

Sociology News

Case Western Reserve University Department of Sociology

Letter from the Chair

Dear friends and colleagues:

Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of CWRU *Sociology News*!

This edition of *Sociology News* serves to bring everyone up to date on quite a range of exciting and positive developments in our department this year. CWRU's Department of Sociology played a central leadership role in the annual meeting of the Association for Humanist Sociology, held in Cleveland in October, and for which our own Mary Erdmans served as program chair.

Sociology faculty members have also seen three book projects come to fruition this year. Mary Erdmans and Tim Black's new study *On Becoming a Teen Mom* was published by University of California Press. Eva Kahana coauthored a book on health web science and Brian Gran published a co-edited volume on the sociology of human rights.

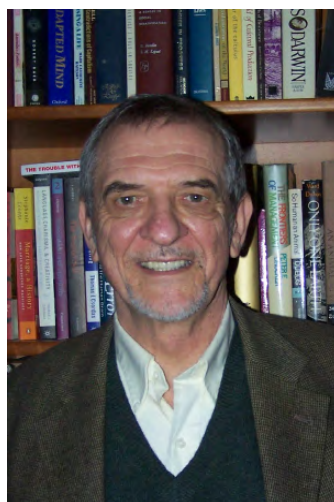
The Spring has also been marked by the arrival of Dr. Áine Ní Léime. Dr. Ní Léime is a research fellow in the study of aging at the National University of Ireland, Galway, and is studying and conducting research here at CWRU for two years, funded by the EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship program.

In addition, this issue of *Sociology News* provides updates on faculty, students and alumnae and on other departmental events.

Clearly, we have a great deal to be proud of and to celebrate this Spring.

As always, we are eager interested 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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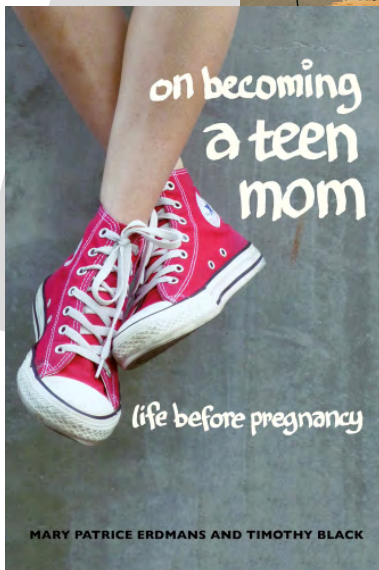


COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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New book by Mary Erdmans and Tim Black released

In 2013, New York City launched a public education campaign with posters of frowning or crying children saying such things as "I'm twice as likely not to graduate high school because you had me as a teen" and "Honestly, Mom, chances are he won't stay with you." Campaigns like this support a public narrative that portrays teen mothers as threatening the moral order, bankrupting state coffers, increasing the school dropout rate and causing high rates of poverty and incarceration. These efforts demonize teen mothers but tell us nothing about their lives before they became pregnant.

In their myth-shattering book *On Becoming a Teen Mom. Life before Pregnancy*, Associate Professors Mary Erdmans and Timothy Black tell the life stories of 108 brown, white and black teen mothers, exposing the problems in their lives often overlooked in pregnancy prevention campaigns. Some stories are tragic and painful, marked by sexual abuse, partner violence and school failure. Others depict "girl next door" characters whose unintended pregnancies lay bare insidious gender disparities. Offering a fresh perspective on the links between teen births and social inequalities, this book demonstrates how the intersecting hierarchies of gender, race, and class shape the biographies of young mothers.



An author discussion and meet and greet, facilitated by Danielle Bernat and co-sponsored by the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women, took place in March. In April, Mary was featured on *ideastream* 90.3 WCPN in a segment entitled "Be Well: Teen Moms and Their Lives."

For a 30% discount when ordering the book online from University of California Press (ISBN: 9780520283411), please use source code 14M6812.

Eva Kahana co-authors volume on health web science

Eva Kahana recently published *Health Web Science*, a co-authored monograph in the series *Foundations and Trends in Web Science*, with Now Publishers. Kahana and her colleagues note that the transformative power of the World Wide Web on all aspects of daily life, including health care, has been widely recognized.

