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○ APRIL ○ 2015



Gemeinschaft News

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



Dr. Stjepan Meštrović received the 2015 Association of Former Students Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award

Dr. Stjepan Meštrović received the 2015

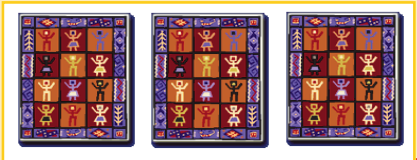
Association of Former Students Distinguished Teaching Achievement Awards. Dr. Meštrović will be honored at a ceremony on Monday, April 27, at 1:30 in Rudder Theatre. The Distinguished Achievement Awards honor 24 outstanding members faculty and staff members for their contributions to the university.

From the award website: “Stjepan G. Meštrović is well known for his work on social theory, culture and war crimes. He has served as an expert witness at The Hague for the International Court of the Tribunal for Yugoslavia, at courts martial pertaining to abuse at Abu Ghraib, and at multiple other courts martial and clemency hearings. He is the author or editor of 18 books as well as more than 70 articles, chapters, or essays. He has garnered numerous awards and honors for his research. But, along with his incredibly productive research record, Dr. Meštrović has always been known for his inspiring teaching. His quantitative teaching evaluations are always among the very highest in the Department of Sociology, and his students often re-

mark that he has inspired and transformed their thinking. His nominator says that a large part of what makes Dr. Meštrović such an effective teacher is his ability to explain incredibly complex issues and analyze them in ways that do not completely overwhelm his students. In addition, he is well known for taking time to talk to students both inside and outside of class. A current student credits Dr. Meštrović with changing his whole outlook on his college experience, writing, “I became far more interested in school when I found a professor that actually taught through conversation and application as opposed to a professor that simply talked at me. I found a professor that left me constantly thinking about theory and its true application.” A graduate student summarizes, “He has repeatedly modeled the type of professor that I would like to be one day; compassionate but not a pushover, humorous yet serious about education and about fostering a love of learning—esteemed yet humble.””

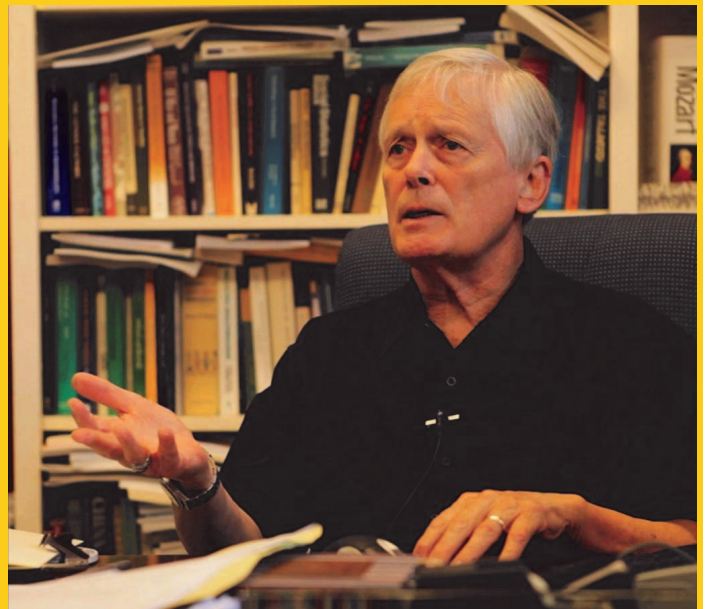
Dr. Wendy Moore Elected as the Chair of the American Sociological Association (ASA) Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities

She serves as a Chair-Elect for 2014-2015 and as a Chair the following Year.



Prof. Dudley Poston Elected
as Fellow of the American Association
for the Advancement of Science

Dudley L. Poston, Jr. was among the scientists elected in November of 2014 as Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He was elected for his “distinguished contributions to the field of social demography, particularly for work enhancing the understanding of population growth and change in the U.S. and China.” The 401 new AAAS Fellows elected were awarded this honor by the AAAS because of “their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.”



**SSA DISTINGUISHED
PAPER AWARD**

Gabriele Plickert and **Heili Pals** received the Southwestern Sociological Association’s Distinguished Paper Award for their paper titled “Angry Parent, Angry Child: Intergenerational Transmission of Anger”.

This award is given annually to an outstanding paper authored by faculty member presented at the SSA annual meeting as determined by the SSA Distinguished Paper Award Committee and carries a cash prize of \$500.

