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○ February ○ 2018



Gemeinschaft News

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Dr. Joe Feagin received the 2018 ASA Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award



Dr. Joe Feagin is the 2018 recipient of the ASA Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award. Feagin continues and mirrors the legacy of Oliver Cromwell Cox, Charles S. Johnson and E. Franklin Frazier of civically engaged academic scholarship in the service of social justice. Through

his research, teaching, and service across the profession with international acclaim, Joe Feagin expands and represents the important disciplinary tradition of critical racial analysis of inequality, race, ethnicity and power. As both public sociologist and social justice advocate, he brings path-breaking analysis and theory to bear on the problems and issues that divide society, particularly race and political power, so as to forge collective pathways to a more diverse and just world.

Joe Feagin is the Ella C. McFadden Professor in Sociology and Distinguished Professor at Texas A&M University. For more than a half century, Joe Feagin has created a career built on dynamic mentorship and scholarship that has changed the many fields of sociology. Time and again, Feagin's scholarship reveals the continued influence of anti-Blackness, White supremacy and capitalism on the lives and politics of oppressed and marginalized communities. Always attentive to the

how Whiteness is historically, politically and social constructed as an apparatus of power and disenfranchisement, Feagin's engaging scholarship illustrates the importance and ability of sociology to influence and impact public policy, science, and democracy.

Feagin is author of more than 70 books, 200 articles, reviews and chapters, including the classic works *Subsidizing the Poor: A Boston Housing Experiment* (1972), *Discrimination American Style: Institutional Racism and Sexism* (2001), *White Racism: The Basics* (1995), *The White Racial Frame* (2010) and *How Black Built America* (2016). He is also author *Racial and Ethnic Relations*, a go-to text for classes and educators the world over. His phenomenal work as a mentor, advisor and teacher highlight his deep commitment to the discipline and service, rendering him an invaluable and undeniable scholar *par excellence*.

The Cox-Johnson-Frazier Award Committee unanimously and emphatically commends Professor Feagin for his path-breaking intellectual agenda and uncompromising commitment to social and racial justice and sociology. World-renowned and a pioneering sociologist and continued ally in movements of social justice, Feagin and his work are a testament to his vision of the consequential role of sociology and critical race scholarship to a more equitable, freer and just society. His research, mentorship, and activism continue the legacy of this award's namesakes and serves as an example to us all.



AWARDS & HONORS

Dr. Reuben May was awarded the 2017 Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence Award (only two of these were awarded at Texas A&M this year).

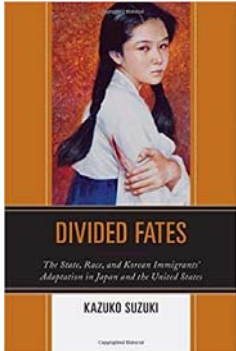


*Dr. Reuben May,
Presidential Professor*

Dr. Patricia Thornton received the 2017 Outstanding Leadership Award from Organization and Management Theory Division of Academy of Management as Representative-At-Large 2014-2017.

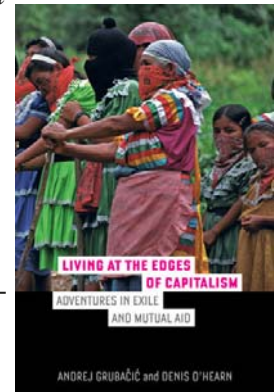
Dr. Alex McIntosh was voted to become the Association for the Study of Food and Society Fellow.

BOOK AWARDS



Dr. Kazuko Suzuki received the 2017 Distinguished Book Award from the Asian and Asian-American section of the ASA for her book *Divided Fates: The State, Race, and Korean Immigrants' Adaptation in Japan and the United States* (Lexington Books, 2016).

Dr. Denis O'Hearn received the Distinguished Book Award from the Political Economy of the World-system (PEWS) section of the ASA for his book (with Andrej Grubic) *Living at the Edges of Capitalism: Adventures in Exile and Mutual Aid* (California University Press, 2016). O'Hearn previously received the PEWS Distinguished Book Award for *The Atlantic Economy: Britain, the US and Ireland* (Manchester University Press).