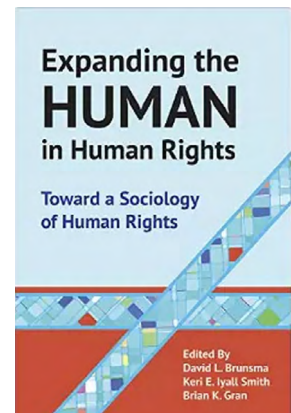
Health Web Science explores the role of the Web as it drives discussions, technologies, policies and solutions related to health. It also examines the impact of the Web's health-related uses on the design, structure and evolution of the Web itself.



Brian Gran co-edits book on human rights and assumes editorship of *Societies Without Borders*

Brian Gran, along with David L. Brunsma and Keri E. Iyall Smith, recently published a co-edited volume, *Expanding the Human in Human Rights: Toward a Sociology of Human Rights* with Paradigm Publishers.

The editors note that key sociological concerns—with groups, collective identity, social inequality and collective action—are having an increasing impact on human rights scholarship. Sociological work on the experiences of women, racial and ethnic minorities, children, LGBTQ communities, the mentally ill and others helps us understand the promises and challenges of pursuing human rights. This book presents fundamental insights gleaned from the scholarship on groups in society and demonstrates their relevance to the study, the understanding and ultimately the realization of human rights.



Gran is also the new editor of *Societies Without Borders: Human Rights and the Social Sciences*, an open-access, peer-reviewed journal published through Scholarly Commons of the Case Western Reserve University Law School. Doctoral students Margaret Waltz and Bradley Powell serve as *SWB*'s managing editors. *SWB* is the flagship journal of Sociologists Without Borders (SSF), a transnational association of sociologists committed to human rights and social justice. The journal's mission is to make scholarly analysis of human rights accessible to a wide audience, including readers and authors in parts of the world where censorship hinders discussion of human rights. As editor, Gran will seek to continue *SWB*'s tradition of publishing quality articles that offer new, crucial insights into human rights philosophy, scholarship, strategy and implementation. Visit *SWB* at <http://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/swb>.



Department Welcomes Dr. Áine Ní Léime



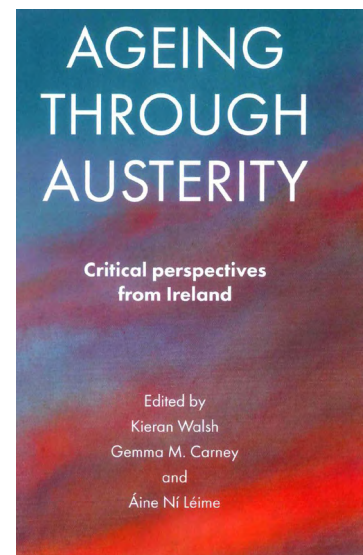
The Department of Sociology is very pleased to welcome Dr. Áine Ní Léime, a Research Fellow at the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Dr. Ní Léime has been awarded a prestigious Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship from the European Union to study and conduct research here at CWRU for a two-year period. She will be pursuing a cross-national research project "Gender, Older Workers and the Lifecourse, Analyzing the Experiences of Irish and U.S. Older College Workers." This research is supported by a Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowship within the 7th European Community Framework Programme.



Dr. Ní Léime received her PhD in 2010 from Trinity College in Dublin, where she studied the career decision-making of Irish Civil Service workers. Her sociological imagination was ignited, in part, by being interviewed for another study when she was herself early in her career working in the Irish Civil Service. She conducted her dissertation research on work life decision-making, which led to her research on cumulative dis/advantage and related perspectives in the life course tradition.

Dr. Ní Léime has recently been elected Chair of a project funded by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology), "The Gender and Health Impacts of Policies Extending Working Life." This COST Action involves researchers from 21 European countries as well as from Canada, New Zealand and the U.S. Her book, *Ageing Through Austerity: Critical Perspectives from Ireland*, co-edited with Kieran Walsh and Gemma M. Carney, has just been published by Policy Press at the University of Bristol: <http://www.icsg.ie/content/icsg-launches-new-book-ageing-through-austerity>.

We are delighted that out of many possible research sites around the globe, Dr. Ní Léime has chosen Sociology at Case Western Reserve as the site to pursue her comparative research. In February, the department hosted a welcoming party that included faculty members, students, families and partners who braved the snow for a great get-together of food and drink and conversation (Images below)!



