



IN SOLIDARITY

Department of Sociology

Spring 2020

Hello Sociologists,

Welcome, welcome, welcome to our Spring 2020 department newsletter. We are always looking for new ways to reconnect and share with Loyola alumni and current department members. If you have any new news, old news, or just any news that you'd like to share, please send it to us. Please also feel free to share any pictures you have with us—we would love to “see” as well as “hear” from you.

As you will see in this newsletter our department is thriving and great things are afoot. Discover what our students and faculty have been up to this academic year. Check out news of recent awards and accomplishments.

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

Department of Sociology—Loyola University Chicago

<http://www.luc.edu/sociology/>

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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Message from the Chair, Dr. Rhys Williams



Usually, the Sociology Department Newsletter goes out about half-way through each semester. This Spring semester we didn't manage to get that done. Just as we were assembling it, in early March, the increasing concern with the new corona virus, and the drastic but necessary reactive steps that

Illinois, Chicago, and Loyola University had to make hit with full force. LUC students studying at the John Felice Center in Rome came back and stayed in a 14-day isolation at home. And then March 13 all on-site classes were canceled and we transitioned to a totally on-line university.

It was pretty remarkable in many ways – within about a week to 10 days, the faculty, staff, and students of LUC totally switched formats for teaching and learning, doing crash courses on designing and implementing on-line education. It wasn't perfect, and we all would have preferred it otherwise, but we pulled it off. It wasn't a 'great' semester, but it wasn't a disaster. Sadly, the guest lectures we had scheduled by Professor Alex Vitale of Brooklyn College and Professor Maura Toro-Morn of Illinois State University had to be canceled.

All of us felt for the graduating students who had to have their commencements and other end-of-year celebrations put on hold. In Sociology we did a 'virtual' end-of-year celebration, handed out our departmental honors and recognized all graduates. There was pretty good attendance. Recognizing our graduates virtually did nothing to diminish our pride in their achievements or how impressed we are with their many accomplishments.

As I write this, we are busily planning for next academic year, and it looks as though classes will be a mix of on-site, on-line, and 'dual delivery' (a mixture of both modes). Finding ways to hold classes safely, with adequate space between desks, regular cleaning, and the like, is a major effort this summer. While at this point it looks as though our first-year class will – not surprisingly – be smaller than last year's class, the enrollment numbers at this point look okay.

Another piece of big news at LUC is that the university is doing a 'buy-out' of senior faculty. That is, for qualified senior faculty (in terms of age and numbers of years of service at Loyola), they are retiring and being given a generous 'parting pay-out.' It is not uncommon in universities, and is one way to accelerate the natural transitions in the faculty that happen through retirement and new hiring. In Sociology, we have three such transitions coming up at the end of this academic year as Professors Lauren Langman, Kathleen Maas Weigert, and Ayana Karanja will be retiring. While many of you may remember one or more of these honored professors, it seems appropriate to summarize their contributions, at least briefly, and we do so in this newsletter.

More transitions are on tap for people within the department's graduate program. For example, several of our doctoral stu-

dents are defended their dissertations during the spring semester, including Nathalia Hernandez Vidal, William Burr, and Steven Tuttle. Kyle Woolley, who defended his dissertation last year, accepted a tenure-track faculty position at Assumption College in Worcester, MA. Gwendolyn Purifoye, another recent graduate from our Ph.D. program, was just granted tenure and promotion at North Park University in Chicago. Also, recent LUC Ph.D. and Assistant Professor Sean Young of Aquinas College received the Association of Community Organization and Social Action (ACOSA) 2019 Marie O. Weil Award for his 2018 article "Scaling up to Increase Community-Based Organization Voice" in the *Journal of Community Practice*. In good news items for our continuing students, doctoral students Ashley Baber and Quintin Williams received Arthur Schmitt Dissertation Fellowships for next year, and Stephanie Jean-Baptiste received a Teaching Fellowship from the Graduate School.

This academic year has also witnessed several professional accomplishments among the faculty. Assistant Professor Judson Everett's recent book, *Lesson Plans: The Institutional Demands of Becoming a Teacher* (Rutgers University Press 2018) won this year's Distinguished Book Award from the Midwest Sociological Society. Judson has also been elected Vice President-elect for the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction. This spring, Lecturer Matthew S. Williams (Matt) published his book, *Strategizing against Sweatshops: The Global Economy, Student Activism, and Worker Empowerment* with Temple University Press. Assistant Professor Dana Garbarski was elected Vice President/President-elect of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, and, with Professor David Doherty of LUC Political Science department was awarded a Research Support Grant from the LUC Graduate School for a project titled, "Cook County Community Survey: A Pilot Study." You will find more news in other sections of the newsletter.

Finally, we are putting this newsletter together after days of protest and some violence following another series of deaths of unarmed black people at the hands of police or white people claiming to 'protect themselves.' While the specific deaths of Arnaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd were the immediate catalyst, these are only the latest examples of people of color dying from a racially unjust and unequal criminal justice system – whether the police, the courts, or the prisons. All of us who share in Loyola's Jesuit-based mission for social justice must recognize this deep systemic problem and find out, in whatever ways we can, how we might be part of the needed solutions.

So, welcome to the Sociology Department newsletter for another semester. We hope to keep you connected to people you know, introduce you to some that you don't, and give you yet more evidence that our department is a lively, collegial, and energetic place to be. Do stay in touch, we love hearing from folks both far and near.



Retiring Faculty

The department wishes our colleagues well for the next steps on their journeys, but there is no denying that we will miss them, and the skills, enthusiasm, and passions they have brought to the university, the department, and our students.

