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# Pitt Sociology News

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## Two Faculty Members Choose Retirement



**Patrick Doreian** stepped down as Chair of the department effective August 31, 2005 and is also planning his retirement effective April 30, 2006. He has also resigned as Editor of *The Journal of Mathematical Sociology* (1982-2005) but he is going to be co-editor of *Social*

*Networks* for a three-year period along with Tom Snijders (University of Groningen, Netherlands).

The following is a transcription of a pod-cast from an obscure Pittsburgh locale.

**fake interviewer:** You're a bit young to retire. So why did you do it?

**patrick doreian:** *It is an indirect result of having a total knee replacement. The recovery time gave me time to think about life. With my never high blood pressure even lower and a sense of relaxation that was sublime, it was clear that I liked family, friends, research, and travel above all other things. Always a slow learner, it took a couple of weeks to realize that retirement would be a cool way having more time for them.*

**f.i.** What does retirement mean for you?

**p.d.** *Actually, I call it "re-tire-ment" and think of the time gained as a set of new treads to help me go to new places and think about new stuff.*

**f.i.** How would you sum up your rather long career?

**p.d.** *I did pretty well for some one who could not spell, could not do mental arithmetic and is a complete spatial dyslexic. As an undergraduate mathematics major I was the only one in my darts playing group that was banned from keeping score.*

**f.i.** Your vita states that you got a first class degree in mathematics at the University of Leicester. I bet you crammed hard for that.

**p.d.** *No. The final exams – and they were final at the end of three years – had everything riding on them. Four of us thought that the really important thing was to be able to think rather than memorize proofs. So, 10 days before the set of final exams, we put away our work materials to play table tennis and chess. It worked well for us. In fact, the easiest question was one disguised cleverly as something we had never seen and most people skipped it. Learning*

*stuff is fine but thinking is the real part. So, don't get me started on exams as regurgitation fits.*

**f.i.** And the MA – no cramming for those exams either?

**p.d.** *Worse, I nearly did not take the take them. I was eager to get to the University of Chicago and scheduled my departure before the final exams. The learning had been done and taking the exams seemed a mere affectation. However, the University of Essex and the Cunard Shipping Line saved my ass by arranging to let me take them as I sailed across the Atlantic. In the end, it became an unintended publicity stunt.*

**f.i.** Your attitude is dreadful. No wonder you were unqualified for all the positions that you have held. You never got a Ph. D.

**p.d.** *True. I decided – it was the sixties after all – that I did not need to get one. And I voted with my feet by walking away from the University of Chicago. In truth, I am untrainable. I study for the fun of it and was never comfortable working to pass courses. I am also very oppositional and hate being told what to do and what not to do. I get hooked on problems, ideas and go wherever my imagination takes me.*

**f.i.** That must have taken you to some very weird places.

**p.d.** *Yup, but that is the fun of it and weird can be very good. It is the going that matters and the destinations are just the bonuses you get from keeping on pecking away.*

**f.i.** Talking about weird places, you went from mathematics to sociology. That's a big switch – how did that happen?

**p.d.** *It was an accident. I was hanging out at the London School of Economics and my (then) wife's friends were all studying social administration and had no interest in mathematics. While living in these disjoint worlds I saw a poster announcing that the University of Essex wanted to start a new program combining mathematics and sociology. I had just read Peter Berger's *Invitation to Sociology* – another accident – and thought "Why not accept the invitation?" Two Essex faculty members were extraordinarily generous and I remain extremely grateful to Peter Townsend and Peter Abell for their time and their faith in my abilities. Certainly, I did not recognize those abilities at the time because I was having too much fun getting into sociology and also graph theory as a new area of mathematics for me. This is when my interest in social networks started.*

**f.i.** How did you get to the sociology department at Pitt?

**p.d.** *I came to visit for a year in 1971 – at the invitation of Tom Fararo - and it turned out to be a very long year. The faculty person that I replaced for the year stayed in Colorado so I got his position when he was replaced. I*

even gave up a tenured position to do so. The inside track was rather handy.

**f.i.** You must have been nuts. Why do it?

**p.d.** It was a different era. The specific reasons were a budding collaboration with Norm Hummon and in England the sociological environment was very hostile to 'mathematics in sociology'. It helped that the standard of living here was considerably higher. And tenure came in 1974 so the gamble was a very safe one.

**f.i.** OK. You have an international reputation in social networks and mathematical sociology. What do you regard as your major contributions to the field?

**p.d.** Wrong question – at least for me. The best things have been some of the collaborations I have had and the puzzles that I have gnawed on. Two collaborations stand out. One was with Norm Hummon and ended only with his untimely death. We had a fine time wandering through multidimensional spaces working on social dynamics and statistical puzzles. Our **Modeling Social Processes** (Elsevier, 1976) was one early bonus outcome of our intellectual fun. The other collaboration is ongoing with Anuška Ferligoj and Vladimir Batagelj at the University of Ljubljana. I go to Slovenia pretty much annually for us to have fun and to work on generalized blockmodeling. Actually, we have just published **Generalized Blockmodeling** (Cambridge, 2005) as the end point of the first phase of our project. I think that I have single handedly elevated the Slovene economy through my consumption of dvojna kava (double espresso), temno pivo (dark beer) and refošk and teran (two Slovene red wines). Both books were delayed because we kept wandering off into different problems and puzzles – the allure of the new is a compelling siren call for me. In each example, it is the collaboration that mattered most with all the fun and affection that follow.

**f.i.** You use 'fun' and 'wander' a lot. That sounds very indulgent and short sighted.

**p.d.** I can say only two things in my defense and both are mantras that help inform my life: 1) "If it ain't fun, don't do it" and 2) "all who wander are not lost".

**f.i.** So if it is all fun and exploration, have you been recognized for anything at all?

**p.d.** I suppose so. I was awarded a Centennial Professorship at the London School of Economics as "a prestigious award" in 2002. Alas, I never asked for the specifics and focused on the excitement of living in central London while working on a problem that was suggested by one of Norm Hummon's last publications. In 2004, I was made an Honorary Senator of the University of Ljubljana. My youngest son's take on this was "that makes you just another politician and we have too many of them already." I was too busy giggling to even try to correct him. And I have been declared a "classic" for my work in geography and spatial social sciences. Alas, I have already translated 'classic' as 'relic'. Just as 'Emeritus Professor' suggests to me 'over the hill' and a 'has been'.

**f.i.** So, what's next as you approach your dotage?

**p.d.** I am pleased that I will reach my dotage before growing up. There are many projects that will keep me busy. One is a through time study of socialization in a police academy. Norm Conti and I have collected four waves of network data over 6 months for a six or seven relational ties and the recruits' attitudes towards law enforcement. We are curious about how networks form over time and whether these networks affect recruit socialization. It is about modeling changing attributes and changing networks together – almost network heaven for me. Another project has the working title "The World

System of Football" which will be a study of player movements between clubs and countries – and tracing them back to their first clubs with data on all their moves - all done within the frameworks of globalization, world system dynamics and international business. Four misguided graduate students have joined me on this quest. And then there is a project on battling environmental networks as the environmental movement and the 'Wise Use' movement are locked in mortal combat. I have been quietly building some large data sets for these projects. The generalized blockmodeling project will go on plus others. I relinquished the editorship of the **Journal of Mathematical Sociology** last December after a 23 year stint as the editor. What stamina! It was a fun gig. Then I succumbed to the temptation in the invitation to co-edit **Social Networks** with Tom Snijders (University of Groningen). The appeal is that this field is closest to my heart and Tom is another scholar whom I admire and respect greatly. Besides, I might even learn something about social networks.

**f.i.** You are such a fool! You'll be dead before you finish all of these projects. Why start them?

**p.d.** It's the fun, stupid. They are all journeys and I will never get bored.

**f.i.** I have to ask this but do you have advice for younger scholars?

**p.d.** No but I will give you the best feedback that I was given early in my career. "A model is never replaced by a critique of a model. It is replaced by a better model. And a theory is never replaced by a critique – it is replaced by a better theory." (Thank you, Art Stinchcombe.) Reflecting on that insight, I resolved never to argue about the way people ought to do research or talk about other approaches being inferior. Such debates strike me as a huge waste. Better to be constructive and see what we can create by way of understanding social phenomena. This carried two further implications for me. One is that the people who went before us were not idiots because we build on their work. The other is that if we do not produce students who do better than us, we have failed

**f.i.** You were chair of the department. What did you achieve?

**p.d.** Again, it is the wrong question. Besides, it is not for me to say. It did give me the opportunity to work closely with Nancy Kasper, our administrative assistant. This, too, was a great collaboration for me: working with her made completing the tasks worthwhile. She works tirelessly for the department and cares about the people in it. Without her, I think the place would fall apart and too many people under appreciate her contributions.

**f.i.** Gotcha! You talk about fun a lot but it cannot be fun chairing a department.

**p.d.** The trick is to find fun in doing it. For example, when a faculty member came into my office to complain about something, I just held up my hand and said "Hold it. My negative inbox is full." It worked: The complaint never came. Performing in the theater of the absurd means that you can never take anything too seriously – especially yourself.

**f.i.** So what will be on your tombstone?

**p.d.** There won't be one because I hope my ashes are scattered on the wild North York moors. But if there were some words there are two options. "He loved and was loved." and "He thought, computed and scribbled." However, between then and now it will be an interesting time "on the road to nowhere" (Talkingheads), "observed by clouds" (Pink Floyd) "where the streets have no name" (U2). The goings will be the fun parts - and I have fine

people to share them as I slouch off into the sunset. But first there is the trip to Paris, South Africa and Namibia.....  
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## Patrick Doreian

Patrick Doreian received his B.Sc. in Mathematics, (First) at the University of Leicester in 1964. He then completed his MA in 1966 from the University of Essex, where he was appointed as a Lecturer from 1967-1972. He came to the University of Pittsburgh as a Visiting Associate Professor in 1971 as a young mathematical sociologist who had already established an enviable reputation. Pat taught graduate and undergraduate courses and participated in the mathematical social science seminar that Tom Fararo had organized and which included contributors from the Department of Economics and the School of Engineering. This was to be a one year appointment which lasted 35 years.

In 1972, with the resignation of Professor Otomar Bartos, the Department was authorized to conduct a national search for a senior replacement in the area of mathematical sociology. This search resulted in the full-time hiring of Pat, who was one of the very small number in the US or abroad qualified for this post. In spite of his youth, Pat was considered an accomplished mathematical sociologist with a firm reputation especially in Europe and the United States. His book, Mathematics and the Study of Social Relations, had been favorably reviewed by James A. Davis and his other publications were highly regarded. Pat quickly developed collaborative relationships with colleagues in Sociology and other social scientists at Pitt. In 1974, he was awarded tenure with the department.

Pat took a one year leave of absence in 1980 to accept a position at the University of California, Irvine as a Visiting Professor to work with Professor Lin Freeman and broaden his work in Social Networks, a long-term interest (Doreian, 1980). At the time, he felt that social networks was a very lively area and that Irvine had an appealing research program. He felt he could contribute greatly to the growth of that program, but he promised to return to Pitt enriched and stimulated by his participation. The time at Irvine was also an avenue for him to meet other social scientists and statisticians with interests in the dynamic modeling of social processes. He thought this would allow him to develop more in that area, especially in cracking some of the difficult estimation problems his own modeling work had raised.

In 1980, Pat was being considered for promotion to full Professor. The external letters were impressive, stating that "Doreian's work is at the forefront of mathematical sociology", and that Pat was "a leading figure," "one of the central figures in the study of social networks" and "a leading contributor to the problem of process modeling on network structures." One referee commented that he was impressed with Pat's recent work on spatial association and characterized his work as "both careful and imaginative", leading him to the view that "Doreian is one of a handful of leading younger scholars in sociological modeling." Pat was recognized as someone whose data-analysis sophistication is unparalleled in its scope and depth. His promotion came through in 1981.