Fellows are nominated by their peers for election into the organization by the AAAS Council, the association’s policymaking body. The official announcement of their election appeared in the “AAAS News & Notes” section of the journal *Science* on Nov. 28, 2014. Poston and the other new Fellows will be formally recognized on Feb. 14, 2015, at the AAAS annual meeting in San Jose, Calif. For more information, see the news release from Texas A&M University on Poston’s election at this link: <http://liberalarts.tamu.edu/html/news--sociology-professor-elected-to-prestigious-association.html>

IN MEMORIAM

Two of our dearest faculty members lost their fathers: **Dr. Sarah Gatson** and **Dr. Rob Mackin**. Sincerest condolences – our hearts are with you.

Note from **Sarah Gatson**: If you are so inclined, in relation to the kind of memorial my father would approve of, in lieu of flowers, please contribute to the R. Charles (Chuck) Gatson Memorial Fund at Liberty Bank and Trust—1670 East 63rd Street, Kansas City, MO, 64110. The funds will be used for both some sort of memorial dedication, and an annual scholarship for a student at the UMKC Dept. of Urban Programming and Planning.

Associate Professor **Pat Rubio Goldsmith** has accepted a position on the editorial board of the *Sociology of Education*.

Keynote Speeches, Invited Talks

Verna Keith: Invited presentation, “Colorism and Health Disparities” Global Perspectives on Colorism, Harris Institute, Washington University Law School, St. Louis, MO, April 2-3.

Joe Feagin gave the opening keynote address titled “The White Racial Frame: Rationalizing Racism” in Oxford, Mississippi, at the National Conference on the Semiotics of Race in Public Places, set up by the US Holocaust Museum and the Critical Race Study Group at the University of Mississippi on October 23, 2014.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr., delivered a keynote speech titled “The demographic destiny of South Korea is its ageing population” at the “15th World Knowledge Forum” in Seoul, South Korea on Thursday October 16th.



Dudley L. Poston, Jr. was one of two guest speakers at a Texas A&M University student workshop sponsored by SCONA (the Student Conference on National Affairs) on September 30th at the MSC Gates Ballroom. The title of his presentation was “U.S. Immigration Issues, with Special Attention to Asians.”

Dudley L. Poston, Jr., delivered a keynote speech titled “Childlessness Trends in the United States” at a conference on “Fertility, childlessness and the family: Multi-disciplinary approaches” held at the Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium on 5-7 November 2014.

Theresa Morris has been a “virtual” guest speaker (through Skype) for two undergraduate classes this semester: one at the University of Cincinnati and one at Lehman College in New York City. Both talks were to discuss research from her book, *Cut It Out*.

Kazuko Suzuki: “What Are We Talking About? Terminological and Classificatory Issues Involving Japanese BL/Yaoi,” Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo, Japan, 12/11/2014.

A summary of **Harland Prechel's** presentation on an invited panel of the 2014 annual meeting of the American Sociological Association entitled “The Future of Organizational Sociology” was published on the Organizations, Occupations and Work Section website, November 3, 2014: <http://workinprogress.oowsection.org/>. The essays of the five panel members will be followed (i.e., one per week) by 10 other organizational sociologists that include Charles Perrow and Richard Scott.

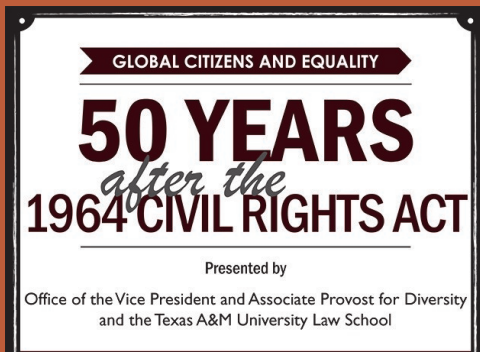
Nancy Plankey-Videla was a featured Speaker, with Dr. Zulema Valdez, presenting “Mixed Status Families and Deportation Threat in the Southwest,” at the *Blurring The Border: Deporting Denizens In The 21st Century Conference*, University of California, Merced (17 April 2015)

Nancy Plankey-Videla was an invited Panelist presenting “Immigration: Three Lives, One Issue: A Conversation on Perspectives between the Agent, the Dreamer, and the Academic,” at the L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness and MSC Committee for the Awareness of Mexican-American Culture (CAMAC), 5 March 2015

Nancy Plankey-Videla was an Invited Panelist presenting “Professors’ Panel: Why Does In State Tuition Make Sense?” at the MSC Council for Minority Student Affairs, 17 February 2015

Pat Rubio Goldsmith recently served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation (NSF). The meeting was held in Washington DC.

Symposia and Workshops Organized



Wendy Moore was the co-chair responsible for organizing the Texas A&M University interdisciplinary symposium "Global Citizens and Equality Fifty Years After the 1964 Civil Rights Act," November 6th 2014. From the Eagle (Nov 7, 2014): "About 400 people, including 160 students from local high schools, attended the day-long event, coordinated by Wendy Moore, a sociology professor at A&M, and Sahar Aziz, a professor at the Texas A&M University School of Law.

