



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

NUSociology



Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg
College of Arts and Sciences

A Newsletter from the Department of Sociology

Volume 12, 2001-2002

The Chair's Page ... garbage cans and the social psychology of procrastination By Carol Heimer

A chair's work is never done. But we sociologists know that we can't construct any kind of sensible explanation without some variability to work with. To have any hope of saying why it's hard to get all of the work done, then, we'd need some differences to examine — some people who manage to get administrative chores (or grading, or article revisions) done without any wasted motion even as the rest of us struggle, some kinds of work that seem easier to complete than others. And although I really value those efficient colleagues, I confess that my real interest here is in why some tasks are so much harder to get done than others.

Michael Cohen, Jim March, and Johan Olsen gave us the guts of the explanation (*Administrative Science Quarterly* in 1972), although procrastination was not what they were trying to explain. Arguing that organizations don't in fact make decisions "rationally," they offered the garbage can model as an alternative. We like to think that we're continually on the lookout for important problems. We'd also like to believe that once problems have been identified, we carefully analyze them, review the conceivable solutions, and make a decision about the best course of action given resource constraints. A pretty and very widely used story, but not really what we do.

When pressed, though, we can all identify really crucial problems that we all know about but can't seem to get around to solving. That's part of organizations' "dirty laundry" — we're ashamed that we haven't made much progress on those problems, particularly when people who are weaker or poorer are hurt by these failures. Oddly, there are also some solutions that somehow haven't "taken" — the class someone has always wanted to teach that never fit into the curriculum, the fancy piece of equipment that isn't much used, the really elegant fragment of a paper that was cut because there wasn't room. We also know, though we'd often prefer to forget it, that departmental decision making is affected by who happens to be around on any given day. Undergraduates know that some faculty are more sympathetic than others to petitions for exceptions to the rules about the major. Graduate students worry about whether their sponsors will be present when decisions are being made about nominations for prestigious fellowships. Finally, we tend not to make decisions at just any old time, but instead when decisions *need* to be made — because of administrative deadlines, because some unexpected opportunity arises. No reason we couldn't make decisions at other times, but we don't.

If we think of these four elements of decisions as being to some degree independent of each other, then, what decision gets made depends on how those separate elements come together at

any given time. It's not random — there are some "solutions" (such as giving everyone the same grade or salary) that are just not going to be in the mix. But neither is the process a neat progression from problem to solution or an optimal pairing of problem and solution that is so perfect that it would occur under any circumstances. This is a "garbage can" approach, then, because what decision gets made depends on what elements happen to be in the garbage can at any given time.

So what does this have to do with procrastination? My hunch is that there are more problems than solutions in many of our personal garbage cans. The chores that seem easy are the ones where we know what to do. If the match is too neat, too obvious, matching problems with solutions can be boring, so a little bit of challenge is probably a good thing. But when we are coming up for air after finishing one piece of work, we don't tend to turn to the most important thing on the list (in my personal queue it's a long overdue article revision) — instead, needing to "get something done," we turn to tasks that we know we can complete, and these are ones for which possible solutions are already available. When we can take solutions off the shelf (or out of the garbage can), tinker with them a bit and pass them off as good matches for acknowledged problems, then procrastination will go down. I think we already knew that it's harder to get chores done when they require contributions from more people. And we knew that deadlines do seem to motivate us to get things done. But when we move the garbage can approach from organizational sociology to the realm of social psychology, these disparate observations suddenly fit together. The part that sings to me, though, is the point about needing some solutions in my personal garbage can. But maybe that's because by the end of the year I've already had enough of convening work groups, outlining problems, and facing deadlines.

So that's the news from Northwestern Sociology where there are at least an average number of problems, more than enough deadlines, ample ways to bring co-workers together, and where we're working on increasing our stock of compelling, well-formulated solutions. In the meantime, I hope you'll appreciate our capacity to produce rationalizations for procrastination. And, yes, this piece is a "solution" that can be matched with the newsletter essay "problem."

