

# Sociology News

Case Western Reserve University Department of Sociology

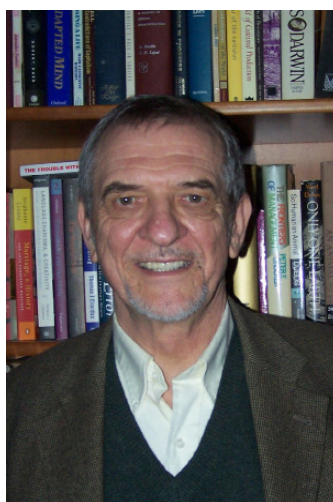
## Letter from the Chair

Dear friends and colleagues:

Welcome to the Fall 2017-Spring 2018 edition of CWRU *Sociology News*! This edition covers an unusual span of time, and a diverse array of activities, events and accomplishments of both faculty and students!

This past academic year began last fall with one of the biggest news items of the year. Three esteemed members of the Sociology faculty – **Professors Mary Erdmans, Brian Gran and Jessica Kelley** – received well-deserved promotion to the rank of full professor. Please join our departmental colleagues and friends in heartily congratulating them on this important milestone of scholarly accomplishment and recognition!

More generally, this has been a year of continued productive activity in advancing sociological knowledge, and also of high professional recognition for our faculty and our department. **Assistant Professor Cassi Pittman Claytor** was awarded both a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and a Glennan Fellowship to support her ongoing research on the black middle class. Just at the time that **Professors Eva Kahana and Jessica Kelley** completed ASA leadership roles, **Professor Brian Gran** was elected Chair-elect of the Section on Human Rights, and he was also asked to serve on the ASA Program Committee for next year's annual meeting. These and other faculty were recognized for other notable contributions, as you can read in the pages that follow.



It has also been a very productive year for our graduate and undergraduate students. At least 10 doctoral students and seven undergraduates students presented or co-presented papers at several national meetings.

One development deserves special notice. Our Annual AKD meeting has a long run tradition of featuring a lecture delivered by one of our illustriously successful undergraduate alumni. Last year, this lecture was named the Gene S. Uyeki Memorial Lecture. As many of you know, Gene Uyeki was a brilliant sociologist and a venerated and beloved member of our faculty for 43 years. Professor Uyeki passed away in 2014, and members of the department chose to name our annual lecture in his honor. Both in 2017 and 2018, we heard excellent lectures from CWRU Sociology alumni.

As I noted in the last edition of *Sociology News*, we have established a newsfeed on the department's webpage ([sociology.case.edu](http://sociology.case.edu)). If you are interested in updates from the department, you no longer have to wait for the newsletter!

As always, we are eager to hear alumni news. Please keep us informed of any job openings that may be of interest to our recent graduates and students. And if you are in the area, stop by and visit the Department of Sociology!

-Dale Dannefer, Chair

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### Department of Sociology

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*Sociology News* is a publication of the Department of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University.



COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCES  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

## Department Highlights

### Three sociology faculty promoted to the rank of professor

Professors Mary Erdmans, Brian Gran and Jessica A. Kelley have been promoted to the rank of Professor in the Department of Sociology. These promotions recognize their academic and professional contributions and provide a tangible indication of the high quality of scholarship and dedication of CWRU Sociology faculty across an array of important substantive areas. Hearty congratulations to Mary, Brian, and Jessica !!

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### Department of Sociology hosted exciting line-up of colloquia

The department sponsored a diverse line-up of interesting and provocative colloquia this past year, featuring an array of some of the leading figures in several subfields of sociology.

#### Corey Dolgon discusses new award-winning book



**Corey Dolgon**, Professor of Sociology at Stonehill College and Faculty Director of the Downtown Center for Community Engagement, visited campus on October 5. He gave a department-sponsored lecture in the afternoon titled "Kill It to Save It: An Autopsy of Capitalism's Triumph over Democracy." In the evening he gave a second talk sponsored by the Social Justice Institute on "In Search of One Big Union: Folksongs & Social Movements in the US." An informal meet-and-greet was held with faculty and students at The Jolly Scholar before the evening talk.



