Well folks, this is the last time that I have the privilege of greeting you as the chair of the Sociology Department. Along with the associate chair position, we rotate the departmental chair every three years, and this is the end of my third year. Because we are large, diverse, passionate, and involved at many levels and in a multitude of areas in research, teaching, and service, it really has been a privilege to serve this large and top-ranked department.

The reasons for a rather brief time of service are several, but (to be succinct) a main one is that rotation of the chair position keeps departmental leadership freshened. Each chair brings a different perspective, sense of priorities, and set of goals, and this freshness keeps us balanced and alive to developments as well as traditions in various sectors of the large field of sociology.

I am pleased to introduce our new chair, Professor James Montgomery, an economic sociologist, and our new associate chair, Professor Mara Loveman, who does comparative historical work. You can read more about each of our new leaders on page 2. Our departing associate chair is Professor Ivan Ermakoff, who has served more than ably for two years, succeeding another talented associate chair, Professor Giovanna Merli, who took a leave of absence to explore a position at Duke University.

Along with these changes, we have had another big administrative move, and that is the retirement of Sandy Ramer, our graduate advisor since 1983. You should have heard about this by way of other communications, and in May, we had a large and wonderful party (despite inclement — i.e., cold! — weather) to celebrate Sandy and her accomplishments for the department. We are pleased that John Maynard, formerly our timetable specialist, agreed to step up to Sandy’s position and, although we will miss Sandy’s expertise, we look forward to an effective transition.

Given these changes, “dynamic” is insistently the operative adjective for our department. This year as well, we added two new faculty members, one at the junior level, and one at the senior level. To the ranks of our assistant professors, we added Alice Goffman, a talented urban ethnographer who just completed her PhD at Princeton under our former colleague Mitch Duneier. At the full professor level, we were able to recruit Tom DiPrete, an expert in stratification and quantitative research, who will work not only with the Sociology Department but also in a pivotal role with the Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences. Please see the articles elsewhere in this issue that say more about our two new faculty colleagues.

This issue has many other highlights, including awards, news from the Centers, and memorials about former colleagues who died this year. I hope you will browse all of these highlights and I would direct your attention to three matters in particular.

One is the announcement of our third annual Sociology Major Event. The previous two have been very successful and now we are splitting this event into
two — one for the fall semester and one for the spring. Please read the information on page 3 and consider attending these get-togethers. A main goal is to form connections between our alumni and our current faculty and undergraduate students. The changes we are making are meant to make the events even more exciting and interesting than our previous ones.

Another matter deserving particular attention is a brief report on the alumni survey conducted by the Concentration in Analysis and Research (CAR) students this past winter. We had excellent participation, learned a lot that will help with further efforts at connecting, and we again want to thank all who took the time to answer the online questions. Please see page 14.

Last, but not least, our inimitable Professor Erik Wright, consummate scholar and teacher, is the president-elect of the American Sociological Association. Congratulations to Erik, and we wish him a successful presidency! Read more about Erik on page 13.

With best wishes & happy transitions,

Douglas W. Maynard, PhD
Conway-Bascom Professor and Chair

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New Chair and Associate Chair

James Montgomery, Incoming Chair

We are delighted to welcome James Montgomery as our new department chair. James holds a PhD in economics from MIT. He has taught in the economics department at Northwestern University, the management institute at the London School of Economics, and currently holds a joint appointment in sociology and economics at UW. His interest in sociology began in graduate school, with a dissertation essay on the role of social networks in the hiring process. He is a formal theorist with a wide range of substantive interests, including labor markets, social networks, religion, self-concept formation, and intergenerational transmission of cultural traits. His current research focuses on two-sex population models. He is also working on a mathematical sociology textbook based on his Soc 376 course, covering sociological applications of linear and non-linear dynamical systems. We look forward to James’ leadership of the department in the years to come!

Mara Loveman, Incoming Associate Chair

Mara Loveman (PhD, UCLA, 2001) joined the UW-Madison faculty in 2003. She is a political and historical sociologist with broad interests in race and ethnicity, nationalism, social movements, and the state in comparative perspective. She is also interested in the social history of demography as a field of science, especially the history of production and analysis of racial statistics. Her research has appeared in leading journals, including the American Journal of Sociology, Comparative Studies in Society and History, and the American Sociological Review. Currently, Mara is working on a book about the practice and politics of racial classification in Latin American censuses from the colonial period to the present day. She is also involved in a number of collaborative projects that aim to tackle some of the challenges of measuring, modeling, and interpreting racial and ethnic population data. Mara teaches courses on comparative racial inequality, race and ethnicity in Latin America, contemporary Brazilian society, and nationalism. She has twice been awarded a Favorite Instructor Award by undergraduate residential communities, and in 2008, she received an Exceptional Service Award from the College of Letters & Science in recognition for her contributions to teaching first-year undergraduates. Mara lives in the Spring Harbor neighborhood with her husband, Jay, and her two children, Risa (7) and Nico (5).
Welcome New Faculty

**Thomas A. DiPrete** has joined our department as a full professor. A world-renowned scholar in the areas of social stratification, sociology of education, and economic sociology, DiPrete received his PhD from Columbia in 1978 and he previously held faculty positions at the University of Chicago, Duke University, and Columbia University. He has also served as a visiting scholar at prominent institutions in England, Germany, and the Netherlands. His research includes groundbreaking studies in areas such as the relation between structural changes in the labor market and job mobility, international comparisons of mobility and earnings trajectories, statistical methods for causal inference with observational data, and trends in the gender gap in U.S. higher education. Among his major current projects are a study of compensation trends in executive occupations supported by the National Science Foundation and research on the educational pathways of academically talented women funded by the National Institutes of Health. His 2010 publications include two articles in the *American Journal of Sociology* and one each in *Demography* and *Sociology of Education*.