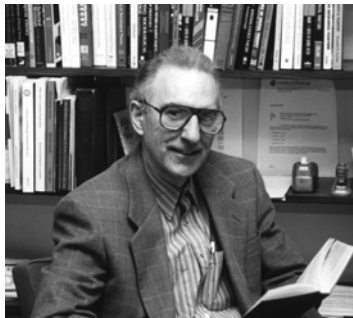
Over the years he has held numerous positions within the department, the university, and outside agencies. He has

been a consultant to the Commission on the Third London Airport (1969-70), Chair of Pitt's Social Science Computing Research Institute (1977-78), Director of Graduate Studies (1982-1985), a Research Associate in the University Center for Social and Urban Research (1988-present), Acting Chair of the department (1992-1993), Director of the Undergraduate Program (1995-1996), Interim Chair (1998-1999), and Chair of the Department (1999-2005). He has held teaching positions beyond Pitt as well. At the University of Essex (1971-74), he worked at the Modeling Modules of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Summer School. He was a Visiting Faculty member on Semester-at-Sea (Fall 1982), a Visiting Professor at the School of Social Sciences, University of California, Irvine (1980-1981), and a Visiting Professor of the Faculty of Social Sciences for the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia (1993), and a BP-Amoco Centennial Professor for the London School of Economics Interdisciplinary Institute of Management (Feb-July 2002).

For over two decades he was Editor of the *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* (1982-2005), a post he recently relinquished. He has been on numerous editorial boards (*Social Networks*, *Journal of Social Structure*, Sage publications/SRM-Database on CD-Rom, *Sociological Methodology*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Human Organization*, *Quality and Quantity*, the International Network Analysts Association, on the Advisory Board at Elsevier, and a Joint Editor with Alasdair MacIntyre (1972) on a series entitled "Basic Ideas in the Human Sciences." He has been a member of the International Network of Social Network Analysts (INSNA) from 1996-present, the American Sociological Association, and the Classification Society of North America. He is a participant and organizer of the Sunbelt International Social Network Conferences, has had a fair share of grant proposals over the years (valued over ~\$975K), has numerous journal publications (92 and counting), along with 7 books and monographs.

This past year, Pat took a sabbatical during which he returned to Slovenia to work on the next phase of his generalized blockmodeling project. He also is working with some of our graduate students in assembling data for a project provisionally entitled *The World System of Football* – a compilation of the teams of the major football (a.k.a. soccer) leagues, their finances, their players, and where they come from in the world. Pat hopes to use this project to say something about the world system. He already has an assembled data set from the World Cup of 2002 and envisions doing the same for 2006. At the end of his sabbatical, Pat will be retiring from the department. As an academic, Pat says he is most proud of "the publication of Generalized Blockmodeling" with two of his dear Slovenian colleagues under the University of Cambridge logo, becoming an Honorary Senator of the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia, being declared a "classic" in the areas of geography and spatial social sciences, changing the departmental culture in significant ways, and deciding to end his editorship of the *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* after a 23 year run. The authors of Generalized Blockmodeling feel "they've done a major book that will change an important part of the social networks field if people pay attention to its contents". We note that Pat isn't slowing down; he relinquished one editorship only to take up another. He'll be editor of *Social Networks*.

While Pat does not plan on being idle after his retirement and will continue to work with his current graduate students, he will surely be missed as an everyday figure in the office.



**Thomas J. Fararo**

After serving in the US Air Force for over four years in the early 1950s, Tom Fararo returned to The City College of New York, where he majored in history and political science but became attracted to the history and philosophy of

science in his senior year. This latter interest continued at Syracuse University in the late 1950s and early 1960s, where he did his graduate work in sociology and participated in empirical studies of community power structure, both under the mentorship of Lin Freeman. This led to co-authorship of a number of early publications although he never again did any work relating to political sociology. During these years at Syracuse, he also developed interests and skills pertaining to other fields (besides the philosophy of science) that were prominent in the zeitgeist, such as symbolic logic, finite mathematics, cybernetics, and general systems. In his dissertation and in a research monograph appearing in 1964, he applied a mathematical model to study structural features of observed social networks, namely connections among community leaders and friendship ties among junior high school students, respectively. Meanwhile, he had been appointed as a lecturer and then Assistant Professor at Syracuse. However, in pursuit of his aspiration to acquire more of the skills needed to do mathematical model building, he applied for and was awarded a three-year NIH postdoctoral fellowship for advanced studies in pure and applied mathematics at Stanford University from 1964 to 1967.

In this postdoctoral period, Tom engaged in intensive study of various branches of mathematics. His first papers coming out of this period employed abstract algebra, absorbing Markov chain theory and nonlinear systems of differential equations to study status-related phenomena. Some of these papers were published in *General Systems* and *Sociological Methodology*, both yearbooks. He also developed ties to a group of Stanford sociologists – especially Joe Berger and Buzz Zelditch – who just then were starting up what is still a very active theoretical research program. In the coming years they often invited him to contribute to volumes they edited that featured new work in theoretical sociology.

In 1967, Tom joined the department at Pitt as an associate professor and then, in 1970, he was promoted to the rank of full professor. At the time, he was one of the department's youngest members and now, upon retirement, he is the oldest. In between, he served as Director of Graduate Studies for several years in the 1970s and as departmental chair from 1980 to 1985.

With a background in mathematics it might have been expected that his teaching assignments would have included statistics and methods. However, apart from courses in mathematical sociology and formal theory that

he taught for many years, his inclination was to teach courses in sociological theory. Immersion in and continued contact with the sociological tradition was essential to his entire outlook because the goal was to help make sociological theory more rigorous through the conceptual power and deductive fertility enabled by mathematics. The discussion of this goal and its modes of realization was the theme of the essays in a volume he edited in 1984 called *Mathematical Ideas and Sociological Theory*. This orientation to theory and mathematics also linked to his long-standing philosophical interest in Whiteheadian process thought, first encountered along with the philosophy of science at CCNY in the 1950s. In a later editorial project, Tom called upon theorists who had devoted their careers in sociology to developing more rigorous theories to reflect upon their experience, leading to *Formal Models and Research Programs: Reflections from Experience*, a symposium appearing in *Sociological Theory* in 2000.

This set of interests – mathematical models, general systems thinking, sociological theory, the philosophy of science, and process philosophy – eventually led to an aspiration to foster integrative theoretical work in which the vehicle of productive linkage among theoretical frameworks was some sort of formal apparatus. Much of this type of work was done with John Skvoretz, a Pitt Ph.D., and recently summarized in a chapter appearing in *New Directions in Contemporary Sociological Theory* (2002). The general orientation was set out in Tom's 1989 book *The Meaning of General Theoretical Sociology: Tradition and Formalization*. In all this work, over many years, certain stylistic elements persisted, such as the mathematical axiomatic method used in numerous papers. The method was explicated and illustrated extensively in his 1973 book *Mathematical Sociology* and employed in a 2003 monograph *Generating Images of Stratification: A Formal Theory* (co-authored with Kenji Kosaka, another Pitt Ph.D.).

Much of the inspiration for the integrative work involved what Tom called "the spirit of unification in sociological theory" (the title of a 1989 paper). Implementation of this spirit means fostering episodes of integration of theories, often only partial, in a mode that might counteract a strong tendency to proliferation and fragmentation in sociology. This is one of the themes developed in his book, *Social Action Systems: Foundation and Synthesis in Sociological Theory* (2001). The difficulties and opportunities that exist in relation to this integrative interest are highlighted in several co-edited volumes. The benefits and limits of initiating theory from a rational choice foundation are debated in *Rational Choice Theory: Advocacy and Critique* (1992, with Jim Coleman). The possibility of initiating work on the formalization and integration of quite distinctive theories of solidarity (in terms of proposed mechanisms) led to *The Problem of Solidarity: Theory and Models* (1998, with Pat Doreian). Most recently, the recognition that a number of distinct research programs were grounded in a common cybernetic perspective led to *Meaning, Purpose and Action: Control Systems Theories in Sociology* (2006, with Kent McClelland).

Probably the most important recent development that has occurred in regard to process-oriented methods in sociological theory is "the emergence of computational sociology" – the title of a paper written in the mid-1990s with our late colleague Norm Hummon, a pioneer in that field. The paper defines computation as the third node in a



research triangle involving also theory and empirical research. Simulation links computation to theory, data analysis links computation to empirical research and explanation links theory to empirical research. What is now often called agent-based simulation is the study of how complex concatenations of simulated actions and events generate social outcomes.

In the past few years, Tom has written sixteen articles for reference works, including the entry on sociological theory in *The International Encyclopedia of the Behavioral and Social Sciences* and five articles in the new Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Sociology*: mathematical sociology, post-positivism, rational choice theory, economy and society, and George Homans. Another discussion of the theories of Homans along with those of Talcott Parsons, as well as reflections on the current state of theoretical sociology, are presented in a paper published in the online *Journal of Social Structure* with the title "Theoretical Sociology in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century."

Over the years, Tom has served on the editorial boards of a number of journals, including *The American Sociological Review*, *The American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Networks*, *Sociological Theory* and *Sociological Forum*. In addition, for many years he has been an Associate Editor of *The Journal of Mathematical Sociology*. In the 1990s, he was elected to the Sociological Research Association. He was twice nominated (in 1981 and 1993), but not elected, chair of the ASA's theory section, and in 1998 he was elected chair of the mathematical sociology section. In 2004 he received that section's Distinguished Career Award.

In 1998, based on his scholarly contributions, the University honored him with the title Distinguished Service Professor of Sociology. Now the title changes again – "emeritus" is added.



### Current Faculty Items

**Salvatore Babones** studies income stratification, its causes, and its effects, all in broad cross-national perspective. He has recently been awarded a two-year grant from the National Science Foundation to study the determinants of changing national levels of income inequality. This project will help determine whether and how the structure of countries' embeddedness in the world-economy, operationalized using foreign trade flows, affects their internal levels of income inequality. A paper reporting early results from this study, co-authored with recent Sociology graduate Dorian Vonada, has been accepted for presentation at the 2006 meetings of the American Sociological Association in Montreal, Quebec.



Salvatore is also co-organizer with John Marx (and others) of the Pitt International Conference on Inequality, Health, and Society (May 17-19, 2006). This conference has won support from the University Center for International Studies

in the form of a \$20,000 Global Academic Partnership grant. The IHS Conference will bring scholars from across North America, Europe, Australasia, and Latin America to Pittsburgh to collaborate in a workshop setting on improving our understanding of how social inequality affects broad population health. Papers presented at this conference will be collected into a volume, tentatively entitled *Inequality, Health, and Society*.

Recent and upcoming publications include the methodological chapter for George Ritzer's (ed.) "Blackwell Companion to Globalization", a research paper in the *Journal of World-Systems Research*, and collaborative research papers with Pitt graduate student Majo Alvarez (in *Sociological Inquiry*) and Singapore Management University Professor Riccardo Pelizzo (in *Party Politics*). Salvatore's first book, Global Social Change: Historical and Comparative Perspectives, will be published this summer by the Johns Hopkins University Press. The book is a collection of papers co-edited with Christopher Chase-Dunn of the University of California at Riverside.

In the spring term (Jan 1-Apr. 30, 2007) Salvatore will be taking a Junior Faculty Research Leave. He plans to develop the data infrastructure for an ambitious study of the evolution of global inequality over the past forty years, a field in which he has published several articles. The outcome of this work will be a book reexamining theories of growth and inequality in light of the data he is organizing. He has begun discussions with a number of publishers already.

We are also pleased to report that Salvatore was reappointed for an additional three-year contract and appointed to full membership on the Graduate Faculty within the department.



**Kathleen Blee** received a course release from the Sociology Department to teach a course in the Women's Studies Program in spring 2006 titled "Global Feminisms." She also gave a talk at the Center for Interpretative and

Qualitative Research, Duquesne University on "Racism as a Social Movement" where she explored what we can understand about racist groups by thinking of them as social movements and what we can learn about social movements by understanding racists groups. She drew on the data collected from ethnographic observations and life history interviewing of women activists in a range of Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi, white power skinhead and other white supremacist groups in the United States.