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#### Douglas Massey delivers timely lecture on immigration policies

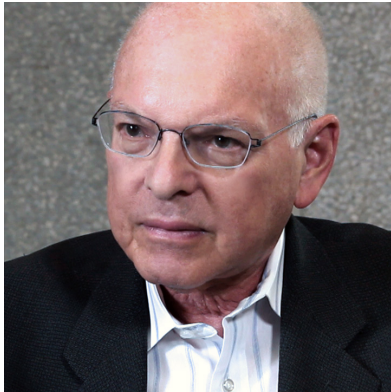


**Douglas Massey**, Professor of Princeton University's Sociology Department and the Woodrow Wilson School, visited campus on October 19-20. He delivered a lecture to Sociology doctoral students and faculty. He also met with doctoral students informally before heading to the School of Law, where he delivered the Frank J. Battisti Memorial Lecture. The lecture was part of a series of events at the law school focused on the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, the U.S. legal basis for the Japanese internment during World War II. Massey's lecture, "America's Immigration Policy Fiasco," argued that militarizing the border has failed to address our real immigration issues and explored more promising policy alternatives. On Friday, Massey delivered a talk at the City Club of Cleveland titled "Why Border Enforcement Backfired."

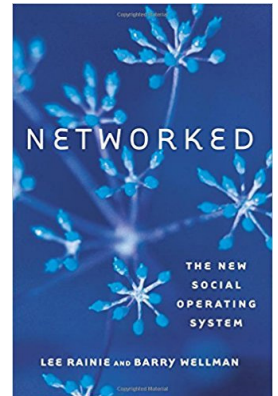
**The department sponsored a diverse line-up of interesting and provocative colloquia this past year, featuring an array of some of the leading figures in several subfields of sociology.**

## Department Highlights (continued)

### Barry Wellman analyzes societal impact of digital technologies



**Barry Wellman**, S.D. Clark Professor of Sociology and Co-director of NetLab Network, visited campus on January 19. Professor Wellman is a leading figure in the sociology of digital technology and the internet. His acclaimed 2013 book, *Networked: The New Social Operating System* elaborates his timely concept of “networked individualism”. He gave a department-sponsored lecture titled “Networked Individualism and the Digitization of Older Adults” and afterwards met with faculty members and students in informal discussions.



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### Arthur Frank discusses modern health and illness narratives



**Arthur Frank**, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Calgary and Founder of the International Network for Social Network Analysis, visited campus on March 18. A medical sociologist, he is the author of a memoir of critical illness, *At the Will of the Body* (1991; new edition 2002); a study of first-person illness narratives, *The Wounded Storyteller* (1995; expanded edition, 2013); a book on care as dialogue, *The Renewal of Generosity: Illness, Medicine and How to Live* (2004); and most recently, a book on how stories affect our lives, *Letting Stories Breathe: A Socio-narratology* (2010).



Professor Frank gave a department-sponsored lecture on March 26 titled “A Conversation with Arthur Frank About Sociology, Illness Narratives, and Modern Healing” followed by an informal discussion and luncheon with faculty members and students.

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### Peggy Thoits examines stressors that threaten personal identities



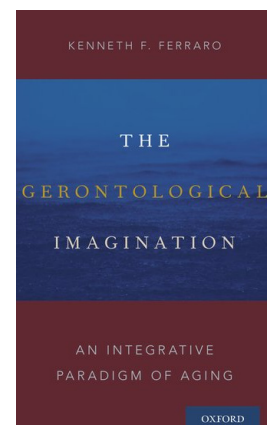
**Peggy Thoits**, Virginia L. Roberts Professor of Sociology at Indiana University, visited the campus on March 19. Professor Thoits’ is a sociologist whose research examines the unequal social distributions of stress experiences, social support, and physical and mental health problems in the general adult population. She focuses especially on “identity-relevant” stressors – major life events and ongoing problems that threaten personal identities. She gave a department-sponsored lecture titled “‘We Know What They’re Going Through’: Social Support from Similar Versus Significant Others” followed by light refreshments and informal discussions with faculty members and students.

## Department Highlights (continued)

### Ken Ferraro examines long-term impact of childhood misfortune



**Kenneth Ferraro**, Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center on Aging and the Life Course at Purdue University, visited campus on April 16. His recent research focuses on health inequality over the life course. His current projects examine minority health, obesity and health, and the long-term consequences of childhood misfortune on later life. With interests in how stratification processes unfold over the life course, he has developed a theory for the study of human development, aging and health: cumulative inequality theory.



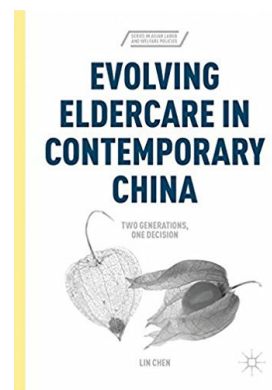
Professor Ferraro recently published *The Gerontological Imagination: An Integrative Paradigm of Aging* (Oxford University Press, 2018). During his visit to campus, he gave a department-sponsored lecture titled "Early Social Origins of Adult Health: Evidence of Pluripotent Influence?" followed by an informal discussion and luncheon with faculty members and students.