Dr. Wendy Moore, together with former graduate student, Louwanda Evans, received the ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities Oliver Cromwell Cox Article Award for their article "Impossible Burdens: White Institutions, Emotional Labor, and Micro-Resistance." *Social Problems* 62(3): 439-454.

Dr. Kazuko Suzuki received a one-year position as a Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology through Yale's FAS (Faculty of Arts and Sciences) Visiting Fellowship program.



Dr. Reuben May was awarded the 2017 Best Professor Award by the TAMU Chapter of the NAACP.

BOOKS



Dr. Joe Feagin, together with Kimberley Ducey published a new book with Routledge: *Elite White Men Ruling*. This book breaks new ground in developing a theory of the "elite white male dominance system," a foundational US system that creates, maintains, and encompasses systemic racism, systemic sexism, and systemic classism (capitalism).

It examines the “who, what, when, where, and how” of elite-white-male dominance in U.S. and global society. In spite of their domination in the United States and globally that we document herein, elite white men have seldom been called out and analyzed as such. They have received little to no explicit attention with regard to systemic racism issues, as well as associated classism and sexism issues.

Almost all public and scholarly discussions of U.S. racism fail to explicitly foreground elite white men or to focus specifically on how their interlocking racial, class, and gender statuses affect their globally powerful decision-making. Some of the power positions of these elite white men might seem obvious, but they are rarely

analyzed for their extraordinary significance. While the principal focus of this book is on neglected research and policy questions about the elite-white-male role and dominance in the system of racial oppression in the United States and globally, because of their positioning at the top of several societal hierarchies the authors periodically address their role and dominance in other oppressive (e.g., class, gender) hierarchies.

Dr. Patricia Thornton served:

— as a 2017 Juror for Best Paper Award, Vienna University of Economics and Business, for Business, Communication, Law, Humanities, Sociology, Economic Geography and Interdisciplinary Work, and

— as a member for 2017 George R. Terry Award Committee, Academy of Management.

A festschrift book *Systemic Racism: Making Liberty, Justice, and Democracy Real*

(London, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) was published in honor of **Dr. Joe Feagin**. The book is co-edited by one of our former Ph.D. students, Ruth Thompson-Miller and Dr. Kimberley Ducey. It is a collection of scholars (including a few more of our former Phd students, mentees, and other academic scholars) writing about



