FROM THE CHAIR

GLENN DEANE

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our 2018-2019 Newsletter. For those of you who are regular contributors and readers, you are noticing a modest shift in our release date. It is our hope that you will now be able to look forward to this publication not only as a review but also to set the tone for the new year to come.

It is in this spirit of looking forward while celebrating our past that I write this column and through which I view where we are as a department. In past columns, our department chair, Nancy Denton, said goodbye (or, rather, happy retirement) to valued colleagues like Larry Raffalovich, Glenna Spitze, Chris Bose, Russ Ward, and Steve Seidman. Now, we must add Nancy to the list. But, Nancy did not go quietly into retirement. Thanks to the gracious and compelling nomination by our Sam Friedman, Nancy received the American Sociological Association’s 2018 Robert and Helen Lynd Lifetime Achievement Award. Nancy received this honor at the ASA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, a befitting setting given Nancy’s MA and PhD are from Penn. This award recognizes distinguished career achievement in community and urban sociology and its recipient list (initiated in 1979) reads like a “Who’s Who” of sociologists. My heartfelt congratulations also to Zai Liang for his 2018 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities and to Scott South for his recent promotion to SUNY’s highest academic rank, Distinguished Professor.

In the “glass half full” side of our departmental transformation, Nancy welcomed Zoya Gubernskaya, Tse-Chuan (TC) Yang, Trevor Hoppe, Stacy Torres, Kate Averett, and Brandon Gorman as incoming assistant professors and I now have the privilege of welcoming Drs. Francisco Vieyra and Zawadi Rucks-Ahidiana into our faculty.

I’ve been thinking a lot about applicable slogans to capture where we are at this developmental moment in our department and I believe that the slogan, “We Got Next!,” used to launch the WNBA, fits us pretty well. While we had to say good-bye this year to Trevor
(to UNC-Greensboro) and Stacy (to UC-San Francisco) and the amazing energy and scholarship that they brought to the department, I am genuinely excited about what is happening in our “next generation” faculty. I am confident that our departmental recognition and reputation is in excellent hands. I invite you to look at the terrific work by all of our current fourteen Assistant and Associate Professors at https://www.albany.edu/sociology/directory_faculty.php.

Here is a small selection of their accomplishments since our last newsletter:

Congratulations to our 2017-2018 BA, MA, and PhD graduates, including Drs. Emily Pain and Allison Houston, on my right and on my left, respectively, in this “From the Chair” column photo.

Tse-Chuan (TC) Yang received early promotion and tenure and continues his astounding productivity (with ten 2018 or forthcoming publications). With all the publishing, one might expect that TC would not have time to devote to the classroom. Wrong. TC was the 2018 recipient of the UAlbany President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. An excerpt from Zai’s nomination letter reads: “Professor Yang sets high standards for students and works hard to lead them toward academic excellence… I enthusiastically and without any reservation recommend Professor Tse-Chuan Yang for an Excellence in Teaching Award. His superior teaching, scholarship, and service within the Sociology Department, and the larger university and professional communities make him most deserving of this special recognition.”

Beth Popp Berman is putting the finishing touches on her book manuscript Thinking Like an Economist: How Economics Became the Language of U.S. Public Policy (under contract with Princeton University Press) which provides a new answer to the question, “What happened to the U.S. in the 1970s?” The book shows how an economic style of reasoning was institutionalized in the policy process between the 1960s and the 1980s. This book continues Professor Berman’s focus on recent U.S. history, often at the intersection of organizations, economic sociology, and the sociology of science and knowledge and emphasizes the role of public policy. Read more at Beth’s website http://epberman.net.

In other book-related news, Joanna Dreby’s influential book Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families (University of California Press) won the 2017 Latina/o Section Distinguished Contribution to Research Book Award from the American Sociological Association. Angie Chung’s book Saving Face: The Emotional Costs of the Asian Immigrant Family Myth (Rutgers University Press’ Families in Focus series) was the focus of an Author-Meets-Critic Session at the 2018 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. And Kate Averett has signed a contract with NYU Press for her book manuscript analyzing conflicting narratives about gender and sexuality among parents who homeschool their children. Kate’s
project explores how norms and values about gender and sexuality affect parenting among homeschoolers and, in turn, how parenting affects the homeschooling movement. Her working title is *My Child, My Choice: Homeschooling and Contested Beliefs about Childhood*.

Brandon Gorman has a forthcoming piece, "World Citizens on the Periphery: Threat and Identification with Global Society," in the *American Journal of Sociology*. Brandon, with Charles Seguin, uses a combination of cross-national survey data and a discontinuity created by a terrorist attack in Lebanon to examine self-identification as a “world citizen.” This, in addition to his other 2018 publications, development of a new graduate course on computational analysis of text, and service as our liaison to the University in the High School Program, made this a very busy and productive year for Professor Gorman.

The newest additions to our junior faculty ranks are Drs. Zawadi Rucks-Ahidiana and Francisco Vieyra. While their biographical sketches and photos are included elsewhere in this newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to give them a short introduction.

Dr. Rucks-Ahidiana will formally join us in Albany in fall 2019 after a year in the NYU Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. Zawadi’s 2018 PhD comes from UC-Berkeley (her dissertation is titled *Portraits of Gentrification: When Neighborhood Change Becomes News, 1990-2014*) and she holds MAs in Sociology (UC-Berkeley) and Public Administration (NYU, Wagner School of Public Service). Her research focuses on how culture and urban development contribute to race and class inequality. Before joining us in Albany this fall, Francisco Vieyra completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of African & African-American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Vieyra received his PhD in Sociology from NYU in 2016 (where he also holds a 2012 MA). Francisco’s research interests span urban sociology, the sociology of race and ethnicity, and the study of politics and culture. His dissertation project was titled *Bettering Brownsville: The Civic and Political Life of a Disadvantaged Black Neighborhood*. Zawadi and Francisco are working towards transforming their dissertations into book manuscripts.