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### Lin Chen speaks on elder caregiving in urban China



**Lin Chen**, Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work in the School of Social Development and Public Policy at Fudan University, visited campus on May 8. Her research focuses on (1) older adults' caregiving relationships in the contexts of family, community, and nursing homes; (2) implications of urbanization for caregiving in China; and (3) developments in social and health policy for older adults. Her work pays special attention to Chinese sociocultural influences and emphasizes a dyadic perspective in the caregiving relationship, bringing together both voices of caregiving recipients and caregiving providers.



In 2016, Dr. Chen published *Evolving Eldercare in Contemporary China: Two Generations, One Decision* (Palgrave Macmillan). She has also published articles in *Qualitative Health Research*, *Journal of Aging and Health*, *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*, *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, *Journal of Aging Studies*, *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*, *Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, and *Journal of Death and Dying*. The lecture she presented during her visit, "Meeting the Challenges: Evolving Caring Relationships in Urban China," was followed by an informal discussion and luncheon with faculty members, students and colleagues.

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### Erdmans and Black receive Honorable Mention from ASA Section

**Mary Erdmans** and **Timothy Black's** book *On Becoming a Teen Mom* received Honorable Mention for the Distinguished Book Award from the ASA Section on Race, Gender, and Class. Over 60 books were nominated for this award.



## Faculty Updates

UCITE, the University Center for Innovation in Teaching and Education at Case Western Reserve University, selected Assistant Professor **Cassi Pittman Claytor** as one of its five Glennan Fellows for 2016-17. Named after T. Keith Glennan, former President of Case Institute of Technology (1947-1965), the program recognizes tenure-track faculty and is awarded based on promise as a scholar and teacher.

Cassi was also awarded the Woodrow Wilson Foundation's 2017 National Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty. The fellowship seeks to increase the presence of minority junior faculty members and other faculty committed to eradicating racial disparities in core fields in the arts and humanities. The Fellowship, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, supports the Mellon Foundation's mission to strengthen, promote, and, where necessary, defend the contributions of the humanities and the arts to human flourishing and to the well-being of diverse and democratic societies.

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At last year's meeting of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, **Dale Dannefer's** paper "Cumulative Advantage/Disadvantage and the Life Course: Cross-Fertilizing Age and Social Science Theory" was recognized as the second-most-cited paper in the history of the long-running journal.

Dale delivered a keynote address at the combined meeting of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) and the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) in San Francisco in July 2017, titled "History, Biography and Age: Multiple Levels of Social Inequality." He was also a featured speaker at the Conference on the Human Ecology of Social Inequality at the University of California, Davis last May. His talk was titled "Inequality in Human Development: Historical Trends, Life Course Processes."

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In October, **Gary Deimling** and **Eva Kahana** were both presenters at a community discussion at the First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, titled "Disrupting Aging: Health, Wealth, and Secrets of Success."

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**Mary Erdmans** presented at several conferences, two of which were in Poland and one in Belfast, Ireland. She presented her papers "Relations between Migrants and the Homeland in a Time of Political Transition" and "Residential Patterns of Polish Immigrants in Chicago in the 21st Century" at the Sixth World Congress on Polish Studies this past June in Kraków. In September, she presented her paper "Transnationalism and Return Migration among Solidarity Refugees" at the International Poles and Polish Diaspora in North America conference at the Emigration Museum in Gdynia. In November, she presented "Zbigniew Kowalewski: 'A political child of the Cuban revolution'" at the annual meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology in Havana, Cuba. In April, she presented her paper "The Construction of Political Identities among Solidarity Refugees" at the European Social Science History Conference in Belfast.



Mary was also awarded a Fulbright fellowship for the coming year, which will again take her to Poland.

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**Karie Feldman** received a 2017 Outstanding Faculty Advocate award. Nominated by students, Feldman was honored for creating a culture of inclusion by assisting with the de-stigmatizing of disabilities and promoting self-advocacy. Congratulations!

## Faculty Updates (continued)

**Brian Gran** was invited by the Cleveland Council on World Affairs to participate in "Responsible Global Investing," a project sponsored through the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). The IVLP is the State Department's premier professional exchange program, bringing over 250 professionals from around the world to visit Northeast Ohio each year. As part of the "Responsible Global Investing" project, Brian gave a presentation to a group of five international visitors from the People's Republic of China, two interpreters, and their host to discuss best practices and real-world examples of how integrity in international business operations and investments can strengthen the rule of law (including human rights), prevent corruption, eradicate poverty, and promote peace.

Brian is serving on the Program Committee for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, and is also Chair-Elect of ASA's Section on the Sociology of Human Rights. In February 2018, he participated in two meetings on the right to science, one sponsored by the UN and one by Human Rights Watch. He has also been invited to participate in a "day of discussion" for the UN this fall in Geneva; to speak to the World Congress of Scientific Freedom, to be held in the European Parliament, Brussels; and to give two lectures at South Korean universities.