**Lisa D. Brush's** work is about converting research into feminist intelligence. She is inspired to practice activist research - and to protect academic freedom - so we can do the work of understanding what Simone de Beauvoir called 'the genuine conditions of our lives.' Those conditions shape the struggles for justice and peace that are the source of what de Beauvoir called 'our strength to live and our

reasons for acting' - the sense of purpose and meaning we make for our selves and our communities.

This year, Lisa continued to pursue these goals with a research focus in two main areas: feminist state theory/social policy (with a particular focus on welfare reform), and violence against women (with a particular focus on the effects of intimate partner violence on women's employment and economic wellbeing). To those ends, she published a refereed review essay in *Sex Roles* and a chapter entitled, "Safety and self-sufficiency: Rhetoric and reality in the lives of welfare recipients," in Keith Kilty and Elizabeth Segal's edited collection, The Promise of Welfare Reform: Political Rhetoric and the Reality of Welfare Reform in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press). With co-author and literacy project co-investigator Lorraine Higgins (now at Worcester Polytechnic Institute), Lisa revised and resubmitted a manuscript that will be published in the June 2006 issue of *College Composition and Communication*, a top journal in rhetoric and composition studies. Lisa also applied for a modular research grant from the Department of Health and Human Services: Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Lisa is happy to report that her book, Gender and Governance, was positively reviewed in *Contemporary Sociology*. She published book reviews in *Violence Against Women* (appended) and *Contemporary Sociology* (appended), and continues to serve on the editorial boards of *Violence Against Women* and *Journal of Poverty*. For the first time, Lisa served on a review panel for NIJ and she chaired the C. Wright Mills Book Award Committee from SSSP.

In the department, Lisa served on the third-year review committee for Dr. Babones and observed Dr. Green's teaching. She observed Kai Heidemann's teaching as part of serving as his Teaching Fellow Mentor, a role she also filled for Kat Bulger (they each taught Sociology of Gender). With Debbie Gould, she worked on the Social Movements Forum Workshop on Power, Resistance, and Social Change. She helped organize SMF lecturer visits by Drs. Kurzman and Ferree, and she served as CIDDE department liaison.

In Women's Studies, Lisa continued on the Steering Committee, chaired the Graduate Curriculum Review Committee, and served on the By-Laws Committee and was appointed to serve out the term of a colleague as an elected member of the Faculty Assembly. Lisa served as President of the United Faculty (the local AAUP chapter), in which capacity she testified before the Commonwealth legislature's select committee on academic freedom. She continued to serve as an elected member of the Arts and Sciences Graduate Council and as a member on the Provost's committee on writing across the curriculum. She began a three-year term on the College Writing Board, in which capacity she helped select the winners of the 2005 Ossip Award for undergraduate writing and reviewed proposals submitted to the fall and spring rounds of writing-intensive course approval.

She organized the regular refereed panel on Feminist Theory at the Annual Meetings of the ASA in Philadelphia. Lisa concluded her term as co-chair of the Publications Committee of Sociologists for Women in Society (with oversight responsibilities for *Gender & Society*). She chaired both the subcommittee searching for a new editor

for *Gender & Society* and the subcommittee negotiating a new publications contract for the journal.

Finally, Lisa is one of the recipients of the Thomas Merton Center New Person Award – an annual event that serves to honor activists with a commitment to peace and injustice. This year the award ceremonies will be held on May 18, 2006 at the College Center Square, La Roche College East Campus from 7-9pm. The theme for this year's award is "Celebrating Academic Freedom: Honoring Activism in Academia." In choosing this year's theme, the Thomas Merton Center affirms and supports the rights of students, faculty and staff at area universities to dissent. Whether in the classroom, on their campus, on the streets, or on the airwaves members of the broader academic community play a vital role in the movement for peace and justice. This year's awardees come from many different area universities including the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Carlow College and others. Congratulations Lisa!



**Cheris Shun-ching Chan** has a forthcoming book chapter titled "Honing Good Attitudes: Ideological Work on Insurance Sales Agents", in Ching Kwan Lee (ed), Working in China: Ethnographies of Labor and Workplace Transformation (London: Routledge Curzon). She has a forthcoming book review on "State, Market and Religions in Chinese Societies" edited by

Fenggang Yang and Joseph Tamney (Boston: Brill, 2005), in *Social Transformations in Chinese Societies*. In 2005, she had a book review titled "Insurance as Governance" (ed., Richard V. Ericson, Aaron Doyle, and Dean Barry; Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2003) in *American Journal of Sociology*, and "The City as an Entertainment Machine" (ed., Terry Nichols Clark; London: JAI Press, 2004) in *Contemporary Sociology* 3(3): 292-3.

Apart from receiving two small grants from Asian Studies Center and China Council, respective, she received three fellowships:

- 1) Faculty Fellowship, University Center for International Studies;
- 2) Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford University;
- 3) Global Fellowship, International Institute, University of California, Los Angeles

She will more than likely accept the Global Fellowship at UCLA for the academic year 2006-2007.



**Deborah Gould** received a secondary appointment in the Women's Studies Program effective September 1, 2005 through August 31, 2007. According to Women's Studies bylaws, a secondary appointment in Women's Studies recognizes active involvement in the program

through the following: (a) serving on the Steering Committee and on subcommittees as appropriate, (b) teaching Women's Studies or cross-listed courses, and (c) engaging in women's studies related research and/or supporting women's studies related teaching and scholarship through advising, library services, or

community projects. Debbie amply demonstrated her active support of and involvement in Women's Studies through her service on the WS Steering Committee and significant subcommittees, her exciting research concerning AIDS activism, and her outstanding teaching. Debbie was also awarded full membership to the Graduate Faculty in the department.

Debbie will be presenting a paper, "Negative Affect and Political (De)mobilization" at two upcoming conferences in Canada: the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association Annual Conference in Toronto and the American Sociological Association Annual Conference in Montreal. This year she also received a Type I Third Term Research Stipend from the University of Pittsburgh, and, most happily, was an expert witness on a case that the National Center for Lesbian Rights brought on behalf of the organization Dykes on Bikes. The United States Patent and Trademark Office questioned whether a lesbian organization that used the word "dyke" in its name could receive trademark protection. Arguing that many lesbians and bisexual women have reclaimed the word "dyke" as an affirmative and honorable self-identification and have thereby weakened the appellation's anti-lesbian stigma, Dykes on Bikes won their case.



**Cecilia Green** is the recipient of an International Faculty Development Seminar Scholarship from UCIS for participation in the seminar "Building a Multiracial, Multicultural Society in South Africa". The seminar will be held

in Cape Town and Pretoria, South Africa (June 4-14, 2006). She was also an Invited Speaker by the Committee for African-American and African Diaspora Studies, Sociology Department, and the local chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Indiana University Purdue University (IUPUI), Indianapolis (October 24, 2005) where she presented "From 'Disorderly Conduct' to Organized Self-Restraint: Transition in an Afro-Caribbean Female Labor Force, 1880-1930."

On June 8-13, 2005, Cecilia was a Member of the International Organizing Committee and a panelist at the Walter Rodney 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Groundings (an international commemorative symposium in honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of international scholar-activist Rodney, author of How Europe Underdeveloped Africa and several scholarly histories) in Guyana. For this event, Cecilia received a UCIS travel grant.

She had 4 publications:

- "Dominica" in *Governments of the World: A Global Guide to Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities*, editor-in-chief, C. Neal Tate, 4 vols. (Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2005, II, 1-3);
- "Hierarchies of Whiteness in the Geographies of Empire: Thomas Thistlewood and the Barretts of Jamaica," in *New West Indian Guide/Nieuwe West-Indische Gids*, Vol. 80, No. 1 & 2, 2006;
- "Unspeakable Worlds and Muffled Voices: Thomas Thistlewood as Agent and Medium of Eighteenth-Century Jamaican Society" in Brian Meeks (ed.), Culture, Politics, Race and Diaspora:

The Thought of Stuart Hall (Ian Randle Publishers, 2006), and

- "A Civil Inconvenience'? The Vexed Question of Slave Marriage in the British West Indies," in *Law and History Review* (forthcoming as lead article in 25:1, spring 2007). A pre-print version is currently available on line at <http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/lhr/toc.php>.

She presented "Confronting the Amnesia of Eurocentric History: Colonialism, Free Trade, and the British West Indies", 4<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Reasonings, The Thought of New World: The Quest for Decolonization, Centre for Caribbean Thought, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica (June 17, 2005), and was a Panel Chair and Paper Presenter for the panel "Global Reverberations: Changing Direction within Circuits of Migration, Trade and Cultural Identities in the Caribbean and Central American Contexts." She also presented a paper on "Identity Shift in the Barbadian Female Labor Force, 1880-1930," (Latin American Studies Association, XXVI International Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 15-18, 2006).

And, Dr. Green learned at the time of this publication that her article "Hierarchies of Whiteness in the Geographies of Empire: Thomas Thistlewood and the Barretts of Jamaica," (New West Indian Guide/Nieuwe West-Indische Gids, Vol. 80, No. 1 & 2, 2006) was unanimously recommended for publication by the peer reviewers of NWIG. On account of their enthusiasm – the article was praised with terms such as "sophisticated," "well-written," and "good, thoughtful scholarship" – the managing editor of NWIG decided to place it as the lead article to Vol. 80, No. 1 & 2.



**Akiko Hashimoto's** book Japanese Families in a Global Age (with John Traphagan) has just received a contract from SUNY Press. The book is based on an international conference that she convened at Pitt, funded by

a grant from the Toshiba International Foundation. The volume includes her work on representations of family discourses in newspaper cartoons. Her work on "Filial Piety in Changing Asian Societies" was published in the *Cambridge Handbook on Age and Ageing* (with Charlotte Ikels), and "Remembering the 'Just War': World War II in the American Memory" appeared in *Japan and North America, Volume I: First Contacts to the Pacific War* (with Ellis Krauss), both in 2005.

She also authored several articles for the multi-media web/DVD web project Perspectives on Japan: Tradition and Modernity, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, which is due to be completed in 2006-07. She is a steering committee member of the project. She continues her work on the book on Japan's war memory, and was interviewed by both NPR (USA) and Mingpao (Hong Kong) on the subject.

Akiko was invited to present her work at several academic institutions this year. She lectured on "Granny Mischief and Her Accomplices: The Tales of Menacing Mothers-in-law in Japanese Comics" at the Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, "Why Did We Fight that Unwinnable War?: Discourses of National History in Japan"



at the Mid-West Japan Seminar in Minneapolis-St. Paul, "Japan in the Shadow of War Memory" at UCLA, and "Memories of Defeat" at the Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University. She continues to serve as Chair of the Japan Council at Pitt, participating in six national searches around campus for candidates in Japan Studies this year. She also co-founded Sociology's new forum on Cultural Transformations in A Global Age (with Cheri Chan and Cecilia Green) which received a Faculty Research Scholarship from the School of Arts and Sciences (\$3600). At the national level, she was nominated to the North East Asia Council of Association of Asian Studies, and the Council of the Section on Comparative Historical Sociology of the American Sociological Association.



**J. Alan Irvine's** appointment as a Visiting Lecturer was renewed for an additional year in the department. His continued work with the Pennsylvania Humanities Council's Speaker's Bureau will give Alan the opportunity to present two talks as part of the 2006-2007 Commonwealth Speaker's Program. The Pa. Humanities Council

will be offering 125 free presentations to community groups across the state. The Commonwealth Speakers provide Pennsylvanians the opportunity to participate in discussions about and enhance their appreciation for the arts and ideas that have shaped our state and nation.

Alan, a professional storyteller, will present "Stolen Away" – a story about two women, Frances Slocum of the Wyoming Valley and Massie Harbison of the Allegheny River Valley, both of whom were taken prisoner in Indian raids and carried away. But at that point, their stories diverge: one fought desperately to return to her home and family while the other embraced a new culture and formed a new family. Through their stories, Alan will explore the complex web of relations between settlers and natives on the Pennsylvania frontier, the differences between these two cultures, and the role of women within each. This presentation will be held on April 2, 2006 in Lawrence County and on September 14, 2006 at the Centre County Library and Historical Museum.