I hope that you will enjoy this latest edition of our newsletter.

FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR

KATE STRULLY

As the new academic year, it is very exciting to welcome our newest cohort of outstanding graduate students. We had a very successful recruiting season last year and are thrilled to welcome 11 new PhD students and two MA students. We are also very proud of our eight recent
graduates who have moved onto exciting new phases in their careers. Ying Huang is beginning as an assistant professor in demography at University of Texas, San Antonio. Lei Lei is beginning as an assistant professor in sociology at Rutgers University. Kristen Hourigan recently joined the sociology faculty at California State University, Los Angeles. Zhen Li is a new assistant professor at Shanghai University in China. And, Gowoon Jung is beginning a post-doctoral fellowship in the sociology department at University of Pennsylvania. We wish all of our recent graduates well and are looking forward to watching their careers continue to advance.

Our current graduate students remain an exceptionally productive and talented bunch. Elizabeth Harwood, a student in our combined M.A Women’s Studies/PhD Sociology program, was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student Award in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department. Two of our recently minted PhDs, Dr. Kristen L. Hourigan and Dr. Allison Houston, received the Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division Student Paper Competition and Outstanding Scholarship Award. Our students’ work is also featured in a number of recent editions of respected peer-reviewed journals. To list just some of the examples: Kiwoong Park has a new paper in Sociology of Race and Ethnicity; Emily Pain has a new paper in Youth & Society; Gowoon Jung has a new paper in Religions; and three of our students—Rachel Sullivan, Gowoon Jung, and Kenneth Chen—have recently published teaching resources in TRAILS: The Teaching Resource and Innovations Library for Sociology. We are also very proud of how frequently our faculty and students co-author work: Professor Samantha Friedman and PhD candidates Kaya Hamer-Small and Wendie Choudary have a new publication in Social Sciences; Professor Tse-Chuan Yang and PhD student Aysenur Kurtulus have a new article in Social Science & Medicine; Professor Angie Y. Chung, PhD Candidates Kenneth Chen and Muyang Li, and recent graduate Gowoon Jung have a new article out in Research in Comparative and International Education, and Professor Stacy Torres and PhD Candidate Xuemei Cao recently published an op-ed in the New York Times. And, this list is just publications that have come out over the past summer.

As I write this, I am beginning my second year as Director of Graduate Studies. Looking back on my first year in the position, I was perhaps most struck by the wonderful aspects of our graduate students that are less easily summarized, such as their generous spirits, kindness, and insights. Whether it was the thoughtful comments offered by second- and third-year students who had volunteered their time to serve on panels in the orientation to sociology course for first years, or the willingness of students to help with recruiting our new cohort, or pulling off great events, I regularly appreciated the critical ways that our students contribute to the department and make it a pleasant place to come to work. Anyone who knows our department also knows the incomparable Jaime Galusha, Administrative Manager extraordinaire, who has been nothing short of amazing this past year as we have been
understaffed; she has truly kept us afloat.

I wish everyone a productive and enjoyable 2018-2019 academic year. And, please follow us on Facebook to keep track of the on-going accomplishments of our graduate students.

FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE DIRECTOR

AARON MAJOR

Welcome everyone to another academic year. As we start to work our way through our syllabi, trying to get our students to do the reading, participate in class and hopefully get through the semester without a hitch, I thought it might be useful to give us some perspective on how our individual classroom experiences fit into the larger picture of undergraduate education at this university.

As we start with new faces, many of whom we will never see in the classroom again, it’s nice to see how each of our own 16-week efforts come together as an academic career: last year 148 students graduated with their degrees in Sociology. These are all success stories to be proud of, but I think it is also important to remember that many of our students don’t just succeed, they also excel. 60 of our graduating students finished with GPAs of 3.0 or better, and 15 with a 3.5 GPA or better. If you were at spring graduation, you may have caught a few students wearing a distinctive, teal cord with their gown, symbolizing their membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the international sociology honors society. This past year we inducted more than a dozen students into AKD.

Our students continue to come to our major with diverse educational backgrounds and have wide-ranging intellectual interests. More than half of our majors transferred into our program from another college or university -- a rate that is much higher than that for the university’s undergraduate population as a whole. Our students pursued second majors that spanned 12 academic programs and minored in 38 different programs. Indeed, while we may think of the typical sociology student double-majoring in Criminal Justice, or minoring in Psychology, the breadth of their interests is striking: fine arts, languages, global studies, mathematics and information studies to name a few.

Perhaps the moment that put this point into perspective came at our undergraduate recognition ceremony this past spring when our Best Undergraduate Paper award went to a student that was not even a sociology major. At first glance, this may appear as an embarrassing blemish on our undergraduate program; why aren’t “our” students writing great sociology papers? First of all, they are. We had many great submissions from sociology students. But more importantly, I think it makes more sense to see this outcome as a testament to the fine work that we
do in our classes, making our curriculums speak to students who may have discovered sociology late in their academic careers, or may have been looking for an interesting course to round out their semester, and found a place that they could bring their own experience, perspective, and academic background and excel with it.

This is my last year serving as Undergraduate Director, and so it is not only the last year that I write one of these reports, but also the last year that I will be one of the regular faces at the various open houses and other meet-and-greets with prospective students where we try to convey to these not-yet college students (and their parents) why they should give sociology a look. Often when you ask our own students this question, you will hear some version of “you can do whatever you want with a sociology degree,” and I’ll admit to cringing when I hear that response; it makes our program sound disorganized, unfocused, and not sufficiently career-oriented. But over the last couple of years serving in this role I’ve come to embrace that response (though hopefully I can say it more ‘professorly’). Our ability to give students from diverse academic backgrounds the chance to not only succeed, but excel, as undergraduates and to consistently deliver courses that have something to offer to students with a wide range of intellectual and career interests, are things to be proud of.

