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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

Augustine Kposowa and Jan Stets

We have seen many successes in our first year as co-chairs in the department. First, four new faculty members will join us during the 2017-18 academic year. In Fall, 2017, they include Professor Richard Carpiano (formerly of University of British Columbia), Assistant Professor Juanita Garcia (formerly an NRSA Mental Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), and Assistant Professor Victoria Reyes (formerly a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Michigan and Bryn Mawr College). In Winter, 2018, Assistant Professor Chioun Lee joins us (formerly an NIA Postdoctoral Fellow of the University of Wisconsin-Madison). One additional faculty will join us in the 2019-2020 academic year. This is Lucie Kalousava who is finishing her dissertation at the University of Michigan, which will be followed by a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Nuffield College, University of Oxford.

We are excited for these new faculty to join our department. They will strengthen our research mission and broaden our teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Rich will add to our increasing emphasis in medical sociology. Juanita will add to our existing strength in race and class inequality, with a particular focus on immigration, among other things. Victoria will also contribute to our race and class inequality area as well as our political economy and global social change area. Chioun will contribute to our developing medical sociology area as will Lucie when they arrive. During the 2017-18 academic year, we will continue our search for additional faculty. Our plans are to hire a faculty member in Social Psychology, and another faculty member in Criminology.

We have been very busy this past year, renovating and enhancing the department on many fronts. We have upgraded the Sociology Research Laboratory in Watkins for

students, replacing the 28 computers with new state of the art machines equipped with the latest software. We painted the laboratory and hope to get new furniture in the next month. Our conference room has been renovated. It has been newly painted, and new blinds have been installed, but most importantly, a new computer system has been installed with a 75" television screen that will replace our old projector system. This new system is made possible through monies that were allocated to the department through a college teaching award that Augustine Kposowa won in 2016-17. We are excited to have this new technology in this room. It will make communication at faculty meetings run more smoothly. It will also be very useful for graduate classes that are held in the conference room throughout the year.

We also completed the creation of a library/faculty meeting room for faculty to meet more informally. There was no physical space for faculty to convene, which we saw as important to the intellectual growth and community-building of the faculty. With new paint on the walls, new furniture, and a Keurig, faculty now have a place to socialize. Relatedly, we upgraded the physical space for graduate students. We painted their graduate lounge, replaced old furniture, added a microwave, and installed two new computers with new software. Additionally, we alleviated some of their cramped quarters for teaching instruction by temporarily repopulating the graduate students to faculty offices currently unused. With new faculty now being hired in, graduate students will be doubling up somewhat on space, but when multiple students share an office, non-overlapping office hours will help provide privacy for the undergraduates they teach.

More generally, we have upgraded other areas of the department. The department halls including the main corridor and its two wings have been repainted. A new "Department of Sociology" sign is now painted on three of the four entrance doors to Watkins so students know where to find us. All our bulletin boards in the main corridor and its two wings have been updated, showcasing, faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students in each distinct area. We've renovated the mailroom, and it now has a modern and spacious feel to it.

The physical renovations aside, faculty and students have been working hard throughout the year. On June 8, we had our end of the year awards ceremony that celebrated the accomplishments of our undergraduate and graduate students. More information on this event appears in this issue of the newsletter. We congratulate these students for their accomplishments during the past year. Faculty have been working hard on their research and teaching, but they also have been working hard to build a stronger community in the department. Over a period of six weeks this past spring, they came together every week to discuss issues in the department that would help improve things. An activity such as this we believe is very important to the continued

success of the department. We are very grateful for their sustained effort to help each other, the students, and chart a new direction for the department.

As we end this academic year and look to the next, we want the faculty and students to know how much we appreciate them. As always, please continue to give us your thoughts and share your concerns and suggestions. We will do our best to be as attentive and responsive to your needs as we can. To our alumni, come and visit us when you are in town and send us information on what you are doing. We would see you and or hear from you!

Have a wonderful summer!

Kind Regards,



Jan and Augustine

SPRING 2017 UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Undergraduate Directors Ellen Reese and Sharon S. Oselin



Our undergraduates are special in many ways. This year, there were a number of noteworthy achievements.