"Lots of institutions were doing celebrations of the 50th anniversary and I thought it would be a really good idea to do something a bit more critically engaged," Moore said. Phia Salter, a psychology professor at A&M, spoke about microaggressions, as well as "stereotype threat" -- the pressure she felt as the sole black student in her high school Latin class. /.../ Beyond microaggressions, equality in the U.S. still isn't an accomplished goal in many respects, said Joe Feagin, a professor of sociology at A&M. He presented a plethora of data to attendees to make his point. In 2010, 16 percent of students were in schools where at least half of the population was non-white. In 2011, median household income for blacks was 59 percent of median household income for whites. "For 45 years, we've been dealing with the previous 350 years of extreme racial segregation," Feagin told attendees in Rudder Hall. "The first point to think about when you're dealing with systemic racism in this country's history is how long it is and how long it was before we even started a dramatic and contemporary effort to end the effects of systemic racism."

Although the symposium was not a celebration of the Civil Rights Act itself, Moore said there was a positive in the people coming together and exchanging ideas. "It's been very exciting to me to see a community of scholars be excited about interrogating these issues in a way that's bringing people together," she said. ("The Eagle")

GRANTS

Billy Brocato and **Alex McIntosh** received a College of Liberal Arts Seed Grant for "Sociocultural Barriers and the underrepresentation of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Large Animal Veterinary Medicine in the United States; A Multivariate Analysis." \$12,000.

Heili Pals received the Division of Research PESCA Grant for "Neighborhood effects on negative self-feelings: The role of spatial dynamics." \$10,000.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr. organized a symposium on "Demographic Dynamics and Societal Change in the 21st Century" that was held in **Seoul, South Korea** on December 14-16, 2014. He organized the symposium under a contract with the Korean Institute of Health and Social Affairs (KIHASA) and the Population Association of Korea (PAK). KIHASA is the key government institute in South Korea that addresses demographic research and activity, and is affiliated with the Korean Ministry of Health and Welfare under the Prime Minister. At the symposium, he delivered the keynote presentation titled "The Context of Low Fertility Regimes and Demographic and Societal Change."



JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Hughes, Michael, Jill Kiecolt, **Verna M. Keith**, and David H. Demo. 2015. "Racial Identity and Well-being among African Americans." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 78:25-48.
- Pals, Heili** and Lindsey Singer. 2015. "Residential Energy Conservation: The Effects of Education and Perceived Behavioral Control." *Environmental Studies and Sciences*, online first.
- Feng, Xiao-Tian, **Dudley L. Poston, Jr.** and Xiao-Tao Wang, 2014. "China's One-Child Policy and the Changing Family." *Journal of Comparative Family Studies* XLV: 17-30.
- Davis, Tiffany Y. and **Wendy Moore**. 2014. "'Spanish Not Spoken Here': Latinos, Race, and the Racialization of the Spanish Language in the United States." *Ethnicities* 14(5): 676-697.
- Sakamoto, Arthur**, Jason Rarick, Hyeyoung Woo and **Sharron Xuanren Wang**. 2014. "What Underlies the Great Gatsby Curve? Psychological Micro-Foundations of the 'Vicious Circle' of Poverty." *Mind & Society* 13:195-211.
- Huyser, Kimberly, Isao Takei and **Arthur Sakamoto**. 2014. "Demographic Factors Associated with Poverty among American Indians and Alaskan Natives." *Race and Social Problems* 6:120-134.
- Sakamoto, Arthur** and ChangHwan Kim. 2014. "Bringing Productivity Back In: Rising Inequality and Economic Rents in the U.S. Manufacturing Sector, 1971 to 2001." *The Sociological Quarterly* 55:282-314.
- Kim, ChangHwan and **Arthur Sakamoto**. 2014. "The Earnings of Less Educated Asian American Men: Educational Selectivity and the Model Minority Image." *Social Problems* 61:1-22.
- Sasson, Isaac and **Arthur Sakamoto**. 2014. "Non-Poor Components of Population Growth and Immigration in the U.S., 1990 to 2010." *Social Indicators Research* 115:183-201.
- McIntosh, William Alex** and Wesley Dean. 2014. "Factors Associated with the Inappropriate Use of Antimicrobials." *Zoonoses and Public Health* 61 (Supplement 2):1-7.
- Ann O. Amuta and **Dudley L. Poston, Jr.** 2014. "Avoiding Inferential Errors in Public Health Research: The Statistical Modelling of Physical Activity Behavior." *International Journal of Statistics in Medical Research* 3: 384-391.
- Dudley L. Poston, Jr.** and Eugenia Conde. 2014. "Missing Data and the Statistical Modelling of Adolescent Pregnancy." *Journal of Modern Applied Statistical Methods* 13: 464-478.
- Takei, Isao, **Arthur Sakamoto** and Janet Chen-Lan Kuo. 2015. "Managerial Attainment of College-Educated, Native-Born Asian Americans." *Global Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences* 3 (5): 62-72.
- Marquez-Velarde, Guadalupe**, Sara Grineski and Kathleen Staudt. 2015. "Mental Health Disparities among Low-Income US Hispanic Residents of a US-Mexico Border Colonia." *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.
- Staudt, Kathleen, Mosi Dane'El and **Guadalupe Marquez-Velarde**. 2015. "In the Shadow of a Steel Recycling Plant in these Neoliberal Times: Health Disparities among Hispanics in a Border Colonia." *Local Environment*.
- Maia, Alexandre, **Arthur Sakamoto**, and Sharron X. Wang. 2015. "A Comparison of the Socioeconomic Attainments of Japanese-Brazilians and Japanese-Americans." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*.

