

Greetings Sociology Alums!

We've had a lot of exciting things happening in the Sociology Department during the 2008-09 academic year! Below are some news stories we hope you find interesting:

New Award Honoring Retiring Professor is Presented at ISA

On April 4th, at the annual Iowa Sociological Association meeting which was held at Grinnell College, the Sociology Department was pleased to announce a new award for best undergraduate research paper.

This award - the Stephen G. Wieting Award - is named in honor of Professor Steve Wieting, long-time member of the Department of Sociology at the University of Iowa and long-time member of the Iowa Sociological Association.

Professor Wieting has been a professor at the University of Iowa for 37 years and is retiring this Summer. Our department wanted to commemorate Steve's career and especially his work advising and teaching undergraduates. We hope this award encourages undergraduate students to explore their own research questions for many years to come.



First award recipient – Meredith Drake

This new award will be presented annually at the ISA conference for the student paper that best "integrates theory with research." The Wieting award carries with it a \$100 cash award, and is sponsored by the Sociology Department at the University of Iowa.

A bit about Steve

Professor Wieting came to the University of Iowa in 1971, after completing his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Minnesota.

Over his career, his research has focused on the sociology of the family, research methodology, and the sociology of sport.

At the University of Iowa, Professor Wieting has taught thousands of undergraduates. Despite the large number of students he teaches every year, he looks at every new student as an individual and takes a genuine interest in each and every one. Nothing makes him happier than to have students who are excited about learning, and he loves to involve himself in special projects with them.

One of Steve's most popular courses is a year-long course in which students learn to conduct their own research. One of his students from this class remarks "The fact that Professor Wieting challenges his class is something that sets his class apart from others... Also, he allows his students the opportunity to come in to talk to him at any time, and this is a huge advantage. It put me in a situation personally where I am no longer taking a class, but rather acquiring knowledge because he has so much of it....He is witty, as well, which makes for humorous classes (if you get his jokes!)."

In his teaching, Professor Wieting has worked to show students that sociology can be useful in the "regular world" after graduation. Whether helping students to consider issues from a variety of perspectives, or showing how statistics can be used in everyday life, he works to make Sociology relevant to students' lives.

Steve has also fostered interaction between students and professors, through social events at his home and through the undergraduate sociology club....and he has worked to bring students in closer contact with the world around them through a "globalizing the undergraduate curriculum" grant. His ties to researchers

and students in Iceland and other countries have enhanced the experience of our sociology majors.

In addition to his mentoring, Professor Wieting has worked to improve the undergrad curriculum at Iowa in a number of ways. He has been the director of undergraduate studies for the past seven years and he has developed a capstone course for undergrad sociologists that provides special preparation for occupations or graduate school.

The Sociology department and the ISA community want to thank Steve for all he has done for us during his career.

Here's wishing you a happy retirement – you will be missed.

In Memoriam - James L. Price (1927-2008)



Professor Emeritus James L. Price died at age 81 Dec. 10, 2008. Jim received his PhD at Columbia University in 1962 and after short stints at the University of Oregon and the University of Maryland he came to Iowa in 1966, where he stayed until retirement. Jim served as Sociology DEO twice, but is best recognized for his dedication to teaching and to research, both of which centered on the study of organizations. Although his earlier interest was primarily in organizational effectiveness, he quickly changed his focus to the study of employee turnover. The study of turnover behavior had traditionally been dominated by economists and psychologists (in business schools); Jim was one of the first organizational scholars to emphasize the importance of sociological factors as determinants of why people quit their jobs. Jim, in his book *The Study of Turnover*, reviewed existing theories, argued for the importance of a sociological perspective, and developed a model that integrated arguments from all three fields. Jim's early research on organizations and turnover relied mainly

on qualitative field methods, but in the early 1980s Jim began a close to two decade collaboration with Charles Mueller, who brought the statistical/methodological skills necessary for larger sample quantitative studies of turnover behavior. This research resulted in two research monographs, a volume on scales and measures used in organizational research, dozens of journal articles, and collaboration with and training of dozens of graduate students. The crowning achievement of his study of turnover was referred to as the "Price-Mueller model of turnover" which is routinely cited when prominent theories of turnover are written about. Jim was intensely dedicated to his research, his teaching, and the mentoring of his students—all of which were viewed as life-long missions to him.