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**Alice Goffman** received her PhD in sociology this year from Princeton University. Her work stands at the crossroads of poverty, race, punishment, and urban ethnography. Drawing on six years of fieldwork in a poor African-American Philadelphia neighborhood, her doctoral research provides an on-the-ground examination of the unprecedented imprisonment of poor Black men in the U.S. The dissertation documents the transformation of everyday life under conditions of intensive policing, focusing on the large numbers of young men currently living as suspects and fugitives. Alongside legally precarious men who are “dipping and dodging” the police, the research highlights the perspectives of mothers, girlfriends, local entrepreneurs, and officers of the Warrant Unit who are charged with rounding up the roughly 80,000 “wanted” people in the city. Her June 2009 *ASR* article, “On the Run: Wanted Men in a Philadelphia Ghetto,” is co-winner of this year’s Jane Addams’ Best Article Award from the Community and Urban Sociology Section of ASA. The book manuscript of the dissertation will be published by University of Chicago Press. With Mitchell Duneier, Alice has recently completed a second book, *Ghetto: The Birth of a Place, the Spread of an Idea*. She will be a Robert Wood Johnson scholar in health policy in 2010–12 at the University of Michigan and will join the department in fall 2012.

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**Don’t Miss the Sociology Major Events!**

This year, we’ve decided to ramp up the festivities for current sociology majors and alumni by offering not one, but two Sociology Major Events. We will start the academic year with a new Sociology Major Welcome, featuring a panel discussion with interesting and successful alumni on what they’ve accomplished with their sociology degrees. The Spring Sociology Major Event will take the place of our traditional Major Events awards ceremony, celebrating the year’s achievements and bringing current and former students together in the company of great food. Invitations to follow.

**Sociology Major Events**

Thursday, September 16, 2010 and Thursday, April 28, 2011

4:00–6:00 p.m.

8417 Sewell Social Sciences Building

Madison
PhDs and Placements

An, Brian Pyong — “The Impact of Dual Enrollment on College Performance and Attainment.” Adam Gamoran, Major Professor. Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Research on Educational Opportunity, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.

Andrew, Megan — “Dynamics of Inequality in a Differentiated Post-Secondary System: Intrigenerational, Intergenerational, and Social Psychological Perspectives.” Robert M. Hauser, Major Professor. RWJ Postdoctoral Fellow, Health Policy Institute, Boston University, Boston, MA.

Barian, Angela — “Chewing the Fat: Understanding Discourses of Childhood Obesity.” Myra Marx Ferree, Major Professor. Visiting Assistant Professor, Sociology, Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, WI.


Brown, Jessica — “Citizenship of the Heart and Mind: Educating Germany’s Immigrants in the Ideological, Emotional, and Practical Components of Belongingness.” Myra Marx Ferree, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of Houston, Houston, TX.

Christensen, Wendy — “Mobilizing Military Motherhood: Negotiating Support, Activism, and Politics in the U.S.” Myra Marx Ferree, Major Professor. Visiting Assistant Professor, Sociology, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME.


David, Cecile Therese — “Schools, Communities, and Social Change: Structural and Organizational Responses to Diversity and Demographic Change.” Adam Gamoran, Major Professor. On the job market.


Hart-Brinson, Peter — “Social Generational Change and the Foundations of Attitudes about Same-Sex Marriage.” Pamela E. Oliver, Major Professor. Visiting Assistant Professor, Sociology, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA.

Ho, Jeong-Hwa — “Joint Retirement Process of Dual-Worker Couples: Expectations, Experience, and Psychological Well-being.” James M. Raymo, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

Holzer, Elizabeth — “I Am Only Looking Up to God: Protest, Repression, and Homecoming in a West African Refugee Camp.” Myra Marx Ferree, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology and Human Rights, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

Kim, Pil Ho — “From Development to Welfare? The State and Welfare Capitalism in Japan and South Korea.” Erik O. Wright, Major Professor. On the job market.


McCoy, Katherine Ellen — “Ready, Aim, Hire: The Socio-Political Dynamics of Military Outsourcing.” Erik O. Wright, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA.

Melgar, Ma. Teresa Ramos — “Constructing Local Democracy in Post-Authoritarian Settings: A Comparison between Porto Alegre, Brazil and Naga, the Philippines.” Gay Seidman, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines.

Mitnik, Pablo Andres — “Low-Wage Work and Mobility Policies in the United States: A Structuralist-Regulationist Analysis.” Erik O. Wright, Major Professor. Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.


Pfeffer, Fabian — “Wealth and Opportunity in the United States and Germany.” Robert M. Hauser and Erik O. Wright, Major Professors. Faculty Research Fellow, Survey Research Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
Santos, Martin Christian — “Linking Structure and Content: Friendship Networks and Academic Achievement.” Adam Gamoran, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Lima, Peru.

Voyer, Andrea Marie — “Doing Difference: Diversity Training, Diversity Talk, and Somali Immigrant Incorporation in Lewiston, Maine.” Mustafa Emirbayer, Major Professor. Visiting Professor, School of Sociology and Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China.

Warren, Sarah Dodge — “Urban Indigenous Identities and Claims for Collective Rights in Chile and Argentina.” Gay Seidman, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR.

Weathersbee, Teddy Elizabeth — “Requesting, Altruism, and the Case of Human Tissue Donation.” Douglas W. Maynard, Major Professor. Associate Service Fellow, National Center for Health Statistics, Hyattsville, MD.