how in their own research they make use of **Dr. Joe Feagin's** theoretical and/or empirical work on race, racism, and other sociological issues.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Kwon, Mizzo, Chanam Lee, **Alex McIntosh** and Yu Xiao. 2017. "Community currency activities, community attachment, and quality of life: A case study of the crooked river alliance of TimeBanks." *Time and Society* 0(0): 1-40. On-line version.
- Kim, ChangHwan, Christopher R. Tamborini and **Arthur Sakamoto**. "The Sources of Life Chances: Does Demography, Education, Class Category, Occupation or Short-Term Earnings Predict 20-Year Long-Term Earnings?" Forthcoming in *Sociological Science*.
- Wang, Sharron**, Isao Takei and **Arthur Sakamoto**. 2017. "Do Asian Americans Face Labor Market Discrimination? Accounting for the Cost of Living among Native-Born Men and Women." *Socius* 3:1-14.
- Foster, Holly**. 2017. "Family Complexity and the Stress Process in Prison: How Sibling Living Arrangements of Minor Children Influence Maternal Role Strains." *Social Sciences* 6(3), 13 pages.
- Foster, Holly** and John Hagan. 2017. "Maternal Imprisonment, Economic Marginality, and Unmet Health Needs in Early Adulthood." *Preventive Medicine* 99: 43-48.
- Foster, Holly** and Jeanne Brooks-Gunn. 2017 (2015 on-line). "Intimate Partner Violence, Relationship Patterns and Gender in the Transition to Adulthood." *Journal of Family Issues* 38: 1998-2025.
- Foster, Holly**. 2017. "The Conditions of Confinement in Restricted Housing." Commissioned White Paper appears as Ch. 3 in *Restrictive Housing in the U.S.: Issues, Challenges, and Future Directions*, U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice. #NCJ 250315. (*In Summer 2017, the National Institute of Justice received the Award of Excellence from The National Association of Government Communicators for this overall volume*).
- Dudley L. Poston, Jr.**, D'Lane R. Compton, Qian Xiong, and **Emily A. Knox**. 2017. "The Residential Segregation of Same-Sex Households from Different-Sex Households in Metropolitan USA, circa-2010." *Population Review* 56(2): 1-29.
- Pals, Heili** and **Ceylan Engin**. 2018. "Attachment to Society and Cognitive Deviance: The Case of Turkey." *Deviant Behavior* Online First.
- Engin, Ceylan** and **Heili Pals**. 2018. "Patriarchal Attitudes in Turkey: The Influence of Religion and Political Conservatism." *Social Politics* Online First.
- Theresa Morris** and Joan Robison. 2017. "Forced and Coerced Cesarean Sections in the United States." *Contexts* 16(2):24-29.
- Suzuki, Kazuko**. 2017. [Invited Research Article] "A Critical Assessment of Comparative Sociology of Race and Ethnicity." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 3(3): 287-300.
- Eason, John M.**, Danielle Zucker, and Christopher Wildeman. 2017. "Mass imprisonment across the rural-urban interface" *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 672(1): 202-216.
- Harland Prechel** and Lu Zheng. 2016. "Do Organizational and Political-Legal Arrangements Explain Financial Wrongdoing?" *British Journal of Sociology* 67:655-677.
- Harland Prechel** and Alesha Istvan. 2016. "Disproportionality of Corporations' Environmental Pollution in the Electrical Energy Industry." *Sociological Perspectives* 59:505-527. **Editor's Pick**.
- Gonlin, Vanessa** and **Mary E. Campbell**. 2017. "Is Blindness Contagious? Examining Racial Attitudes among People of Color with Close Interracial Relationships." *Sociological Perspectives* 60(5): 937-955.
- Rubio Goldsmith, Pat**, Nadia Y. Flores-Yeffal, Juan Salinas, **Bruce Reese**, **Christina Cruz**. 2018. "Mexican Parent's Undocumented Status and the Educational Attainment of the Children Left Behind." *Social Science Research* Online First.
- Bruce Reese** and **Mary K. McDougal**. 2018. "Gender, Status, and Tax Offenses," *Deviant Behavior* Online First.
- Mary K. McDougal**. 2018. "Unequal and Unfair: Free Riding in One-Shot Interactions." *Sociological Inquiry* Online First.

WELCOME! BEM VINDO!

In Fall 2017 Sociology Department welcomed our newest faculty member, assistant professor **Dr. Ernesto Amaral**. The majority of Dr. Amaral's research projects deal with social demography, migration, population health, and public policy evaluation through the manipulation of large data sets and integration of demographic, statistical, and spatial methods.



Prior to joining TAMU, Dr. Amaral was an associate sociologist at the RAND Corporation and professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School (2014–2017). He worked on several projects related to demographic projections, migration, income inequality, intergenerational transmission of income, and public policy evaluation.

Dr. Amaral served as an assistant/associate professor in the Political Science Department at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) in Belo Horizonte, Brazil (2009–2014). He taught courses on research methodology, social statistics, and evaluation of public policies.

Dr. Amaral received his PhD in sociology with a concentration in demography from the University of Texas at Austin in 2007, a master's degree in demography from UFMG in 2002, and a bachelor's degree in social sciences from the Federal University of Goiás (UFG), Brazil in 2000.

Dr. Amaral's studies have been funded by the Pardee Global Human Progress Initiative (Pardee RAND Graduate School), the RAND Center for the Study of Aging, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Population Reference Bureau, the Institute of International Education, the Brazilian Ministry of Education (CAPES/MEC), the China Population and Development Research Center (CPDRC), the Brazilian Institute of Applied Economics Research (IPEA), the Brazilian Association of Population Studies (ABEP), the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (CNPq/MCTI), and the Minas Gerais Research Support Foundation (FAPEMIG).

TRANSITION



Dr. Verna Keith transitioned from our department to become Head of the Sociology Department at the **University of Alabama-Birmingham** in January 2018. Verna has been a great colleague and done so much for the department and RESI. We miss her greatly.

