Message from the Chair

Having nearly completed my three-year term, I’m writing my last message as department chair. It has been an honor to serve in this role, which has taught me much about the inner workings of the university and given me the opportunity to interact with many loyal alumni and friends of the department. But I’ll be happy to refocus on my teaching and research, confident that the department will continue to flourish under the leadership of Pam Oliver, who will serve her second term as chair, and Christine Schwartz, our new associate chair.

We will also start the coming academic year with a new chancellor and a new dean. Having known incoming Chancellor Rebecca Blank as a colleague in the economics department at Northwestern, I have enormous confidence in her ability and am eager to see the initiatives she has planned for campus. Becky’s subsequent experiences as dean of the policy school at Michigan and as acting secretary of the U.S. Commerce Department make her well suited to lead UW-Madison. While we are disappointed to lose Gary Sandefur as dean of the College of Letters and Science, we are delighted to welcome him back as a faculty member in sociology. We are fortunate that Gary will be replaced by Karl Scholz. Karl, who has been at UW-Madison since 1988, is currently the chair of the economics department and previously served as director of the Institute for Research on Poverty.

I am happy to welcome new faculty, but sorry to report departures by long-time colleagues. We successfully concluded our demography search by hiring Michal Engelman, who holds a Ph.D. in population and health from Johns Hopkins and is currently an assistant professor at Chicago. Michal’s spouse, Josh Garoon, who holds a Ph.D. in health, behavior, and society from Johns Hopkins, will join our sister department, Community and Environmental Sociology. We are also fortunate to have joined with the La Follette School of Public Affairs to hire Jason Fletcher, who holds a Ph.D. in applied economics from UW-Madison and is currently an associate professor of health policy at Yale. We are sorry to lose Adam Gamoran as a colleague after 29 years on the sociology faculty, but we wish him success in his new position as president of the W.T. Grant Foundation. I am also sorry to report that Mara Loveman, who has been a stellar associate chair for the past three years, is moving to UC-Berkeley. My term as chair would have been much more difficult without Mara’s help and advice. We wish her all the best.

Our graduate program remains among the best in the country. In the latest U.S. News rankings, released in March, Wisconsin Sociology was tied for #1 overall, and also ranked either #1 or #2 in the specialty areas of economic sociology, sex and gender, stratification, and the sociology of population. We are happy to welcome 19 students into our incoming graduate cohort for 2013–14. While incoming cohorts have been smaller over the past two years (due to our new graduate funding model, which guarantees five years of support to incoming students), we anticipate the department will be able to sustain this year’s number in a steady state.

(Continued on page 3)
Board of Visitors

The board of visitors completed its second year as a recognized advisory group to the department. Last year’s newsletter highlighted the objectives of the board. For new readers, the board was established to provide advice to the department as requested by the chair, to develop outreach programs to all sociology alumni, and to identify and develop ways for alumni to support the department.

This past year, the board of visitors and the department, with staff support from the UW Foundation and the Wisconsin Alumni Association, hosted its first event for sociology alumni in the Milwaukee area. Professor Adam Gamoran gave a presentation titled “Equity and Accountability in Education in Wisconsin: Little Progress, Big Changes.”

The board and the department were pleased with the attendance and the response by alumni who attended. This format is one effort to provide alumni with an opportunity to engage with the department and the university. Based on our initial success, we will continue to work with the department to identify other cities and event formats that will attract sociology alumni.

I think I speak for all our board members of our pride, knowing that the department ranks #1 in U.S. News and World Reports’ ranking of graduate departments. The department is tied with the University of California-Berkeley and Princeton University. Historically, the UW’s department and several of its specialty areas have consistently ranked highly.

The board shares the commitment with all sociology alumni to take actions directed at maintaining the high quality of the department’s faculty and academic programs. We encourage all alumni to join us in this commitment. As many of you likely know, the funding of the university by the state remains flat or declining. The state’s contribution represents approximately 15% of the university’s total budget. It is clear that the state will not be allocating additional monies to the university.