White, Robert Gannon — “Selected for Attainment: The Lasting Effects of Childhood Health.” Alberto Palloni, Major Professor. Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Winkler, Richelle — “Rural Destinations, Uneven Development, and Social Exclusion.” Katherine Curtis, Major Professor. Associate Researcher, Applied Population Laboratory, Department of Community and Environmental Sociology, UW-Madison, Madison, WI.

UW Sociologists in Israel

A number of individuals who have been or are affiliated with UW Sociology over their careers attended the Research Committee-28 on Social Stratification and Mobility (of the International Sociological Association) conference this past May in Haifa, Israel. (Seated, left to right) David Bills, Christel Kesler, Sam Lucas, Tess Hauser, Bob Hauser, Megan Andrew, Alyn Turner, Joscha Legewie. (Standing, left to right) Hsiu-Jen Jenny Yeh, Gunn Elisabeth Birkelund, Kristen Ringdal, Yu Xie, Cathy Ewing, Pablo Mitnik, Arne Kalleberg, Mary Campbell, Tom DiPrete, Yossi Shavit, Avraham Yogev, Don Treiman, Daniel Long, Adam Gamoran.
Through the UW Foundation and due to the generosity of John L. Gillin and William H. Sewell, the Department of Sociology has the honor of awarding both the John L. Gillin Welcome Awards and William H. Sewell Summer Research Awards as supplementary awards to new graduate students who are recipients of University Fellowships and Advanced Opportunity Fellowships (AOFs). Welcome awards are designed to ease transitions to campus in the fall. Summer research awards are meant to encourage research partnerships with faculty members during the summer while conducting research projects, and during the first year for planning and getting faculty approval of proposals. Funds for these awards were first made available in fall 2006.

Recipients of the awards for 2009–2010 are David Calnitsky, Christina Diaz, Matthew Kearney, Vanisha Pierce, Heather Gordon, and Lindsey Twin. David is working on four main projects: a review essay on the financial crisis from different corners of the Marxist tradition, the relationship of two concepts of market optimality, the socioeconomic viability of basic income proposals, and expanding his knowledge and skills in statistics and econometrics. Christina is studying marital and fertility behavior in fragile families, focusing on relationship quality and father family type. Increasing his familiarity with the sociological literature on charisma, Matthew intends to cast his argument that the religious leaders of the Layene Brotherhood charismatically embodied their society’s own ideal conception of itself, in terms of its specific contributions to charisma literature. Vanisha’s literature review explores the competing risks to Black marriage by examining the differences between structural versus cultural exits out of marriage to account for the variance commonly experienced in black-white marriage differentials. Research related to Alaska Native community sustainability is the focus of Heather’s study of the conditions and lives of people in the Arctic, the sustainability of communities, and how that sustainability can be increased. Lindsey’s research pursues how productive resources are unevenly distributed amongst people and across space and analyzes how spatial factors shape the relative magnitude of unequal exchange across the landscape of sub-national markets.

Matthew Kearney is also the recipient of the Marwell Fund Award, established in 2008 by Gerald and Barbara E. Marwell as supplementary recruitment funding for graduate training and research in sociology. The department is pleased to have “emeritus” Jerry in residence during the summer, even though he and Bobbie spend the rest of the year in New York, where Jerry is on the faculty at New York University.

Congratulations to all award recipients and best wishes for success in their research projects! We are grateful to the Gillin family, William H. Sewell, and Gerald and Barbara E. Marwell for their respective contributions in welcoming new students to campus and for their support of students in their academic research endeavors.

Your Gift Matters

The Department of Sociology depends on the generosity of alumni and friends to ensure the continued excellence of our programs and resources. We invite you to help us achieve our goals for the future by contributing to any of the following funds. All contributions made by private individuals or groups directly to the department are processed through the University of Wisconsin Foundation. Your gift is tax-deductible.

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News from the Research Centers

Applied Population Laboratory (APL)

The ramp-up for the 2010 Census brought a torrent of activity for the Applied Population Laboratory (APL). In anticipation of new data from the 2010 Census and the ACS, James Beaudoin, Katherine Curtis, and Dan Veroff designed a module-based training on applied demographic analysis.

The APL continued to provide leadership in the area of geography and health and using community-engaged GIS in health-related research. Bill Buckingham is engaged in a comprehensive study of African-American infant mortality disparities between Dane and Racine counties.

The APL remains active in applied demographic work with Wisconsin communities. Sarah Kemp led work on refining approaches for doing enrollment projections in challenging community contexts. Roz Klaas helped develop a series of regional profiles for use by the Wisconsin DNR.

Richelle Winkler continued work on migration and authored a chapter for the International Handbook of Rural Demography entitled, “Boom or bust? Natural resource dependent communities and migration patterns.” In addition, Richelle completed her dissertation and received a PhD in sociology in June!

In addition to ongoing research on community information systems, David Long presented work on the history of immigration in Wisconsin at several venues to provide perspective on a potentially contentious issue in rural communities.

Finally, our CAR intern, Cheng Cheng, presented some of her analysis on differential patterns of migration in non-metropolitan counties to the Undergraduate Symposium in April.

Center for German and European Studies (CGES)

The Center for German and European Studies (CGES) is an interdisciplinary program funded in part by the German Academic Exchange Service that supports faculty and graduate student research and teaching. Myra Marx Ferree directs the program, and is also one of the faculty leading research in the area of reconstructing the European welfare state. Other areas of research focus include trauma and memory, new forms of experimentalist governance, and migration and cosmopolitanism. In addition to bringing in a variety of speakers on these topics from universities in North America and Europe, CGES provided Research Assistantships and Travel Awards directly to graduate students working with faculty affiliated with the program, such as Markus Gangl. CGES has also helped faculty establish research partnerships with European researchers, such as a project on feminist expertise and institutional transformation which Myra Ferree is doing with Kathrin Zippel at Northeastern and Susanne Baer at the Humboldt University-Berlin.

Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS)

As UW-Madison’s “think-and-do tank,” the Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS) continues its work to put our state and nation on the high road.

This year, COWS expanded its work building a cleaner and more robust economy. A recent report, Greener Skills: How Credentials Create Value in the Clean Energy Economy, provides an overview of green job training programs and argues for a more coherent national credentialing system. Wisconsin Energy Efficiency (WE2), a new project in which COWS is a key collaborator, received $20 million in support from the federal government to create a program that will provide $120 million in energy efficiency upgrades in three Wisconsin cities. WE2 has already launched in Racine and is due to launch in Milwaukee this summer. In addition, COWS’s Efficiency Cities Network and Emerald Cities Collaborative continue to provide ongoing learning opportunities to a broad spectrum of policy and practice leaders engaged in energy efficiency.

Now in its third year, the Center for State Innovation (CSI) continues to provide state executives with access to the best policy, messaging, and technical assistance in the country. In 2009–10, CSI held face-to-face meetings in several states including Louisiana, Iowa, and New Mexico as well as numerous webinars on a variety of policy topics. Another long-standing project, COWS’ Mayors Innovation Project convened mayors from across the country for its annual meeting in January and provides ongoing support to mayors exploring innovative policy options for their cities.

Finally, working with leaders in the Technical College and Workforce Development systems in Wisconsin, COWS continues to promote career pathways for working adults and stronger links between training and jobs. Several reports have furthered this effort. In addition, COWS has provided ongoing insight into the effects of the recession on Wisconsin with its monthly Wisconsin Job Watch.
Holtz Center

It was a busy year at the Holtz Center. Among the highlights:

• We initiated an undergraduate certificate program entitled Integrated Studies in Science, Engineering, and Society (ISSuES). Open to all undergraduates, but geared especially to engineering students, the program aims to give engineers liberal arts training and the skills to critically examine their work practice and more broadly the relationship between technology and society.

• We collaborated with the UW Humanities Center on a program on “Biopolitics.” Several scholars came to campus for public talks and intensive discussions on biopolitics and medicine and food.

• We held a successful publicly-oriented program on “The Future of Energy.” Among the elements of the program was a screening of the film “Who Killed the Electric Car?” and a talk by Saul Griffith, an inventor, sustainability advocate, and McArthur Award winner. Each of these programs brought in over 100 people from the campus and the larger community.

Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP)

The Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) continued to conduct interdisciplinary poverty research with core funding from the U.S. DHHS/ASPE, and accepted an additional charge in 2009 to devise state and local poverty measures. IRP Director Timothy Smeeding and Associate Director Jennifer Noyes worked with Wisconsin officials and nongovernmental partners on a statewide antipoverty initiative, informed by IRP’s annual Wisconsin Poverty Report, which provides a snapshot of poverty and need for all 72 counties.

IRP took on other new roles as well, becoming the USDA/ERS RIDGE Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research following a national competition and as campus partner of the new UW Center for Financial Security. Ten major IRP events brought together UW faculty, national and international scholars, policymakers, and practitioners, including: two conferences from which volumes are forthcoming, “Young Disadvantaged Men: Fathers, Families, Poverty, and Policy” and “Intergenerational Mobility within and across Nations”; a meeting Maria Cancian and Daniel Meyer organized at the Urban Institute to discuss child support policy research priorities; and a special 20th anniversary session of the Summer Research Workshop.

In addition to conducting interdisciplinary research with a national cadre of leading scholars, IRP continues to train and mentor a multidisciplinary group of PhD students through its rigorous Graduate Research Fellows Program. The institute also disseminates research findings using its website, Focus newsletter and Fast Focus research brief, and several listservs.

Department of Community and Environmental Sociology

This fall we shed our longtime departmental name: Rural Sociology. Our new name — Community and Environmental Sociology — better captures the work done by members of our faculty, graduate students, and staff, and makes more sense to undergraduate students. Since changing our name, we have doubled the size of our population of undergraduate majors. In other news, two members of our faculty (Jack Kloppenburg and Daniel Kleinman) are part of an interim team of three professors directing the UW’s Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems, and beginning this fall, Jack Kloppenburg will be directing the new GreenHouse on campus, a residential learning community focused on sustainability.
Annual Teaching Awards

Each year, the department recognizes the contributions of faculty, teaching assistants, and lecturers who excel in classroom teaching. Their passion and commitment are reflected in the glowing praise of their students and the respect of their peers. We congratulate the 2009–10 teaching award winners!

Cameron Macdonald is this year’s recipient of the Departmental Citation for Excellence in Teaching by a member of the Faculty. Cameron has taught both undergraduate and graduate students in: Feminism and Social Theory; Sociological Perspectives on Gender, Marriage, and Family; Classical Sociological Theory; Heath Care Issues; and Qualitative Methodology. Her enthusiasm for the subjects, effective teaching methods, and concern for her students have earned her much respect and love. One student said that Cameron is “passionate and enthusiastic about this course and taught thoroughly with clarity.” Students repeatedly commended her “good mix of teaching methods — movies, guest speakers, and debates.” A freshman said her course “helped me pick my major.” And a senior stressed, “I learned more than [from] any of the other classes I’ve taken.” Cameron also challenged her students beyond the classroom. A student from her Health Care Issues class spontaneously wrote to the department, commending Cameron’s initiating the “first project in which undergraduate sociology students were able to pair with faculty at UW Hospital ... to construct new patient education materials for bone marrow transplant recipients at UW Hospital.”

