



UWSP

Department of Sociology Newsletter

Editor: Sarah Siegel

Message From The Department Chair, Robert B. Enright Jr.

Greetings from the Department of Sociology! Last year at this time, we celebrated 50 years of Sociology at UWSP. The theme of our celebration was *Building Minds and Communities*. We were joined for this occasion at a banquet at the Sky Club by emeritus faculty, alumni, administrators, and guests from the Stevens Point community of social service professionals. We used this event to recognize our long and ongoing relationships with our local communities. The keynote address was given by Karl Pnazek, Director of CAP Services. We also were treated to presentations by Judy Bablitch, Director of Portage County Health and Human Services, and Janet Zander (one of our alumna), Director of the Portage County Department of Aging and Disability Services.



Together we celebrated our past, took stock of the present, and looked to our future serving both our students and our community. We also inducted 23 new members into Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society, and awarded Gordon Shipman scholarships to Kelly Kielblock, Danielle Langbecker, and Lynette Larsen and a George Dixon Scholarship to Krista Knupp.

Last year two members of our faculty were recognized with awards at the college or university level: Professor Amy Boelk was the 2005 recipient of the University Excellence in Teaching Award. This marks the second consecutive year a member of our department has received this award, and it brings to seven, the count of members of our department who have received a university teaching award of this type. Also last year, Professor Robert Wolensky was honored with the Eugene A. Katz Distinguished Faculty Award, the highest honor bestowed upon a faculty member by the Academy of Letters and Science.

Two of our faculty, Professor Dorothy De Boer and Professor Kathy Lamb, completed their doctorates in Sociology, and Professor Amy Boelk is now on her way to her Ph.D. in Social Work.

This academic year (2005-2006) has been an active time for us. During the summer we completed the writing of our program review. This gave us a good opportunity to reflect on our strengths and identify ways to strengthen our programs.

We also continued our work on the development of a Social Work major. We have designed the curriculum for the new major, and written a solid Authorization to Implement a Major in Social Work. While there is still work to be done, we have taken significant steps in this process, and look forward to continued success in this endeavor. We'll keep you posted.

This year the Department of Sociology created the Telephone Survey Center. We now have our own call center in the Collins Classroom Center. Professor Gary Itzkowitz and the Community Research Center have already completed the data gathering for the first project using the TSC. The center will serve our community (the first project was conducted for the Stevens Point School District) and it will give students experience in telephone survey research.

Keep us in mind as events occur in your life, or just to say hello. We always enjoy hearing from alumni, emeriti, and friends.

Visit the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point

Sociology Department Web Page at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/sociology/>



Faculty/Staff Spotlight—Dorothy De Boer *(Written by Amy Boelk)*



Dorothy De Boer, who was recently granted tenure and the rank of associate professor, has been at UWSP since 1999. She recently completed her Ph.D. in Sociology through Southern Illinois University at Carbondale with her dissertation title being “The Good Mother: An Examination of Stigma and Social Identity of Mothers of Adult Mentally Ill Children.” With her qualitative research orientation, Professor De Boer’s work has focused on issues of social psychology, social identity, mental health, crime, and deviance. She has done numerous presentations at local, state, and national conferences and has written a number of papers related to these topics. Professor De Boer mainly teaches Introduction to Sociology, Criminology, and Juvenile Delinquency for the Department. She is committed to further developing the criminology curriculum and would particularly like to see victimology courses offered in the future. She has a special interest in service learning and has incorporated it into her courses. She has also written papers and conducted professional presentations on the subject. Professor De Boer is clearly student-focused. She enjoys working with students on research projects and independent studies and is currently working with three students in this capacity. She is the faculty advisor for the Sociology Club, Thompson Hall, and Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society. She is also a Freshmen Interest Group Instructor for Sociology 101 and the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship Program Faculty Representative. Professor De Boer is also active in the community, serving as a board member for the Stevens Point Children’s Service Society, editor and contributing author of the Portage and Wood County National Alliance of the Mentally Ill Newsletter, and a mentor for the Portage County Health and Human Services Mentoring Program. Prior to coming to UWSP, Professor De Boer spent time at both Northern Michigan University and Mankato State University where she taught and earned her B.S. and M.A. in Sociology, respectively. Her applied experience includes serving as assistant director of a group home for adolescents with behavioral issues. She is originally from Holland, Michigan. Professor De Boer resides in Stevens Point with her husband Zach and two children, Samantha and Ian.

