

Spring 2008

Department of Sociology Newsletter

Editor: Alexandra Adams, Sociology Dept. Student Assistant

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR – ROBERT B. ENRIGHT, JR.

If you are a regular reader of this newsletter, you may have noticed that I did not write the Message from the Chair last year. That's because I was on half-semester abroad in Australia. Accompanied by my wife and our two sons I led thirty-nine students, including three sociology majors to Australia and New Zealand. It was a remarkable multidisciplinary learning experience. While at Dunmore Lang College in the suburbs of Sydney, I taught a course in population problems. The course focused attention on Australia's population and environmental challenges. While in Australia, we learned about Aboriginals, Australian culture, geography, the natural environment, social practices, and government. While in Aotearoa (the Land of the Long White Cloud, also known as New Zealand) we visited glaciers, watched whales, sheared sheep, visited Mount Cook, and learned about the Maori culture and the European settlement of the country. The picture shows our group at the Sydney Opera House following a ballet performance of Don Quixote. I am grateful to the Department of Sociology, the College of Letters and Science, and International Programs for this opportunity. Special thanks are due to Doug Forbes for serving as Acting Chair during my absence.



This academic year saw the passing of long-time friend and colleague, Emeritus Professor Roger Fisher, who died on December 2, 2007. Roger taught in our department from 1964 to 1996. Roger is remembered for clear thinking that helped keep us on track at department meetings, his sense of humor, and his kind and friendly manner.

Roger's areas of expertise in sociology were bureaucracy and complex organization. Despite his retirement over a decade ago, Roger kept contact with our department, attending department functions as his health permitted, sending emails, and enjoying regular Wednesday afternoon visits with Woody Bishop.

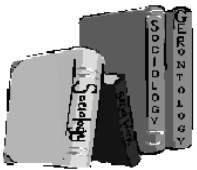
Woody Bishop is retiring this May. Professor Bishop has been a faculty member in our department since 1972. Woody was the recipient of the University Excellence in Teaching Award winner twice. He served as department chair from 1993 to 1999. Woody was an effective mentor to our younger faculty members and a helpful advisor to me throughout my tenure as chair. We will miss him as a colleague, but we will keep contact with him as a friend. Best wishes in retirement, Woody.

We have hired a new faculty member. Helena Alden is the newest member of our department. Many of you know her because she has taught as an adjunct in our department for the past five years. Helena has just completed her Ph.D. at the University of Florida. Next semester, she will teach Sociological Theory, Introduction to Sociology, and a special topics course in the Sociology of Gender—an area of sociology where we have been unable to offer a course regularly for quite a long time. Welcome aboard, Helena.

The Social Work Task Force has remained hard at work on the development of the social work major. Our curriculum for the new major was approved by the UWSP Faculty Senate this year, and our request for authorization to implement the new major will be presented to the Regents for approval this summer. It's been a long haul, but we are optimistic that before long we will be able to offer this major to our students.

Keep us in mind, and send us a message to let us know how you are doing. We enjoy hearing from you.





SCHOLARSHIPS / AWARDS

- ◆ *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 2008 recipients of this scholarship are Shari Quella and Jennifer Teuscher.**
- ◆ *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 2008 recipient of this scholarship is Laura Grosskopf.**
- ◆ *Virginia Fish Scholarship in Sociology*: This fund was established September 2006 by Arthur Fish, husband of emeritus sociology faculty member Virginia Kemp Fish, to honor her longtime dedication and service to the department. The scholarship is specifically designated for students who have a deep interest in women's studies and gender issues, or social deviance. **The 2008 recipient of this scholarship is Krista Lauffer.**
- ◆ *Wolensky Family Scholarship*. Sociology majors **Lisa Rubow** and **Jacylyn Wolter** have been awarded the 2008 Wolensky Family Scholarships for study abroad with UWSP. The scholarships are part of the International Programs Scholarship Endowment within the UWSP Foundation, and students were acknowledged at the department's spring banquet.
- ◆ *Sociology and Social Work Organization Leadership and Service Award*. The aim of this award is to recognize one or more Sociology and Social Work Organization members each academic year who have made significant contributions to the organization in the areas of leadership, service, and development of the organization. **The 2008 recipient of this award is Youa Vang.**

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 interested may contact Professor Dorothy De Boer or Professor Doug Forbes.