Lauren Langman



Professor Lauren Langman received his PhD in 1969 from the University of Chicago, and joined the Loyola faculty that year. With a specialty in sociological theory, he taught graduate and undergraduate theory, both classical and contemporary theory, as well as classes in political sociology, social psychology, the sociology of consumption, and globalization. Over his long career here at Loyola, Professor Langman has been a prolific publisher of his academic research, most recently co-authoring (with George Lundskow) *God, Guns, Gold, and Glory: American Character and its Discontents* (Haymarket Books, 2017) and co-editing (with David A. Smith) *Twenty-First Century Inequality & Capitalism* (Piketty, Marx and Beyond) (Brill Publishers, 2017). He has also authored dozens of articles and book chapters, often co-authoring with graduate students. Among his many recognitions, Professor Langman received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Marxist Sociology, and was named a "Master Researcher" by the Sujack Faculty Research Award Committee in the Loyola College of Arts and Sciences in 2018.

Ayana Karanja



Associate Professor Ayana I. Karanja received her Ph. D. in Cultural Anthropology and Africana Literature from the Union University and Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1981; this followed her M.A., in Anthropology/Social Science from the University of Chicago. At Loyola, she was Director of the interdisciplinary Black World Studies Program from 1992 until 2008, also teaching in the Anthropology, English, and Sociology departments. After stepping down from her long administrative service, she began teaching full-time in the Sociology Department in 2011, specializing in classes such as Global Inequalities, Law & Society, and the Sociology of the African American Experience. Professor Karanja received several teaching awards while at Loyola, including being nominated for the Sujack Teaching Award (the College of Arts & Sciences highest teaching honor) at least four times. She was designated a 'Master Teacher' by the Sujack Award Committee in 1998. Professor Karanja's major research publication was the book *Zora Neale Hurston: The Breath of Her Voice* (Peter Lang Publishers, 1999). She also gave keynote addresses at the 2008 National Conference of African Women Annual Meeting and the 2007 symposium for Women's History Month at Dominican University. She continues to work on a life narrative project about Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood.

Kathleen Maas Weigert



Professor Kathleen Maas Weigert came to Loyola from Georgetown University in 2010, where she had been the founding Director of the Center for Social Justice Research, Teaching, and Service. At Loyola, Professor Maas Weigert has held the Carolyn Farrell BVM Professor of Women and Leadership position and been Assistant to the Provost for Social Justice Initiatives. Since 2016, she has taught full-time in the Sociology Department, specializing in 'Engaged Learning' classes on poverty and homelessness. Professor Maas Weigert's Ph.D. is in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame; she also holds an MA in International Relations from the University of Minnesota. Among her publications are the co-edited books *Living the Catholic Tradition: Cases and Commentary* (Sheed and Ward, 2005), *Teaching for Justice: Concepts and Models for Service-Learning in Peace Studies* (American Association for Higher Education, 1999), and *America's Working Poor* (University of Notre Dame Press, 1995). Among her honors is the Reinhold Niebuhr Award for Social Justice, given by the University of Notre Dame.

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Faculty *Kudos and Announcements*

Dr. Judson Everitt had an article published in the Winter 2020 issue of *Contexts* entitled, "[The Social Psychology behind Teacher Walkouts](#)" (vol. 19, pp. 30-35).

Dr. Everitt had an article accepted for publication in the journal *Ethnography* entitled, "Examining Healthcare Institutions by Bringing Qualitative Data from Two Eras into Empirical Dialogue," (co-authored with James M. Johnson, William H. Burr, and Stephanie H. Shanower).

Dr. Everitt presented a paper at the Sociology of Health Professions Education Mini-conference at the Eastern Sociological Society's Annual Meeting entitled, "Why Your Doctor Didn't go to Class: Student Culture, Institutional Change, and High-Stakes Testing in Medical Education" (co-authored with James M. Johnson, William H. Burr, and Stephanie H. Shanower).

Dr. Dana Garbarski was conference chair for the annual meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research in November 2019. She was also recently elected Vice President/President-Elect of the organization

Dr. Garbarski and colleague David Doherty (Political Science) were recently awarded a grant from the Office of Research Services at Loyola University Chicago for their pilot study of what will be the Cook County Community Survey.

Dr. Garbarski, with co-authors Jennifer Dykema, Nora Cate Schaeffer, and Mike Hout published "The Role of Question Characteristics in Designing and Evaluating Survey Questions." Pp. 119-52 in [Advances in Questionnaire Design, Development, Evaluation, and Testing](#), edited by P. Beatty, D. Collins, L. Kaye, J. Padilla, G. Willis, and A. Wilmot. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Dr. Garbarski, with co-authors Ellen Kroin, Aoi Shimomura, Joseph Romano, Adam Schiff, and Karen Wu published "[Gender Differences in Program Factors that are Important to Residency Applicants when Evaluating Ortho-](#)

[paedic Surgery Residency Programs.](#)" *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, 11(5), 565-9.

Dr. Garbarski, with co-authors Nora Cate Schaeffer, and Jennifer Dykema. published "[Interviewers' Ratings of Respondents' Health: Predictors and Association with Mortality.](#)" *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 74(7), 1213–21. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbx146>

Dr. Garbarski helped to organize presentations on "Writing for The Conversation" and "Communities in Conversation for Women Faculty" as part of her position as the Carolyn B. Farrell Endowed Assistant Professor at the Gannon Center for Women and Leadership at Loyola University Chicago in Fall 2019.

