New Wave of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study Looks at Aging “Happy Days” Cohort

Bob and Tess Hauser and a team of researchers are gearing up for a new wave of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, funded by a major grant from the National Institute on Aging.

Forty-five years have passed since high school graduation of the “Happy Days” cohort of 1957. Across the decades, the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study has followed education, careers, and family life among 10,000 graduates and their sisters and brothers. William H. Sewell, the WLS founding investigator, led “the project” through the initial post-card followup in 1964, and Robert M. Hauser directed the second and third rounds of the survey, 1975-77 and 1992-94.

The latest stage of the project begins with surveys in 2003 of surviving WLS graduates and randomly selected siblings. The graduates will be 63 to 64 years old at the time they are surveyed.

The surveys are being designed and will be carried out by an interdisciplinary team of researchers who are mainly current faculty and past graduates of the Department of Sociology. Several continuing and new graduate students also are involved in the project.

Hauser said that participation of many members of the department is one of the important ways in which Bill Sewell’s legacy will be carried forward. He said the research team hopes to extend, enrich, and complement previous observations of the WLS cohort in ways that will illuminate current research questions in aging and will anticipate issues that will arise in future years.

Hauser said, “there is every reason to expect that the WLS will continue to be an important resource of research on aging and the life course for decades to come. The research agenda will range from the effects of childhood circumstances and work life on late adult health and well being, to the effects of children’s prospects on the life course of their parents, to differential access to health care services, to the behavioral precursors of high cognitive functioning and cognitive decline, to the influence of life-course events and conditions on the structure and functioning of the brain. No smaller agenda will justify the long-term investment that investigators, students, funding agencies, and an exceptionally generous cohort of research participants have made in the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.”

He said that the WLS project will continue to obtain life histories of education, employment and retirement, job conditions, family change, stressful life events, and economic transfers, along with repeated measurements of health, wealth, and psychological well being.

The surveys also will obtain extensive measures of social and civic engagement and of social isolation and will permit intensive study of the effects of children’s problems and successes on their parents—including the effects of child disability, mental illness, or early death. The surveys will obtain new and more extensive measures of cognitive functioning. They will obtain detailed data on insurance and pension coverage and on medical, legal, religious, and psychological preparation for the end of life. Hauser said the new survey data will be complemented by medical and neurophysiological examinations among selected subsamples of participants.

Currently approved projects include a major grant for survey data collection and a program of research projects. As the WLS becomes a full-fledged study of aging—one of the flagship studies of the National Institute on Aging—it will serve a very broad agenda of research and policy interests. Public data and documentation from the WLS have long been available to qualified researchers (http://dpls.dacc.wisc.edu/wlsarch.htm).
New Faculty to Join Wisconsin

Ruth Lopez Turley, a Harvard Ph.D., will join the Department as the Anna Julia Cooper Postdoctoral Fellow in Fall 2002, and in Summer 2003 Dr. Turley will become Assistant Professor of Sociology in our Department. Since completing her doctorate in 2001, Ruth has lived in Nogales, Arizona, where her husband, Steve, has served as Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church. Steve will enroll as a graduate student in History at UW-Madison this fall. Meanwhile Ruth has spend the year productively, with two accepted journal articles to show for it!

Dr. Turley’s dissertation is an important new study of the effects of neighborhood income on children’s academic and social performance. Using a large, nationally-representative survey sample with neighborhoods identified by census tracts, she shows that white children gained from having wealthier neighbors, while black children did not. She also finds that relative disadvantage in family income contributes positively to children’s outcomes, perhaps because the advantaged neighbors are a spark to better performance.

The Department is equally enthusiastic about two more outstanding candidates hired last year, both of whom will arrive a year from now. Mara Loveman, who received her Ph.D. from UCLA in 2001, is spending 2002-03 as a Postdoctoral Fellow at UCLA. Her research concerns race and nationalism in Brazil and Latin America. She has been appointed as Assistant Professor beginning Fall 2003. Robert Freeland, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stanford, will take a post as Associate Professor in our Department, also effective Fall 2003. Professor Freeland, the author of the widely acclaimed book, *The Struggle for Control of the Modern Corporation* (Cambridge 2001), will contribute to the Department’s economic sociology program.

IAP Declares ‘Joe Elder Day’

Joe Elder received a number of awards this year, including the declaration of May 11 as “Joe Elder Day” by International Academic Programs, as part of an alumni celebration for past participants of study abroad programs. Joe was honored for his 40 years of service to the India and Nepal programs. Joan Raducha, Director of International Studies and Programs, said “Joe’s efforts have created opportunities for more than a thousand undergraduate students to live and learn in south Asia.”

To celebrate Professor Elder’s contributions to study abroad, the Office of International Studies, along with the Wisconsin Alumni Association, has established the “Joe Elder Study Abroad Grant Fund” to support undergraduates studying abroad. Any funds raised will be available through International Academic Programs (Study Abroad) to help students on IAP programs around the world. Contributions to the fund can be made payable to the Wisconsin Alumni Association, Attention: Study Abroad, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706.

Rumor has it that Joe and Joann Elder are the first UW-Madison couple to be honored by each having a fund established in their honor! (Joann is Sociology Undergraduate Adviser Emeritus.) The Joann Elder Sociology Scholarship fund was established to provide financial assistance to undergraduates.

There were other honors for Joe this year. He has been named the Herbert and Evelyn Howe Bascom Professor of Integrated Liberal Studies (ILS), a title he will hold for two years. Joe is a long-standing member of the ILS program in addition to his appointments in Sociology and Languages and Cultures of Asia. He also received the “Distinguished Service to the Community Award” from the Wisconsin chapter of the Association of Indians in America.

Joe and Joann Elder were honored “for their stewardship of social justice causes” on April 25 by Madison’s Social Justice Center. They were presented a “Legacy Award” by former Madison Mayor Paul Soglin in a ceremony at Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

Joe also received an “Ally of the Year” award at the 2002 Awards Banquet of Outreach, a community support organization. He was honored for leadership over many years on behalf of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. He first became
Schoenherr Book on the Celebate Male Priesthood
Posthumously Published, Currently Relevant

David Yamane (Ph.D. 1998), Assistant Professor, University of Notre Dame, and a former student of the late Professor Richard Schoenherr, took on the monumental task of doing the final editing on the major book Schoenherr was getting ready for publication at the time of his death on January 9, 1996. Here is David’s commentary about the project and about his mentor Richard Schoenherr. The book, Goodbye Father: The Celebate Male Priesthood and the Future of the Catholic Church, is scheduled to be published in August by Oxford University Press.

During his 25 years as a member of the UW-Madison Sociology Department, Richard Schoenherr developed an international reputation for his demographic studies of the Roman Catholic priesthood. When he died unexpectedly in January 1996, the New York Times remembered him as the “sociologist who counted priests.” There is a grain of truth in this description, for it was Schoenherr who was responsible for the definitive demographic analysis of the priest shortage in the United States, Full Pews and Empty Altars (University of Wisconsin Press, 1993; winner of the 1996 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.)

From his first scholarly publication to his last, Schoenherr proved himself to be single-minded in his devotion to understanding the place of the priesthood in the church he loved. He was, in Isaiah Berlin’s classification scheme, an intellectual hedgehog. “The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing.”

Those who knew him well always understood the broader theoretical, theological, and pastoral interests that drove his work on the priesthood. After a lifetime of reflection on the Catholic Church as an organization and community of faith, Schoenherr wanted to share his vision of the Church’s future and in 1995 he completed the final draft of Goodbye Father: Celibacy and Patriarchy in the Catholic Church.

The manuscript ran to 1,200 pages—it was his magnum opus after all—but his publisher, Oxford University Press, believed a manuscript of 400 to 600 pages would result in a more readable and affordable final product. The last time I saw Richard alive, he was struggling to edit the book down to size. A copy editor had suggested ways of reducing the manuscript by half, but some of the suggestions cut at the heart of the book’s argument. The image of Richard sitting at his desk, shaking his head as he thumbed through the pages, scores of which were covered in red, remains vivid to this day. He seemed genuinely perplexed about how to shorten the manuscript while retaining all of its bold theoretical vision and subtle argumentation. Ultimately, he never even had the opportunity to try. Two weeks after I saw him, Richard Schoenherr was born into eternal life.

In January 2000, Judy Schoenherr approached me to ask if I would take over responsibility for editing the manuscript. I immediately agreed. Although I involved in LGBT issues in 1989 when he worked for the successful passage of a faculty request to the UW Board of Regents to terminate the university’s contracts with the US Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC programs if those programs did not end their discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. He is a member of the Faculty Senate’s Committee on LGBT Issues. In 2000 he developed a course titled “Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies,” and he has taught the course each spring semester since then and is currently working on a committee to create a UW-Madison certificate program in LGBT Studies.

Joe was director of the UW Center for South Asia from 1990 to the end of the 2001-2002 academic year. He grew up in Iran, spent time in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India, and regularly taught a course on “Social Structures of Muslim Societies.” Therefore, since September 11, 2001 he has been frequently called upon to participate in campus teach-ins, television appearances, radio call-in shows, service group meetings, and high school church, and community lecture programs.

Joe Elder joined the faculty of UW-Madison in 1961, after receiving a Ph.D. in Sociology at Harvard. His Ph.D. was based on data gathered while living for 18 months in a small village in North India. He has lived in India for eight years and Nepal for two. Born of Presbyterian missionary parents in Iran, he came to the United States for higher education at the end of World War II. After completing his BA in Sociology from Oberlin College, he and Joann taught English in high schools in South India for two years and then returned to Oberlin College to earn their Master’s degrees in Sociology.