The department presented the 2010 award for Excellence in Teaching by a Lecturer to Shane Sharpe. Shane’s Sociology 210 (Survey of Sociology), Sociology 357 (Methods of Sociological Inquiry), and Sociology 530 (Introductory Social Psychology) required him to effectively convey information to sociology and non-sociology majors alike. Student evaluations confirm the passion and intellectual rigor Shane shared with his students: “This course has made me more interested in sociology than ever before, and now I am going to major in it.” “Shane made Sociology 357 interesting by sharing the methodological approaches used in his own research and showing his students the practical importance of methods in the social science.” “He also has great experience with methods, so his stories really helped a lot.” One of the highest achievements an educator can attain is the ability to challenge his students to think in new ways, without sacrificing standards for amiability. In this, Shane has succeeded, and his students are quick to share this fact. “The grading was difficult but fair and I really enjoyed this course a lot!”

The 2010 Citation for Excellence in Teaching by a Teaching Assistant was awarded to Kimberly Turner. For six semesters, Kimberly served as a teaching assistant for Problems of American Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Criminal Justice in America, and Human Sexuality. Her teaching career reflects her wide range of knowledge as well as her talent and commitment. Again and again, students rave about her, including “the best TA I’ve ever had!” “I can’t say enough good things!” Students consistently describe Kimberly as “knowledgeable,” “insightful,” “encouraging,” and “fair,” and found her passion for the material inspiring. One said, “She did a great job of engaging us and ... was willing to go ‘above and beyond’ by creating extra materials, holding extra office hours, and running exam review sessions.” Another said, “You are the only reason I did not drop [this class].” In the face of complex and controversial subject matter, students applauded her gift for “getting everyone involved” and “making sure the class was comfortable enough to participate.” In fact, for many students, her discussion sections were what “…made the class worthwhile...” One said, “This has been one of my most interesting and eye-opening classes during college.”

Kathryn DuPre Lumpkin Award 2008–09

Kathryn DuPre Lumpkin received her PhD from our department in 1928, and she spent her career as a professor of sociology at Wells College with a focus on social justice. The Lumpkin award is granted each year for the best dissertation of the previous academic year, as determined by a Sociology faculty committee. All dissertations defended during the 2008–09 academic year and nominated by two faculty members were considered for the award.

The best dissertator honor went to Sara Elizabeth Hertog for her dissertation entitled:


Her dissertation committee included her major professor, M. Giovanna Merli, and professors Alberto Palloni, Michel Guillot, and Elizabeth Thomson, as well as Patrick Remington (Population Health Sciences).

Ms. Hertog is now a Population Affairs Officer in the United Nations Population Division, New York, N.Y.
Faculty and Staff Awards

Michelle Bright was nominated by the department, recommended by the college, and selected by the Graduate School to participate in the Wisconsin Idea Seminar. The seminar is a five-day bus tour that immerses faculty and academic staff members in the educational, industrial, social, and political realities of Wisconsin. Mustafa Emirbayer, Laura Senier, and Brian Christens also participated.

Joseph Conti received the Lancaster Dissertation Award from the Graduate Division at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Myra Marx Ferree, along with Aili Mari Tripp and Christina Ewig, won a Sawyer Seminar Award from the Mellon Foundation which will bring a series of distinguished speakers to campus in 2011–12 as well as support two dissertation fellowships and a postdoc, all focused on “Globalization and the New Politics of Women’s Rights.” In addition to the Sawyer Seminar, they will also be leading a three-year Research Circle funded by the International Institute and Global Studies Program that will engage faculty and students from around campus on this same topic.

Cecilia Ford was named the Nancy F. Hoefs Professor (Fall 2010–Spring 2015) by the Department of English at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Adam Gamoran was awarded a John D. MacArthur Professorship in sociology and educational policy studies. He has also been nominated by President Obama to serve on the National Board for Education Sciences, which advises the U.S. Department of Education on its research priorities.

Chad Alan Goldberg’s book, Citizens and Paupers: Relief, Rights, and Race, from the Freedmen’s Bureau to Workfare (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), published in April 2008, was the winner of the 2010 Outstanding Book Award from the Theory Division of the American Sociological Association. The book also received honorable mention for the 2010 Barrington Moore Book Award from the Comparative and Historical section of the American Sociological Association.

Sara Goldrick-Rab received the William T. Grant Faculty Scholars Award (2010–15) for the project “Rethinking College Choice in America.”

Monica Grant is co-investigator on a five-year NIH R01 grant, “Education and HIV Risk among Young People in a High Prevalence Country,” awarded in February 2010.

Daniel Kleinman received an NSF grant for 2009–12 entitled “Finding Sustainable Solutions to Honeybee Health.” The $240,000 grant seeks to fuse sociology and entomology in an effort to understand the widespread devastation of honeybees in the U.S.

Robert M. Hauser received the Willard Waller Distinguished Career Award from the ASA Section on the Sociology of Education.

Nora Cate Schaeffer was elected as fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2010.

Erik Olin Wright was elected president of the American Sociological Association.

Luvella K. and Alfred Reschke Social Sciences Fund

The Reschke Scholarship honors the late Alfred Reschke, a former student and assistant in the Sociology Department at UW-Madison. It was endowed by a generous bequest from his wife, Luvella K. Reschke.

The scholarship supports outstanding undergraduate students in the Department of Sociology. Up to four scholarships of $2,000 each are awarded annually to students majoring in sociology who have one or two semesters of course work remaining before graduation. To be considered for a Reschke Scholarship, students must demonstrate outstanding academic performance at UW-Madison and financial need. According to the terms of the bequest, preference is given to students whose future plans include teaching or working in the social sciences, social services, or the ministry.