Cleveland hosts 2014 Association for Humanist Sociology

Annual Conference

The 2014 Annual Conference of the Association for Humanist Sociology (AHS) was not only held in Cleveland, but also chaired by Associate Professor Mary Erdmans. The conference, "Injustice, Exploitation, Racism, and the Activist Foundations of Sociology," took place Oct. 8-12 at the Wyndham Hotel. Special thanks to Alicia Smith, program chair assistant, and to the students who volunteered their time to work registration: Kaitlyn Barnes, Margaret Kush, Bradley Powell, Elizabeth Nalepa, Brian Polk, and Michael Slone. Congratulations to all who organized, facilitated and presented at the conference. It was a huge success!

Author Meets Critic Session: *Social Insecurity: 401(k)s and the Retirement Crisis*, by Jim Russell
Timothy Black (Organizer), Brian Gran (Critic)

New Ways of Telling Sociological Stories
Bradley Powell (Facilitator)

Lens Me Your Ears
Margaret Kush (Presenter)

Class Inequality: Forgotten and Misclassified
Timothy Black (Facilitator)

The Costs and Consequences of Worker Misclassification
Alicia Smith and Timothy Black (Presenters)

Human Trafficking: An Analysis of the U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report
Brian Polk (Presenter)

Issues in Higher Education
Elizabeth Nalepa (Facilitator)

Education as a Vehicle for Social and Community Transformation
Timothy Goler (Facilitator/Organizer)

Culture and HIV/AIDS Prevention: From Origins to Absence
Bradley Powell (Facilitator)

Grab Bag: New Areas of Study and Old Sites Revisited
Michael Slone (Facilitator)

Contemporary Immigration and Religious Participation: Changing Perspectives on Assimilation Theory
Elizabeth Nalepa (Presenter)

Activism II: People as Change Agents
Susan Hinze (Facilitator)

Author Meets Critic Session: *PTSD: Diagnosis and Identity in Post-Empire America*, by Jerry Lembcke
Timothy Black (Organizer/Facilitator), Kaitlyn Barnes (Critic)

"It was an honor hosting so many dedicated activist-scholars and introducing them to the innovative social justice work being done in Cleveland."

-Mary Erdmans



Jerry Lembcke (left) and Kaitlyn Barnes

Elderly Care Research Center Initiates New LGBT Study

Eva Kahana and the research team of the Elderly Care Research Center (ECRC) have initiated a new series of studies at a large South Florida senior center for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) seniors. This unique setting offers a warm and accepting environment to LGBT older adults from around the country who have retired to this sunny location. At a typical Tuesday morning coffee hour, up to 200 of the older adults congregate at the Pride Center to listen to speakers and partake of refreshments.

The group participated in two separate anonymous surveys covering their family history and life experiences, focused on overcoming discrimination and bigotry. Questionnaires also inquired about their perspectives on aspects of successful aging, including volunteering, planning ahead and altruistic orientations. The 184 surveys provided valuable insights about stressors, social supports and coping strategies. For example, the study revealed that this highly educated group of older adults receives major social supports from friends rather than family. Sociology graduate and undergraduate students working at the Elderly Care Research Center took a great interest in the study and developed several conference presentations of the findings.



Left to right: Bruce Williams (Senior Services Coordinator, Pride Center), Eva Kahana, and Boaz Kahana)

Many of the participants waited until late life to “come out” and openly talk about their sexual orientation and identity. In spite of problems in gaining social acceptance, particularly from family members, they are a resilient group of seniors who expressed high levels of altruism and life satisfaction.

The ECRC is currently conducting in-depth life history interviews with 20 senior center participants in preparation for a grant application to help us better understand successful aging among LGBT seniors. This study offers an exciting example of the important roles played by our graduate students in helping shape new research activities in the department. Sociology students who have developed and presented papers from this project include graduate students Minzhi Ye, Kaitlyn Barnes and Jiao Yu, undergraduates Julia Wolf and Kayla Courey, and postdoctoral fellow Jeong Eun Lee.