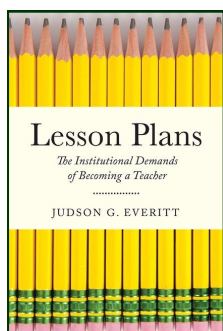
Kathleen Maas Weigert will offer a workshop on the roles that women play in advocating for peace and non-violent protests at the Chicago Peace Summit April 4, and presenting on the collaborative research projects she is involved with at the "Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education" conference, Georgetown University, June 3-6. The first is titled "Gender, justice, and the Catholic Social Tradition: where are the voices of women?" and the second is called "What have alumni/alumnae learned about CST and what can they continue to teach us"?

Dr. Kelly Moore is working (this spring) with the Washington DC-based Union of Concerned Scientists to examine and extend strategies of scientist involvement in issues of scientific concern, such as climate change and systems of federal scientific funding.

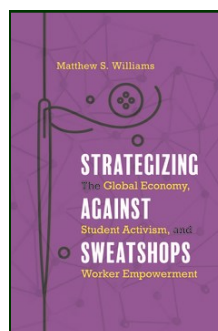
Dr. Moore's article "Barely Bonded: The Affective Politics of the Struggle for Water in Villa El Salvador, Lima, Peru," co-authored with Kyle Woolley of Assumption College was accepted for publication *Qualitative Sociology*.

Dr. Rhys Williams, with co-author Todd Nicholas Fuist, published "['Let's Call Ourselves the Super Elite': Using the Collective Behavior Tradition to Analyze Trump's America.](#)" in *Sociological Forum* (December, 2019) 34 (S1): 1132-1152.

Faculty Books



Professor **Judson Everitt's** book [Lesson Plans: The Institutional Demands of Becoming a Teacher](#) (2017) with Rutgers University Press was just named as the 2019- 2020 Midwest Sociological Society's Distinguished Book Award.



Professor Matthew Williams' book, [Strategizing Against Sweatshops](#) was published with Temple University Press. The book "chronicles the evolution of student activism (through United Students Against Sweatshops -USAS) and presents an innovative model of how college campuses are a critical site for the advancement of global social justice".

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

From Dr. Kathleen Maas Weigert, Undergraduate Program Director



Greetings to each of you! While Dr. Everitt was on leave during the Spring 2020 semester, I served in his place as 'Acting' Undergraduate Program Director. He is on leave working on a research project, and will be back in the UPD position in the Fall.

Registration for fall courses began March 30. A number of them filled immediately,

particularly those that are 'writing intensive.' As this newsletter goes out, we are waiting for the registration of the incoming, first-year class and planning how those classes will be delivered (on-site, on-line, or a mix).

This past semester the department worked at developing a "post-graduation" survey to send to our senior graduating Sociology majors and minors. We began to pilot the survey to a sample of seniors. We are eager to find out what you are

planning (or hoping!) to do right after graduation and what your experience was like as a Sociology major or minor. Even if you are not in the sample, please let us know your plans. We want to stay in touch and be of assistance however we can.

I hope all are able to get some time to relax this summer. We look forward to seeing you, or hearing from you, in the not-too-distant future.

Undergraduate *Kudos*



Taylor Thomas, Junior double major in Sociology and Global & International Studies, in an **Undergraduate Fellow** at the Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL).

Taylor is interested in establishing a career in advocacy within inequitable communities. She is interested in creating platforms for community members to share their experiences through equitable research as a means of determining justice-oriented solutions. Read more about [Taylor](#).

CURL Undergraduate Fellowships are intended to facilitate involvement of students in collaborative research projects with community-based organizations, social service agencies, health care providers, businesses, and government in Chicago's city and suburbs. Interested in being in CURL Undergraduate Fellow? See [CURL](#) website for application instructions.

Mario Guerrero, Senior Sociology major won the **Damen Award**. This award honors Undergraduate students who have com-

mitted themselves to Jesuit ideals by being a true source of inspiration and leadership to the Loyola community throughout the year.

Destiny Jacque, Sophomore double major in Sociology and Political Science won the **Ignatian Spirit Award**. This award celebrates the successful collaboration and accomplishments of a student employment team, also known as the "Outstanding Team Award." She won it as a member of the Front Desk Office Assistance in Residence Life team.

Abby O'Connor, Junior Sociology major and member of the women's basketball team was selected for the Missouri Valley Scholar-Athlete Team.

Grace Higbie, Sophomore Sociology minor was a finalist for the Unity of Heart & Mind Award. The Award is given to a second-year undergraduate student who is committed to unifying the joys of the heart with the intellectual pursuits of the mind.

Undergraduate *Research & Engagement Symposium Participants*

Gianni Carcagno-Sociology & Theater Major

Performing Arts Accessibility

"Performing arts accessibility increases community inclusivity and provides arts experiences for new audiences and artists by giving individuals the autonomy to participate in art they may have otherwise been excluded from".

"This [project](#) studies performing arts accessibility at Loyola through the practical application of an accessibility service, open captioning, on a mainstage production, while also exploring the impact accessibility has on audiences and the Loyola performing arts community".

Mario Guerrero – Sociology Major

Public Incentives for Affordable Housing

"During the Summer 2019, I designed my own research through the Social Innovation/Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship. For my research I studies housing insecurity and explored federal, state and local policies that supported the creation of more family units and whether this could be an enterprise of scale".

