

2011



COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS  
AND  
SCIENCES,  
UNIVERSITY OF  
CONNECTICUT



Once again, the Sociology Department has been recognized for its outstanding strengths in both research and teaching.

**Nancy Naples** (below, left) has been awarded the CLAS Biennial Excellence in Research Award for the Social Sciences. She received her award and medal at the CLAS faculty meeting in April and was recognized at the CLAS commencement exercises in May. Nancy's corpus of research is truly impressive: She is an extraordinarily productive scholar, publishing both books and peer-reviewed journal articles in some of the best journals in the discipline. Her work is not only impressive in its volume, but more importantly in its quality, indicated in nearly a half-million dollars in research grants and important awards in the discipline, including the Distinguished Feminist Lecturer Award from Sociologists for Women in Society (2010), and Best Book Award (with Lionel Cantu) for *The Sexuality of Migration* from the Sexualities Section of the American Sociological Association. She has also been awarded UConn's Provost's Research Fellowship Award in 2005-2006, and the 2008 UConn Alumni Association Faculty Excellence in Research (Humanities and Social Sciences) Award. She currently is co-Principal Investigator (with Prof. Mary Bernstein) on a large National Science Foundation grant for a research project on comparative family leave policies around the world.

## FACULTY AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Nancy is a nationally and internationally prominent scholar specializing in gender; feminist theory; the intersectionality of race, class, and gender; community sociology; social movements; social policy; and qualitative methodology. She has an extraordinarily successful and highly active research agenda, with a total of 3 published books, 3 edited or co-edited anthologies, more than two-dozen peer-reviewed journal articles (many of which are in the top journals in the discipline in gender and in social problems), more than two-dozen more articles in edited collections, and nearly two-dozen other article and research and technical report publications over the course of her career.

The impact of her work is significant: the total corpus of her scholarship, in its volume and in its content, has contributed to the very definition of serious and substantial feminist research. As the noted sociologist Myra Marx Ferree (University of Wisconsin-Madison) notes, "The crucial definition of a feminist scholar as I see it lies not in any specific theory applied or methodological tools used, but in the more fundamental decision about whose questions one wants to answer. In this regard in particular, Nancy provides for me the model of feminist scholarship."



**Claudio Benzecry** (above, right) was awarded the 2011 AAUP Research Excellence Promise Award. He received his award at a ceremony in the State Capitol in Hartford. He has been very productive, both in quantity and quality. He has published eight papers, in both English and Spanish, in refereed, peer-reviewed journals and twelve papers in edited collections (again, in both English and Spanish). One of his peer-reviewed journal articles appears in a highly regarded journal, *Theory, Culture, and Society*. Another article appears as the lead article in *Qualitative Sociology*, a well-regarded specialty journal. Six of his works have been translated into Spanish, an indicator that his wonderful research resonates well beyond the United States. In addition, his book, *The Opera Fanatic: Ethnography of an Obsession*, has been published

by the University of Chicago Press, one of the top five academic presses in the social sciences. He has also been editor or co-editor on two edited collections. The sheer volume of his productivity, and its superb placement, is itself highly notable for such a new scholar.

More importantly, the quality of his work, and its impact and ability to attract attention in both academia and the wider audience globally, has been nothing short of impressive. Claudio is clearly developing a national and an international reputation as a scholar. His work is already receiving attention and respect: he has been accepted as a Faculty Fellow at the Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University, to join some of the most respected names in Sociological Theory. That is an impressive honor for someone at such an early point in his academic career.

His superb research on the subculture of opera fans has been featured in *Contexts* at the Discoveries section of the magazine on Winter 2007 and Fall 2009. It has also been featured in major media outlets around the world at ABC News.com; MSNBC.com; CNBC.com; USA Today.com; Washington-Post.com; the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and The Brisbane Times; The Canada Standard, The National Post (Canada); Kölner Stadt Anzeiger, Heise Daily, Wissenschaft Aktuell and Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (Germany); Salzburger Nachrichten (Austria); China Daily; Khaleej Times (United Arab Emirates); Al Watan Daily (Kuwait); Daily Times Lahore (Pakistan); O Estado de Sao Paulo, O Globo and Correio do Brasil (Brazil); Radio Torino (Italy); Radio Nacional, Revista Teatro Colón, Radio Metro and La Nación (Argentina); El Confidencial (Spain); and Monitorul (Romania). Such international enthusiasm for one's research is rare indeed, and rarer still for a relatively new scholar. It indicates the wide and diverse impact his research is already contributing to our growing reputation that the Sociology Department at UConn, and UConn more broadly, is a place where terrific, exciting and important research happens. How many of us can claim such substantial significance of our research, even after a long and illustrious career? And he is just getting started!