He has earned numerous teaching awards as well as the University’s Hilldale Award for “distinguished professional accomplishment.”

In addition to being Professor of Sociology and the Languages and Cultures of Asia, he is faculty coordinator for the University’s Year-in-India and Year-in-Nepal Programs. And he has been appointed director of a newly-created South Asia Summer Language Institute, which will open beginning Summer 2003 and will provide intensive training in at least nine South Asian languages.

Besides writing and/or editing numerous books, chapters, and articles, Joe has produced over twenty documentary films on India. He served for eight years as President of the American Institute of Indian Studies, the largest overseas research institute of its kind.

A founding Trustee of the Madison Institute, Joe has also served on the Boards of Trustees of Oberlin College, the American Friends (Quakers) Service Committee, and the International Committee for the Peace Council. Joe periodically lectures in the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, He also served for eight years of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. Since 1965, Joe, in has capacity as a Quaker, has carried off-the-record messages between parties that were at war or near-war with each other and therefore unable to communicate directly. These message-carrying activities have taken Joe to India, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Cambodia, and North and South Korea.
knew Richard for less than five years, my debt to him is profound. After several months of difficult, even gut-wrenching work, I succeeded in cutting the manuscript from 1,200 to 400 pages. In the process, I deleted more knowledge and wisdom from the manuscript than I will ever possess myself. Nonetheless, I am happy to report that Oxford will finally publish Goodbye Father in August 2002, with the revised subtitle, The Celibate Male Priesthood and the Future of the Catholic Church.

It is not possible here to adequately summarize Goodbye Father. Suffice it to say that the title is perfectly descriptive of its central themes. But in the emotional context of debates about the church and its future, it is easy to misread. “Goodbye Father” does not mean goodbye to the priesthood. To the contrary, this book is a historical, sociological, and theological defense of the absolute necessity of a professional, hierarchical, ordained priesthood. In this sense, it is a profoundly conservative book. What “Goodbye Father” does mean is goodbye to the exclusively male, celibate priesthood. In this sense, it is a profoundly radical book. This seeming contradiction is only appropriate since paradox is at the heart of the theoretical understanding of organized religion Schoenherr presents in Goodbye Father.

The publication of this book this year could not be more timely, given the scandal that have been visited upon the Church by some priests and bishops. As Eugene Kennedy, Schoenherr’s long-time associate and emeritus professor of psychology at Loyola University, has commented: “Goodbye Father is Richard Schoenherr’s masterpiece, and a remarkable last will and testament that bears light into the contemporary discussion of celibacy for priests, scattering the darkness so that we may pause, lower our defenses, and begin to grasp the complexity of this issue and its relationship to institutional Catholicism. This book is as calm, steady, and courageous as Richard Schoenherr himself was as it strikes off the chains of our preconceptions, freeing us to learn from a master teacher. This book is indispensable, a great gift to this very moment in which this searching light scans every dimension of the subject without raising the heat.”

Pam Oliver Receives WSA Award for Service

Pam Oliver is the recipient of the Wisconsin Sociological Association (WSA) 2001 George K. Floro Award for Service. Sociology Department Chair Adam Gamoran commented, “Pam has had an exemplary record of organizational service which has included her very ably chairing ASA’s Collective Behavior and Social Movements section and Political Sociology section; her serving on the Sociology Advisory Panel of NSF; and her recent (2001) election to the Sociological Research Association. She has also provided stalwart service to the Department of Sociology at UW-Madison, including in her current position as director of the graduate program.”

“Just as importantly,” Gamoran said, “Pam has used her sociological knowledge and skills to address social policy and justice issues at the community level.” Another colleague, Professor Jane Allyn Piliavin, wrote: “Social activism is not just what Pam studies, it is also what she does, but...she does it with a sociological imagination.”

Pam’s ongoing research project on “Racial Disparities in Imprisonment,” which has recently put her in the public spotlight, was initiated—she says—by her interest and involvement in community problems. She says she wanted to “dig out the numbers to see what was really happening.”

She has examined the causes and consequences of the large and growing gap between black and white imprisonment trends nationally and more locally. Combining data from national electronic records, paper sources, and local data sets, Oliver and her assistants have been assembling a large dataset that will deepen understanding of the causes and consequences of this gap.

Preliminary results have echoed findings from other national studies that trends in black/white imprisonment disparities are a recent development (in the last 30 years)–not a legacy of Jim Crow or slavery—and have largely been fueled by differential imprisonment for drug and minor property offenses. Oliver’s early findings highlight the importance of state and local policy decisions about how and where to direct policing efforts. Other findings point towards the importance of the relative size of the black population. It is hoped that a detailed offense- and race-specific time-series analysis encompassing a large number of counties or Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) will permit a more thorough investigation into these relationships and the consequences of the trends for African Americans, their families, and communities.

She has presented her research at numerous forums during the past year. They include the Madison Area Urban Ministry, the University of Wisconsin Law School, the Community Justice Action Coalition Conference in Milwaukee (Nov 2001), the Governor’s Juvenile Justice Commission’s Disproportionate Minority Confinement Conference (Feb 2002), and several interviews on Wisconsin Public Radio. A special report assembled for Madison’s mayor is now a working paper at the Institute for the Research on Poverty.

An April 22 Wisconsin State Journal report on Pam’s recent talk at Edgewood College to the Task Force on Money, Education, and Prisons quoted her as saying, “I think it’s fair to say that the drug war has been fought against African-Americans—in this state and in this country.” She said that blacks are 20 times more likely to be incarcerated than whites and that putting large numbers of black people behind bars is “not a constructive way” of dealing with nonviolent property or drug offenses. Instead, she recommended treatment as a better solution than arrest and suggested legalizing marijuana and decriminalizing cocaine.
**Faculty News**

**Bert Adams** was designated the first “Fellow” of the National Council on Family Relations at the NCFR’s November 2001 meeting. Bert also was honored by the Panhellenic Association on campus as an outstanding educator.

**KT Albiston**, assistant professor of law and sociology, has won the 2002 award for best dissertation from the Law and Society Association.

Emeritus Professor **Larry Bumpass** was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, the most prestigious and important scientific society in America.

**Frederick Buttel**, professor and chair of the Department of Rural Sociology and a professor of environmental studies, received a Hilldale Award in recognition of his distinguished contributions to teaching, research, and extension/outreach. Buttell has devoted his research to four major areas of study, including the sociology of agriculture, environmental sociology, technological change in agriculture, and national and global activism relating to environmental and agricultural policies. He is co-director of the Program on Agricultural Technology Studies, a senior fellow at the Center on World Affairs and the Global Economy (WAGE). He is co-editor with Arthur P. J. Mol of a recently published book, *The Environmental State Under Pressure*. New York: Elsevier/JAI.

**John DeLamater** received the Alfred Kinsey Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Study of Sexuality, given by the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. In May, 2002, he was honored with the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching. See story in this issue of Wisconsin Update.

**Mitchell Duneier** was promoted to Full Professor in Sociology. He is on leave this year, serving as Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the City University of New York Graduate Center.

**Ivan Ermakoff**, his wife Florence Vatan, and son Max announced the December 16, 2001 birth of their second son, Tomio. Ivan has been named a Fellow of the Institute for Research in the Humanities for Fall 2002.


**Bill Freudenbuch** is moving to the University of California at Santa Barbara to become the Dehlsen Professor of Environment and Society. He welcomes visitors from Madison, “even in January!”

At the 2002 annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, Rural Sociology Professor Emeritus **Glenn Fuguitt** was honored in a plenary session focusing on his many research accomplishments and his career-long collaboration with rural sociologist Calvin Beale, a demographer with the USDA Economic Research Service. The session at the 2002 Annual Meeting honoring Fuguitt's and Beale's collaboration and research contributions included prepared remarks by five rural sociology colleagues and was followed by a reception in their honor. Fuguitt and Beale collaborated for several decades, examining and publishing on demographic trends in rural America. Working together, and separately, they documented the surprising population redistribution trends in the country in the 1970s and continued to monitor the demographic metabolism in non-metropolitan America during the 1980s and 1990s — research that now includes data from the 2000 Census. Their research insights have provided information relevant to a broad cross-section of the rural research community and to the formulation of U.S. rural policy.

**Adam Gamoran** (Sociology Department Chair) was elected to membership in the National Academy of Education (http://www.nae.nyu.edu/). The Academy was founded in 1963 to “promote scholarly inquiry and discussion concerning the ends and means of education, in all its forms, in the United States and abroad.” Adam also published the following book: Andrew C. Porter and Adam Gamoran, editors. *Methodological Advances in Cross-National Surveys of Educational Achievement.* Washington, DC: National Academy Press. Over the past year he presented his research widely, in locations including Oxford, England; Edinburgh, Scotland; Prague, Czech Republic; and Brisbane, Australia.


**Charles Halaby** has been appointed Associate Dean of the College of Letters and Science and is also the 2002-2003 Director of the Industrial Relations Research Institute.

**Archibald O. Haller**, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Rural Sociology, published a feature article in the December 2001, issue of *The Rural Sociologist*. The article, titled “Brazils: Rural Isolation to Urban Globalization,” traces the history of the remarkable research program on Brazil carried out by the UW Rural Sociology department spanning the years 1944 to 2000 – of which Haller, in the last generation, was the principal force. The research program and its many collaborators documented the rise of upward social mobility and aspects of the rationalization of industry and of agriculture, as well as the adaptation of rural-to-urban, urban-to-rural migrants and intra and inter-regional migrants. It determined how to measure the development of Brazil’s people, and from this established a map of the nation’s development macroregions.