Disability & Society (Socl 370/580)

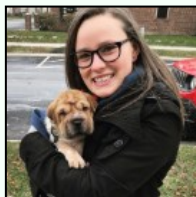
By: Elizabeth Long

While registering for courses for the Spring 2020 semester students were delighted to see a variety of classes that drew on their areas of interest. This semester a new course was put on the roaster that students were eager to know more about; SOCL 370/580, a course on The Sociology of Disability. Since this is a topic of interest and importance to so many students, we wondered what it would teach us and how it came to be a class in the Sociology department? Curious about these questions myself, I enrolled in the course and set aside some time to meet with Dr. Anne Figert, the professor leading the seminar, to discuss more about the creation of the course.

The Sociology of Disability teaches both undergraduate and graduate students in a seminar style. Drawing on the student's areas of interests regarding disability, students are learning not only the major theories surrounding Disability Studies and the history of disability in the United States, but also areas such as life narratives of those living with a disability and medicalization of disabilities. In creating the course, Dr. Figert was sure to formulate a variety of assignments that would help the students apply their knowledge but also have an opportunity to see what it might be like to live with the label of 'disabled.' For instance, one assignment addresses the way individuals with disabilities are portrayed in the media; another assignment asks students to observe certain locations, such as campus buildings, entertainment venues, or local libraries, and assess the extent to which they provide adequate services for those living with a disability.

I had the opportunity to sit down and talk with Dr. Figert in regards to how she decided to come up with this new course on campus. After an enlightening discussion, it is clear that Dr. Figert is committed to teaching and educating about important and often underrepresented areas. The idea came to Dr. Figert last spring after reading an article about disability at LUC in the *Loyola Phoenix*, the student newspaper. The article specifically addressed disability concerns at Loyola. The article asked why Loyola, an empowering Jesuit university, had yet to teach such a course. It didn't take long for Dr. Figert to personally reach out to the Student Government officers on campus and say, "let's see what we can do." The course was added to the Spring 2020 schedule with Dr. Figert as the instructor "at the request of the student's." Upon asking Dr. Figert why she was so motivated to construct such a course, she explained to me that "as educators we are responsible for ensuring that all students, disabled or not, have access to course content...but also to courses that are relevant to their lives." This was an opportunity to do just that. As a Medical Sociologist, this topic was also related to her areas of expertise.

Throughout The Sociology of Disability course students have already been challenged to think about ways they haven't before and have difficult conversations surrounding disability. But much more than that, students can expect to grow personally and see the world through a lens they likely have not yet before.



Elizabeth Long is a first year PhD student.

Work, Economy, and Society (Socl 280)

Brooke Benjamin (fourth from left), from the Cremation Society of Illinois spoke to Elise Martel Cohen's Work, Self, and Society class about the work of, and emotional labor involved in, being a funeral director and celebrant.



Undergraduate Courses

Environmental Sociology (Soc1 272)

Professor Maria Akchurin's class visited floating islands installed by [Urban Rivers](#), a Chicago-based organization working to create natural habitat and recreational public space on the waterway. The restoration project is a great site for students to experience urban nature, learn about local environmental efforts in a deindustrializing landscape, and reflect on how to make such green spaces inclusive and accessible for city residents.

Environmental Sociology is offered Fall 2020, please check Locus for days and time.

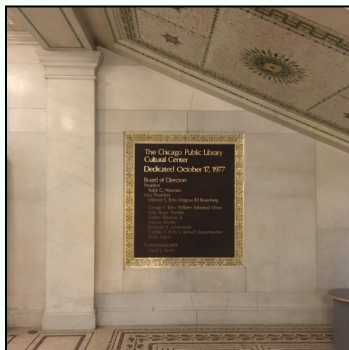


Chicago: Growth of a Metropolis (Soc1 125)

Dr. Alma Begcevic's Sociology 125 class visited The Chicago Cultural Center (2 left photos below) to explore history of Chicago, see the first Chicago Public Library, its architecture and visit some of the current exhibits. This photo shows the class viewing the exhibit on how architecture shapes communities, cities and environment and consequences of neoliberalism on public housing policy in Brazil, Chile and elsewhere. The curators Yesomi Umolu, Sepake Angiama, and Paulo Tavares in the biennial titled "...and such other stories" explore the idea of citizenship and practice. They have included more than 80 contributors from 22 countries to address architecture as spatial practice that impacts policymaking, colonialism, activism and urban life.

Each semester, Dr. Alma Begicevic, explores the Edgewater neighborhood of Edgewater established by John Lewis Cochran in late 1880s and early 1990s. The class visited historic sites including the remaining homes of the 19th and 20th century Chicago socialites and wealthy business owners: Piper hall, built in 1909, Adolf Schmidt house on 6331-33 North Sheridan Road built in 1917, 6219 North Sheridan, Gunder House and the Coach House, Joseph Downey House-Berger Park on 6205 North Sheridan. The class stopped by the Sacred Heart, Driehaus center-Conway House, saw the 100 years old Blue House on the lake owned by De-metris Giannoulis, visited Colvin House (below right photo), where the owner, Angela Valavanis met them and explained the history of the mansion and what it took to preserve it's authentic architecture. The class reflected on the history and legacy of the Edge-water Hotel, demolished in 1950s as a part of the expansion of Lake Shore Drive, visited the 1890 Church of Atonement on Kenmore, made a stop by the 1916 Armory building and finally closed the trip at the Moody's pub, the German beer garden, the community landmark built in 1969.

Chicago: Growth of a Metropolis is offered Fall 2020, please check Locus for days and time.



Graduate Report

From Dr. Marilyn Krogh, Graduate Program Director



As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has upended our lives in many ways, but we are adapting to new ways of teaching, learning, and researching. Although in-person conferences and

campus events have been canceled, it's possible that we may find ways to hold some extra-curricular gatherings online. In the meanwhile, I'd encourage you to keep connected to your work, your classmates and colleagues.