Students becoming AKD members this year include: Kelly Akason, Angie Andres, Stacey Boyes, Katherine Cimino, Michelle Cisewski, Justin Durtschi, Laura Ellingson, Laura Grosskopf, Stephanie Halverson, Jeffery Hayton, Andrea Hencik, Torrie Kolbeck, Krista Lauffer, Randie Lom, Crystal Mathes, Michelle Ormond, Jesena Perez, Shari Quella, Christopher Sattler, Lori Schumacher, Debra Smith, Rachel Smith, Brent Stelzer, Andrea Tepp, Sarah Wagner, and Ashley Zeh.



L&S/SSWO Scholarship/Award Winners



AKD Inductees



Wolensky Family Scholarship Winners

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT BANQUET

Scholarship recipients, award winners, and Alpha Kappa Delta inductees were recognized at the Sociology Department Banquet, held May 4, 2008 at Sky Club Restaurant in Plover. Professor Woody Bishop was a special guest as he reflected on his career and upcoming retirement. Winners of the Dixon, Fish, and Shipman Scholarships each received \$300 toward their continuing education at UWSP. AKD inductees and Academy of Letters and Science Distinguished Student Award winners received certificates, with Associate Dean Charles Clark in attendance to represent College of Letters & Science. The first annual Sociology and Social Work Organization Leadership and Service Award was given, and Professor Bob Wolensky and wife Molly attended to personally congratulate the winners of the Wolensky Family Scholarships. Department and university faculty award winners were also given recognition. The Community Research Center paid for the dinners for the student scholarship and award winners, thanks to Professor Gary Itzkowitz.

"Teachers are the Guardians of Civilization."



2008 DEPARTMENT AWARD NOMINEES

Excellence in Service: Robert Enright

Excellence in Scholarship: Robert Wolensky

Excellence in Teaching: Kathleen Lamb

Katz Award Nominee: Amy Boelk

CONGRATULATIONS TO KATHLEEN LAMB FOR RECEIVING THE 2008 UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Professor Kathleen Lamb was one of five UWSP faculty members recognized for University Excellence in Teaching. A formal reception was held April 23, 2008 to recognize university award winners in Dreyfus University Center. Awards were presented by Provost Mark Nook and Chancellor Linda Bunnell. Winners will also be recognized at graduation.

CENTER FOR THE SMALL CITY UPCOMING CONFERENCE

The Center for the Small City is celebrating its conference's 30th anniversary, the first of which took place in March 1978. The 17th Conference on the Small City and Regional Community will be held November 6 & 7, 2008 on the UWSP campus. The theme will be "Social and Economic Development in the Small City." Sociology 100 and Political Science 190, 1 Credit, Pass/Fail, will be offered during the fall 2008 semester in conjunction with the conference. For further information on the conference or the course contact the Center for the Small City at ext. 2708 or 3130.

STUDENT INTEREST

Wolensky Family Scholarship Recipients Named

Sociology majors **Lisa Rubow** and **Jacylyn Wolter** have been awarded the 2008 Wolensky Family Scholarships for study abroad with UWSP. The scholarships are part of the International Programs Scholarship Endowment within the UWSP Foundation, and students will be acknowledged at the department's spring banquet. Last year's recipient, **Krystal Makins**, who studied with Prof. Kathy Lamb in Krakow, Poland during the fall 2007 semester, reports that she had a tremendous experience studying overseas, and she urges all sociology students to take advantage of the opportunity to see the world and learn more about it.

POLAND—OVER A THOUSAND YEARS OF HISTORY, MAGNIFICENT ARCHITECTURE, AND ART

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

Polish Immersion: Semester Abroad with Sociology Faculty

During fall semester 2007, Professor Kathy Lamb served as faculty coordinator for the East-Central Europe Semester Abroad to Krakow, Poland. The group included 23 students from UW-Stevens Point, UW-Madison, UW-Superior, UW-Eau Claire, and DePaul University.

Among the group were several UWSP sociology majors and minors, including Michael Atkinson (graduating senior), Miguel Campos (junior), Casey Kelch (graduating senior), Krystal Mankins (junior), and Megan McDonald (junior).