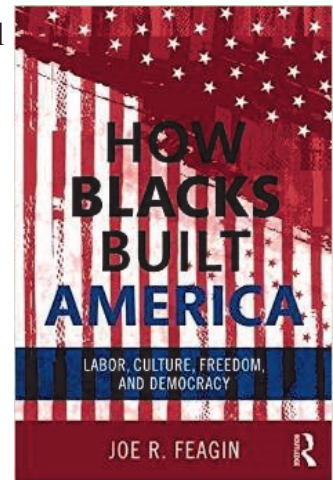
BOOKS

Prof. Joe Feagin's book *How Blacks Built America*, published by Routledge, will be available to buy starting August 2015.

With this path breaking book Professor Feagin inverts the standard Black History Month narrative. It's not just that African Americans have made valuable contributions to American culture and history. His point is that fundamental aspects of American life simply wouldn't exist were it not for African Americans. This is an exciting reconceptualization of the place of African Americans in American life.

-Kirk Johnson, Sociology, University of Mississippi

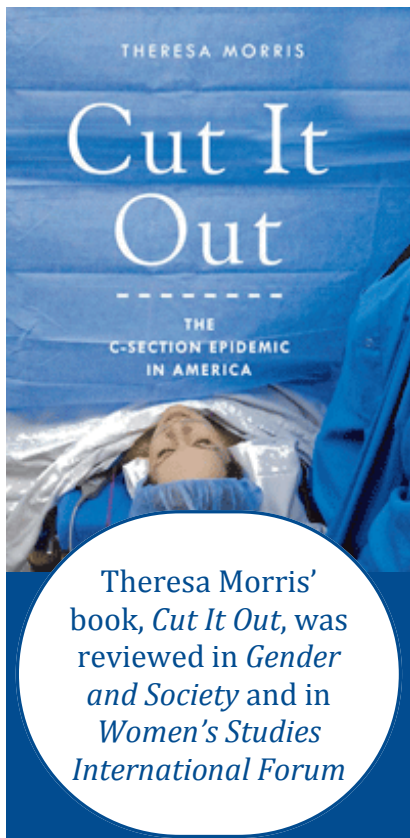
How Blacks Built America examines the many positive and dramatic contributions made by African Americans to this country over its long



history. Almost all public and scholarly discussion of African Americans accenting their distinctive societal position, especially discussion outside black communities, has emphasized either stereotypically negative features or the negative socioeconomic conditions that they have long faced because of systemic racism. In contrast, Feagin reveals that African Americans have long been an extraordinarily important asset for this country. Without their essential contributions, indeed, there probably would not have been a United States. This is an ideal addition to courses race and ethnicity courses.

The great lesson of this book is that the black ethos is an emphatic representation of the American spirit, an ongoing demonstration of the hope and expectation that the poor and downtrodden can stand up against the system and succeed.

-Roy L. Brooks, University of San Diego School of Law



Theresa Morris' book, *Cut It Out*, was reviewed in *Gender and Society* and in *Women's Studies International Forum*

BOOK CHAPTERS

Wendy Moore. 2014. "White Lies: Social Science Research, Judicial Decision Making and the Fallacy of Objectivity." Pg. 79-96 in *Making Law and Courts Research Relevant; The Normative Implications of Empirical Research*, eds. Chris W. Bonneau and Brandon L. Bartels. NY: Routledge.

Wendy Moore. 2014. "Now all the good jobs go to them!": Affirmative Action in the Labor Market." Pg. 245-256 in *Getting Real About Race: Hoodies, Mascots, Model Minorities, and Other Conversations*, eds. Stephanie M. McClure and Cherise A. Harris. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Inc.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr. and Qian Xiong. 2014. "Are China's Minority Nationalities Still on the Margins?" Ch. 7 (pg. 113-137) in *Analyzing China's Population: Recent Trends and Major Challenges*, eds. Isabelle Attané and Baochang Gu. New York, NY: Springer Publishers.