**Davita Silfen Glasberg** (above) was awarded the 2011 Faculty Mentoring Award. This is the second time she has received this award, initiated and determined by the graduate students. Students noted in their nomination letters the energy and devotion to their intellectual development she provided. Deric Shannon (PhD 2011) observed that she “bent over backward to publish with graduate students, including soliciting pieces from many of us for her reader [co-edited with Bandana Purkayastha and Bill Armaline] on Human Rights. She co-wrote a book with me on political sociology. As graduate students who presumably want stable jobs when we leave the Academy, this is the exact kind of behavior we want to reward among faculty. . . I can't really overstate how wonderful a mentor Davita has been to me. I've loved working with a number of people in the Department, but none of them have taken the time and care to get to know me like Davita has, to meet me where I'm at, to allow me room to breathe, but to be sure that I am mentored through the process of becoming a PhD. It's been a long road for me, one where we're all familiar with the kinds of pressure and stress that comes along with it. Davita has served brilliantly in that process for me, providing a place to not only talk about research and sociology, but to talk about life.”

PhD student Chandra Waring was equally enthusiastic: “Dr. Glasberg is an exemplar dissertation committee member. First and foremost, she expresses genuine interest and enthusiasm in my dissertation research, which heightens my confidence as a scholar and empowers me to engage in innovative, provocative research. . . . One of the most noteworthy characteristics of Dr. Glasberg's approach to mentoring that distinguishes

her from many of her colleagues. [is that] she is acutely aware of the unique experiences that women and people of color endure while attending graduate school, and she makes a concerted effort to ensure that students from underprivileged backgrounds are being treated respectfully by faculty, fellow graduate students and undergraduate students alike. She is sensitive to the institutional and individual struggles that particularly women of color face, which is remarkable precisely because she readily acknowledges her own white privilege as a means to begin the conversation about power, privilege and unequal institutional arrangements. In sum, she has been an invaluable mentor to me.”



**Kathleen O'Reilly (MA, 1999)** (above) received the 2011 Award for Outstanding Teaching by an Adjunct at Avery Point. She has regularly been among the strongest instructors in the department since she began teaching a wide array of Sociology and Women's Studies courses at the Avery Point campus in 2004. The course she has taught include Introductory Sociology, Revolutionary Social Movements Around the World, Gender in Global Perspective, Public Opinion and Mass Communication, Women and Violence, Gender in Everyday Life, Gender in the Workplace, Criminology, Women and Poverty, Sociology of Gender, Sociology of Sexualities, and Gender Representation in US Popular Culture; many of these have been writing-intensive courses. She has also supervised 10 independent studies and 3 internships. She has been such a consistently strong instructor that she received the Provost's Grant for General Education Development, 2007-2009.

## SCHOLARSHIP: JOURNAL ARTICLES

**Clint Sanders**, “Ethnography as dangerous, sad, and dirty work,” in *New Frontiers in Ethnography, Studies in Qualitative Methodology*.

**Arnie Dashefsky** (with Ira M. Sheskin), “Jewish population in the US, 2010,” in *Current Jewish Population Reports*.

**Arnie Dashefsky** (with Ron Miller), “Brandeis (Sasson et al) v. Cohen-Kelman: The distancing from Israel debate.” in *Contemporary Jewry*.

Colleen Casey, **Davita Silfen Glasberg, and Angie Beeman (PhD, 2009)**, “Racial Disparities in Access to Mortgage Credit: Does Governance Matter?” *Social Science Quarterly*.

**Deric Shannon** (with Abbey Willis), “Theoretical polyamory: Some thoughts on loving, thinking, and queering anarchism,” in *Sexualities*.

**Casey Borch (PhD, 2007), Allen Hyde**, and Antonius Cillessen, “The role of attractiveness and aggression in high school popularity,” in *Social Psychology of Education*.

**Clint Sanders and Justin Goodman (MA 2009)**, “In favor of tipping the balance: animal rights activists in defense of residential picketing,” in *Society and Animals*. Justin is now the Director of PETA’s research and campaigns against animal experimentation.

**Colleen Butler-Sweet**, “Race isn’t what defines me: Exploring indentity choices in transracial, biracial and monoracial families,” in *Social Identities*.

**Tom Hochschild and Casey Borch (PhD, 2007)**, “About face: The association between facial appearance and status attainment among military personnel,” in *Sociological Spectrum*.

**Ralph McNeal**, “Labor market effects on dropping out of high school: Variation by gender, race, and employment status,” in *Youth and Society*.

**Michael J. McFarland (MA, 2008), Brad Wright, and David Weakliem**, “Educational attainment and religiosity: Exploring variations by religious tradition.” in *Sociology of Religion*.

Regina E. Werum, David Tomeka, and **Simon Cheng**, “How institutional context alters social reproduction dynamics: Ethnic track placement patterns in the US and Germany,” in *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*.

**Mary Fischer**, “Can institutional networks mitigate labor market disadvantages? Evidence from college summer job searches,” in *Social Science Quarterly*.

**Claudio Benzecry** and Monika Krause, "How do they know? Practicing knowledge in a comparative perspective," in *Qualitative Sociology*.

**David Weakliem** and J. Adams, "What do we mean by 'class politics'?" in *Politics and Society*.

**David Weakliem, Gordon Gauchat (PhD 2010), and Brad Wright**, "Sociological stratification: Change and continuity in the distribution of departmental prestige," in *The American Sociologist*.

**Michael McFarland (MA 2008), Brad Wright, and David Weakliem**, "Education attainment and religiosity," in *Sociology of Religion*.

