow.
Andras Lukacs received a Scholarship to attend the Graduate Student Symposium at the VI. State of Play Conference, held at New York Law School in NYC this past June.

Andras submitted his Canadian Immigration paperwork and has moved to Canada where he hopes to have “rights to work” after being denied work privileges for the 10 years that he lived in the U.S.

Erin Tracey has been elected to serve on the ASA Student Forum Board for a 2-year term.

Dennis Watson is a 2009 SSSP Graduate student paper honorable mention award winner for “The mental health of the Older Homeless Population: Provider Perceived issues related to service provision.”

Dennis also received a two year award for $100,000 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for his dissertation study: Housing First is a model for serving chronically homeless individuals with dual diagnoses of substance use disorder and serious mental illness. While model has been associated with higher substance abuse treatment access for clients, it has been recognized that stronger definitions of its essential elements are needed before further investigation into the association between Housing First programming and substance abuse treatment can be carried out. My dissertation study aims to: (1) define the essential components of the Housing First model; (2) develop a fidelity index for Housing First programming; (3) test the finalized fidelity index for reliability and validity; and (3) assess the degree to which fidelity predicts improved substance abuse treatment access for clients. I will address these aims through activities carried out in three phases. In the first phase interviews with staff and clients from Housing First organizations will define the core essential elements of the model. In the second phase, interviews with Housing First experts will be conducted to create a finalized fidelity index. The final phase will assess the model by correlating agency fidelity scores with housing retention and client treatment access data from housing organizations.

Presentations ♦ Publications♦ Submissions

Andras Lukacs presented at the Facets of Virtual Environments Conference in Berlin, July 27-29 a paper (co-authored by David G. Embrick and J. Talmadge Wright) titled: “The Managed Hearthstone: Labor and Emotional Work in the Online Community of World of Warcraft.” The paper was published in the conference proceedings.

Matt Hoffmann presented "Defining Real Food: Nutritionism and the Discursive Politics of Slow Food" at the ASA panel on Nutrition, Science and Food, August 10, 2009, San Francisco, CA.

Thomas Josephsohn will present two papers at the SSSR annual meeting in October — “Taking Account of Ideological Diversity in New Religious Movements: Implications for the Sociology of Religion (with Todd Fuist, first author), and “(A) Moral Order: Atheist and Agnostic Identities in the American Religious Landscape.” He was a discussant and presented at the ASA annual meeting in August, and submitted “Visualizing Material Religion: Objects and Christian Identity Construction” to Sociological Inquiry.

Saher Selod presented "Public Opinions and Attitudes about Muslims Post 9/11" this summer at the Association of Black Sociologist's conference in New Orleans in June.

Dennis Watson presented with Christine George: “Falling Through the Cracks: the Aging of Chicago’s Homeless Population” at ASA Annual Conference and “Maneuvering in a Changing Job Market: Older Homeless People and Employment in Chicago’s Changing Economy” at the Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference; with Anne Figert and Christine George: “Modeling
Students, when you join American Sociological Association (ASA) you automatically become a part of the ASA Student Forum. Watch for the Student Forum newsletters for opportunities, http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/join_or_renew/join

Announcing the new 2009-2010 G.A.S. Committee

Jessica Benoit, jessicabenoit86@gmail.com
Christine Shipman, cshipman@luc.edu
Jessica Barron, jbarron3@luc.edu
Bhoomi Thakore, bthakor@luc.edu

Information about G.A.S. events will be posted in DH 957 and on our web page http://www.luc.edu/sociology/gas.shtml.