NUSociology is published annually by
Northwestern University's Department of Sociology.
Chair: Carol Heimer
Assistant Chair: Susan Thistle
Editors: Department Staff

Department Welcomes New Faculty

2



Juan Onésimo Sandoval (PhD University of California, Berkeley, 2002) will join the Department this fall as an assistant professor. He will also serve as a faculty fellow with Northwestern's Transportation Center. Sandoval's areas of interest include spatial demography and urban spatial modeling; applied research methods; urban sociology; urban poverty and social welfare; and urban transportation policy and social differentiation.

Sandoval's primary research investigates how welfare recipients are faring after the 1996 welfare-to-work law. He examines the importance of transportation policy variables, human, social, and cultural capital variables, neighborhood variables, and job access variables in explaining the ability of some individuals to find gainful full-time employment.

Sandoval is committed to working with impoverished communities to attract private and non-profit capital for affordable housing and economic development. This effort focuses on planning at the neighborhood level to address social equity by engaging the private market and government sector in an integrated community development approach that goes beyond fragmented development.

... other new faculty

We are also very excited about several other new colleagues who will be joining our teaching faculty in 2003-04. **Carolyn Chen** (PhD, Berkeley), who is jointly appointed in Sociology and Asian American Studies, plans to spend next year as a postdoctoral fellow at Princeton. **Devah Pager** (PhD, Wisconsin) will be spending the intervening year as a Fulbright fellow in Paris. And **Celeste Watkins** (PhD, Harvard) will take her postdoctoral year here at Northwestern before beginning to teach in both Sociology and African American Studies.

... welcome visiting professors

Clifford Doerksen (PhD History, Princeton University) was born in 1963 in the sub-arctic hamlet of Peace River, Alberta (latitude 56° north, longitude 117° west), where his dad was stationed as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. His childhood and youth were distributed widely across the map, with stops in Edmonton, Calgary, a small town in the Annapolis Valley region of Nova Scotia, and Winnipeg.

Cliff did his graduate work in history at Princeton University. His doctoral dissertation, a cultural history of American radio broadcasting in the 1920s, is scheduled for publication with the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2003. In the meantime, he has been re-writing bits and pieces of it for popular consumption and selling them as feature articles to *The Chicago Reader*. His recreational pleasures include cooking (with meat), baking (bread, pies, pizza) and motorcycling (Hondas).

Cliff is very much looking forward to giving the Sociology of Communications course this Fall at Northwestern.

Doug Hostetter (MA Sociology, New School for Social Research) has worked for nonviolent alternatives to war and oppression since the middle of the Vietnam War, when he did his alternative service with students and refugees in the war zone in Tam Ky, Vietnam.

In 2001, Doug moved with his family to Evanston, where he is now Chair of the Evanston Mennonite Peace and Social Concerns Committee, serves on the board of Help the Afghan Children, Inc., and is Director of the US Campaign.

Last October, as American bombs were falling on Taliban front lines a few miles away, Doug traveled to Northeast

Afghanistan to deliver 239 tons of food and blankets to over 5,000 Afghan families in refugee camps at Takhar Province. This is a quote from an email back to his wife: "Crossing the river into northeastern Afghanistan felt like stepping into the 12th century. There were no paved roads, no phone service, no water, no sewage or electrical service. The primary mode of transportation was the donkey. Alongside the impoverished civilian population living in a pre-industrial state were 1,300 international journalists with satellite phones and video feeds to New York, London, Tokyo, Paris, Madrid, and Berlin. They were interested not in the surrounding poverty but in the post-modern American war being waged a few miles away, where supersonic jets dropped laser-guided bombs directed to their targets by links to global positioning satellites. Our Afghan-American leader looked at the rising columns of smoke from the nearby explosion of 1,000-pound bombs and commented, "For the price of two B-52s, I could feed, clothe, and educate the entire population of Afghanistan for a year."

Doug will be teaching a professional linkage seminar this fall, titled War and N.G.O.s.

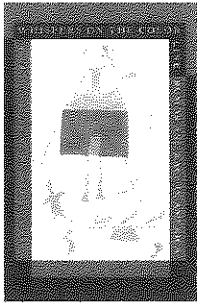
Maryjane Osa (PhD, Sociology, University of Chicago) is a political sociologist whose research interests include social movements, democratization, and Eastern Europe. Her book, *Solidarity and Contention: Networks of Polish Opposition*, will be published by the University of Minnesota Press in Spring 2003.

