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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

Augustine Kposowa and Jan Stets

In July, we began our service to the Department of Sociology as co-chairs, which we see as a privilege. Our vision is to accomplish several things. **First**, we want to enhance academic excellence for faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students. To this end, one strategy is to do all we can to provide resources for them to conduct their research such as upgrading computers, providing information and help with grant applications, and identifying arenas where they can get feedback on their developing research ideas. In this spirit, we have been busy upgrading the Sociology Research Laboratory in 1147 Watkins for students. We have replaced all 28 computers (all of which were over a decade old) with new state of the art machines equipped with the latest software. We put a fresh coat of paint on the walls and appropriate tables and chairs are being built to replace the old furniture. We also have been working with faculty to get their computers upgraded, and we are upgrading some of the computers for graduate student use. We are working with grant personnel to help faculty and students apply for funds that will support their research. And, we hope to get some forums in place for talks and workshops that facilitate the exchange of ideas based on ongoing research by both faculty and students.

Second, the reputation of any graduate program depends not only on the productivity of the faculty, but the placement of graduate students. Good graduate student placement cannot be accomplished unless we recruit good students, the students are provided with the tools needed to engage in cutting edge research, and we foster an emphasis on research, followed by good teaching and service, which is a rank-ordering consistent with a research institution in the academy. The tools needed to engage in research start with a robust mentorship program now in place in which students will get guidance from faculty as they move through the program. The hope is that this will foster the development of student's research, which is a critical step in getting their work published and obtaining jobs in the academy. As department leaders, we will do our part to foster their research. We will try to make adequate funding available to facilitate

the development of their work, we will encourage them to engage in collaborative research with faculty and fellow graduate students, and we will help them take that important step of publishing sole authored work.



The key to the job market success of our graduate students is publication. Changes have taken place in academia in all the disciplines, but especially in the social sciences. There was an epoch when competition for jobs was limited to graduates from other universities within the United States. With globalization and the rapid spread of information through

technological advances, American students now compete not only with domestic students, but with graduates trained in universities in foreign countries. Consequently, it is harder to obtain a job. Increasing one's publication rate while in graduate school remains key to the new reality of labor market competition, and our goal is to provide an environment where that is possible for our students. In our future meetings with graduate students, we will work to not only be responsive to their immediate graduate program needs, but we will also try to build an intellectually stimulating department for them that fosters research and publication, and that they will remember long after becoming assistant professors at other research universities at home or abroad.

Finally, we believe that the physical environment contributes to a healthy, thriving learning and working atmosphere. Thus, we have been upgrading the physical infrastructure of Watkins Hall. Windows have been washed; rooms have been repainted; the department halls including the main corridor and its two wings are scheduled for painting; the mailroom has been renovated; a multi-purpose sociology library/meeting area has been created with new furniture and chairs on order; graduate students have been moved to other offices in the department to reduce some of the overcrowding and protect the privacy and confidentiality of communication between teaching assistants and their undergraduate students; and a room is now provided to first-year students to study and become more integrated into their new surroundings.

As we move forward, we are committed to promoting intellectual diversity. In an age of rapid social and technology transformation, we think it wise for the discipline of Sociology to develop cutting-edge ideas, but also be responsive to changes that improve the discipline. We do not seek a department where all people speak or think alike in a sort of 'groupthink' mentality, but a department with vigorous debates, and where we all seek new frontiers in advancing sociological science, constructing and verifying new theories and discarding ones that appear irrelevant in the twenty first century. While helping the department in holding on to core principles of sociology, we endeavor to stimulate new thinking amongst us, while encouraging bridge-building to other

disciplines across the campus, whether in public policy, medicine, psychology, education, or biostatistics.

The vision laid out here cannot be accomplished by our leadership alone, although good progressive leadership is essential. We call upon everyone to work with us by giving advice, bringing to our attention issues that need correction, and holding us accountable when appropriate. In turn, we hope that you will work with us side by side, that you agree to follow the rules that we need to enforce, and that you help us make the department a better place for you.

We close by thanking our many alumni who have shared their stories and ideas, and especially those who have financially helped the department in the past. We appeal to all UCR Sociology alumni to contribute to the department as we embark upon raising it to the place of academic excellence that it richly deserves.

