



SPRING 2009

Department of Sociology Newsletter

Editor: Tala Martzke, Sociology Dept. Student Assistant

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

Most likely you are reading this year's newsletter at your computer rather than on paper. We will continue publishing our annual newsletter, but we will post it on our website instead of distributing by mail in order to save cost and to be more environmentally friendly. We hope you visit us online, especially in late spring when we post our annual newsletter. Please let us know your email address so that we can let you know when our newsletter comes out each year.

The Regents of the UW System granted UWSP authorization to implement a new major in Social Work. We are now applying the Council on Social Work Education for accreditation review. Our curriculum is designed and has been approved by faculty governance. We will begin to offer the new major when we are sufficiently far along in the accreditation review so that our students will graduate from an accredited program. We believe that this new major will be of great benefit to our students planning social work careers and to communities throughout Wisconsin, especially those in north central Wisconsin.

Professor Helena Alden joined us as our most recent tenure-track faculty member last fall. Helena is a native of Worthing, England and she received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Florida. Some of you may have taken courses from her since she taught in our department as an adjunct faculty member for five years before her new appointment. She is off to a strong start; she was named one of UWSP's top 15 professors in the January 2009 Pointer Poll.

This year we resumed our Sociology Colloquium series. Professor Kathy Lamb led the way by planning two colloquia. The first was Professor Bob Wolensky's presentation, "The Avondale Mine Tragedy, September 6, 1869: The Sociological Implications of America's First Major Mining Disaster." The second was Helena Alden's presentation, "Gendering Sexuality: The Ex-Gay Movement of the Religious Right." Both were first-rate presentations on original research. The turn-out was strong, drawing students and faculty from our own department as well as many from other disciplines across campus.

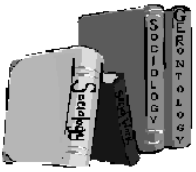
Our faculty and students continue their involvement in activities beyond the classroom as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter. Seventeen of our students were new initiates into Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to our scholarship funds and our Sociology Support Fund. Our Sociology Support Fund is providing grant support to Rachele Fawcett, a sociology student who is spending the summer in Yemen studying women's folk traditions. If you would like to contribute to our Sociology Support Funds or one of our scholarship funds (the George Dixon Scholarship, the Gordon Shipman Scholarship, or the Virginia Fish Scholarship) contact UWSP Foundation and mention Sociology.

Thanks also to all of you who have written to us in the past year, just to say hi or to tell us what you have been doing lately. Continue to write; we enjoy your letters and messages. Until next year, we wish you all the best.

Bob Enright





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 2009 recipient of this scholarship is Rebecca Powell**

- ◆ *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 2009 recipient of this scholarship is Kayla Kastenmeier.**

- ◆ *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 2009 recipient of this scholarship is Miguelgabriel Campos.**

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: Sara Beranek, Miguelgabriel Campos, Andrea Cisewski, Sara Crotteau, Kim Genske, Emily George, Abby Habeck, Erin Hyler, Amanda Londo, Krystal Mankins, Megan Meyer, Rebecca Powell, Andrew Rowan, Rachel Schroeder, Allissa Shute and Kimberly Jackson.

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK COLLOQUIUM

Written By: Kathleen Lamb

UWSP sociology and social work faculty engage in a great deal of scholarship, from presenting papers at regional and national conferences to publishing many books, book chapters, and articles in scholarly journals. Given the intensive nature of teaching in the department, sociology and social work faculty often do not have the opportunity to share their research with one another. Therefore, during the 2009 spring semester, the department of Sociology reinstated an informal research Colloquium. This format, popular in previous years in the department, had not been maintained on a regular basis. The Colloquium allows a faculty member to present his or her research in a friendly, stimulating, and informal atmosphere to an audience of fellow department and university faculty, interested students, and community members, followed by a question-and-answer period and refreshments. On February 25th, Professor Robert Wolensky kicked off the Colloquium with a talk entitled "The Avondale Mine Disaster: Sociological Insights from the First Major Mining Disaster in the U.S., September 6, 1869." He discussed the role of ethnic tensions between Welsh and Irish coal miners as a potential contributing factor to the Avondale, Pennsylvania mine fire that claimed the lives of 110 boys and men. The circumstantial evidence pointing to the cause of the disaster is detailed in his book, *Tragedy at Avondale: The Causes, Consequences, and Legacy of the Pennsylvania Anthracite Coal Industry's Most Deadly Mining Disaster, September 6, 1869* coauthored with the late Joseph Keating. The second presentation, entitled "Gendering Sexuality: The Ex-Gay Movement of the Religious Right," was presented on April 22nd by Professor Helena Alden. Her work focuses on the discourse used by conservative Christian organizations to explain how individuals become homosexual, and the conversion process promoted by these groups to resocialize and transform gays and lesbians, into ex-gays and ex-lesbians.