Osa is currently supervising an international research team investigating how farmers' groups act politically to affect the conditions under which Poland will join the European Union. Her research group is interviewing informants from one hundred influential organizations that shape agricultural policy in Poland. These include government agencies, interest groups, ecology activist organizations, professional and trade associations, unions, political parties and women's groups. Osa and her co-authors hope to publish a book based on this research when Poland becomes an EU member in 2004.

Maryjane has taught at the University of South Carolina and in the Social Sciences Collegiate division of the University of Chicago. One of her most popular courses is an interdisciplinary course she developed on Social Conflict in the 1960s. She is scheduled to teach this class during Winter Quarter 2003.

Continue Welcome on page 5

Sociology Bookshelf ... Faculty recently published books ...



Whispers on the Color Line Rumor and Race in America

**Gary Alan Fine and
Patricia A. Turner**

University of California Press 2001

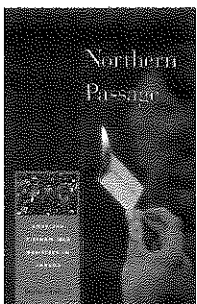
"Fine and Turner present a wonderful exploration into what our seemingly mundane rumor-sharing means for race in our society. Filled with examples that we all can recognize, and superbly written and argued, Whispers on the Color Line will be a classic in the study of race and culture." – Mary Pattillo.



Gifted Tongues High School Debate and Adolescent Culture

Gary Alan Fine
Princeton University Press 2001

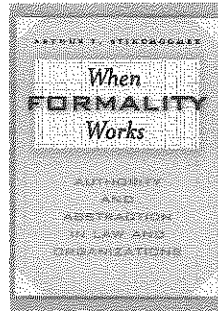
"Gifted Tongues offers a subtle, nuanced examination of a previously unstudied social world. It is well written, persuasively argued, and absolutely fascinating. This book will be of value to social psychologists, sociologists of culture, and to readers concerned about adolescence and education. There are also many debate coaches and legions of former debaters who, like myself, will find it interesting to discover what has happened to high school debate." – Joel Best, University of Delaware.



Northern Passage American Vietnam War Resisters in Canada

John Hagan
Harvard University Press 2001

"There is much to admire in Northern Passage. For starters, Hagan's account of the Vietnam-era migration of young Americans to Canada makes important and original contributions to the study of social movements, the life-course, and the role of law in social change processes. Then there is the exemplary blend of qualitative and quantitative methods that enriches the study. Finally, there is the story itself and the light it sheds on one of the most important and dynamic chapters in the long and complicated relationship between the U.S. and Canada." – Doug McAdam, Stanford University.



When Formality Works Authority and Abstraction in Law and Organizations

Arthur Stinchcombe
University of Chicago Press 2001

"Arthur Stinchcombe is one of the leading sociologists of his generation. When Formality Works is an extraordinary book that cuts across the grain of much contemporary sociology. It deeply illuminates how authoritative abstraction facilitates progress." – Mayer Zald, University of Michigan.

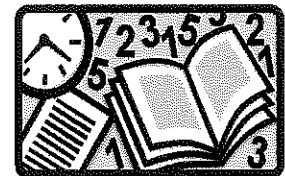
Several department faculty were section editors for the 17,500-page **International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences** (Neil Smelser and Paul Baltes editors), Pergamon Press 2001. **Paula England** edited the gender section, **Tom Cook** research methods, and **Wendy Griswold** cultural expression. Many faculty also wrote entries for the tome.

Hot new publication

Just out & coming soon

Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago by Eric Klinenberg, University of Chicago Press, July 2002.

Navigating Public Opinion: Polls, Policy, and the Future of American Democracy by Jeff Manza, Fay Lomax Cook, and Benjamin Page (eds.), Oxford University Press, due August 2002.



Books by affiliated faculty ...

Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare by Dorothy Roberts, Basic Books 2001. Professor Roberts' primary appointment is in the Law School.

Beyond College for All: Career Paths for the Forgotten Half by James Rosenbaum, Russell Sage Foundation 2002. Professor Rosenbaum's primary appointment is in the School of Education and Social Policy.