Bob and Tess Hauser spent the 2001-02 academic year in New York. Bob was a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation, where he dabbled with trends and differentials in grade retention and high school dropout, while Tess developed the new round of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Survey from her "home office" at the Royale. The Hausers arrived in New York on September 3, so their year away began with the attack of 9/11 on the World Trade Center and was soon followed by the anthrax attack. While the Russell Sage Foundation is 4 miles northeast of "ground zero," the Royale Condominium is just across Third Avenue from the Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital – the workplace of one of the anthrax victims. It was not an easy year, but the difficulties were compensated by the successful research proposals for the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, by Tess's promotion to Senior Scientist, and by the birth, on June 6, 2002, of the Hausers' first grand-child, Samuel Nathan Hauser, son of Joshua and Kristin Hauser.

Thomas Heberlein, Professor Emeritus of Rural Sociology, was the honored recipient of the 2001 NRRG Merit Award given by the Natural Resources Research Group of the Rural Sociological Society. The award recognized Heberlein's outstanding career contributions to the field of natural resource sociology and drew special attention to three areas: (1) his best-known sociological work on environmental attitudes and behaviors, particularly his rich methodological contributions in such areas as response rate analysis on mailed questionnaires, (2) his extensive work and collaborations in the field of resource economics, and (3) his applied sociological work including extensive collaborations with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Assistant Professor Shawn Kanaiaupunui resigned from the Department of Sociology to take a position with the Kamehameha Schools in Hawaii.

John Logan and Hsiang-Hui Daphne Kuo are parents of a boy, George Robert Logan / Kuo Gi Buor, born July 19, 2002 and weighing in at 10 lbs. 2 oz.

Sociology will be the tenure home for Cora B. Marrett, UW System Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Executive Committee of the Social Studies Division recommended the appointment in April. Marrett (UW-Madison Sociology Ph.D. 1968) was a faculty member here in Sociology and Afro-American Studies from 1974 to 1997.

Pam Oliver was the recipient of the 2001 George K. Floro Award for Service from the Wisconsin Sociological Association. Pam received the award for providing outstanding service in two directions: one organizational service to the discipline, its institutions and programs, and the other service to the community through inspired work as a political sociologist devoted to addressing the issues of race and justice particularly in Wisconsin. See article in this issue of Wisconsin Update.

Jane Pilavin reports that her daughter Libby had her second daughter, N’Dea Athena Pilavin-Godwin, on May 28, 2002.

Lincoln Quillian and Graduate Student Devah Pager published their study on perceptions of crime in the American Journal of Sociology: Quillian, Lincoln and Devah Pager. 2001. “Black Neighbors, Higher Crime? The Role of Racial Stereotypes in Evaluations of Neighborhood Crime.” American Journal of Sociology 107(3):717-767. The study indicates that even in neighborhoods with low crime rates, residents perceived crime to be a big problem when young African-American men lived in the area. Pager said the study shows the strong negative stereotype people have about blacks and crime.


Rural Sociology Professor Emeritus Doris Slesinger has been awarded the 2002 Distinguished Rural Sociologist Award by the Rural Sociological Society. This award honors rural sociologists who have made superior career contributions to the field of rural sociology through their research, teaching, extension and public service. Dr. Slesinger is best known for her pioneering research relating to the plight of migrant farm workers and farm worker children. Doris Slesinger is also well known for her career-long research relating to issues of women’s health. Among the achievements and awards that Doris is most proud of is that relating to advising and mentoring. Her overwhelming commitment and dedication to this side of the scholarly life resulted in her being named the model and first recipient of the “Doris P. Slesinger Outstanding Mentor Award” given by the UW-Madison’s Women’s Mentoring Program.

Gay Seidman (Sociology Associate Chair) was elected chair-to-be of the ASA’s Political Economy of the World System section.

Mark Suchman reports that he will be spending 2002-2003 on leave, as a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences, in Palo Alto, CA.

Phil Gorski also was selected for a fellowship at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford.

Betty Thomson received a Vilas Associate Award from the University for 2002-2003.

Leann Tigges was promoted from Associate Professor of Rural Sociology to Full Professor on July 1, 2002. Dr. Tigges joined the Department of Rural Sociology as an Assistant Professor in 1993. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1984 and held a number of post-doctoral appointments prior to joining the Wisconsin faculty.

Larry Wu has returned from a leave of absence, during which time he was visiting at Yale and Columbia Universities. He has received continued NICHD funding for his project entitled "Dynamic Analyses of Single Motherhood." Larry also is the new chair of the Social Science Computing Cooperative steering committee. He has been appointed to the Initial Review Group of the NICHD Population Research Subcommittee and has been appointed chair of the Technical Review Committee of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a committee which has advisory oversight of the National Longitudinal Surveys. He says he believes that he is the first non-labor-economist to chair the Bureau of Labor Statistics committee.
Center for Demography and Ecology

The Center for Demography and Ecology (CDE) will celebrate its 40th anniversary this year. CDE is looking forward to celebrating this milestone anniversary with a symposium in Fall, 2002. The two-day conference will be held October 10-11. Senior faculty have collaborated to organize seven sessions on areas in which CDE has a long research tradition. Each of these sessions will include three papers presented by CDE-affiliated graduates of the Sociology doctoral program. Former faculty and/or postdoctoral students will discuss these papers while current junior faculty members serve as moderators. The conference will include a morning brunch on Thursday, October 10, in the Social Science Building, as well as lunch and an evening banquet on Friday. With former CDE students and faculty gathering from around the country, this conference will provide wonderful opportunities both to celebrate the long history of CDE and, most importantly, to renew professional and personal relationships with former colleagues. See http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/cde/anniv-home.htm for further details.

Joining CDE this year are Assistant Professors Maurizio Mazzocco (Ph.D. 2001, University of Chicago) and Meta Brown (Ph.D. 2001, New York University) from the UW- Madison Department of Economics. Mazzocco is investigating effects of household composition on consumption and savings. Brown is studying the interplay between divorce and investment in children. We have also welcomed a distinguished senior colleague, Professor John Kennan, a labor economist who has developed a collaborative research agenda in migration with long-time Center members. See http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/cde/anniv-home.htm for further details.

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James Walker.

Other additions include Assistant Professor Sherrill Sellers (School of Social Work) and “outside” member (and Wisconsin alum), Professor Mary Kritz of Cornell University. Sellers received her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 2000 and has been the investigator for an NIMH Minority Supplement Grant. She works in the areas of race/ethnicity, gender, social stratification and health; a current project focuses on the relationship between social mobility and race/ethnic differences in health. Professor Kritz has a distinguished career of research on reproductive behavior and migration in economically less developed countries. She was recently elected Secretary General of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population. We are fortunate that she is able to spend considerable amounts of time in the Madison area, contributing to our intellectual breadth in international demography.

There has been substantial growth in funding for research and training at CDE in the past year. Alberto Palloni is Principal Investigator on two training grants: one from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation supports training in Population and Environment & Maternal and Child Health, and a one from the Fogarty International Center/NICHD supports International Training in Population Health. A grant from NIA to support training in population, life course and aging studies (Bob Hauser, PI) was not only renewed but expanded.

The Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (Bob Hauser, PI) begins a major new phase in its life cycle. Funding was approved for another wave of data collection, 45 years after the high school graduation of the original 10,317 participants. The data collected will form the basis for a program of projects including three cores and seven research projects. This program of projects will involve over 50 CDE and non-CDE researchers, including core and project Principal Investigators Tess Hauser, Deborah Carr (Rutgers University), Marsha Seltzer (UW Waisman Center), Maureen Smith (UW Department of Population Health Sciences), Rob Warren (University of Minnesota), and Richard Davidson (UW Department of Psychology).

Several additional new grants have been awarded to CDE steering committee members in the past year. Meta Brown received funding to study social security reform and the exchange of bequests for elder care from the Sandell Grant Program and the Center for Retirement Research. Larry Wu’s project on the dynamics of single motherhood received additional funding from NIH. Wu is joined by Aimée Dechter and Elizabeth Thomson on this project. Alberto Palloni, with Hal Winsborough and Francisco Scarano, Department of History, are working to produce a public use file of individual and household records drawn from the Puerto Rican censuses of 1910 and 1920 in an NIH-funded project.

Honors for Center faculty are highlighted by the election of Larry Bumpass to the National Academy of Sciences. John DeLamater received the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award and was honored by the Kinsey Institute for Distinguished Contributions to the Study of Human Sexuality. John Karl Scholz is now Director of the Institute for Research on Poverty. Elizabeth Thomson was named a Vilas Associate in the Social Sciences. Bob Hauser returns in summer 2002 from a year as a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation in New York City. Larry Wu also returned from New York where he was a visiting professor at Yale and Columbia Universities.

CDE congratulates Jack Solock, Data Librarian, who was one of three recipients of the 2002 UW College of Letters and Science Academic Staff Mid-Career Achievement award. The award recognizes individuals who demonstrate outstanding performance in their position, leadership and service beyond their position, and substantial professional competency and promise of continuing contributions. Associate Director for Administration, Jeff Petersen, was named to the Committee on Academic Staff Issues of the College of Letters and Science. We welcome Vicki Sekel, Financial Specialist, to the CDE staff. Vicki will be assisting Jeff Petersen and Alberto Palloni with financial and administrative responsibilities.