Mary Smith Turned 60! (And Threw a Great Party)

On August 16th family, friends, and co-workers gathered at the Coralville Marriott to help Mary Smith celebrate her 60th birthday. About 195 people showed up, including Mary's 9 siblings, her children from afar (including England and California), and her mother and parents-in-law.

What did this crowd of people do to help Mary celebrate? Tasty food, drinks, and dancing! But first, we were all treated to an amazing slideshow with pictures of Mary from childhood onwards. Guests mingled and ate hors d'oeuvres while the memories played and played, on a huge screen, with a musical background. While a few brave souls could be seen on the dance floor this early on in the evening, the real action would have to wait...

Mary and her guests were serenaded by the members of the Red Panties Society, "sisters" of the birthday lady, who sang an original piece! As for the dancing, it was reported that something not quite like a line dance, and not quite like the hokey-pokey broke out on the ballroom floor. Dancers took their turns strutting their stuff in the middle of a giant circle of revelers. One of Mary's wishes for us was that we all would have

a fun time dancing!

Great company, great food, and a great time were had by all at a great location. Happy Birthday Mary, and here's to many more to come!



Mary with "baby" brother Jimmy



60 never looked better!



Old friends and new friends

Iowa Sociology Department is Awarded the Seal of Excellence by Sociologists for Women in Society

Sociologists for Women in Society rated Sociology departments across the country in order "to recognize sociology departments that excel in creating a climate that is welcoming to women and feminist scholars." The University of Iowa's Sociology Department was one of 29 departments across the country who met the demanding criteria necessary to be given the Seal of Excellence.

The ratings are based on the percentage of the faculty who are women and the percentage of faculty who teach and/or do research on gender and inequality. The authors of the report also note that the field as a whole has made significant progress over the last few years; in 2004, only 12 departments met the criteria for the Seal of Excellence, and only four years later, that number has doubled. See the links for the 2008 Report.

Professor Leicht's new book wins 2009 MSS Best Book Award

Congratulations to Professor Kevin Leicht and Professor Scott Fitzgerald (UI Ph.D., 2003), who have received the 2009 Midwest Sociological Society Best Book Award. The book, *Post-Industrial Peasants: the Illusion of Middle Class Prosperity*, focuses on the growing economic struggles of the American middle class, arguing that its prosperity is an illusion. In the book, Leicht and Fitzgerald draw parallels between the modern American middle class, peasants in historically feudal societies, and sharecroppers in historically agrarian societies. The MSS Book Award Committee noted that that the book "...continues and updates the honorable tradition of C. Wright Mills in describing how economic elites and the political power structure conspire to harm average Americans." Kevin Leicht is Professor of Sociology at the University of Iowa, and Scott Fitzgerald is Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Professor Bianchi and Donna Lancianese Win the 2009 Sociology of Emotions Paper Award

Professor Alison Bianchi and graduate student Donna Lancianese won the 2009 ASA Sociology of Emotions Section's Recent Contribution Award for their paper "Accentuate the Positive: Positive Sentiments and Status in Task Groups" *Social Psychology Quarterly* 70: 7-26. The award will be presented at the 2009 American Sociological Association's annual meeting. Congratulations to Ali and Donna! The article's abstract states: "We explore the capacity of positive sentiments, those enduring affective states one achieves when one likes another, to impact status structures. Do positive sentiments combine with existing aspects of interaction to create status hierarchies and potentially change the social order, or do they moderate the effects of extant structure by dampening the magnitude of status differences? Using the theoretical framework of Status Characteristics Theory (SCT) and the Camilleri-Berger model of decision-making, we designed an experiment to adjudicate between these two potentialities. Participation in the study consisted of 168 students. Results found support for the notion that positive sentiments moderate the effects of structural factors on indicators of social status; interestingly, this moderation effect varies by gender. We discuss the theoretical implications of these findings, and new directions for research concerning sentiment and status processes."

UI sociologist wins award for outstanding legal education research

University of Iowa sociologist Michael Sauder's paper about the impact of law school rankings won the Philip D. Shelton Prize for Outstanding Legal Education Research, awarded by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC).

The award carries a \$5,000 prize. Sauder and co-author Wendy Nelson Espeland, associate professor of sociology at Northwestern University, are invited to present their work in May during the LSAC annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

The professors interviewed 136 law school faculty and staff at 70 accredited law schools, monitored chat rooms dedicated to prospective law students, and interviewed students and admissions officials. They analyzed law schools' Web sites, promotional publications and press releases, and resulting news coverage.