2009–10 Reschke Scholarship Awardees:

Nobel Perez grew up in both Colombia and Chicago. She majors in sociology and Latin American studies and is earning a certificate in Chicano/Latino studies. In addition to going to school, she also works as a bilingual resource specialist for the Madison School District.

Shqipec Sadiku came to this country from Kosovo. She says that her status as an immigrant changed her focus and directed her academic interest toward sociology. She is also a bilingual specialist in the Madison Schools.

Serena Tang is pursuing concentration in analysis and research — a research option in the sociology major. She and her family live in Hong Kong. Her research project has been on the destabilizing effect of children upon marriage.

Charity Bingham majors in sociology, Spanish, and political science. Charity would like to join the Peace Corps after graduation and then go to law school to study human rights law.
In Memoriam

Irving Morris Piliavin died of pancreatic cancer on November 19, 2009 at the age of 81. Irv attended UC-Berkeley, receiving a BS in math and physics and a master’s of social work. He earned his doctorate in social work at Columbia University in 1961. He rose from assistant to associate professor at Cal, where he received the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1963. After two years at Penn, he moved in 1970 to the University of Wisconsin, where he was professor of social welfare and sociology until his retirement in 1996. Irv’s research interests included disadvantaged youth, crime and delinquency control, homelessness, and the evaluation of welfare reform and foster care programs. His research was a unique combination of detailed knowledge of the structure and performance of programs, the behavioral characteristics of people whom these programs serve, and the application of advanced statistical techniques.

His avocations included playing a variety of sports, most recently tennis, and “games of chance.” He took pride in the fact that he counted cards in blackjack so well that he was banned from all the casinos in London the year that he and his family lived in Wales. He was an accomplished poker player at all levels, from the “friendly” games he played in Berkeley, Wisconsin, Philadelphia, and Oxnard, to satellite tournaments feeding the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas. He went to the racetrack from his teens — when he climbed the fence at Santa Anita to get in — until 2009.

Marshall Barron Clinard died on May 30, 2010 at the age of 98. Marshall received his PhD in sociology from the University of Chicago in 1941, and he taught at the University of Iowa, Vanderbilt University, and for 34 years at UW-Madison. While at UW, he received many teaching awards and was a popular professor who attracted many students. He had 17 PhD students. In 1957, he published Sociology of Deviant Behavior, a textbook now in its 14th edition and still widely used. He wrote 11 books and over 40 articles. He was widely recognized for his work on corporate crime; his book Corporate Crime was republished in 2005. He received numerous awards and was an active member of his professional organizations, including serving as president of the Society of Social Problems.

Remembering Andrea Michelle Sperka

Throughout her undergraduate years, Andrea Michelle Sperka carried a demanding academic schedule while working to help meet her educational expenses. In addition, Andrea often served as a volunteer, including her work with homeless children in Madison and in a township in South Africa.

The Andrea Michelle Sperka Fund was established by Carol and Michael Sperka in memory of their beloved daughter. Andrea was a senior when she tragically lost her life in an automobile accident in Botswana after completing her studies abroad.

It is in Andrea’s spirit of helping others that Carol and Michael Sperka created this fitting tribute. Recipients of the Andrea Michelle Sperka Fund will exemplify the outstanding qualities that Andrea possessed and will serve to keep the memory of this bright and talented young woman alive.

The 2009–10 recipient of the Andrea Michelle Sperka scholarship is Lisa Bacon. Lisa studied abroad in South Africa this semester. She is a double major in sociology and communication arts and film. She is a volunteer in a number of organizations. Her most recent placement is as coordinator of field trips for students who attend disadvantaged high schools in Madison.

Jeff Miller/Ruben Madision University Communications

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Graduate Student Awards

Taylan Acar received a Nave Short-Term Field Research Grant from the Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program at UW-Madison, for short-term pre-dissertation exploratory research this summer in Buenos Aires.

Laura Blakeslee received a Poster Award at the April 2010 Population Association of America annual conference in Dallas for her poster “Un-Vaccinated Children in the United States: Found in More Diverse Communities? An Analysis of the National Immunization Survey, 2002–07.”

Phillip Brenner received both the 2009 Seymour Sudman Award and 2010 Burns W. "Bud" Roper Fellow from the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Sarah K. Bruch was selected as the 2010 Beth B. Hess Scholarship recipient. The Hess Scholarship is awarded by the American Sociological Association, Sociologists for Women in Society, the Society for the Study of Social Problems. It carries a stipend of $3,500 to be used to support the pursuit of graduate studies.

Hae Yoon Choo received the Hyde Dissertation Research Award from the Women's Studies Research Center at UW-Madison in 2009.

Matthew Desmond was elected into the Harvard Society of Fellows, the first sociologist since 1996. After his tenure as a junior fellow, he will begin as an assistant professor of sociology and social studies at Harvard University.

Rodolfo Elbert received a Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation for his dissertation research on “Relations between Formal and Informal Workers in Two Industrial Cities during the Contemporary Labor Revitalization in Argentina.” He has also received pre-dissertation travel awards from the research collaborative “Remaking the Developmental State” (Center for Worlds Affair and the Global Economy, UW-Madison) and from the Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies Program, UW-Madison.

Rachel Fish received a Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship from the Social Science Research Council for the summer of 2010.

Heather Gordon received an Honorable Mention for the 2010 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

Anna Haskins was awarded Best Graduate Student Paper for the Sociology of Education Section at the Annual Meeting of the American Education Research Association in April 2010.

Laura Heideman received a 2010–11 Graduate Student Fellowship from the American Sociological Association Section on Peace, War, and Social Conflict.