Prior to her departure, Dr. Keith was awarded the **Joseph Sandy Himes Award for Lifetime Scholarship** from the Association of Black Sociologists. The purpose of the Joseph Himes Award for Lifetime Scholarship is to honor members of ABS who have worked over a

lifetime career to achieve two goals: (1) to enhance the status of theory and research specifically related to the social condition of African-Americans through a sociological framework, broadly construed; and (2) to contribute to the growth of the Association as an institution and an activist network of scholars and academicians.

WHAT DO SOCIOLOGY MAJORS DO WITH THEIR DEGREE?

By **Dr. Warren Waren**



In addition to my research, I teach 70-250 undergraduates a semester. Each semester, I write letters of recommendation for my top students as they apply for jobs or move on to graduate or professional school for further training. Based on the letters of recommendation I have written for my students over the last five years or so, here is a sample of what our sociology majors are doing with their undergraduate degrees:

A non-traditional veteran who excelled in my statistics class is going to use his skills to revamp the **VA Hospital system**. His skills have prepared him for advanced training in **public health and hospital administration**.

The best student I ever taught was a young African-American woman who was a first generation college graduate. She won the award for the highest academic achievement in the College of Liberal Arts. She will be going to **law school** in an earnest effort to create and better enforce laws prohibiting human trafficking.

I have written letters for recent graduates to work in the **Brazos County District Attorney's Office**, for positions in the Seminole County Sheriff's Office (in Florida), and for an outstanding young man to work with the **FBI** in Washington, D.C. (he had an internship that turned into the job of his dreams).

I have written multiple letters for former students to work in **public schools** in Austin and Houston in various capacities—as teachers, PE Teachers, and school counselors.

Many of the letters I write are as part of an application packet for **professional school or graduate school**. I must say, I am delighted when students tell me that they are pursuing a graduate degree in sociology! I have helped students apply to programs to do advanced study on topics such as race and discrimination, on religion and charitable giving, on poverty and homelessness, on the culture of food, and on the emerging cultures within video games.

I've also had a number of students successfully apply to the **Bush School of Public Service and Administration** here at A&M with an eye toward starting or running their own non-profit organizations. Personally, I am a big fan of the Health Policy and Management program here at A&M in the **School of Public Health**. We also have a strong **Educational Psychology** program that is attractive to some of my students.

Further afield, I've written letters recently for a former student's admission to **Texas State's** School Psychology program; to **Webster University's** Arts Counseling program; to **St. Mary's** Clinical and Mental Health Policy program; to **Sam Houston State's** Homeland Security Studies program; to the **University of Central Florida's** Urban and Regional Planning program; and to the Medical School of the **Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara**.

Of course, most sociology students who work outside of academia don't need letters of recommendation from an old professor. So I'm sure that my list is incomplete. But I hear from students every now and then with updates on jobs in **marketing** or on **police forces** or as **firefighters** or as **church pastors**. I'm always impressed with how creatively they apply what they learned in the classroom to the world at large. The sociological insights on group dynamics they learned from me will inform the work they do for the rest of their careers. That is both deeply gratifying and intensely humbling. They are contributors to a better world for all of us.

"The philosophers have only *interpreted* the world....The point, however, is to *change* it." Sometimes, I feel like I am a philosopher and that it's my students who really get the point.

It might be said that a teacher's happiness comes from the success of their students. If that's the case, then I have to say I'm very happy!



GRANTS

Alex McIntosh, in collaboration with Soil Science professors, received funding (\$2 million, majority of which goes to Soil Science) for “Actionable Links between Soil Function, Ecosystem Services, and Stakeholder Perceptions to Overcome Barriers to Improved Soil Management” from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food And Agriculture.

Vani Mathur and **Theresa Morris** received the Liberal Arts Social Science Consortium Proof-of-Concept Grant (\$6460), Texas A&M University, for their project “Disparities in Women’s Labor Pain and Pain Management.”