Last year brought Abkhazia just one major, though likely transient, improvement. The Russian authorities relaxed the border-crossing regime a bit, allowing males of combat age to travel into Abkhazia and back. Physically, traveling to Abkhazia today means walking the single bridge over the Psou River. Today this bottleneck is Abkhazia's only normal connection to the outside world. Otherwise one would have to scale the steep mountain ridges on foot or risk the perils of small boat navigation on the Black sea, avoiding the Russian and Georgian border guard patrols. In my case the fleeting window of opportunity that the Russian-Georgian politics opened in 2000 allowed a chance to revisit a research site and the pleasure to make good on the long-standing invitation from the family of friends in Abkhazia.

Accompanying us was Igor, a Russian anthropologist and now, given the growing official chauvinism in Russia, a public propagator of multiculturalism and interethnic toleration. Igor believes himself to be quite cowardly and lazy in daily life, but every time when the need arises he stands up and works tirelessly, sometimes at personal risk. In a memorable instance, when the two of us got detained at the Russian military police roadblock leaving Chechnya with a bagful of Chechen resistance videotapes and leaflets, Igor's decidedly harmless demeanor played a major role in convincing the suspicious sergeant of our purely scientific interests. After a very tense fifteen minutes, the sergeant was convinced that we were neither Chechen fighters nor journalists. Putting his gun on safety catch, he thanked us for the bottle of vodka that he "confiscated."

However crazy it might sound, I took my sons (then 10 and 12) on this trip as part of their vacation. It was an adventure--

crossing the Russian-Abkhazian border on foot, with a picturesque Armenian porter carrying our luggage on a squeaky cart. I sternly told the kids to be silent as we passed by the soldiers. Nonetheless, as the officer asked if we were carrying any weapons, Stepan, the outspoken younger one, asked: "Why, are you afraid of us?" The astonished officer smiled uneasily and uttered: "No, it's you who should be afraid of me."

On the Abkhazian side we were attacked by a horde of unshaven private taxi drivers, and ended up in a decrepit van (almost all cars in Abkhazia date back to the pre-1992 war Soviet times). In the back of this van we discovered a rather charming white goat, though in the end all our bags were covered with white wool and goat droppings. The life in general would have had the densely rustic quality that would be charming, too, had it not been for the bullet-poked and burnt houses every now and then and other signs of recent battles. And of course the mostly deserted beaches.

In the middle of our retreat, a journalist from the Moscow News tracked me down to get an expert interview on the Caucasus ethnic conflicts. But his first question was: "Wouldn't you rather go to Malibu or Bahamas than HERE?!" Well, I didn't tell him that an assistant professor couldn't afford to spend a week, let alone a whole month in the Bahamas. And, besides, where else in the world would we have what was formerly Nikita Khrushchev's beach almost entirely to ourselves?

As long as you stay in Abkhazia (I am speaking of adults, of course) you cannot rid yourself of the question--what evil struck here? It is not a philosophical question; it is as much on the minds of the people who have to live there. Which is where my sociology begins.



Welcome continued from page 2

A native Chicagoan, Professor Osa is happy and relieved to be back in the Midwest. She has fond memories of Northwestern: in the mid-1980s Osa and a group of her fellow University of Chicago graduate students participated in a Comparative Historical Methods course that was taught by Charles Ragin and John Walton, with Jack Goldstone sitting in, for good measure. "That was a dynamite class!"

Shobita Parthasarathy (PhD, Science and Technology Studies, Cornell) will be a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Sociology for two years starting this fall. She is coming to Northwestern as part of the Science in Human Culture program, a Northwestern initiative to encourage work in science and technology studies. Science and technology investigates both how history, society, and politics influence the production of knowledge and technology and, reciprocally, how knowledge and technology help to configure social and political order. In addition to helping to organize a seminar series in the Science in Human Culture program, Shobita will be teaching courses on Law and Society and Sociology of Medicine/Biotechnology and Globalization.

Shobita's dissertation compared the development of genetic testing for breast cancer in the United States and Britain. Her research interests focus on the sociology and politics of science, medicine, and technology, and specifically, the comparative and international sociology and politics of genetics and biotechnology. "I'm really looking forward to returning to the Chicagoland area," Shobita said. "I did my BA (1994) at the University of Chicago, and can't wait to get back to the city to enjoy the amazing skyline and the jogging paths along the lake!"