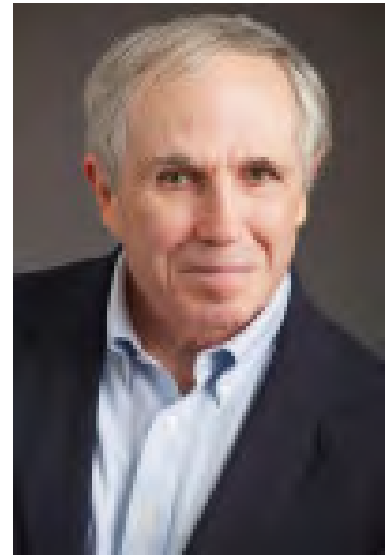
New Undergraduate Sociology Society (USS)

The Undergraduate Sociology Society (USS CWRU) is a new forum for discussion of contemporary social issues. The USS CWRU currently meets weekly on Fridays at 3:00 in the sitting area of Mather Memorial on the second floor. Everyone is welcome to join! Recently, the discussions have been tackling community issues such as Gender-Inclusive Housing, which has increased campus discussion and social action.

James Russell challenges the dominant narrative of retirement planning and policy

In October, the department hosted Dr. James W. Russell, who lectured on his recent book, *Social Insecurity: 401(k)s and the Retirement Crisis* (Beacon Press, 2014). The lecture, "How Good is Your Retirement Plan? 401(k)s and the Retirement Crisis," drew a diverse audience and was followed by a lively discussion.

Professor Russell is an authority on retirement policy in the United States, Europe and Latin America. He teaches at Eastern Connecticut State University and has been a Fulbright Professor in Mexico and the Czech Republic. The talk was a discussion of how the wholesale conversion from traditional pensions to 401(k)-like retirement plans, beginning in 1981, provoked a growing retirement crisis in the United States. It also included the speaker's experience in leading the first university employee movement to successfully challenge the dominant trend and replace a defined contribution plan administered by TIAA-CREF and ING with a more secure and beneficial traditional pension plan.



Jessica Kelley-Moore delivers invited paper at Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies

In October, Jessica Kelley-Moore delivered an invited paper at a symposium on Methodological Challenges of Life Course Studies at the annual meeting of the Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS) in Lausanne, Switzerland. The paper, which represented a collaboration with Jielu Lin, Tirth Bhatta and Dale Dannefer, addressed the problem of endogeneity in life course models of adult health and introduced a novel statistical solution. Dale also attended the symposium. The presentation sparked a lively debate because the findings challenge popular assumptions about the relative impact of childhood and early-life conditions on later-life health.

Following the conference, Jessica traveled to Locarno, Switzerland to visit Dr. Stefano Cavalli, our recent postdoctoral fellow, who has taken a new position as Director of the Center for Competence on Aging at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI). As you can see, Stefano and Jessica were hard at work eating freshly roasted chestnuts at a street fair, before traveling up to his family's mountain homestead and making polenta in his great-grandmother's pot over an open fire. So the trip began and ended with intergenerational transfers, linked lives and longevity!



The next meeting of the SLLS will be October 2015 in Dublin, Ireland. Interested graduate students should check out the society's summer training institute and new journal: <http://www.slls.org.uk>.

Sociology Department at GSA

The Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America was held in Washington, DC, Nov. 5-9, 2014. The following faculty, adjunct faculty and graduate students participated in the meeting.

Double Disability in the Fourth Age: Human Needs, Culture Change and Social Reality
Robin Shura, Dale Dannefer, Rebecca Siders

Diurnal Patterns of Affect Among Older Adults in India: The Role of Educational Attainment
Tirth Bhatta, Anthony Bardo, Nirmala Lekhak

Cumulative Dis/Advantage across Time, Place and Social Location: Comparative Approaches to Life-Course Inequality
Dale Dannefer, Stephen Crystal

Spirituality among Women Dementia Caregivers: Construct Validation of the Spiritual Perspective Scale
Nirmala Lekhak, Wichiya Yalpant, Jaclene Zauszniewski, Tirth Bhatta

International Perspectives on Urban Spatial Change and Social Inequality among Older Adults
Jessica Kelley-Moore, Christopher Phillipson, Thomas Scharf

Interdependence between Aging Couples: Depressive Symptoms, Health and Spousal Support
Minzhi Ye, Jeong Eun Lee, Eva Kahana, Boaz Kahana

From Cells to Society: The Sociological Imagination in Theory, Research and Policy
Dale Dannefer, Carroll L. Estes

Racial Differences in Reported Early Life Trauma between African American and White Urban Older Adults
Timothy Goler, Boaz Kahana, Tirth Bhatta, Eva Kahana