In contrast to other departments in Letters & Science, the sociology department has been able to hire additional faculty. However, faculty salaries have fallen well behind those of peer institutions. This is a concern if we want to retain faculty to maintain the program’s high quality and well-earned, world-class reputation.

Special targets of needed support include additional funds for graduate student stipends, which will allow the department to provide awards that match those of our competition. As mentioned above, support for enhancing faculty salaries is essential for retaining high-quality faculty.

We encourage you to contribute to the university and to designate the sociology department as the beneficiary. Recent data indicate that only 1% of sociology alumni donate to the department. Please consider a donation. Remember: no amount is too small. Descriptions of funds that support the department appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you have questions about making donations to the university and/or the department, please contact Ann Dingman at (608) 265-9954 or ann.dingman@supportuw.org.

We invite you to offer your advice about how the department and the board of visitors can better engage you by offering you opportunities to talk to the department. You can email your comments or questions to me, Tom Weirath, at GoRed75@aol.com or call me at 773-416-7031.

On, Wisconsin!

Tom Weirath M.A. 1967, Ph.D. 1975
Chair, Board of Visitors
Department of Sociology
Message from the Chair, continued from page 1

We were saddened by the death of Jerry Marwell in March. A key faculty member from his hire in 1962 through his retirement in 2001, Jerry provided a model of intellectual energy and collegiality, and was in many ways the soul and conscience of the department. We have long prided ourselves on being a department characterized by both high academic standards and mutual respect, and Jerry was instrumental in helping to create and maintain that environment. Memorial services were held in New York City in April, and in Madison in May. Having served as director of graduate studies as well as department chair, Jerry was acutely aware of the need for graduate student support and endowed the Marwell Fund for that purpose upon his retirement. Memorial contributions to the Marwell Fund can be made through the UW Foundation website at http://www.supportuw.org/giveto/marwellfund.

The remainder of this newsletter contains much more information about our new faculty hires, faculty and student awards and achievements, the activities of our research centers and board of visitors, and the impact of your gifts to the department. Even in these times of declining state support and budgetary uncertainty, the department continues to thrive with your support. Please feel free to reach me at jmontgom@ssc.wisc.edu to share your thoughts and suggestions.

Best wishes,
James Montgomery
Professor and Chair

New Faculty

Michal Engelman is joining the sociology department as an assistant professor. She completed her Ph.D. in population and health at Johns Hopkins University in 2010. Before coming to Madison, she was an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Chicago and, previously, a postdoctoral fellow at the Johns Hopkins Center on Aging and Health. Engelman is a demographer and gerontologist, studying the dynamics of population aging and the determinants of longevity and well-being at older ages. She is particularly interested in understanding trajectories of health throughout the life course and their connection with changing aggregate patterns of mortality and morbidity over time. She is currently analyzing the implications of historical population change for contemporary health inequalities and developing a conceptual framework linking demographic and clinical notions of frailty and resilience with the sociological concept of cumulative disadvantage. Her research has been published in journals, including *Demography, Population Studies,* and *Population and Development Review.*

Jason Fletcher received his Ph.D. in applied economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2006 and then was an assistant professor at the Yale University School of Public Health, where he was promoted to the associate level in 2011. He was a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at Columbia University from 2010 to 2012. Jason is returning to the UW as an associate professor in the La Follette School of Public Affairs, with a joint appointment in the Department of Sociology. His main research interests include examining the effects of peers and social networks on health and evaluating the impacts of poor childhood health on adult outcomes. His most recent research includes an examination of the interplay between genetics and social settings in youth development (funded by a W.T. Grant Foundation Scholar Award) and social networks, genetics, and health (funded by NICHD).
Faculty Profiles

Joan Fujimura studies how different aspects of scientific work influence the definition and operationalization of “genetically similar” populations and populations with similar environmental exposures. Genetic epidemiologists often use race/ethnicity to account for population substructure in order to identify the genetic markers of disease risk. Fujimura and her colleagues examine how these scientists conceptualize the populations that they study, especially because U.S. racial/ethnic categories do not map onto “genetically similar” populations. She uses ethnographic observations of laboratories and in-depth interviews with researchers to understand how and why scientists choose to emphasize socially constructed racial categories or genetic markers of ancestry when analyzing gene-environment interactions.