BOOK CHAPTERS

Sakamoto, Arthur, ChangHwan Kim and Christopher R. Tamborini. Forthcoming. “Changes in Occupations, Jobs, and Skill Polarization.” In *The Cambridge Handbook on the Changing Nature of Work* edited by Brian Hoffman and Lauren Wegman. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press.

Gonlin, Vanessa. 2017. “Connections or Color? Predicting Colorblindness among Blacks.” Pp. 55-76 in *Color Struck: How Race and Complexion Matter in the “Color-Blind” Era*, edited by L. L. Martin, H. D. Horton, C. Herring, V. M. Keith, and M. Thomas. Sense Publishers.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr. 2017.

“Demography.” Ch. 16 in *The Cambridge Handbook of Sociology*, edited by Kathleen Korgen. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Harland Prechel and **Dadao Hou**. 2016. “From Market Enablers to Market Participants: Redefining Organizational and Political-Legal Arrangements and Opportunities for Financial Wrongdoing, 1930s-2000.” Pp. 77-112 in *Organizational Wrongdoing*, edited by Donald Palmer, Royston Greenwood, and Kristin Smith-Crowe. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Harland Prechel. 2016. “Organizational Political Economy and White-Collar Crime.” Pp. 294-325 in *The Oxford Handbook of White-Collar Crime*. Edited by Shanna R. Van Slyke, Michael L. Benson, and Francis Cullen.

Dr. Theresa Morris was elected to the Executive Council of the Southwest Sociological Association (2017-2019).

Holly Foster became a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* for 2018-2020.

INVITED TALKS

Kazuko Suzuki. "Book Talk: Divided Fates: The State, Race, and Korean immigrants' Adaptation in Japan and the United States." SOAS, University of London, London, 05/24/2017.

Theresa Morris. “Paradox Lost on the U.S.-Mexico Border: U.S. Latinas and Cesarean Section Rates." University of Texas, El Paso.

Patricia Thornton. 2017 “Research Programs: Overview and Current Projects,” Institute for Urban Governance and Organization Studies, the School of Business and Economics, University of Vienna, June.

KEYHOLE GARDENS



Dr. Sarah Gatson is combining her profession as a sociologist and her passion as the Brazos County Master Gardener to explore the concept of “community” through the lens of food security and food justice. She has teamed up with her students to build keyhole gardens. The idea of a keyhole garden is to build an ideal environment with a compost-in-place method. Better nutrient profile for the plants,



NEEDED: CARDBOARD & LEAVES & LAWN CLIPPINGS!!!

If you need to get rid of cardboard; bagged old leaves, and/or fresh lawn clippings (these must be fresh!) — let us know, and we will pick them up to take to Habitat for Humanity warehouse — it is critical for our keyhole gardens: we need a ratio of 3-1 brown-green materials to fill most of a keyhole with.



and less irrigation needed. Starting last spring, Dr. Gatson has officially partnered with the Brazos County Master Gardeners Association and B/CS Habitat for Humanity to develop the keyhole garden as our project's main deliverable/intervention, although they still offer container garden and smaller raised bed options for anyone who would like to participate.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Patricia Thornton co-organized with Michael Lounsbury and William Ocasio, subtheme conference on “The Multiplicity of Institutional Logics,” European Group on Organization Studies, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark, July.

She also acted as a Consulting Organizer for Nina Granqvist and Jo-Ellen Pozner, “Doctoral Consortium,” Organization and Management Theory Division, Academy of Management, Anaheim, CA.

Patricia Thornton. 2017 “When and Where Does Workplace Diversity Pay? Institutional and Resource-Based Views” Organization and Management Theory Division, Academy of Management.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr. and **Cheryl Rollman-Tinajero.** 2017. “The Effects of State-level Characteristics on the Economic Costs of Homosexuality, United States, 2011-2015.” Congress of the European Society for Rural Sociology, Krakow, Poland.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr., Angelica C. Menchaca and **Juyin Helen Wong.** 2017. “Community Well-being and Mexican Interstate Migration in the United States, 2011-2015.” Congress of the European Society for Rural Sociology, Krakow, Poland.