Bruce Carruthers received a grant from the Russell Sage Foundation to support his research on trust.

Thomas Cook was awarded a grant from the Office of Education in Washington, D.C.

Georgi Derluguian was named the Carnegie Scholar of Vision in 2001. He also received an honorable citation for the best article on historical macrosociology from the Institute of Civilizations Studies, Republic of North Ossetia-Alania.

Kathryn Edin received the following grants: W. T. Grant Foundation; Russell Sage Foundation; National Science Foundation; and MacArthur Foundation for two projects.

Gary Fine will be a Fellow at the Swedish Collegium of Advanced Study in the Social Sciences in Uppsala from January - June 2003. He also received a grant from the Searle Fund.

Wendy Griswold's book, *Bearing Witness: Readers, Writers, and the Novel in Nigeria*, was selected as one of *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Titles for their 2001 list. The list appeared in the January 2002 issue of *Choice Magazine*.

John Hagan was a Visiting Scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation for academic year 2001-2002. He also was awarded a National Science Foundation and an American Bar Foundation grant.

Carol Heimer received a grant from the American Bar Foundation.

Jeff Manza was awarded a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford,

and was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Charlie Moskos was a Lecturer for the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff last May. He was also named Public Policy Fellow: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and The Eisenhower Chair, Royal Military Academy Netherlands.

In addition, Moskos was the banquet speaker for the 45th class reunion of Princeton University class of 1956. His talk was titled: "Will the Silent Generation Speak Up?" His closing line was "... we are the last generation to remember when adultery was a sin and smoking wasn't." He was also given an Honorary Doctorate of Letters at Towson University January 2002.

Robert Nelson received the distinguished publication award of the American Sociological Association, 2001, for *Legalizing Gender Inequality: Courts, Markets, and Unequal pay for Women in American* co-authored with William P. Bridges. He also was awarded a grant from the American Bar Foundation.

Mary Patillo was awarded funds from the Chicago Community Trust.

Ann Orloff was elected the President for the Research Committee for the International Sociological Association during the years of 2001-2005.

Marika Lindholm (Visiting Lecturer) and **Charlie Moskos** received a membership to the 2002 Faculty Honor Roll with Northwestern University Associated Student Government Academic Committee.

A Wildcat Westie By Katie Konrath, Medill School of Journalism

College, it's that time in everyone's life when they are pushing toward adulthood, but are still a little intimidated by adults. Students inevitably miss home and are intermittently awestruck and terrified of professors who are older than they are, know more than they do, and have the power to make an indelible mark on that pesky transcript. But despite the unavoidable tension, the Sociology Department's Prof. Allan Schnaiberg is able to put a protégé at ease with the help of a 5-year-old West Highland Terrier named Sugar T. (The "T" standing for trouble). "Having her in the office lessens the authority gulf between me and my students," said Schnaiberg. "They even come in just to ask if they can play with Sugar. Seeing people interact with your dog can truly show you humanity at its best."

Originally reared as a show dog, Sugar suffered a leg injury at an early age that required surgery. With a wife working long days and a pooch needing to exercise her joints, Schnaiberg began bringing Sugar to work with him,



a practice not uncommon with other faculty members at NU. She currently visits the Sociology Department, unabashedly charming both students and staff who cross her path.

A first time dog owner, Schnaiberg notes a definite change in his interactions with people thanks to the Westie. "People relate to you in a whole different way. I get stopped all the time when I'm with Sugar, and I actually had a student who did field research with her for a sociology class."

Just as important as bringing a smile to a passerby's face, or assisting in a class project, is the impact that Sugar has on students whose families, including the furrier members, are miles away. "I think most college kids will admit that they miss their parents," Schnaiberg said, "but most of them will also admit that they miss their dogs too." Schnaiberg has taught at Northwestern for 35 years, and Sugar T. has used the past three to help him prove that professors are people, in addition to academicians.

Catherine Williamson Donovan (BA 1938) is 85 and living in a retirement community in Fort Worth, TX. Her two children live in Taos, New Mexico and Houston, TX.

Joanne M. Baird (B.S. 1940) served as a Girl Scout Director in Decatur, IL, and was trained to be a nurse at Wesley Memorial Hospital (now Northwestern).