"Teachers are the Guardians of Civilization."

2009 DEPARTMENT AWARD NOMINEES



Excellence in Service: Professor Robert Enright

Excellence in Scholarship: Professor Kathleen Lamb

Excellence in Teaching: Professor Helena Alden

Katz Award Nominee: Professor Amy Boelk

SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS TRAVEL TO BRITAIN

Written By: Robert Wolensky

Ten Sociology majors and minors were among the students participating in a study-tour to Scotland and England during July 2008. The travelers studied rural-urban relationships, industrial city redevelopment, city and regional planning, and the built environment. The itinerary included the cities of Edinburgh, Newcastle, Ambleside, York, and London (including a side trip to the planned community of Milton Keynes). Organized through the UWSP International Programs office, the two-week trip was led by Prof. Bob Wolensky.

CENTER FOR THE SMALL CITY UPCOMING CONFERENCE

Written By: Robert Wolensky

UWSP hosted the 17th Conference on the Small City and Regional Community, November 4 & 5, 2008. The theme was, "Social and Economic Development in the Small City." The conference co-organizer was Prof. Bob Wolensky, who also co-directs the UWSP Center for the Small City. The conference, which originated at UWSP in 1978, will be held again in 2010.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJORS AND MINORS—BRITAIN FALL 2010

Written By: Robert Wolensky

Have you wanted to study abroad with UWSP and take Sociology credits while at your overseas destination? If so, consider participating in the Fall 2010 semester abroad program to Britain. The trip, based in London, will be led by Prof. Bob Wolensky. Among the three credit courses proposed are Sociology 356 (Urban Sociology) and Sociology 395 (Sociology of Britain). Scholarships may be available for qualifying Sociology majors and minors. For more information contact Prof. Wolensky (451 CCC) or the UWSP International Programs office (107 CCC).

SOCIAL SERVICES FOR WISCONSIN'S LARGEST MOSQUE

Written by: Rachele Fawcett

We study cultural competency with the goal of creating a more tolerant and productive social service system for those who are not part of the Caucasian Judeo-Christian majority. In Wisconsin, this is geared largely toward Hmong or Native Americans, respectively, but Milwaukee is one of the largest pockets of Muslim immigrants – a mix of Asian, African and Arab mostly – in the United States. Milwaukee is also home of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee, which is not only the largest mosque in Wisconsin but one of the most active with a Muslim version of the Boys and Girls Club, annual festivals and most of all, an accredited K-12 school. Isolated up here in Central Wisconsin I was largely unaware of the existence of ISM until reading about Janaan Najeeb, an immigrant of Palestinian origin and her work with the Muslim Women's Coalition to provide job training and support to immigrant women within the Muslim immigrant community.

That April I visited Milwaukee to meet Janaan, and meet with her and the director of ISM, Isa Sadlon, and while speaking with them it was clear many in the facility have their own program. Imams were unable to communicate about an individual (much like a Catholic priest). Isa was often unaware of what anyone else was doing. Therefore it was decided that I would create a social service directory for the mosque of relevant and culturally competent social service agencies in Milwaukee.

I began this project by interviewing everyone that had a hand in service work. This included the Imams, teachers, club members, Isa, Janaan, and an RN named Inshirah, among others. After drawing parallels as to the most concerning issues (health care, domestic violence, job training) I cross matched them with lists upon lists of nonprofits, government agencies, and private or faith-based agencies in Milwaukee. Once organizations were picked I visited them and expressed our concern for the type of community that uses ISM as their hub, and ways we might work together to make the care people need the most accessible. Finally, I created a booklet organized based on need, and ranked by those needs that came up first. I included not only those organizations that I now felt fit the need of ISM and its community, but those that were suggested by those organizations as well.