**Deric Shannon (with Bill Armaline, PhD, 2006)**, "Introduction: Toward a more unified libertarian left," in *Theory in Action*.

**Anjana Narayan (PhD 2006) and Bandana Purkayastha**, "Talkin' gender superiority in virtual spaces." *Journal of*

*South Asian Diasporas*.

**Gaye Tuchman**, "The relationship among the news media, society, and culture: Thoughts on objectivity, method, and passion." *Perspectivas de la comunicacion*.

**Casey Borch (PhD 2007) and Michael Wallace**, "Military spending and economic well-being in the American States: The post-Vietnam War era." *Social Forces*.

**Michael Wallace and Travis Scott Lowe**, "Work values and job rewards among European Workers." *Research in Sociology of Work*.

**Michael Wallace, Gordon Gauchat (PhD, 2010), and Andrew S. Fullerton (PhD, 2007)**, "Globalization, labor market transformation, and metropolitan earnings inequality." *Social Science Research*.

**Simon Cheng** and Brian Powell, "Misclassification by whom: A comment on Campbell and Troyer," in *American Sociological Review*.

**Josef Gugler (Emeritus)**, African Films in the Classroom" in *African Studies Review*.

**Gaye Tuchman**, "The unintended decentering of teaching and learning." *Society*.

**Claudio Benzecry**, "Sketches toward an operatic sociology." *European Journal of Sociology*.

**Deric Shannon (with Bill Armaline, PhD, 2006)**, "A working class student is something to be," in *Academic Repression*.



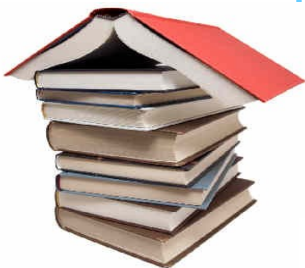


## SCHOLARSHIP: ARTICLES IN EDITED COLLECTIONS

**Chandra Waring** (with Kristin N.P. Marie Evans), "Balancing womanhood, blackness, and the books: African American women in graduate school." *In Women in Higher Education: The Struggle for Equity* (Hampton Press).

**Manisha Desai**, "From this bridge called my back to this bridge we call home: Identities and social movements," in Margaret Wetherell and Chandra Mohanty (eds), *Handbook of identities*.

**Manisha Desai**, "The possibilities and perils of scholar activism and activist scholarship: Reflections on the feminist dialogues," in Jeffrey S. Juris and Alex Kasnashish (eds.), *Activist Trans-nographies: Ethnography and Activism Within Networked Spaces of Transnational Encounter*.



**Deric Shannon** and Abbey Willis, "Nordamerika, interview mit Deric Shannon und Abbey Willis," in Sebastian Kaicha and Gabriel Kuhn (Hg), *Von Jakarta bis Johannesburg Anarchismus weltweit*.

**Mary Bernstein**, "United States: Multi-institutional politics, social movements, and the state." Ashgate.

**Claudio Benzecry**, "Everything is dirt: Re-evaluating the place of cultural status in aesthetic attachment," in E. de la Fuente (ed.), *Philosophical and Cultural Theories of Music*.

**Nancy Naples**, "Feminist travels: A historical and textual journey," in Kathy Davis and Mary Evans (eds.), *Transatlantic Conversations: Feminism as Traveling Theory*.

**Bandana Purkayastha**, "Imagining pan-Asia: Tagore from a 21st Century perspective," in *Commemorative Volume on Tagore: 150th Year Retrospective*. Vis Bharati Publications.

**Bandana Purkayastha** and **Jayne Schwartzman Amarone**, "Globalization and mothering," in *Globalization and Women's Empowerment*, Frontpage Press.

**Nancy Naples**, "Women's leadership, social capital and social change: Marilyn Gittell's legacy for activist scholars," in Kathe Newman and Ross Gittell (eds.), *Activist Scholar: Selected Works of Marilyn Gittell*.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

**Elizabeth Holzer** received a Large Faculty Grant for her project "A Pilot Study of Political Engagement and Humanitarian Authority in Liberia and Ghana."

**Brad Wright's** book, *Christians are Hate-Filled Hypocrites. . . And Other Lies That You've Been Told: A Sociologist Shatters Myths From the Secular and Christian Media* won a "Book of the Year" award from Christianity Today, an influential religious magazine.

**Andrew Deener**, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, UPenn, "Food Access in Phila-

delphia." Andrew just completed his first of two years on a Robert Woods Johnson Fellowship at UPenn.

**Manisha Desai**, Fulbright Hays Faculty Research Abroad, US Department of Education. She is currently in India for this fellowship.

**Gaye Tuchman** received a Fulbright Specialist Award to go to Chile.

Thanks to the strong efforts of **Gaye Tuchman** and **Claudio Benzecry**, the department was

selected as one of two departments nationwide to host the 2010-2011 **Robin L. Williams, Jr. Lecture**, which this year was given by Prof. Mark D. Jacobs from George Mason University. He joined us for a colloquium, "No-Fault Corruption of the Financial System," in March.