Beginning August 25, the group spent three weeks continuously traveling and sightseeing across several Central European cities. Highlights included touring Prague Castle, hearing about the rise and fall of the Habsburg and Nazi empires in Vienna, visiting the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest, participating in Hungarian folk dancing in Szeged, and finally arriving in Krakow on September 16 via night train. While in Krakow, the group took three weekend excursions. The first excursion to the beautiful southern Polish mountain town of Zakopane was a favorite of the group, where skiing, hiking, and the eating of locally-made ocypek (sheep's milk) cheese are common pastimes. The group learned about the toppling of Communism by the *Solidarity* movement and toured Polish parliament in Warsaw during a "northern" trip to Gdansk (despite the fact that Parliament had dissolved and the building was empty shortly before national elections)! While in Krakow, the group celebrated a thought-provoking week dedicated to a celebration of Jewish history and culture, including tours of synagogues, a dinner and klezmer music performance, all of which culminated in a tour to Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. While in Krakow, students took an intensive selection of courses, including Polish History, Polish lan-

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KILTS, KINGS, AND CASTLES: SUMMER STUDY ABROAD TOUR

JULY 10–26, 2008

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

During the summer of 2008, **Professor Robert Wolensky** and wife **Molly** will lead a sixteen-day summer study abroad trip to England and Scotland. Utilizing Professor Wolensky's expertise in urban, community, and environmental sociology, student participants will explore various interrelated aspects of British society. These include an evaluation of land use patterns in Britain, the reduction of urban sprawl in British cities because of urban growth boundaries, and an exploration of the deeply embedded rural ethic and appreciation of country life in Britain as a reaction to class-based social divisions in British society. A key goal is for students to understand and appreciate sustainable rural agriculture and how nature and city can co-exist without encroaching upon one another. Professor Wolensky's group will visit Edinburgh, Scotland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England (touring the Wall's End neighborhood), Ambleside, England (exploring the idyllic Lake District, home of the romantic poets), York, England, and London. The group will also hike along the magnificent Hadrian's Wall, a stone structure that crosses the countryside built to defend ancient Britain against Scottish warriors. Students will take Sociology 395: Cities, Towns, and Villages in Britain. The group will meet four times prior to their departure, and lecture and discussion led by Professor Wolensky will focus on the differences between urbanization and urbanism in British society. The group will spend a great deal of time on walking tours while in Britain, and will also hear guest lectures by local scholars. Students will have the ability to make social connections to professionals in city planning and land use that could lead to future internships. The trip is both professionally exciting for the Wolensky's, as well as personally relevant, as Molly Wolensky's father was born in the north of England, and she is currently in the process of obtaining British citizenship. Professor Wolensky is no stranger to Britain, having previously led two semesters abroad to Britain, as well as a shorter trip.

THE DEPARTMENT'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Written by: Amy Boelk

The Applied Sociology and Social Work Internship Program

The Department's Internship Program aims to prepare students for work in the human services field by providing an opportunity to build skills and enhance knowledge in a variety of practice settings. Students are given the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to actual client and community 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 or a social work practicum under the direction of Professor Amy Boelk. The Department is very fortunate to have strong working relationships with a variety of social service agencies throughout central Wisconsin. The Department wishes to thank the following participating agencies for their dedicated to student development over the 2007-2008 academic year. The Department would also like to recognize the following students for their successful completion of an internship.

Agency

Aging and Disability Resource Center
 Aspirus Wausau Hospital
 Big Brothers/Big Sisters--Portage County
 Boys and Girls Club of Portage County
 Bridges for Youth (Friendship, WI)
 CAP Services
 CAP Services Head Start
 Center for Human Development
 Children's Service Society of Wisconsin
 Community Industries Corporation
 Colonial Manor Medical Rehabilitation
 Family Crisis Center
 Harmony Assisted Living Centers
 Oakridge Senior Living Center
 Portage County Department on Aging
 Portage Co. Health and Human Services
 Portage House
 Stevens Point Area YMCA
 St. Michael's Hospital
 United Way Volunteer Center—Portage Co.
 Washington House
 Wisconsin Department of Corrections
 Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King
 Wood County Social Services
 Wood County Unified Services