Internet message board for the graduate sociology department
http://loyolasociology.proboards.com

Commentary

LIBRARY CARRELS... By David G. Embrick

The room was small. There was barely enough space to fit two aspiring scholars, much less the wooden counter surface that formed the desk and two hard plastic chairs that left one’s rear screaming for mercy at the end of a full day’s research. Other than the one electrical outlet at the corner of the desk, a couple of small lockable cubbies that barely held anything larger than a wallet, and several stacks of books, the room was bare. Ah, how vividly I remember my assigned library carrel in graduate school. Located on the fourth floor of the library less than six feet from the E.184 section that housed books on race and ethnic relations, this small, secluded hole-in-the-wall is where one would routinely find me reading for my prelims. Later, I would serve time there reading, writing, and editing (and editing, and editing, and editing…) my dissertation. Back then, my carrel felt less a place where inspiring thoughts and satisfying “aha” moments roamed free and more a location that liberally soaked up what seemed to be my never-ending curses and on a few occasions the brutal raw end of my fists. Thinking back, however, I wonder if I could have ever survived graduate school without that place that was my home away from home. This is where I went to be alone. This is where I went to think. This was where I felt free to ponder issues of race as I scanned the library shelves finding books whose authors I did not know and subjects that I never heard of. I thought, I looked, I skimmed, and I read. I piled stacks upon stacks of books in my carrel, returning them to a nearby cart before I left. I wondered what the librarians must have thought of me

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Undergraduate Zone

From Dr. Marilyn Krogh, Undergraduate Program Director

Congratulations to the 60+ majors who graduated this spring! This large class included twenty-one who walked at commencement wearing AKD Honor Cords and twelve who earned honors in the major. We know they’re off to new adventures in their lives, and look forward to hearing from them. For instance, we just heard from Amber Miller, ’08, who is an account executive for NBC selling media advertisements. Since she has to interpret ratings data, she feels that her sociology education has been more valuable in this work than the business degrees of her colleagues. Go sociology!

This is an exciting year to be a sociologist in Chicago, as the region celebrates the 100th anniversary of the 1909 Burnham & Bennett Plan of Chicago. On October 9, Urban Studies and Sociology are hosting an event on the future of Chicago, especially the north side, in light of the plan and current events. There will be two panel discussions, one on ecological issues and one on design issues, with speakers from the university and the community. All are welcome! For more details, see the colloquium schedule at the end of this newsletter, and know that all the colloquium events are open to undergraduates as well as graduate students and alumni.

Those of you with a special interest in urban policy should know that Loyola has just launched the first year of a new master’s program, the Master’s of Urban Affairs and Public Policy. The program is led by a new faculty member in Political Science, Dr. Annette Steinacker. More information http://www.luc.edu/gradschool/mppmaua.shtml

This year, students in Sociology 365 will be invited to participate in a study of sociology research capstone courses. This project, led by Dr. McKinney at Illinois State University, will explore student experiences in these courses across a variety of schools, and seeks to improve learning in these courses. Dr. Krogh is the affiliated faculty for this project here at Loyola.

Coming very soon — a new and improved Undergraduate Handbook. We’re putting the finishing touches on it, and expect to be distributing and posting it soon. The revised handbook provides more detail on the program and career opportunities. All undergraduates and faculty are encouraged to consult it.

Best wishes for the fall semester to all.

Undergraduate Students Kudos and Announcements

The Illinois Sociological Association Paper Competition first place award was earned by Ruth Ashton. Ruth is now an administrative assistant in Loyola’s graduate school. The second place award was earned by Glenance Green.

Loyola’s Damen Award for the College of Arts and Sciences was presented to Omar Kamran for outstanding scholarship and service. Omar is now graduate student in sociology at Texas A&M University.
The following Undergraduate Student Awards were presented at the department’s Annual Awards Ceremony and Reception, which was held on April 24, 2009.

**Gallagher Award for Outstanding Sociology Senior** presented to Monica Tribuani and Micah Uetrich. Monica is now pursuing a master’s degree at the Jane Addams School of Social Work.

**Durkheim Award for Outstanding Sociology and Anthropology Senior** was presented to Robert Armendariz. Robert is now a Labor Research Intern at the Center for Labor and Community Research.

**Ross P. Scherer Award for Outstanding Sociology Junior** was presented to Teresa Gloppen. Teresa is continuing her coursework here at Loyola, including the STEP Food Systems class this fall.