DEPARTMENT’S NOMINEES FOR UNIVERSITY AWARDS

The Department's Nominees for the University Awards were Kathy Lamb for Excellence in Teaching, Bob Wolensky for Excellence in Scholarship, and Gary Itzkowitz for Excellence in Service.

Faculty/Staff Spotlight—Nancy Euler *(Written by Doug Forbes)*

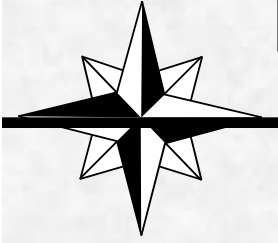


Just over three years ago the department welcomed another in a long line of memorable Program Assistants (as they were called then). In the three years since she arrived, Nancy Euler has become an integral part of the ongoing operation of the Department.

Nancy, born in Milwaukee and raised in Stevens Point, has contributed to almost all aspects of the work of department - probably doing a bit of everything but teaching a course! As part of the responsibilities of being the Department Assistant, Nancy oversees student workers, and generally maintains the orderly flow of non-teaching business on a day-to-day basis. When asked, Nancy said she thought that prioritizing work demands was the most challenging aspect of her job. With 10 full-time faculty and numerous adjunct faculty members, the competing work requests, especially at the end of the semester, can become staggering. The hardest part, on the other hand, was feeling comfortable taking minutes at Department meetings. Nancy said, "I'm still learning the language of the academic world so I'm not always exactly sure what faculty are talking about."

Away from the department life, Nancy enjoys the same things as everyone else - nature, good music, and the company of friends. If she could do anything else than what she was doing now, Nancy said she would most enjoy anything that involved working with animals.

The most rewarding part of being a Department Assistant, aside from helping the students and seeing them succeed, is "doing a good job that is appreciated." Speaking for the rest of the faculty - I say "Thanks, Nancy."



***Congratulations to
Rochelle Kizewski
and Chance
Ujzdowski for
receiving the
Academy of Letters
and Science
Distinguished
Achievement
Award!***

Academy of Letters and Science Distinguished Achievement Award Recipients: Rochelle Kizewski & Chance Ujzdowski

Rochelle is a junior from Plover, WI. She grew up in Stevens Point and graduated from SPASH in 2003. Last year year Rochelle was a member of the Sociology club. She is also a member of Phi Cappa Phi and Phi Etta Sigma. Rochelle has been a member of the UWSP cheerleading team all three years that she has been in college. Rochelle cheers for football, basketball, and is a member of the competition team. She really enjoys working with children, and has done volunteer work with the Special Olympics, Project Fresh Start, and worked in the Gesell program on campus. After graduation Rochelle hopes to work with children and adolescents. Her ultimate goal is to become a high school guidance counselor, thus after graduation she plans to attend graduate school.

Chance grew up on a small hobby farm outside of Winneconne, Wisconsin where his family raises Simmental beef cattle. After being pushed into joining the National 4-H Organization at a young age, Chance became very active in the organization on a local, state, and national level. Though he is "too old" to be a youth member, he has continued his involvement through volunteer work. In the summer of 2004, Chance served an internship for the National 4-H Council as a Program Assistant for Citizenship Washington Focus (a government-based older youth program). Chance is also an avid sports fan, a Green Bay Packers season ticket-holder, and an entertainment media enthusiast. He graduated from Winneconne High School as valedictorian of the class of 2002. After two other stops on the UW system, Chance landed at UWSP and is earning a BA in Sociology this spring. Upon graduation, Chance plans to attend either law school or graduate school (to study criminology).