In March, Brian was invited to present a paper at the conference "Frontiers of Human Rights Research: Methodological Innovations and New Rights Issues," held at the University of Michigan. He is also one of fourteen members of the National Conference of Lawyers and Scientists. He served as a panelist evaluating applications to both the Fulbright Scholars program and the Boren Scholarship program.

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**Susan Hinze** presented "After the #MeToo Movement: What Works for Preventing Harassment in the Academic Workplace," a paper co-authored with Idee Winfield, at the Southern Sociological Society in April. She also gave an invited talk at Indiana University of Pennsylvania on gender, race and STEM leadership in the academy, and a keynote on campus for a women's empowerment event hosted by the Panhellenic Council. Sue was also an invited speaker in February for the CWRU Mock World Health Organization. Her talk was titled "Who Deserves Care? Human Rights, Intersectionality and Physician Decision-Making."

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**Eva Kahana** was appointed to the ASA Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities and to the Advisory Committee of the European Research Consortium on Health Literacy. Together with graduate students and other co-authors, she presented seven papers at ASA, at the IAGG/GSA meeting in July 2017 and at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society.

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**Jessica Kelley** recently participated in an invited panel at The City Club of Cleveland as part of its Youth Forum series. The panel, which also included Dr. Maurice Stinnett, Vice President of Cleveland State University, and Mike Brickner, Senior Policy Director for ACLU of Ohio, discussed the controversy over affirmative action in college admission decisions, examining the history of affirmative action and implications of current debate for minority youth entering college. The event was organized and moderated by the Youth Forum and can be viewed on the City Club website: <https://cityclub.org/events/youth-forum-affirmative-action-and-unintended-discrimination>. Jessica also completed her term as Chair of the ASA's Section on Aging and the Life Course.

### Five faculty members nominated for teaching and mentoring awards

Congratulations to Timothy Black, Karie Feldman and Jessica Kelley on being nominated for the university's Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Congratulations to Brian Gran and Eva Kahana on being nominated for the Diekhoff Graduate Mentoring Award.

## Affiliated Faculty Updates

**Adam Perzynski**, assistant professor at the CWRU School of Medicine and a member of the Bioscientific Medical Staff at MetroHealth, was featured in *Cardiology Today*. The article, "NIH issues grant to develop new CV risk factor calculator," highlighted a grant recently awarded by the National Institute on Aging to investigators from Cleveland Clinic and the MetroHealth System. The grant will help develop a comprehensive risk calculator that incorporates environmental and neighborhood-level characteristics using data from Cleveland Clinic and MetroHealth patients and the U.S. Census Bureau.

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Former Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow **Áine Ní Léime**, a Marie Skłodowska Curie Research Fellow funded by the European Framework Programme 7, shared the preliminary results of a project conducted in the CWRU Department of Sociology titled "Gender, Older Workers and the Lifecourse (GENDOWL)." The research focused on the experiences and the views of workers aged 50 and over in different occupations in relation to extending their working lives. The results were presented at a Social Justice Institute Policy Seminar titled "Is Extending Working Life the Best Response to Population Aging for All Workers?" The seminar was preceded by a keynote address by Debra Street, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, University of Buffalo and followed by small-group and panel discussions.

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## Student Updates

### Sociology students receive SJI Research Fellowships

Sociology students receive Social Justice Institute Research Fellowships during 2017-18. Doctoral student **Lacey Caporale** received funding for her project "An Investigation of the Detroit Shoreway Developing Neighborhood." Sociology major **MaryTherese Escueta** received funding for her project "'I Do Wanna Dance': The Lived Experience of Professional Dancers of Color." Sociology major **Vishnu Akella** received funding for "Dream Neighborhoods: Examining Cleveland's Refugee Housing Communities," a project that Vishnu was also awarded the inaugural 2017-2018 Freedman Student Fellow as well.

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### Department represented at several conferences

At least 19 Sociology students presented papers at a number of recent national and regional conferences, including the combined meeting of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) and the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) in San Francisco in July 2017; the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) and the American Sociological Association (ASA), both in Montreal, in August 2017; the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACS) conference in Cleveland and the North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) in Pittsburgh in April 2018.