FROM THE HONORS DIRECTOR

ANGIE CHUNG

I am happy to announce the successful completion of the first year of our cross-disciplinary collaboration with the School of Criminal Justice. This year, our program saw the graduation of four of our Sociology Honors students, the advancement of four CRJ/ Honors students to thesis status, three more acceptances for the fall semester, and active participation from our juniors/seniors at the university Undergraduate Research conference.

Last year, four seniors from our department completed outstanding theses: on terrorism in the Middle East (Kevin Russo, advised by R. Lachmann), crime in Hong Kong (Tengfei Wang, advised by Z. Liang), welfare in rural areas (Olivia Delos, advised by A. Chung), and Black students with learning disabilities (Adanna Perry, advised by H. Horton). Four Sociology students—Lisbeth Valdez (A. Chung), Robyn Forgie (H. Horton), Lauren Prosper (B. Gorman), and Sandra Asantewa (D. Wagner)—and one Criminal Justice student, Cassidy Greco, completed the Sociology Research Proposal Seminar in the Spring and plan to continue to work on their theses in the coming year. Lastly, we are also thrilled to accept three new members for our expedited track: Theresa (Tess) Edwards, Lawren Taylor, and April Sickler. They will be
taking the research proposal seminar with Criminal Justice in the fall and completing their theses in the spring. If you know any of these students, please do welcome them to our program!

The developing collaboration with the Criminal Justice Honors program has allowed us to place our students on the expedited track in a larger cross-disciplinary seminar where they can engage and exchange new ideas with other Honors students. In an effort to enhance their professional skills and end our program with a capstone event, the students were actively encouraged to submit proposals to the university’s Undergraduate Research Conference. As a result, our department had three members from our program (Prosper, Asantewa, Perry) present their research on panels and two seniors (Wang, Delos) present professional posters based on their Honors theses. Although we do not have a record of all participants, we were also pleased to run into other students from our department presenting interesting research at the conference. It was truly impressive to see how despite some presentation anxiety, these students enthusiastically put in time, effort and energy to present their research to a captivated audience. One of our Honors students, Lauren Prosper, even won the Presidential Undergraduate Award for Research for her developing research on sexual violence advocates and the anti-rape movement in the New York State Capital District Tri-City area.

Thanks to all the listed faculty and administrative staff who helped spread the word, mentor students, and implement the program! Please continue encouraging students to apply for the program, which now includes both a professionalization and research component. We look forward to working with the current students in the upcoming year.

FROM S.O.S.

TYLER BELLICK, PRESIDENT 2017-2018

This year, Students of Sociology (SOS) continued its tradition of providing our graduate students with an informal community in which they can develop their skills as budding sociologists. SOS began the year by welcoming the first-year cohort to Albany and our department. Prior to the start of the semester, we took our new colleagues on a tour of the uptown and downtown campuses and then out to celebrate at the Washington Tavern, a longtime Albany favorite. The semester kicked off with an SOS-sponsored departmental welcome reception where first-year students had the opportunity to meet more senior students in the department, as well as faculty and staff. SOS also oversees the department mentorship program, which matches first-year students with a second-year mentor. This program helps to ensure a smooth transition into graduate school and fosters meaningful connections between students.

Throughout the year, we hosted stimulating conversations and programs around academic and professional development. SOS contacted recent
alumni working in the academic, private, and government sectors and facilitated a panel discussion on successfully navigating the job market. Another event gave students the opportunity to hear from young faculty and more senior students on the dissertation process. An additional role of SOS is to serve as a conduit between the department and the larger University. We are excited to say that this year, for the first time ever, SOS cohosted the 6th Annual Institutions and Societies Graduate Conference with the Rockefeller College Graduate Association of Political Science and the Students of Educational Administration for Change. Furthermore, SOS members served on the Graduate Association Assembly as well as the University’s Wages and Benefits committee.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all of the SOS board members as well as thank our department’s faculty, staff, and students for their support and participation throughout the year. It has been an honor, a privilege, and a pleasure to serve this department. It is with great enthusiasm that I introduce my successor, Sara Querbes, and the new SOS board. I have no doubt that Students of Sociology will continue to forge robust partnerships between students, faculty and the larger university, while simultaneously promoting academic and professional excellence.

SARA QUERBES, PRESIDENT 2018-2019

Greetings! I am delighted to speak on behalf of the second year cohort, the SOS board, as the newly elected President of Students of Sociology. We welcomed our newest first year colleagues with a pair of introductory events in August designed to help acclimate them to graduate school life at University at Albany and introduce them to students, faculty, and staff in the department. We plan to carry on the tradition of organizing many more social and academic events; our enthusiastic board members have been making plans! We very much look forward to serving the department through this work.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

ZAWADI RUCKS-AHIDIANA

Zawadi Rucks-Ahidiana’s research focuses on how culture and urban development contribute to race and class inequality. She uses multiple methods to answer research questions including secondary dataset analyses, document review, interviews, and spatial analysis to interrogate the relationships between urban change, race/ethnicity, media representations, and inequality. Her
current research focuses on the media framing of gentrification through a comparative analysis of newspaper articles and Census data from Baltimore, Maryland and San Francisco, California between 1990 and 2014. Rucks-Ahidiana is currently working on a book manuscript based on the project.