They found that rankings in publications like U.S. News and World Report were behind decisions ranging from how money is spent to which students are admitted. While many administrators object to the growing influence of rankings, they often make decisions they hope will improve their own school's ranking.

The paper, "Rankings and Reactivity: How Public Measures Recreate Social Worlds," was published in the American Journal of Sociology.

Two Iowa Sociologists Spearheading NSF-funded Symposium on Equality in Criminal Sentencing

NSF recently awarded funding to Robert Baller and Celesta Albonetti to gather scholars from around the country for a fall 2009 interdisciplinary symposium titled "Symposium on Judicial and Prosecutorial Discretion in Criminal Adjudication: Have Federal and State Reform Efforts Produced Greater Equality in Sentence Adjudication?" The symposium will bring together legal scholars and social scientists who study the influence of legal and extra-legal variables on sentence severity. Including scholars representing distinct approaches to the study of legal decision making in a unique gathering promises to be both intellectually stimulating and influential for public policy.

The symposium will address the transformative concepts of judicial and prosecutorial discretion, extra-legal variables, and social control. Participants will present original research on the extent to which federal-level and state-level reforms of sentencing practices have produced equality in sentence outcomes for felony defendants. Particular attention will be given to addressing the question of whether earlier findings of gender and race/ethnicity differences in sentencing have diminished under determinative/presumptive guidelines.

The symposium will include both academic presentations at the University of Iowa and a public panel presentation and discussion of the research findings at the Iowa City Public Library. Both events will be jointly sponsored by the University of Iowa's Center for Criminology and Sociological Studies and the National Science Foundation. University faculty and students, both graduate and undergraduate, will participate in a question and answer period during the on campus event, while citizens of the local community will be exposed to cutting-edge research on the effects of two decades of sentencing reform with the opportunity to comment and pose questions to the researchers.

Professor Hitlin Organizes an NSF Workshop on the Sociology of Morality

Professor Steve Hitlin received NSF funding to organize a workshop entitled "A Sociological Understanding of Morality." The workshop is designed to increase our understanding of the moral dimension of social life. Debates over right and wrong, justice, values, propriety, deviance, and so on are at the core of organized social life. The scientific study of morality has recently received a number of prominent treatments within popular discourse, for example, Time (Nov. 21, 2007), the New York Times Magazine (Jan 13, 2008), and Newsweek (Sept. 13, 2008). These stories tend to focus on evolutionary and psychological aspects of moral judgment. Other influences on morality -- sociological, religious, legal, political, and economic -- are left out of coverage which often focuses on neuroscience. This workshop will address a sociological understanding of morality including its structural, cultural, and interactional bases, but it will also draw from work in other disciplines so that an interdisciplinary dialogue and research agenda can be forged. Experts from across the country will participate in the workshop this summer.

Our faculty published several exciting books this year:

Professor Publishes New Book on Morality and Conscience

Professor Steve Hitlin recently published *Moral Selves, Evil Selves: The Social Psychology of Conscience*. The book provides a social psychological framework for thinking about an often-overlooked aspect of sociological work; we are moral beings. People have strong moral beliefs about right and wrong, yet commonly act contrary to those beliefs. Most of us, at some time or another, have crossed a moral line, and yet still view ourselves as moral and have a clean conscience. The overwhelming majority of people—even those convicted of crimes—consider themselves as at least minimally moral.

“Conscience” involves that part of the self that judges the moral worth of actions, intentions, thoughts, and desires. We judge ourselves and we judge others. We evaluate the morality of groups we belong to and of groups we attempt to stay away from. We draw boundaries as social actors, and these boundaries carry with them a moral dimension. Conscience is anchored in social identities and cultural understandings of the person. We have a strong motivation to see ourselves and our groups as morally decent. We are perhaps not the most moral creatures on the planet, but we consider ourselves “good enough” morally so as to feel we are acceptable members of our important groups.

From intimate relationships to national politics, we define ourselves in large part by how we – and our friends, family, and members of our social groups – draw moral lines around our actions, thoughts, and intentions. While philosophers have weighed in on these issues for thousands of years, social scientists often underplay social life’s moral dimension. *Moral Selves, Evil Selves* highlights our individual sense of moral coherence and develops a theory of the development and maintenance of this sense in an ambiguous and complicated social world. By conceptualizing a social psychology of conscience, this book explains how we can properly include individual and societal notions of morality into understanding the self across time and situation.