Fujimura’s research is supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health: Exploring Population Concepts in Multiethnic Gene-Environment Interaction Studies. She and her collaborator, Ramya Rajagopalan, have written articles and are currently writing a book about this research project.

Chad Goldberg has spent the last two years examining the depiction of Jews in French, German, and American social theory from the mid-19th to the early 20th century, a time typically regarded as the classical period of sociology. Goldberg argues that the Jews served as a touchstone for defining what it meant to be modern or to be French, German, or American in an era of rapid social change. For example, he explores how members of the Chicago School studied the Jewish Kehillah of New York — an experimental attempt from 1909 to 1922 to provide the city’s burgeoning Jewish population with a unified and democratic community structure — as a model for American social reconstruction during the Progressive era.

Goldberg will spend the 2013–14 academic year as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Advanced Research Collaborative at the City University of New York Graduate Center. He plans to use the fellowship to complete work on the book, Modernity and the Jews in Social Theory, which is currently under contract with the University of Chicago Press.

Alberto Palloni’s work as part of a panel of experts was recently published in the National Academy of Science report U.S. Health in International Perspective: Shorter Lives, Poorer Health. Palloni and graduate student James Yonker gathered and analyzed data for 17 countries on health across the life course. They found that the United States had the worst overall health outcomes for all groups aged 0–49 years old, that Americans have a shorter life expectancy than people in almost all other high-income countries, and that these health and mortality disadvantages have been growing over the past three decades.

In addition to serving as a member of the National Academy of Science’s Panel on Understanding Cross-national Health Differences, Palloni was awarded a doctorate honoris causa by the Université Catholique de Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium) in recognition of his contribution to demography. The award will be given at the annual Quetelet Seminar in November 2013.
Gary Sandefur Returns to Faculty

Following eight years of service as dean of the College of Letters and Science, Gary Sandefur is stepping down from that position and returning to the Department of Sociology. He will spend the next year on research leave and will return to the faculty in 2014–15. Among other accomplishments, Dean Sandefur has overseen the hiring of extra faculty through the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates, centralized alumni and donor outreach efforts of the college, and worked with the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and other private foundations to increase support for the humanities across campus.

Prior to his service as dean, Sandefur was a professor of sociology, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, as well as the director of the American Indian Studies Program. After he leaves the dean’s office, Sandefur plans to research and write a sequel to And Still the Waters Run, a book published by Princeton University Press in 1940 that chronicled the near destruction of five Indian nations moved to Oklahoma in the 1800s, including the Chickasaws, of which Sandefur is a member. The book predicts the disappearance of the Indian nations, but Sandefur says he wants to tell the story of their resurgence.

CES Department News

As a result of the department’s name change in 2009, undergraduates interested in community and environmental issues have found us more readily and understood better what we offer. We finished the year with 83 students in our major, 20 more than last year. The intellectual diversity of our majors is impressive. For example, this year’s graduates earned certificates in environmental studies, German studies, entrepreneurship, global health, educational policy, African American studies, Jewish studies, and African studies; and double-majored in environmental studies, international studies, and music performance. They studied abroad in the Czech Republic, Morocco, Peru, Kenya, Tanzania, and Denmark. Several of the graduates will continue their educations in sociology, international development, educational leadership and policy studies, policy analysis, and urban and regional planning. An orientation to social-justice work is not uncommon as they head out to Teach for America, to the DC Employment Justice Center, to Willing Workers on Organic Farms (WWOOF) in New Zealand, and to the Peace Corps.

Our graduate-student advisees have enjoyed considerable success in obtaining grants to support their research, and our freshly minted Ph.D.s are heading to positions at Brown University, Oberlin College, and Otago University (New Zealand).