I left with the suggestion that they seriously consider two social workers or case managers, a consideration they promised to make. This was an experience I am very thankful to have had. After being in this community for the summer I am going to miss it, and I now feel that the job I did was small and I can only hope it will make a difference for the community – not sit on a shelf being a cool thing somebody did once. I look forward to the possibility of further work with ISM, and the door I hope this will open to me to work with other similar organizations in the US, and eventually on a national level. It also strengthens my resolve at attaining a seminary education alongside my current degree, and to continue to study these systems as they work in different cultures and continue to apply this to current and evolving social services to better serve a population under constant change.



TWO STUDENTS READ PAPERS AT THE L & S RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, APRIL 24, 2009

Written by Robert Wolensky

Pauline E. Holmes, a sophomore sociology major, presented a paper, "Gender Relations among the Maasai: Personal Experiences and Sociological Analyses." The research was based on her living with a family in a Maasai village in early 2009. Pauline will return to the village this summer for a sociology internship.

Valerie M. Crochiere, a junior sociology major, read a paper, "The Israeli National Youth Service Program," which grew out of her interest in the idea of national service programs. Her interest in the subject was sparked by the experiences of a friend who had served in the Israeli service program.

Both students enrolled in Prof. Bob Wolensky's course on Comparative Sociology during Spring 2009. Prof. Wolensky served as the students' sponsors in the symposium.

THE DEPARTMENT'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Written by: Amy Boelk

The Applied Sociology and Social Work Internship Program

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. 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.

Agency	Student(s)
Ministry Home Care, Hospice	Brent Steltzer, Michelle Herman
St. Michael's Hospital, Mental Health Unit	Melissa Couillard, Samantha Casey, Megan Schwobe
Stevens Point Day Treatment Center	Elizabeth Drews, Sarah Wagner
Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King	Kim Genske, Brent Stelzer, Melissa Duncan
Colonial Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation	Emily George
Stevens Point Care Center	Genny Radley, Erin Hyler
Children's Service Society of Wisconsin	Amanda Londo
Family Crisis Center	Mehgan Reiter, Anastasia Jewczyk, Kami Needham, AdreaTepp, Bridgett Hammen
Portage County Health and Human Services	Lori Schumacher, Crystal Mathes, Samantha Clevenger
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Shari Quella, Kelly Akason, Andrea Hencik
Portage County Health Care Center	Jennifer Teuscher
Aging and Disability Resource Center, Portage County	Katie Calnin, Paul Smith, Candace Baer
Ho Chunk Nation, Social Services	Mika Costello
Department of Corrections, Community Corrections	Kara Groshek, Patrick Woodbridge, Jamie Immel, Michael Reisner
United Way Volunteer Center	Laura Grosskopf
Choices to Change	Bailey Sorenson, Krista Lauffer, Earl Heier
CAP Services, Head Start	Kelly Akason, Megan McDonald
Justiceworks, Ltd.	Andrew Rowan
Professional Services Group	Krystal Mankins, Brittney Johnson
Family Center, Inc.	Mindy Koenig
Stevens Point Police Department	Earl Heier, Andrew Starch
Harmony Assisted Living	Allissa Shute
Bridges for Youth	Jamie Bula
Moundview Memorial Hospital & Clinics	Karen Perik
Aspirus Wausau Hospital	Hua Vue
Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Behavioral Health	Paul Smith
Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice	Debbra Smith