In the second story presentation, "Pennsylvania's Rogues and Rascals", Alan will present a different side of Pennsylvania's history – one filled with men and women who were rogues and rascals, characters who played by a different set of rules, or whose chief interests were their own gain and glory. Alan will tell stories of men such as Mike Fink (the King of Ohio), a collection of war-time spies, thieves, mobs, and the "wickedest man on earth". Traditional history books usually focus on exemplary figures and virtuous heroes while Alan will tell people about these other types of characters and show how they also played a part in creating who we are today. This presentation will be held on October 20, 2006 at the Manheim Community Library.

In the fall term, Alan received a grant from the PHC to present a program entitled "Voices of Dissent" in area libraries. The program explored the role of protest and dissent in American democracy.

Alan was also appointed as the faculty Chapter Representative in the Sociology Department for Alpha

Kappa Delta, which is the National Sociology Honors Society for undergraduate students.



**Elizabeth (Libby) Larsen**, whose appointment as a Visiting Lecturer was also renewed this year, has had three publications in peer-reviewed journals in the past year:

- "The Impact of Occupational Sex Segregation on Family Businesses: The Case of American Harness Racing" in *Gender, Work and Organization* (June 2006, 13, 4);
- "A Vicious Oval: Why Women Trainers and Drivers Seldom Reach the Top in American Harness Racing" in the *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* (April 2006, 35, 2); and
- "Increasing Diversity in Computer Science: Acknowledging, Yet Moving Beyond, Gender" *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering*, (June 2005, 11, 2). This article was recommended to the Annals of Research in Engineering Education (AREE).

Libby is currently pursuing a certification with the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology. She also holds a position in the Pennsylvania Sociological Society.

**Peggy Lovell** was named the Department Liaison for Diversity Recruitment. She is expected to act as a liaison between the department and the Graduate Studies Office. Specific information from the Graduate Dean's Office is provided to Peggy about prospective graduate students who have expressed an interest in the department. Issues on the status of inquiries and applications are addressed, and recommended appropriate follow-up procedures are discussed in consultation with the Graduate Dean's Office.

Peggy was also elected as a member of the Arts and Sciences Nominating Committee, which prepares a slate of nominees for the principal A&S committees and councils for the next year. And she was elected to a two-year term on the Honors College Advisory Board effective September 1, 2005.

Peggy also has an article on "Race, Gender and Work in Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1960-2000" that will be published in *Latin American Research Review* this spring. In addition, she organized a panel on "Women, Development and Public Policy" at the Latin American Sociological Association (LASA) meetings in Puerto Rico and had papers accepted for presentation at LASA, at the International Sociological Association's Symposium on Inequalities in Population in Malta and at the Diversity Symposium: Women, Diversity and Human Rights in Australia, and will participate in an "Author Meets Critics" panel at the upcoming American Sociological Association meetings in Montreal this summer. She received grants from the University Center for International Studies and the Center for Latin American Studies, and she participated in two ASA workshops on integrating data analysis into the undergraduate curriculum. Finally, this summer will complete her term as Director of Graduate Studies in the Department.





**John Markoff** was elected as Chair of the Department effective September 1, 2005 for a three-year period. He hopes that changes in brain activity prove reversible.

At the 55<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society (2005), John received the Distinguished Sociologist Award for his contributions to the literature of social movements.

John also had 7 publications this year (including republications) has 6 articles forthcoming.

- "Transitions to Democracy," in Robert Alford, Alexander Hicks, Thomas Janoski, and Mildred Schwartz, (eds., Handbook of Political Sociology, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 384-403.
- "Problematicke dejiny demokratickeho obciansvta" ("The Troubled History of Democratic Citizenship"), *Sociologia (Slovak Sociological Review)* 37, 2005, pp. 305-384. Also appeared in Spanish as "La problematica historia de la ciudadania democratica," *Historia Constitucional, Revista electronica*, 2005, no. 6 (online at <http://hc.rediris.es>). An expanded version will appear in Spanish in a collection of essays edited by Francisco Acosta of the Universidad de Jaen.
- "The Peasantry and Its Grievances," in Peter Campbell (ed., The Origins of the French Revolution, London: Macmillan, 2005), pp. 239-267.
- Silvio R. Duncan Baretta and John Markoff, "Civilization and Barbarism: Cattle Frontiers in Latin America," republished in Fernando Coronil, and Julie Skurski (eds. States of Violence, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2006), pp. 33-73 (originally published 1978).
- "Afterword," in Fernando Coronil and Julie Skurski (eds., States of Violence, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2006), pp. 75-82.
- Review symposium on Mounira Maya Charrad, States and Women's Rights: The Making of Postcolonial Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco in Political Science. States, Power, and Societies (winter 2005).
- Review of Charles Tilly, "Contention and Democracy in Europe, 1650-2000" in *Journal of Social History* (winter) 39, 2005, pp. 539-450.
- "Comparative Analysis," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (eds., Encyclopedia of Globalization, Grolier Academic, forthcoming).
- "Peasant Movements," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (eds., Encyclopedia of Globalization, Grolier Academic, forthcoming).
- "Revolution," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (eds., Encyclopedia of Globalization, Grolier Academic, forthcoming).
- "Imperialism," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (eds., Encyclopedia of Globalization, Grolier Academic, forthcoming).
- "Communism," in Roland Robertson and Jan Aart Scholte (eds., Encyclopedia of Globalization, Grolier Academic, forthcoming).

- "Globalization and the Future of Democracy," in Chris Chase-Dunn and Salvatore Babones (eds., Global Social Change: Historical and Comparative Perspectives (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming).

John also gave 7 presentations this year at various universities.

- "La democracia como objeto de investigacion" (Democracy as an Object of Research), invited presentation at Universidad de Sevilla Pablo de Olavide (June 2005),
- "De la Respuesta a los Actores de la Globalizacion: Movimientos Antiglobalizacion," 1 day intensive workshop for graduate students, Universidad Internacional de Andalucia, Baeza, Spain (June 2005),
- Discussant at workshop on issues of European identity and security, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh (September 2005),
- "A Moving Target: Democracy," presented at Workshop on Power, Resistance and Social Change, University of Pittsburgh (October 2005),
- Organizer, panel on "global social movements," meetings of Pennsylvania Sociological Society, Penn State University (October 2005),
- Discussant at Latin American Social and Public Policy Graduate Student Conference, Pittsburgh (February 2006),
- "Why democracy mutates," invited lecture, Department of Sociology, University of Western Ontario (April 2006).



**Assata Richards** was awarded an Arts and Sciences Type II Third Term Research Stipend from the Faculty Grants Committee (\$1400) for her proposal "An Examination of the Growth of the Population of State

Prisons, 1974-1995". The proposal research is motivated by the unprecedented rise in rates of incarceration in America over the last twenty years. Seeking explanations of this astonishing phenomenon, Assata intends to examine the factors associated with the growth in the population of state prisons over the last four decades. Employing the theoretical perspective of organizational ecology, she proposes to test not only the effect of crime on the proliferation of both government and private-operated prison institutions but also assess the impact of political, economic, and social factors. To do this, she has to identify data from the U.S. Justice Department, the U.S. Census Bureau and a number of other sources to create state and national measures to examine the growth of state prisons in its proper context. Finally, she proposed combining event history and multilevel analyses to specify the temporal pattern of state prisons and identify the factors associated with the growth in their population from 1974 to 2000. Assata argues that this project addresses an issue of great importance to scholars and those communities directly affected by current trends of imprisonment.



**Daniel Romesberg** will continue as the departmental Undergraduate Advisor, Senior Lecturer and Internship Coordinator for an additional five years effective September 1, 2006. The department

concluded that Dan had done a first-rate job in all three areas and plays a vital role in our department. In addition to his excellent classroom teaching, Dan has been consistently willing to support undergraduate students in a one-on-one format through Directed Researches. Moreover, he has been an important teacher of some of our best undergraduates. He has been faculty sponsor of several students who have been awarded a Brackenridge Summer Research Fellowship by the Honors College and has worked with several doing Honors Theses. One faculty member said that "Dr. Romesberg has elicited high quality student work and that students always had something positive to say about him." As far as our internship program goes, Dan has been the Faculty Sponsor for most of the 416 internships offered since the introduction of the program in the summer of 1997. Dan maintains a data bank of over 150 appropriate opportunities for our students to choose from for an internship but he is always looking for new opportunities for the students. Among the 57 sociology majors graduating in the past year, 56% of them completed at least one Sociology Internship. Comments from among University personnel are extremely positive toward Dan. These individuals hold Dan in high regard, adding that he is "one of the best among departmental advisers; an asset to the University; that he makes Pitt look good"; and that he is "one of the most helpful advisers among all of the departments". We are pleased to have Dan continue with us and extremely grateful for his commitment.



**Vijai P. Singh's** forthcoming publications include two books: Poverty, Environment and Demographic Patterns and Sustainable Reconstruction (Vijai P. Singh and H. N. Misra, eds.), Kilaso Books; New Delhi, India

2006, and Biotechnology: Innovative Challenges and Opportunities of a New Technology. Vijai P. Singh et al (eds), 2007. He also has two papers in print titled: "Institutional contexts for scientific innovation and economic transformation," with Thomas Allen *Journal of European Planning Studies*, V. 14, No. 5 (June 2006) and "Poverty Dynamics, "Earning" in Tony Fitzpatrick et al (eds.) *International Encyclopedia of Social Policy*. London: Routledge, 2007. He will also present two papers, one titled, "Structural adjustments and their socio-cultural consequences." at the Research Workshop on Determinants of a Country's Capacity to Adjust to the Challenges of Globalization. Directorate General of Economic and Financial Affairs of the European Commission in Brussels (June 12-13 2006) and "The advantages of conurbations in global innovation processes: The role of European and U.S. cities" to be presented at the workshop on Trans-Atlantic Comparison of Transcontinental Innovation Models in Berlin (October

2006). Dr. Singh has also been appointed by the Pennsylvania Attorney General, Tom Corbett, to serve on an Advisory Committee in 2006.



### Emeritus Faculty Activities



**Burkart Holzner and Leslie Holzner** have co-authored a book titled Transparency in Global Change: The Vanguard of the Open Society which will be in print March 2006. This book examines the quest for information exchange in an increasingly international open society. Recent transformations in governments and cultures have brought about a surge in the pursuit

of knowledge in areas of law, trade, professions, investment education, and medical practice, among others. Technological advancements in communications and public access to information fuel the phenomenon of transparency. Based on current events and historical references in literature and the social sciences, Burkart and Leslie focus on the turning points of information cultures, such as scandals, that lead to pressure for transparency. Moreover, they illuminate byproducts of the process – debate, insight, and impetus for change – as transparency exposes the moral corruptions of dictatorship, empire, and inequality. (Available from the University of Pittsburgh Press, Chicago Distribution Center.)



### Visiting Faculty



**Oleg Gubin** was appointed as a Visiting Scholar in the Department this year outside of the tenure stream. His primary interests are in comparative and global studies and his primary goal while here is to try and establish some kind of collaborative working relationship between Pitt and his

home institution, Moscow State University. More specifically, it is to create a program focused on globalization with sociologists at Pitt and at Moscow State. He shares many interests with department faculty. These include social movement research, sociological theory, organization theory and social change. Dr. Gubin is a dual citizen of the US and Russia. He received his MA from Moscow State University (Russia) in 1982 for his thesis "Socialism and Social Contradictions." From 1982-85, he was a postgraduate student in the Philosophical Faculty at Moscow State University and in 1998 he received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Moscow State University for his dissertation titled "Multivariate Identity of Contradictions of State Socialism." His current title at Moscow State University is Research Associate Professor, a position he

has held since 1996. Before that, he was an Associate Professor of Political Sociology (1989-1996) and an Assistant Professor of Social Sciences (1986-1989) in the Center for Social and Humanitarian Studies (Moscow State University). He has been a Visiting Professor at James Madison University and the University of Utah, a Visiting Scholar in the Institute of International Studies at Stanford University, and a Visiting Research Fellow in the Center of International and Area Studies at Yale University. Dr. Gubin was initially to be with the department only until April 30, 2006 but his appointment has been extended until August 31, 2006. Drop by to see him if you get a chance. His office is 2604 WWPH.