Sociology Department Faculty

Woody Bishop	Social Psychology, Sociology of Mental Health	346-4560	CCC 448
Amy Boelk	Social Work Methods, Social Work Practicum	346-3603	CCC 456
Eugene Clark	Environment, Statistics	346-3745	CCC 446
Dorothy De Boer	Criminology, Juvenile Delinquency	346-3069	CCC 450
Robert Enright	Dept. Chair, Gerontology	346-2665	CCC 488B
Doug Forbes	Research Methods, Statistics	346-2038	CCC 460
Gary Itzkowitz	Sociological Theory, Applied Sociology	346-3746	CCC 332
Kathy Lamb	Family, Social Psychology	346-3749	CCC 458
Sonny Smart	Native American/Rural Social Work	346-3748	CCC 462
Robert Wolensky	Urban and Community	346-2708	CCC 451

Emeritus Faculty

Virginia Kemp Fish	Sociology of Gender Roles, Social Stratification, Political Sociology, & Sociology of Deviance
Roger Fisher	General Sociology, Formal Organizations, & Community Sociology
John E. Moffatt	Sociological Theory, Deviance and Disorganization, Research Methods and Statistics, & Social Psychology
Gail Skelton	Family, Sociology of Childhood and Adolescence, & Race and Ethnic Groups
Kirby Throckmorton	Minority Groups, Methods



The Department's Internship Program *(Written by Amy Boelk and Woody Bishop)*

The Sociology Department's Internship Program has been flourishing. Enrollment has been very high, with a total of 97 students participating over the past two academic years. The Internship Program is a great way for students to develop their skills and knowledge for work in the human services field and to apply what has been learned in the classroom to actual community and client situations. Community agency placement sites encompass work with a variety of client populations, social issues, and professionals. Students can conduct either an applied sociology practicum under the direction of Professor Woody Bishop or a social work practicum under the direction of Professor Amy Boelk. The Department would like to thank the following agencies for their work with students this academic year. Also, the following interns are to be commended for the successful completion of the internship program.

Wausau Hmong Association	<i>David Cha</i>
Washington House Group Home	<i>Matthew Brown, Jamie Mohr, Ashley Miller</i>
Stevens Point Day Treatment Program	<i>Kim VandeBurgt</i>
Portage County Department on Aging	<i>JoLynn Wanta, Stephanie Haase, Rachel Tanzer, Heather Cromer, Kristin Harvey</i>
Department of Corrections	<i>Monica Lo, Denise Lang, Candace Baer</i>
Wausau Hospital	<i>Hazley Janisch, Lindsey Moffat, William Porter</i>
Taylor County Health and Human Services	<i>Angie Miller</i>
Ministry Behavioral Health	<i>Deena Gronseth, Brianne Holzinger, Wendy Peterson</i>
Lutheran Social Services	<i>Elizabeth Greil</i>
Portage County Health Care Center	<i>Brenda Kochanowski, Suzanne Patterson</i>
River Pines Nursing & Rehabilitation Center	<i>Kari Dorr</i>
Family Crisis Center	<i>Angela Martin, Sarah Drake, Josh Konz, Laura Baumann, Amanda Gosse, Danielle Langbecker, Michelle Moore, Amy Mrozek, Kathleen Gordon, Roxanne Mehlberg, Nicole Moniz, Anna Rohrer</i>
Big Brothers Big Sisters	<i>Kathryn Steeno, Stephanie Chesna, Mary Hunter, Jacquelyn Gross, Andrea Wenzel, Rebecca, Kromm, Laura Nushart, Laurice Biemeret-Freeman</i>
Steppin' Out	<i>Pahoua Lee, Amanda Preder, Catherine Trestler</i>
UWSP Office of Disability Services	<i>Stephen Whitman</i>
WI Educational Opportunity Programs	<i>May See Yang</i>
Marathon County Courthouse	<i>Dawn Tinsley, Carol Stilp</i>
St. Joseph's Hospital-Alcohol & Drug Recovery	<i>Jessica Michalski</i>
Portage House	<i>Joseph Johnson, Anthony Neff</i>
Stevens Point School District	<i>Jamie Mohr, Heidi Putnam, Lynette Larsen</i>
CAP Services—Head Start	<i>Emily Schmidt, Nikki Kessinger, Kristi Tellekson, Constance Beaudry, Theresa Bruss</i>
Professional Services Group	<i>Yvon Lonning</i>