Dudley L. Poston, Jr., Sharon Baker-Hughes, and **Juyin Helen Wong.** 2017. “Community-level Ecological Models of Gay Male and Lesbian Partnering Prevalence Ratios in the Micropolitan Areas of the United States, 2010-2014.” Congress of the European Society for Rural Sociology, Krakow, Poland.

Mark Fossett and **Xinyuan Zou.** 2017. “Revisiting Spatial Assimilation Theory: Analyzing Residential Segregation of European Ethnic Groups Using Restricted Micro Data for 1930 and 1940.” Annual Meeting of Population Association of America in Chicago.

Abel, Richard, Xavier Serna, Kimber Harvey, Alma Trevino Garza, and **Heili Pals.** “Coming Undone: Does Socio-Criminal Background Normalize Criminal Justice Involvement?” American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.

Theresa Morris, Kelly McNamara, and Christine Morton. 2017. “Hospital-Ownership Status and Cesarean Sections in the United States: The Effect of For-Profit Hospitals.” Annual Meetings of the American Sociological Society.

Theresa Morris and Joan Robinson. 2017. “Forced and Coerced Cesarean Sections in the United States.” International Meetings on Law and Society.

McIntosh, Alex. 2017. “Using Time Diary Methodology to Study Food Behavior” Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Food and Society in Los Angeles, CA.

McIntosh, Alex. 2017. “Transnational Tobacco Companies and Smoking Prevalence” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society at Columbus, OH.

Harland Prechel. 2017. “Corporate-State Relations, Corporate Structures, and Carbon Emissions in the U.S. Energy Sector.” Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, Montreal.

Guadalupe Marquez-Velarde, Nicole Jones, and **Verna Keith.** 2017. “A Fragile Protective Cloak? Examining Self-Rated Health and the Latin Americanization Thesis among Black Mexicans.” Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, Montreal.

Ryon Cobb, **Verna Keith,** Dawne Mouzon, and Whitney Laster Pritle. 2017. “Racial Disparities in Mental Health: The importance of Skin Tone, Racial Classification, and Other Identification.” Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, Montreal.

KEYNOTE TALKS

Dr. Patricia Thornton gave two keynote talks at the Workshop on Cultural Organizations and Cultural Entrepreneurship, Business School, University of Edinburgh in July 2017:

“The Price of Admission: Organizational Deference as Strategic Behavior.”

“Cultural Entrepreneurship.”

Public Sociology

Sociology Faculty Members and Graduate Students Sharing Their Research in News Media Outlets



Asheli Atkins published an article "[After Hurricane Harvey, black organizations can be life rafts for black-owned businesses](#)" at *TribTalk*, a publication of The Texas Tribune.

Dr. Joe Feagin gets a mention at the *Los Angeles Times* article authored by Cathleen Decker (Sept 23, 2017) titled "[At Trump's bully pulpit, it's 'us' vs. 'them,' with race often used as a device to polarize](#)".

Dr. Art Sakamoto appeared on BYU radio's "Top of Mind" show with a section on "[Men Marrying Up](#)".

Dr. Theresa Morris gave an author television interview, SÉPTIMO DÍA in CARACOL, Colombia (August 3).

Desert News, in Salt Lake City Utah, published an author interview with **Dr. Theresa Morris** titled "[What the rest of the country can learn from Utah's low C-section birthrate](#)" and authored by Jennifer Graham on June 30, 2017.

Dr. John Eason's book *Big House on the Prairie* was featured at CityLab in an article titled "[The Economics of Prison Boomtowns](#)" authored by Tanvi Misra.

Dr. John Eason also gave an interview on the "[The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen](#)" radio show.

Dr. Dudley Poston published an op-ed, co-authored with former student, current faculty member Nicole Farris, in the *San Antonio Express News*: "[If Puerto Rico gets statehood, some states lose House seats.](#)"