Visiting speakers included David Theobald (Colorado State University), “Growth and Sprawl: Land Use Dynamics Beyond the Urban Fringe,” sponsored by the Geographic Information Analysis Core; Tokufo Zuberi (University of Pennsylvania) “The Biological Myth and Social Reality of Race: Implications for Social Statistics,” co-sponsored with African Studies; and Ron Lesthaeghe (Free University of Brussels and Harvard University), forum on “European Fertility in the Second Demographic Transition” and “The Second Demographic Transition in Europe and Its Cultural Determinants.” CDE also was host to several longer-term visitors doing research with CDE mentors or colleagues: Ursula Henz (London School of Economics), Gunnar Andersson and Andres Vikat (Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research), Sven-Erik Mamelund (University of Oslo), Justin Powell (Max Planck Institute for Human Development), Mariachiara DiCesare (University of Rome, “La Sapienza”), and Nompumelelo Barbara Nzimande (University of Natal). Wisconsin alum Guido Pinto has also been with us, continuing his collaboration with Alberto Palloni.
Center for Demography of Health and Aging

The Center for Demography of Health and Aging (CDHA) has continued to expand during the third year of its initial 5-year center grant from the National Institute on Aging. Led by Robert M. Hauser and an interdepartmental steering committee, CDHA is designed to create links between social demography and biomedical and epidemiological research on health and aging. The overall goal is to build a major research and training program in the demography of health and aging from several diverse activities.

The major themes of ongoing and developmental research activities within CDHA include midlife development and aging; economics of population aging, including future prospects for economic well-being of aging and future trajectories of the Social Security system; inequalities in health and aging; and international, comparative studies of population aging. Sociology faculty at Madison who joined CDHA during 2001-02 include John Delameter, Howard Erlanger, Jeremy Freese, Charles Halaby, Jane Piliavin, and Mark Suchman. Also, Cheryl Bowdre (Postdoctoral Research Associate, CDE) has joined CDHA to pursue her collaborative research with Jane Piliavin on the effects of volunteering and of social contexts on health.

There are several major continuing research projects in CDHA. The National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH), under the leadership of Larry Bumpass, is now completing fieldwork for the third wave of surveys since 1989. The Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS), under the leadership of Robert Hauser, has obtained funding for another round of graduate and sibling surveys through the NIA R01 funding mechanism and for a coordinated and extensive interdisciplinary program of research through the NIA PO1 funding mechanism. Health, Well-Being, and Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean (known by its Spanish-language acronym, SABE), under the leadership of Professor Alberto Palloni and in collaboration with the School of Public Health at the University of Puerto Rico, entered the field in May.

The NIA training program in population aging was renewed in May for an additional five years. The post-doctoral position was renewed, and the predoctoral program was doubled from two to four positions. Alair Maclean and Steven Haas held predoctoral appointments during the past year. Alair is working on her doctoral dissertation, which will examine the life-course of members of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study in relation to major social events and changes of the past half-century. Steve has been working with Karen Swallen on studies of the effects of early parental death on the life course of surviving children. Hsiang-Hui Daphne Kuo will complete her postdoctoral training at Madison in August and resume her Assistant Professorship at the University of Washington. Daphne’s work has focused on the health consequences of smoking and obesity, and she has been active in a collaborative project on the long-term health consequences of childhood abuse. Daphne also has made major contributions to the design of the forthcoming round of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, and she expects to continue her collaboration with the WLS.

As of September 1, there will be an opening in the postdoctoral training program in aging. The program is intended to support and develop the research and professional skills of recent PhDs in sociology, economics, or complementary disciplines and to focus those skills on significant theoretical, methodological, and policy issues in the demography of aging and the life course. The NIA fellow will be encouraged to affiliate with one of the major research projects in the CDHA or CDE. For further information, see http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/cdha/funding/postdoc.html, or contact Bob Hauser (hauser@ssc.wisc.edu).


CDHA’s secure data enclave is now up and running under the direction of Janet Eisenhauer Smith. The enclave provides several secure services: OLDR, BEDDR, and WISA. OLDR is the Offsite Longitudinal Data Repository. OLDR protects the confidentiality, integrity, and long-term usability of sensitive survey, administrative, and medical records data. Any researcher or institution involved in the collection, creation, or analysis of data relevant to CDHA’s mission may archive data at OLDR. Customized security, confidentiality, and access protocols are developed to meet the needs of data owners who deposit their data with OLDR. Many other repositories require data owners to delete or modify sensitive data before archiving them, which sometimes compromises what can be done with archived data and also shifts the technical and financial burdens of secure storage onto researchers. For researchers creating sensitive data on health and aging, OLDR assumes the burden of storing these data securely and maintaining their usability in the face of changing computer technology.

WISA stands for Wisconsin’s Indirect Statistical Analysis. WISA provides a secure computing environment for researchers conducting secondary analyses of restricted or licensed data. In order to maintain the integrity and confidentiality of these data, physical access is restricted to CDHA’s Data Analyst/Archivist. Researchers gain access by submitting digitally signed authenticated code. Analyses are reviewer, and only when the statistical output does not appear to breach confidentiality is it given to the researcher.

BEDDR stands for Biological, Epidemiological, and Demographic Data Resources. Janet Eisenhauer Smith provides user-friendly technical support for researchers analyzing large-scale public data resources in the demography of health and aging. She can assist researchers to identify and acquire data that meet research objectives; link publicly available data to administrative or other survey data; and store and document datasets created in the course of secondary analysis. Janet can also assist researchers to acquire and store restricted data at OLDR and to conduct analyses using WISA. For additional information concerning data resources and related research services, feel free to contact Janet...
News from the Centers

Havens Center

Established in the Sociology Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1984, the A. E. Havens Center for the Study of Social Structure and Social Change is named in honor of the late Professor of Rural Sociology, A. Eugene Havens. Inspired by the combination of progressive political commitment and scholarly rigor that embodied Gene Havens’ life and work, the Center is dedicated to promoting critical social thought throughout the social sciences and humanities and to fostering intellectual exchange between the University and the broader community.

The major ongoing activity of the Havens Center is the Visiting Scholars Program, which brings distinguished scholars and political activists to UW-Madison to lecture and lead seminars on their work. Visiting scholars spend the better part of a week in residence at the Havens Center, delivering lectures, conducting seminars, and meeting with students, faculty, and the interested public. The Visiting Scholars Program enriches the campus and community in several ways. Scholars speak with expertise on a wide range of topics, very often presenting the findings of recently conducted original research. UW students can also earn academic credit in Sociology 994 (Colloquium in Critical Sociology) for attending Havens Center lectures and seminars. In addition, during the spring semester of each year, the Center offers an integrated series of lectures linked to a graduate seminar, usually taught by a member of the Center’s Steering Committee. In the spring of 2002, for example, the topic was “Beyond the New Economy,” conducted in conjunction with a seminar taught by Professor Jamie Peck (Geography). In the spring of 2003, the topic will be “Varieties of Feminism,”

taught by Professors Myra Marx Ferree (Sociology) and Aili Tripp (Political Science). Havens Center lectures and seminars are also sites of cross-disciplinary discussion among faculty and students and a context in which people from the broader community can participate in intellectually stimulating programs with scholars.

The Center also organizes conferences that attract scholars from around the world. The clearest example of this is the Real Utopias Project organized by the Center’s Director, Professor Erik Olin Wright. To date, Verso Press has published three volumes in the Real Utopias Series. A fourth volume, Deepening Democracy: Institutional Innovations in Empowered Participatory Governance, by Erik Olin Wright and Archon Fong, is forthcoming. In May 2002, the Havens Center hosted a fifth Real Utopias conference titled “Rethinking Redistribution: Universal Basic Income and Stakeholder Grants as Designs for a More Egalitarian Capitalism.”

The Havens Center also seeks to promote progressive social and political change through engagement with the activist community in Madison and beyond. The principal vehicle for this effort is RadFest, an annual conference for progressive activists and academics held the weekend after Memorial Day. The central goal of the conference is to provide an opportunity for progressive intellectuals, organizers, and activists to come together to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern, strengthen networks, and devise strategies for progressive social, economic, and political change. In recent years, the conference has grown considerably (over 275 participants in 2001) and there is every indication that it will continue to grow. The conference is held at the George Williams Lake Geneva Campus of Aurora University - 240 acres of rolling, wooded hillside located on the shores of Lake Geneva in Williams Bay, WI, approximately 70 miles southeast of Madison.

Patrick Barrett is the Havens Center’s Administrative Director. The staff includes graduate students Grace Livingston from Curriculum and Instruction and Shamus Khan from Sociology.

Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS)

COWS is a research and policy center in the Sociology Department dedicated to improving economic performance and living standards in Wisconsin. COWS conducts research on regional trends, generates ideas for improvement, works with business, labor, and community leaders to implement experiments in reform, and studies the results for possible replication elsewhere. This year COWS has worked even harder to put ideas into action through our research and our on-the-ground projects.

Over the past eighteen months, COWS’ Sustaining Wisconsin project has built and maintained a statewide grassroots policy education campaign with coordinated media outreach, more than 120 public discussion forums, an interactive web site, and regular electronic mailings on major issues of concern to the state. While the specific policy areas COWS has focused on have shifted to follow current legislature debates, COWS has also been able to stay true to our original goal of addressing public policy within five broad areas: jobs and the economy, the environment, families and communities, priorities for the future, and democracy.

In each of these areas, Wisconsin faces critical choices in the next few years – choices that will fundamentally shape our future as a state. COWS continues to work to clarify those choices and alternatives as citizens look ahead to the competitive 2002 Gubernatorial election.