Of course, none of this would be possible without the continued excellent research, teaching, and mentorship of the department faculty. Their accomplishments this year are too numerous to list here; check out our website (www.dces.wisc.edu) for news about their work. And one final bit of news — this fall we will welcome to the department assistant professor Joshua Garoon. A graduate of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Garoon comes to us from a research position at the University of Chicago. He will teach courses in community and environmental health and bring expertise in issues of international development and sustainability.

Leann Tigges, Professor and Chair
Reschke Scholarship Winners

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 coursework remaining before graduation. To be considered for a Reschke Scholarship, students must demonstrate outstanding academic performance 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.

2012–13 Reschke Scholarship Awardees
Da Huo majors in sociology, with a concentration in analysis and research, and in statistics. Her areas of interest include social demography, gender and the LGBT population, and family sociology. Since 2011, Da has been an intern at the Applied Population Lab. Currently, she is working on analyzing domestic violence and social pressure on gay men’s wives in China. After graduation, Da will attend graduate school in public affairs and plans to teach at a college.

Alea Beckett is a sociology major with a concentration in analysis and research who is also pursuing a certificate in gender and women’s studies. She is an intern at the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study and volunteers with OutReach, Inc., an LGBT community center. After graduation, she hopes to work for the Human Rights Campaign and then plans to pursue a graduate degree in sociology.

Andrea Fischer is a double major in sociology, with a concentration in analysis and research, and in statistics. She has interests in demography and quantitative research methods. This summer is interning at the UW Survey Center. After graduation in May of 2014, she hopes to pursue sociology further, with a concentration in demography or survey methodology.

Yubing Hou has double majors in sociology, with a concentration in analysis and research, and in physics. In sociology, he is interested in education and altruistic behaviors because he wants to know how education and altruism can change society. Besides this, he is also interested in the connection between the natural and social sciences. After graduation, he plans to attend graduate school to pursue his interests in sociology.

Sperka Scholarship Winner

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.

Throughout her undergraduate years, Andrea carried a demanding academic schedule while working to help meet her educational expenses. In addition, Andrea often served as a volunteer, including work with homeless children in Madison and in South Africa. 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 exemplify the outstanding qualities that Andrea possessed and serve to keep the memory of this bright and talented young woman alive.

The recipient of the 2012–13 Andrea Michelle Sperka Award is Laura Konkol, a senior majoring in sociology with a certificate in criminal justice who will graduate this summer. In the past, she has devoted her time to serving as a court-appointed special advocate for neglected children. She has dedicated herself to the ministry organization YoungLife, teaching and mentoring teens. She has also volunteered at Off the Square Club, helping adults with persistent mental illness. This summer, she is interning with Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, assisting with its peer court proceedings. Afterward, she plans to pursue service in the Peace Corps, as she has been nominated for the Youth in Development program.

Senior Alison Gilmore, last year’s recipient of the Andrea Michelle Sperka Award, presented the award to this year’s winner, Laura Konkol.
Gerald Marwell, Expert on Social Movements, Dies at 76

Gerald Marwell, the Richard T. Ely Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, died on Sunday, March 24, in New York City. He was 76. Recognized for pioneering research on social cooperation and social movements, Marwell studied topics as varied as conflict in the U.S. House of Representatives, adolescent delinquency, parental child-rearing practices, geographic obstacles to women’s academic careers, and processes of religious secularization. His work led to what colleagues describe as an “unusually long and successful tenure” as editor of the American Sociological Review, the top journal in the field.

Jerry Marwell was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 12, 1937, as the only child of a local businessman and a history teacher. Thanks to frequent visits to Manhattan’s burgeoning countercultural scene, he developed a curiosity and lack of fear that drove his later research. After earning a B.S. from MIT in 1957, Marwell received his M.A. (1959) and Ph.D. (1964) from New York University. UW-Madison was Marwell’s home for nearly 40 years, from his arrival in 1962 through his retirement in 2001. He provided key support as the department became one of the top programs in the country, creating several “bread and butter” courses that served as a foundation for the department’s growth. From 1982 to 1985, he served as chair; he was appointed the Richard T. Ely Endowed Chair of Sociology in 1991. He spent his last scholarly years at NYU, “unretiring” in 2003 to teach at his alma mater.