Outstanding Undergraduate Awards

This year we have co-winners for this Award:

Alexia Stockton (top right) is a first generation college student, has an overall GPA 3.969, the highest in her major. Along with being on the Dean's Honors List, she received the Loda Mae Davis Endowed Scholarship and

the Dean's Academic Distinction Award. Dr. Nieri reports that, "She demonstrated excellent critical thinking, exhibited by her ability to apply course concepts to real

world situations... Alexia showed a passion for learning. She demonstrated a commitment to producing high quality work. She produced a well written and cogent literature review on parental substance use and its relation to child abuse." Along with her regular course work, Alexia served as an intern to several local businesses and a service center for youth and families. After graduating, Alexia plans to apply to a MBA program.

Mayra Ceballos (bottom left) is a graduating senior sociology major with a 3.882 overall GPA. She is currently completing a senior thesis that examines, through in-depth interviews with welfare-to-work (WTW) participants, the factors that shape how WTW participants fulfill their work requirements and whether they do so through work, vocational training, and/or higher education. In particular, she is examining how WTW participants' social characteristics, personal networks and the advice of case workers shape the ways that they fulfill their mandatory work hours in order to receive welfare. This is a fascinating study with important implications for scholars of welfare as well as for higher education policy-makers and administrators interested in improving WTW participants' access to higher education and improving their labor market outcomes. Mayra presented her research this fall at the California Sociological Association conference in Riverside and she will be presenting it again this spring at the Pacific Sociological Association in Portland, OR as well as at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at UCR. Mayra plans to apply for sociology graduate programs after completing her BA degree.

Kristi Coy (bottom right) is the winner for the Outstanding Undergraduate Sociology/Law and Society Major Award. She is a University honor student with an overall GPA of 3.951, the highest in her major. She received the Dean's Academic Distinction Award for CHASS for 2015-16, was invited into Phi Beta Kappa, and has a history of involvement in various research and leadership projects, including Dr. Parker's "Ontario Project" research team, the Leadership Matters Seminar, and the Young Entrepreneurial Leadership Program in Oxford, England. Currently she is writing her Honor's Capstone thesis under Professor Oselin that empirically examines how budget cuts and delays impact families in divorce. She was enrolled during Winter quarter in Professor Maryanski's undergraduate seminar where she gave an outstanding class presentation and wrote a paper filled with creative and original ideas. Kristi also received a nomination from Dr. Swanson who remarked during her time in

Soc 185 she completed “an excellent project using forecasting tools to assess the impact of changes in laws/regulations on the number of adults in California prisons.” Kristi is truly a testament to undergraduate academic excellence at UCR. She is currently choosing among multiple laws schools that have accepted her for admission with scholarships.

Outstanding Senior Service Award.

Haydee Yonamine (top left) is the winner for the Outstanding Sociology Senior Service Award, with a cumulative GPA of 3.02. Haydee was the president of both the Undergraduate Sociological Association (USA) and the Leadership Community for Women. As president, she worked tirelessly to engage undergraduate students. During the past spring, summer, and current spring quarter, she spearheaded several panels with professors and graduate students to provide guidance for students looking to attend graduate school. Under Haydee’s stewardship, the organization has gone through a dramatic transformation. To that end, she helped institute a mentorship program between undergraduate and graduate students, and create new forums to facilitate improvement and shift organizational resources to better meet the needs of students. Haydee’s effort and commitment has profoundly changed the USA to become an important resource for undergraduate students. In addition, she was a sociology tutor for the Student-Athlete Academic Services and her mentees speak very highly of her approachability, maturity, and pedagogy. Haydee will graduate this Spring and plans to enroll in the Master of Public Policy program at UC Irvine.

Other Recognition

Kristi Coy was accepted to the following law schools with partial or full scholarships: Chapman, University of San Diego, California Western. She was also accepted to the following Law Schools without scholarships: Loyola and Baylor and is currently on the waitlist for UCI's law school.

Arman Azedi was accepted to UCI's sociology graduate program and awarded 6 years of funding.

Odalys Bravo was accepted into the sociology MA program at CSU-Fullerton. She thanks the department for its past support for undergraduates' participation at PSA conferences, saying "these conferences were crucial to my graduate school applications."

Laura Romero-Diaz was accepted to a Masters of Social Work Program.

Vilma Poroj was accepted into Public Health programs at UC Irvine, San Diego State, and Colorado State University. After much deliberation, Vilma chose San Diego.

Kimberly Gan was accepted into graduate programs at San Diego State University, San Jose State University, Cal State University Fullerton, and Cal State University, Los Angeles. She chose San Diego State University.

Conference Travel Awards: The Sociology Undergraduate Affairs Committee awarded Mayra Ceballos and Haydee Yonamine with conference travel awards so that they could present their research at the 2017 annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association.