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT-HELENA ALDEN

Written by: Kathleen Lamb

Helena Alden is newest faculty member in the Department of Sociology, teaching Sociological Theory, Introduction to Sociology, Social Psychology, and Sociology of Gender. Although Professor Alden had been an adjunct instructor in the department for five years prior to becoming a full-time faculty member, this is her first year on the tenure track. Professor Alden is originally from Lincoln, England, located in the East Midlands region, although she later relocated to Brighton, England. After high school, she came to the United States, as her father resided in Florida and she wished to attend university in the U.S. She obtained a B.A. in Criminology from the University of South Florida, and was employed for a time with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office in Tampa, Florida. While Professor Alden found criminology fascinating, she found its focus too narrow as her intellectual interests expanded to include social identity issues. Having written her undergraduate thesis on homophobic hate crimes, she decided to pursue an academic career that would allow her to explore how sexuality and gender identity are intertwined. Hence, she obtained both an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Florida in Sociology. Professor Alden's current scholarly research at UWSP entails an investigation of how the religious right in the United States constructs sexual identity, using participant observation of conferences for the ex-gay population sponsored by right-wing Christian groups. She continues to collect data, and has plans to publish a book on her research. Her primary goal as a teaching scholar is to be a role model and mentor for students, showing them by example what they can achieve, and fostering a love of lifelong learning. Professor Alden was nominated by the student body at UWSP as one of the Top Fifteen Best Professors at UWSP during the 2008-2009 school year, and also received the coveted Department of Sociology Excellence in Teaching Award, as well as a nomination for the University Excellence in Teaching Award. These achievements attest to her passion for the discipline.

STUDENT BENEFITS FROM SOCIAL WORK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Written by: Brent Stelzer & Amy Boelk

Brent Stelzer is graduating in May with a major in Sociology and a Minor in Native American and Rural Social Work. He is originally from Cadott, Wisconsin, but now lives in Plover with his family. He worked for a period of time for Aurora Community Services, an agency serving adults with developmental disabilities, chronic mental illnesses, and traumatic brain injuries. He has also been a member of the Wisconsin Army National Guard since 1999, and is a combat wounded veteran of the Iraq war. He is also currently employed at the UWSP Tutoring/Learning Center as a master tutor. He does additional tutoring in the community, is also a volunteer guardian for an individual who has a developmental disability, and is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Military Order of the Purple Heart. This semester, Mr. Stelzer is interning at Ministry Home Care, Hospice under the supervision of their social work staff.



Upon graduation, Mr. Stelzer hopes to be admitted into graduate school to work toward his MSW. He would either like to work with adults with developmental disabilities, older adults, veterans and veterans' families, or in the hospice field. Mr. Stelzer indicated that "interning at the Veterans Home was very rewarding for me on a personal level. Even as a little kid I had always looked up to our country's veterans and held them in high regard. My respect for veterans grew even more after I had decided to join the military, and then later was deployed to Iraq. Many of the veterans that I had the opportunity to work with at the Veterans Home were part of the generation that advocated and lobbied for the number of veteran benefits that so many soldiers receive today. Interning with Ministry Home Care Hospice has also been a great, rewarding experience. I have gained a substantial amount of knowledge regarding hospice regulations, criteria, and services, and I have attempted to be a positive part of an individual's and family's life during very challenging times. Both internships have been the best experiences of my social work education at UWSP. I feel the experience I have gained in my internships will only result in positive contributions to my future social work career."

NEW PROGRAM FOR SOCIOLOGY MAJORS & MINORS

Written by: Krystal Mankins & Amy Boelk

"You Deserve a Break" is a program that was initiated last academic year through collaboration among the Department of Sociology, Portage County Health and Human Services, and the Post-Adoption Resource Center of Catholic Charities. This program is 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 provides 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 who foster and adoptive families can call upon for respite care. Families 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.

Krystal Mankins is a senior, completing a major in Sociology and a minor in Psychology. She is also currently interning with Professional Services Group.



Two families have contacted me through the You Deserve a Break program, and since then I have regularly been providing respite care for them. As different as these two families are, my interactions with both of them have provided me with valuable experience working with different ages and needs, as well as a few life lessons here and there. For one unique family, I work with a teenager who has autism once a week, helping him develop social skills and learn to interact with people and situations outside of his usual routine. Attachment is inevitable working this closely with families, and we have all become very fond of each other; his mother has become a sort of mentor to me in regards to parenting and helping people with special needs. I also occasionally sit in on meetings regarding his therapy or educational plans, which has been an extremely valuable experience introducing me to new aspects of social service. On the other end of the spectrum, the second family I work with has two very bright and adventurous young children who are a bit of a handful; for this family, I provide care for a whole day to a whole weekend at a time while the parents have some "grown-up time." In contrast to the first family, their needs are average for that of two- and three-year olds, though often I find it much more challenging than my more regular respite job. This family has also been rewarding to work with, especially seeing how much the kids have grown and learned since the last time I saw them. I've been with the program for about a year now, and I still look forward to every interaction I have with the kids I care for. This has definitely been one of the better decisions I have made over the course of my educational career, and has helped guide my choices of classes as well as my career choices.