Suzuki, Kazuko. 2015. "What Can We Learn from Japanese Professional BL Writers?: A Sociological Analysis of Yaoi/BL Terminology and Classifications," Pg. 93-118 in *Boys Love Manga and Beyond: History, Culture and Community in Japan*, edited by Mark McLelland, Kazumi Nagaike, Katsuhiko Suganuma, and James Welker. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi.

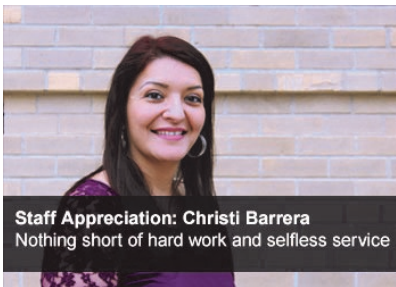


CELEBRATING STAFF

Our inaugural *Celebrating Staff* column features **Christi Barrera**



Christi Barrera wins the most prestigious service award at TAMU



Christi (Ramirez) Barrera received the 2015 President’s Meritorious Service Award. The President of Texas A&M University presents these prestigious awards to Texas A&M staff for their meritorious service to the University. Since 1986, these awards have been funded



through the generosity of The Association of Former Students. Currently, these awards are presented to recognize 15 outstanding staff employees and one outstanding team for their meritorious service to the University.

CONVERSATIONS WITH STAFF

GN: Tell us about yourself, Christi?

Christi: Let's see...my passion is in service--helping others. Having worked with faculty and graduate students my first love would be working with graduate students. I choose graduate students because they are inexperienced, they are figuring everything out. It's a wonderful feeling to groom or assist someone through their degree process/program. You feel a little responsible or had a hand in that milestone.

GN: How long have you worked for Soc Dept and how many chairs have you survived?

Christi: I've been with the department since 2005, May will be 10 years! I've survived three chairs: Rogelio Saenz, Mark Fossett, and now Jane Sell.

When Rogelio was chair I served in Bethany's position as Office Associate and handled front office duties as well as the assistant to the graduate advisor which was Alex McIntosh at that time.

GN: Where are you from?

Christi: I'm from a small town, Calvert, Texas. My graduation class had 23 people. I graduated in 1995, class Valedictorian.

GN: How many children do you have?

Christi: I have three: Kiana (17), Kaiya (12), and Gary (11)

GN: What do you like most about your job?

Christi: Service and direct interaction

GN: Tell us something that most of us probably do not know about you.

Christi: I play the Alto Saxophone. I recently picked up playing co-Ed softball with my husband. This year makes my 2nd season as Catcher.

GN: Thank you!



Christi's granddaughter, Malaya Amerie Hill was born on April 13th, 2015. She weighed 8 lbs 6 oz and was 21in long.

Congratulations!

Look back at the Department of Sociology Colloquium Series, Spring 2015

January 28	Alexandre Gori Maia, State University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Institute of Economics	Economic development, labor market and social inequality in Brazil
February 4	Anthony Peguero, Virginia Tech (co-authored with Sanna King and Alicia Pantoja)	School discipline and dropping out: Examining the significance of gender, race, and ethnicity
March 4	Julie Dowling, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Mexican Americas and the question of race
April 1	Bryce Hannibal, Sociology Ph.D. Candidate	Brokerage and Closure: The network effects on career success of prominent Jazz musicians in the mid 1900s
April 13	Richard Achcar, University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies	Fettered development and the Arab uprisings (co-sponsored Classcock Center, L.T.Jordan Institute of International Awareness, and International Studies Department)
April 14	Chris Bose, SUNY-Albany	ADVANCE talk: Comparative faculty diversity in the SUNY system: Focus on Latino/a faculty (co-sponsored with ADVANCE and Women's and Gender Studies)
April 15	Chris Bose, SUNY-Albany	Patterns of global gender inequality (co-sponsored with ADVANCE and Women's and Gender Studies)
April 22	Jesus Smith, Sociology Ph.D. Candidate	Workshop on men stopping rape
April 22	C.J. Murphy, Sociology Ph.D. Candidate	The effects of competition on status differentiated groups

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McIntosh, Alex and **Brittany Rico**. 2014. "Confidence in Cooking Skills and Children's Involvement in Food Acquisition and Preparation." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society in Burlington, Vermont, June 25.

McIntosh, Alex and **Brittany Rico**. 2014. "Confidence in Cooking Skills and Ability to Include Vegetables in Meals and Children's Vegetable Preferences." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in New Orleans, August 1.