### Adjunct Faculty News Items

This past year, **Seymour Drescher** (University Professor, History & Sociology) participated in the Franco-American bicentenary commemoration of Tocqueville's birth. The first stage, "Alexis de Tocqueville entre L'Europe et les Etats-Unis", was held at the Cerisy-la Salle Conference Center in Normandy (May/June 2005). The American sequel was held at the Beinecke Library of Yale University in September. The results of the proceedings will be published in two numbers of *The Tocqueville Review*. In his new study, Alexis de Tocqueville and American Intellectuals (2006) Matthew Mancini refers to Dr. Drescher as "arguably the finest Tocqueville scholar writing in English" (p. xiv).

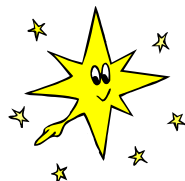


In February 2006, Dr. Drescher delivered a lecture on "The Slave Trade and the Holocaust: A Fruitful Comparison". It was part of the annual Distinguished Speaker Series at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona, Florida. In March 2006, he delivered the annual Elsa Goveia Memorial Lecture at the Barbados campus of the University of West Indies. The subject was "White Atlantic?: The Choice for African Labour in the Plantation Americas." Finally, in April/May, "Tocqueville's Comparative Perspectives" will be published as the lead essay in The Cambridge Companion to Tocqueville (ed., Cheryl B. Welch, Cambridge University Press).

**Peter Karsten** (Professor, History and Sociology) served as Editor-in-Chief of the 3 volume Encyclopedia of War & American Society, recently published by Sage Publications (2005). He will hold the Mark Clark Chair at the Citadel next year (2006-07).

### New Secondary Appointments

The Department would like to welcome Professor Keri L. Rodriguez (Research Assistant Professor, School of Medicine) and Professor Robert M. Goodman (Professor, Graduate School of Public Health) as secondary appointment faculty members effective September 1, 2006.



**Keri L. Rodriguez** was appointed as a Research Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine, University of Pittsburgh effective August 1, 2005. She also was appointed with a Secondary Appointment in the Sociology Department with a three-year contract.

Keri also had two publications this year, the first being "Patients' and Healthcare Providers' Understandings of Life-Sustaining Treatment: Are Perceptions of Goals Shared or Divergent" (Rodriguez, K. L. and Young, A. J., *Social Science and Medicine*, 62(1), 2006, p. 125-133) and "Perspectives of Elderly Veterans Regarding Communication with Medical Providers about End-of-Life Care" (Rodriguez, K. L. and Young, A. J., *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 8(3), 2005, p. 534-544).

### Former Faculty



**Mounira Maya Charrad** (Associate Professor, University of Texas) received the 2005 Distinguished Service to the Tunisian American Community Ibn Khaldun Award which recognizes a major contribution to "bring a better understanding of Tunisian society, history, and culture to American universities, students and educated public." This inaugural award is named after the 14<sup>th</sup>

Century Tunisian philosopher Ibn Khaldun whose legacy is that a spirit of community and solidarity is essential to the welfare of societies. Congratulations to Mounira on this award.



### Graduate Student News



**Maria Jose (Majo) Alvarez** has scheduled her defense for this upcoming April 11, 2006 – "An exciting but scary new stage is coming into my life" according to Majo. She will also begin the fieldwork for her dissertation titled, "Contentious Urbanization from Below: Squatting in Montevideo".

She leaves for Uruguay at the end of August 2006. Majo also received the Mellon Fellowship beginning September 1, 2006 which will aid her with her data collection.

This year she received two small grants, one from the Center for Latin American Studies program (CLAS) and one from the Foundation of Urban and Regional Studies (FURS). She was also active on the publishing side of her career getting her first solo article accepted, "Golden Ghettos: Gated Communities and Class Residential Segregation in Montevideo, Uruguay," based on her MA thesis (*Environment and Planning A*, an interdisciplinary urban studies journal). She also has another article accepted this year, co-authored with Professor Salvatore Babones, forthcoming in Sociological Inquiry, "Standardized Income Inequality Data for use in Cross-national Research".



Although she loves teaching, “working with Professor Markoff and Professor Veronica Montecinos as a research assistant this year has been challenging and fun. I have been assisting them with their data collection on the transnational networks of Latin American and US Economists.” And although she has complained about the snow this past year, she is sure she will miss Pittsburgh while she is in Uruguay – busily working in the warm weather.



While she actually did not attend these meetings, **Nichole Bayliss** working on the following projects:

Hershberger, T.J., Bayliss, N.K., Stubbs, P., and Landock, C. “Optimism, Life and College Satisfaction as Factors for Persistence in College Students.”

Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Baltimore, MD, March 16-19, 2006.

Bean-Mayberry, B., Brucker, N., Bayliss, N., Xu, X., Mor, M., Crick, E., Yano, E., and Fine, M. “Effect of Gender and Race on Receipt of Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunizations in VA.” 2006 VA HSR&D National Meeting, Washington, D.C., February 16, 2006. This will also be presented at the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA., April 26-29, 2006.

The following are manuscripts that are in various stages of completion:

Bayliss, N., Navratil, J., Yano, E.M., Weisman, C., Scholle, S., and Bean-Mayberry, B.A. Identifying Comprehensive Women’s Health Centers: Does the AHA Survey Provide a Sampling Frame (Submitted to women’s Health Issues for review);

Bean-Mayberry, B.A., Yano, E.M., Navratil, J., Bayliss, N., Weisman, C., and Scholle, S. Organization and Clinical Services at Federally Recognized Women’s Health Centers (Submitted to Women’s Health Issues for review);

Bean-Mayberry, B.A., Bucker, N., Bayliss, N., Xu, X., Mor, M., Yano, E.M. and Fine, M. The Effect of Race and Gender on Immunization Status Among Veterans;

Engler, M.A., Aspinall, S.L., Bayliss, N. K., Cunningham, F., Squier, C., Good, C. B. Evaluation of Clostridium Difficile Associated Diarrhea (CDAD) with the Use of Gatifloxacin.



**Jared Coopersmith** passed his MA thesis defense in December 2005 for his paper titled, “The Wise-Use Movement: A Network Analysis of the Anti-Environmental Counter Movement”. He also presented a paper titled “Inequality Among Professionals: The Case of

Brazilian Schoolteachers” at the Pennsylvania Sociological Society annual conference and at the Center for Latin American Studies 2006 annual Latin American Social and Public Policy Student Conference. The paper is currently in review for publication in the journal *Sociological Viewpoints*. Jared is also co-authoring a presentation titled “Batting Networks of Rival Environmental Social

Movements” with Professor Patrick Doreian which will be presented at the Sunbelt XXVI in April 2006.



In April 2005, **Ashley Currier** successfully defended her overview and advanced to Ph.D. candidacy. During the 2005-06 academic year, Ashley has been conducting fieldwork in Johannesburg, South Africa and Windhoek, Namibia studying the strategies of visibility and invisibility of sexual minority

movement organizations in each city. A Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship, National Science Foundation Sociology Dissertation Improvement Grant (\$7500), Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality Student Research Fund grant (\$1000), and a University of Pittsburgh International Studies Fund grant have **all** made her dissertation research possible. She will present papers at the International Studies Association meeting in Durban, South Africa in July 2006, and at the Society for the Study of Social Problems and American Sociological Association annual meetings in Montreal, Quebec in August 2006. With Professor Kathleen M. Blee, Ashley has co-authored an article, “How Social Movement Groups Handle a Presidential Election” forthcoming in *Qualitative Sociology’s* special issue on political ethnography and an article “Character-Building: The Dynamics of Emerging Social Movement Groups” (*Mobilization: An International Journal*, 2005). She has also had a chapter accepted in the forthcoming edited collection, Queering Development: Genders, Sexualities, and Global Power. Finally, Ashley was awarded a Mellon Fellowship renewal for the 2006-07 academic year which will fund the writing of her dissertation.



In March 2006, **Spencer Foster** successfully defended his MA thesis titled, “The Generation of New Organizations in the Environmental Movement”. He’s also been busy on the publication and presentation

front. One publication, co-authored with Jared Coopersmith titled, “Divided We Fall: A Social Network Analysis of Napoleon and His Marshals from Austerlitz to Waterloo” is under revision and will be resubmitted to the Target Journal: *Social Science History*, and the second (under review) is titled “The Influence of Gender and Race on Occupational Segregation in Urban Brazilian Workers” which is submitted to Target Journal: *Sociological Perspectives*.

He made 4 presentations, two of which were co-authored with Virginia Gerde. They are:

- “Political Contributions and Defense Contractors, and No-Bid Contracts: A Social Network Analysis” to the International Association for Business and Society 2006 Annual Conference, Merida, Mexico (March 24, 2006);
- “X-Men Ethics: Using Comic Books in Teaching Business and Society” to the International Association for Business and Society 2006 Annual Conference, Merida, Mexico (March 25, 2006)

His other two presentations were:

- “The Influence of Gender and Race on Occupational Segregation in Urban Brazilian

Workers” at the 2006 Annual Student Conference on Latin American Social and Public Policy, Pittsburgh, PA. (February 16-17, 2006); and

- “The Influence of Gender and Race on Occupational Segregation in Urban Brazilian Workers” at the Pennsylvania Sociological Society annual meeting at State College, PA (October 22, 2005).

Spencer’s work has also been quoted extensively in Marquelle Matthews “Pitt Instructor Compares Gameday Routine to Sex” (The Pitt News, 2/3/06, 9).

He’s also been an active member of the Graduate Committee within the Department of Sociology and was elected Vice President of the Graduate Student Organization within the Department this past year (Jan. 2005-March 2006).



This year **Kai Heidemann** saw the publication of a chapter that he co-authored with Dr. Chirstina Bratt Paulston (Department of Linguistics). The chapter is entitled, “Linguistic Minorities and Education” and appears in the edited collection, Introduction to Language Policy: Theory and Method. In addition to teaching Sociology of Gender in the

fall term and Sociology of Education in the spring, Kai has been working diligently on his dissertation proposal and plans on defending by early September.

In October 2005, he presented papers at two conferences. In Syracuse, New York, he presented a paper titled, “Remembering Algerian Independence in the French Press, 1962-2002” at the Contesting Public Memory Conference, and at State College, Pennsylvania, he presented a paper called “Human Capital or Cultural Capital? Theorizing Inequality in Education” at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Sociological Society.

Finally, the big news for Kai this year was receiving the Cultural Studies Fellowship for next academic year. With the resources provided by this fellowship, he plans on conducting fieldwork for his dissertation. This will involve research on regional minority language activism and citizenship in France.



**Lisa Huebner** received word that she was awarded a Provost Fellowship for the next academic year (2006-2007). She also was the recipient of one of four Tamara Horowitz Student Paper Prize awards for her paper titled, “It is Part of the Job: Meanings of Sexual Harassment for Waitresses and Nurses”.

Part of this award included a check for \$250. One reader of the committee praised her paper as a “really good paper” that “poses an important and interesting question, addresses it in a reasonable and straightforward manner, makes its reasoning and arguments clear, and indicates valuable direction for further research.” Another reader was especially impressed with the way the paper makes evident the “interaction of job/employment context, perception of sexual harassment and willingness to lodge complaints about it.” This reader sees the project as “both

interesting and quite feminist” showing the issue to be more “relational than we sometimes imagine.”



**Margee Kerr’s** accomplishments this year include the publication of “The History of Medicine” in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Science and Society* (2005) and the submission of an article “The Dispute Between Psychiatrists and Clinical Psychologists Over the Right to Prescribe” to *Sociology of Health and Illness*. She also developed an External Studies course manual for a

Medical Sociology course, and she passed her comprehensive exam on ‘Social Movements and Sociology of Health and Illness.’ She began working as a Research Assistant at the Center for Health Equipment Research and Promotion in the Oakland Veterans Hospital, and finally, she is currently developing the overview for her dissertation on the anti-vaccine movement.