Marwell began his career with one of the earliest systematic studies of the American civil-rights movement, surveying volunteers for the 1965 Southern Christian Leadership Conference’s voter-registration drive. He documented the ways in which the collision between idealism and reality pushed activists to adopt more radical views about community organization and American politics.

During the 1970s, Marwell’s work on collective action helped to alter the direction of research in the field. In a series of studies, he asked what conditions might drive individuals to forgo self-interest in favor of cooperation that benefits other members of a group. Additionally, he demonstrated how the presence of a “critical mass” of individuals, able to devote substantial resources to collective undertakings, deterred individuals from taking a “free ride” — thus inducing other individuals to contribute to those undertakings.

Jerry Marwell met his wife, Barbara, in his first year of college; they were married for 55 years. She survives him, as do their children, Nicole and Evan, and four grandchildren. Memorial gatherings were held in New York and Madison. Contributions in his honor can be made to the Marwell Fund, established by Jerry and Barbara Marwell to support graduate training, research, and recruitment in sociology.

Professor John DeLamater Award Established

The sociology department is honored to announce a new research fund for graduate students established by Professor John DeLamater. Following years of donating to other department funds, Professor DeLamater decided to establish a fund in his own name. The source of most of his donated funds has been royalties earned by two undergraduate textbooks that he co-authored: Understanding Human Sexuality (12th edition, 2014), and Social Psychology (7th edition, 2011). According to DeLamater, “I have taught both of these courses for many years and used these as required texts. It seems appropriate to reinvest some of the royalties in the education of the next generation of sociologists.”

Supporting graduate research was important to DeLamater because of the role that fellowships and financial support played in his own education as a first-generation undergraduate and graduate student. “I worked my way through college, with the help of small amounts of scholarship money. My graduate work was supported by an NSF fellowship and my earnings as an instructor. I received additional financial support for my master’s and doctoral research. I could not have completed my education without these financial resources,” says DeLamater. “I want to facilitate others in their efforts to achieve their educational goals. I hope that this endowment will grow to the point where it will provide significant support.”

The John DeLamater Award is intended to be larger than the department’s existing small grants, providing $2,000 to $3,000 for a graduate student to follow through on a research idea. The first recipient of the John DeLamater Award is Jason Orne for his dissertation research on the consequences of sexual racism in Boystown, a gay neighborhood in Chicago.
Alumni News

Jessica E. Adler (B.A. 1997) was recently named a rising star in family law in Washington, D.C., by Superlawyers. She has been elected president of the Women’s Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

Steven Alvarado (Ph.D. 2011) has been a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity at the University of Notre Dame. He has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in the sociology department at Cornell University and will be starting this coming fall.

Ann D. Bagchi (Ph.D. 1999) completed coursework for a bachelor’s of science in nursing in December 2012 and took a job with the College of Nursing at Rutgers University. She currently works as a community health nurse/program evaluator for the Rutgers-FOCUS Wellness Center in Newark, New Jersey.

Courtney Bauer (B.S. 2011) was hired by the Jefferson County [Wisconsin] Sheriff’s Department as a communications operator/911 dispatcher after graduation. Courtney also serves as an advanced emergency medical technician for Jefferson Emergency Medical Services and the Whitewater Rescue Squad, and was recently promoted to lieutenant on the Whitewater Rescue Squad. Courtney is also a certified basic life support instructor for the American Heart Association and holds state certifications as a Firefighter I and II, as well as for hazardous materials operations.

Barbara Ann Bernstein (B.A. 1970) has been managing programs that serve primarily very low-income individuals and families in need of critical basic needs for the past 43 years. For the past 25 years, she has been the executive director of Eden I&R, Inc., a multi-faceted, private, nonprofit agency serving all of Alameda County, the Bay Area, and the state of California. For decades, she has worked closely with program directors, government officials, corporate and labor representatives, and funding officers to identify gaps in services and to design and implement new human-service projects as the community needs change. She has been recognized as the Bay Area Red Cross 2009 Community Heroes Community Service Individual Award; the East Bay Community Law Center’s 2009 Community Justice & Education Award; the Alameda County, California Women’s Hall of Fame Community Service Inductee of 2012; and the City of Long Beach, New York’s Wall of Fame Inductee for 2012.