Patricia Knudsen Hamister (B.S. 1944) has enjoyed working with children and young adults in various capacities and has continued to study, earning credits in education from several institutions. She is married to Ken, a fellow Navy veteran.

Charlotte Dingley (Solbrig) Quinn (B.S. 1950) received a diploma from Evanston Hospital School of Nursing September 2001. It was a five-year program resulting in a B.S. degree and an R.N. She had worked in gerontology for 25 years and retired September 1994. She married Reverend Howard R. Quinn in 2000.

Seymour Jack Adler (B.S. 1952; MA, University of Chicago 1958) is now semi-retired but works as the Coordinator of the Title V Comprehensive Strategy Project for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. He has been married to Barbara for 43 years; they have three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Joel Smith (PhD 1954) has published numerous articles and books and is continuing to work professionally part-time at Duke University. His wife, Barbara, is retired but continues to do private consulting, and their three children are successfully working in Pennsylvania, Lincoln Park, and North Carolina.

Barbara Levine Heyman (BA 1955) has worked in a variety of fields and currently serves on the Maryland Commission for Women, and the Marylanders Against Handgun Abuse. She is married to Austin Heyman.

Claire Whinery Bobinet (BA 1961) is currently working as a middle school secretary. She was married for 25 years to Louis G. Bobinet (deceased May 30, 1999) and has two children and four grandchildren.

Patricia H. Flynn (BA 1964) worked for 27 years as a high school guidance counselor and social studies teacher. She is enjoying retirement and spending her time as a hospice volunteer, swimming, golfing, and watercolor painting. She has been married for 35 years and has one son.

Tina Cotromanes (BA 1970; MA University of Arizona, Tucson 1972) is an administrative assistant at Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, CA; Arroyo Center, Army Research Division. She has one daughter.

Arthur Paris (PhD 1974) has been at Syracuse University since 1988, where he is currently the Undergraduate Program Director. He is doing research on race and the political economy in upstate New York cities.

Paul Zelus (PhD 1975) has been the director of the Center for Business Research in the College of Business at Idaho State University since 1986, focusing on regional demographic and economic issues.

Wim Wiewel (PhD 1984) is now the Dean of the College of Business Administration at University of Illinois-Chicago.

Barbara Jones Denison (PhD 1985) is the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Continuing Education at Lebanon College of Pennsylvania. She has developed and taught in the past few years a course on "Religion, Homosexuality, and Society" in the college's upper-level disciplinary perspectives requirement area.

Jennifer Friedman (PhD 1988) **Marixsa Alicea** (PhD 1989) have recently published a book titled *Surviving Heroin: Interviews with Women in Methadone Clinics* by University Press of Florida. Jennifer is an Associate Professor at the University of South Florida and has one young son. Marixsa an Associate Professor at DePaul University and has two beautiful nephews.

Yuval P. Yonay (PhD 1991) resides in Haifa, Israel. He is a Senior Lecturer, in

the Department of Sociology at the University of Haifa.

Jon Godin (MA 1994) was recently named Director of Analytical Services for Chadwick Martin Bailey, Inc., a market research and consulting firm in Boston.

Amy Olson Boettcher (BA 1995; MA University of Chicago 1996) owns County Market in Cambridge, MN, and was recently named "Master Marketer" by SuperValu Inc. She is married to Don Boettcher and has three daughters.

Gerald Lewis (BA 1996) was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force in June 2001 and is currently a member of the Washington D.C. Air National Guard (113th Fighter Wing) based at Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, MD.

Ira Silver (PhD 1998) is a visiting assistant professor of sociology at Wellesley College. He is married and has one child.

Correction: **Geoffrey Fox** (PhD 1975) received his BA from Harvard in 1963 not Northwestern.

Thanks to all alumni who share their professional and personal news. Please send news items to: NUSociology, 1810 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, IL 60208-1330, or sociol@northwestern.edu.

Alumni gifts received

The following alumni have recently made gifts to the Department of Sociology: **Rebecca J. Bailey, William G. Bittler, Lisa M. Blonigen, Richard Chrisman, Floraine S. Dumez, Alissa Dawn Eischens, Carl M. Frisen, James F. Foerster, and Joan Vitek Hiller.** Their generous gift helped support excellence in teaching and research. We thank them for thinking of us.