Internships Continued...

CAP Services

Portage County Health and Human Services

Children's Service Society

Evergreen Retirement Community

Harmony Assisted Living

Women's Community

Community Industries

Wood County Department of Social Services

Salvation Army Hope Center

Portage County Sheriff's Department

Opportunity Development Center

Premier Recovery—North Central Health Care

Adult Care Consultants

Ho Chunk Tribal Social Services

United Way Volunteer Center of Portage County

Brown County Human Services

The Family Center

Healthy Beginnings, UW-Extension

Kong Lor

Gina Rutzen, Zachary Elliott, Melissa Grubba, Amanda Preder, Tina Arzt, Teresa Maciejewski, Dawn Zache, Andrea Steeves

Jamie Hahner

Amber Hartenberger

Julia Beyer, Roxanne Mehlberg

Kelly Newcomb, Sarah Schneck, Kay Zuelsdorff

Alyssa Anderson, Nicole Herman, F. Ross Stainton

Erin Allen, Tierney Voit, Heather Utecht

Terri Baker

Kevin Flick

Kristin Harvey

Sarah Hirsch

Samantha Keller

Scott Noble

Kimberly Pelo, Kelly Kielblock, Amy Moy

Kari Ruys

Mai See Xiong, Jamie Arndt, Jenna Gear

Jennifer Popelka



Amy Boelk's Fall 2004 Interns



Woody Bishop's Fall 2004 Interns



Faculty Updates

Amy Boelk continues to work on her doctorate in social work through the University of Texas—Austin and plans to begin work on her dissertation next year. She has been working with Betty Kramer of UW-Madison on research pertaining to family conflict at the end-of-life that will be published in the *Journal of Palliative Medicine* this summer. Amy was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Amherst Area Community Foundation. She was thrilled to be able to teach a fully online course on end-of-life issues this past year, which is her area of expertise. Finally, Amy is pleased to announce the birth of her son Otto, which took place on May 4, 2005.



Bob Wolensky co-authored a book entitled, *Voices of the Knox Mine Disaster: Stories, Remembrances, and Reflections on the Anthracite Coal Industry's Last Major Catastrophe*, published by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Press, 1995. He also published an article, "Working Class Heroes: Rinaldo Cappellini and the Anthracite Mineworkers," in R. Berger and R. Quinney (eds.) *Storytelling Sociology: Narrative as Social Inquiry*, Lynn Reinner Publishers, 1995.



Gary Itzkowitz is still teaching theory, globalization, social inequality, community research, and social problems. Community Research Center projects conducted this academic year were:

1. Completed the first year of a process and outcomes program evaluation for the Golden County Food Economic Development Project. This project is funded through the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services (Office of Community Services). The evaluation is aimed at testing whether low-income hires, when provided additional services, will show increased wages.
2. Began an outcomes study for the Portage County Department on Aging evaluating whether service interventions will result in less falls for an at risk elderly population.
3. Began the first year of a process and outcomes program evaluation for the Portessi Pizza Economic Development Project. This project is funded through the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services (Office of Community Services). The evaluation is aimed at testing whether low-income hires, when provided additional services, will show increased wages.
4. Conducted Risk Assessment Data Management services for St. Michael's Hospital to clarify and report risk data to appropriate hospital committees. (Doug Forbes, primary researcher on this project)
5. Developed community indicators for the Portage County Planning

Council as part of a data collection project to assess social capital in the county.