As Christian Smith, author of *Moral, Believing Animals*, put it: “We very much need a smart Sociology of Morality, but amazingly it does not exist. Steven Hitlin is one of the most promising young scholars in the discipline who is seeking to correct that problem. *Moral Selves, Evil Selves* is a crucial contribution to the development of this obviously needed field.”

UI Sociology Professor’s New Book Shatters Dating & Marriage Myths

In her 2006 bestseller *Why Smart Men Marry Smart Women*, University of Iowa visiting assistant professor Christine B. Whelan shattered the age-old myth that men are intimidated by smart, successful women. With up-to-the-minute research, Census data and national opinion polls, she proved that today’s smart women can have healthy relationships as they pursue their career dreams. As Dr. Whelan outlined this historic shift on television shows like *Good Morning America* and in magazines like *ELLE* and *Cosmopolitan*, women started asking for specific advice on how to put this good news to use.

MARRY SMART: The Intelligent Woman’s Guide to True Love (Simon & Schuster Paperbacks; January 1, 2009) is the first “public sociology” guide to answer questions and dish out invaluable advice for smart women. It’s a guide for SWANS® (Strong Women Achievers No Spouse) who are looking for that perfect balance of career and relationship success. Expanding on her research from *Why Smart Men Marry Smart Women*, Dr. Whelan teaches women to embrace their inner strength and to be proud of their accomplishments – while anticipating the nagging questions on every smart, single woman’s mind.

“All the advice in the book is underpinned with Current Population Survey data and a nationally representative Harris Interactive poll,” says Prof. Whelan. “So while the book is – I hope! — accessible and fun, it’s also a collection of the latest marriage and family research as it relates to this growing demographic of college-educated women – SWANS.”

The Christian Science Monitor recently interviewed Professor Whelan about these changes in the structure of the family.

Study finds recession associated with increases in minority victims of crime

The victimization of both female and male blacks and Latinos increases during or after periods of economic recession, according to a study by researchers Karen Heimer of the University of Iowa and Janet Lauritsen of the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The study was presented Sunday, Feb. 15, at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Chicago and has been picked up by news outlets across the country (see a sampling of the coverage in the links below). The study is the first of its kind to estimate trends in serious, non-lethal, violent victimization for non-Latino white, non-Latino black, and Latino males and females using data from the 1973-2005 National Crime Victimization Surveys, according to Lauritsen and Heimer.

"The findings offer new empirical evidence regarding the similarities and differences in risks of serious non-lethal violent victimization across race ethnic-gender groups over time," Heimer said.

"Minorities experience substantially higher rates of violent victimization than non-Latino whites in the United States," she said. "Our study shows that the higher rates of poverty, urban residence and differential age distributions of non-Latino blacks and Latinos help to explain these groups' higher victimization rates. Moreover, our study examines data from the early 1970s to the present and documents an association between economic downturn and increases in victimization rates among minorities over this period."

Heimer said that the findings will be important for police and criminal justice policy-makers, as well as providers of services to victims of crime, who may be concerned about the potential consequences of our current recession for crime and victimization.

Lauritsen and Heimer's talk, titled "Long-Term Trends in Exposure to Serious Violent Crime by Race, Ethnicity, and Gender," was part of a AAAS session on "Race, Ethnicity and Violent Crime."

Karen Heimer is professor in the University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Department of Sociology and is jointly appointed in the Public Policy Center. Her book (co-edited with Candace Kruttschnitt), "Gender and Crime: Patterns of Victimization and Offending," was published by New York University Press in 2006.

STORY SOURCE: University of Iowa News Services, 300 Plaza Centre One, Suite 371, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2500

What Do Men and Women Want in a Partner?

Just in time for Valentine's Day, University of Iowa sociologists Christie Boxer and Christine Whelan suggested some answers to the perennial question of what men and women want in a partner – and received national and international news mentions for their findings.

Boxer, a doctoral candidate, and Whelan, a visiting assistant professor, surveyed more than 1,100 undergraduates at the University of Iowa, the University of Washington, the University of Virginia and Penn State University, comparing the results to past mate-preference studies.