Sustaining Wisconsin is a classic instance of the Wisconsin Idea of University contribution to public life within the state. We believe the Sustaining Wisconsin campaign has real potential to change the general climate of public opinion and awareness in the state heading into moments of civic choice.

One key to the project is a lively, accessible, informed slide show about the State of the State, with specific policy choices and challenges confronting Wisconsin in each of the five issue areas. The slide show, while detailed and professional, is also straightforward and thoroughly documented so that people in their own communities, regardless of background, can successfully present the show to their friends and colleagues.

We have also assembled a series of
briefing papers covering nearly 50 public policy issue areas in Wisconsin. These papers are designed to be digestible by busy, regular people focused on their everyday lives in a small amount of time. Each is 6-12 pages long, well documented and accompanied by one-page summaries. Citizens are encouraged and able to “drill down” as deeply as they choose on any issue covered by the project.

At www.sustainingwisconsin.org we make many of our materials available over the Internet. We now regularly receive 4000-5000 web site hits each week, with hundreds of our reports, briefing papers and other materials being downloaded. We promote the web site and remind citizens to check in often by distributing an electronic newsletter each week to some 1500 policy makers and attendees of our presentations. The Sustaining website includes searchable databases of media outlets and the county-level data found in the state of the state presentation, as well as an organizer’s toolbox to assist people in putting the information they find on our site to use.

Beyond Sustaining Wisconsin, much of COWS’ work documents the state of our state, especially when it comes to defining how we’re doing on the labor, economic and urban fronts. Two COWS projects–Jobs with a Future in Dane County and the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership in Milwaukee–received national recognition from the National Governor’s Association’s Center for Best Practices.

In the past year, COWS has provided an interim update to our biennial State of Working Wisconsin report, which included the finding that the typical married couple in Wisconsin is now working the equivalent of 1.9 full time jobs, above the national average. COWS also updated its 2000 report, “Pulling Apart”, which showed that income disparity in Wisconsin is greater than two decades ago and growing faster than the national trend. In addition, COWS published its second brief about the childcare workforce in Dane County, based on interviews with some fifty childcare center directors, teachers, and in-home care providers.

Also this past year, COWS produced “Can’t Afford to Lose a Bad Job”, a report based on data collected by the Latino Workers Project (a project of the Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice) that combined hard numbers with compelling individual narratives. The report lists the most striking statistics and narratives assembled through interviews, surveys, and community forums, and describes recommendations for improving the lives of Latino families in Dane County. COWS has also released “Divergent Paths: Economic Mobility in the New American Labor Market” the first in-depth look at how upward mobility has deteriorated over the past three decades, and why. It is co-authored by COWS senior associate Annette Bernhardt. COWS participated in Economic Summit II, which included working with the greater Milwaukee Committee to draft a report detailing several options for a stronger economic future for Wisconsin.

In the months ahead, look to COWS for The State of Working Wisconsin 2002, a complete report on work, wages, income and poverty in Wisconsin, set for release on Labor Day; a report on the impact of unions in the hotel industry; our first ever State of Rural Wisconsin report (along with regional reports covering counties in rural Wisconsin); more research and commentary on taxes and the state budget in Wisconsin; and possibly the start of Sustaining Wisconsin II, a project that focuses on High Road solutions to the state’s most pressing challenges.

Check out www.cows.org and www.sustainingwisconsin.org for much more information. You can also contact Michael Jacob (mjacobs@cows.org) for paper copies of any of these reports or if you would like to have a staff member of COWS give a presentation.

Institute for Research on Poverty

The Institute for Research on Poverty continues its program of basic and applied research on problems related to the low-income population. Following its tradition of helping to inform public policy, IRP has been involved in providing background information on issues surrounding the reauthorization of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the program created by welfare reform legislation in 1996. The legislation expires this year and must be reauthorized by Congress. In May, IRP representatives hosted a breakfast briefing in Washington for congressional staff members and other policymakers. A background to the briefing was provided by a special issue of Focus, IRP’s newsletter, featuring 23 commissioned articles that probe aspects of TANF (Focus is available on the IRP Web site: http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/irp/). This is part of an ongoing series in which IRP representatives present overviews of crucial issues in the field of poverty.

IRP is now producing daily e-mail Poverty Dispatches, which provide links to Web-based news items dealing with poverty, welfare reform, and related topics. A separate, biweekly compilation, Poverty Research, provides Web access to the latest research on poverty issues from academic institutions, government agencies, think tanks, and research organizations. If you would like to receive either Poverty Dispatches or Poverty Research, send a request to John Wolf (jwolf@ssc.wisc.edu).

A new book, Understanding Poverty, edited by IRP affiliates Sheldon H. Danziger and Robert H. Haveman, has recently been copublished by the Russell Sage Foundation and Harvard University Press. The product of a May 2000 conference held in Madison, Wisconsin, and organized jointly by IRP and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, this book looks back over the four decades since the nation declared war on poverty. The authors ask how the poor have fared in the market economy, what government programs have and have not accomplished, and what remains to be done, and they offer suggestions for changes in programs and policies that hold promise for reducing poverty and income inequality. For more information about the book, visit the Harvard University Press site.

The Institute sponsored two national conferences in the spring. “Evaluations of State TANF Programs” was held here in April. The second conference, “Income Volatility and Implications for Food Assistance Programs,” held in May in Washington, DC, was co-sponsored with the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The thirteenth annual IRP Summer Research Workshop on Problems of the Low-Income Population was held June 24-27, 2002, in the eighth-floor conference room in the Social Science Building. The workshop was organized by Larry Wu, Sociology, Robert Moffitt, Johns Hopkins University, and Peter Gottschalk, Boston College. It brought together junior and senior scholars from around the country to present and discuss papers,
organized around poverty-related themes. In conjunction with the workshop, the fifth annual Robert J. Lampman Memorial Lecture was given by Eugene Smolensky, a former director of IRP who is now Professor of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. The title of the lecture was “Income Inequality: A Conversation with Bob Lampman.”

The Institute recently made awards under two small grants programs for poverty-related studies. The first program is cosponsored by the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and has for several years offered annual small grants for studies of food assistance programs for low-income families. The second and more recent program is cosponsored by the Office of Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It provides small grants for pre-doctoral and postdoctoral students who wish to conduct research utilizing two major collections of data: the ASPE Welfare Outcomes Files, which include administrative and survey data on families leaving or diverted from welfare in more than a dozen states and large counties, and the NEWWS Data Files, which contain data from the National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies, a study of the effectiveness of eleven mandatory welfare-to-work programs in seven locales.

Applied Population Laboratory

With the detailed social and economic data from the 2000 Census being released on a flow basis as this issue of Wisconsin Update goes to the printer, the Applied Population Laboratory is humming! Dan Veroff, the APL director, is busy helping people across the state to acquire, understand and make appropriate use of census data in a variety of settings. Dan coordinates the state’s periodic “Census Breakfast,” which regularly brings together state and regional employees to discuss the latest census news and statewide data dissemination plans. Dan also plays a very important role as the Lab’s contact to the State Data Center (SDC) program, a federal-state partnership program focusing on Census Bureau data and activities, where he is bringing recognition both to himself and to the Lab on the national scene through his important contributions on a bewildering number of new federal data initiatives.

Meanwhile, Paul Voss continues to serve as the Population Association of America’s representative to the Commerce Department’s Decennial Census Advisory Committee. As much attention is currently focused on new releases of 2000 Census data, Paul is busy assisting in education about and promotion of the Census Bureau’s new American Community Survey (data from which are planned to replace traditional long-form census data in 2010), as well as assisting the Census Bureau and the Department of Commerce with plans for a short-form only census in 2010.

For the past three years the APL has been providing support to the Center for Demography and Ecology in the areas of spatial data analysis and Geographic Information System (GIS) applications. During the past year, these obligations (collectively provided under the CDE’s Geographic Information and Analysis Core) have largely fallen on GIS specialist Nick Fisher and spatial data consultants Paul Voss and Dave Long. This successful collaboration between APL and CDE has resulted in increasing awareness and appreciation of some of the pitfalls in applying traditional approaches to data for geographic areas like counties and census tracts.

Over the last year, Jim Beaudoin completed a major overhaul of WisStat, the Cooperative Extension’s on-line data and information delivery system, and he successfully added data from Census 2000 to the system. Jim continues to use his software savvy and development skills to add many “bells and whistles” to WisStat and design a sophisticated database that is also user-friendly. Jim has started developing an on-line, interactive mapping engine – a really exciting and innovative way to make use of the new census data.

The APL’s highly acclaimed school enrollment forecasting project continues to grow under the capable leadership of Robin Blakely. The project has now grown beyond the ability of one person to handle the expanding work demands, so Jennifer Vogt, who completed her MS in Sociology in May, 2001, has joined the enrollment forecasting project.

Several of the research projects at the APL during the past year can be described as fitting well into the expanding sub-discipline of demography loosely known as “Population and Environment.” With research support from the U.S. Forest Service, a grant focused on environmental “hotspots” is coordinated by Paul Voss and Roger Hammer. Roger joined the Department of Rural Sociology faculty in 2001 as a land use specialist. Under his leadership, the Forest Service grant has successfully linked satellite images of ground cover with 50 years’ worth of census data on housing unit development for very small units of census geography. Paul and Roger, together with Forestry Professors Don Field (joint with Rural Sociology) and Volker Radeloff, have expanded the “hotspots” research to the Forest Service’s North Central Region. The research was aided by Research Assistants Kwang-Koo Kim, Beth Sutherland, and Richelle Winkler.