**Nancy Naples** was named the 2011 Distinguished Feminist Lecturer of Sociologists for Women in Society.

## SCHOLARSHIP: BOOKS

**Davita Silfen Glasberg** and **Deric Shannon**, *Political Sociology: Oppression, Resistance, and the State*. Pine Forge/Sage Press.

**Deric Shannon (PhD, 2011)** has been named a Senior Editor of a new book series, *Liberatory Knowledge: An Anarchist Studies Series* with Arissa Media.

**Josef Gugler** (Emeritus), *Film in the Middle East and North Africa: Creative Dissidence* (contributing Editor), University of Texas Press and American University in Cairo Press.

**Noel Cazenave**, *The Urban Racial State: Managing Race Relations in American Cities*, Rowman and Littlefield.

**Bandana Purkaystha**, **Miho Iwata**, **Shweta Majumdar Adur**, **Ranita Ray**, and **Trisha Tiamzon**, *As the Leaves Turn Gold: Asian Americans and Experiences of Aging*, Rowman and Littlefield.

**Kim Price-Glynn**, *Strip Club: Gender, Power, and Sex Work*, New York University Press.

**Claudio Benzecry**, *The Opera Fanatic: Ethnography of an Obsession*, University of Chicago Press.

**Gaye Tuchman**, *Wannabe U* (paperback), University of Chicago Press.



## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

**Claudio Benzecry**, "Tocaban en managas de masia! Revisitando algunas ideas classicas sobre gusto y status," at the Instituto d Desarrollo Economico y Social (IDEAS), Buenos Aires.

**Claudio Benzecry**, "Professionalization and critical sociology," NYLON workshop, New York University Institute for Public Knowledge.

**Claudio Benzecry**, "Four handed sociology: Collaboration and knowledge production," invited presentation at Brandeis University.

**Arnie Dashefsky**, "Changes in Jewish identity: Through time and place" at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion (Atlanta).

**Arnie Dashefsky**, "Philanthropic decisions of American Jews: The influence of religious identity on charitable choices." at the Indiana-Purdue University Indianapolis Symposium on Religion and Philanthropy.

**Andrew Deener**, "Developing a qualitative research project pm food access," at Thomas Jefferson University School of Population Health.

**Andrew Deener**, "People out of place or a home for the homeless?" at the University of Pennsylvania Urban Studies Colloquium and the Social Science History Association.

**Andrew Deener**, "Feeding Philadelphia: The market for fresh food and the places it won't go," at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation annual conference,

Washington, DC.

**Manisha Desai** was a plenary speaker at the Iranian Women's Leadership Workshop at the Transnational Feminisms conference of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts in Boston.

**Bandana Purkayastha** was a plenary speaker at the Asian Pacific Americans Religion Research Initiative Conference in Chicago.

**Gaye Tuchman** was a plenary speaker at the American Sociological Association annual conference in Atlanta.

**Gaye Tuchman** was the keynote speaker at the Scandinavian Media Organization conference.

The Department was well-represented at the Eastern Sociological Society's annual conference in Philadelphia: 10 faculty members (**Mary Bernstein**, **Claudio Benzecry**, **Laura Bunyan**, **Jeremiah Coldsmith**, **Andrew Deener**, **Mary Fischer**, **Anita Garey**, **Nancy Naples**, **Bandana Purkayastha**, and **Gaye Tuchman**) and 14 graduate students (**Shweta Majumdar Adur**, **Barbara Gurr**, **Denishia Harris**, **Miho Iwata**, **Barret Katuna**, **Rachel Leventhal-Weiner**, **Travis Lowe**, **Stacy Missari**, **Lwendo Moonzwe**, **Sheila Pierre**, **Ranita Ray**, **Jayne Schwartzman Amarone**, **Deric Shannon**, and **Nya Stevens**) presented papers, organized sessions and mini-conferences, and acted as presider/discussants. Nice job!

## GRADUATE STUDENT WITNESSES JAPAN EARTHQUAKE

Doctoral candidate **Miho Iwata** (below, left) returned to Japan this Spring to visit family and gather data for her dissertation on Brazilian Japanese workers, and found herself up close and personal with the worst earthquake in Japan's history. Many people in the department became alarmed and concerned as reports and mind-boggling images flooded into the US media; as you can imagine, email contact was extremely limited, so no one really knew where Miho was when the earthquake struck, or if she and her family were okay. It was a harrowing few days before email communication was functioning again. What a huge relief to hear from Miho that she was fine, and so was her family. Bandana Purkayastha sent a letter to our SWS colleagues, informing everyone of Miho's safety: "We heard back from our graduate student Miho Iwata who is currently in Japan. Many of you know her as an enthusiastic regular member of SWS; Miho also got an honorable mention for the Beth Hess Award last year. Miho was lucky because she had just left Tokyo to return home by bus, when the trains stopped running.

She and her family experienced milder versions of the earthquake but are very concerned about people in other areas of Japan.



I know several other SWS members have friends and family in Japan.