Augustine and Jan

Professors of Sociology and Sociology Department Co-Chairs

TRANSITIONS

In the academic year 2015-2016, the Department added two new faculty.



Victoria Reyes joined us beginning at the end of June. She is on leave during the academic year 2016-2017 while in residence at the University of Michigan, where she will complete a post-doctoral fellowship. Victoria will begin teaching in the Fall of 2017.



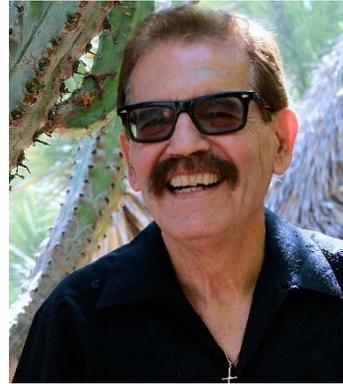
The Department of Sociology also hired **Richard Carpiano** as a half-time appointment (joint with Public Policy). Professor Carpiano will join us from the University of British Columbia beginning in the Fall of 2017.

The Sociology Department also absorbed three retirements at the end of the academic year 2015-2016. **Robert Hanneman**, **Robert Nash-Parker** and **Raymond Russell** retired after long terms of service at the University. We will miss them dearly, but wish them the best in this new stage of life.

Five faculty members were promoted in the academic year 2015-2016.



Professors **Steve Brint** (left) and **Alfredo Mirandé** (right) were promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor.



Professor **Karen Pyke** was promoted to the rank of Professor.



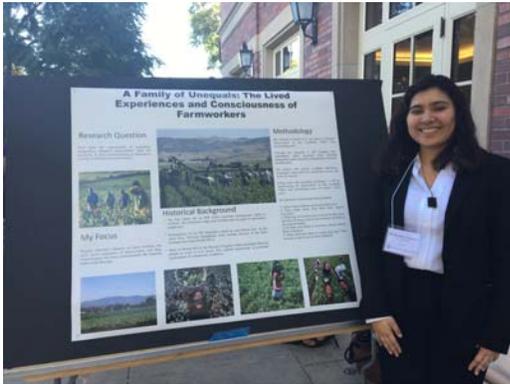
Professors **Tanya Nieri** (left) and **Sharon Oselin** (right) were promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.



We also added **Sharon Shanahan** to handle our contracts and grants. Sharon brings a wealth of experience with her to the department, and we are very fortunate to have her.

FALL 2016 UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Ellen Reese



Mirella Deniz-Zaragoza received a two-year Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. She will be using the fellowship to conduct research on labor conditions among farmworkers under the supervision of Professor Ellen Reese. This summer she completed the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Summer Research Training Program at the University of Chicago. Her mentor for that summer fellowship was Lisa Marie Simeone, a Doctorial Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago. She will be

presenting her research this October at the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship regional conference at the University of Southern California.

Two UCR undergraduates, Jessica Grier and Daisy Figueroa, are teaching a R'Course: "SOC 190 61R: Gender Roles in Disney Movies" this fall quarter. According to the course description, "This course is an introduction to gender constructs and portrayals in mass media. Since Disney movies hold such an influence on young children, it is important to consider the impact of specific gender ideas on developing minds." Professor Reese is serving as the faculty adviser for the course who helped the students to design and prepare materials for the course last spring. There was so much student interest in this course that it quickly filled to capacity, with 78 students on the waitlist.

Last summer, Nicole Martin, a graduating senior in Sociology & winner of the Outstanding Graduate in Sociology/Law & Society Award for 2015-16, presented her senior thesis at the 2016 annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems. Her senior thesis project, supervised by Prof. Augustine Kposowa, focused on racism and police abuse in America.

Last spring, the Sociology Department received a year-long grant from the Undergraduate Education office to develop and expand its capstone courses. Through this grant, Sociology senior thesis students will be given funding so that they can present their research at the 2016 annual meeting of the California Sociological Association conference at the Mission Inn this November. In addition, funds were used to hire Sociology graduate Karin Johnson to serve as the Sociology Department's Capstone Course Development Coordinator. In that role, she developed new course materials for the following capstone courses: Sociology 199H: Sociology Honors Research, Sociology 195: Senior Thesis, Sociology 198-I: Individual Internship in Sociology, and Sociology 187: Capstone Seminar in Sociology. She will also be working with several faculty to develop new capstone seminars in their specialization areas. This fall, Professor Aguirre is teaching a Capstone Seminar in Sociology entitled "Mexican Americans in the Social Sciences." Professor Ellen Reese is supervising the work for this grant.