FRANCISCO VIEYRA

Dr. Francisco Vieyra joins the Department of Sociology in the College of Arts & Sciences as an assistant professor. He received a Ph.D. in Sociology from New York University, where he was awarded a Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship and recognized as an Emerging Diversity Scholar by the University of Michigan National Center for Institutional Diversity. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of African & African-American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Francisco’s research interests span urban sociology, the sociology of race and ethnicity, and the study of politics and culture. His primary research project examines civic and political participation in a disadvantaged black neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. Specifically, he examines how and why everyday residents take on the mission of improving the neighborhood. Francisco has also conducted research on pickup basketball, the results of which were published in Qualitative Sociology, a prisoner reentry program, and ethnographic methodology.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT PHD RECIPIENTS

AS OF SUMMER 2018

Yu-Ching Cheng, “Marriageable Us, Undesirable Them: Reproducing Social Inequalities through Marital Boundary-Making”

Allison Houston, “The Association of Comorbid Chronic Physical Conditions and Psychological Illness with Health Care Utilization in Middle-Aged and Older People”


Jeffrey Napierala, “Three Methodological Innovations in Race and Ethnicity Research”

Emily Pain, “Queering Polyamory: A Qualitative Exploration of LGBTQ+ Polyamorous Relationships and Community”

Carissa Sojka, “The Partners of Transgender People: Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment in Relationships Through Transition”

Colleen Wynn, “Segregation, Turnover, and Neighborhood Connections: Assessing the Role of Family Structure”

ENTERING GRADUATE STUDENTS FOR FALL 2017

Ian Callahan (he, him, his) graduated from Montclair State University. He is interested in media, sexuality, and culture. In his work, he plans to focus on social media use among LGBTQ+ identities, exploring the presentation of sexuality across various platforms. He is also interested in the role of social media influences in creating online spaces that foster activism, support, and community.

Andrew Cutrone is a first year graduate student in the BA/MA Sociology program. From Long Island, NY, Andrew is interested in cultural transmissions in stand-up comedy, cultural geography, race and class, education practice, and cultural sociology. At UAlbany, he is the executive assistant in the Student Association and a player on the club baseball team.

Dan He graduated from China University of Political Sciences and Law, and became a prosecutor in Beijing in 2012. Her academic interest is criminology. She is curious about what would happen when the Western criminological theories meet the Eastern societal context. She would like to learn more about people during her journey in the ocean of books and around the world.

Ji-Won Lee came from South Korea. He has a B.A. degree (Sociology and Philosophy) from Korea University and an M.A. degree (Sociology) from Yonsei University. His research interests crosses the issues of higher education, policymaking, and globalization. He loves to talk with people, and believes that is one of the ways to be a good sociologist as well as a good citizen.

Han Liu graduated from Peking University in 2017 with an MA in Sociology. He is primarily interested in demography, stratification, and quantitative methods.

Sara Querbes is happy to be joining the Sociology Department! She has an MA in Women’s Studies from the University at Albany. Her research interests are gender & sexuality with a specific interest in rural living. She lives on a farm in Old Chatham with her partner and their three dogs.

Dandan Zhao graduated from Peking University in 2016 with an MA in Sociology. Her research interests are migration, aging and health inequality.

ENTERING GRADUATE STUDENTS FOR FALL 2018

In Choi graduated from Seoul National University with an MA in Sociology. She is primarily interested in Family, Work and Labor Market, East Asia and Stratification.

Ola Kalu is an English Language Arts teacher who graduated from Florida
International University and the University of Florida with Master’s degrees in Early Childhood Education and Curriculum & Instruction with a focus on Literacy. She is primarily interested in demography, race, ethnicity and gender studies; and mental health disparities.

Suzanne Kawola has a background in visual art, education and journalism. Her goals in the Sociology Ph.D. program are to develop her understanding and voice in an effort to communicate the ingrained and complex problems in the current work/family matrix for women and children in the US. Methodologically, she is drawn to qualitative research, yet she remains open to a mixed methods approach as health realities intersect with her core interests: social capital, fertility, reproductive options, and health practices for women and the policies that protect families from related inequalities, with a specific focus on early childhood, postpartum experience, time poverty, and maternal mortality will be included in the spectrum of her research.

Hannah McNeil graduated from Guilford College in 2016 with a BA in Sociology and Political Science. She is primarily interested in criminology, deviance, social stratification and race.

Clarence McNeill graduated from the University at Albany’s Education Administration & Policy Studies program with a M.S (1995) and Certificate of Advanced Study (1998). His primary interest is in qualitative research methods and almost anything related to urban sociology (i.e., gentrification, marginalization, class differences, etc.).

Florença Silveira graduated from Brigham Young University in 2018 with an MS in Sociology. She has done research in international education, immigration, race, and parenting practices, and is interested in demography and stratification.

Kaylee Zaleski completed a Master’s degree in Sociology at the University at Buffalo (SUNY) in 2015. She is mainly interested in economic and political sociology, as well as science and technology studies.

ALUMNI NEWS FROM OUR PHD GRADUATES

Robert Adelman (PhD, 2001) was appointed Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University at Buffalo, SUNY, starting Fall 2018. His co-authored research on immigration and crime has been highlighted in several outlets including the New York Times. He recently co-edited a special issue on the same topic in Migration Letters (April 2018).

Wendie Choudary recently published (with coauthors Samantha Friedman and Kaya Hamer-Small) “Disability Status, Housing Tenure, and Residential Attainment in Metropolitan America” in Social Sciences. She is currently a Research Fellow for the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University.

Kristen Hourigan is now an Assistant Professor at California State University, Los Angeles, where she is continuing her research investigating identity, emotion and trauma. Her commitment to
student mental health led to her receipt of the inaugural Mind Matters Champion Award through the Mind Matters Initiative at CSULA. She also won the Crime and Juvenile Delinquency Division Paper Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Watch for her forthcoming publication in Humanity and Society and her book entitled Redefining Murder, Transforming Emotion: An exploration of forgiveness after loss due to homicide, expected in print in 2019 through Routledge.