My thoughts are with you. "

Here's an excerpt from Miho's Email to the department:

Dear friends,

Thank you so very much for all your kindest thoughts and prayers for me, my family, and people in Japan. I'm so sorry that I haven't been able to keep up with responding to individual emails; it has been overwhelming to witness the sufferings of those who are severely affected by this tragedy – those who barely survived tsunami as they hanged onto whatever they could while watching their loved ones, neighbors and others being swept away... Many evacuees still don't have electricity, enough food, running water, medical supplies, and communication tools (cell phones are down for the most part) so many of them are uncertain about where and how their loved ones are... and I still haven't been able to even address my emotions and feelings as I learn more and more about what people have been going through...

The rescuing efforts have been limited as the roads/train tracks are shut down and all the emergency workers have to work intermittently as they have to evacuate whenever there's an aftershock and/or tsunami warnings. And we're also concerned with the series of nuclear power plants explosions...

As of now, I know that the Red Cross is accepting donations (with a note Japan Earthquake

and Pacific Tsunami) but the affected areas are not ready for individual volunteers/donations. If you have someone you want to contact in Japan, AT&T and Verizon have set up special services although phone lines in many affected areas are still not working properly... (<http://www.att.com/gen/press-room?pid=19324&cdvn=news&newsarticleid=31687&mapcode=wireless-networks-general|consumer> : <http://newscenter.verizon.com/press-releases/verizon/2011/verizon-offers-free-calls-to.html>)

Personally, my family and I are in Nagoya, which is located in the central area of the main island. We've been leading more or less 'normal' lives out here, and we have only been having milder shakes related to this tragedy. I will not have access to internet until March 22<sup>nd</sup> for personal reasons but will be reached on my cell: [tamiho-net@softbank.ne.jp](mailto:tamiho-net@softbank.ne.jp) / 011-81-1726-2771 (please do not worry about me if you don't receive email replies from me during this time).

Once again, thank you for all your caring thoughts and prayers! It has been so encouraging to receive so many emails and calls from so many people.

Warmly,

Miho  
Needless to say, we have been extremely relieved and delighted to know she and her family are safe. Miho is now back at UConn, smiling as always, if a bit shaken by this brush with disaster. Welcome back, Miho!

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

### Phi Beta Kappa

Andrew Grant Best

Faina Dookh

Martina Mtikova Parashkevova

Brenda Rivera

### Janet M. Fierberg

### Award for Academic Achievement in Sociology and/or Social Work

Ashley Egner

Novlette Williams

## GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

**Barb Gurr** was named Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year. Barb also received the Ross MacKinnon Fellowship from CLAS.

**Tom Hochschild** and **Christine Zozula** received the CLAS Dean's Fellowships.

**Stacy Missari** and **Christine Zozula** were co-recipients of the Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award.

**Ranita Ray** received the Hira and Sunita Jain Fellowship for Outstanding Research and Leadership.

**Chandra Waring** and Samit Bordoloi, a doctoral student in HDFS, were awarded the SSSP

**Lwendo Moonzwe** was awarded a substantial multi-year NIH grant, the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award. grant for her dissertation on women, health care, human rights, and empowerment in Zambia.

**Tom Hochschild** received the Ronald L. Taylor Award for best graduate student paper of the year. His paper was titled, "The Cul-de-sac Effect: The Relationship Between Street Design and Residential Social Cohesion."

**Chandra Waring** was also awarded the SWS Sister-to-Sister Esther Ngan-Chow and Mareyjoyce Green Scholarship.

Teaching Social Problems Graduate Student Paper Award for their paper, "Hopping on the Tips of a Trident: Graduate Students of Color Reflect on Teaching Social Problems at Predominantly White Institutions."

**Chandra Waring** was awarded the 100 Years of Women's Scholarship Award for her commitment to women's issues. The 100 Years of Women's Scholarship Fund was established in 1991 to honor a current UConn undergraduate or graduate student or high school senior planning to enroll at UConn who has demonstrated a commitment to women's issues through service to their community or school.



## IN THE NEWS

**Gaye Tuchman** sparked yet another round of debate in the [New York Times.com](http://www.nytimes.com) *Room For Debate* column with her op ed piece, "Will I Be Able to Get a Job?" She and her book, *Wannabe U*, were also quoted in articles in *The Nation* and *Inside Higher Education*. She also published a piece, "The Future of Wannabe U" in *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

**Andrew Deener's** work on why the racial identity of a neighborhood does not always reflect that of the majority of its residents was featured in [Contexts.com](http://www.contexts.com).



The coauthored paper, "About Face: The Association Between Facial Appearance and Status Attainment Among Military Personnel," by **Tom Hochschild** and **Casey Borch (PhD, 2007)**, was recently discussed in the *Boston Globe*. The paper originally appeared in *Sociological Spectrum*, May/June, 2011.

**Brad Wright** was interviewed about his book, *Christians are Hate-Filled Hypocrites. . . And Other Lies That You've Been Told: A Sociologist Shatters Myths From the Secular and Christian Media*. for the Al Kestra show, which is broadcast on 160 stations and Sirius Satellite Radio.