**Undergrad Opportunities**

Oct 1 Illinois Sociological Association Paper Competition
Oct 16 Loyola’s Alternative Break Immersion (ABI) trips
Jan 31 ASA Minority Fellows Program application deadline
Feb 1 ASA Undergraduate Honors Program deadline
March 1 Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (LUROP) deadline

This includes Mulcahy Scholars, Provost Fellows, and CURL fellowships.

**Open** Submission for *Sociological Insight*, a new peer reviewed journal for undergraduate papers, produced by the University of Texas sociology department. See [http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/sociology/sociological-insight/overview.php](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/sociology/sociological-insight/overview.php)

**TBA** National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates. In the past, site for sociology students in this national program was hosted at Texas Agricultural and Mechanical University (TAMU). The grant supporting TAMU’s program may or may not be renewed. Check back in January.

The Center on Race, Religion, and Urban Life (CORRUL) at Rice University invites all graduate and undergraduate students in U.S. and worldwide to take part in the 2010 National Student Paper Competition. All entries must conduct scholarly research using the newly released data from the Panel Study of American Religion and Ethnicity (PS-ARE). [http://www.ps-are.org](http://www.ps-are.org)

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**Sociology Club**

The Sociology Club meetings are held on Wednesday at 7:00 pm in DH 957.

The Sociology Club invites Sociology majors and minors to join as at our weekly meetings. In the past we’ve presented events including the Life After Sociology Series, The Media Series, and a Mini-Conference.

We’d love to hear from you. Contact:

Ian Gramse, igramse@luc.edu
Ruby Aliment raliment@luc.edu, or
Courtney Irby, cirby@luc.edu

with ideas or questions about sociology club.

**Sociology Club T-shirts**

$12.00 - cash only  DH 918
I was just remembering the best teacher I ever had, Marcel Fredericks, who gave part of himself to help me in being the best student of Sociology I could possibly be. A “Thirst for Knowledge” if you will.

I will never forget the interrelationships of Society, Culture, and Personality, (SCP), and the G1 and G2 paradigms.

Dr. Fredericks was the inspirational force I needed at a time of great physical and mental duress in my life.

I taught High School Sociology for awhile after I graduated, and have never lost sight of it, and how it is quite obviously a tremendous impact in our everyday lives.

It gave me the background required to truly gain a much better understanding as to issues around the world, and how Religion, Economics, Politics, and Social areas are intertwined, and to form my own values attitudes, etc. (V.A.S.)

I now live in Marietta, GA, and at this point in my life truly miss the Loyola Sociology Dept. I wanted to thank, not only Dr. Fredericks, but the Department itself for being comprised of individuals who were available to inspire people such as myself by making their subject area come alive.

Bob Lang, Class of 1968

Nicole Rousseau, PhD
Assistant Professor Kent State University
Department of Sociology
Class of 2001 - MA


The national agenda, long shaped by the needs of the economy and the rhetoric of political leadership, has been sharply impacted by negative images of Black women. This social rhetoric disseminated by American media and embraced by the American people has influenced policies that have disproportionately affected Black women, particularly Black women’s reproduction. This book examines these extreme historical atrocities perpetuated against Black women under the guise of regulating Black female sexuality and reproduction in the US. Forcing us to realize that we have not simply come to the collective conclusion, as a nation, that Black women are controlling and aggressive and angry, on our own. Rather this perception has been built over generations, through clever and purposeful social rhetoric; oppressive social policy; and reactive masses. Thus, eradicating the myth of the “angry Black woman.” To that end, this book further explores the continued impact of labeling and stereotyping on the development of policies that lead to the construction of national, racial, and gender identities for Black women.

I have also published a journal article and two book chapters:


continued
After doing my graduate work in sociology under the golden dome of Notre Dame and completing a teaching career in the University of Wisconsin Colleges, I'm still very much enjoying the college classroom experience - on either side of the instructor's desk: teaching from time to time at one or another UWC campus and auditing classes at Lawrence University.

Michael Collins  B.S., Sociology, 1960

Nothing much new with me except I am in my dotage. My most recent adventure has been a bout with breast cancer. The doctors tell me it looks very good and I am most grateful for that news. Two of my seven children are alumni of Loyola. I am very proud of them. Best wishes to you and all our classmates.