Gowoon Jung (fall 2018 PhD) joined the Population Studies Center and the Department of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania as a Postdoctoral Scholar. She recently published “Thinking Outside the Box: National Context for Educational Adaptation among Chinese and Korean International Students” (with coauthors Angie Chung, Kenneth Chen, and Muyang Li) in Research in International and Comparative Education; “Identity Strategy of ‘Wild-Geese’ Fathers: The Craft of Confucian Fathers” (with coauthor Hye Sook Wang) in Religions; and “Migration Consultant Activity” (with coauthor Kenneth Chen) in ASA TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology. She also has a forthcoming book review that will appear in Sociological Inquiry.

Jennifer Keys accepted a new position as Assistant Provost at North Central College. She recently published (with coauthor Dorothy McBride) Abortion in the United States: A Reference Handbook. She is still happily living in Chicago with her husband Jeff and her two daughters Maddy (13) and Sydney (9).

Minjeong Kim published Elusive Belonging: Marriage Immigrants and “Multiculturalism” in Rural South Korea (2018, University of Hawai‘i Press). She received an NSF grant ($173,000) for her research project titled “Ethnic Movement, Economy, and Incorporation in a Border Region” which examines Korean immigrant communities in the U.S.-Mexico border region. She also received a Korean Studies Grant from the Academy of Korean Studies ($18,000) for her anthology project, “Immigration, Marriages, and Multicultural Families in South Korea: Reflections and Future Directions.” She will serve as the President of the Association for Korean Sociologists in America in 2018-2019. She has started serving as the Department Chair of Sociology at San Diego State University from Fall 2018.

John King and Peggy Shaffer-King: John retired last year after a 20-year career as an intelligence analyst with the FBI in Cleveland. He is now an Associate Professor of National Security and Intelligence Studies at Notre Dame College in Cleveland, Ohio. Peggy is still teaching in the College of Public Health at Kent State University and plans to retire at the end of the 2018-19 academic year. Our daughter Courtney (now 30 years old) was married last year, and she and her husband Chase are expecting their first child in November. John and Peggy are looking forward to being grandparents! We would like to keep in contact with classmates and faculty from the 1980s.

Paul Knudson (class of 2011) started a new position this fall. He is teaching as Associate Professor and Department
Chair of Sociology at Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC.

Shaomin Li reports that before coming to Albany to study sociology, he was an art solider painting Mao’s portraits and other propaganda posters during the Cultural Revolution in China. He collected more than 200 posters of the era and was intrigued that some antique dealers in China had no clue about the meanings of the posters they sell. To preserve history and show how art is used in propaganda, he worked with the Chrysler Museum of Art to host an exhibition entitled “The Art of Revolution” earlier this year, featuring posters and artworks collected during the Cultural Revolution. According to the Museum, “these posters raise provocative questions about thought, freedom, and government that remain relevant today.”

Jianhong Liu is Professor at the University of Macau. He was awarded the 2018 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences’ “G. O.W. Mueller Award for Distinguished Scholar”, as well as the faculty Outstanding Research Award of the University of Macau. In the past year, he has published five edited books, including Crime and Justice in Contemporary Japan and Comparative Criminology in Asia, along with multiple journal articles and book chapters. He gave a keynote address, “A Relationism Theory of Criminal Justice – An Universal Theory from Asia,” at the 10th Asian Criminological Society Conference in Malaysia. He was re-elected as the Chairman of General Assembly of Asian Criminological Society at that conference.

Lori Martin was recently promoted from Associate Professor to Professor at Louisiana State University. She is jointly appointed in the Department of Sociology and the African and African American Studies program.

Joshua McCabe accepted a new job as Assistant Dean of Social Sciences at Endicott College last fall. His book came out this summer, The Fiscalization of Social Policy: How Taxpayers Trumped Children in the Fight Against Child Poverty.

Brian McKernan is a Research Assistant Professor in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University. He is currently part of a $11.5 million project with colleagues at Syracuse University and other institutions called the TRACE project. Funded by the Intelligence Advanced Research Program Activity (IARPA), the TRACE project aims to experiment with nudges, crowdsourcing, and other features to design and test an application that can help users engage in better analysis and decision-making. Brian continues to maintain an active research program in cultural sociology. His most recent article, “Video Games, Contestation, and Meaning”, was published online ahead of print by the American Journal of Cultural Sociology in the summer of 2018.

Shannon Monnat relocated to Syracuse University, where she is the Lerner Chair for Public Health Promotion, Associate Professor of Sociology, and Co-Director of the Policy, Place, and Population Health Lab in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Her recently published papers related to geographic differences
in opioid mortality rates appear in *American Journal of Prevention Medicine* and *International Journal of Drug Policy*. She is a co-PI on two grants recently awarded from the National Institute of Justice (to study opioid distribution networks in Pennsylvania) and the US Dept. of Agriculture (to identify the characteristics of rural communities that are vulnerable vs. resilient to the opioid crisis). Shannon recently participated in a Congressional Briefing (sponsored by the PAA) on rising midlife mortality and participated in a Senior Congressional Retreat on rural poverty and criminal justice reform, sponsored by the Aspen Institute. In the past year, her research has been covered by the New York Times, The Boston Globe, Forbes, US News and World Reports, VICE, The Atlantic, Bloomberg, and NPR.