Two other Forest Service projects dealing with county-level net migration rates and population projections are moving forward as well. This latter work is assisted by Rural Sociology Emeritus Professor Glenn Fugitt and Loyola University of Chicago Professor Ken Johnson. Joining in the efforts on these projects are Research Assistant Hani Guend and new APL employee Scott McNiven. Scott moved to Madison in summer 2001 after a successful stint as a researcher at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. Also working on a variety of APL projects are our talented interns, Charles Kostlely and Liz Wilke.
John DeLamater receives Chancellor’s Award for Distinguished Teaching

In May, 2002, John DeLamater was one of six UW-Madison faculty to receive the Chancellor’s Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Commenting on the Chancellor’s Award, John said that it is especially meaningful “because I decided to earn a Ph.D. in order to teach.”

He said he worked his way through his undergraduate education and appreciates the importance of financial aid for students. Therefore, he donated half of the cash award to the Sociology Department’s Sewell Fund for Graduate Education.

The UW Wisconsin Week newspaper article about John’s award stated, “John DeLamater doesn’t have to mention sex to get his students’ rapt attention. Judging from his course evaluations and colleagues’ commendations, he could make phone book listings utterly compelling.”

Professor DeLamater has taught human sexuality courses since 1976. He also teaches social psychology and a class on deviant behavior. Department Chair Adam Gamoran was quoted as saying “John DeLamater is careful to make course content accessible, intellectually stimulating, and relevant to students’ understanding of their world.”

In June, 2002, DeLamater received the Alfred Kinsey Award for Distinguished Contributions to the study of sexuality, given by the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. The award recognizes his contribution to the theoretical and research literatures over the past 30 years, his contribution to disseminating sexual science via co-authoring an undergraduate textbook, and his service to the society as Editor of the Journal of Sex Research, 1997 to present.

DeLamater joined UW-Madison’s sociology faculty in 1969.

Angela Barian: “Early Excellence”

Angela Marie Barian was honored for “Early Excellence in Inspirational Teaching as a Teaching Assistant” when she received a College of Letters & Science 2001 French-Felten Award in ceremonies October 18, 2001.

During the spring semester of her first year in our program, Angela served as a TA in Sociology 210, Survey of Sociology, under the direction of Professor Jeremy Freese. She also held Taships both semesters of 2001-2002 in Sociology 160, Human Sexuality, under the direction of Professor John DeLamater.

In nominating Angela for the award, Professor Freese said “Angela brings an enormous enthusiasm to whatever she does, and this certainly carries over to her performance in the classroom....[She] had numerous creative ideas for things to try to enliven discussion, and she was generous in sharing these ideas with the other assistants. More than this, conversations we had about students evinced a very deep level of caring for her students, their performance in the class, and our performance in helping the students master course material.... Angela went well beyond expectations in trying to draw out and challenge students into developing their research paper topics into more than simply rote fulfillment of the main course requirements.”

Angela was one of seven Letters & Science teaching assistants to receive the award, which was established to recognize and reward teachers at an early state in their careers and stems from an endowment created in the will of Florence Felten French. It carries a stipend of $400 and an invitation to the annual dinner in honor of the award recipients.
DEPARTMENT PRESENTS THREE TEACHING AWARDS

The committee for the Evaluation and Improvement of Instruction presented the 2002 Award for Excellence in Teaching to Professor Nora Cate Schaeffer, Lecturer Susan Pastor, and Teaching Assistant Jim Yocom during the final faculty meeting of the academic year.

During her career with the Sociology department, Nora Cate Schaeffer has taught a number of courses, including Human Sexuality: Social & Psychological Issues, Personality and Social Structure, Measurement and Questionnaires for Survey Research, and Survey Methods for Social Research. Remarks about her teaching repeatedly praise Nora Cate for being well-prepared, open-minded, and more than ready to help students, as well as for the extremely thought-provoking and challenging nature of her courses. Through her graduate courses, in particular, Nora Cate is absolutely central to the department’s mission of training its students to be superior investigators. As one of Nora Cate’s methods’ students put it: “All serious social scientists considering survey research should take this course.” Her contributions also extend beyond the Sociology Department. Students in other departments, who need to learn survey design and measurement and who cannot find it in their own curricula have commented on the importance of her training to their work both as academics and as researchers in other (non-academic) environments.

Susan Pastor the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Teaching by a lecturer, has received superlative evaluations for four different courses: Sociology of Marriage and the Family, Sociology of Gender, Human Sexuality, and Methods of Sociological Inquiry. Students have described her as an excellent communicator of complex information with real passion for her work. Students also have praised Susan as a wonderful woman who not only knows this material extremely well, but teaches in a way that captures the attention of the class. Particularly impressive is the profound impact that Susan’s courses have had on many of her students. In evaluating her courses, students have said, “This course changed the way I think and brought me into a new awareness of both myself and of the culture.” “The information covered has taught me a lot about myself, life, and the gender system.” “It’s great to walk away feeling as if I am taking knowledge applicable to my own life. The course has honestly made me rethink my major and my future college plans.”

Jim Yocom has been a teaching assistant for Contemporary American Society, Introduction to Social Psychology and the first two courses in the statistics sequence. It is a testament to his hard work and flexibility that he has excelled in the instruction of such diverse courses. Students in his statistics courses consistently praise Jim for not getting so focused on the details of the material that students forget the importance of what they’re learning. Others commended Jim for helping them apply their knowledge to the rest of the world. In the words of one student, “He has an amazing ability to back us up and let us see the big picture.”

John Logan, who supervised Jim as a TA for Sociology 360 and 361, also testified to Jim’s hard work and success as a teacher. He commented, “I have never, in my nine years of teaching at UW, had a TA who performed at such a high level of excellence in so many aspects of the job as Jim.”

The presentation of these awards provided an excellent opportunity to thank Nora Cate, Susan, and Jim for their invaluable contributions to teaching and learning in this department.
Kelly Besecke won this year’s ASA Religion Section Best Student Paper Award for a paper called “Seeing Invisible Religion: Religion as a Societal Conversation about Transcendent Meaning.” Her paper called “Speaking of Meaning in Modernity: Reflexive Spirituality as a Cultural Resource” was published in the Fall 2001 issue of Sociology of Religion (623). She received a Dissertation Fellowship from the Louisville Institute for 2001-2002.


Rachel Dywer received the Social Science History Association-Rockefeller Graduate Student Travel Award.


Dimitri Kessler spent a term at Taiwan Normal University (with a Republic of China Ministry of Education Scholarship for Language Study) and began fieldwork in China on a Fulbright Fellowship.


Paul Lachelier is in Massachusetts, still dissertating but following his political instincts to what in hindsight might seem their inevitable culmination. He is running as the Green Party candidate for State Representative in the Massachusetts 26th Middlesex, comprising East Cambridge and East Somerville. He says he recently qualified for about $25,000 in public campaign financing under the Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, and if he is elected he will be “the youngest legislator in the Massachusetts Legislature, and only the second Green Party candidate elected to state office in the history of our nation.”

Sandra Levitsky was made a Graduate Fellow this year at the Institute for Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin Law School.

Molly Martin was nominated by her fellow Sociology graduate students for the UW Graduate Student Mentor Award and received the award in May 2002. At the Spring 2002 meeting of the International Sociological Association’s Research Committee 28: Social Stratification and Mobility, she was awarded the first Alan C. Kerckhoff Memorial Travel Award for her paper entitled “Interactions of Parental Family and Socioeconomic Characteristics for the Transition to Adulthood.” Last August, at the 2001 American Sociological Association meetings, she was awarded the Section on Population Graduate Student Paper Award for her paper entitled “AFDC Use Across Generations: The Effects of the Intergenerational Correlation in Income.”

Ann Meier has received word that her article “Adolescents’ Transition to First Intercourse, Religiosity, and Attitudes about Sex” has been accepted for a forthcoming issue of Social Forces. Also, Ann was awarded the Adolescent and Youth Dissertation Award from the Murray Research Center at Harvard University and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

David Merrill is co-author of an article published in the journal Hypatia: Cameron Lynn Macdonald and David Merrill. Spring 2002. “It Shouldn’t Have to be a Trade: Recognition and Redistribution in Care Work Advocacy.” Hypatia 17:2.

Hyunjoo Park’s paper, “Educational Expansion and Inequality in Korea,” has been selected as the winner of the David Lee Stevenson Graduate Student Paper Award this year by the ASA Sociology of Education section.

Devah Pager received grants from the National Institute of Justice, the Soros Foundation/Open Society Institute, and the Joyce Foundation. Two ASA sections have given her the August 2002 Graduate Student Paper Award: the section on Sociology of Law and the section on Crime, Law, and Deviance. She also received a UW Genevieve Gorst Herfurth Award for Outstanding Research in Social Studies from UW-Madison.

In addition to winning the department’s 2002 Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Lecturer, Susan Pastor was awarded a Morgridge Center for Public Service Wisconsin Idea Fellowship for a project called “Youth Spotlight Project: Empowering Young Girls through Reading and Writing.”

Aaron Pitluck received a Fulbright Fellowship and has been researching speculation by Malaysians on their stock exchange. He gave a presentation to the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange’s management on the relationship between the structure of the market and investor behavior. He also received an NSF travel grant to attend the ISA World Congress in Australia to present his preliminary findings.

Andrea Robles, in collaboration with Pamela Fendt and Lisa Heuler Williams from the
Student News

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Economic Development, received in March 2002 a research award from the American Sociological Association’s Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy Community Action. The grant is to support a community action research project to highlight the common concerns related to the balance of work and family issues among women of different socio-economic backgrounds in Milwaukee.