Joanne M. Black (B.A. 1997) is an assistant professor of sociology and criminal studies at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She presented her research “NYPD’s Stop and Frisk Program: Reasonable Suspicion or Racial Profiling?” at the Pursuit of Justice Conference at the Gonzaga University School of Law in April 2013.

Jessica Brumm-Larson (B.A. 2003) was awarded her Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in August 2011 and accepted a position as an assistant professor of psychology at Alverno College.

Steve Carlton (B.A. 1989) is currently the CEO and president of Carlton Investment Services Group, LLC, as well as a registered representative of securities offered through Cetera Advisors, LLC. He manages approximately $115,000,000 in client assets and has 23 years of experience in the financial services industry.

Alumni Spotlight

Kristin Vroman (B.S. 2004) holds a Professional Researcher Certification (PRC) at the expert level in qualitative and quantitative market research through the Marketing Research Association. She has worked with clients ranging from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to Toyota and Coca Cola, to name a few, and currently works on global market-research projects from customer-satisfaction studies to focus groups in Singapore, Hong Kong, Dubai, and more. She achieved the Toastmasters International Competent Communicator certificate in October 2012. Vroman says, “My degree in sociology, including the UW’s link to and my previous experience working with the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, was crucial in building my sound foundation in the social sciences. I love studying groups of people, which is why I chose to pursue sociology as my major. Now I get paid to study groups of people and get to make strategic recommendations based on my findings that help marketing, sales, and c-suite executives to make key business decisions.” She currently lives and works in Denver, Colorado, with her husband and two sons.
Hae Yeon Choo (M.S. 2006, Ph.D. 2011) received the Cheryl Allyn Miller Award this year for her research on how Filipina factory workers and South Korean hostesses negotiate their claims to labor rights. The award will be presented at the banquet at the August Society for Women in Sociology meeting.

Joel Cohn (B.A. 1971) has been a partner at the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP in Washington, D.C., since 1989. His practice focuses on defending employers in complex employment litigation.

Kelsey Gernert Every (B.A. 2009) is currently a program manager with City Year Miami and was recently married. After graduation from the UW, she completed two years with Teach for America Miami, receiving the Eli Segal Education Award, and earned a certificate in youth development from the Harvard School of Medicine. She was accepted into the REALITY Israel program, where she travels to Israel to meet with the top authors, philanthropists, and politicians in education-reform work. (http://realitypro.org/)

Laurie Gebhard (B.A. 2011) has been serving as an AmeriCorps member with the Schools of Hope Project in Madison. In June, she will be moving to Chicago to serve with Teach for America. Laurie will be teaching pre-kindergarten students in inner-city schools while attending graduate school at Dominican University for her teaching certification.

Virginia Teas Gill (B.A. 1985, M.A. 1989, Ph.D. 1995) is currently a professor of sociology at Illinois State University. She received ISU’s Outstanding University Teacher Award for 2012–13.

Jennifer Glass (M.S. 1979, Ph.D. 1983) has joined the department of Sociology and the Population Research Center at the University of Texas-Austin as the Barbara Bush Regents Professor of Liberal Arts, where she joins UW sociology alumni Kelly Raley, Dan Powers, and Sharmila Ruddrappa. She is also the current vice president of the American Sociological Association.

Elizabeth A. Hoffmann (B.A. 1991, M.S. 1995, J.D. 1998, Ph.D. 2001) is currently an associate professor at Purdue University. Her most recent book, Co-operative Workplace Dispute Resolution: Organizational Structure, Ownership, and Ideology (Gower/ Ashgate) compares how workplace disputes are raised in matched pairs of conventional businesses and worker cooperatives in the U.K. and the U.S.

Ronald J. Hustedde (Ph.D. 1989) received the 2013 M.D. Whitaker Award for Excellence in Extension from the University of Kentucky, the highest award for innovative outreach work offered his university peers. Hustedde is a professor of community and leadership development with a joint appointment in sociology.