Since the 1930s, researchers have been asking college students to rank a list of 18 characteristics they'd prefer in a mate from "irrelevant" (0) to "essential" (3), allowing for a comparison of mate preferences dating back three generations. And my, how times have changed: Today's young adults rank love and attraction as most important; a few generations ago it didn't even make the top three.

Men are increasingly interested in an educated woman who is a good financial prospect and less interested in chastity. Women are increasingly interested in a man who wants a family and less picky about whether he's always Mr. Nice Guy.

"Marriage used to be a practical arrangement. Getting married for love or attraction was considered foolish and perhaps even dangerous," said Whelan, author of *Marry Smart: The Intelligent Woman's Guide to True Love*.

New Research on Law School Rankings

The new issue of the *American Sociological Review* includes an article by Michael Sauder (Iowa) and Wendy Espeland (Northwestern University) that is receiving national attention: "The Discipline of Rankings: Tight Coupling and Organizational Change." The article applies Foucault's analysis to understanding organizational responses to the law school rankings issued by the *US News and World Report*. The authors argue that "Foucault's depiction of two important processes, surveillance and normalization, show how rankings change perceptions of legal education through both coercive and seductive means. ... Rankings are just one example of the public measures of performance that are becoming increasingly influential in many institutional environments, and understanding how organizations respond to these measures is a crucial task for scholars." The article shows that rankings can take on a life of their own, with law schools internalizing the pressures produced by the rankings and the procedures used to try to manipulate them.

Professor Whelan's Public Sociology Gets National Attention



Prof. Christine Whelan recently received a Templeton-Cambridge Journalism Fellowship to study the intersection of science and religion at Cambridge University—and has received national media attention for her findings. Expanding on her research on religious self-help books in the United States, she explored the role of Buddhist mindfulness techniques in modern psychology. Can mastering ancient meditations really help you manage your anger, improve your relationships and lose weight along the way?

In a *Washington Post* Health Section feature ("It Isn't About the Trash Can," Nov. 11) Dr. Whelan writes that while Western medicine separates religion and science, Buddhists see mindfulness – the awareness that emerges through paying attention on purpose, non-judgmentally – as both a spiritual and psychological force.

"Researchers at major universities are exploring the benefits of Buddhist mindfulness techniques to help families increase feelings of closeness and decrease relationship stress - and the results are promising. Just as the latest Hollywood incarnation of the Incredible Hulk keeps his green-hot anger under control with daily meditations, so some people are learning to manage emotions in their interpersonal relationships," she writes.

In a *USA Today* "On Religion" feature ("Pass on the Pie—and the Heavenly Guilt," Nov. 24) Dr. Whelan explores the growing interest in religiously based weight loss. She notes that religion can be the ultimate trump card of many behavior modification programs: For a believer, fear of offending your creator is a powerful force in overcoming the urge to make the short-sighted choice of a burger and fries instead of that leafy salad with light dressing. And while Christian groups have been involved in the diet wars for decades, it's Buddhist mindfulness-inspired weight-loss programs that are gaining the most traction in academic circles.

Mindfulness weight-loss seminars incorporate meditation, forgiveness and inner-searching exercises into the eating process. Participants are taught to do "mini-meditations" several times a day, and, before eating, to consider the difference between actual hunger and a signal of boredom, anxiety or other psychological

trigger, Dr. Whelan writes.

This research has been covered by Iowa Public Radio and KCRG news as well.

Professor Noonan's work on gender inequality gains national attention

Professor Noonan's work on gender inequality has been making a big splash in national and international news outlets lately! She has been featured in stories on several themes:

Professor Noonan and Kimberlee Shauman, associate professor of sociology at the University of California at Davis, found that when couples move, the husband's career and salary improves, while the wife's career and salary suffers. She points out: "Even for highly educated married women with prestigious occupations, employment still suffers when they move, while the husbands' careers benefit. These women likely share the role of breadwinner, earning a significant part of the family income, but their career is still seen as secondary within the dynamic of the couple."

Another study, featured in Reuters, covered Professor Noonan's work on the gender gap among attorneys. She found that female lawyers were less likely to make partner, even if they had the same training as the male lawyers. In addition, she found that female lawyers reported very high rates of discrimination.

Most recently, Professor Noonan's work with former graduate student Phyllis Rippeyoung was featured at Slate.com. They found that long-term breastfeeding has a long-term impact on women's careers, while short-term breastfeeding (less than 6 months) does not.