For those of you anticipating spring degree or summer conferrals, Loyola is following the standard schedule for defenses, submission of drafts for format checks and submission of final drafts, as posted on https://www.luc.edu/gradschool/key_dates.shtml. If meeting deadlines for spring conferral is now not possible, students can apply for summer conferral. The Graduate School is considering the possibility of a summer gradua-

tion ceremony, but no decision has been made yet.

Please note that registration for the fall will open on April 2; please do confer with your advisor and contact me for approval of your course plans.

I would like to close with some congratulations. Ashley Baber and Quintin Williams have both been awarded Schmitt Fellowships for the 2020-21 academic year. This fellowship will provide support to them as they work to complete their dissertations. And Kyle Woolley, PhD from 2019, has accepted a tenure track position at Assumption College.

Please keep in touch; there will certainly be more news and more resources to share as the semester continues.

Marilyn Krogh

Graduate Student

PUBLICATIONS ♦ AWARDS ♦ SCATIONS ♦ FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS ♦ PRESENTATIONS

Chicago Innovation Neighborhood Award



Moriah Johnson, Sociology PhD student and CURL Graduate Fellow (2nd from left) & Dr. Gina Spitz, Assistant Research Professor-CURL and part time Sociology instructor (3rd from left)

Moriah Johnson and Dr. Gina Spitz received the *Chicago Innovation Neighborhood Award* for their project in evaluating and planning work with the Chicago Foundation for Women and 9 (now 11) nonprofit organizations on the Englewood Women's Initiative (EWI).

Moriah and Gina work with the Englewood Women's Initiative (EWI). The EWI is in its third year right now and have just added three more community partnerships making it a collaboration of 11 community organizations. The goal of the initiative is to provide services and programs that ultimately increase the economic stability and independence of women in Englewood using a wrap-around service model. This model means that they don't

just target or serve one need at a time, but rather seek to understand the holistic needs of women from her socio-emotional needs to her educational needs to her family goals to her economic goals. The initiative sees it all as connected and equally important. The initiative is unique because it is woman funded (Chicago Foundation for Women), women-led (each partner org is represented by a woman and/or run by women) and women-researched (Moriah Johnson, Dr. Gina Spitz and the CURL team).

Graduate Student

PUBLICATIONS ♦ INTERNSHIPS ♦ FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS ♦ PRESENTATIONS

Christopher Hansen will be a panelist on the "Examining New Considerations in Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Research" panel at the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) 75th Annual Conference this May in Atlanta, GA.

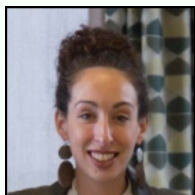
Christopher was promoted to the position of Principal Research Analyst in the Methodology and Quantitative Social Sciences Department at NORC at the University of Chicago.

JD Henson (together with work colleagues and clients) have a manuscript under review at the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice. JD worked on the data linkage and did the majority of quantitative analysis for the publication.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

The following graduate students have awarded these fellowships from The Graduate School:

Arthur J. Schmitt Dissertation Fellowship in Leadership & Service:



Ashley Baber (left photo). Ashley's project is "The new temporary labor: Regulating the gig industry in Austin, Chicago and New York"

Quintin Williams (right photo). Quintin's project is "An Insecure Future: Housing Insecurity and prisoner reentry outcomes in Polk and Palm Beach Counties"

Schmitt fellowships provide support to Ph.D. students who have demonstrated excellence in all aspects of graduate study and are in the final stage of doctoral work, i.e. completing their dissertation.

Teaching Scholars Fellowship:



Stephanie Jean-Baptiste. Stephanie has taught Socl 122 - Race and Ethnic Relations; Socl 252- Global Inequalities; and Socl 265 - Globalization & Society. Her teaching assignments are in addition to her research for her dissertation. [Read](#) about Stephanie's work in Haiti last summer.

The Teaching Scholars program assists advanced graduate students in their preparation as scholar-teachers by providing a series of experiences, activities, and responsibilities appropriate to the scholar-teacher.

SOCIOLOGISTS OF RELIGION (SRL)

"Sociologists of Religion at Loyola (SRL) is a student-led group, co-organized by graduate students Fatema Zohara and Ryan SC Wong. In this group, students present and discuss the various topics of Sociology of Religion. For the first meeting, Yasmeen Khayr, a recent graduate from Loyola's BA/MA program in Sociology, presented her thesis titled: "Gender and Sexuality Beliefs Among Muslim Men on College Campuses." For more information about this group or to present a paper for peer feedback, please contact Fatema at fzohara@luc.edu or Ryan at rwong1@luc.edu."



GRADUATE STUDENT ASSC GSA

2019-20 GSA Officers:

[Bushra Ghaniwala](#)

[Dana La Vergne](#)

[Keyla Navarrete](#)

[Julie Szamocki](#)

[Ryan Wong](#)

Graduate Student

STUDENT RESEARCH CORNER

Both graduate students and undergraduate students in LUC's Sociology program engage in interesting and potentially important research. Each newsletter we feature short columns by two students describing their research -- what they are doing, how they got into it, their experiences in the field, or their most notable findings. This semester we feature Steven Tuttle (below), a PhD candidate reporting his research in the gentrifying neighborhoods of Pilsen and Logan Square and Ryan SC Wong (following page) describing his research regarding American cultural identity and religion. Thanks to the two of them for their contributions!