Childhood Adversities and Adult Cardiometabolic Health
Esther Friedman, Jennifer Montez, Connor Sheehan, Tara Gruenewald, Teresa Seeman

Is Education Destiny? Unpacking the Cumulative Dis/Advantages of Educational Attainment on Adult Mortality Risk
Jennifer Montez, Kaitlyn Barnes

The Older Men Masculinity Ideology Scale: Factor Structure, Reliability, and Construct Validity
Edward H. Thompson, Kaitlyn Barnes, Andrew Futterman

Elders at an LGBT Senior Center Reflect on Their Lives and Needs
Minzhi Ye, Boaz Kahana, Eva Kahana, Sarah Shick, Joy Siegel

Optimistic Elders with Functional Impairments Suffer Fewer Depressive Symptoms
Kaitlyn Barnes, Jeong Eun Lee, Boaz Kahana, Eva Kahana



Kaitlyn Barnes (left) and Jeong Eun Lee

Theorizing Cumulative Disadvantage through the Lens of Late-Life Phenotypic Maladaptation
Kathryn Z. Douthit, Dale Dannefer, Ari J. Elliot

Cancer-Related and Non-Cancer Illness Factors as Predictors of Health Quality of Life among Older Adult, Long-Term Cancer Survivors
Gary Deimling, Holly Renzhofer, Nabeel Mallick

Disablement Process: Recent Findings and Future Direction.
Jeong Eun Lee

Trajectories of Disabilities in Late Life: Linking with Mortality
Jeong Eun Lee, Eva Kahana, Boaz Kahana, Kaitlyn Barnes, Michael J. Rovine

Educational Differences in Health Inequality in the U.S. and England: Is Cumulative Dis/Advantage Country-Centric?
Jessica Kelley-Moore, Bram Vanhoutte, James Nazroo, Dale Dannefer, Jieliu Lin

Sociology Department at GSA (continued)

The Affordable Care Act and Older Women's Health Behaviors
Elizabeth Nalepa

Altered Hopes and Fears Among Older Adult, Long-Term, Cancer Survivors
Casey Albitz, Elizabeth Nalepa, Gary Deimling

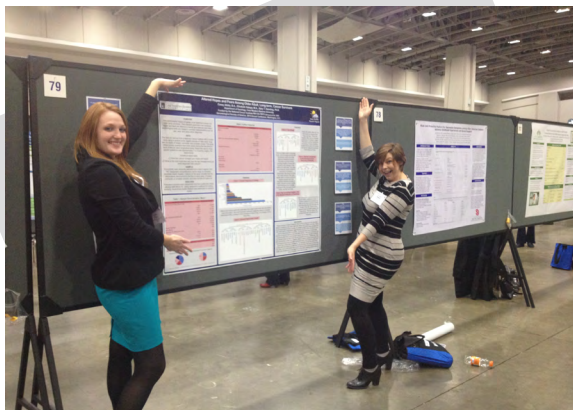
Does Distance Matter? Potential Barriers to Grandparenting from the Sun Belt
Kaitlyn Barnes, Eva Kahana, Jeong Eun Lee, Boaz Kahana

Interdependent Lives of Middle Aged Couples: Implications of Exchanges of Support with Adult Offspring
Jeong Eun Lee, Steven Zarie, Michael Roving, Kira Birditt, Karen Fingerma

Educational Inequalities in Functional Limitations Among Older Adults in India: Exploration of Causal Effect Heterogeneity
Tirth Bhatta, Jessica Kelley-Moore, Jeffrey Albert

Is the Method Driving the Theory? Limitations of Using Subgroup Comparison of Trajectories as Test of Cumulative Dis/Advantage versus Aging-as-Leveler Hypotheses
Jielu Lin, Jessica Kelley-Moore

Making the Transition: Influence of Self-Reported Work Disability on Labor Force Careers
Mary Ellen Stone, Jessica Kelley-Moore



Left to right: Casey Albitz and Elizabeth Nalepa

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. You can give online at giving.case.edu.