Iowa Students:

Iowa graduate students are busy people! This year their publications appeared in *Gender and Society*, *Social Structure and Emotion*, and multiple encyclopedias. Congratulations to everyone who completed master's theses this year as well!



Matthew Boswell chaired the session "Political, Economic, and Social Institutions and Criminal Punishment" at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting. He and Professor Karen Heimer also presented their work "Legislative Professionalization and State Punishment in the Era of Mass Incarceration" at the ASC annual meeting.



Christie Boxer presented two research projects at regional and national conferences in 2008. Her paper "Do Group Stereotypes Predict Hiring Judgments" was presented at the PSA annual meeting in April, and her collaborative work with Donna Lancianese, "To Joke or Not to Joke: Humor and Its Implications for the Status Process" was presented at the ASA annual meeting in Boston. Christie also finished collecting data for an experimental study of racial identity with Professor Mary Campbell in October and will be analyzing their salivary data samples in the coming month. The results of this experiment will be presented at the Social Psychology Horseshoe meetings in the Department of Sociology at UI, and at the MSS annual meeting in April. Additionally, she has also collected and analyzed survey data from four universities across the United States examining mate preferences among undergraduates.



Celeste Campos received a Microsoft CITASA Port 25 Emerging Scholars award and a Sandra H. Barkan Graduate Student Mentor award. She also had three presentations in 2008: 1) "Hormone Analysis" with Professor Christabel Rogalin (Purdue North-Central) at the annual Group Processes conference; 2) "When the Unexpected Occurs: Implications of Context for Copresence and Emotion in Technology-Mediated Communication" with Donna Lancianese at the annual CITASA conference; and 3) "The Weigh You Are: Weight as a Status Characteristic" with Layana Navarre-Jackson, Christopher P. Kelley, and Shane Soboroff at the Social Psychology Roundtables at ASA.



Nicole H.W. Civettini and Professor Jennifer Glass had their article "The Impact of Childhood Religious Conservatism on Men's Work and Family Involvement" published in *Gender and Society*.

Congratulations to Dr. Nicole H.W. Civettini for successfully defending her Ph.D. in spring 2009!



Samantha Cumley chaired the session "Theories of Crime Causation: New Applications of Learning Theories" at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting.



Christopher P. Kelley is serving as managing director of the center for the study of group processes and asst. managing editor for *Current Research in Social Psychology*. He co-authored a chapter in *Social Structure and Emotion* on "Humor & the Effectiveness of Diverse Leaders" with Professor Michael Lovaglia, Professor Christabel Rogalin, Shane Soboroff & Professor Jeff Lucas and an entry on John Clausen in the *Encyclopedia of the Lifecourse* with Professor Steve Hitlin.



Sanghag Kim had two presentations in 2008, "A Meta-Analysis on Correlates of Turnover Intention in South Korea," along with In-Sue Oh at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, and "Who Decides What in a Family? A Cross-National Study of Women's Marital Power" at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society



Donna Lancianese received a research grant from the University of Iowa Executive Council of Graduate and Professional students for her paper entitled, "The Role of Meaning in Technology-Mediated Communication: An Affect Control Theory Approach." This work is part of a larger collaborative effort with Celeste Campos, which Donna presented their larger work ("When the Unexpected Occurs: Implications of Context for Copresence and Emotion in Technology-Mediated Communication") at the annual CITASA conference. Donna also received the Microsoft CITASA Post 25 Emerging Scholars Award and co-presented work with Christie Boxer at the annual ASA conference, entitled, "To Joke or Not to Joke: Humor and Its Implications for the Status Process." She also presented solo-authored at the annual PSA conference, entitled, "Evaluations and the Self Over Time: An Expectation States Approach". Donna has a co-authored entry in the *Encyclopedia of Life Course and Human Development*, entitled, "Identity." Currently, Donna is the treasurer for the University of Iowa's Graduate Student Senate and laboratory manager for the Center for the Study of Group Processes.



Layana Navarre-Jackson received a Hugh Vollrath Ross Scholarship for summer 2009. She also worked on "The Weight You Are: Weight as a Status Characteristic" with Celeste Campos, Christopher P. Kelley, and Shane Soboroff, which was presented at the Social Psychology Roundtables at ASA.



Kevin Pinkston received a grant award from the University of Iowa Executive Council of Graduate and Professional Students for his project titled "Fighting Black Implicit Prejudice."