Mary A. O’Connell Jones, Class of 1953

I was a Sociology major in the early to mid-60's, started a graduate program but . . . left and got a job as a High School Teacher of Mathematics at a Chicago Public School. Did that through 1970. DePaul offered a Graduate Assistantship in Math and I earned an M.S.

This opened the door to a job with the Illinois Dept. of Employment Security for the next 36 years. I retired in December 2008. I like to travel to National Parks - I did the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone Park so far. I would like to teach one undergraduate Math class at a community college.

I have good memories of my time at Loyola and it is always special to walk around the campus or hear from the Dept. of Sociology. I believe the Dept. of Sociology at Loyola is impressive. If I may, I wanted to mention a Dr. Gordon Zahn on-campus during the 1960's. Among his published work was In Solitary Witness: The Life and Times of Franz Jagerstatter. Dr. Zahn taught a class in the Sociology of Deviance. He asked that each student select an ideal type to write about. Dr. Zahn was special as were my other instructors.

Thank you again for your communications -- it brings back some nice memories as well as a recognition of the passage of time.

Michael Macaluso

I hope the year is starting off well for you. It feels very odd to me that my life is not tied to the school year for the first time in almost a decade! Yikes. I really like my job and am settling in to Denver pretty well although I miss Chicago and everyone there.

Kimberly E. Fox, Ph.D., Research Associate Work, Family, & Health Study Flexible Work and Well-Being Center University of Minnesota Minnesota Population Center Email: kefox@umn.edu

Mahruq Khan accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. She will help expand the department in the areas of global feminism and transnational sexuality.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Weekend 2009 is September 25-27 A weekend of events for alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends. For more information http://alumni.luc.edu/alumni

Alumni Outreach

Did you get a new job? Any new little faces in the family portraits? Did you recently win an award? Let us know your news and we will gladly print it.

Please email all news and suggestions to David G. Embrick (dembric@luc.edu). Let us know what you’d like to see in future issues.

We look forward to hearing from all of you!
This past summer **Rosa Negussie, Academic Programs Assistant** for the department, coordinated a Backpack Giveaway for her church, Vineyard Christian Church of Evanston. Months of planning and organizing went into the effort. Her goal for the project, in addition to helping families prepare for the upcoming school year, was to create an environment of dignity, welcoming and inclusiveness for the families.

Rosa invited faculty, staff, students and alumni from the department to lend a hand. On August 22, 801 backpacks, filled with supplies were distributed to (mostly) excited students from K-12. The success of the Giveaway was due to Rosa’s organization, and help from scores of volunteers, including MANY from Loyola.

For help with planning, stuffing and distributing, Rosa sends heartfelt thanks to:

- **Megan Baumann** (Loyola alumni)
- **Dave Embrick** (faculty)
- **Karen Fuist** (Todd’s mom)
- **Matthew Hoffmann** (grad student) and **Liz McGoey**
- **Melissa Howell** (grad student)
- **Courtney Irby** (grad student)
- **Crystal Jackson** (grad student)
- **Thomas Josephsohn** (grad student)
- **Eva Negussie** (Loyola alumni)
- **Amy Penner** (Loyola alumni)
- **Kaitlin Sobeck** (Loyola alumni)
- **Chris Wolff** (staff)

**Eva Negussie, Matt Hoffmann and Liz McGoey man the coloring table.**

**Chris Wolff and other volunteers stuffing backpacks with school supplies.**
as they returned the books to their rightful place on the shelves only to have the same books end up back on the cart the next day…and the day after. I do not imagine them smiling. This was my experience in graduate school. Today, it seems as if folks have no time for carrels, libraries, or books. In fact, I wonder how many folks these days even know about library carrels. Rush, rush, rush…Wikipedia must contain all of our answers! Have we become so technologically advanced with our Kindles and Internet access that we no longer need a place to think? Are dusty old books just relics waiting to be recycled? Have we sociologists, as George Ritzer argues, become so concerned with being “efficient” that we value speed (efficiency) over substance? The fact of the matter is that having a private space to think and reflect about one’s research is good practice. Further, there is something special about spending quality time in the library, skimming the shelves in search of that yet undiscovered scholarship that yearns to be read. For me, E.184 was the candy store of knowledge…and my carrel the space where it all got absorbed. Thus, I encourage graduate students to take initiative in securing your own hole-in-the-wall near whatever Library of Congress call number that is close to your heart. Carrels are available in Cudahy Library. Further, consider becoming more active in your demands for more graduate student space, for better space, and for ways to improve your research experiences at Loyola University-Chicago.