**Michael Ostrowsky** has been teaching sociology at Southern Utah University since 2007, where he is Associate Professor. He continues to teach a wide-variety of courses, including: Crime and Society, Demography, Deviance, Introduction to Sociology, Juvenile Delinquency, Modern Social Problems, Research Methods, Social Psychology, Sociology of Drugs, Sociology of Education, and Sociology of Sports. His research has mainly focused on crime and deviance, criminological theory, violent behavior, and drug use. His book, "Self-Medication and Violent Behavior," was published in 2009.

**Emily Pain** published “Is Teen Risk of Having Sex with Strangers Associated with Family Environment?: Family Processes, Household Structure, and Adolescent Sex with Strangers” in *Youth & Society* and was invited to write a chapter for the forthcoming edited volume: *Expanding The Rainbow: Exploring the Relationships of Bi-, Trans, Ace, Polym, Kink, and Intersex People*. She also presented at the ASA Section on Sexualities Preconference her paper, “‘It Feels Very Vulnerable, Particularly as a Black Woman’: Race, Class, and Gender in Queer Polyamory,” and she has begun working on a book project: “Queering Intimacy: LGBTQ+ Polyamorous Relationships, Families, and Cultural Constraints” (working title).

**Bryan Robinson** will serve as the Chair of the Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. He served as the section’s Vice Chair for the 2017 and 2018 meetings and will assume the role of Chair during the 2019 and 2020 meetings.

**Sonia Salari** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Studies (FCS) at the University of Utah. After the degree in sociology, she received the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) dissertation award (thanks go to mentoring of Drs. Spitze, Tolnay and Ward!) and moved to UNC Chapel Hill for an NIA postdoc. There she conducted research with Dr. Peter Uhlenberg and trained as an advocate for victims of intimate partner violence. Current specialties include gerontology, aging services, family violence, diversity and public policy. Her research on elder abuse and lethal domestic violence led to her role as participant on the 2016 NIH panel ‘Multiple Approaches to Understanding and Preventing Elder Abuse,’ commissioned by the 2015
White House Conference on Aging. Her work is published in multiple journal outlets, news articles, and a book, *Family Violence Across the Life Course: Research, policy and prevention* (2015, Kendall Hunt). She has been recognized with the CSBS college superior teaching award (2005) and the distinguished university teaching award (2008). For over two decades, her family policy students have partnered with nonprofits to lobby the Utah State Legislature. She is dedicated to serve many roles at the university and community organizations, such as the Utah Domestic Violence Coalition and the Utah Commission on Aging. She recently became a GSA fellow. Sonia has two fabulous and talented daughters—19 and 15—both sophomores (one at University of Utah and the other in high school). She would love to hear from U at Albany folks: sonia.salari@utah.edu.

**Suzanne Strong** continues to work at the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, in the Prosecution and Judicial Statistics Unit. She has two BJS publications in the review queue, which will be available on their website www.bjs.gov, before the end of the year. People can always follow us on Twitter @BJSgov or sign up for our email alerts at JustStats. She asks faculty and students to check the website often to look for announcements regarding new data collections. She and her colleagues welcome public comments about their data collection efforts.

**Roberto Velez-Velez and Jacqueline Villarrubia-Mendoza**: Roberto Velez-Velez (SUNY New Paltz) has been collaborating with Jacqueline Villarrubia-Mendoza (Colgate U.) documenting and assessing the emergence of community recovery initiatives in Puerto Rico after hurricane Maria. They made multiple site visits that included fieldwork in June and August of this year. They are also collaborating with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at CUNY Hunter College in a data mapping initiative named "PR Rebuild," which will generate material to inform policymakers, donors, and NGO sector on the needs, impact points and local initiatives at work in Puerto Rico. As part of their current agenda, both have joined the Center for Coastal Interdisciplinary Studies at UPR-Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. A brief note on their field work is forthcoming in *Latino Studies* winter issue.

**Matt Vogel** was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice, University of Missouri - St. Louis. He received the Outstanding Article Award from the American Society of Criminology for his article “Historical Contingencies and the Evolving Importance of Race, Violent Crime, and Region in Explaining Mass Incarceration in the United States” (with coauthors Michael Campbell and Joshua Williams), which appeared in *Criminology*.

**Rachel Bridges Whaley**, Associate Professor of Sociology at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, is beginning her 8th year as Director of Graduate Studies and third year as an elected member of the Graduate Council. In spring 2018, she was awarded the Graduate School Mentor of the Year Award for the College of Liberal Arts. She is continuing as Chair of the Midwest Sociological Society’s Status on Women in the Profession.
Committee. Her current research interests focus upon attitudes about gender, and she has several papers in the works on trends in adolescent gender attitudes, adults’ subjective feelings about gender, religion and gender feelings, and how masculinity shapes coping with body shaming for men.

**Yue (Angela) Zhou** has been promoted to tenured Associate Professor at St. John’s University and has been appointed as a non-resident affiliated scholar at US-Asia Law Institute, New York University. She recently won St. John’s University Faculty Achievement Award. From September to December, she will be at the University of Macau on a Visiting Research Fellowship.

**GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS**

**Xuemei Cao** published an op-ed in *the New York Times* about immigrant elders and their importance to the well-being of American families, along with a book review on *Gender & Society* with Stacy Torres. In addition, she received an award from the Karen R. Hitchcock New Frontiers Fund, the Initiatives for Women (IFW) at UAlbany. The award supports her research on intergenerational relationships between adult children and older parents in Chinese immigrant families. She also received the Doctoral Student Panel Award from the 2017 Urban China Research Network (UCRN) Annual Conference for her paper, “The Access to Urban Compulsory Education Resources: An International Comparative Perspective.”