The Student Advising office is hiring a new student adviser this fall to replace Holly Easley who transferred to the Student Advising office in Economics. In the meantime, all Sociology and Anthropology majors are advised by Kim Etzweiler and Dawn Strough.

This fall, the Sociology Honors Club and the Undergraduate Sociological Association (R'USA) are working together with Professor Ellen Reese and two graduate students, Christian Jaworski and Roberto Rivera, to organize two events.

The first event will be a "Meet & Greet" event on Wednesday, 10/5 at 12-1pm in HMNSS 1500 to introduce sociology undergraduates other members of the department, inform them about opportunities to complete research & field internships and to participate in research projects, and to inform them about each of these two student organizations.

The second event will be a "Graduate/Professional School Workshop for Sociology Majors," to be held on Saturday, 10/15 at 9am-2:30pm in INTS 1113. The purpose of the workshop is to educate undergraduate Sociology majors about professional and graduate programs and how to apply for them and to build professional connections among our current Sociology undergraduates and recent alumni enrolled in local graduate and professional schools. Workshop panelists will include alumni & current graduate/professional students enrolled in the following types of programs at UCR or other universities in Southern California: School of Social Work, Law School, the Graduate School of Education, Business School, the School of Public Policy, Sociology and Criminal Justice PhD programs. Students are also welcome to attend an optional free training session by Princeton Review for students planning to take the standardized GRE exam (commonly required for graduate program applications). A free lunch will be provided for the first 50 people to arrive & claim a lunch ticket. Funding and additional assistance for this event was provided by the Department of Sociology, the Student Affairs office, and the Career Center at UCR.

More information about the Sociology Honors Club and the Undergraduate Sociology Association, including contact information for officers, can be found below.

Sociology Honors Club

Mission:

To serve as an informal peer mentoring program for undergraduates majoring in sociology by facilitating various degree building workshops and opportunities to connect with fellow Sociology students and faculty.

Opportunities:

- Network with Undergraduate/Graduate Sociology students and faculty
- Attend events such as: Student and Faculty Meet & Greets, Graduate and Professional Workshops/Panels, Internship Workshops, and Sociology Career Workshops

- Engage with similar organizations such as the Undergraduate Sociological Association
- Learn how to participate in the Sociology Senior Thesis experience, the University Honors Program, & other opportunities available to honors students on campus

Eligibility for Membership: Undergraduate Sociology students with a GPA of 3.0 or above.

Contact Information:

Co-President- Mayra Ceballos	mcaba003@ucr.edu
Co-President- Alejandra Nuevo	anuev001@ucr.edu
Vice President- Maru Vazques	mvazq017@ucr.edu
Secretary: Alexandra Zaragoza	azara003@ucr.edu

Undergraduate Sociological Association

Mission:

To provide a setting where undergraduates pursuing a degree in sociology will be able to meet with other like-minded undergraduates passionate about the field of sociology and discuss all things relative to, and pertaining of sociology both current and established research.

Opportunities:

- Become involve in the community by seeking voluntary community services as a group or individually in order to provide aid for real life social issues.
- Attend seminars and conventions to gain expert knowledge on current sociological issues.
- Connect with graduate students in specific fields as well as faculty to better understand graduate school and research.
- Obtain information about available internships to gain professional experience in the sociological field.

Eligibility for Membership:

All sociology students and faculty at UCR shall be eligible for membership.

Contact Information:

President: Haydee Yonamine / E-mail: hyona001@ucr.edu
 Vice President: Carolina Sanchez / E-mail: csanc025@ucr.edu
 Secretary: Alisha Salcedo / E-mail: asalc007@ucr.edu
 Treasurer: Stephanie Ramos / E-mail: sramo008@ucr.edu
 Public Relations: Hugh Tieu / E-mail: htieu002@ucr.edu

ALUMNI CORNER

The Sociology faculty have done a tremendous job in recent years identifying highly talented undergraduates and mentoring them into graduate school. In the year 2014-2015, we placed four students at top Sociology graduate programs, and another student at a top Crime, Law and Society program. We asked some of these students to update us on their progress, and they are doing some very exciting things.