PANELS & CHAIRING

Alex McIntosh served on a panel that dealt with "Food and Poverty" at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in San Francisco August 17, 2014.

At the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in New Orleans August 1, 2014: 1) **Alex McIntosh** served as a moderator for a panel discussion: "Counter-Narratives of Healthcare Access in Louisiana"; 2) **Brittany Rico** chaired the session "Access to Health".

Rico, Brittany and **Alex McIntosh**. 2014. "Determinants of Fruit & Vegetable Availability & Accessibility in the Home." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in New Orleans, August 2.

Cisneros, Marissa R. and **Alex McIntosh**. 2014. "Rural Versus Urban Cuisine: Cajun Resistance to Creole." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in New Orleans, August 3.

Jones, Nicole. 2014. "Examining Class- Selective Residential Outcomes of Blacks and Whites, 1960 and 2000." Presented at the Southern Demographic Association Annual Meeting in Memphis, TN, October 15-17.

Hagan, John and **Holly Foster**. 2014. "From Mass Incarceration to the Great Recession: A Human Security Perspective on Parental Imprisonment and Young Adult Economic Deprivation in America." Paper presented at the Russell Sage Foundation Conference on Severe Deprivation in America, New York City, October 31.

Foster, Holly. 2014. "Stressors in the Lives of Incarcerated Women." Presented at the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco, CA, Nov. 20.

Harland Prechel and **Lu Zheng**. "Do Organizational Characteristics Predict Financial Wrongdoing?" Midwest Sociological Society. Kansas City, Missouri, March 26-29, 2015.

Brocato, Billy R. and **Kathryn Henderson**. 2015. "A Study of Wildfire Survivors' Narratives and Social Meanings Embodied In Everyday Objects." Presented at the Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting. March 26, 2015 at Kansas City, Missouri.

This study is based on an 18-month ethnographic study that **Billy R. Brocato** and **Kathryn Henderson** completed about Bastrop County Wildfire survivors' post-fire rebuilding experiences. Relying on a sociology of everyday life approach, they examined disaster survivors' epiphanic narratives linked to their destroyed and rescued personal artifacts. Their paper reveals that destroyed objects hold evocative meanings that can either mitigate or compound post-traumatic stress in survivors' lives.



SOUTHWESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING IN DENVER, CO

Beatriz Aldana Marquez	Reproducing Inequality through Active Participation: Hacienda Culture and Domestic Division of Labor in the Charro Community
Eric Gamino	Criminals and Welfare Dependents: Latino Police Officers' Racialization of Latin Origin Immigrants
Dadao Hou	Financialization and China's Income Inequality
Vanessa Gonlin	Femicides: Inadequate Constitutions Lead to Deaths
Beatriz Aldana Marquez	Race, Punishment, and Culture: The Mechanism of Power
Andrew McNeely	Delinquent Identities: An Intersectionality Approach
Ceylan Engin	Political Attitudes toward LGBT Individuals in Turkish Society
Kelly McNamara	Women & Sex: Messages Popular Women's Magazines Present to Readers
Kelsey Law	The utilization of World of Warcraft to construct a new identity in reaction to social and cultural environments
D'Lane Compton and Emily Knox	Tomboy: The predicament of stigma and privilege
Carla Flink and Angel Molina	Politics or Professionalism? Budgeting for Bilingual Education
Apryl Alexis Williams & Beatriz Aldana Marquez	The Lonely Selfie King: Gender Performance through Conspicuous Selfie Prosumption
Harold Manzano-Sanchez	Building better perceptions about Latino male youth
Juan Salinas	Segmented Colonialism: An alternative theory for Mexican Americans facing Class and Racial Oppression
Mark Dawson	Internal Colony Model and Latino Populations in the United States: Historical Development and Current Realities
David Orta & Yujin Helen Wong	The Border Effect: Proximity to the US-MX Border and Mexican American Racial Identification in the Census
Warren Waren	Teaching Sociology of Music with FAMILY: Connecting Fans, Artists, Music, Industry, and Literature
Christine McCown	"A Fast Food Model of Health Care" vs "Smoothies and Enemas in Tijuana:" Comparing Biomedical and Alternative Cancer Treatment Centers
Melissa Ochoa-Garza	The Religious Identity of University Protestant Women and their Beliefs on Gender Roles, Career, and Family
Nicole Jones	Reexamining Black-White Spatial Segregation Patterns in Charleston, South Carolina
Mark Fossett	Issues in Estimating Segregation Using Sample Data
Beatriz Aldana Marquez	The American Utopia and Serial Killer Popular Culture: An Analysis of Dexter
Stephanie Reymond	Veganism and Hierarchy: The Impact of Veganism on Interpersonal Relationships
Apryl Alexis Williams	'I need fat acceptance because': Examining passive and active resistance against normative beauty ideology through fat positivity
Bruce Reese	Migrant Labor Systems, Undocumented Immigration, and Mexican Children's Educational Attainment
Juan Salinas	Citizenship Status, Latino Mental Health, and Duration of Residence
Brittany Rico	Racial Identity of U.S. Born Taiwanese Over Time: Comparing Taiwanese immigrant racial identity to later generations
Chung-pei Pien	Who Produce the Green Cities? The Evidence from the Chinese Environmental Improvement in 85 Cities in China
Guadalupe Marquez-Velarde, Angelica Menchaca, Carlos Pavao, Yujin Helen Wong, Sharron X Wang, Ed Murguia, Arthur Sakamoto	Demographic Factors Associated with Poverty in the US Latino Population: Evidence from the 2009 to 2011 American Community Survey