Fall 2007/Spring 2008 Student Intern(s)

Eric Peterson
 Melissa Anderson
 Timothy Arnold, Andrea Hencik, Mai Choua Moua, Genna Saari
 Amy Peterson
 Jamie Bula
 Jessica Stewart, Youa Vang, Pa Houa Thao
 Alison Guyette, Jessie Erber
 Cindy Berg
 Emma Akers, Todd Maslowski
 Benjamin Juncer
 Ashley Grabow, Mayla Thao Yang
 Jennifer Collette, Bridgett Hammen, Holly Wiesbrook-Peterik
 Becky Binder
 Megan Habriga, Callie Halstead
 Genny Radley
 Angie Bowe, Michelle Cisewski, Tracy Sala, Ashley Sinkula
 Kassandra Murphy
 Rachel Kayartz, Shannon Porter, Andrew Rowan
 Laura Buchs-Hammonds, Michelle Ruka, Megan Schwobe
 Katie Spradau
 Jamie Immel, Rachel Smith, Holly Wiesbrook-Peterik
 Erin Bossenbroek, Jennifer Latzig, Mandy Entzminger, Joel Hojnacki, Pamela Rhode
 Melissa Duncan
 Kallie Keith
 Crystal Robinson

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT— WOODY BISHOP

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

Woody Bishop is retiring at the end of the 2007-2008 academic year after thirty-six years at UWSP-Stevens Point. He is originally from Wisconsin, and after attending graduate school, he and wife Madge decided in 1972 that they would come to Stevens Point and settle there for a few years. They would stay long enough for his wife to obtain her Master's degree, and then they would move along. Apparently, those plans never materialized, much to the benefit of the UWSP student population. In the early 1970's, it was possible to become tenured in the UW system relatively quickly, and Professor Bishop did so after just four years. He soon found himself a good fit in the department, relating comfortably to the student population. As he notes, he would not desire a job at a university at which he would not be comfortable attending. Professor Bishop has also been coordinating internships for sociology students for 25 years, although when he began this position in 1984, it was only supposed to last two years.

While at UWSP, he has taught a variety of courses, with his major emphases being Social Psychology (SOC 310), Sociological Theory (SOC 350), and Sociology of Mental Health (SOC 368). Professor Bishop cannot identify one major highlight to his career, but rather multiple highlights. He finds the "little things" in teaching to be highly rewarding, such as when he connects with a student intellectually, and after the end of the course, they contact him to provide an update on their lives. He has won numerous departmental and university teaching awards over the course of his career. While teaching awards are nice, he notes they are not the motivation for him to excel in the classroom. As a social psychologist, Professor Bishop is able to make several astute observations about shifting academic trends on the UWSP campus during his career. For instance, there has been a transition in both the attitudes of students and administration in regard to internships. In other words, both students and administration have become more pragmatic about the importance of this "real world" experience. Naturally, he has seen many colleagues come and go, and has witnessed subtle changes in departmental dynamics throughout, such that the addition or subtraction of one person can make an enormous difference.

After retiring, Professor Bishop has no master plans, but rather intends to keep himself occupied with his varied hobbies and spending time with grandchildren. What advice does he give the Sociology Department to continue moving in the appropriate direction? "Do the best you can, and get a good night's sleep."

RIDING FOR A GREATER GOOD

Written by: Kathleen Lamb



Those who know Professor Doug Forbes admire his strong will and determination. During the past few years, he has taken up several new hobbies, one of which includes bike riding. After intensive indoor and outdoor training, he participated in the Trek 100 in July of 2007, which was a 100 mile bike ride—all in one day! The Trek 100 is a charitable event done specifically to raise money for children's cancer research, and Professor Forbes rode in honor of Alex, the son of a close friend. He was invited to attend the pre-race dinner and auction, as he was one of the first 300 riders to raise over \$1000. As one of the top ten participants overall to raise donations for the race, he had the privilege of meeting bike pro Lance Armstrong in person, and he and wife Tracy Hofer attended a photo shoot with Armstrong, a memorable event that left him speechless. In 2008, he and Tracy will participate in the Trek 100 again. While Doug will ride 100 kilometers, Tracy will ride 67 kilometers. This will once again be for an excellent cause, and will prepare him for his greatest biking challenge yet. In late summer 2008, he will partake in an eight-day bike ride, beginning in Eagle River in northern Wisconsin and following the Wisconsin River to a point south of LaCrosse in western Wisconsin. The participants will ride approximately eighty miles a day, and stopping to sleep in tents overnight. While bike riding has become a passion during the summer months, during the winter he and Tracy enjoy skiing as well.