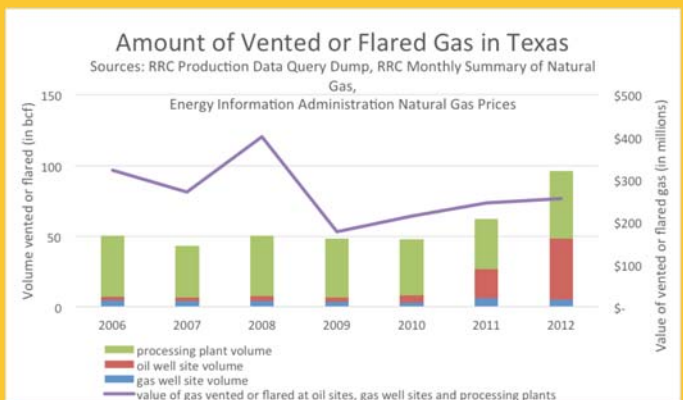
Dr. Dudley Poston published an op-ed at *The Eagle* "[Trump's border wall won't work.](#)"

Dr. Dudley Poston, together with Dr. Peter A Morrison, published an editorial "[The Demography of Trump's Wall](#)" at N-IUSSP, the News Magazine of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population.

Dr. Dudley L. Poston, co-authored with Dr. Rogelio Sáenz published "[U.S. Whites Will Soon Be the Minority in Number But Not Power](#)" in *Baltimore Sun*.

Dr. Nancy Plankey-Videla and **Dr. Mary Campbell's** efforts in education of immigrants was covered in *The Eagle* "[Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network to offer 10-week citizenship, English classes.](#)" authored by Kelan Lyons.

Kate Willyard published an op-ed in the *Texas Tribune* on regulation of oil and gas "[The need for better Texas oil and gas industry regulatory data.](#)"



Kate Willyard

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS



Through the generosity of the **Howard Kaplan** family, our department can award The Howard Kaplan Assistantship every year.

This award is given in honor of **Dr. Howard B. Kaplan** who was a Regents Professor, a Distinguished Professor of Sociology and the Mary Thomas Marshall Professor of Liberal Arts at Texas A&M University. He devoted his career to the study of social psychology, deviant behavior, social disorganization, and mental health.



The 2017-2018 Award is given to **Kimber Harvey**, for continuing her research on adolescent deviant behavior. Her research combines and contrasts Dr. Kaplan's theories of self-referent behavior with other theoretical perspectives in social psychology. She will be using Howard Kaplan's Longitudinal and Multigenerational Survey (KLAMS) data.

Kate Willyard

received National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award (SES-1702683) for her project "Organizational, Community, and State Regulatory Characteristics Influence on Venting and Flaring Rates of Texas Gas Wells." Total awarded: \$11,954.

She was also selected for United States Center for Economic Studies Dissertation Mentorship. Kate's mentor is United States Census Bureau Principal Economist and Special Assistant to the Chief

Economist, Dr. Randy Becker.

Kate Willyard won the 2nd place at Texas A&M University GIS Day Paper Competition (total award \$100).



Linzi Berkowitz was awarded the Scott Eliason Scholarship by the University of Arizona to attend the Arizona Methods Workshop.



John Kainer (by now graduated) was selected for a 2017 Association of Former Students Distinguished Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Teaching. John's outstanding academic record and contributions in Teaching have been recognized and acknowledged by a distinguished committee of reviewers.

John and other graduate students selected as 2017 awardees each received a framed certificate and a watch valued at \$500.



Christopher Mathey served, in the past semester, as a panelist for several presentations, sometimes the only panelist with a documented disability.

One presentation served to raise awareness among architects designing the proposed student services building about the challenges students with physical and non-physical disabilities may experience with the current floor plan schematics.

Another presentation served to raise awareness among library staff about the benefits and challenges

students with disabilities experience with access to library resources.

Still another presentation served to raise awareness among undergraduate students about the multiple facets of life as a graduate student at a Tier-1 research institution.

Discussion topics included faculty expectations, teaching and research work load, balancing work and life commitments, stress, and overall health and wellness.

Alma Trevino Garza accepted a lecturer position at her hometown at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

Bruce Reese successfully defended his dissertation, "Interactive Effects of Group Identity and Contribution Variation on Altruistic Punishment of Free-Riding." He will graduate in May 2018.

Billy Brocato started working as a lecturer at the Texas A&M University San-Antonio.

 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

John Kainer took a lecturer position at the University of Texas at San Antonio.



Guadalupe Marquez -Velarde accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position at Utah State University.



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