A special thanks to the Estate of **Melvin Mendelsohn.**

In Memoriam ... **Melissa Doi** (BA 1991) lost her life on September 11, 2001, in the attack on the World Trade Center in New York. Melissa had worked for IQ Financial Systems, on the 83rd floor of the North Tower, for four years, often traveling abroad. She lived with her mother, Evelyn Alderete, in the Bronx. They were to have left for a vacation in Italy September 14. **Geraldine B. Reisman** (PhD) passed away on July 28, 2000 of a malignant lymphoma.

2001/2002 Colloquia speakers address wide range of topics

Our brown bag Colloquia Series is well known around the country for its distinguished speakers.

Andrew Abbott, University of Chicago, "The Idea of Outcome."

Javier Auyero, SUNY Stony Brook, "Lives on the Argentine Barricades: On the intersection of Individual Biography, Collective History, and Popular Protest."

Ingrid Banks, Virginia Tech, "Grounding Race and Gender in Hair Narratives: African American Women and Identity Politics."

Pamela Bennett, University of Michigan, "Racial Differences in College Attendance: The Role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the Production of Blacks' Net Advantage."

Michael Bittman, University of New South Wales, "Social Change and Foundations of Well-being—23 Years of Evidence from Time-Diaries."

Carolyn Chen, University of California, Berkley, "From Tradition to Choice: Taiwanese Immigrants Becoming Buddhist in America."

Ronit Dinovitzer, American Bar Foundation, "Social Capital in an Ethnic Enclave: The Persistence of Social Ties Among Montreal Jewish Lawyers."

Rhonda E. Dugan and **R. Stephen Warner**, University of Illinois at Chicago, "Catholicism is to Islam as Velcro is to Teflon: Religion and Ethnic Culture Among Second Generation Latina and Muslim Women College Students."

Christina Gibson, Princeton University, "High Hopes, but Even Higher Expectations: The Retreat from Marriage Among Low-Income Couples."

Fredrick Harris, University of Rochester, "It Takes a Tragedy to Arouse Them: Collective Memory and Collective Action During the Civil Rights Movement."

Melissa R. Herman, Northwestern University, "Forced to Choose: The Effects of Multi-Racial Status on Identity Development in Adolescents."

John H. Laub, University of Maryland, "Understanding Long-Term Trajectories of Criminal Offending."

Mara Loveman, University of California, Los Angeles, "National Portraits as Racial Portraits: Race, Official Statistics, and the Making of Modern Nation-States in Latin America."

Garvey Lundy, University of Pennsylvania, "Exploring Cultural Markers of Social Identity among Black Students at Selective Universities."

Michael Herron, Northwestern University, "Black Candidates and Black Voters: Assessing the Impact of Candidate Ethnicity on Residual Vote Rates."

Paul M Hirsch, Northwestern University, "Subversive Adoption: The Czechs' Strategic Approach to Dependency and Diffusion."

James Mahoney, University of Wisconsin, "Path Dependence, Historical Lock-In and the Legacy of Colonialism in Spanish America."

Leslie McCall, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, "Complex Inequality: Gender, Class and Race in the New Economy."

Charles Moskos, Northwestern University, "A Sociological Conversation about the Events of September 11th."

Jason Owen-Smith, Stanford University, "From Separate Systems to a Hybrid Order."

Devah Pager, University of Wisconsin, "The Mark of a Criminal Record."

Rhacel Parrenas, University of Wisconsin, Madison, "The Care Crisis in the Philippines: Children and Migrant Families in the New Global Economy."

Liana Sayer, University of Pennsylvania, "It's About Time: Gender, Time Use & Inequality."

Pam Smock, University of Michigan, "Reflections on Demographic Inquiry into the U.S. Family."

Mitchell Stevens, Hamilton College, "Managing Privilege in College Admissions."

John Torpey, University of British Columbia, "We Are All Germans Now: Reparations Politics in the 21st Century."

Pamela B. Walters, Indiana University, "Citizenship and Social Right: The Case of Public Education in the American North and South."

Celeste Watkins, Harvard University, "The Incomplete Revolution: Constraints on Reform in Welfare Bureaucracies."