By Steven Tuttle



Like many graduate students living in major cities in the United States, I've spent countless hours over the past few years checking out the hippest nightlife scenes, chasing affordable and "authentic" tacos, and enjoying live music at outdoor festivals during the summer. But for me, these places serve as field sites where I conduct participant observation research to collect data for my dissertation. As a sociologist interested in communities, gentrification, racial and ethnic diversity, and the importance of "place" in our day-to-day lives, my research looks at local businesses in Logan Square and Pilsen, two gentrifying neighborhoods in Chicago. Over the past several years, I have visited local businesses in both neighborhoods and interviewed business owners and employees, neighborhood residents and visitors, and even a few activists and a real estate developer.

Logan Square and Pilsen are often listed among the hottest and hippest neighborhoods in the country, as well as this city. Their chic bars, new and "traditional" restaurants, arts, and music attract visitors and new residents to these neighborhoods, some of whom open businesses, purchase condos, or move into apartments paying higher rents than many longtime residents can afford. As happens in cities around the world, a new, upscale bar or restaurant in a neighborhood may be understood as a symbol and driver of gentrification. These issues informed my decision to study local businesses in these neighborhoods.

In my soon-to-be-published article in the journal, *City & Community* (you can find it on the journal's website free of charge), I talk about how local businesses in Logan Square and Pilsen can contribute to racial segregation or integration. Though many of us would hesitate to admit it, race, in addition to costs and our own tastes, plays a part in our decisions whether to visit a particular business or any other space. I observed this when attending nearly all-white or all-Latinx neighborhood street festivals and while observing customers in neighborhood bars, restaurants, and other shops. Many newer Logan Square residents, who might be called "gentrifiers," wouldn't consider a visit to a bar with a majority Latinx clientele and many of these bars have since closed. Pilsen-area activists protest against upscale businesses thought to cater more to whites and thus contribute to gentrification. In these and other examples, race plays a part in what I call, "not for me discourse." – as residents feel excluded from an increasing number of local businesses in their neighborhoods, they also begin to sense that their neighborhoods are being taken from them. Gentrification researchers call this "cultural displacement." Manuel, a Mexican-American twenty-something who has lived in Pilsen since he was a baby, described some of the white business owners and gentrifiers in the neighborhood: "It's just like, they want what [we] have but they don't want [us] to be part of it."

When I asked Manuel what new local businesses could do to better support their communities, he noted, "I think they should start hiring people from the neighborhood, like minorities." I think he's right. Some of the more racially diverse places in Logan Square and Pilsen, in terms of their customers, are also among the more diverse in their staffs. I also found an art curator actively working with artists of color while staging an especially diverse art show series in Logan Square, and other business owners who took the diverse interests and resources of the neighborhoods' residents into consideration in their pricing and product offerings. As key members of communities, some, but not all, business owners intentionally work to make them more equitable places. Perhaps more can follow their lead.

Graduate Student

STUDENT RESEARCH CORNER

By *Ryan SC Wong*



I was once discussing my identity with a friend. She said that I am a Chinese who pretends to be American Born Chinese. I told her that I was born in (North) America, but she told me it doesn't matter. It occurred to me that we differed on what it means to be an "American." My understanding of my US American identity is based on my place of birth. My friend's approach was more about what might be called "cultural capital": how well you speak English, your fashion choices, your taste in food, etc. She is not a US American, but some US Americans would no doubt agree with her logic. This conversation, then, got me thinking, how do other US Americans think about their identity? I decided to make that the topic of my Master's research. From what I found, the short answer to the question about how US Americans think of their identity is – it depends on who you ask.

US Americans often articulate identity through religious frameworks. US Americans routinely include and exclude groups based on their religious faith, making religion a marker for constructing symbolic boundaries around US American identity. The nation's history is replete with episodes of discrimination against Catholics, Jews, small religious minorities, and other non-Christian groups. Many scholars have noted that the narratives of US America's history and identity are innately grounded in Christianity, which reflects the exclusivity of the connection between Christian and US American identity. However, current studies have shown that religion is not as influential in constructing national identity as it had been in the past; the equation of national identity and Christianity, for many US Americans, have faded.

From a broad analysis of historical patterns and research on current immigrants, it is evident that more of us are separating the identity of being US American and being Christian. But how does this translate to the youth? How does the future of the United States examine their identities? To answer these questions, I studied the intricate relationship between religion and national identity among college students, as well as the boundaries generated concerning religious identity. Thus, my research question was as follows: what is the nature and role of Christianity in how college students understand their national identity? To answer this, I explored the moral boundaries and social memberships among college students and discovered what being a "good American" means to them. The study had two primary objectives. The first is to gain a better understanding of the relevance and/or significance of religion in college students' construction and reconstruction of national identity. The second objective was to explore the moral/symbolic boundaries made on the basis of religion and the effect on young adults.

To study the connection between religious and national identity, I interviewed thirteen US American undergraduate students who self-identify as Christian. I asked how they conceptualize their faith, what role they think the government should play in religion, and how their parents' faith affects theirs. Five findings emerged from the interviews: 1) they do not agree with an exclusive partnership between religious (Christian) identity and American identity; 2) they find their religious background important for providing themselves a moral compass; 3) they express a need to protect religious diversity in society; 4) they do not agree with Bible literalism; and 5) their responses suggest what we could call a "neoliberalist" understanding of government's role and responsibility toward religion - that is, the government should not interfere with matters that are increasingly being privatized and individualized. One result of this combination of attitudes was that the respondents did not think one needs to be Christian to be American, and they value religious diversity, but they were unable to express or imagine how the government might have a role protecting religious minorities.