Jennifer Holland received a supplementary grant to her National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The grant is entitled the Nordic Research Opportunity and it will fund research at the University of Oslo and Statistics Norway for six months this fall and winter (2010–11) in support of her dissertation, “Why Do? The Meaning of Marriage in the Nordic Countries.”

Julie C. Keller was awarded the 2009 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award by the Rural Sociological Society for her paper, “Re-framing the Closet for the Rural: Queer Theory and Wisconsin Women Farmers.”

So-jung Lim was awarded a Health and Society Program Dissertation Grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the academic year 2010–11. Also, her paper entitled “Educational Differentials in Married Women’s Labor Force Participation in Japan during the 1990s” was honored as a commended paper by the International Sociological Association for the Fifth Worldwide Competition for Junior Sociologists.

Gina Longo received the Foreign Area Language Study Scholarship for Arabic for next year.

Aliza Luft received a Small Grants Award ($400), funded by the Department of Sociology, to gather data while monitoring the presidential elections in Rwanda this summer. She also received the Scott-Kloeck Jensen Fellowship from the Global Studies Program at UW-Madison ($2,800) to conduct interviews with politicians, human rights organizations, and civilian organizations in Rwanda about their perceptions of politics and efforts at constructing nationalism in Rwanda since the 1994 genocide. She was also awarded an internship to do research for the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate at the United Nations via a highly selective process; she was one of three people chosen to work for her office, which reports directly to the UN Security Council.

Mytoan Nguyen was awarded a Humanities Exposed Scholarship in 2009–10, funded by the UW Center for Humanities. She used this opportunity to found the Telling Our Stories project, a Saturday program for high school youths across Dane County who participated in free creative writing, spoken word poetry, and graphic design workshops. Mytoan is currently editing these materials for a forthcoming printed anthology.

For her dissertation research examining transnational relations among the second generation Vietnamese diaspora, she was granted the Graduate International Fieldwork Award, funded by UW Global Studies, and the Remaking the Developmental State Pre-dissertation Grant funded by WAGE, both to conduct research in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, Vietnam during summer 2010. Mytoan is also a proud recipient of the Kauffman Entrepreneurship Community Internship Program for 2010–11, a collaborative...
grant/internship from the UW Morgridge Center to use entrepreneurial principles to organize, create, and manage a venture to create change in Madison.

**David Rangel** received a Ford Foundation Predoctoral Diversity Fellowship administered by the National Research Council of the National Academies on behalf of the Ford Foundation. These fellowships provide three years of support for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a PhD or ScD degree.

**Gina Spitz** received an Honorable Mention for the NSF and was accepted to the Institute for Research on Poverty's Graduate Research Fellowship.

**Tod Van Gunten** received a Dissertation Improvement Grant from the Science and Society area of the NSF to support fieldwork in Mexico and Argentina during 2010. This is in support of his dissertation proposal, “Power and Pesos: Economics, Experts, and the Politics of Money in Mexico and Argentina.”

**Richelle Winkler** received the Kolb Award for Academic Excellence from the Department of Community and Environmental Sociology in May 2010. This is a $500 award to honor her work as a graduating student.

**Elizabeth Wrigley-Field** and **Felix Elwert** won a Poster Award from the Population Association of America in April.

**John Zinda** was the recipient of the East Asian and Pacific Summer Institutes Award as well as the Rural Sociological Society Dissertation Research Award.

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**Erik Wright elected President of the American Sociological Association**

Our very own **Erik Olin Wright** has just been elected president of the American Sociological Association. We congratulate Erik on this terrific honor and accomplishment! He will preside over the annual meetings of the ASA in 2012, and he describes the theme of the meeting, “Real Utopias” as follows:

“Real Utopias” seems like an oxymoron: Utopia means “nowhere” — a fantasy world of perfect harmony and social justice. To describe a proposal for social transformation as “utopian” is to dismiss it as an impractical dream outside the limits of possibility. Realists reject such fantasies as a distraction from the serious business of making practical improvements in existing institutions. The idea of real utopias embraces this tension between dreams and practice: “utopia” implies developing clear-headed visions of alternatives to existing institutions that embody our deepest aspirations for a world in which all people have access to the conditions to live flourishing lives; “real” means taking seriously the problem of the viability of the institutions that could move us in the direction of that world. The goal is to elaborate utopian ideals that are grounded in the real potentials of humanity, utopian destinations that have accessible way stations, utopian designs of institutions that can inform our practical tasks of navigating a world of imperfect conditions for social change.

Exploring real utopias implies developing a sociology of the possible, not just of the actual. This is a tricky research problem, for while we can directly observe variation in what exists in the world, discussions of possibilities and limits of possibility always involve more speculative and contentious claims about what could be, not just what is. The task of a sociology of real utopias, then, is to develop strategies that enable us to make empirically and theoretically sound arguments about emancipatory possibilities. This opens a wide and challenging agenda for sociology.
What You Told Us About Being a UW-Madison Sociology Major

Earlier this year, the Sociology Department — by way of students in the Concentration in Analysis and Research (CAR) program — conducted its first alumni survey in an attempt to find out more about what you are doing and what the department can do for you. The online survey was conducted in February, and 773 alumni participated. With the supervision of Professor Jim Raymo, 14 CAR students also analyzed the data as part of their work in Sociology 693 (Practicum in Analysis and Research). Some highlights of their report:

Among the respondents who provided information about their degree, 76% received their undergraduate degree at UW and 18% received their graduate degree, while 6% received both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Year of graduation ranged from 1934 to 2009.

Figure 1 shows that about 80% of both undergraduates and graduates rated their experience with the Sociology Department as “extremely favorable” or “very favorable.” This favorable evaluation of the department was reasonably consistent across the wide range of graduation years.