6. Conducted a survey of staff for the Stevens Point Police Department as part of a strategic planning study. Further in-depth interviews and focus groups of staff are under discussion.
7. Continued a series of studies for Wood County Head Start aimed at following previous Head Start students as they progress through the public schools. Four studies involved an analysis of report cards, and one study analyzed student achievement in reading.
8. Continued process and outcomes evaluation of the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction project "Even Start Program" administered by CAP Services in Waushara Co. The program is designed to test whether family literacy and parenting programs aid in the educational success of parents and children.
9. Continued a program evaluation of an Even Start Program in Plainfield (CAP Services) similar to the evaluation listed above (8).

Presentation: "Living & Minimum Wages in Portage County," Portage County League of Women Voters, 2004 (invited speaker)

Service activities: Founding Member, Portage County Community Planning Council Chair, Community Indicators Committee- Portage County Community Planning Council Founding Member, Hunger Prevention Partnership of Portage County

Alumni Updates

Jessica M. Meier Lee, '94, is employed for Wisconsin Physician's Service in Wausau. For the past six years she has been a manager in retail sales and is currently working on U.S. Department of Defense insurance contract which has been awarded to WPS.

Sarah Trickle, '05, is employed as a substance abuse counselor in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She has been accepted into the MSW program at UW-Milwaukee and will be beginning part-time in the fall.

Kelly Newcomb, '05, was recently hired to work in the Victim-Witness Program in the District Attorney's Office in Marathon County. Prior to taking this position, she had been working with people affected by domestic violence at the Women's Community in Wausau.

Megan Heurion, '03, will soon complete her Master's degree in Sociology at UW-Milwaukee.

Chad Balke, '03, will soon complete his Master's degree in Public Administration at UW-Milwaukee.

Kathy Tester, '05, is working on a Master's degree at UW-Milwaukee in Educational Psychology with a concentration in School Counseling. She expects to complete the program in May 2007.

Matt Malcore, '05, is attending Worsham College in Wheeling, Illinois to study mortuary science. When he graduates he will work in his family's business, the Malcore Funeral Home, which has been operation in Green Bay since 1921

Lindsey Moffat, '05, is currently working for Lutheran Social Services as a case manager in their conditional release program. She will be starting Augsburg College's MSW program in the fall.

Sociology Students Travel Abroad *(Written by Bob Wolensky)*

Ten Sociology Majors and Minors Travel To Italy

These ten sociology majors and minors were among those who joined Profs. Bob Wolensky, Sociology, and Salvatore Engel-DiMauro, Geography, on an environmentally-based study tour to Italy during the summer of 2004. The itinerary included Genoa, Florence, Cortona, Naples, and Rome. The students toured environmentally relevant locations, attended lectures by Italian professors, and visited numerous cultural sites.



From left to right: **first row**—Megan Heurion; **second row**—Bob Wolensky, Lindsey Moffat, Chad Balke, Kathy Trester; **top row** (standing)—Maria Hackbarth, Matt Malcore, Emily Schmidt, Anna Rohrer, Andrea Wenzel, Krista Knupp

Summer Study-tour to China

Jianwei Wang (Political Science) and Bob Wolensky (Sociology) will co-lead a study tour to China, June 18 to July 9, 2006. The trip is entitled, "Political and Social Transformations in China." Twenty-seven students will participate including several Sociology majors and minors: Keri Bigelow, Megan Golla, Leah Laux, Nicole Potter, Tracy Sala, Sarah Schneck, Kelsey Telga, Yer Vue, and Chee Xiong. The group will visit Shanghai, Chendgu, and Beijing, and attend lectures and field trips organized by Chinese universities. Further information about this and other UWSP study tours and semesters abroad can be obtained from Professor Wolensky or from the UWSP International Programs office.

Further details about these exciting educational excursions can be obtained from Professor Wolensky in 451 CCC.