Graduate Student Updates

In October, **Danielle Bernat** volunteered at the 2014 National Eating Disorders Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Since then, she has served on the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women's selection committee for the Women of Achievement Student Leadership Award, and she recently began volunteering for The Emily Program in Ohio, a nationally recognized eating disorder treatment and recovery center. In this role, she will be helping the center collect, input and analyze patient information, surveys and follow-up research in order to inform and modify current treatment protocols for patients with eating disorders. Danielle facilitated two Brown Bag Lunches hosted by the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women, one in November on "Relationships in Graduate School for Women in Doctoral Studies" and the other in January on "Body Image, Appearance, and Self Care in Graduate School for Women in Doctoral Studies." In February, she hosted a movie night and discussion at MSASS for National Eating Disorders Awareness Week. On a personal note, she and Jason Sabo were married on May 30, 2015!!!

Graduate Student Updates continued

This past fall, doctoral candidate **Cory Cronin** and advisor **Brian Gran** were awarded the National Science Foundation's Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant in Sociology for the project "Hospitals' Choices and Environmental Pressures." This research will identify the ways in which environmental pressures affect the choices hospitals make regarding community benefit and business-like practices. Hospitals are important social institutions that play multiple societal roles and inevitably respond to pressures exerted upon them by policy changes, societal expectations, and fiscal realities. Previous research documents the long history of hospitals as centerpieces of their communities, but in recent years, much attention has been devoted to efforts of cost control and revenue production and the resulting shift to a more corporate culture within health care organizations. New regulations by the IRS and the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) have brought a renewed focus on the ways in which hospitals contribute to and care for their communities, raising the question of how hospital behaviors have changed in the evolving landscape and what the impacts of these changes might be.

Through the lens of institutional theory, this study aims to understand how the broader health care environment affects hospital choices surrounding community benefit and business-like practices, and to assess the effects of these practices on organizational and community health outcomes. To accomplish its goals, this longitudinal study uses multi-level analysis to examine data collected by the American Hospital Association, the U.S. Census and the Dartmouth Health Atlas for the years leading up to and immediately after the passage of the ACA. Early analysis has shown that community benefit participation is increasing across the industry, and that such participation appears to have positive indications for organizational survival and performance as well as for community health outcome measures.

Michael Flatt published an article in *Social Science & Medicine* with Jennifer Fishman and Richard Settersten, Jr., "Bioidentical hormones, menopausal women, and the lure of the "natural" in U.S. anti-aging medicine."

Sara Kennedy was appointed to the Sociological Practice Committee of the Midwest Sociological Society. Her three year appointment to the Committee with a required annual meeting attendance will run through the society's 2018 annual meeting.

In February, **Margaret Waltz** presented "Waiting on Others: Doing Gender in Medical Waiting Rooms" at the Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) Winter Meeting held in Washington, DC.

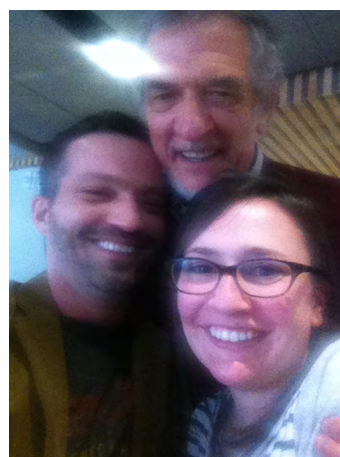
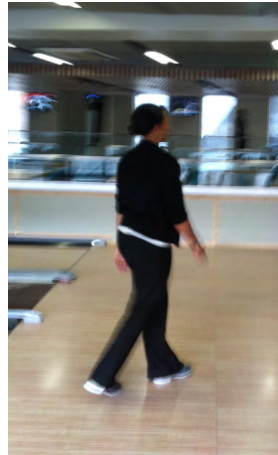
Graduate Student Awards

The Eva L. Pancoast Award was given to Wenxuan Huang, Sarah Shick, Minzhi Ye, and Jiao Yu. The Graduate Dean's Instructional Excellence Award was given to Cory Cronin and Bradley Powell. The Marie Haug Award was given to Kaitlyn Barnes (*Image right with Dr. Eva Kahana.*) The Graduate Student Appreciation Award went to Casey Albitz and Tirth Bhatta.