Students presenting included **Luma Al Masarweh**, **Tirth Bhatta** (spring PhD graduate), **Anne Bryden**, **Erin Buttars**, **Lacey Caporale**, **Grace Chu** (undergrad), **MaryTherese Escueta** (undergrad), **Victoria Hamilton** (undergrad), **Wenxuan Huang**, **Sarah Jammal** (undergrad), **Elizabeth Nalepa**, **Brittany Rabb** (undergrad), **Amelia Rivas** (undergrad), **Sarah Shick**, **Adrianna Smell**, **Alicia Smith-Tran** (3 presentations), **Minzhi Ye** (2 presentations), **Haley Yocum** (undergrad) and **Jiao Yu**. Several Sociology faculty also organized symposia and presented posters and papers at these conferences.



*From left to right: MaryTherese Escueta, Victoria Hamilton, Amelia Rivas, Grace Chu, Hayley Yocum, Sarah Jammal*

## Student Updates (continued)

### Achievement Awards Ceremonies, 2017 and 2018

Ten students were initiated into the Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) International Sociology Honor Society and 12 students were recipients of Undergraduate Awards during the Sociology department's 2017 Achievements Awards Ceremony. This was also the first year that the lecture portion of the award ceremony was dedicated to Dr. Gene S. Uyeki (1926-2014), Professor of Sociology at Case Western Reserve University for 43 years. In his appreciation of the power of social forces, his quest for scientific understanding, and his integrity as a person and as a consummate professional, he serves as a role model for us all. *The Gene S. Uyeki Memorial Lecture*, "From the back of the classroom to the front," was delivered by graduate alumna and full-time lecturer Karie Feldman. The event was followed by a luncheon.

The AKD initiates for 2017 were Luma AlMasarweh, Cameron Joseph Childers, Sarah Natale Jammal, Richard Ning Liang, Francesca, Rosa Marchiafava, Colette Lynne-Afou Ngana, Brittany Ruth Rabb, Mikalah Lauren Singer, Nikki Marie Warren, and Siyue Xu. *The Schermerhorn Award* for outstanding students in sociology went to Connor Collins, Verity Forsythe and Jennifer Lowe. *The Mark Lefton Award* for Excellence in Sociological Studies was awarded to McCoy T. Edmonds, MaryTherese Escueta, Victoria Hamilton, Srinidhi Singuri and Kevin Smith. *The Stella Berkeley-Friedman Award* to graduating seniors for the highest academic achievement in the study of sociology was awarded to Meghan Gibbons and Steven Reynolds. *The Robert C. Davis Award* for demonstrated commitment to sociological studies was awarded to Justine Bernacet and Rhee Duck Hyung. *The James Dysart Magee Award* to an outstanding senior student in Social and Behavioral Sciences was awarded to Kevin Smith.

MaryTherese Escueta won second place in the student paper competition at the Northeast Ohio Undergraduate Sociology Symposium and first place in the social sciences oral presentation at the CWRU Intersections: Research ShowCASE for her paper "'I Do Wanna Dance': The Lived Experiences of Professional Dancers of Color." Gabriella Kaddu was awarded *The Peter Witt Scholarship* through the College of Arts and Sciences at CWRU. This highly selective honor recognizes both Gabriella's academic excellence and her extraordinary commitment to outreach to Cleveland-area homeless individuals. Brittany Rabb has been accepted into the American Sociological Association (ASA) Honors Program. Participants in the Honors Program, selected from across the country and the world for their exceptional academic achievements, participated in the 2017 ASA Annual Meeting in Montreal.



AKD Initiates 2017: Luma AlMasarweh, Cameron Joseph Childers, Sarah Natale Jammal, Richard Ning Liang, Francesca Rosa Marchiafava, Colette Lynne-Afou Ngana, Brittany Ruth Rabb, Mikalah Lauren Singer, Nikki Marie Warren, and Siyue Xu



From left to right: Duck Hyung Rhee, Meghan Gibbons, Siyue Xu



## Student Updates (continued)

### Achievement Awards Ceremonies, 2017 and 2018 (continued)

In the 2018 Achievement Awards Ceremony, 15 students were initiated into the AKD Sociology Honor Society and 11 students were recipients of Undergraduate Awards. The second *Gene S. Uyeki Memorial Lecture* featured Jaime Herrero, former sociology student, public defender and executive director of Workshop Houston. His talk, "Moving from the Sociological Imagination to Social Action," was sponsored by an AKD Initiation Speaker Grant and the department. The event was followed by dinner.

This year's AKD initiates were Vishnu Akella, Dillon Brown, Anne Bryden, Molly Bryden, Kristin Burmeister, Erin Buttars, Grace Chu, Jeffrey Hsia, Amelia Rivas, Sharmayne Schaffer, Carla Wilson, Monica Windholtz, Anna Wright, Hanna Yoshida and Muzhen Zhang. *The Schermerhorn Award* for outstanding students in sociology went to MaryTherese Escueta, Sarah Jammal and Sharmayne Schaffer. *The Mark Lefton Award for Excellence in Sociological Studies* was awarded to Vishnu Akella, Dillon Brown, Jeffrey Hsia and Brittany Rabb. *The Stella Berkeley-Friedman Award* to graduating seniors for the highest academic achievement in the study of sociology was awarded to McCoy Edmunds. *The Robert C. Davis Award* for demonstrated commitment to sociological studies was awarded to Erin Buttars, Victoria Hamilton and Kevin Smith. *The James Dysart Magee Award* to an outstanding senior student in Social and Behavioral Sciences was awarded to Brittany Rabb.