While teaching Sociology 1413, Marriage in the fall term (2006), **Sambriddhi Kharel** was quoted in a Tribune newspaper article titled “Sharing the Holidays” (December 13, 2005). The article reported on the non-traditional holidays that more and more families are celebrating and experiencing. *Caroling with*

*stepgrandma. Decorating the tree with dad and his new girlfriend. Wrapping presents for the husband’s ex... (Rochelle Hentegs, Tribune Review).* “Not exactly the traditional Christmas. But with more than half of all first marriages projected to end in divorce, more families are redefining holiday traditions.” The archetype of a family sitting around the Christmas tree and opening presents together might not be the norm anymore. Only a quarter of all families fall in the ‘traditional’ category now, so the holidays aren’t just about mom, dad, 2.5 kids and a dog” Sambriddhi was quoted as saying.

Sambriddhi received the Women’s Studies Student Research Grant (\$1000) for her dissertation research titled “The Dialectics of Identity and Resistance Among Dalits in Nepal.” She also was a nominee for the 2006 Mellon Predoctoral Fellowship and had had a publication titled “Gendered Poverty in Nepal,” *Nepalese Journal of Development and Rural Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 1 (January-June 2006), pp. 88-108 (Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan Univesrity, Kirtipur, Nepal).



**Piotr Konieczny**, (grad student and Wikipedia Administrator), along with Dr. Carol DeArment (CIDDE) presented a lecture for the CIDDE Learning Opportunities for Faculty on “Wikipedia” – a type of website that allows users to easily add and edit content which is especially suited for collaborative authoring. The most

popular wiki is Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, which is the largest encyclopedia in the world and is in the Top 20 most popular sites online. Wikis in general and Wikipedia in particular have the potential to be both research and teaching tools. This purpose of this workshop was to

provide an introduction to wikis and Wikipedia, and promote discussion about how they can benefit University teaching. The workshop was held on April 7, 2006.



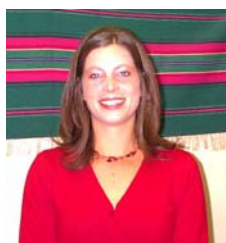
York over the summer.

Congratulations to **Connie Oxford** who accepted a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at SUNY-Plattsburgh for the upcoming fall. She will be moving to the beautiful Lake Placid region of upstate New



**Patty Sughrue** successfully defended her MA thesis on March 1, 2006. The title of her thesis is, "Power, Place, and Social Perceptions: A Comparative Study of Perceived HOPE VI Neighborhood Impacts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania."

She also presented the conclusions of her thesis on February 27, 2006 at the Workshop on Power, Resistance and Social Change hosted by the Department of Sociology and Pittsburgh Social Movements Forum in Pittsburgh. She will also be presenting her thesis on April 22, 2006 at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Eyes on the Mosaic Graduate Student Conference, "Racing the Academy: Racialized Dreams, Myths, and Realities" hosted by the Minority Graduate Student Association at the University of Chicago.



**Melissa Swauger** passed her comprehensive exams and overview this past year while working as a full-time instructor in the Sociology Department at Carlow University and being a full-time graduate student within our department. She also was awarded a grant from the Women and Girls Foundation of

Southwestern PA (\$3700) for her dissertation project, "Whatever Her Little Heart Desires: How Class and Race Influence Adolescent Girls' Perceptions of the Future" and a grant from 501C3(2), a non-profit organization to implement a service learning project about the daily lives of the working poor (\$2000) in her Introduction to Sociology course at Carlow.

Missy also served as a chaperone for Alternative Spring Break at Carlow and received a nomination for the Pittsburgh Urban Magnet Project's (PUMP) to "40 under 40" awards.



**Xi Zhang** gave three conference presentations entitled "Institutional Changes and New Patterns of Class Conflict in Contemporary Urban China: Evidence from Survey Data" at the Grad Expo 2006 (University of Pittsburgh), "Institutional Changes and New Patterns of Class Conflict in Contemporary

Urban China: Evidence from Survey Data" at the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies 2005 Annual

Meeting (University of Pittsburgh), and "Economic Transition and Chinese Corruption During 1990s", at the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies 2005 Annual Meeting (University of Pittsburgh) where she was also a panelist. She also participated as a researcher and volunteer at the Dream Corps 2005 Summer Project (Beijing, China) which is organized by the Non-Governmental Organization "Dream Corps" at Duke University.



### Departmental Seminars/Forums and Workshops

**Creating Your Own Website** - A one-hour seminar held on February 22, 2006 in 1201 Posvar Hall, was run by Professor Salvatore Babones. All that was needed to attend was a floppy disk and a digital picture of yourself. The seminar covered beginner-level skills: how to create a homepage, how to post your CV, how to link your CV to your homepage. At the end of the session, faculty had a basic website with photo and CV posted online, with the skills to begin customizing their site. Faculty, staff and graduate students were all invited to attend.

**Sociology Forum on Cultural Transformations in a Global Age** - This year our department launched a new forum of intellectual exchange on the theme of cultural transformations in a global age. This initiative was organized by Professors Cheri Chan, Cecilia Green and Akiko Hashimoto, and funded by a grant from the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies (\$3600). The department has a strong group of faculty and graduate students working on topics that cluster around transnational themes in culture, violence and memory. The forum intended to develop some of our ideas and to explore common concerns. Through colloquia and guest speaker lectures, the forum also exposed graduate students to exciting issues. We had hoped that some may discover the bases for some collaborative projects.

Our premise was that we are living in a global age where national experiences extend beyond conventional borders and territories. We are more connected with one another, and influenced by one another across nation-states. To learn about our interconnections is to live wisely in this century. While we experience this growing interconnectedness, the very process is simultaneously creating more global disparities and inequalities, not only across national boundaries, but also by race, ethnicity, class, and gender within nations. Faculty in our department explore the cultural, political and economic conditions of this age, with emphasis on social and political movements, cultural and economic transformations, collective memory, global-local dynamics, post-colonial and post-plantation societies, social inequalities, cultural and social extremism, and others. The proposed theme of cultural transformation is therefore a central point where the faculty and graduate student interests intersect.

We held three events to launch the forum this year. In November 2005, we invited **Ethan Michelson** (Indiana University) to speak on the topic of law, state and culture in China. In December, we held a workshop to discuss **Cheri Chan's** work on insurance in China, and invited Joe Alter (Anthropology) as a discussant. And In February, we



organized a public lecture by [Ann Stoler](#) (New School University) and hosted a reception. We obtained co-sponsorships for this lecture from the Departments of Anthropology and History, and the Programs for Cultural Studies, Women's Studies and Global Studies, and it was well attended by many Pitt and CMU faculty and students.

#### **Workshop on Power, Resistance and Social Change** –

The workshop, launched this year (2005-06) was open to participants using any methodology and, studying any historical era and any region of the world, is an interdisciplinary forum for faculty and graduate students from across the University and neighboring schools to present works-in-progress that explore how power operates, different sites and practices of resistance, and the trajectories and processes of social change. Our format is informal. Workshop facilitators circulate the presenter's manuscript prior to the workshop date so that everyone who plans to attend has time to read it beforehand. The sessions run for an hour and a half (over lunch), allowing participants to exchange ideas and give and get feedback on works-in-progress; discussion tends to be exploratory and spirited, as well as contentious.

We kicked off the year with a discussion of [Professor John Markoff's](#), "A Moving Target: Democracy" and the following month discussed [Professor Cecilia Green's](#), "Hierarchies of Whiteness in the Geographies of Empire: Thomas Thistlewood and the Barretts of Jamaica." Also during the fall semester, two graduate students, [Maria Jose Alvarez](#) and [Kai Heidemann](#), presented grant proposals-in-progress. During the spring semester, [Professor Assata Richards](#) (Sociology), [Professor Dan Burston](#) (Psychology, Duquesne University), and [Professor Lisa Tetrault](#) (History, Carnegie-Mellon University) presented papers, as did Pitt Sociology graduate student, [Patty Sughrue](#). The Workshop will continue in the coming year. If you are interested in presenting a work-in-progress during the 2006-07 year, please contact Professor Debbie Gould ([dgould@pitt.edu](mailto:dgould@pitt.edu)).

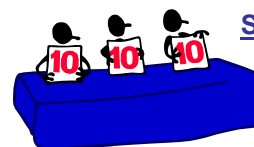
**Proseminar Series** – This series was a way to introduce our graduate students to professional concerns and to our faculty in the form of monthly meetings. The series is mandatory for first-year students in the program and highly recommended for our continuing students. Faculty will be asked to participate over a two-year cycle. The goal of these sessions is to introduce students to scholarly life and a variety of ways to approach research problems by having individual faculty share with them their own research processes. The format was that prior to each of the eight monthly sessions, the students were required to read something recent of that month's faculty presenter. This could be a recently published article or chapter but it could very well have been something under review or unfinished, or a grant proposal.

The sessions were planned as faculty presentations on the theme of "how I came to think about the problem in this way?" This included statements about existing theory and evidence but also some reflection on one's own trajectory as a researcher by glancing at one's past work or experiences, and reflecting on how the current project continued, extended, modified, or moved beyond one's own previous approaches or moved into some new direction altogether. Students were exposed not only to different ways of formulating problems but to the ways

practicing scholars at different career stages go about research.

**Pittsburgh Social Movements Forum** – The Pittsburgh Social Movements Forum, with funds from the School of Arts and Sciences Faculty Research and Scholarship Program, continued its events this year with a series of programs focusing on movements around the world. The first event of the year was a discussion of Professor Charles Kurzman's book on the Iranian revolution, *The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran* (Harvard University Press, 2004). Professor Kurzman (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) then visited the Sociology Department and gave a lecture on "Radical Islamic Social Movements."

The next event was in commemoration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Poland's Solidarity movement. Professor Padraic Kenney (University of Colorado) presented a lecture, "Solidarity's Children: Poland and Beyond, 1980-2005." In February, Professor Myra Marx Ferree (University of Wisconsin-Madison) provided the PSMF with some food for thought about movements and identities in a global, networked world with her lecture, "Transnational Feminist Identities on the Web." Professor Hank Johnston (San Diego State University), the editor of the premier journal in the field of social movements, *Mobilization*, presented a lecture on "Deep Grievances and Islamic Mobilization." Professor Johnston also discussed the ins and outs of journal editing and publishing with graduate students and faculty. Professor Javier Auyero (SUNY Stony Brook) presented a talk, "In the Midst of Garbage and Poison: Towards an Ethnography of Environmental Suffering." Our final event of the year was a presentation by Ariane Chebel d'Appollonia (Centre de Recherches Politiques de Sciences Po) who is currently at Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs on a Fulbright. The title of her talk was "Europe's Xenophobia."



#### **Special Thanks Extended**

Professors Salvatore Babones, Kathleen Blee, Lisa Brush and Debbie Gould were all recognized this year for their contributions on behalf of the Women's Studies Program.

Babones – Brownbag presentation: "Microcredit, Piecerates, and Women's Labor Force Participation in the Scottish Industrial Revolution.

Kathleen Blee – Invaluable contributions as a Member of the Steering Committee, serving on the Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee and serving as an expert reader to assist the Tamara Horowitz Graduate Research Paper Award Committee.

Lisa Brush – Invaluable contributions as a very active Member of the Steering Committee, chairing the Curriculum Committee for the Review of the Graduate Certificate, serving on the Dissertation Prize Committee, as a vital part of the process to hire a new visiting Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, serving as an expert reader to assist the Tamara Horowitz Research Paper Award Committee, and serving as an expert reader of one submission to the Women's Studies Student Research Fund.

Debbie Gould – Invaluable contributions as a Member of the Steering Committee, serving on the Curriculum Development Fund Committee (a newly re-established committee that supports gender-related teaching across the disciplines), and for her contributions to the Spring Fling, an event designed to inform undergraduates about gender-related graduate programs, internships and community activism opportunities.