Joel Herrera started the PhD program at UCLA in the Fall of 2015. Joel left UCR with a good deal of research experience in hand, having completed an excellent honors thesis about the determinants of left-leaning political transitions in Latin America, collectively known as the “Pink Tide.” Joel is continuing with his interests in Latin America, and is completing an MA paper on macro-violence in Mexico. We reproduce a title and an abstract of this project below.

Cultivating violence: social exclusion and informality in the Mexican drug trade

This study analyzes the relationship between market-led development and the uneven distribution of violence in the Mexican drug trade. The recent surge in narco-violence is generally attributed to the violent tendencies of illicit markets and to the dismantling of the corporatist system that historically allowed state functionaries to regulate the drug market. Few studies consider the role of globalization and market-led development in deepening inequality and social exclusion, which fuels the growth of the illicit sector and its related violence. Thus, this study focuses on the impact of free trade in the agricultural sector and the flexibilization of the labor force—processes that make the drug trade an attractive industry for both urban workers and small-time farmers who have been excluded from the above-ground economy. I employ a subnational comparative analysis of key states involved in the production (Guerrero) and smuggling (Tamaulipas) of illegal narcotics. I then utilize negative binomial estimators using panel data on 32 federal entities that span from 2006 to 2012 to further test and generalize the relationship between economic liberalization and narco-violence.



Haoi-An Nguyen started the PhD program at UC Santa Barbara in the Fall of 2015. She also left UCR having completed an excellent honors thesis, which examined the impacts of militarism and social spending on the production of high education labor forces among rich democracies. We asked An for an update. An went above and beyond by describing her experiences as a first year graduate student, and by describing the fascinating project she's working on.

State Formations in Southeast Asia

I am currently in my second year of graduate school at UC Santa Barbara. I'm in the midst of developing my master's project, which looks at state formations in Southeast Asia. I am working through the paradigms of global capitalism, global political economy, and comparative historical sociology. I have been exploring western literature on state formation that primarily looks at capitalist state formations in Europe, as well as theoretical and historical works on state formations in Latin America and East Asia. According to *State Formation and Democracy in Latin America, 1810-1900* by Fernando Lopez-Alves, Latin America states emerged out of existing material conditions that prompted divergent historical trajectories from those of European states. Thus, Latin American state formation cannot be explained by theories derived from Europe's history of state formation (Lopez-Alves 2000:16). The existing literatures on state formation thus beseech further scholarship on state development of non-western societies. Considering this theoretical discrepancy, I propose a tertiary analysis of state formations in Southeast Asia, a region that has contended with colonization, and more recently the looming power of China as well as their own counterparts within the region.

I plan to collect archival data covering the history of Southeast Asian countries, particularly countries belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The archival research will allow me to compare Asian and European/Western state formations. I hope to inform my study of statehood within non-western pre-capitalist societies by looking at the historical periods of initial organization of groups competing for power and resources within geographical boundaries. These histories will also investigate the idea of a "people" within territories that have changing boundaries and intermingled identities. This historical analysis of Southeast Asia allows for retroactive observations of the non-capitalist political-economic processes that impacted the trajectories of these countries, effectively shaping the logic by which each state operates in the current global political economy. An exhaustive understanding of the geopolitical histories of developing pro-capitalist states is crucial to the larger global picture that encompasses both large powerful states and emerging economically powerful states.

The second stage of the project will examine the current political-economic systems of the ASEAN countries with respect to how they contend with transnational changes within the limitations of their histories. The state's roles are increasingly challenged by the precarious

nature of global capitalism (Robinson 2014). Each state pursues strategies that are constrained by their position in the global arena. I hope to elucidate the domestic political-economic contentions and the limitations that shape the way these states contend for global and regional economic power.

References

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Robinson, William. 2014. *Global Capitalism and the Crisis of Humanity*. New York: Cambridge University Press.



John Maldonado started the PhD program at Princeton University in the Fall of 2015. We asked him what he's been up to, and this is what he told us.

Mahutga: What have you been up to during your first year?