CURRENT CENTER FOR THE SMALL CITY EVENTS

On April 23, 2008, the Center for the Small City hosted a colloquium entitled "Holes in the American Safety Net: Economic vs. Social Development?" The panel discussed whether the U.S. can sustain a safety net of social programs while continuing to grow economically, or whether social welfare must be compromised for greater economic growth. Professor Robert Wolensky served as moderator for the panel discussion.

The Center also continues several ongoing projects, including the Central Wisconsin Oral History Project. Thus far, thirty individuals have been interviewed. These people represent a broad cross-section of the Central Wisconsin population, from logging, railroads, and farming, to retired college professors. The goal is to have this rich life history data available for future generations of researchers in social science and humanities who wish to obtain firsthand accounts of lives of local people. The interviews are currently being transcribed and digitized for future recall.

NEW PROGRAM FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJORS & MINORS

Written by: Amy Boelk

You Deserve a Break: A Respite Program for Foster and Adoptive Families

A new program allows sociology and social work students to reach out to foster and adoptive parents in the community, and is a win-win situation for both the students and parents. “You Deserve a Break” is a program designed to provide brief periods of respite to foster and adoptive families who have a child, children, or youth with special needs. A child/youth with special needs is a child who may have experienced abuse, neglect, exposure to drugs or alcohol, and/or abandonment. This respite will provide a break for families who have a child or sibling group needing a level of care that goes above and beyond what a teenage babysitter or other relative could provide. The program involves developing a pool/list of trained student respite workers from sociology and social work who foster and adoptive families can call upon for respite care. Families will contact students directly, orient them to the unique needs/issues of their children, and pay them for their time. Families in need of respite are located through Portage, Wood, and Marathon Counties. “You Deserve a Break” is facilitated via a cooperative partnership between Portage County Health and Human Services, Catholic Charities, and UW-Stevens Point (Sociology). Two training sessions were held this academic year involving approximately twenty students. Following participation in a training session, students are eligible to apply to become respite providers, and may be called upon at any time to do so.

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK ORGANIZATION NEWS

Written by: Amanda Londo

The purpose of the Sociology and Social Work Organization (SSWO) is to pursue the intellectual goals of the discipline of sociology; this includes both an in-depth study of sociological concepts and effecting sociological principles within the context of the larger society. SSWO is a great way to get to know other students and professors in the Sociology department. SSWO provides wonderful volunteering opportunities, a fun and laid back environment, and it looks great on a resume.

The members of SSWO have participated in a number of different educational events throughout this academic year! For the Boxes and Walls presentation a few members put on a skit about mental health. Also, we had two speakers affiliated with NAMI come in and talk about their experiences living with mental illness. Members also went on a tour of the Mental Health facility in Oshkosh. The other guest speakers we hosted this year were Amy Boelk and Dorothy De Boer who spoke about going on to graduate school.

Members of SSWO have also engaged in much community service this year. In the fall semester, members went every week to the Homework Center to help students with their homework. For Halloween, Amy Boelk donated several pumpkins for the members to paint. We then visited the Portage County Health Care Center and gave the pumpkins to the residents. Also in October, several members grabbed their rakes for Make a Difference Day and helped rake lawns for people in the community. In December, members and faculty donated a basket for a family in need through the Ministry Project which is a program serving people with HIV/AIDS. Habitat for Humanity was another event that members participated in by helping to build a house. Members also participated in Service Saturdays, which was at the Care Partners Assisted Living facility, working with elders for the day. This year was our fourth year volunteering at the Friends of Adoption program. It is a great event where the members volunteer their time supervising adopted children at the Cedar Creek Lodge in Wausau.

Even though the club focuses on spending time learning and on volunteering in the community, we do have fun social gatherings. For example, we went bowling and enjoyed pizza. To raise money for the club, we had a bake sale and sold Live Strong bracelets. There are more bracelets and SSWO t-shirts available for purchase, so feel free to stop in the Sociology office to buy one!