## **JEREMY PAIS JOINS THE DEPARTMENT**



Although everyone's budget was tight this year, we were very fortunate to have been given authorization to launch a search for a tenure track position. The Department is delighted to introduce Prof. Jeremy Pais, who is joining us as our newest Assistant Professor. Jeremy comes to the department as a recent doctoral graduate from the State University of New York at Albany. Jeremy's broad areas of interest are racial and ethnic stratification, urban sociology, and social demography. Within these broad areas of research, Jeremy has several ongoing projects. His dissertation studied the effects of immigration and increasing ethnic diversity on people's career trajectories. This work was supported by the *National Science Foundation* and has received the *University at Albany's Distinguished Dissertation Award*. He finds that increasing levels of immigration have a posi-

tive effect on the career choices of young native-born adults, but these positive effects are off-set over the long-run because job competition among natives is greater in these immigrant concentrated areas. Jeremy plans to extend this line of work by examining how changing labor market conditions affect different cohorts of young adults as they transition into adulthood.

Another strand of Jeremy's research focuses on neighborhood inequalities and the process of residential mobility that is responsible for maintaining these inequalities. In several forthcoming articles, Jeremy employs multilevel modeling techniques to study the effects of macro-level social, economic, and ecological structures on the ability of individuals to attain housing in neighborhoods of different racial, eth-

nic, and socioeconomic composition. In the near future, he hopes to advance this research by studying the legacy effects of residential segregation on the intergenerational transmission of neighborhood poverty. He is also currently involved in a collaborative project using latent class growth analysis to assess the risk of exposure to neighborhood pollution over the life course among different racial and ethnic groups.

Jeremy and his family plan on moving to the area later this summer.

***Welcome to the  
Department,  
the University,  
and the community,  
Jeremy!***

## AROUND THE DISCIPLINE

**Nancy Naples** has been elected President of the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), 2012-2013. Congratulations!



**Mary Bernstein** has been appointed a Deputy Editor of *Gender & Society* 2011-2014.



**Nancy Naples** is serving as an Editorial Board Member of *Black Women, Gender & Families*; *Journal of Progressive Human Services*; and *Journal of Poverty: Innovations on social, Political & Economic Inequalities*.



**Claudio Benzecry** is a member of the Editorial Board of *Qualitative Sociology* and Associate Editor of *Apuntes de Investigación del CECYP*.

**Bandana Purkayastha** is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of South Asian Diaspora*.

**Bandana Purkayastha** is the Vice President, Research Committee 01 of the International Sociological Association, and the Secretary/Treasurer, Research Committee 32 of the International Sociological Association.

**Manisha Desai** is a member of the Editorial Collective of *Societies Without Borders*; *International Feminist Journal of Politics*; *Gender Section of Sociology Compass*; and *Black Women, Gender, and Families*.

**Mary Bernstein** is the Chair of the American Sociological Section on Sexualities. She is also the Secretary Treasurer of the ASA Section on Collective Behavior.



## AROUND UCONN

**Bandana Purkayastha** was appointed to the Provost's Commission on Diversity. She will serve on this committee until 2013.

**Maya Beasley** was appointed to serve on the University Search Committee for the Directorship of the Dodd Center.



**Davita Silfen Glasberg** was the Chair of the Truman National Scholarship Committee, which produced a winner of this national award this year.



**COMINGS AND GOINGS: LIFE EVENTS AND DEPARTMENTAL CHANGES**

**Davita Silfen Glasberg** will step down as Department Head on June 30, 2011 after serving in that role for 6 years. She has been appointed Associate Dean of Social Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In addition to overseeing the eight social science departments

(Anthropology, Communication Sciences, Economics, Human Development and Family Studies, Political Science, Public Policy, Sociology, and Women’s Studies), she will oversee Undergraduate Programs for the full College.

**Bandana Purkayastha** has been appointed to serve as Interim Department Head while a full internal search is conducted for a permanent Department Head.

**NEW FACULTY ARRIVALS, TENURE, AND PROMOTIONS**

**Jeremy Pais** will join the faculty in August, 2011 as Assistant Professor.

**Deric Shannon (PhD 2011)** will join the faculty as an Assistant Professor in Residence.



**Kim Price-Glynn** was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

**Mary Bernstein** was promoted to Full Professor.



**Nancy Naples** was appointed Director of Women’s Studies.

**WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT!**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## RETIREMENTS

### CLINT SANDERS

*Clint and Eleanor Lyon will be moving to Idaho to enjoy their retirement in their lovely new mountain-top home. We wish them the very best in the years ahead, and hope they'll welcome us to come and visit them and take in the breath-taking view from their deck!*

### BOB BROADHEAD

*Bob and Kathleen have returned to their home in Utah for Bob's retirement. We wish them luck and hope Bob has sunny days ahead to ride his motorcycle unencumbered by rain or snow!*

## OBITUARY

### ARTHUR ("WOODY") L. WOOD, PROFESSOR

*Arthur was a Professor of Sociology at UConn for many years, retiring in 1976 as a Professor Emeritus. He was 98 when he passed away on March 21, 2011 in Hanover, NH. He is survived by his wife Heidi.*

## GRADUATIONS

### COMPLETED MAS

Trisha Tiamzon  
Chris Donnelly  
Barret Katuna  
Alex Thompson



### COMPLETED DOCTORATES

Natalie Peluso  
Maura Kelly  
Gordon Gauchat  
Mary Burke  
Jungyun Gill  
Deric Shannon

## NEW JOBS, NEW PLACES

**Tom Hochschild** has accepted a tenure track Assistant Professor position at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, GA.