When asked how often you “draw on theoretical, analytical, or other skills you developed while in the Sociology Department,” 60% of alumni responded either “every day” or “often.” Fully 90% find that the skills developed as a student are useful on the job at least “sometimes.” Perhaps not surprisingly, those who completed a graduate degree draw on their experiences more regularly, with nearly half (48%) responding “every day” and another 42% responding “often.” Among undergraduates, the corresponding figures were 16% and 36%. Thus, nearly 90% of the graduate — and over half of the undergraduate — alumni are benefiting from sociology at least “often” in their occupations!

It is interesting to see that Sociology alumni regularly visit campus. Figure 3 shows the distribution of most recent visit to campus by decade of graduation. About half of alumni who graduated in the 1980s to the present have visited campus within the last year. Recent visits drop a bit for those graduating in the 1970s or earlier, but still over one-third of these alumni visited campus within the past year. The frequency of alumni visits to Madison, in conjunction with responses indicating that a sizable proportion may be interested in attending lectures by faculty or mentoring current students, has prompted department faculty and staff to begin developing plans to provide more opportunities for alumni to reconnect with the department.

A full summary of the survey will be available on the Sociology website shortly at http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/soc/alumni/alumnisurvey.pdf.

The CAR students who analyzed the survey data are: Rachel Cusatis, Maura Foley, Carrie Goetsch, Kate Golen, Terry McClain, Kelly McKillop, Garret Olsen, Ross Parks, Laura Rubenzer, Michael Schuster, Brianna Salinas, David Summers, Serena Tang, and Sarah Wesely.
News from Alumni and Friends

Celesta A. Albonetti recently completed her chairperson responsibilities at the University of Iowa Department of Sociology in July.

Jeff Armstrong (MS’94) has recently been promoted from associate researcher to researcher in the Department of Psychiatry, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, where he works in the Life Stress & Human Development Lab.

Angela Hattery’s most recent book (co-authored with Earl Smith), Prisoner Re-entry and Social Capital: The Long Road to Reintegration, was published in May 2010 by Lexington Books.

Dan Krymkowski has been appointed to a five-year term as associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Vermont. He has recently published articles in the journals Leisure Sciences and the Sociological Quarterly and has articles forthcoming in Evaluation Review and the International Journal of Sociology. Additionally, his daughter just graduated magna cum laude from the University of Vermont with degrees in mathematics and computer science.

Eleanor Scott Meyers has a new website for her artwork at www.esmeyers.com, and two images of her work appeared in a recent issue of Southwest Art Magazine (July 2010). She continues to enjoy her retirement community in Claremont, Calif., and the joy of painting her way along life's road. She writes: “My sociological way of seeing the world continues to define much of who I am as a citizen, community, and national board volunteer — thanks to UW-Madison.”

Martha (Marty) Little Munson (’73) has retired from the Reproductive Statistics Branch of the Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, where she served for 20 years (before and after family formation) as a demographic statistician, and she is now enjoying providing hands-on childcare for her 15-month-old granddaughter. Martha’s husband, Peter, UW mathematics graduate student, whom she met and married while they were grad students at UW, is still a lab chief at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., and they continue to live in Silver Spring, Md.

Robert Segalman is president of a small nonprofit that advocates for the telephone rights of people with speech disabilities called Speech Communication Assistance By Telephone, Inc. (SCT), operating out of his living room in Sacramento. He recently presented a paper on augmentative communication and voice deterioration at the bi-annual conference of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Barcelona, Spain, in July.

Pamela Smock, professor of sociology and women's studies at the University of Michigan, has recently been appointed director of the Population Studies Center at the Institute for Social Research. To read more about Pam and her research, see http://www.isr.umich.edu/home/anniversary/profiles/smock.html.

Joey Sprague is professor and director of undergraduate studies in the Sociology Department at the University of Kansas, where she is teaching research methods, feminist theory, and the sociology of knowledge. Her primary area of current research focuses on the impact of evaluation processes in the academy on knowledge. She has been the Jack Bauer Professor of Sociology for the 2009–10 academic year and was inducted into the KU Women’s Hall of Fame last spring. She just finished a three-year term of leadership (president-elect, president, and past-president) of Sociologists for Women in Society and is enjoying the reduction in e-mail.

After a long career, Eldon Wegner retired fully in May 2009 as professor of sociology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, also having served for nine years as department chair. He still serves on PhD committees and enjoys having an office and some other perks as a professor emeritus. He serves as president of the Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society and as a member of the State Long-Term Care Commission and the Legislative Committee of the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs. He is “struggling to discover a sensible balance between letting go and wanting to stay current in [his] fields of medical sociology and sociology of aging.” He notes that he has “more time for [his] passions of ocean swimming, choral singing, and international travel. It’s a great life.”

David Yamane (’98) is chair of the Sociology Department at Wake Forest University, chaired the ASA Distinguished Book Award Committee in 2010, and is serving his final year as editor of Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review.

Judy Zeimann is now retired from parish ministry in Yreka, Calif. She was ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church on July 29, 1990, after graduating from Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley in 1989, and has served churches in Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and California. She is now seeking to return to Colorado, where most of her family lives, and after coping with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma for more than a year would like to return to at least part-time ministry. Judy says “I enjoy receiving news from the department, the School of Education and the whole Madison campus. Now that I am retired, I actually read much of it!”

Keep in Touch

We’d like to hear from you! Please send any news we can include in future newsletters or any changes in your address, phone, employment, or e-mail to us at soc_webmaster@ssc.wisc.edu or to: UW-Madison, Department of Sociology, 8128 William H. Sewell Social Sciences Building, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706-1393, Attn: Alumni Relations and Development.
New Faculty Books, Volumes, and Documentaries


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