- Alma Trevino** The Effects of Negative Self-Referent Behaviors on the Academic Performance of Latino Students
- Kimberly Harvey** When Children Think the Parent is Harsh: Effects of Clashing Perceptions of Parenting Styles on Children's Deviance
- Xavier Serna** Parental Incarceration and Adolescent Substance Use
- Dara Shifrer & Heili Pals** The Transmission of Negative Social Psychological Traits From Parents to Their Children Via Parenting Behaviors
- Carlton Mathis, Brennan Miller, & Heili Pals** Retesting the Longitudinal Effects of Adolescent Negative Self Feelings on Drug Use: Moderated by Neighborhood Disadvantage, Mediated by Mastery
- Xavier Serna & Heili Pals** Parental Incarceration and Adolescent Negative Self-Feelings: The Moderating Role of Locus of Control and the Importance of Parent
- Gabriele Plickert & Heili Pals** Angry Parent, Angry Child: Intergenerational Transmission of Anger



KLAMS @ SSSA

Heili Pals organized two paper sessions around KLAMS data at the SSSA in Denver. A total of 8 papers, written by authors from Texas A&M University, Kent State University, University of Kentucky, and Rice University ranging in topics from parental incarceration and deviance to parenting styles and negative self-feelings were presented at these sessions.

LATINA/O AND MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES MINOR

The Sociology Department at Texas A&M University now has a minor in Latina/o and Mexican American Studies (the minor was approved in Fall 2014 by the Faculty Senate and the President). Congratulations to **Dr. Pat Goldsmith** who will be coordinating the minor and to all the members of the committee, especially to members from the Sociology Department, **Dr. Nancy Plankey Videla** and **Dr. Ed Murguia**.

The primary motivation for adding the minor is interest among students. During the Spring of 2014, students organized a petition drive and gathered signatures from 2,000 people who supported the creation of the minor. The signers were primarily undergraduate students, but they also included graduate students, faculty, staff, and community members. The minor, which received final presidential approval in October of

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2014, will be housed in the Sociology Department. Students interested in the minor should talk to Pat Rubio Goldsmith, Jennifer Runnels (sociology advisor), or the advisor in their major. As of April 20th of 2015, 22 students have enrolled in the Latina/o and Mexican American Studies (LMAS) minor. At the end of the Spring semester, two students will graduate with the minor. The growth of the program has been due to the help of many students, including Alfredo Garcia, Angelica Ruvulcaba, and Isaac Chavez and many members of the Council for Minority Student Affairs. They have organized movies, informationals, and field trips to conferences. You may have seen them on the plaza advertising the minor with a banner. The program is currently supported by the Department of Sociology with the support of **Jennifer Runnels, Eliza Bitter, Christi Ramirez** and **Bethany Edwards**.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS



Zinobia Bennefield



American Sociological Association's (ASA) Minority Fellowship Program 2015-2016 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship



The American Sociological Association's (ASA) Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) has recommended **Zinobia Bennefield** for a Minority Fellowship Program pre-doctoral fellowship for the 2015-2016 academic year. This prestigious and competitive award is made possible by the ASA Council and generous contributions by regional and aligned organizations in the discipline as well as individual ASA members. The award includes a 12-month stipend of \$18,000. In addition to providing financial support, MFP works with its Fellows and their faculty mentors to help

prepare the Fellow for a research career. Also, MFP plans workshops and paper sessions at the ASA Annual Meeting, offers travel support to scientific conferences, and fosters the development of formal and informal networks for Fellows. Prior MFP awardees include current and former Aggies such as Dr. Verna Keith, Dr. Rogelio Sáenz (Dean of the College of Public Policy at the University of Texas at San Antonio) and Dr. David Embrick (President-Elect of Southwestern Sociological Association) among others.