**Jungyun Gill** accepted a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Mountain State University in West Virginia.

**Mary Burke** has accepted a joint appointment lecturer position in the Sociology Department and Women's and Gender Studies Program at the University of Vermont.

**Deric Shannon** has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in Residence in the Sociology Department at UConn.

**Alex Thompson (MA, 2011)** is joining the doctorate program at the University of Colorado at Boulder.







We are most fortunate this year to have a very strong incoming class to our Graduate Program. They are an impressive group, and we all look forward to working with them. Please give a warm welcome to the incoming 2011 Graduate Cohort:

**Brenna Harvey** graduated summa cum laude with a double major in English and Sociology from the University of Connecticut. She was on the Dean's list and received the Janet M. Fierberg Scholarship Fund award for excellence in Sociology. She was also involved in Violence Against Women Prevention programs for several years. Brenna is particularly interested in focusing on gender, activism, and negotiations of transnational identities.

**Ruth Hernandez** is completing her Masters in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Connecticut. Since she has already taken three courses in Sociology, she is well-known to many students and faculty. She has worked on projects relating to deportation of migrants and Mexican restaurant workers. She is interested in continuing her research interests in contemporary Mexican migration, especially Mexican farm workers in the Northeast. Ruth holds a UCONN Multicul-

## 2011 INCOMING GRADUATE PROGRAM COHORT

**Erika Lorenzana Del Villar** graduated with a Masters degree in International Relations from NYU where she examined the ethical implications of the doctrine of pre-emptive strikes as a means to prevent terrorism. Her earlier degrees are from Manila, where she received several awards for her achievements. She also worked for the World Bank for three years where she gained practical knowledge about global policy-making processes. She remains dissatisfied with the answers (on combating terrorism) that she was able to generate through her earlier research, and hopes to pursue answers through a deeper engagement with political sociology and social movements.

**Roseanne Njiru** obtained an MA from the University of Nairobi. She won several awards including a Japanese SASAKAWA young leaders fellowship for her academic career. She has worked extensively with the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights in Kenya. She has trained at the African Gender Institute in Cape Town. She has a series of publications and research reports on HIV AIDs and sexual health, and, more recently on child labor and children's human rights. She is interested in gender, race, feminist theories, and development.

**Derek Samson** graduated with a Masters degree in Sociology from the New School for Social Research, in 2010. Originally an economist, he worked with Professor Vera Zolberg to gain an understanding of Marxian based theories of base-superstructure and the impact

of these structures on art in society and collective memory. He has written an ethnographic account of the culture of luxury goods consumption in New York city. Derek is interested in "contemporary urban planning philosophies of New Urbanism and its UK counterpart, Urban Renaissance, and how these philosophies relate to socio-economic class identities, mobility and stratification."

**Kamryn Warren** is a McNair fellow with research experience and a publication on the policies and practicalities surrounding the resettlement of refugees in the United States. She has also been involved in developing A Women's Studies Initiative at Middle Tennessee State University. She hopes to conduct research in the Mae-La refugee camp on the Thai-Myanmar border this summer. Kamryn has been awarded a UCONN Multicultural Fellowship for her studies in our program.

**Abbey Willis** is returning to UCONN: she earned a Women's Studies graduate certificate here before she moved to Syracuse University. A former New England scholar, Abbey is interested in gender, identity and the ways in which these intersect with class, race, ability, nation of origin, and age. She has been conducting ethnographic research on radical queer identities. She intends to pursue her interests in political sociology and gender during her years in our program.

**Farhan Yousaf** is a Fulbright scholar from Pakistan. He earned his MA and an M.Phil from Punjab University in Lahore. He is an Assistant Professor in Sociology at the International Islamic University in Islamabad. He was awarded an ILO fellowship to represent Pakistan on a gender budgeting meeting in Italy, and is a UNDP certified Master trainer on gender equity issues. While he has publications on the subject of human trafficking, he intends to pursue his interest in 'Human Trafficking in Pakistan: Gender and Rights perspectives' further.

**Adana Zawdu Gebyanesh** is a Fulbright scholar from Israel. He earned his Masters degree in Sociology from the Tel-Aviv University. His research includes He has a forthcoming publication "Between Global Racial Justice and Bundled Identity: Choice of de-stigmatization among Ethiopian Jews in Israel, in Ethnic and Racial Studies, with his advisor Dr. Nissim Mizrachi. And is a guest editor on a forthcoming publication on Israeli society from the perspective of Ethiopian Jews. He is interested in focusing on Racism and Ethnicity, Sociology of Culture, and Identity theories.