New this year, we are awarding two officers or members the Sociology and Social Work Organization Leadership and Service Award. This award recognizes members each academic year who have made significant contributions to the organization in the areas of leadership, service, and the overall development of the organization.

Sociology and Social Work Organization Officers—Spring 2008

Co-Presidents	Jesse Erber
	Sarah Wagner
Treasurer	Ashley Sinkula
Web Weaver	Youa Vang
PR Coordinator	Amanda Londo
Secretary/Salvation Army dinner coordinator	Sie Vang

FACULTY UPDATES



Amy Boelk continues to collect data for her dissertation research on family conflict at the end-of-life by surveying hospice social workers and interviewing family caregivers. She is also involved with a research project involving adults who experienced the suicide of a parent during childhood, specifically looking at the recovery process. In an additional study, she and a colleague from Colorado are surveying hospice social nationwide regarding their experiences and perspectives on serving patients and families in rural communities.



Doug Forbes has published a book chapter entitled "American Indian Pregnancy Outcomes and Infant Health, 1996-1998" in *Demography in Transition: Emerging Trends in Population Studies*, published by Cambridge Scholars Press.



Robert Wolensky has published *Tragedy at Avondale: The Causes, Consequences, and Legacy of the Pennsylvania Anthracite Coal Industry's Most Deadly Mining Disaster, September 6, 1869* with late author Joseph Keating through Canal History and Museum Press of Easton, Pennsylvania (March, 2008). He and his co-author explore the events leading up to and aftermath of the 1869 fire at the Plymouth Township (Luzerne County, Pennsylvania) coal mine, which was originally judged as an accident by the coroner. They delve into the unresolved questions surrounding the event, including whether the fire could have been act of arson, whether it was fueled by deeper ethnic tensions between workers, and ultimately how the public made sense of the events and venerated those lost in the tragedy. Professor Wolensky will speak about the book at an L&S Humanities Forum Colloquium during the fall 2008 semester.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Written by Amy Boelk

Peter Barwis, '02, has earned a Master's degree in Sociology from UW-Milwaukee., and is currently seeking enrollment in a doctoral program in Sociology.

Ali Bodendein works as a case manager at Grant County Social Services

Andrew Bushard, '01, has earned a Master's degree in Sociology from Minnesota State University, and is currently seeking enrollment in a doctoral program in Sociology.

Samuel Dinga is Director of Operations for Boys and Girls Club for Portage County, Wisconsin.

Megan Golla, '06, will pursue a Master's degree with an emphasis in forensic psychology at graduate school in either San Diego or Chicago.

David Haecker, '07, is an M.A. student in sociology at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The paper he presented on professional wrestling as a social movement, presented at the UWSP Letters and Science Undergraduate Research Symposium, Wisconsin Sociological Society, and Midwest Sociological Society, has garnered much attention. He has published this paper in *Sociological Imagination*, and his paper is used in a Comparative Media class in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His work is considered a valued contribution to an understanding of the sport of wrestling incorporating a symbolic interactionist theoretical framework.

Megan Heurion '04, received an M.A. in Sociology from UW-Milwaukee in 2006, and has since been living and working in the human service field in Eugene, Oregon. She has recently accepted a new position as a Personal Agent for adults with developmental disabilities in Eugene.

Matt Malcore, '05, graduated from Worsham College in Chicago and has become a partner in his family-owned Malcore Funeral Home in Green Bay. Matt recently married Lisa Fjorden, a UWSP sociology minor ('06), on March 29, 2008 in Green Bay.

Katie Mead '06, is working on a Master's degree in Sociology at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Beau Morley is a supervisor at Washington House Group Home in Plover, Wisconsin, which is part of the Choices for Change homes serving youth.

Tara Ollman is employed as a social worker at North Central Health Care in Wausau in their Community Support Program-Focus on Recovery. She works with clients diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness who live in the community. She is also working towards a master's degree in Community Mental Health.

Julie Prell is attending graduate school at UW-Madison, working toward her MSSW.

Nicole Potter '08, will begin the M.S.W. degree program at UW-Madison this fall.