*The Peter Witt Scholarship*, a highly selective honor recognizing students in the College of Arts and Sciences whose interests are in social work, city planning or community involvement, and who have demonstrated leadership in engagement activities on and off campus, was awarded to Mya Cox, Gabriella Kaddu and Sierra Lipscomb.

Research ShowCASE Intersections SOURCE Symposium oral paper presentation winners in the social science category were MaryTherese Escueta and Erin Buttars. Erin also placed in the paper competition at the Northeast Ohio Undergraduate Sociology Symposium.

Congratulations to all of these students for their accomplishments.



From left to right: Muzhen Zhang, Carla Wilson, Sharmayne Schaffer, Amelia Rivas, Grace Chu, Erin Buttars, Dillon Brown, Anne Bryden.



Above: Jaime Herrero

## Student Updates (continued)

### Sociology Senior Capstone Project Presentations

On December 15, 2017, eleven sociology majors/minors presented their Senior Capstone Experience (SOCI 392) research projects to the scientific community of Case Western Reserve University. Each of these independent projects reflected student's emerging intellectual interests and strengths. The topics were drawn from a diversity of sociological areas and utilized a number of methodologies.

Erin Buttars

"Our Story, Our Voice: Bolstering Women's Empowerment in Higher Education"

Cameron Childers

"The Elephant in the Room: A Quantitative Analysis of Student Comfort in Discussions of Race and Sexuality"

Grace Chu

"Us and Them: The Perspectives of CWRU Students on the Local Community"

Victoria Hamilton

"Restaurants, Re-Entry, and Recidivism: A Qualitative Analysis of Cleveland's Re-Entry Programs"

MaryTherese Escueta

"College Major and Occupation: What's Race Got to Do With It?"

Sarah Jammal

"Confronting the Problem Where It Occurs: The Northeast Ohio Opioid Epidemic"

Gabriella Kaddu

"Factors Influencing Exclusivity and Continuity of Breast-feeding Among Ugandan Children Under 2 Years of Age"

Grace Karabinus

"Internationalization of the University and Moderation of Global Perspectives"

Amelia Rivas

"'Oh Look, I'm the Only Girl, Again': An Analysis of Women's Internship Experiences"

Sharmayne Schaffer

"Black and White Media: A Look into America's Response to Drug Addicted Pregnant Women"

Kevin Smith

"Attitudes Towards Police and Police Violence in College Age Students"

### Three AKD Honors Society members receive travel grants

Three undergraduate sociology majors, Brittany Rabb, MaryTherese Escueta and Erin Buttars, all members of the Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society, received AKD Student Travel Grants to attend the 2018 North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA.



From left to right: Professor Mary Erdmans, Amelia Rivas, Khannah Wetmore, Hayley Yocum, MaryTherese Escueta (front), Erin Buttars

## Undergraduate Student Updates

**Calvin Gibson**, a sophomore Sociology major, was awarded a prestigious research position at the Summer Education Research Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He will work for ten weeks with a faculty member, studying the effects of differing levels of parental involvement on students in urban and suburban schools.

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**Brittany Rabb**, was one of four students featured in the fall/winter 2017 issue of *Think magazine*. The story described her SOURCE-funded summer research project, "Symbolic Prejudice in an Inner-Ring Suburb: Class Conflict, Race, and the Fight Over Public School Funding." Using her alma mater, Cleveland Heights-University Heights Schools, as a case study, Brittany conducted in-depth interviews with principals, school board members, and district officials to find out how the district is dealing with white-flight to private schools and an increasingly poor student population in the wake of recent controversial tax levies.



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## Sociology undergraduates featured in CWRU print news

Sociology undergraduate students **Erin Buttars**, **Victoria Hamilton**, **Sarah Jammal**, and **Sharmayne Schaffer** were featured in the Spring | Summer 2018 issue of *art/sci* magazine. The article entitled "A Sense of Urgency: Undergraduate Researchers Turn a Sociological Lens on Pressing Social Problems" is posted online at [artsoci.case.edu/magazine/2018/a-sense-of-urgency/](http://artsoci.case.edu/magazine/2018/a-sense-of-urgency/).