**Kaya Hamer-Small** is currently a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology at Broward College. She also serves as the International Honors Coordinator at Broward College. Hamer-Small recently co-authored a paper that has been published in the online journal *Social Sciences* with Wendie Choudary and faculty member Samantha Friedman (equal first authors). The paper is entitled, "Disability Status, Housing Tenure, and Residential Attainment in Metropolitan America.” Hamer-Small presented a co-authored paper at the 2018 XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology Conference in Toronto.


**Rebeca Herrero Sáenz** received a Graduate Student Association Professional Development Grant to present a paper, ”Narratives of Self-Harm on YouTube: Negotiating Labels in Digital Spaces” at the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) annual meeting. In addition, she presented a paper, ”The Spanish Leadership in Organ Donations and Transplants and the Manufacturing and Marketing of a National Identity” at both the Eastern Sociological Society and the Annual Spring Conference of the Center
Yinzhi Shen presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting in Philadelphia a paper co-authored with Steve Messner, Jianhong Liu (alumnus from Macao University) and Robert Sampson from Harvard University, “What They Don’t Know Says A Lot: Residents’ Perceptions of Neighborhood Crime in Urban China.” She also published paper co-authored with Hua Zhong from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in the Asian Journal of Criminology, “Rural-to-Urban Migration and Juvenile Delinquency in Urban China: A Social Control Perspective.”

Yunhan Zhao presented two papers at the American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting: “Prison Sentences among Incarcerated Inmates in China: Comparisons across Migrant Statuses” co-authored with Steve Messner and Jianhong Liu (alumnus currently at the University of Macau), and “Neighborhood Segregation and Racial Difference in Police Treatment After Stop: Evidence from New York City” (coauthored with Tse-Chuan Yang). He also presented a paper “Revisiting Institutional Anomie and Crime: A Spatial Perspective” with Ph.D. student Kyle Maksuta on a roundtable session at the ASC meeting.

Elizabeth Popp Berman published “From Economic to Social Regulation: How the Deregulatory Moment Strengthened Economists’ Policy Position” in History of Political Economy, and is completing her book manuscript, Thinking Like an Economist: How Economics Became the Language of Public Policy, for Princeton University Press. She presented this research at the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice and elsewhere. In the coming year she will give a keynote lecture for Sociology of Education Association, as well as talks at Northwestern University, Washington University in St. Louis, and several other universities. In 2019 she will be joining the American Journal of Sociology as a consulting editor.

Angie Chung participated in an Author-Meets-Critic Session featuring her book, Saving Face, at the 2018 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. She has been invited to deliver the keynote speech for the New York State Sociological Association conference in Rochester in October. Her talk is titled: “From Guns to Cages: Managing Power and Emotions in an Era of Dehumanization and Discord.” She is starting her first year as Chair of the ASA Section on Asia and Asian America. Recent publications include "Thinking Outside the Box: The National Context of Educational Preparation and Adaptation among Chinese and Korean International Students" (coauthored with Kenneth Chen, Gowoon Jung, and Muyang Li) in Research in Comparative and International Education; “Paving the Silk Road: The Role of the Garment Industry in Koreatown Redevelopment” (coauthored with Sookhee Oh) in Metropolitics, and “Race/ Gender/ Class Relations among Korean Immigrant Families,” in the edited book, Companion to Korean American Studies.

Joanna Dreby’s Everyday Illegal: When Policies Undermine Immigrant Families
(University of California Press) was awarded the Latina/o Section Distinguished Contribution to Research Book Award from the American Sociological Association. The book also received an honorable mention for the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award from the Eastern Sociological Society. Additionally, she has published two collaborative articles documenting the state of research on policy impacts for children living in immigrant families: “Charting Directions for Research on Immigrant Children Affected by Undocumented Status” (in the Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences) and, with Zoya Gubernskaya, “U.S. Immigration Policy and the Case for Family Unity” (Journal on Migration and Human Security).

Samantha Friedman published two papers in the 2018 special issue of Social Sciences on “Social Inequality and Residential Segregation in Urban Neighborhoods and Communities”: 1) “Disability Status, Housing Tenure, and Residential Attainment in Metropolitan America” (coauthored with graduate students Kaya Hamer-Small [equal coauthor] and Wendie Choudary); and 2) “Assessing the Role of Family Structure in Racial/Ethnic Residential Isolation” (coauthored with Colleen Wynn who is first author and also a former graduate student). Sam also has a forthcoming commentary in City & Community on “Census Data and its Use in the Study of Residential Inequality.” She and graduate student, Aysenur Kurtulus won a poster award at the 2018 annual meeting of the Population Association of America for their work on “Education and Gender Differences in Smoking in Turkey: Evidence for the Tobacco Epidemic Transition Model?”

Brandon Gorman published three papers: “World Citizens on the Periphery: Threat and Identification with Global Society” (with Charles Seguin) in American Journal of Sociology; "Global Norms vs. Global Actors: International Politics, Muslim Identity, Support for Shari'a" in Sociological Forum; and "Who Doesn’t Want Democracy? A Multi-level Analysis of Elite and Mass Attitudes” (with Ijlal Naqvi and Charles Kurzman) in Sociological Perspectives. He also served as a discussant on the panel “Computational Social Science, Culture, and Cultural Analysis” at the 2018 ASA meeting.

Zoya Gubernskaya and graduate student Zequn Tang published “Just Like in their Home Country? Multinational Perspective on Living Arrangements of Older Immigrants in the U.S.” in Demography. This research was also featured in the International Union for Scientific Studies of Populations (IUSSP) news magazine: “Older Immigrants’ Living Arrangements in the U.S. and Sending Countries.” She has also published two other collaborative pieces (with Judith Treas): an article documenting patterns of linguistic isolation among older immigrants in the U.S. (in The Journals of Gerontology, Social Sciences) and a chapter “Did Mobile Phones Increase Adult Children’s Maternal Contact” in the forthcoming edited volume Families and Technology.