John J. “JJ” Johnson (B.A. 1974) worked for one year with the Wisconsin Division of Corrections, one year with a private social-service agency in Kenosha, and 32 years with the Racine County HSD. He is now retired and volunteers with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and NAMI.

Paul Lachelier (M.S. 1998, Ph.D. 2007) recently changed careers, moving from assistant professor of sociology at Stetson University in Florida to founder of an educational nonprofit called Learning Life in the Washington, D.C. metro area. Learning Life’s mission is to inform and empower more people by printing knowledge on the surfaces of everyday life objects (social-science research on bar coasters, philosophy and poetry on cup sleeves, health and safety on cereal boxes, etc.), and connecting these surfaces to a world of learning online. Learn more at letlearninglive.org. UW faculty and alumni, including fellow sociologists, who are interested in spreading compelling research in innovative ways can contact Lachelier at paul@letlearninglive.org.
Constance Laffin (B.A. 2009) completed an MPA in nonprofit management, with a concentration on fund development and financial management, from Indiana University-Bloomington. While in Indiana, she also completed a ServiceCorps fellowship at the United Way of Monroe County. She was recently named the assistant director of development at Francis W. Parker School in Chicago. Connie is also engaged to be married to Michael Molzberger in September 2013.

Josephine Lorya (B.A. 2012) currently works as a Title IV-E foster care eligibility specialist. She was recently admitted to the UW-Madison School of Social Work part-time MSW program and is very excited and ready for the challenge.

Dan Maes (B.A. 1983) credits his sociology degree and diverse course work with aiding him in becoming the 2010 Republican nominee for governor of Colorado.

Patrick H. Mooney (Ph.D. 1985) will complete eight years of service as chair of the sociology department at the University of Kentucky this summer. He is looking forward to returning to being a professor.

Jeffrey R. Mueller (B.A. 1978) recovered nicely from his 2.02 graduating GPA (under the five-year plan) and became a USAF personnel and executive officer (captain) while he earned a meritorious service medal and a MPA in public admin. After a few years as an HR executive, he became an organization development consultant and did management training for more than 40 clients in California, including Costco and the state training center. He completed a doctor of management degree in 2004 and became an associate professor of management at National University, the second largest private, nonprofit university in California. He is published in the areas of organizational change, virtual teamwork, leadership theory, employee selection, and alternative organizational design, and currently does research on Good to Great (Collins, 2001, 2005) business-school strategizing. He also guest lectures at the Royal Business School in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, twice a year.


Linda B. Nilson (M.S. 1972, Ph.D. 1974) has a new book coming out this September called Creating Self-Regulated Learners: Strategies to Strengthen Students’ Self-Awareness and Learning Skills (Stylus Publishing). She is the founding director of the Office of Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation at Clemson University and has led faculty-development units in research universities for almost 25 years.

Katie Noelke (B.A. 2001) recently received the California teaching credential in elementary education and a master’s in teaching from the University of San Francisco.

Jesse Norris (Ph.D. 2007, J.D. 2010) will be leaving his current position as staff attorney for the Dane County Circuit Court to begin a postdoctoral fellowship in interdisciplinary legal studies at SUNY-Buffalo’s Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.

Elizabeth Harmatys Park (Ph.D. 2006) has been teaching classes on the social psychology of forgiveness in Wisconsin and in Florida. This summer, she is offering a six-session student/faculty forgiveness seminar at the Marquette University Center for Peacemaking. Betty has also been winning prizes for her poetry, including the 2012 First Place Formalist Poetry Jade Ring Award from the Wisconsin Writers Association.

Melissa R. Partin (Ph.D. 1993) received a Research Career Scientist award from the Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service. This highly competitive award, held by only 13 other scholars nationally, recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of health-services research scholarship, professional leadership, and mentoring. The award provides five years of salary for the career scientist and is renewable indefinitely.