Maldonado: So far, most work on [right-wing] groups has viewed them through the lens of party politics, but I think there's room to bring the insights of the social movement literature to bear, as well. I think it would go a long way towards making the study of these groups more "sociological." Most of the literature is coming out of political science and is couched in terms of strategic party competition and rational choice theories. Not to say that it isn't valid. Politics is strategic as hell. But there's definitely room for other perspectives.

I was also the Graduate Student Advisory Council rep for my cohort last year. My main responsibility was helping to coordinate the visiting event for the prospective students. That was a pretty rewarding experience. Admission was extended to about 13 students and about 8 accepted. It was interesting to get some insight into the administrative life of the department.

Mahutga: What are the major hurdles in the first part of your program?

Maldonado: We have to write two papers for the MA. The first has to be quantitative, but we have flexibility regarding the second paper. Beyond that, I'll finish all my required coursework at the end of this academic year (2016-2017). I'm planning on taking general exams next October. I met with the Director of Graduate Studies yesterday, and I think I've narrowed down by exam areas. I think I'm looking at political sociology, globalization and development, and organizational sociology. I'll also start teaching sections during my third year.

Mahutga: Any other major projects on the horizon?

Maldonado: An NSF proposal, which I'll be submitting in about a month. I've also decided to apply for a Ford Foundation Fellowship. That won't be due until January. Even if my applications aren't successful, it's been a valuable process. My ideas have developed a lot.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

ARTICLES, BOOKS AND CHAPTERS

Link, Bruce, and Mark Hatzenbuehler. "Stigma as an Unrecognized Determinant of Population Health: Research and Policy Implications." *Journal of health politics, policy and law* (2016): 3620869.

Link, Nathan W., Francis T. Cullen, Robert Agnew, and **Bruce G. Link.** "Can General Strain Theory Help Us Understand Violent Behaviors Among People with Mental Illnesses?" *Justice Quarterly* 33, no. 4 (2016): 729-754.

Clouston, Sean AP, Marcie S. Rubin, Jo C. Phelan, and **Bruce G. Link.** "A Social History of Disease: Contextualizing the Rise and Fall of Social Inequalities in Cause-Specific Mortality." *Demography* (2016): 1-26.

Fischbach, Ruth L., Mark J. Harris, Michelle S. Ballan, Gerald D. Fischbach, and **Bruce G. Link.** "Is there concordance in attitudes and beliefs between parents and scientists about autism spectrum disorder?" *Autism* 20, no. 3 (2016): 353-363.

Bränström, Richard, Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, John E. Pachankis, and **Bruce G. Link.** "Sexual orientation disparities in preventable disease: A fundamental cause perspective." *American journal of public health* 106, no. 6 (2016): 1109-1115.

Reich, Adam D., Helena B. Hansen, and **Bruce G. Link.** "Fundamental interventions: How clinicians can address the fundamental causes of disease." *Journal of bioethical inquiry* (2016): 1-8.

Suglia, Shakira F., Rachel C. Shelton, Amber Hsiao, Y. Claire Wang, Andrew Rundle, and **Bruce G. Link.** "Why the Neighborhood Social Environment Is Critical in Obesity Prevention." *Journal of Urban Health* 93, no. 1 (2016): 206-212.

Huang, Debbie, Lawrence H. Yang, Ahtoy WonPat-Borja, Jonathan Lam, **Bruce G. Link,** and Jo C. Phelan. "Attitudes Toward Judicial Lenience and Government Assistance for Individuals with Mental Illness: A Comparison of Chinese and European Americans." *Journal of Community Psychology* 44, no. 4 (2016): 516-523.

Tehranifar, Parisa, Abhishek Goyal, Jo C. Phelan, **Bruce G. Link,** Yuyan Liao, Xiaozhou Fan, Manisha Desai, and Mary Beth Terry. "Age at cancer diagnosis, amenability to medical

interventions, and racial/ethnic disparities in cancer mortality." *Cancer Causes & Control* 27, no. 4 (2016): 553-560.

Wang, Katie, Nicole H. Weiss, John E. Pachankis, and **Bruce G. Link**. "Emotional Clarity as a Buffer in the Association Between Perceived Mental Illness Stigma and Suicide Risk." *Stigma and Health* (2016).