Cesar Rodriguez was awarded a Tinker-Nave Field Research Grant by the Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program to conduct research during the summer on the implementation of corporate codes of conduct in the apparel industry in Mexico and Guatemala.

Lisa Wade’s master’s thesis, “Relationship Dissolution as a Life Stage Transition: Effects on Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors,” is forthcoming in The Journal of Marriage and Family. Lisa also was honored for her teaching by being selected as an L & S Teaching Fellow for the year 2002. Lisa, Jessica Brown, and Emily Kremer presented a paper at the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality meeting in Michigan in June, based on their research project on sex education and knowledge about male and female sexual anatomy.

Mark Whitaker presented two papers at the 2002 International Sociological Association meeting in Brisbane, Australia: “Localizing Consumption: the Health Planning of Urban and Rural State Food Policy Councils Compared, a Foreshadowing of Things to Come?” and, “The State as a Biased Sponsor of Consumption: Theorizing the Politics and Policies of Consumptive Bias and the Consumer Infrastructure, through a Positionalist Sociology.”

Josh Whitford spent much of the Spring 2002 semester as a visitor at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Turin, Italy, doing research on the automotive components industry in Piedmont. He presented a paper based on that research at a conference in Paris in June 2002. Also in June, he had an article published in Theory and Society: Whitford, Joshua. 2002. “Pragmatism and the untenable dualism of means and ends: why rational choice theory does not deserve paradigmatic privilege.” Theory and Society 31 (3).

Spencer Wood has been interviewed extensively over the last year and half regarding his research topic, African American farmers and the loss of their farmland, ever since black farmers sued the USDA over discriminatory lending practices and won. He was consulted by the Associated Press for a three-part series on African American Owned Land. And he was recently interviewed by American Banker Magazine, for an upcoming piece on black farmers and opportunities that might exist for the American banking industry. He will be working with Thomas Mitchell of the Law School and Richard Green and Steve Malpezzi of the Business School, under a Ford Foundation grant, to study whether or not African Americans received fair market value for their land at partition or tax sales. Spencer also will be working with Jess Gilbert in Rural Sociology and Robert Zabawa of Tuskegee University on a USDA-funded project to study six all-black resettlement communities.

Marriages

Ann Meier and Seth Werner, June 8, 2002
Flavia Andrade and Heitor Almedia, May 29, 2002
Susan Munkres and Jason Van Driesche, May 26, 2002
Neil Gross and Jessica Berger, May 26, 2002
Steven Haas and Ariana Mikulsk, May 26, 2002

Births

Hyunjoon Park and wife Hyunsuk Kim, girl, June Kim Park, October 22, 2001
Jennifer Sheridan and husband Peter, girl, Samantha Kay (Sammii), November 13, 2001
Kelley Straw and wife Alejandra, boy, Ian Alistair, December 27, 2001
Jody Knauss and wife Mary Bartholomew, girl, Sylvia Bartholomew Knauss, June 24, 2002
Jui-Chung Allen Li and wife Yoschen Chen, boy, Justin Chien-Hua Li, March 21, 2002
Sheri Meland and husband Stuart, boy, Nolen Russell Meland, May 30, 2002
Alair MacLean and husband Andy Olds, boy, Dylan Olds MacLean, July 12, 2002

Stephen Bunker’s contributions to Sociology will be celebrated in a November 1-3, 2002 symposium jointly sponsored by the Department of Sociology, the Havens Center, and the UW International Institute. See the Sociology website, www.ssc.wisc.edu/soc/ for further information as plans develop.
Achievements

Recent Master’s Degrees

Shireen Adam Ally  Servants & Saints? Sociology and Sociologists in Apartheid South Africa: A case study of the shift to a Marxist oppositional sociology in the Sociology Department at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 1975-1989. Major Professor: Charles Camic

Xiuying Cheng  Local cadres in a liberalization experiment: A case study of the INCRC project. Major Professor: Erik O. Wright

Tanya N. Cook  The Symbolic Politics Cycle: Transcending the Divide Between Sociological Approaches to the Study of Risk. Major Professor: William Freudenburg

Elizabeth M. Craft  Sex and the College Girl: A Gendered Analysis of the Social Construction of Rape within a University Community. Major Professor: Marino Bruce

Kerryann DiLoreto  Uncovering Religious Experience Through Narrative: Story and Testimony in the Life of the Sankaku Buddhists and the Willow Stream Christian Church. Major Professor: Pamela Oliver

Charles E. Ditzler  What Is Falun Gong? A Preliminary Analysis of the Emergence of a “Cultivation Practice” in Reform-Era China. Major Professor: Joseph Elder

Caroline L. Faulkner  Understanding Minority Fertility: First Generation Mexican Contraceptive Use in Houston, Texas and San Diego, California. Major Professor: Lincoln Quillian

Sean P. Kelly  Do Increased Levels of Parental Involvement Account for the Social Class Difference in Track Placement? Major Professor: Adam Gamoran

Keedon Kwon  How Did Democrats and a Military Dictatorship in South Korea Decide to Cohabit with Each Other? Major Professor: Erik O. Wright

Jui-Chung Allen Li  The Intergenerational Transmission of Divorce. Major Professor: Lawrence L Wu

Sheri Ann Meland  Objectivity in perceived attractiveness: Development of a new methodology for rating physical attractiveness. Major Professor: Nora Cate Schaeffer

Carolina Miledi  Effects of Family Background and Childrearing Practices on Kindergarten Achievement. Major Professor: Adam Gamoran

Shauna Morimoto  Naturalizing Gender Inequality: An Examination of Tocqueville and Participatory Politics. Major Professor: Mark Suchman

Recent Ph.D.s


Benjamin J. Vail  Ecological Modernization and Contemporary Swedish Environmental Policy Reform: An Empirical Analysis. Major Professor: Frederick Buttel

Lisa Dawn Wade  Relationship Dissolution as a Life Stage Transition: Effects on Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors. Major Professor: John DeLamater


Monica Sue Willemsen  Beyond Antioch: Rewriting Sexual Scripts in a Rape Culture. Major Professor: Gay W. Seidman

Kelly Bescoke  Rational Enchantment: Transcendent Meaning in the Modern World. Major Professor: Paul Lichterman

Akosua Darkwah  Going Global: Ghanaian Female Transnational Traders in an Era of Globalization. Major Professor: Gay Seidman


Paulo Wendling Fonby  Starting Points: Households of Origin and Mexico-U.S. Migration. Major Professor: Shawn Kanaiaupuni

Amy Godecker  One Marriage or Two? Wives’ and husbands’ perceptions of marital quality and marital dissolution. Major Professor: Elizabeth J. Thomson

Eric S. Grodsky  Who goes where to college? Constrained opportunity and student choice in American higher education. Major Professor: Adam Gamoran

Neil L. Gross  Case Studies in the Sociology of Pragmatism. Major Professor: Charles Camic

Cameron E. Hale  Energy and Hegemonic Power. Major Professor: William Freudenburg

Chung-Hsien Huang  Route through/to Flexible Accumulation: Retooling the Developmental State and the Remaking of Amoebic Capitalism in Taiwan. Major Professor: Erik O. Wright

Tom Macias  Assimilation in Mexican American Life? Integration and Hesitation Beyond the Second Generation. Major Professor: Gary Sandefur


Deva Pager  The Mark of a Criminal Record. Major Professor: Robert M. Hauser

Jennifer T. Sheridan  Occupational Attainment Across the Life Course: Sources of Stability and Change in Three Occupational Characteristics. Major Professor: Robert M. Hauser

Kevin C. Wehr  DamNation: The State of Nature and the Nature of the State in the American West. Major Professor: Jess C. Gilbert

Lisa J. Wilson  Riding the Resource Roller Coaster: A Comparison of Socioeconomic Well-Being in Two Midwestern Metal-Mining Communities. Major Professor: William Freudenburg
Pat Whipple Wins Classified Employee Award

Sociology department manager Pat Whipple won a 2001-2002 Classified Employee Recognition Award from the University of Wisconsin. Our nomination of Pat for this award was supported by the Council of Non-Represented Classified Staff, the Leadership Institute, and the Department of Political Science (Pat's former employer). Pat was recognized for her wonderful leadership at the departmental, university, and state levels. “She has a rare ability to nurture and develop talent in others, forming a staff that is skilled and able to respond to new demands,” said Adam Gamoran, Sociology Department chair. Similar observations came from the Department of Political Science, where she served for nine years before joining the Sociology Department in 2000.

Sociology Office has Many New Faces

There have been many changes in the Department of Sociology office staff this past year. In September, 2001, Michelle Bright-O’Russa joined the department. Michelle came to us from Isthmus, a Madison weekly newspaper, where she was the advertising production coordinator. Michelle first filled our receptionist/faculty support position. In March, 2002, the assistant to the chair position became vacant when Janet Donlin took a job as assistant to an associate dean in the College of Letters and Science, and Michelle became the chair’s assistant.

In January, 2002, Sheryl Jones joined the staff in the newly created position of webmaster for the department website. Sheryl is also the support staff for the Science and Technology Studies program. In May of this year Kate MacDonald came to Sociology to be the Undergraduate Program Assistant. Both Sheryl and Kate came to us from other UW units.

In July, Kim Dunford joined us to take the front desk position vacated when Michelle became the Chair’s assistant. Kim had been on campus but had gone to Florida for a year. As we could have told her she found Wisconsin to be much nicer than Florida and returned to the state in May.