Graduate/Professional Application Awards: The Sociology Undergraduate Affairs Committee also awarded the following students with funds to reimburse expenses associated with applying to professional and/or graduate programs: Haydee Yonamine, Carolina Sanchez, Alexandra Zaragoza, Erik Villalpando, and Marcel Acosta.

New Academic Advisers & a New Undergraduate Adviser

In 2017, a new academic adviser joined the student advising office. As Lilia Liderbach reports, "Twanisha Wilson brings with her several years of experience in academic advising, admissions and outreach with the University of LaVerne and Redlands University. Twanisha earned her BA in liberal studies and MA in organizational leadership from Chapman University. AND she has experience working with Banner and the new scheduling program!" Twanisha is a welcome addition to our student advising team in Watkins 1141. We are also grateful that Kim Etzweiler will continue to serve as an academic adviser and thank her for her hard work when she single-handedly advised more than 1,500 sociology and anthropology undergraduates for many months this year.

On June 30, 2017, Dr. Ellen Reese will officially step down in her capacity as Undergraduate Adviser after serving for four years in that capacity. She has enjoyed working more closely with UCR undergraduates, the Undergraduate Sociology Association, the Sociology Honors Club, and the Department's academic advising team, and overseeing various improvements to the undergraduate curriculum and program.

She looks forward to having more time to spend more time on her research and in her role as Chair of UCR's Labor Studies program. We are very grateful that Dr. Sharon Oselin has agreed to serve as the Undergraduate Adviser for Sociology for 2016-17 and look forward to seeing additional changes to the undergraduate program under her leadership.



Ellen Reese with Mayra Caballos, who was awarded a certificate of appreciation from Alpha Kappa Delta (the International Sociology Honors Society) for her presentation at the 2017 annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association in Portland, OR.

UCR Undergraduates at the 2017 PSA Conference

Graduate student Roberto Rivera organized an amazing delegation of 9 undergraduate students for the 2017 annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association in Portland. As he reports, “they represented UCR with professional pride and are 1st generation students. They’re all graduate school bound, and the conference was very influential in their interest in advancing their education to the next level.”



Graduate student Roberto Rivera (center, back) with the delegation UCR Sociology undergraduate students that he organized to attend the PSA at the PSA welcome reception. Generous contributions from supporters of the Sociology department subsidized the costs associated with the participation of this delegation.

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 - Maritza Salazar, msala@022@ucr.edu

Vice President - Yadira Soto, ysoto001@ucr.edu

Secretary - Edgar Murillo, emuri004@ucr.edu

Treasurer - Mariela Madrid, mwill039@ucr.edu

Public Relations - Imad Jobah, ijoba001@ucr.edu

The Sociology faculty have done a tremendous job in recent years identifying highly talented undergraduates and mentoring them into graduate school and beyond. We asked **Mirella Deniz-Zaragoza**, one of our brightest undergraduate stars, to talk about her research and future career goals.

A Family of Unequals: The Lived Experiences and Consciousness of Farmworkers



This research examines how the reproduction of workplace inequalities influence farmworkers' daily life decisions, as well as their understanding of themselves and the world that surrounds them. My research is based on a case study of farmworkers in the Coachella Valley and surrounding area. Through field research and in-depth interviews with workers, I will demonstrate how exploitative labor practices have become normalized under restrictive immigration laws and neoliberalism. In addition, I will also

explore the extreme levels of labor exploitation and domination that has driven growers to retain high levels of profit at the expense of workers' health and well-being. I investigate how workplace hierarchies become essential to communications between employers and employees, work practices, and family relationships. My research will provide a nuanced understanding of how injustice operates as a functional necessity within the contemporary agricultural industry in the United States, as well as the human cost of doing business within this industry for people located at different positions in the flow of work and life. Farmworkers have become desensitized to their own exploitation because, at the end of every day, their backbreaking labor allows them to provide a plate of food for their families and attainment of upward mobility for their children. Farmworkers have also become very segregated by race and ethnicities, which contribute to the reproduction of inequalities amongst themselves.