15th Conference On The Small City *(Written by Bob Wolensky)*

The Center for the Small City sponsored the 15th Conference on the Small City and Regional Community, held September 30 – October 1, 2004, on the UWSP Campus. The theme was "Governing the Small City." The Wisconsin Sociological Association, Wisconsin Political Science Association, UW-Extension, and Wisconsin City Management Association joined the Center in co-sponsoring the biennial meeting, which focuses on small cities, towns, and rural communities. Bob Wolensky co-directs the Center and served as conference organizer.



New Faculty—Kathy Lamb *(Written by Amy Boelk)*

Kathy Lamb joined the faculty in the fall semester of 2004, filling a position that became available due to the retirement of Gail Skelton. A native of Paulding, Ohio, Lamb earned her bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in sociology from Bluffton College in Bluffton, Ohio. During her time there, she worked for the

Social Security Disability office and began to realize that social problems were more structural in nature and less rooted in the individual. She started to see the benefit of a sociological perspective for addressing social problems and decided to continue her academic career in sociology. Professor Lamb went on to earn her masters degree and Ph.D. in sociology from Bowling Green State University. Her dissertation title was "Union Formation, Union Maintenance, and Depressive Symptoms: Examining the Impact of Relationship Context, Relationship Quality, and Race."



Before coming to UWSP, Professor Lamb taught at Drake University, Grand View College, Bowling Green State University, and Des Moines Area Community College. She also worked at the University of Michigan as a field interviewer for the National Survey of Family Growth and served as a research assistant for a study entitled "Dating Relationships and Adolescent Fertility Related Behaviors."

At UWSP, Professor Lamb teaches Introduction to Sociology, Marriage and the Family, Sociology of Adolescence, Sociology of Childhood, and The Family: Cultural Perspectives. She considers herself somewhat of a family demographer and would like to eventually teach a course in family demography. This year, the Sociology Department nominated her for the University Excellence in Teaching Award due to her strong commitment to students and skill as an educator. Professor Lamb has conducted numerous presentations at local, state, and national conferences and has published two papers in the Journal of Marriage and Family. She currently has a paper under review with the Journal of Family Issues on the topic of step-parent adoption. She is currently working on research related to race and ethnic variation in adolescent communication with parents about sex and sexual education. In addition to her responsibilities within the Sociology Department, Professor Lamb serves as the faculty advisor for the International Club. Professor Lamb is scheduled to travel to Poland with the Study Abroad program in the fall of 2007.

Professor Lamb resides in Stevens Point with her husband, Todd Good. Todd also works at UWSP as an advisor to the Collaborative Degree Program and an adjunct instructor in the History Department.

Judy Bablitch Announces Retirement *(Written by Amy Boelk)*

Judy Bablitch has announced her retirement. She has served as Director of Portage County Health and Human Services since 1983. She has also taught as an adjunct instructor within the Sociology Department for over 20 years. She has taught a number of courses including Social Welfare Policies and Programs, Social Work Methods: Casework and Group Work, Social Work Methods: Community Organization and Social Service Administration, and Rural Social Work. She has also worked closely with the Department's Internship Program to coordinate quality internship experiences within Portage County Health and Human Services. Known to be a knowledgeable, skilled, creative, dedicated, and highly personable individual, Judy will be missed by students, faculty, and colleagues within the social services field.

Part Time Faculty

The Sociology Department was able to utilize the expertise of several community professionals this year in the teaching of courses. Helena Alden taught *Introduction to Sociology*; Cate Gitter taught *Introduction to the Field of Social Work and Rural Social Work*; Judy Bablitch taught *Social Welfare Policies & Programs, Social Work Methods: Community Organization & Social Service Administrator*; Elton Louis taught *Introduction to the Field of Social Work*; Michelle Nelson taught *Social Work Methods: Casework and Group Work*; John Shook taught *Corrections*; Karl Pnazek taught *Special Topics in Sociology*. The students and the faculty certainly benefited from the efforts of these individuals.