Mark Schultz presented his paper "Prisoner Deviance: Social Learning Theory Revisited" at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting. Mark and Phillip Levchak presented their work, "The Anomaly of Bodybuilders and Powerlifters: Motivations to Sustain a "Tainted" Identity" at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society.

Mark also won the 2008-2009 *Carl J. Couch Graduate Student Teaching Award* which is presented for contribution to scholarly, pedagogic, and service missions of the Department of Sociology.



stef shuster has been actively collaborating with doctors and counselors in the project Identifying Transgender Affirmative Practices in Student Health, this project aims to make campus student health services more transgender friendly. In addition she is currently conducting a cultural competency workshop for Student Health Center workers. In March, stef gave an oral presentation, titled "trans-i-festo", at the 2009 James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference. She received 3rd Place and also Best Presentation in the Social Sciences & Education division. (continued on pg. 12)

stef shuster (continued from page 11)

Other activities include:

* Received an Executive Counsel of Graduate and Professional Students (ECGPS) Research Grant for my thesis work.

* Recognized as an Exemplary Senator for Service to the Community for the Graduate Student Senate.

* Received a Graduate and Professional Student Award for dedication and enrichment of the Cultural and Resource Centers, Office of Student Life.

* Presented "Mobilizing in the Midwest: The Deployment of Strategies in Establishing Queer Student Centers" in Des Moines for the Midwest Sociological Society.

* Will present "Resolving Feminist Dilemmas Within Ethnography: A Case for Photoethnography" at the American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Sex and Gender Roundtable.



Shane Soboroff presented a paper titled "Progress of High Profile College Sports Teams" at the Sociology of Sport section of the Midwest Sociological Society meeting in St. Louis with Christopher P. Kelley and Jin Hyuk Park. "The Weigh You Are: Obesity as a Status Characteristic," was presented by Celeste Campos, Layana Navarre-Jackson, Shane D. Soboroff and Christopher P. Kelley at the social psychology roundtables of the American Sociological Association Meeting in Boston, MA. A chapter authored by Professor Michael Lovaglia, Professor Christabel L. Rogalin, Shane D. Soboroff, Christopher P. Kelley, and Professor Jeffrey W. Lucas titled "Humor and the Effectiveness of Diverse Leaders" was published in Social Structure and Emotion by Stanford University Press. Shane Soboroff served as Managing Director of the Center for the Study of Group Processes until August 2008, when he was named the Managing Editor of Current Research in Social Psychology.



Wang, Yan has been awarded a Stanley Graduate Award for International Research from International Programs to support her research in China.

Congratulations to all of the students who recently completed their Master's Theses!

SPRING 2009

Rengin Firat "The Declining Capital Thesis: A Social Psychological Approach."

Jennifer Turchi "Because my parents said so: The impact of family on friendship networks."

FALL 2008

Samantha Cumley "The Effects of Women's Economic Marginalization and Welfare Cuts on the Gender Gap in Violent Offending."

Richard Harris "The Impact of Social Networks on Smoking Desistance Among Adolescents."

SUMMER 2008

Christopher P. Kelley "Age-Status."

Philip J. Levchak "Globalizing Trends --- Extending the Anomie Tradition: An Assessment of the Impacts of Trade Measures on Cross-National Homicide Rates."

Charisse Long "The Gender Gap in Negotiations: A Psychosocial Explanation."

SPRING 2008

Donna Lancianese "Identity Control Theory and Legitimation Theory: A Test of the Sexually Responsible Adolescent."

Stephen W. Moore "Assessing the Spatial Mismatch Hypothesis: Spatial and Temporal Separation in Cleveland and Milwaukee, 2000."

Mark G. Schultz "Living with High Arrests: The Collateral Consequences of High Arrest Rates in 30 Baltimore Neighborhoods."

Iowa undergraduates were very productive this year as well! We had several honors theses this year that have won multiple awards, and their community involvement through internships and other activities grows greater every year. Check out some of their activities at this site and in the undergraduate newsletters: http://www.uiowa.edu/~soc/undergrad/gen_info.html

Keep in touch!

Of course we also want to know what you have been up to – please drop us a line at our alumni page: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~soc/people/alumni.html>. And if you are going to be in town and can come talk to our students about life as an Iowa sociologist, be sure to let us know! http://www.uiowa.edu/~soc/alumni_ongoing_involvement.html

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