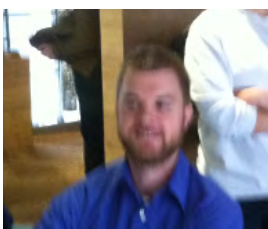


SGSA Faculty and Graduate Student Bowling

On Friday, March 27, sociology graduate students and faculty met up at The Corner Alley for some friendly bowling competition. The event was organized by the Sociology Graduate Student Association. There were prizes, appetizers, a great turnout and good times as attested by these iPhone photos!



→
Highest
bowling
score of
the day!



Sociology Student Achievement Ceremony

The 2015 Sociology Student Achievement Ceremony was held on April 28. At this year's ceremony, six students were initiated into the Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) Sociology Honor Society, two students became members of Phi Beta Kappa, and seven students were recipients of Undergraduate Awards. Guest alumni speaker Shakyra E. Diaz (CWRU Sociology 2000) spoke about her work in a talk entitled "Tales from the Field: The Journey of a Sociologist Practicing Social Justice."

The six students initiated to the **AKD** were Hannah Nicole Bidigare-Curtis, Kayla Marie Courey, Holly Renee Johnson, Margaret Frances Kush, Nabeel Mallick, and Margo Helen Schmiederer. Hannah Nicole Bidigare-Curtis and Amanda Richardson were elected members of the CWRU Alpha Chapter of Ohio, a chapter of the national honor society **Phi Beta Kappa**.



Recipients of **The Schermerhorn Award** for outstanding students in sociology were Amanda Argenas, Nabeel Mallick, and Amanda Richardson.

Jiali (Jerry) Dong and Holly Johnson received the **Mark Lefton Award** for excellence in sociological studies.

The **Stella Berkeley-Friedman Award** went to graduating senior Julia Wolf for the highest academic achievement in the study of sociology.

The **Robert C. Davis Award** went to Margaret Kush for demonstrated commitment to sociological studies.

Faculty Updates

Timothy Black was invited to give two talks in the fall of 2014, one in Amsterdam and one in Connecticut. The first talk, "Finding Counter-Hegemony Where You Least Expect It," was given at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam as part of the Cultures of Inequality and Individualism Conference organized to celebrate the work of Tim's mentor, Michael Lewis. In Connecticut, Tim participated in a panel discussion on "Policing the Black Community" taped and broadcast by WNPR shortly before the Ferguson grand jury announcement.

With Lynn Falletta (PhD 2011), **Dale Dannefer** published "The Life Course and the Social Organization of Age" in the *Handbook of the Social Psychology of Inequality*, co-edited by Jane McLeod, Edward Lawler, and Michael Schwalbe.

In January, **Mary Erdmans** presented "Return Migration of Solidarity Refugees" at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Polish American Historical Association (PAHA) held in New York. Mary was also recently appointed as the Book Review Editor of *Polish American Studies*.

Susan Hinze was interviewed in November for the "Regionally Speaking" radio show (WRUW, FM 91.1), hosted by Gladys Haddad, on "Feminism and Social Justice." In February, she gave a talk for the Social Justice Institute titled "Who Deserves Care? How Patient Race/Ethnicity, Class and Gender Influence Decision-Making." Continuing a line of research on intersectional approaches to health inequalities, Sue presented "Understanding the Intersections of Race/Ethnicity, Gender and Education: Patterns of Within-Group Heterogeneity" with Jielu Lin (CWRU 2014) at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society (SSS) held in New Orleans this past March. She also organized the medical sociology papers at the meeting and served on two additional professional socialization panels.



Susan Hinze (left) and Host Gladys Haddad

Sue recently published an entry in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior and Society*, edited by William Cockerham, Robert Dingwell and Stella Quah, on "Intersections of Race, Class and Health."

Eva Kahana published several articles. In *Virtual Mentor* (now the *AMA Journal of Ethics*), she published "Baby Boomers' Expectations of Health and Medicine" with Boaz Kahana. In *Gerontology* she published "Proactive Approaches to Successful Aging: One Clear Path Through the Forest" with Boaz Kahana and J.E. Lee. Another article, "Changes Over Time in the Utilization of Disease-Related Internet Information in Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer Patients 2007 to 2013," was published in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* with Christoph Kowalski, Kathrin Kuhr, Lena Ansmann and Holger Pfaff.

Eva Kahana, Liz Midlarsky and Alexander Belser published a chapter in *The Oxford Handbook of Prosocial Behavior*, edited by David Schroeder and William Graziano, entitled "Prosocial behaviors in late life."