### 2005-2006 Undergraduate Graduating Class

#### August 2005

Jennifer Berg  
Rachel Fair  
Dianna Gilchrist  
Matthew Jones

James Marple  
Edward McColly  
Julie Pollard

#### December 2005

Simone Hudson  
Natalie Mazur  
Kristi McCutcheon  
Brynne McNabb  
Masoeli Musonge  
Tiffany Neiderhiser

Katherine Price  
Jennifer Stark  
Dorian Vonada  
Jasmine Warner  
Mary Beth Yost

#### April 2006

Shawn Adamczyk  
Janelle Aiken  
DeAirmis Andrews  
Carrie Antonioli  
Leigh Ash  
Lisa Bachman  
Richelle Bolea  
Laura Borucki  
Vernon Botts  
Summer Breeden  
Robert Brown  
Dionisia Butler  
Carisa Coon  
Jaycanna Day  
Carl Denig  
Christal Dixon  
Kevin Doran  
Andrea Ehrenreich  
Steven Eichenlaub  
Whitney Fox  
Eric Fritz  
Erin Gill  
Nina Glassman  
Darren Gruetze  
Juanita Hamilton  
Krystal Hammar  
Amber Hardesty  
Christie Harrison  
David Hensler

Elizabeth Kester  
Marianne Kulp  
Brian Ladouceur  
Nora Lovecchio  
Nicholas Lubecki  
Michael Mademann  
Stephanie Mast  
Dana McTighe  
Jason Miller  
Mandy Miller  
Ozzie Mills  
Bilal Muhammad  
Paul Nguyen  
John Nigro  
Dana Nowlin  
Elizabeth Rhoads  
Paige Rotz  
Lauren Schwartz  
Leah Shreckengost  
Amanda Skowron  
Matthew Smith  
Nicholas Solomon  
Savanna Stillgess  
Brandon Suydam  
Jordan Wallace  
Alison West  
Andrew Wood  
Jessica Zlockie

### Graduate Degrees

#### MA Degree

Coopersmith, Jared December 2005  
"The Wise-Use Movement: A Network Analysis of the Anti-Environmental Counter Movement"

Foster, Spencer March 2006  
"The Generation of New Organizations in the Environmental Movement"

Mitra, Anandita April 2005  
"Marginalization of Women from Politics in India"

Sughrue, Patricia March 2006  
"Power, Place, and Social Perception: A Comparative Study of Perceived HOPE VI Neighborhood Impacts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania"

#### Ph.D. Degree

Bush, Francine March 2005  
"Barriers to Treatment: An Ethnographic Study of Substance Dependent Women Seeking Treatment"



### Robert W. Avery Award and Reception

On February 24, 2006 the department held the annual Robert W. Avery Award Reception. This year, the award was presented to Mr. John Nigro for his superior accomplishments in the Bachelor's Program in Sociology. Our runners-up were Brynne McNabb and Savanna Stillgess for their outstanding accomplishments in the Bachelor's Program. All honorees received a monetary gift in recognition of their accomplishments, a one-year student membership in the American Sociological Association, a choice of journal/s from the ASA, and a certificate from the Department to commemorate the award. Requirements for a student to be considered for the award are: a student must have completed at least 84 credits with a minimum of 3.25 QPA in sociology (including the statistics requirement), and a minimum of 3.25 QPA in all courses. Once again, the decisions were very difficult as all three candidates were very closely matched. In the final decision, faculty agreed that John Nigro should receive the first ranking award.



**John Nigro**, the Avery Award recipient, seen here with Daniel Romesberg, had a Sociology QPA of 4.0 and a Cumulative QPA of 3.93. John had completed 93 total credits for schooling, 25 of

which were sociology credits, 3 of which were transfer credits. He is also enrolled in the Sociology Honors Program. Plus, for the past two years, he has worked with Professor Kathleen Blee as an Undergraduate Research Assistant.

After graduation (April 2006), John plans to attend graduate school. While he does not know yet which university he will be attending, he does know that he plans to study public policy. John aspires to earn a Master of Public Affairs within two years after graduation. With this graduate degree, he plans to work for a state or federal government agency on economic development. Because of his deep

interest in both sociology and economics, he hopes to create economic stimulus packages for poor and blighted areas. At some point, he also hopes to tour Europe and learn firsthand how the European Union economic and social model differs from that of the United States. Aside from this, John also plans to develop a fluency in either Spanish or Swedish.



John with his mother, Evon Nigro



Dan Romesberg, Minnie Avery and John Nigro

Kathy Blee and John Nigro



**Brynne McNabb** (unable to attend the ceremonies) was one of our runner-up awardees. She had a Sociology QPA of 4.0, a cumulative QPA of 3.82, a total of 103 credits, 25 of which were sociology credits completed at Pitt, and was a double major in Psychology and Sociology. Brynne also was pursuing a certificate in Children's Literature.

After graduating with majors in both the psychology and sociology programs (April 2006), Brynne has begun to work with autistic children as a Therapeutic Staff Support (TSS) for Family Behavioral Resources located in Monroeville. At the present time, she is interviewing for graduate schools for masters and specialization programs in School Psychology. She hopes to attain her certification as a School Psychologist and work within the school system.



John Nigro and Minnie Avery



**Savanna Stillgess** (unable to attend the ceremonies) had a Sociology QPA of 3.86 and a cumulative QPA of 3.66. She had completed 91 credits with 34 being sociology credits completed at Pitt. Savanna is also a double major in Psychology and Sociology, and enrolled in the Sociology Honors Program.

Upon her anticipated day of graduation (April 2006), Savanna will be a "Teach for America" Special Education Teacher, joining the movement to eradicate educational inequality. She will work tenaciously to make sure every child has the chance to learn, grow, and succeed. Savanna is committed to ensuring that the educational gap is eliminated. She hopes to educate, mentor, and encourage children that are disadvantaged by providing quality education and touching the personal, social, and intellectual lives of her students. While she is teaching in Washington, D.C., she will be pursuing her MAT at American University in Washington, D.C.

### Honors Convocation Awards, 2006 Undergraduate Awards

University Scholars (for attaining the top 2% in cumulative undergraduate academic standing by school):

Molly M. Clever  
Elizabeth S. Rhoads  
Matthews D. Smith  
Brittney C. Uffner

Phi Beta Kappa (for superior scholastic achievement in undergraduate programs in the Arts and Sciences):  
Julianne M. Orr

Golden Key National Honor Society (for the top 15% of the junior and senior classes):

Leigh Ash	Brynn McNamm
Analena Bruce	Savanna Stillgess
Aris Cole	Erin Stratton
Melissa Dougherty	Lauren Wright
Lauren McCaman	

Phi Eta Sigma (an honor society promoting academic excellence in which students of high ideals find companionship and fellowship. Open to any freshman who has attained a 3.5 QPA during either of the first two semesters):  
Jenna L. Bortner

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Studies Scholarship (for outstanding academic achievement);

Kevin D. Doran  
Brittney C. Uffner



Robert W. Avery Award (for excellence in sociology):  
John Nigro

Martin P. Goozh Scholarship (for outstanding academic achievement):  
Juanita Hamilton

Dennis Stefanacci Scholarship (for outstanding academic achievement):  
Leigh A. Ash

United States Steel Foundation Undergraduate Research Award (for three months of summer support to engage in undergraduate research):  
John Nigro

Women's Studies Student Research Fund Award (for outstanding research on women and gender):  
Melissa Dougherty

Women's Studies Student Research Paper Prize Award (for outstanding research on women and gender):  
Cara Margherio

Wilma Binder Zeder Memorial Scholarship (for outstanding academic achievement):  
Carl F. Denig

### **University Honors College Awards**

Brackenridge Summer Fellows (for two or three months of summer support to engage in unfettered undergraduate research leading to a completed work of independent scholarship):  
Kevin Doran

Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellows (for proposing and implementing an innovative research project in collaboration with a sponsoring faculty member):  
Savanna Stillgess (with Cecilia Green)

Lambda Sigma (for sophomore scholarship, leadership, and service):  
LaShawn D. Lopez

Mortar Board (for students who have demonstrated the combined qualities of scholarship, leadership, and meritorious service to the University and the community, with emphasis placed on the growth of the individual and the organization):  
Savanna Stillgess

Omicron Delta Kappa (for meritorious leadership in extracurricular activities, superior scholarship, and campus citizenship with an emphasis on the development of the whole person, both as a member of the college community and as a prospective contributor to a better society):  
Melissa L. Dougherty

### **Individual Recognition**

Omicron Delta Kappa Senior of the Year Award for 2006 (presented to a senior student who has attained a high standard of leadership in collegiate activities):  
Savanna Stillgess

**Nationality Rooms Scholarships for Study Abroad**  
Savina S. Skewis Award (to study the Spanish language and the sociological impact of the educational system on

social movements, and a classroom practicum in Santiago, Chile):  
Analena B. Bruce

### **Other Undergraduate Honors**

**Leigh Ash** will be inducted into the 2006 Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

**Rachel Ratafia-Brown** received a \$4000 scholarship from the Freeman Foundation for participation in this summer's Pitt in China Program.



**Christie L. Harrison**, one of our sociology undergraduate majors is also an undergraduate intern for Professor Kathleen Blee. Early in the fall term, Kathy and Christie wrote a grant that would enable Christie to work with Kathy on the undergraduate methods class, helping to embed a special track within that course for our honors' students to use the class to kick-off their thesis projects. In late fall, Christie was informed that she received an Office of Experiential Learning Small Grant in the amount of \$500.

**Rachael Heisler** was selected for the Class of 2006 Young People for Fellowship Program. Selection criteria included a strong commitment to progressive values, a passion for a wide range of critical issues, and an ability to inspire others to take action toward positive social change. In January, Rachael attended the program's National Summit for Progressive Leaders and Activists in Washington, D.C.

**Elizabeth Rhoads** was accepted to the University of Pittsburgh's Master of Library and Information Science Program. She also was accepted to the Intern Option of the School Library Certification Program. She received a scholarship which will cover half of her tuition for the upcoming summer and fall semesters.



### **Sociology Internship Program**

The Sociology Department's Internship Program has completed another strong year. In the past twelve months, students have participated in a total of 50 internships at a variety of sites, including:

- The American Civil Liberties Union
- The Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General-Bureau of Consumer Protection
- The UPMC Thomas Starzl Transplantation Institute
- The Fund for Public Interest Research-Penn Environment
- Teach for America
- The Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Family Division-Protection from Abuse Office
- The Carnegie Science Center
- University of Pittsburgh Counseling Center/Sexual Assault Services
- University of Pittsburgh Study Abroad Office
- The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Families
- The Office of America's Promise-Community Outreach Partnership Center
- The Girls on the Run Program-Magee Women's Hospital

- The Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
- The Program for Female Offenders, Inc.
- The Consumer Health Coalition
- The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh
- The America Reads Challenge Tutoring Program
- The Children's Center of Pittsburgh
- United Cerebral Palsy of Pittsburgh
- The University of Pittsburgh Center for Health Aging
- The Emmaus Community of Pittsburgh, Inc.
- The Community Child Development Center
- The Hillel Jewish University Center
- Calliope: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society
- The Sweetwater Center for the Arts
- The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
- New England Financial/Pittsburgh Linkowski Group

A number of research-oriented internships were also sponsored by Kathy Blee and Salvatore Babones. Student interns thus gained valuable experience from their involvement in faculty-coordinated research projects. graduate students who have demonstrated superior performance in the academic disciplines of arts and sciences):

"Internships continue to be excellent career investments," noted Internship Coordinator Dan Romesberg. "Internships enable students to demonstrate their sociological skills, to gain practical experience, to acquire strategic references and connections in the job market, and to improve their chances of admission to graduate school. In the coming year, we will continue our vigorous pursuit of high-quality internship opportunities for our students.