Hayward Derek Horton is now a co-editor of the official journal of the Association of Black Sociologists,

Zai Liang received the 2017-2018 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. Along with Steve Messner and other Albany colleagues, he organized the 2018 Urban China Research Network (UCRN) conference in Wuhan, China from June 23-25. About 150 professors and doctoral students participated in the conference. Three graduate students in sociology from Albany presented papers at the conference. Zai gave a presentation on “Urbanization and Migrant Children in China” at a plenary session during day 1 of the conference.

Karyn Loscocco’s upper level text, Race & Work, was published this past winter. The book starts with the historical roots of racism and work, showing that in the United States, capitalism, and racism were born together. The chapters document the U.S.’s multicultural labor history, discuss how labor markets and jobs became segregated, show how race/gender and class intersect to create persistent inequality in work opportunities, and address many current issues. Here is what Eduardo Bonilla-Silva, 2018 President of the American Sociological Association, wrote about the book: “Race and Work offers an engaging and thought-provoking analysis of the connections between race, ethnicity, and work opportunities and experiences. The book counteracts color-blind myths by situating persistent work-related race inequities in structures as well as interactions, invisible as well as visible racist practices. Loscocco invites readers to the discussion by skillfully creating a narrative based in logic and evidence. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in how and why race inequality persists.”

Aaron Major’s book, The New Capitalist Rich: Corporate Organizational Form and the Political Economy of U.S. Income Inequality, addresses the question: Why, in the United States, are the rich so rich? While some argue that income inequality is driven by the growing salaries of top managers relative to the stagnating wages of main line workers, and others argue that it is driven by an even more unequal distribution of wealth, missing from this debate is a striking feature of U.S. inequality: since the mid-1980s a growing portion of very high incomes has come from pass-through businesses. These hybrid business organizations retain some features of traditional corporations, but their income flows directly to individual owners and shareholders. This book explores the relationship between the hybridization of the capitalist firm and market income inequality in the United States. In putting forward another piece to the larger puzzle of rising income inequality, the analysis connects the story of income inequality to the political
economy of the legal organization of capitalist firms.

Steve Messner continues to pursue his research on crime and social control in urban China. He recently published coauthored articles with various combinations of alumni -- Jianhong Liu, Lening Zhang, Colin Gruner -- and current graduate student Yunhan Zhao: “Predicting Re-Incarceration Status of Prisoners in Contemporary China: Applying Western Criminological Theories” (*International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*); “Neighborhood Social Control and Perceptions of Crime and Disorder in Contemporary Urban China” (*Criminology*); “Neighborhood Crime Control in a Changing China: Tiao-jie, Bang-jiao, and Neighborhood Watches” (*Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*). Alumni Jukka Savolainen and Sam Applin have kept him busy with collaborative research that has appeared in “Does the Gender Gap in Delinquency Vary by Level of Patriarchy? A Cross-National Comparative Analysis” (*Criminology*). He has also been collaborating with colleagues affiliated with Bielefeld University, Germany, and especially with Andy Hövermann, who is at Albany on a two year post-doc. Some of this research has been published in “Marketized Mentality, Competitive/Egoistic School Culture, and Delinquent Attitudes and Behavior: An Application of Institutional Anomie Theory” (*Criminology*) and “A Cautionary Note about the Use of Estimated Homicide Data for Cross-National Research” (*Homicide Studies*).

Scott South was recently promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor. His recent or forthcoming publications, all co-authored with current or former graduate students, have appeared in *American Sociological Review, Social Forces, Criminology, Demography, City & Community, Journal of Comparative Family Studies, and Demographic Research*.

Tse-Chuan Yang investigates the impacts of perceived discrimination and income inequality on social and health outcomes. He published with current graduates students Seulki Kim and Kiwoong Park: “Differential investments and opportunities: How do neighborhood conditions moderate the relationship between perceived housing discrimination and social capital?” (*Social Science Research*); “Looking through a different lens: Examining the inequality-mortality association in US counties using spatial panel models” (*Applied Geography*); “The long-term effects of self-esteem on depression: The roles of alcohol and drug uses during young adulthood” (*Sociological Quarterly*). In addition, he collaborates with alumni to understand the intertwined relationship between segregation and discrimination—“Searching for Silver Linings: Is Perceived Medical Discrimination Weaker in Segregated Areas?” (*Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*). Finally, he examines the determinants of racial/ethnic health disparities in the US in “A multi-group path analysis of the relationship between perceived racial discrimination and self-rated stress: how does it vary across racial/ethnic groups?” (*Ethnicity & Health*) and “The Black-White Disparity in Sexually Transmitted Diseases During Pregnancy: How Do Racial Segregation...
COLLOQUIA

The speaker for the 48th annual Theodore G. Standing Lecture was one of our PhD graduates – Eric P. Baumer. Eric is Professor and Head of Sociology and Criminology at Pennsylvania State University. He delivered a stimulating lecture titled “The Impact of Community Demographic Context on Violence: Moving Beyond Police Data to Revisit Some Classic Sociological Questions.” Eric also was able to meet informally with graduate students and faculty during his visit.

In addition to the Standing Lecture, the junior faculty sponsored a colloquium series for the 2017-2018 academic year. The series featured the following speakers:

Jason Orne, Drexel University, “Boystown: Sex and Community in Chicago”;
Mignon Moore, Barnard College, “The Church and the Streets: Black Sexual Minority Women in the Pre-Stonewall Era”;
Dina Okamoto, Indiana University Bloomington, “Boundary Claims and the Emergence of New Categories: Asian and Hispanic Panethnicity Compared.”

The Advancement/Symposium Committee is currently planning colloquia for the 2018-2019 year.
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