**Cameron Childers** and **Victoria Hamilton** were featured in *The Observer* in August 2017. They were both part of the Menstrual Product and Sexual Health Taskforce, whose efforts successfully brought about the installation of free menstrual product dispensers in bathrooms across campus. Read the full article here: <http://observer.case.edu/menstrual-product-dispensers-placed-in-campus-bathrooms/>

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## Graduate Student Updates

**Lacey Caporale** was the recipient of the 2017-18 Social Justice Institute Graduate Student Research Fellowship. In March 2017, Lacey presented "'That Isn't Detroit Shoreway' & 'This Isn't Detroit Shoreway': Experiences in a Gentrifying Neighborhood" at the North Central Sociological Association Conference in Indianapolis, Ind. In August 2017, she attended the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, where she organized a roundtable session on "America's Obsession with Race, Money and Medicalization: Excessive Low-risk Cesarean Sections Among African American Women" and co-presented the paper "Untangling the Impact of Institutions and Resources on Attitudes towards Violence against Women" with Brian Gran. Lacey presented two papers at the 2018 North Central Sociological Association Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. The first, "Gentrification and Surveillance: The Detroit Shoreway Camera Initiative," and the second co-authored with Timothy Black and Casey Albitz, "Poverty Governance and Prisoner Reentry: Debt and Time as Institutional Mechanisms of Social Control and State Surveillance."



## Graduate Student Updates (continued)

**Elizabeth Nalepa** received the Pamela Smock Memorial Award to travel to the Annual Meeting of the Council on Contemporary Families (CCF) held in Austin, Texas in March. She presented a paper titled "Increasing Abortion Regulations Are Changing Who Seeks Abortions and When."

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On April 27, 2017, the "Doing Intersectionality" Symposium, organized by Sociology graduate student **Erin K. Phelps** and Dashawn Hickman, celebrated LGBTQA+ centered work and the people who create it. Sociology graduate student **Bradley Powell** won first place in Oral Presentations for his paper "Power and Prevention: A Qualitative Inquiry into Racial Power Dynamics in HIV Prevention." The event was sponsored by the ACES+ McBride Lecture Endowment and the Office of Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity.

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**Minzhi Ye** has a contract with Palgrave Macmillan/Springer for a book, co-authored with Dr. Lin Chen, titled *Community Eldercare Ecology in China*. She is continuing her internship as a Research Analyst at Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging.

Minzhi also presented at several conferences over the past year. At the 22nd Annual Conference of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) she was a co-author of two accepted poster presentations entitled "'Their Way or No Way: Elderly Asian Immigrants' Health-Related Service Utilization in Senior Housing" and "Assessing Spatial Distribution of Home- and Community-Based Services for Older Adults in Shanghai, China." In August, she presented a co-authored paper "Facing Disability among Elderly Holocaust Survivors: Challenges for Trust and Care-Getting" at the 112th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association in Montrea. In July, she presented a co-authored paper titled "Elderly Chinese and Korean Immigrants Aging-in-Place in Senior Housing."

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Left to right: Lacey Caporale, Anne Bryden, Alicia Smith-Tran, Brittany Rabb

### Support the Department of Sociology

Please consider supporting the Department of Sociology as we continue building on our achievements. You can contribute to our success by making a tax-deductible gift to the department. Your gift allows us to continue to offer opportunities for our students to excel academically and to conduct important research.

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## Congratulations to our award winning graduate students

In 2017, four graduate students were honored at the Graduate Award Ceremony and in 2018, seven graduate students were honored. The ceremony recognizes students for their accomplishments during the academic year. We are proud to share the news. Please join us in congratulating them !

### **2017 Graduate Award Winners**

*The Marie Haug Award*

*Timothy Goler*

*The Eva L. Pancoast Memorial Fellowship*

*Alicia Smith-Tran, Minzhi Ye, Jiao Yu*

*The Medicine, Society and Culture Travel Grant*

*Anne Bryden*



*From left to right: Timothy Goler, Alicia Smith-Tran, Minzhi Ye, Jiao Yu*

### **2018 Graduate Award Winners**

*The Richard A. Zdanis Research Fellowship Award*

*Casey Albitz*

*The Marie Haug Award*

*Brian K. Polk*

*The Eva L. Pancoast Memorial Fellowship*

*Wenxuan Huang, Adrianna Smell*

*The Medicine, Society and Culture Travel Grant*

*Jiao Yu*

*The Graduate Student Appreciation Award*

*Anne Bryden, Colette Ngana*



*Back Row (left to right): Susan Hinze, Wenxuan Huang, Colette Ngana, Jessica Kelley Front Row (left to right): Brian Polk, Casey Albitz, Jiao Yu*

## Department of Sociology Publications

**Dale Dannefer and Wenxuan Huang** (2017). "Precarity, Inequality and the Problem of Agency in the Study of the Life Course." *Innovations in Aging*, 1(3), November.