As a student, not only am I involved in research, but I am also involved on campus and in our community. I am the undergraduate representative of the UC Riverside BLUM Initiative/Student Action Council for the Eradication of Poverty and inequality (SACEPI). SACEPI is a network of UC student leaders whose goals are to raise awareness, enhance community engagement, and encourage action on topics related to poverty and inequality both locally and globally. This year BLUM in collaboration with SACEPI create for the first time the Global Poverty Action Day (GPAD) in which all UC's dedicate one day to spread awareness and talk about issues regarding poverty and inequality. For the Global Poverty Action Day, UC Riverside, in collaboration with the student organization OverFlow, worked together and hosted an event where students were given the opportunity to prepare hygiene kits for those in need. In addition, we educated students on the topic of food insecurity and the various resources available to students that help aid this crisis. My goal as a student leader at

UC Riverside is to help alleviate our community from poverty, inequality and encourage students to work together for institutional and global change.

After I receive my B.A. in Sociology (2017-2018), I will be applying to several PhD Sociology programs and will continue to further my research on the lived experiences of farmworkers. Through my research I aspire to help reduce poverty, injustice, and inequality in farm working communities. My ultimate career goal is to become a university professor and push for institutional change for farm workers, so they no longer experience discrimination, suffrage, and pain. As a professor, one of my main goals will be to create institutional awareness of the struggles farmworkers experience in their daily lives.

ALUMNI CORNER

Jake Alimahomed-Wilson (Associate Professor of Sociology at CSU-Long Beach) just published a new book titled *Solidarity Forever? Race, Gender, and Unionism in the Ports of Southern California* (Lexington Books) based on research he did for his dissertation he completed at UCR.

Jermaine Cathcart, who received his PhD last summer, was just offered a tenure-track faculty position in the Sociology Department at the College of the Desert. He was employed in a full-time non-tenure track position this past year there and they offered him a tenure-track position this year. He can be reached at: jcath001@ucr.edu mlwalker@unomaha.edu

Michael Walker, currently Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, has accepted a tenure track position in the Department of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. He will begin his position there this fall. He can be reached at: mlwalker@unomaha.edu

Matthew Grindal, former UCR graduate student, and Visiting Assistant Professor at UCR received a tenure track position in the Department of Sociology at the University of Idaho, effective as of July 2017

Sakin Erin, Visiting Assistant Professor at UCR has received a VAP position at Cal State University, Sacramento, starting this summer.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT



Left to right: Matt Hall, Joan Naymark, Paul Hemez, David Swanson, Lucky Tedrow, Douglas Massey, Megan Lemmon, Jake Tarrence, and Jamie Lynch attend the Applied Demography session of the Population Association of America.

PUBLICATIONS

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

Kwon, Ronald, **Matthew C. Mahutga** and Amanda Kay Admire. "Promoting Patriarchy or Dual Equality? Multiculturalism and the Household Division of Labor in Immigrant Families." Forthcoming at *Sociological Quarterly*.

Mahutga, Matthew C., Anthony Roberts and Ronald Kwon. "The Globalization of Production and Income Inequality in Rich Democracies." Forthcoming at *Social Forces*

Alexandra Maryanski. 2017. *Émile Durkheim and the Birth of the Gods: totems, incest, phratries, hordes, taboos, exogamy, sodalities, menstrual blood, ghosts, apes, churingas, cairns, and other mysterious things*. Forthcoming with Routledge Press.

Alexandra Maranski. 2017. "The Origin of Religion: Recent Scientific Findings." In *A New Synthesis for the Study of Religion: Cognition, Evolution and History in the Study of Religion*, edited by A. Peterson, I. Gilhus, J. Jensen, L. Martin and J. Sørensen. Leiden: The Netherlands: Brill Supplements to Methods and Theory in the Study of Religion. In Press.

Alexandra Maryanski and **Jonathan Turner.** 2017. "The Neurology of Religion: An Explanation from Evolutionary Sociology." In *Oxford Handbook of Evolution, Biology and Society*, edited by Rosemary Hopcroft. Oxford: Oxford University Press. In Press.

Alexandra Maryanski and Jonathan Turner. 2017. "Incest: Theoretical Perspectives." Pp. 1-27 in *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*, edited by Hilary Cullan. UK: Wiley-Blackwell Publishers (in Press).

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

Reyes, Victoria. 2018. "Three Models of Ethnographic Transparency: Naming Places, Naming People, and Sharing Data" Forthcoming in *Ethnography*.