Edward Zajac, Northwestern University, "The Social Construction of Financial Markets: Theory and Evidence from Stock Buybacks."

From dot.coms to love, Sociology Salon topics stimulate discussions

Two or three times each quarter, Department members gather over lunch to carry on the salon tradition of intellectual talk. Typically the discussion revolves around a book or other reading selected by one or more Department members, who then open the discussion with their wise and witty comments. A special salon this year featured a discussion with Tom Herman, brother of visiting assistant professor Melissa Herman. Tom Herman is a survivor of the dot.com boom and bust – his company's story is told in the documentary *Startup.com* (in theaters last year and now available on video). Other discussion topics included:

Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America, by Barbara Ehrenreich;

The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order, by Samuel Huntington;

Two readings on the protection of human subjects and Institutional Review Boards;

Talk of Love: How Culture Matters, by Ann Swidler;

The Mystery of Capital, by Hernando de Soto; and

The World is a Ghetto: Race and Democracy Since World War II, by Howard Winant.

Winch Memorial Award

The 2000-2001 Robert F. Winch Memorial Awards, honoring outstanding graduate student scholarship and teaching, were presented at the Annual Department Gathering held in September. **Laura Ariovich** and **Steve Hoffman** shared the award for Outstanding Second-Year Paper for "Institutions, Politics, and Fiscal Adjustment in Brazil and Mexico" and "Measuring Phantoms: Dimensions of Status and Stratification in a Youth Boxing Program," respectively. **Michael Sauder** received the Outstanding Presented or Published Paper award for "Rethinking an Old Concept: An Interactionist Approach to Status," presented at the Midwest Sociological Society meetings in St. Louis in April 2001. **Kathryn Linnenberg** and **Minna Bromberg** shared the Outstanding Graduate Student Lecturer award and **Robert Bruce Clayton** and **Kathryn Linnenberg** shared the Outstanding Teaching Assistant award. **Suzanne Hansford-Bowles** received an honorable mention for her outstanding work as a teaching assistant.

Karpf Peace Prize

William David Stevens was the recipient of the 2002 Karpf Peace Prize. His dissertation addresses the issues of peace, tolerance, and understanding which the Karpf prize is intended to support. Stevens is looking at how religious institutions influence the social assimilation of new immigrants to the U.S., with research focusing on the membership of a Ghanaian Pentecostal Church, founded in the U.S. by immigrants from Ghana.

Exum Award

The Exum Award recognizes outstanding undergraduate papers from all disciplines that deal with issues of race or ethnicity. This year's First Place winner was **Paul Xenakis**, for "Overcoming Exclusion: the Chicago Battle against Restrictive Covenants." Honorable Mentions were awarded to **Kristi Robles**, for "Snow Falls in Brazil: A Socio-Linguistic Examination of Race and Language in Salvador, Brazil," and **Nancy Valeria Randall**, for "Becoming Black: Racial Consciousness and Higher Education in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil."

Catching up on Grad Placement

Algernon Austin, assistant professor, Wesleyan University
Lisa Amoroso, assistant professor, Beloit College
David Boden, assistant professor, Lake Forest College
Regina Deil-Amen, assistant professor, Pennsylvania State University
Brian Donovan, assistant professor, University of Kansas
Philip Howard, assistant professor, University of Washington, Seattle
Kathleen Hull, assistant professor, University of Minnesota
Rodney Lacey, assistant professor, University of Florida
Pei-Chia Lan, assistant professor, National Taiwan University
Shayne Lee, assistant professor, University of Houston
Michael Sacks, assistant professor, Emory University
Xiaoli Yin, assistant professor, Purdue University

Department of Sociology
Northwestern University
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
1810 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60208-1330

If man had to prove for himself all the truths of which he makes use every day, he would never come to an end of it. He would wear himself out proving preliminary points and make no progress. Since life is too short for such a course and human faculties are too limited, man has to accept as certain a whole heap of facts and opinions which he has neither leisure nor power to examine and verify for himself... On that foundation he then builds the house of his own thoughts.

Alexis de Tocqueville,
Democracy in America (1840).

Check out the new Web portal with a homepage tailored for Northwestern alumni at www.nualumni.com