**Mary Ellen Stone, Jielu Lin, Dale Dannefer and Jessica Kelley-Moore** (2017). "The Continued Eclipse of Heterogeneity in Gerontological Research." *Journals of Gerontology Social Sciences* 72.

**Dale Dannefer and Karie Feldman** (2017). "Age Integration, Age Segregation and Generation X: Life Course Perspectives." *Generations* 41(3): 20-27.

**Deimling, G.T.; Pappada, H.T.; Ye, M.; Nalepa, E.; Ciaralli, S.; Phelps, E.; Burant, C.J.** (2017) "Factors Affecting Perceptions of Disability and Self-Rated Health Among Older Adult, Long-Term Cancer Survivors." *Journal of Aging and Health*.

**Deimling, G.T., Albitz, C., Monnin, K., Pappada, H.R., Nalepa, E.A., Boehm, M.L. and Mitchell, C.** (2016) "Personality and Psychological Distress Among Older Adult, Long-term Cancer Survivors." *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 35(1).

**Mary Erdmans** (2017). "Poland on My Mind and Polish in My Belly." *Polish American Studies*, 74(2): 44-49.

**Mary Erdmans** (2017). "The Role of the State in Contemporary Polish Political Migration and Return." *The United States Immigration Policy and Immigrants' Responses: Past and Present*. Eds. Agnieszka Malek and Dorota Praszalowicz. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2017.

**Corey Cronin and Brian Gran** (2017). "Community Benefit Practices and Their Relationships to Organizational Performance and Survival." *Journal of Organizational Psychology*, 17(6): 37-47.

**Kahana, E., Slone, M.R., Kahana, B., Langendoerfer, K.B., & Reynolds, C.** (2017). "Beyond Ageist Attitudes: Researchers Call for NIH Action to Limit Funding for Older Academics." *The Gerontologist*, gnw190.

Bhatta, T.R., Albert, J.M., **Kahana, E.**, & Lekhak, N. (2017). "Early origins of later life psychological well-being? A novel application of causal mediation analysis to life course research." *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 73(1), 160-170.

Cumming, C., McKendrick, D., Hogg, J., French, T., **Kahana, E.**, Molik, D. & Luciano, J.S. (2017). "Formulating eHealth Utilizing an Ecological Understanding." In L.Melville et al (eds.), *The Digitalization of Health Care*, DOI10.1057/978-1-349-95173-4\_5, Palgrave Macmillan

**Lee, J. E., Kahana, B., & Kahana, E.** (2017). "Successful Aging from the Viewpoint of Older Adults: Development of a Brief Successful Aging Inventory (SAI)." *Gerontology*, 63(4), 359-371.

**Jessica A. Kelley-Moore, Dale Dannefer, Luma al Masarweh** (2017). "Erasure, Microfication, and Social Change: Age-Friendly Initiatives and Environmental Gerontology in the 21st Century." Invited book chapter in *Age Friendly Communities: A Global Perspective*, edited by Christopher Phillipson, Tine Buffel, & Sophie Handler. Polity Press.

**Cassi Pittman** (2017). "Shopping While Black: Middle and Working Class Blacks' Cultural Responses to Racial Discrimination in Retail Settings." *Journal of Consumer Culture*.

## Alumni Updates

**Donte Gibbs (BA 2010)**, the Youth Engagement Director at Neighborhood Leadership Institute, has been selected as The George Gund Foundation Fellow for 2017-19. Donte received a bachelor's degree in sociology from Case Western Reserve University in 2010 and a master's degree in Social Science Administration from the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at CWRU. The Fellows program will provide Donte the opportunity to work for two years inside the George Gund Foundation, a foundation that plays an active role in supporting the civic life of Greater Cleveland and in various national policy deliberations that impact our community.

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**Robin Shura (PhD 2010)**, Associate Professor at Hiram College, recently received the Vencil-Carr Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award honors and recognizes a faculty member who has made significant contributions to the education of students beyond the classroom.



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**Frank Hagan (PhD 1975)** is now an emeritus professor at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Penn. He is the author of *Research Methods in Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 10th edition (Pearson Publishing, 2018), and *Introduction to Criminology*, 10th edition (Sage Publishing). He was recently honored to have a video undertaken as part of the oral history project of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

## Send us your news !

We are continuing our efforts to expand our relationships with alumni of the Department of Sociology. We are interested in learning about what you are doing and how your sociological background has impacted your career experiences and choices. You can send news to [kar98@case.edu](mailto:kar98@case.edu). Please let us hear from you.