Scholarships

Gordon Shipman Memorial Scholarship: In the spring of 1992, upon his death, a scholarship was established to honor Dr. Gordon Shipman, Professor of Sociology, who served UW-SP with distinction from 1966 to 1974. His research interests were in the areas of Family and Crime and Delinquency. Dr. Shipman was chair of the department from 1966-1970. In 1971, the Wisconsin Board of Regents granted him Professor Emeritus status at UW-SP. Students and faculty remember Dr. Shipman as an enthusiastic, energetic, concerned and caring teacher as well as an activist and leader in local political and community life. **The 2005 recipients of this scholarship were Kelly Kilblock, Danielle Langbecker and Lynette Larsen. The 2006 recipients of this scholarship are Ashley Filla and Julie Prell.**

George I.J. Dixon Memorial Scholarship: The fund for this scholarship was inaugurated through contributions from his colleagues and former students during the department's 40th Anniversary Celebration in the spring of 1995. Professor George Dixon joined the faculty in 1954 and served until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in 1976. He was the first Ph.D. sociologist at UW-SP, was instrumental in instituting the sociology major and creating a separate Department of Sociology, and served as its first chair in 1961. Professor Dixon is remembered for his personal commitment and encouragement of students to perform community service, work for social change, and promote social justice. **The 2005 recipient of this scholarship was Krista Knupp. The 2006 recipients of this scholarship are Jamie Seefelt and Nicole Potter.**

Alpha Kappa Delta

Relatively new to UW-SP, Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) is the International Sociology Honor Society. Students are tapped for membership upon achievements and prerequisites required by AKD. To be eligible, students must have a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average overall and in their major. Lifetime membership dues are \$40 per person. Eligible students will receive a letter early second semester asking them if they are interested in membership. AKD members receive a certificate and a special graduation cord, presented to them at an awards ceremony. Students may contact Professor Dorothy De Boer or Professor Doug Forbes.

2005 AKD Initiates: Tina Artz, Terri Baker, Lori Blakeway, Juia Beyer, Ashleigh Burish, Corey Evans, Michele Dickinson, Kari Dorr, Megan Golla, Kristin Harvey, Amber Harenberger, Kimberly Hinkle, Kelly Kielblock, Nicole Koon, Danielle Langbecker, Lynette Larson, Katie Mead, Christopher McMahon, Amy Mrozek, Katherine Nieman, Tara Ollman, Kimberly Pelo, and Michael Schiebel

2006 AKD Initiates: Kristi Buchberger, Erin Engebretson, Katie Gobler, Leana Hendrickson, Rebecca Kromm, Roxanne Mehlberg, Ashley Miller, Julie Prell, Rachel Rice, Jamie Seefelt, Tierney Voit, and Kay Zuelsdorff

A Message to Sociology Department Alumni

Please help us make these scholarships more meaningful to the award recipients. We are asking you to help support the Sociology Department Scholarship Funds by using the donation coupon in this newsletter to give a gift to the Sociology Department scholarship funds.



Alpha Kappa Delta Initiates, Scholarship Recipients, and Academy of Letters and Science Award winners were recognized at a reception held at the Bamboo House on May 7th





Sociology Club *(Written by Jamie Seefelt)*

UWSP Sociology Club has been active on the UWSP campus since the 1987-88 school year. The goal of the organization has been to provide opportunities for students to deal with traditional social problems and spark the “sociological imagination” of its members.

Sociology Club has done a lot of good work the past two years. We continued making dinner at the Salvation Army Hope Center twice a month. Last fall the club was a major sponsor for bringing Michael Moore to UWSP while he was on his "Slacker Uprising Tour," which was geared at getting people out to vote. Last spring, we visited Mary's Place, a transitional home for families, went on a tour of Oxford Prison, and also helped out UW-Eau-Claire at the "Friends of Adoption" annual retreat watching groups of children while their parents attended a seminar. This year we took over the task for Eau-Claire and will send 24 volunteers to help out. We have continued our fundraising and this year decided to sell Live Strong bracelets to raise some money for the local laryngectomy support group. To help the future social workers at our school, we arranged for speakers from the Madison school of social work. Now we will be working on next year's activities and fundraisers.