Anna T. Rohrer is a wraparound service coordinator for Manitowoc County Human Services.

Katherine Trester, '05, has earned a Master's degree in counseling from UW-Milwaukee and is employed as a counselor.

Steve Whitman (BA Sociology 2004) is currently working at Eye Clinic of Wisconsin in their IT department. He is also working on dual degrees in Networking and Programming from Mid-State Technical College in Stevens Point, and will complete those degrees in the spring of 2009.

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
Kathleen 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
John E. Moffat	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

PART-TIME FACULTY UPDATES

The Sociology Department was able to utilize the expertise of several community professionals this year in the teaching of courses. Helena Alden taught *Sociology 101 Introduction to Sociology* and Cate Gitter taught *Sociology 362 Social Work Methods: Community Organization & Social Service Administration*. The students and the faculty certainly benefited from the efforts of these individuals.

**" Six essential qualities that are key to success:
Sincerity, personal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom
and charity."**

Visit the UWSP

Department of Sociology

Web page at:

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

STUDENT INTERN SPOTLIGHT- KATIE SPRADAU

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

Katie Spradau, a senior majoring in Sociology with a Child and Family Studies minor, is completing an internship for the United Way of Portage County in an administrative position. She has previously worked at Salvation Army, and for her internship wanted exposure to the administrative sector of a social services organization. Her responsibilities are exciting and varied. Her current major task is coordinating the second annual Volunteers Rock Awards banquet. She essentially coordinates whatever activities need assistance, such as making community presentations and coordinating the United Way booth at local community events. Katie notes she has been able to mesh her classroom experiences with her internship, as studying sociology has helped her to learn about the workings of an organization, and to understand its complexities. She is amazed by all that she has learned, and has found a passion for working “behind” the scenes in coordinating community events. This has been made possible by her education at UWSP, such that as a college student, she must juggle multiple demands, complete projects, and meet deadlines. Through the experience as an intern, Katie has learned much about herself, deciding to pursue a career in a social services agency in an administrative capacity near her hometown of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, perhaps with the elderly. She has learned a greater overall appreciation for the work that community volunteers do at social service agencies and how they are an essential part of keeping community agencies alive. Her advice to future interns would be to keep an open mind, as many unexpected responsibilities might come up in an agency setting.



STUDENT INTERN SPOTLIGHT- MICHELLE RUKA

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

Michelle Ruka, a senior majoring in sociology with a minor in Social Work, is completing an internship at St. Michael’s Hospital, Stevens Point, in the Mental Health Unit. Originally from Tomahawk, she currently lives in Wausau. Her internship has allowed her a great deal of hands-on experience with individuals experiencing mental illness and substance abuse issues who are admitted short-term for mental health treatment and detoxification. Her main responsibilities are to do a psychosocial assessment of a patient within 24-48 hours of their admittance to the unit, and she also facilitates groups in which patients set short-term life goals. Michelle feels she has been able to benefit from and connect her UWSP education in sociology and social work to the internship, such that she can see the relationship between the life situations in case studies of individuals learned about in the classroom with live people seeking mental health services at the hospital. Michelle finds her internship experience invaluable, in large part because of an excellent supervisor who allows her autonomy to make decisions. At St. Michael’s Hospital, she has been able to build many social connections by meeting a variety of occupational therapists, alcohol and drug counselors, and other social service personnel in the community. Her advice to future interns is to utilize co-workers and supervisors as much as possible to learn the nuances of mental health treatment that cannot be learned in the classroom, and to lean on them for support in a challenging profession. She is exploring what area of social services she would like to pursue professionally, and is considering alcohol and drug outpatient treatment as a career path. In her free time, she enjoys attending concerts and works as an exercise instructor.



MEET OUR 2007-2008 STUDENT OFFICE ASSISTANT ALEXANDRA ADAMS

Written by: Alexandra Adams

Alexandra Adams is from Prairie Farm, WI. She started her Freshman year as an Art Major, and changed to an Undeclared Major in the second semester. Although she enjoys her artistic talent, especially in the drawing area, she is transferring next year and pursuing a career in Massage Therapy at the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College in New Richmond, WI. She greatly enjoyed working in the Sociology department this year with all of the professors and Nancy, and taking on the many new challenges, such as this newsletter.



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