Thinking back to the discussion I had with my friend, I now want to pick up this topic with her again. Hopefully this time, combined with my Master's research and the years I've lived in the U.S., I can better challenge her criticism of my identification and her self-proclaimed "expertise" on US American identity. I can comment on not just myself, but other young people's thoughts; US American identity is a dynamic and fluid concept.

Alumni News

Norbert Wiley (BA-1940's/50's), Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois, Urbana retired in Mendocino, Ca. His main project right now is feminizing George Herbert Mead by adding Nancy Chodorow's theory of human development to his ideas. He uses her book, *The Reproduction of Mothering*, 1978. Mead is extremely cognitive and weak on gender, emotion and the body. Chodorow is strong in those areas. So it's natural to add her to him. It also helps correct the male bias now in social theory.

Hannalore Winter (BA-1962) has worked as a social worker, youth program director, director of volunteers, fund raiser, management executive and executive director of a organization supporting persons with brain injury. Hannalore said that her time at Loyola taught me to value diversity and respect persons as people not by their perceived status in society.



Joseph Galaskiewicz (BA-1971) is currently Director of the [Certificate Program in Computational Social Science](#) at the University of Arizona where he is a Professor of Sociology. The program is for Ph.D. students in the Social and Behavioral Sciences as well as the professional schools at Arizona who want to hone their skills for their dissertation and labor market.



Maura Toro-Morn (PhD-1993) named David A. Strand Diversity Achievement Award recipient at Illinois State University where she is Professor of Sociology.

Stephanie Nawyn (MA-2000). had two edited books come out last year, [Routledge International Handbook of](#)

[Migration Studies, 2nd edition](#) co-edited with Steven Gold, and [Gender Through the Prism of Difference](#) co-edited with Maxine Baca Zinn, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo, and Michael A. Messner. Dr. Nawyn also had a few articles come out, the biggest being "[Gendered Segmented Assimilation: Earnings Trajectories of African Immigrant Women and Men](#)" in Ethnic and Racial Studies, co-authored with Julie Park .

Deborah Kapp (PhD-2002) retired McCormick School of Theology for the second time (the first time was in 2017). In 2006 she became the Edward F. and Phyllis K. Campbell Professor of Urban Ministry. 2004-2005 and in the fall of 2013 she served as the Acting Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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Caitlin Botsios - Helix Café



Caitlin Botsios (center, in photo) (BA-2012) opened [Helix Cafe](#) in Edgewater in 2019. The café is a business learning lab focused on decreasing the impacts of youth unemployment and a hub for community development and events. In addition, the Helix organization provides social impact consulting to businesses and social entrepreneurs.

Caitlin and the Helix Café have been profiled in publications and the local news. In one publication: "*Caitlin and her co-founder, Sean Connolly, kept circling back to one statistic: 70 percent of youth between the ages of 16 and 24 are unemployed. They saw two problems happening at the same time. First, young people are struggling to find jobs, and second, businesses are craving talent. To address both, they created Helix, which ultimately hopes to open small businesses across Chicago, which will each provide on-the-job training and professional development for young people. "We get everything from sophomores and juniors who are deciding if they want to go to college, to someone who's out of school and out of work, and may not have a high school diploma, and we help them all figure out what is next, why, and how they can get there," say Caitlin.*"

To find out more about Caitlin and the Helix Café, please click these links:

[This Neighborhood Cafe Is Serving Lattes and Sparking Change](#)
[Edgewater Cafe provides jobs for unemployed youth in Chicago](#)

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Alumni News



Greg Hamill (PhD-2003) was promoted to "Distinguished Professor, Sociology" and was elected President of the Oakton Community College Faculty Association (i.e., the full-time faculty union).



Ethan Frely (BA-2008) and **Daniela Lostumbo Frely** (BA-2006) just had their 2nd baby, Giulia Gia Frely. They will be celebrating her Christening in March at St Ignatius by Loyola where they were married. Fr Jerry Overbeck (law school chaplain) will be the celebrant.

After receiving the 2015 Shooting Star award and the 2019 Volunteer of the Year award, the Chamber of Commerce asked **Ethan** to be the Chair of

the Board for the Chamber of Commerce in Tigard, OR starting in June. This will make Ethan of the youngest Board Chairs in the Chamber history and also one of the first "of color".

Ethan has been inducted into another NPO, called Tigard Downtown Alliance, its the NPO that Tigard hires to manage all downtown events.

In addition, **Ethan** was invited and accepted a seat on the Southwest Corridor Advisory Committee, which is a committee of locals representing our communities in preparation of a new light rail line to help serve 3 cities and reduce traffic throughout.

Erin Bodendorfer (BA-2007, JD-2012) was named a partner of Katz & Stefani, LLC in Chicago where she practices exclusively in the area of family law, focusing on complex divorce cases in Cook, Lake, and DuPage Counties.

Muznah Madeeha (BA-2011) is working on her PhD in the UK at the University of Birmingham's Social Policy, Sociology and Criminology program.