Kathryn Ray (B.A. 2003) opened a chiropractic practice in Chicago. New Day, located near the Lincoln Square neighborhood, specializes in providing a very gentle and effective form of chiropractic called network spinal analysis.

Axel F. Candelaria Rivera (B.A. 1996) went to law school and received a master’s degree from La Follette. He currently practices litigation with the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue.


Eric Sheinkop (B.A. 2004) is the CEO and founder of Music Dealers, a company that represents more than 20,000 artists and bands from all over the world, making tens of thousands of placements with brands including Coca-Cola, Victoria’s Secret, and Dick’s Sporting Goods, and TV companies including SONY, MTV, CBS, and HBO. Sheinkop is the co-author of Hit Brands, published by Macmillan (due out in late fall), detailing the collapse of the traditional music-industry business models and showing how brands are filling voids. He has been recognized as a 2011 Billboard 30 Under 30, has received TechWeek Top 100 for 2013, was named “Music Man of the 21st Century,” and was included in the Crain’s Tech 50 list by Crain’s Business in 2012.

Lauren D. Shuman (B.A. 2007) obtained a Juris Doctor from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., in May 2013. While in law school, she served as Senior Notes & Comments Editor for the Howard Law Journal, as well as dean’s fellow for the Legal Reasoning, Research, and Writing Program. Lauren will be sitting for the Maryland bar this summer, after which she hopes to pursue a career as a public defender.
Solon Simmons (Ph.D. 2006) is currently an associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in the School for Conflict Analysis at George Mason University. His new book, The Eclipse of Equality: Arguing America on Meet the Press, was published in April 2013 by Stanford University Press.

Joey Sprague (Ph.D. 1986) will be spending a month as a visiting fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Warwick, England, this fall, where she will be working on the second edition of her book, Feminist Methodologies for Critical Researchers: Bridging Differences (Rowman & Littlefield) and collecting data for a new project. She has recently been selected as the executive officer of sociologists for Women in Society.

Vilna Bashi Treitler (Ph.D. 1997) was promoted to full professor and elected chair of the Department of Black and Latino Studies at Baruch College of CUNY, the City University of New York. She also received a six-month fellowship from desiguALdades.net, the Free University of Berlin’s research network for the study of inequalities in Latin America, where she will be for the last half of 2013. Her new book, The Ethnic Project: Transforming Racial Fictions into Ethnic Factions, was published by Stanford University Press in July.

Eldon Wegner (Ph.D. 1967) is professor emeritus in sociology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Most of his community activity is with senior-advocacy organizations on eldercare issues, an extension of his academic fields of medical sociology and sociology of aging. In June, he gave a presentation, “The Search for Purpose among U.S. Baby-Boomer Retirees: Post-Retirement Career Options and Civic Engagement” at the World Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Seoul, Korea. The session was organized by Dr. Meeryoung Kim, a more recent Ph.D. alumnus of the Department of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin.

Nelson Williams (M.S. 1998) is the CEO of Briohn Building Corporation in Brookfield, Wisconsin, and was recently named to the Milwaukee Business Journal’s 40 under 40 list. (http://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/print-edition/2013/03/01/nelson-williams-40-under-40.html?page=all)

Rebecca L. Wilson (B.A. 1987) is the juvenile public defender in Sarasota County, Florida. She was recently unanimously chosen by the 12th Circuit judges (the 12th Circuit includes Sarasota, Manatee, and DeSoto Counties) to receive the Jim Slater Award for Professionalism, a recognition given to a criminal law attorney in the 12th Circuit.

Undergraduate Spotlight

Jacek Kraszewski will receive his B.A. in sociology with a concentration in analysis and research in August 2013. While at UW-Madison, he participated in the McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, developing a research project with his mentor, Professor James Raymo. This project examined the relationship between family living arrangements and subjective assessments of social class in both the United States and Japan. He presented his research findings at the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society and at the McNair National Conference in College Park, Maryland. Jacek plans to apply the skills he has gained in sociology to the analysis of education policy. He has been accepted to the Education Leadership and Policy Analysis program at the University of Wisconsin, where he will pursue graduate studies.

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