**Welcome to UConn  
and to the Sociology  
Department!**



The Department was well-represented at the SWS Winter Meeting in San Antonio, TX. On the stairs, from top to bottom: Nya Stevens, Mary Bernstein, Chandra Waring, Gaye Tuchman, Lwendo Moonzwe. In front, from left to right: Miho Iwata, Barret Katuna, Trisha Tiamzon, Gretchen Marin, Bandana Purkayastha.

## MARRIAGES, CIVIL UNIONS, AND COMMITMENT CEREMONIES



*David Weakliem  
was married on  
December 31, 2010.*

## NEW FAMILY ADDITIONS



Madelyn Judith Butler Sweet, born May 26, 2011. to Tony and **Colleen Butler-Sweet**. Maddy came into the world with a loud and healthy cry weighing 6 lbs 9 ounces. Welcome to the Sweet life!



Azalea Gray Deener, born June, 2010 to Alana and **Andrew Deener**. Welcome to the world, Azalea!



Archer ("Archie") John Fullerton, born November 1, 2010 to **Andrew Fullerton (PhD 2007)** and **Kirsten Hoffman Fullerton (MA Survey Research 2004)** (check out that one-sie!)



Gianna Lee Wisnesky was born on May 14, 2011 to **Annie Scola Wisnesky** and her husband. Welcome to the department's newest next-generation cohort!



## ***SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT EXPERIENCES AN UNPRECEDENTED BABY BOOM!***



Seven new members of our departmental family, all due anytime from May to September! From left to right: Latisha Nielsen, Annie Scola Wisneksy, Jayme Schwartzman Amarone, Christina Coldsmith, Jeremiah Coldsmith, Travis Lowe, Rachel Leventhal-Weiner, and Sadie Leventhal-Weiner. Missing from photo: Colleen Butler-Sweet and Victoria Lowe.



AND NOW THE SIDE VIEW! Travis is still with us here, just hidden by a glowing Rachel Leventhal-Weiner!



# THANK YOU!



This has clearly been a productive year for the department, in spite of the challenges we all faced in a rough economy. Of course, none of our accomplishments could have been achieved without the incredible collegial commitment and leadership of faculty and the tremendous administrative support we have from our talented, highly professional, and indispensable staff.

**Davita Silfen Glasberg** is stepping down as Department Head after leading the department for six years to move into the position of CLAS Associate Dean of Social Sciences. **Bandana Purkayastha** has been appointed Interim Department Head and will step down as Director of Graduate Studies. As of this moment, the Department's Executive Committee is still working with Bandana to appoint her replacement as Director of Graduate Studies. Bandana has done a superb job as DGS, and we trust that her replacement will continue the department's growth in the caliber and diversity of the graduate program.

**Kay Ratcliff** has done a masterful job as Associate Head and Scheduler. This is a monstrous job, requiring the juggling of multiple schedules, faculty interests and skills, graduate student teaching abilities and schedules, and room availabilities. Scheduling requires an ability to keep track of many moving pieces that simultaneously shift right up until the day preregistration begins—and often thereafter! Kay has been unflappable in creating a carefully developed schedule for the department. She has been invaluable.

**David Weakliem** has served as the Director of Undergraduate Studies, and has been a steady and important factor in maintaining the undergraduate curriculum during a very challenging budgetary year. He has worked with Bandana, Kay, and Davita on the Planning Committee to ensure a full and diverse program, serving the needs of not only our undergraduate majors and minors, but of the entire university in our offerings of Gen Ed and W seats. While there are never enough seats for everyone who wants them, we have done a very good job of providing the most we possibly can with the resources we have. Thanks so much to David, Kay, and Bandana for pulling off this Herculean task!

**Arlene Goodwin** has remained consistently invaluable, as always. Without her, we would easily overspend our budget. Because of her careful, eagle eye we have avoided any number of crises yet remained able to afford all of our major expenditures. In addition, this year she helped us revamp our search process by uploading an RSA site with all our submission materials, including tapes of the job talks candidates gave, allowing everyone to access the files from anywhere in the world. This was a huge job for Arlene, making her job more challenging while making everyone else's job easier. We cannot thank her enough! She processed some last-minute hires in both Fall and Spring, and managed budget rescissions which intensified department needs. We realize these rescissions make things tougher for everyone, and Arlene has done a masterful job of minimizing the pain and maximizing our budgetary security. And even as we're writing this annual newsletter, she is busy compiling our individual annual reports into a single document, no small feat by any means. Thank you, Arlene, for being the gifted rock of this department!

**Kathy Covey** continues to be the central nervous system of the Undergraduate and Graduate Programs. She is the front lines of admitting new majors, securing plans of study, organizing the administration of the graduate program, and administering the admissions process. This year she helped Bandana complete the huge task of reorganizing our numerous file systems of graduate information into a single data base, which has made everyone's job so much easier in the graduate program and on the Planning Committee. Thank you, Kathy, for your incredible attention to detail and your good cheer when all else looked grim!

**Chelsea Martin** was our student worker this year, without whom we would have been lost. Because of her wonderful commitment to working for us we were never left without access to the copy room or mail room. She has been a fabulous addition to our administrative staff in the front office. Thank you so much, Chelsea!

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer, especially after the extraordinarily wild winter we have had (even for us snow-lovers). The Fall will be here before we know it!