Also in July, Mary Powers retired after 12 years as the graduate admissions secretary. The department said good-bye to Mary and wished her well with a luncheon and a retirement reception. We are now in the process of filling Mary’s job, so there will be another new face in the office soon!

Familiar faces remaining include Pat Whipple, department manager; Tim Reckinger, payroll specialist; Tom Schulze, Financial Specialist; and Sandy Ramer, graduate program coordinator.

Achievements

Job Market Success

Kelly Besecke (Ph.D. 2002) - Visiting Assistant Professor at Colorado College for the 2002-2003 year.
Acosua Darkwah (Ph.D. 2002) - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Ghana at Legon
Dana R. Fisher (Ph.D. 2001) - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Columbia University
Paula Wendling Fomby (Ph.D. 2001) - Research Scientist; Welfare, Children, and Families Study, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland
Amy Godecker (Ph.D. 2002) - Postdoctoral Researcher, University of California at Davis and half-time Senior Statistician, Center for Reproductive Health Research and Policy, University of California at San Francisco
Eric S. Grodsky (Ph.D. 2002) - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California at Davis
Neil L. Gross (Ph.D. 2002) - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Southern California at Los Angeles
Cameron E. Hale (Ph.D. 2002) - Consultant, Air Comfort, Inc., Madison (on the job market)
Chung-Hsien Huang (Ph.D. 2002) - Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Tunghai University, Taiwan
Tom Macias (Ph.D. 2002) - Postdoctoral Fellow, Latina/Latino Studies Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Stephen C. McKay (Ph.D. 2001) - Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Devah Pager (Ph.D. 2002) - Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship in France for one year, followed by job as Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
Jennifer T. Sheridan (Ph.D. 2001) - Executive Director and Research Director, Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute, College of Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Kevin C. Wehr (Ph.D. 2002) - Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Lisa J. Wilson (Ph.D. 2001) - Postdoctoral Fellowship, Watershed Research and Training Center, Hayfork, California
Imagine you’re about to close the deal with Columbia University for an Assistant Professorship, after spending a year there as a Visiting Scholar and Adjunct Professor. You’re a serious environmental scholar. And your grant money is from the Earth Institute.

Suddenly your grinning face is plastered all over New York City subway stations and bus stops on huge New York Lotto posters that quote you as saying that if you won a million dollars you’d “buy a car and a cute driver to go with it.”

That’s what happened last spring to Dana Fisher (Ph.D. 2001), who is scheduled to present a paper this summer at the ASA meetings in Chicago demonstrating that “vehicle travel per capita is the strongest predictor of CO2 emissions per capita.” She doesn’t drive a car in New York and doesn’t want one.

It all started during a shopping trip last December in Herald Square. “If I Had a Million Dollars,” sung by The Barenaked Ladies was blaring from speakers at a sidewalk stand. Workers at the stand stopped Dana and offered her a drink (she thinks it was a Snapple) and a lottery ticket. She was thirsty, so she said okay. Then they told her that if she let them take her picture, she would be eligible for their ad campaign. She simply had to answer the question, “What would you do if you had a million dollars?” Dana wrote on a piece of paper, “Establish a foundation that would deal with global environmental issues.” They promised to pay her $200 if she was selected.

That was, she thought, the end of it. They didn’t contact her. So it took her a while to make the connection when a student told her she had seen a model on an ad who looked like her. Later, a staff member at Columbia send a email to students and faculty proclaiming, “prof dana fisher’s FACE is on a BUS STOP.”

The posters were out there, all right. Finally the advertising agency sent her a letter of congratulations and a check. From the letterhead, she got the phone number and called to complain about being misquoted. “That’s advertising!” was the response. “We didn’t use almost anybody’s quote, and you signed a release.” The Lotto people, however, didn’t seem to know that. They said the quotes were meant to be “one hundred percent real.” Dana’s brother-in-law, a lawyer, suggested she might have grounds for a lawsuit, but she didn’t want to take that route. Eventually, the ad agency sent someone around the city to put stickers with her real quote over the misquote.

The affair came to the attention of Daniel Radosh wrote about it in “The Talk of the Town.” After that, Dana appeared on NBC’s “Today” show, standing in front of the poster and telling her tale. She also was interviewed by National Public Radio. At that point the New York Lottery pulled the ad Dana said, because of all the negative publicity.

Dana says the notoriety has by now died down, except that “once in a while a colleague will say they remember my name from the New Yorker but they don’t remember why. I think it’s for the best.”
Duane Alwin (Ph.D. 1972), Professor of Sociology and Senior Research Scientist in the Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, has been elected a member of the Council of the ASA Section on Aging and Life Course.

Elizabeth Arias (Ph.D. 1998) is a Statistician/Demographer with the Mortality Statistics Branch of the Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, in Hyattsville, Maryland.

Mark Berends (Ph.D. 1992) is a Senior Social Scientist at RAND Education. His recent work involves quantitative analyses of national databases to assess the effects of families, schools, and communities on student outcomes. He is co-leading RAND’s assessment of the New American Schools initiative, among other projects.


Roberta Braun Curtin (Ph.D. 1987) is employed by Medical Education Institute, a Madison research organization, and she telecommutes from the Chicago area.

Mia Cahill (Ph.D. 1999) is a visiting professor at the Institute for Law and Society, New York University, and is also of counsel at the law firm of Maselli Warren, PC, in Princeton, New Jersey.

Deborah Carr (Ph.D. 1997) begins a new position Fall 2002 as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy & Aging Research at Rutgers University. She spent part of July and August 2002 in Madison, working on the start-up of the latest wave of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.


Stuart Eimer (Ph.D. 2000) and his wife Alyson are the proud parents of Nicholas Alex Eimer, born May 28, 2002. Stuart teaches in the Sociology Department at Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania.

Dana R. Fisher (Ph.D. 2001) was awarded the Katherine DuPre Lumpkin Award for the Best Dissertation in the Department of Sociology for 2000-2001. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, Columbia University, and is affiliated with the Columbia Earth Institute. See article in this issue about her adventure as a New York poster girl.

Tom Hirschl (Ph.D. 1986) and Mark Rank (Ph.D. 1984) were awarded Research Paper of the Year by the Society for Social Work and Research. The paper, titled “The Likelihood of Poverty Across the American Adult Life Span” (Social Work 44:201-216), received considerable press coverage by newspapers across the country, including the Washington Post. Their findings show that 60 percent of Americans will be poor at some time during their adult lives.

Leif Jensen (Ph.D. 1987), Professor of Rural Sociology in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at Pennsylvania State University, was honored by the Rural Sociological Society in 2001 with the Society’s Excellence in Instruction Award. The award took note of Leif’s extraordinary service on Ph.D. (39) and master’s (16) committees and his extensive research collaborations with his students. He is known for innovation in the use of computer technology in the classroom and as a means of effectively increasing the interaction between students and instructor.

Paula Lantz (Ph.D. 1991), is an Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Department of Health Management and Policy, University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Carolyn Liebler (Ph.D. 2001) and Rob Warren (Ph.D. 1998) and their young son Avery Liebren are moving from Seattle to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Rob will be in the Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota, and Carolyn will work at the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota. They spent part of July and August 2002 in Madison, working on the start-up of the latest wave of the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.

KuFai Mu (Ph.D. 1996) is Assistant Director of the Chinese Civilisation Centre, City University of Hong Kong. He also regularly hosts television and radio talk shows and writes a syndicated column for several newspapers and magazines in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Mainland China. He is the creative director for the Art & Culture Page of the influential Mingpao Daily News, where in 1997 and 1998 he was deputy editor in chief.

John Manzo (Ph.D. 1993) is currently Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Calgary. On June 1, 2001 he was sworn in as a Canadian citizen.

Stephen McKay (Ph.D. 2001) is Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and has been a fellow with UWM’s Cultures and Communities Program, developing a course on globalization that he will teach during the Fall 2002 semester. He is also an associate of UW Madison’s Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

Cindy Ofstead (Ph.D.1998) has been Population and Planning Analyst at the Bureau of Aging and Long Term Care Resources, State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, since October 2000. She and Taylor are expecting their second daughter in early September (their first daughter, Hallie, will be 3 in early October).

Daniel Powers (Ph.D. 1991) is an Associate Professor in the Sociology Department of the University of Texas at Austin, where he is affiliated with the Population Research Center. He collaborated with Yu Xie (Ph.D. 1989) on a book, Statistical Methods for Categorical Data Analysis, published by Academic Press in 2000.

Lisa Wilson (Ph.D. 2001) was the 2001 recipient of the Rural Sociological Society’s Award for Best Graduate Student Paper. She received the award for her paper, “Riding the Resource Roller Coaster: A Comparison of Two Metal Mining Communities.” The paper uses the metaphor of a roller coaster to show the complexity of the effects of mining for a specific area. Her comparison of two communities in the Midwest shows that mining was beneficial for one and less so for the other.

Brad Wright (Ph.D. 1996) is an Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department at the University of Connecticut.

Hsiu-Jen (Jenny) Yeh (Ph.D. 1995) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Welfare, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan. She attended the July ISA World Congress of Sociology in Brisbane, Australia and was able to see several current and former UW-Madison Sociology faculty there.
Support Sociology at Wisconsin

With state and federal support for higher education and research weakening, UW-Madison must depend more on contributions. Support from alumni and friends make the difference between adequacy and excellence for our Department. Please clip this coupon and return it with your contribution, indicating to which of our various funds your gift should be allotted. Your gift is tax-deductible.

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