Diana Therese M. Veloso (Ph.D. 2012), was reappointed Graduate Studies Program Coordinator of the Behavioral Sciences Department of De La Salle University in the Philippines. In addition, she is on the second year of her term as the Coordinator of Gender and Multiculturalism, a new interdisciplinary course at the said university. She received a Faculty Medal as part of her promotion to Associate Professor. She served as the local consultant in the evaluation of the "Justice for All: Enhancing Accessibility, Fighting Impunity Programme" (EPJUST II Programme), funded by the European Union, in partnership with the Philippine government. She also served as the Editor

Alberto Ortega



Alberto Ortega (BA-2002) was appointed by Mayor Lori. E. Lightfoot as the Director of Workforce Strategy and Business Engagement in the Mayor's Office. Alberto is responsible for developing a strategic vision for the City of Chicago's workforce development in coordination with departments and Sister Agencies, city partnerships, and other key stakeholders, including the business community. He will oversee the implementation and management of this strategic vision, ensuring coordination across all stakeholders, and implementation of opportunities that promote greater innovation, inclusion, and impact in the City's workforce systems to serve more Chicagoans and help those systems adapt to economic changes. Alberto will focus on expanding economic opportunity and financial security for struggling Chicagoans and on enabling inclusive economic growth that ensures all Chicagoans thrive as Chicago thrives.

Born and raised in Chicago, Alberto Ortega has led a mission-driven life committed to engaging communities and businesses to create economic and social impact. Alberto aligned with best-in-class nonprofits and corporations such as Alivio Medical Center in providing access to healthcare for low-income families, serving youth and adults through Instituto del Progreso Latino, serving on the Board of La Casa Norte, Chicago's largest provider to homeless youth; and Sodexo, a global leader in food and facilities management services. Alberto builds on a skill set of 15+ years of experience in advocacy, community outreach, external relations, human resources, resource development, strategy planning, risk mitigation, government relations, brand promotion, workforce development, and social media marketing.

In addition to his BA in Sociology from Loyola, Alberto has an M.A. from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration.

Alumni News

-in-Chief of Armed Forces of the Philippines Office of Strategic Studies and Strategy Management (OSSSM) Digest and the guest editor of the Philippine Sociological Review Sociology of Justice Special Issue. She served as one of the plenary speakers in the Ecclesia of Women in Asia Conference, held in Selangor, Malaysia, on January 15-19, 2020. She continues to volunteer with incarcerated women and has conducted seminars for women preparing to be released from prison.

Sarah (Frankie) Frank (BA-2014) had an article, "Queering Menstruation: Trans and Non-Binary Identity and Body Politics" published in *Sociological Inquiry* in February 2020. Frankie is teaching Law, Sexuality & Society, a course she developed at UW Madison and she also teaches sexualities at Madison Area Technical College.

Sarah has a research lab called "Menstruation Nation" with undergraduates interested in menstruation and social research who are helping her with her dissertation. She's finishing her term as AKD graduate student council representative this summer.

Matt Hoffmann (PhD-2014), is the Research & Policy Director of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU)

Local 73, Chicago. In January, he gave a talk, "Slush Funds & Shell Games: Tax Increment Financing and the 2019 Chicago Public Schools Worker Strike" at the 2020 Local Union Research, Policy, and Capital Stewardship Conference in Washington, D.C.

Gwendolyn Purifoye (BA-2014) was just granted tenure and promotion at North Park University in Chicago.

Mary Clare Dylík (BA-2016) is enrolled in a master's degree in Counseling at DePaul University, with a specialization in school counseling.

Megan Klein (PhD-2018) teaches Sociology and Anthropology at Oakton Community College. She has been awarded a sabbatical for Spring 2021 to work on developing curriculum for a course devoted to the reentry process. Oakton has recently partnered with Northwestern to be the first degree-granting higher education program in Illinois. Our program is based at Stateville Correctional Center and they will begin teaching Oakton courses toward the Associate's Degree beginning in Fall 2020. Dr. Klein will be doing original research (interviews, focus groups) with their students at Stateville to create a course "Reentry Success 101" which will be similar to

Oakton's College Success 101 course for first generation students.

Erica Byrne (BA-2019) works as a Quantitative research associate at C+R Research (a marketing research firm).

Yasmeen Khayr (MA-2019) has joined CURL (Loyola's Center for Urban Research & Learning) as a Project Manager for their work with the Circuit Court of Cook County Domestic Violence Division to evaluate the Court's Family Court Enhancement Project. This work is funded by a grant from the US Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women (OVW).

Gianna Lorbeck (BA-2019) has been accepted to the U of Chicago's SSA Masters program with a scholarship covering the first year.

Tim Platten (2019) accepted a position at The Sound HQ as an Associate on their growing Creative Analytics team. They are a branding/market research group that focuses on getting at the root of what drives people and the relationship it has with the products or services people are utilizing.

Kyle Woolley (PhD-2019) has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at Assumption College in Massachusetts.



Jacqueline Zalewski (PhD-2006), Professor of Sociology at Westchester University, won an election in 2019 for the role of Labor Studies Division Chair in the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Dr. Zalewski was also named the inaugural recipient of the West Chester University Outstanding Advisor Award and recognized for the achievement at WCU's winter commencement ceremony (see photo). A letter from the Committee for Advising Excellence noted that they "had many outstanding applicants" but that "(their) awards

committee felt that (her) work demonstrated a truly distinguished commitment to academic advising."



Kevin Miller (MA-2016) is in a fully-funded PhD program at Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work. He is also the Director of the [Empowering Counseling Program](#), in which he facilitates the Law Under Curious Minds (LUCM) after school and summer program for youth in Englewood and the Near West Side. LUCM is a participatory, human rights based program that engages youth in participatory social justice education and participatory action research projects.

Department Photos

Holiday Party (Fall 2019)



Kevin Coval, artistic director of Young Chicago Authors and author of "Everything Must Go." Kevin's book discusses gentrification in Chicago through poetry and illustration.



Alexander Elikem Gabor was born December 21st. He was 6.74lbs and 20 inches.

Proud parents:
Dr. Helena Dagadu
Adam Gabor