The author wishes to thank Drs. Judith Wittner and Anne Figert for their comments on an earlier draft of this piece.
## Fall 2009 Colloquium Series

*All events are 3 - 5 pm unless otherwise noted*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speaker and Affiliation</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18, Friday</td>
<td>1:30 - 3:00</td>
<td>CC 530</td>
<td>Laurie Stoll <em>Ph.D. Candidate</em> Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>“Challenging Single-Sex Schooling: Call for a New Feminist Agenda”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hussey</td>
<td>Jodie Lawston <em>Assistant Professor of Sociology</em> DePaul University</td>
<td>“Women’s Incarceration and Social; Justice Praxis”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 9, Friday</td>
<td>2:30 - 6:00</td>
<td>Mundelein Auditorium</td>
<td>Dr. Elfred Wedam <em>Sociology Instructor</em> Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>Burnham Plan of 1909 Centennial Celebration Burnham’s “originality, daring, and genius:” where do we stand today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huxsey</td>
<td>Dr. Elfred Wedam <em>Sociology Instructor</em> Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td><em>Discussion in two panels</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 16, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huxsey</td>
<td>Dr. Gary Alan Fine <em>Professor of Sociology</em> Northwestern University</td>
<td>“Honest Brokers: Owen Lattimore and the Politics of Expertise”</td>
</tr>
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<td>Oct. 23, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>CC 530</td>
<td>Dr. Carol S. Walther <em>Assistant Professor of Sociology</em> Northern Illinois University</td>
<td>“Who Counts?: The Legal and Statistical Consciousness of Gay and Lesbian Couples”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 28, Wed.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huxsey</td>
<td>Dr. Tim Black, <em>Professor</em>, University of Hartford</td>
<td>“When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: the Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers On and Off the Streets.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huxsey</td>
<td>Jill T. Owczarzak <em>Assistant Professor</em> Center for AIDS Intervention Research</td>
<td>Translating HIV Policy into Practice: Insights from Medical Anthropology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 6, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>LSB 312</td>
<td>Mary Romero <em>Professor and Carnegie Scholar of Justice and Social Inquiry</em> Arizona State University</td>
<td>“Mothers Against Illegal Aliens' (MAIA) Construction of Mexican Mothers as the Enemy.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 13, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Huxsey</td>
<td>Saher Selod <em>Ph.D. Candidate</em> Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>“Racialization of American Muslims after 9/11: South Asian American Muslims and Racial Profiling at Airports”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 20, Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>CC 530</td>
<td>Dr. Anne Figert <em>Associate Professor</em> Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>“Rethinking Medicalization and Gender”</td>
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### Other Important Dates

- **Thursday, Sept. 17**: *Department Meeting* (full time faculty) DH 966 3:00 - 5:00
- **Wednesday, Oct. 14**: *Department Meeting* (full time faculty) DH 966 3:00 - 5:00
- **Saturday, Oct. 17**: CAGSRC Meeting Hussey Lounge 12:00 – 5:00
- **Thursday, Nov. 5**: Benefits Health Fair Days at LSC Alumni Gym 8:00 - 3:00
- **Thursday, Nov. 12**: *Department Meeting* (full time faculty) DH 966 3:00 - 5:00
- **Friday Dec. 4**: *Department Holiday Party* (students, faculty, staff) Hussey Lounge 3:00 – 5:00
- **Wednesday, Dec. 9**: *Department Meeting* if needed (full time faculty) DH 966 3:00 - 5:00
- **Thursday, Dec. 10**: Dean’s Holiday Party for faculty and staff Hussey Lounge 5:00-6:30