David Orta and Juan Salinas



Vision 2020 Dissertation Enhancement Award. College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M University

David Orta and Juan Salinas received Vision 2020 Dissertation Enhancement Awards from the College of Liberal Arts. The Vision 2020 Dissertation Award is a competitive fellowship from the College of Liberal Arts to advance dissertation research. Juan Salinas' winning dissertation project is titled "Race and Legal Status: The Discourse of Employers". David Orta's winning dissertation is titled "Racial Identification Among Latino Fraternities and Sororities: Racism, Class, and Gender in Race-Making." He investigates the discursive practices that Latina/os employ in constructing identity meanings and negotiating racial identification. David's primary research question is: how do Latina/os understand the meaning of their racial identity label? To address this question, David examines

Latina/o fraternities and sororities as sites that organize racial and ethnic labels and where racial identification labels become salient for members. David's research questions include: What labels do Latina/os use to identify themselves racially? How do they use the labels in relation to other groups? Finally, what meanings do identification labels take on for group insiders? Special attention will be paid to the intersection of gender and class identities and their relation to racial identification. These questions will allow him to investigate the identification practices as defined by previous research (how Latina/os use ethnic identity labels) and to further this research by examining the meanings labels take on.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS



Ceylan Engin



Graduate Student Distinguished Paper Award from the SSSA's Women's and Gender Studies Section

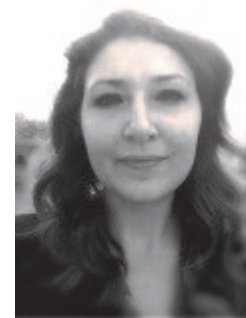
Ceylan Engin received the Graduate Student Distinguished Paper Award from the SSSA's Women's and Gender Studies Section for the paper titled "Political Attitudes toward LGBT Individuals in Turkish Society".



Katherine Ann Calle Willyard



received the College of Liberal Arts Professional Development Support Award to attend a workshop on Longitudinal Data Analysis taught by Dr. Paul Allison.



Chris Mathey



Will Rogers Memorial Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Texas A&M University

Billy Brocato, C.J. Murphy, Zennobia Bennefield, Jesus Salinas, Jesus Smith and Qian Xiong received college dissertation writing awards for the summer of 2015.

Billy Brocato has been elected as a director of the Academy of Future Faculty Teaching Certificate Program at Texas A&M University for the 2015-2016 year. Billy currently serves as a steering committee member and has earned a fellows and senior fellows certificates. The Academy of Future Faculty (AFF; <http://gta.tamu.edu/>) is a graduate-student led organization supported by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies and the Center for Teaching Excellence. AFF's mission is to provide professional development opportunities to equip graduate students and post-docs in the area of college teaching.

Paige Waskow was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in November 2014!



GRADUATING!

Dr. Shaida Kalbasi

Dissertation topic: "Experience of Middle Eastern American Women in Using US Health Care Services"

Advisor: Dr. Joe Feagin

Co-adviser: Dr. Verna Keith

Committee Members: Dr. Alex McIntosh and Dr. Jane Sell

Dr. Rolande Dathis

Dissertation Topic: Haitian Identities

Advisor: Dr. Jane Sell

Committee Members: Joe Feagin, Alex McIntosh, Tommy Curry

Defended: March 10, 2015

Dr. Kenneth Sean Chaplin

Dissertation topic: "Culture, structure, and race in pick up basketball: everyday hoops inside a predominately white university student recreation center"

Advisor: Dr. Reuben A B May

Committee members: Joe Feagin, Sarah Gatson, John Singer

Defended: March 2, 2015

Dr. Danielle Xiaodan Morales

Dissertation topic: "Residential Segregation of Same-Sex Partnered Households from Heterosexual Partnered Households in U.S. Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 2010"

Advisor: Dr. Dudley Poston

Committee members: Jane Sell, Alex McIntosh, Rogelio Saenz

Defended: January 23, 2015

Dr. Bryce Hannibal

Dissertation topic: "The Network Influences of Innovation and Lifetime Career Success in Jazz Musicians Between 1945 and 1958"

Advisor: Dr. Hiroshi Ono

Committee members: Alex McIntosh, Joseph Jewell, and Jane Sell

Defended: January 22, 2015

Recent graduate:

Dr. Amber Fox Crowell

Dissertation topic: "Latino Residential Segregation in the United States: Applying New Methods to Gain New Understandings"

Advisor: Dr. Mark Fossett

Co-adviser: Rogelio Saenz

Committee members: Dudley Poston, Jane Sell and Carlos Blanton

Defended: October 14, 2014

Amber is currently a post-doctoral researcher at the Texas Census Data Center

Jenny Savely accepted and started in March a faculty position at the University of Florida with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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