Reyes, Victoria. 2018. "Culture and Globalization" Forthcoming In John R Hall, Laura Grindstaff and Ming-Cheng Lo (Eds) *Handbook of Cultural Sociology* (Routledge International Handbook Series), Abingdon, UK: Routledge

Reyes, Victoria. 2017. "Stigmatized Love, Boundary-Making, and the Heroic Love Myth: Filipina Women Constructing their Relationships with U.S. Military Men Within and Beyond the Legal Framework" Forthcoming in Asuncion Fresnoza-Flot and Gwenola Ricordeau (Eds) *International Marriages and Marital Citizenship: Southeast Asian Women on the Move* Routledge

Jonathan Turner, Alexandra Maryanski, Anders Klostergaard and Armin Geertz. 2017. *The Emergence and Evolution of Religion by Means of Natural Selection*. New York: Routledge. In Press.

GRANTS

Mahutga, Matthew C. 2017-2019. "Advancing Intercultural Studies II." *Andrew W. Mellon Foundation*, (with Georgia Warnke, Muhamad Ali and Jennifer Najera) award number 41600685, \$250,000.

OTHER RECOGNITION

Victoria Reyes was elected Council Member for the Asia and Asian America section and Chair of the Membership Committee for the Community & Urban Sociology sections of the American Sociological Association.

Reyes, Victoria. May 9, 2017. "[Demystifying the Journal Article](#)," *Inside Higher Ed*,
Reposted on the [Gender & Society blog](#), May 25, 2017

Reyes, Victoria. March 8, 2017. "[10 Tips for Thriving, Not Just Surviving, in Graduate School](#)," *Inside Higher Ed*

GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Michaela Curran and Ronald Kwon receive their award as co-winners (with Karin Johnson) of the department's graduate student paper award.

PUBLICATIONS

Christian Jaworski and Dinur Blum 2017. "Spatial patterns of mass shootings in the United States, 2013-2014 Forthcoming in *Environmental Criminology*.

Kwon, Ronald, Matthew C. Mahutga and Amanda Kay Admire. "Promoting Patriarchy or Dual Equality? Multiculturalism and the Household Division of Labor in Immigrant Families." Forthcoming at *Sociological Quarterly*.

Kwon, Ronald and Michaela Curran. "Immigration and support for redistributive social policy: Does multiculturalism matter?" *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 57(6):375-400 (Lead article).

Nosh McTaggart and Eileen O'Brien. 2017. "Seeking Liberation, Facing Marginalization: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders' conditional acceptance in Hip Hop Culture." Forthcoming in *Sociological Inquiry*.

AWARDS AND OTHER RECOGNITION

Sarah Bannister received a 2017 UC Consortium of Social Sciences and Law Summer Fellowship and 2017 Ernest Propes Endowed Graduate Student Fellowship.

Elizabeth Bogumil was the 2017 CSU Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program Scholar

Michaela Curran and Ronald Kwon were co-winners of the 2017 Sociology Department Graduate Student Paper Award.

Karin Johnson was co-winner of the 2017 Sociology Department Graduate Student Paper Award

Ronald Kwon was the recipient of a Dissertation Year Program Fellowship (DYP) from the Graduate Division on May 20th. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$7,200 per quarter. Ron was also the 2017 Ernest Propes Endowed Graduate Student Fellow.

Logan Marg received a 2017 UC Consortium of Social Sciences and Law Summer Fellowship and a 2017 Presley Center for Crime and Justice Studies Fellowship.

Alessandro M. Morosin was the recipient of a Dissertation Year Program Fellowship (DYP) from the Graduate Division on May 20th. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$7,200 per quarter. He also received a collaborative research grant from the Blum Initiative for his dissertation research in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Julisa McCoy received a summer fellowship from the UC Consortium on Social Sciences and Law for her dissertation research (which focuses on the politics and impacts of restrictive family planning policies in the United States).

Katharine Maldonado was 2017 CSU Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program Scholar

Amy Perry is 2017 UCR Graduate Division Outstanding Teaching Assistant

Stalin Plascencia-Castillo was 2017 CSU Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program Scholar

Robert Rivera Was recipient of the Outstanding TA Award by Graduate Division

Levin Welch received Honorable Mention for the National Academy of Science, Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship

GIVING TO SOCIOLOGY

Why Fund Sociology?

The Sociology Department welcomes gifts to help support our programs, maintain department facilities, and fund undergraduate and graduate research and scholarships. So reach out to the next generation of sociology students today and tomorrow by enriching their educational experience. The goal of sociology is to offer a first-class education for all our students. And you can play an important role in making this happen. We will be deeply grateful for your support and all gifts are tax deductible. Simply visit our web site at www.sociology.ucr.edu.

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