Mirandé, Alfredo Forthcoming. *Behind the Mask: A Zapotec Third Gender*. Berkeley: University of California Press

Mirandé, Alfredo and Raymond Williams. 2016. "Rascuachismo and Bicycle Justice: Toward a Bottom Up, Sustainable Cycling Policy," in Aaron Golub, Melody L. Hoffmann, Adonia E. Lugo, Gerardo F. Sandoval (eds), *Bicycle Justice and Urban Transformation Biking for all?* New York: Routledge.

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Guenther, Katja, **Matthew C. Mahutga** and Panu Suppatkul. 2016. "Stratification." Pp 229-245 in Abrutyn, Seth (Ed.), *Handbook of Contemporary Sociological Theory*. New York: Springer.

Oselin, Sharon and Jennifer Cobbina. (Forthcoming). "Holding Their Own: Female Sex Workers' Perceptions of Safety Strategies." In *Not Just in the Alleys: Challenging Perspectives in Street Based Sex Work*, edited by Katie Hail-Jares, Corey Shdaimah, and Chrysanthi Leon. Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press.

Brady, David, **Sharon S. Oselin**, and Kim M. Blankenship. (Forthcoming). "Material Deprivation among Female Sex Workers in India." In *Handbook of Research on In-Work Poverty*, edited by Henning Lohmann and Ive Marx. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar.

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Allison, Juliann, Mila Huston, Hali Pinedo, and **Ellen Reese**. Forthcoming. "Barriers to Latino Warehouse Workers Health Care: Survey Results from Inland Southern California and Policy Implications." *Journal of Poverty*.

Allison, Juliann, Tabassum "Ruhi" Khan, **Ellen Reese**, Becca Spence Dobias, and Jason Struna. 2015. "Lessons from the Labor Organizing Community and Health Project: Meeting the Challenges of Student Engagement in Community Based Participatory Research." *Journal of Public Scholarship in Higher Education*. 5: 5-24

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Reese, Ellen, Logan Marg, and Julisa McCoy. Forthcoming. "United States" in *Handbook on Gender and Social Policy*, edited by Sheila Shaver. Cheltenham Glos and Camberley Surrey, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

Stets, Jan E. and Ryan Trettevik. 2016. "Happiness and Identities." *Social Science Research*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2016.04.011>.

Savage, Scott V., **Jan E. Stets**, Peter J. Burke, and Zachary L. Sommer. 2016. "Identity and Power Use in Exchange Networks." *Sociological Perspectives*. doi:10.1177/0731121416644788.

Cast, Alicia D. and **Jan E. Stets**. 2016. "The Self." Pp. 343-365 in *Handbook of Contemporary Sociological Theory*, edited by Seth Abrutyn. New York: Springer.

Savage, Scott V. and **Jan E. Stets**. 2016. "Identity and Exchange: Person Identities and Power Use." Pp. 107-135 in *New Directions in Identity Theory and Research*, edited by J. E. Stets and R. T. Serpe. New York: Oxford University Press.

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Swanson, David. 2016. *The Washington State Census Board and Its Demographic Legacy*. Dordrecht, Heidelberg, London, and New York: Springer B.V. Press.

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Swanson, David 2016. "The Civil War's Demographic Impact on White Males in Mississippi." *Journal of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences* (forthcoming, with R. Verdugo).

Swanson, David 2016. "A New Estimate of the Hawaiian Population for 1778, the Year of First European Contact." *Hūlili* (forthcoming).

Swanson, David 2016. "New Insights on the Impact of Coefficient Instability on Ratio-Correlation Population Estimates." *Journal of Economic and Social Measurement* 41: 121-143 (with J. Tayman).

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AWARDS

Kposowa, Augustine and Karin Johnson. 2016 Sociological Spectrum Award for best paper of the Year 2015, the Mid-South Sociological Association (MSSA), for "A cohort analysis of employment status and homicide victimization in the United States."

Kposowa, Augustine. 2015-2016. College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences Teaching Award

Mahutga, Matthew C. 2016. Best Paper Award, Political Economy of the World-System Section of the American Sociological Association, for "Global Models of Networked Organization, the Positional Power of Nations and Economic Development." *Review of International Political Economy* 21(1): 157-194.