If you are interested in learning more about the Sociology Club, or would like to contribute money towards their activities, you may contact Dorothy De Boer, the Club's Faculty Advisor at 346-3069 or ddeboer@uwsp.edu. Or you may contact either of this year's current co-presidents: Shaun Stevenson sstev090@uwsp.edu or Michele Dickinson mdick112@uwsp.edu or 340-4872.

Spotlight on Jamie Seefelt - Sociology Club President



Jamie is a double major in Sociology and Psychology, and is finishing up her junior year right now. Jamie has been involved in Sociology Club since she was a freshman. The second semester of her Sophomore year, Jamie became a Co-President of the club, and was the president this whole year. Jamie is also a volunteer for the Women's Resource Center, and on the planning committee for the Stevens Point Relay for Life. Jamie hopes to go on to graduate school to pursue a master of Social Work. When she is not busy with these things Jamie enjoys reading, writing, rollerblading, disc-golfing, and listening to local music.

Sociology Department's 50th Anniversary Celebration *(Written by Bob Wolensky)*

On May 7, 2005, some 60 faculty, students, alumni, administrators, and community members gathered at the Sky Club in Plover, Wisconsin, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Department of Sociology. Karl Pnazek, Director of CAP Services provided the keynote address. Judy Bablitch, Director of the Portage County Department of Health and Human Services also spoke, as did emeritus faculty Kirby Throckmorton. Janet Zander of the Portage County Department on Aging provided an alumni recollection. Along with the wonderful dinner and insightful speeches, the evening also witnessed the initiation of a new group of Alpha Kappa Delta (the National Sociological Honor Society) members.

A brief history of the department would show that the first Sociology courses were taught at UWSP in 1911, probably by Professor Frank Spindler. In 1954 the Sociology minor was established and Professor George Dixon became the first full-time sociologist. Three years later Professor Gladys Ishida was hired to enhance the sociology offerings. The Sociology major arrived in 1958-59 as part of the Social Science Department, and in 1965, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology formed. The Department of Sociology became a separate entity in 1991. Along with the major, the Department houses minors and/or concentrations in Social Work, Gerontology, Applied Sociology, Social Science in Health, Small City Analysis, and Adult Life and Aging. The Department has applied to the UW System for a major in Social Work.

Meet Our 2005-2006 Student Office Workers - Stephanie Rudie & Sarah Siegel



My name is Stephanie Rudie. I am from Shawano, WI. I just recently became a Sociology major and I am hoping to either teach a Psych/Soc class at high school level or be a school counselor. I enjoy photography and writing poetry. I have three horses and enjoy being out in the pasture with them either grooming or riding them.

My name is Sarah Siegel. I was born in Ojai, CA. I have lived in Point for almost nine years. I am a junior pursuing a degree as a Family Life Educator along with a minor in Nutrition. I am a member of the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society. I am also a wife and mother of two (Hannah & River). Our free time is often spent outdoors with friends and family. We love hiking, rock climbing, and backpacking.



Every Donation Helps the Sociology Department

Please consider making a gift to help support scholarship programs in the Sociology Department at UW-SP. Your support makes a difference for UW-SP students enrolled in the college. Simply fill out the form below, clip, and mail with your check (payable to the UW-SP Sociology Department) to the address below.

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone() _____ E-mail _____

Enclosed is a contribution of \$ _____

Method of Payment:

_____ Check (payable to *Sociology Department*)

_____ Credit Card _____ MasterCard _____ Visa

Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Authorized Signature

Please send to: UW-Stevens Point, Sociology Department, Room 488A CCC, 1801 Fourth Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Thank you!



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