Jessica Kelley-Moore was elected a three-year term as an officer of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Section Members-at-Large of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA).

Alumni Updates

Andrea Baker (PhD 1979), Associate Professor of Sociology Emerita, Ohio University, Lancaster, recently published *You Get What You Need: Stories of Rolling Stones Fans* (Miniver Press). The book is based on 99 interviews with fans from different countries, talks with other informants, and author observed fan communities devoted to the band as well as offline concerts and related events. It situates the band and other musicians within the counterculture of the 1960's before exploring how fans first heard the music, highlights of shows they attended, contact with individual band members, and online participation of fans. Students in courses about digital phenomena and people interested in fandoms of all sorts will find this book of interest, as could researchers seeking case studies of interactions in online communities and their effects on members.



Linda Liska Belgrave (PhD 1985), Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Miami, recently began a new collaborative study, "Social and Subjective Meanings of Ebola with Reference to Other Infectious Illnesses." The goal of the project is to get a handle on social and subjective meanings of Ebola and the recent Ebola outbreak in the U.S., both as a unique illness situation and by comparison to outbreaks of, and scares over, other infectious illnesses. The study follows a constructivist-grounded theory methodology, collecting data via in-depth, recorded, interviews with 30-50 adult participants in South Florida.

Christopher Burant (PhD 2006), Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, received a 2015 John S. Diekhoff Award for Graduate Teaching and Mentoring. The John S. Diekhoff Award is presented to four full-time faculty members who make exemplary contributions to the education and development of graduate students at Case Western Reserve University. The award was created in honor of John Diekhoff, who served in several capacities during his tenure here. From 1956 to 1970, he served as professor of English, chair of the Department of English, dean of Cleveland College, acting dean of the School of Graduate Studies and vice provost of the university. Congratulations, Chris!

Neale R. Chumbler (PhD 1994) was recently named Dean of Western Kentucky University's College of Health and Human Services. He previously served as Professor and Head of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the University of Georgia.

William Doll (PhD 1972) is head of Bill Doll & Co., a communications and research consulting firm he founded in 1988. He is the author of the primer *SPEAK: How to Talk to Classmates and Others*, which was developed for SAGES and has since been published by Oxford University Press. A SAGES Presidential Fellow, Bill taught the seminar "Advertising and the American Dream" this spring, and he conducts public speaking workshops.

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. Please let us hear from you.

Alumni Updates continued

Gerhard Falk (PhD 1948), Professor of Sociology at Buffalo State College (SUNY), continues working as co-author on his twenty-fourth book, due to be published later this year by Sage. The book, "The American Drug Culture," is in two parts: "Drinking Alcohol" and the "The Drug Culture," which deals with drug cartels and other aspects of the drug subculture in the U.S.

Julian Montoro-Rodriguez (PhD 1994) is the Director of the Gerontology Program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

June Pearce Novatney (PhD 1993) is founder of Age Line Home Health & Activity Center, located in Rocky River, Ohio. She recently obtained certification as an Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Trainer (CADDCT) through the National/International Council of Certified Dementia Care Practitioners (NCCDP/ICCDP) and is now providing seminars to train Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP). June writes "...so much of my success supported by the solid education I received at CWRU."

Gabby and Helene,
daughters of Lynn
Gannon Falletta (CWRU
2011) and Robin Shura
(CWRU 2010), picking
dandelions.

Have a great summer!



Samantha Sterns (PhD 2007) and colleague recently published a new 2013 data table for the Census Bureau. As *The Washington Post* reported on March 18, "the Census Bureau released new data showing median earnings by detailed occupation for full-time, year-round workers. The numbers also include the ratio of women's earnings to men's earnings by occupation, in cases where enough data were available for a reliable comparison." The data has been referenced in several articles across multiple news sources, including *The Washington Post*, *Fusion*, and *The Chicago Tribune*.

Noah Webster (PhD 2011), Assistant Research Scientist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, recently published an article in a special issue of the *Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences* focused on social networks and aging. The article, "Social Networks and Health Among Older Adults in Lebanon: The Mediating Role of Support and Trust," was co-authored by Toni Antonucci, Kristine Ajrouch and Sawsan Abdulrahim. Noah was also recently quoted in "The Cheater's Guide to Living to 100," published by *Parade*, saying "Health habits—both good and bad—can spread like a contagion."