Swanson, David and Jeff Tayman. 2016. Terrie award for the best applied demography paper, "Using Modified Cohort Change and Child Woman Ratios in the Hamilton-Perry Forecasting," Method, Southern Demographic Association Conference

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

Blum, Dinur and **Christian G. Jaworski**. "From Suicide and Strain to Mass Murder." *Social Science and Modern Society* 53(4): 408-413

Reshetnikov, Aleksey, **Elizabeth Bogumil**, Moshoula Capous-Desyllas, Patricia Lara. Forthcoming. "Minding the Maps: Using Visual Mapping Methodology to Analyze the Interconnectedness of Non-Profit Organizations in Los Angeles." *Creating Social Change Through Creativity: Anti-oppressive Arts Based Research Methodologies*. Edited by Capous-Desyllas and Morgaine. Palgrave Macmillan: London.

Bogumil, Elizabeth. 2016. "Qualitative Research Career Feature." *Discover Sociology*. By Diana Eglitis. SAGE Publishing: Thousand Oaks, CA.

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Webb, M., Deitzer, J., & Copes, H. (*forthcoming*). Methamphetamine, symbolic boundaries, and using status. *Deviant Behavior*. Accepted in August 2016.

Woodward, V., **Webb, M.**, Griffin, H., & Copes, H. (2016). The current state of criminological research in the United States: An examination of research methodologies in criminology/criminal justice journals. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* 27(3): 340-361.

AWARDS

Blum, Dinur. 2016 UCR Distinguished Teaching Award.

Kposowa, Augustine and **Karin Johnson.** 2016 Sociological Spectrum Award for best paper of the Year 2015, the Mid-South Sociological Association (MSSA), for "A cohort analysis of employment status and homicide victimization in the United States."

IN THE NEWS

Dinur Blum was interviewed twice by Univision regarding Christian his research on mass shootings (with **Christian Jaworksi**). The links to the translated stories:

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=es&u=http://www.univision.com/noticias/tiroteos/tiroteos-masivos-en-eeuu-aumentan-con-el-calor-del-verano&prev=search>

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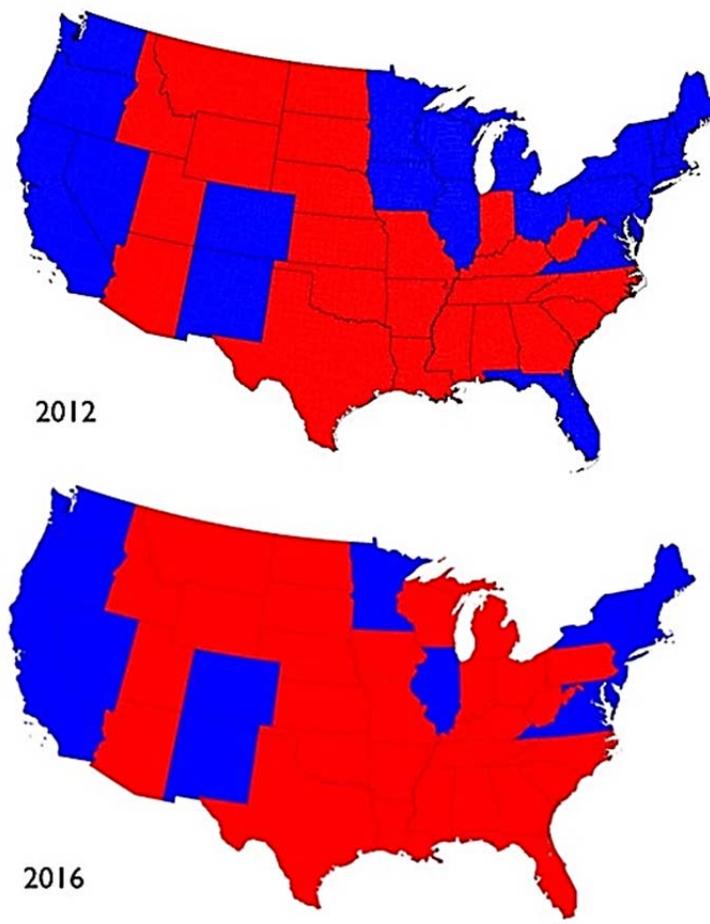
POLITICAL ECONOMY AND THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

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The 2016 presidential election was a shock to most of us. The polls predicted an easy Clinton victory. At the most extreme, Princeton's poll aggregator Sam Wong pegged Clinton's chance of victory at 99%. 99%! What's worse, the Trumps campaign was decidedly antagonistic to immigrants, and Trump embroiled himself in repeated controversies revealing his misogynistic and racist tendencies. These tendencies were punctuated by his widespread support among explicitly White supremacist organizations and his association with the likes of Stephen Bannon and others. How did our country elect this man less than 8 years after we elected the first Black president?