**Sociology Department's Teaching Fellow Award and the Norman P. Hummon Research Award**

As is customary in the department, every year we award the **Sociology Teaching Fellow Award** and the **Norman P. Hummon Research Award**. A certificate and a monetary gift were presented to the following students at a reception held on February 24, 2006, in conjunction with the Avery Awards. This year's recipient for the Sociology Teaching Award was Kathleen Bulger Gray and the recipient of the Norman P. Hummon Research Award was Mari Jose Alvarez.



**Kathleen Bulger Gray and Professor Peggy Lovell**

**Maria Jose Alvarez and Professor Peggy Lovell**



**Kat & Majo with their Awards**

**Honors Convocation Graduate Awards**

Tamara Horowitz Graduate Student Paper Prize (for the best student research on women or gender issues and concerns):

Lisa D. Huebner

Sociology Department Excellence in Teaching Award (for students who have shown sustained excellence in teaching)

Kathleen Bulger Gray

University of Pittsburgh Women's Studies Student Research Award (for research relating to women and gender):

Lisa Huebner  
Sambriddhi Kharel

Andrew Mellon Predoctoral Fellowships (to outstanding graduate students who have demonstrated superior performance in the academic disciplines of Arts and Sciences):

Ashley Currier (renewal)  
Lisa Huebner

Nationality Rooms Scholarships for Study Abroad Stanley Prostrednik Grant (to conduct a sociological analysis of minority languages in education and mass media in France):

Kai Heidemann

**Graduate Fellowships Awarded**

Mellon Predoctoral Fellowships:

Maria Jose Alvarez – FY2007  
Ashley Currier – FY2007  
Provost's Development Fund:  
Lisa Huebner – FY2007

Cultural Studies Fellowship:

Kai Heidemann – FY2007

## Congratulations are in Order

This year was another big year for new additions to our graduate student families. Three more students had babies (all boys)!!



**George John Alex** – born September 24, 2005 - one month earlier than expected but happy and healthy (Christine Anthou and husband)

**Zachary Ficco** is the latest addition to the Ficco family. He was born November 8, 2005 to Danielle and Matt Ficco, and has two older sisters, Alexandra and Taylor.

**Carter Conti** was born March 9, 2006 to Norm and Deanna Conti – their first.



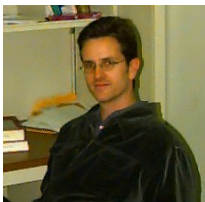
**Kathleen Bulger and Ronald Gray** tied the knot in September 2005. They met in John Markoff's Social Movements Seminar.

## Alumni Updates



**Kay Andrews** (Ph.D., 1997) moved back home to Chattanooga, TN to accept a position as Director of The Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce education initiative to build a better bridge between the education and business communities there. Kay was former head of the social and behavioral sciences department at

Chattanooga State Technical Community College. The newly created position is part of the Chamber's five-year plan to create support in the business community for the public school system. She will be a liaison between business leaders and educators, on the one hand helping educators understand what the business community needs from students so they can join the work force and be successful, and on the other hand, she will help businesses understand what educators need to create an excellent public educational system.



The Politics of Place: Contentious Urban Redevelopment in Pittsburgh (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005) is a newly published work by **Greg C. Crowley** (Ph.D., 2003) who is currently Director of Research at the Coro Center for Civic Leadership in Pittsburgh, PA. In urban America,

large-scale redevelopment is a frequent news item. The Politics of Place considers the reasons for these outcomes by examining five cases of contentious redevelopment in Pittsburgh between 1949 and 2000. In four of these cases, the challengers to redevelopment failed to create the conditions necessary for strong democratic participation. In

the fifth case – the proposed reconstruction of Pittsburgh's downtown retail district (1997-2000) – challengers succeeded, and Crowley describes the crucial role of independent nonprofit organizations in bringing about this result. At the heart of Crowley's discussion are questions central to any urban redevelopment debate: Who participates in urban redevelopment; What motivates them to do so; and What structures in the political process open or close a democratic dialogue among the stakeholders? Through his astute analysis, Crowley answers these questions and posits a framework through which to view future contention in urban redevelopment.

**Christine Elzer** (BA, 2005) received a Dean's Scholarship of \$10,000 from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Law on the basis of her outstanding academic achievement as a freshman. This scholarship will continue to be applied to the next two years as well as long as Christine maintains a 3.0 grade average.



**Mike-Frank Epitropoulos'** appointment (Ph.D., 1999) in sociology as a Visiting Lecturer had been renewed for another year (9/1/05 through 4/30/06) but before he could begin with us, Mike was offered a position at a US institution in Greece. Although it was a hard decision for him because he has always

loved Pitt, the position was one he could not turn down. Anna was able to take a sabbatical from her teaching position in the Pittsburgh Public School System, so off she, Mike and the boys went to Greece. We were very sorry to see him leave but wish him well in the new job

**Leah Ghoston** (BA, 2005) is now working at the International Center for Research on Women in Washington D.C. The ICRW is an NGO that focuses on the health, economic, political and social rights of women in developing areas.

**Mark Ginsburg** (Ph.D., 1976, University of California, Los Angeles, Education/Sociology) resigned from his tenured professor position in the School of Education effective April 30, 2005. He is currently working in Egypt as the Director of the Faculties of Education Reform (FOER) component of a 5-year, USAID-funded Education Reform Program. Since May 2004, Mark has been leading an effort to support Egyptian colleagues' efforts to improve the quality of teachers prepared at the University-based faculties of education. In addition, he is promotion collaboration (via action research and other strategies) between university faculty members and teachers, administrators, and supervisors engaged in reforming the school system. Thus, one of the challenges and opportunities for FOER is to coordinate its activities with both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education. While accepting this position was very exciting for Mark, it was a very difficult decision, not the least of which was because of the many outstanding Pitt faculty, students and alumni with whom he had the privilege of working with since 1987. We wish him well in his new endeavor.

**Bill Haller** (Ph.D., 1999) recently accepted an offer for a tenure-track position with Clemson University where he has been a visiting Assistant Professor since August 2004. Congratulations Bill!



**Jocelyn Horner** (BA, 2005) was accepted to a graduate program at the London School of Economics. Her planned course degree is an MSc in Cities, Space, and Society through the Department of Geography and includes a concentration in Gender and Society – which was a perfect match for her. Congratulations Jocelyn and good luck in your studies!

**Cara Margherio** (BA, 2005) participated in the Undergraduate Honors Program at the American Sociological Association annual meeting in August 2005. She won First Place in the Women's Studies Undergraduate Paper Prize competition at the University in June 2005, and she has accepted an offer from the University of Washington to attend graduate school. Unfortunately, she did not receive an NSF but UW made her a very good offer to attend. She also began working as a law clerk at Stember Feinstein in January 2006 which has been a very positive experience so far for her. Congratulations Cara!



**Habibul Haque Khondker** (Ph.D., 1985) has accepted a position in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) effective January 1, 2006. He had been teaching in the Sociology Department at the National University of Singapore.



### Annual Gift Receipts

To everyone that continues to support the Sociology Department through the Alumni Development Fund, the Avery Award Fund or the Barbra Tomczyk Fund, the department sincerely thanks you for your continued generosity. Donations are used to cover expenses incurred with the annual Undergraduate Graduation Reception, the Robert W. Avery Undergraduate Reception, provide travel funds for any conferences that our current undergraduates attend, support for a female graduate student in Eastern European Studies, and can include purchasing resource materials for all of our current students. We thank you all for your thoughtfulness.

Mr. John Ash  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry E. Bakkila  
Mr. Charles Michael Brain  
Mr. & Mrs. John Dougherty  
Mr. and Mrs. William Dunford  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Forberger  
Ms. Cecilia Green  
Mr. Peter David Hummon  
Ms. Lynette Kane  
Mr. Kenji Kosaka  
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Mrs. Wynn Rene Maloney  
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon McCaman  
Mr. Jeffrey Charles Mead  
Mr. Yasuyuki Owada  
Ms. Dolores Powers  
Mrs. Barbara Szyman  
Ms. Mary Virginia Moore Tomlinson  
Mr. Richard Stuart Willen

## 2005-2006 Fall Graduate Class



**Nichole Bayliss**  
BA, Chatham College  
(Psychology, minor in Women's Studies)  
Areas of Interest: Women's health care



**Amy White**  
BA, Hope College  
(Sociology and Philosophy)  
MA, West Virginia University  
(Applied Social Research)  
Areas of Interest: Globalization, international development, and how research can be used to inform policy related to these topics.



**Marvin Corbett**  
BA, Hampden-Sydney College  
(Psychology, minor in Sociology)  
MA, Auburn University  
(Sociology)  
Areas of Interest: Etiological roots, missions, transformations and social networks of radical organizations with the American Animal rights and environmental movements.



**Xi Zhang**  
BA, East China University of Science and Technology  
(Business Administration)  
MA, University of Pittsburgh  
(East Asian Studies)  
Areas of Interest: Demography, quantitative methods, historical studies and women studies. Her focus country and area re China and East Asia.



**Piotr Konieczny**  
BA, University of Northumbria, Newcastle (International Business Studies)  
MA, Cracow University of Economics (Economics)  
Areas of Interest: History of democracy, especially the impact of technological progress in the areas of communication)

process, historical aspects of the political system of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and its impact on the more know, western pro-democratic thinkers and social movements, Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia



**Tim Vining**  
BA, Louisiana State University  
(Philosophy)  
M.Div., Regis College (Toronto)  
(Theology)  
J.D., LSU Law Center  
Areas of Interest: Social movements and the intersection of race, class, gender and sexual orientation

## Staff News



**Nancy Kasper** celebrated 30 years at the University on June 17, 2005. Coming to the University fresh out of high school, my first jobs were in the Temporary Steno Pool. I floated around for the first year between HRP, the Business School (when it was on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of

the Cathedral of Learning), the Student Activities Offices dispensing student and date football tickets, and then in the main offices of Student Activities. I took a full-time position in the Clinical Psychology Program, part of the Department of Psychology from 1976-1980. Then I went to work in the Arts and Sciences Dean's Office for Dean Jerome L. Rosenberg and later Dean Peter F. M> Koehler. I started out as the receptionist in the office and worked my way up to the Dean's Secretary/Office Manager. In January 1994, I transferred to the Sociology Department to accept the position as the departmental Administrative Assistant. Over the past 12 years in the department, I've seen 5 chairs, 7 or 8 Directors of Graduate Studies, 2 Undergraduate Directors until we finally hired Dan Romesberg as the permanent Undergraduate Advisor, numerous staff changes (from a staff of six to a staff of 2 full-timers and 1 part-timer), and a lot of students that have graduated from the program – some of which I still keep in contact with. I've seen the department grow and change during my time here, and even though it can get pretty hectic sometimes – like anywhere else – I wouldn't change it. I really do enjoy my job and the people I work with.

### **Condolences to the Family of Jerome Laulich**

The Department learned that Professor Jerome Laulich passed away on March 3, 2006 at the Cleveland Clinic. Although Dr. Laulich had been suffering with Alzheimer's for the past few years, he died from a cerebral hemorrhage due to the weakening of a mitral valve in his heart that he had had replaced approximately 13-14 years ago. The family did not hold a funeral service as per the wishes of Dr. Laulich as he donated his body to the Alzheimer's Institute for Research.

Serving in WWI at Iwo Jima formed Dr. Laulich's professional career. His scholarly studies were of the earliest on peace studies at the University of Pittsburgh where he was applauded as an excellent teacher. He was also one of the senior researchers at the Canadian Peace Research Institute. He is survived by his wife, Lois Bleichfeld, his four children: Jules Lefcowitz, Nancy Laulich Seibel, Ellen Laulich Banta, and Roberta L. Sims and many grandchildren.

Faculty who were colleagues of Dr. Laulich's remember him well and with fondness. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends he's left behind.



**Attn: Nancy Kasper  
Department of Sociology  
University of Pittsburgh  
2400 Wesley W. Posvar Hall  
230 South Bouquet Street  
Pittsburgh, PA. 15260**

**If you would like to have us update information on you and your recent works in the next Newsletter, or if you need to update your address, please feel free to use the form below and mail it back to the above address.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date Graduated/Degree Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Present Activites/Update Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

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