Undoubtedly, many factors that contributed to this. As a political economist, the first issue I consider is the economic interest of the voters who swung the election. Who were those voters? They were working class voters from our rustbelt along the upper Midwest. **FIGURE 1** shows the electoral college results from the 2012 and 2016 elections and the pattern is clear: Trump won by flipping Obama rustbelt states. Iowa, Ohio and Pennsylvania have always been swing states. But losing Michigan and Wisconsin was a telling blow for the Clinton campaign.

FIGURE 1: ELECTORAL COLLEGE RESULTS IN 2012 AND 2016.



This may sound shocking, but it turns out that Trump sounded more like Obama to these voters than Hillary Clinton did. Speaking to Union members in Michigan in 2012, Obama said

“Manufacturing is coming back for the first time since the 1990s. Companies are bringing jobs back from overseas... We will not go back to an economy weakened by outsourcing, bad debt and phony profits. We’re fighting for an economy that’s built to last – one built on things like education, energy, manufacturing things the rest of the world wants to buy, and restoring the values that made this country great...” (Business Insider 2012).

In addition to Trump’s racist, xenophobic and misogynistic rhetoric, his anti-trade, pro-worker message spoke to the deteriorating economic standing of Midwestern voters. Speaking to voters in Pennsylvania, Donald Trump echoed Obama’s message (though much less eloquently, of course) from 2012:

“Our politicians have aggressively pursued a policy of globalization, moving our jobs, our wealth and our factories to Mexico and overseas. Globalization has made the financial elite...very, very wealthy...But it has left millions of our workers with nothing but poverty and headache” (Time 2016a).

Rightfully so, much has been made about the racism in Donald Trump’s campaign. And it is almost certainly true that racism helped him win the election—turnout was up in predominantly white, rural counties. But it is probably also true that more people voted for Trump *in spite* of his racism than *because* of it. 58% of whites voted for Trump. However, this represents only a one-point swing relative to Romney’s share in the 2012 election—whites always vote majority republican. By contrast, Trump won 8% of black voters, 29% of Hispanic/Latino voters and 29%

of Asian voters. These represent 7, 8 and 11 point swings to the Republican ticket relative to 2012. I don't know where these minority voters live, but my money is on the rustbelt.

Among white college graduates, 49 percent went to Trump. Many commentators point to this statistic to suggest that Trump did *historically* well among whites in general. However, this represents a 10-point *Democratic* swing for this group relative to 2012—Trump did *worse* than Romney among college educated whites by a wide margin. At the other end of the class spectrum, whites without a college degree voted for trump 67% of the time, which is a 14-point increase relative to Romney's share in 2012. 79% of Trump voters believe the nation's economy is in "poor" condition, compared to only 15% of Clinton voters. Perhaps most telling, 65% of Trump voters believe that trade with other countries eliminates jobs in the US, compared to only 31 percent of Clinton voters (Time 2016b).

This represents anything but a definitive analysis, but these patterns certainly suggest class was at least as salient for this election as race. It simply must be true that many of the same folks who voted for Obama in 2012 voted for Trump in 2016. Did they get *more* racist in four years? Or, did Trump "out-Obama" Clinton to these voters?

In short, political economists believe that economic interests drive voting patterns more than anything else. Does culture matter? Absolutely (see Hochschild 2016). But economic interests matter more. And the reality is that poor, white working class people and people of color share more economic interests in common than with Trump and the Republican party more generally. Let's hope the Democratic party remembers how to speak to these interests in the future. Or, as Obama so eloquently put it, let's hope the next Democratic candidate is willing to articulate a vision "for an economy where everyone gets a fair shot, everyone does their fair share, and everyone plays by the same rules" (ibid).

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