MEET OUR 2008-2009 STUDENT OFFICE ASSISTANT

Written by: Tala Martzke

Tala Martzke is from Clintonville, WI. She recently graduated in May of 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science, along with a minor in Sociology and Anthropology. Tala enjoyed working in the Sociology department this year with all of the professors along with Nancy and Laurie.



Sociology and Social Work Organization Officers—Spring 2009

Co-Presidents	Mary Agnes Kaiser & Rebecca Powell
Treasurer	Sarah Peterson
PR Coordinator	Iris Reyes
Secretary	Emily George

FACULTY UPDATES

Amy Boelk is completing her dissertation for the Ph.D in Social Work entitled "Family Conflict at the End-of-Life: Family Caregiver and Hospice Professional Perspectives." She anticipates being done by December of 2009. She currently teaches Introduction to the Field of Social Work and is responsible for overseeing the Applied Sociology Practicum (internship) and Social Work Practicum programs and their concurrent seminars. She is also working on a project with Professor Marty Loy from the School of Health Promotion and Human Development. This is a qualitative study involving adults, who as children experienced the suicide of a parent. They are examining factors that helped with, and potentially hindered, their recovery.

Eugene Clark teaches Introduction to Sociology, Social Statistics, and Environmental Sociology.

Dorothy DeBoer teaches Introduction to Sociology, Criminology, and Juvenile Delinquency. Beginning in Fall 2009, she will teach Sociology of Mental Health, which utilizes her expertise in stigma and support among the mentally ill.

Doug Forbes continues to pursue his interest/passion for cycling, scheduled to ride again in the Trek 100 for the third year running – having raised over \$10,000 for children's cancer research in those three years. In addition, he'll be riding another 100 miler for the Menominee River Century Ride, benefitting the Bay Area Medical Center in Menominee. He'll also be doing his first ever race – a 90+ mile race around Lake Winnebago in mid-August. Academically, he has been working with Dr. Lamb on her research on ethnic differences in mentoring of adolescents, and has applied for a sabbatical for Fall 2010, to research Native American pregnancy and infant mortality in the U.S. Starting in Spring 2010 he will also begin teaching Soc. 270 (Minority Groups) every spring semester. He currently teaches Introduction to Sociology, Social Statistics and Research Methods.

Gary Itzkowitz continues to head the Community Research Center. During the 2008-2009 school year, telephone surveys were completed through the CRC with the assistance of twenty five students. These projects involved a Survey of Transportation Needs for the Taylor County Transportation Coalition (April, 2009), three Member Satisfaction Telephone Surveys for Community Care of Central Wisconsin (November, 2008 and April, 2009). Another ongoing project through the CRC included an ongoing series of studies (since 2001) for Wood County Head Start aimed at following previous students as they progress through the public schools, involving an analysis of report cards and student achievements in reading. Additionally, the CRC completed a process and outcomes program evaluation for the Prestige Protein Economic Development Project in Wood County. This ongoing project (since 2006) is funded through the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services (Office of Community Services & CAP Services). The evaluation is aimed at testing whether low-income hires, when provided additional services, will show increased wages. Professor Itzkowitz also taught a Social Entrepreneurship Seminar course. This course teaches students to create sustainable social benefits by fusing a social good with business practices. Professor Itzkowitz also teaches Social Problems, Sociological Theory, and Sociology of Globalization.

Kathleen Lamb published a paper entitled "Exploring Adoptive Motherhood: Adoption-Seeking Among Hispanic and Non-Hispanic White Women" in the November 2008 issue of *Adoption Quarterly*. She currently has another paper under review at *Social Science Research*, co-authored with Dr. Doug Forbes, which explores the effect of informal mentoring on the civic participation and political participation of Anglo and Latino youth. She will present a paper at the American Sociological Association conference in San Francisco in August which examines the impact of concentrated poverty on having an informal mentor during adolescence, and compares rural and urban youth. She teaches Introduction to Sociology, Sociology of Adolescence, Sociology of Childhood, Marriage and Family, and The Family: Cultural Perspectives. In her spare time, she enjoys running, traveling, gardening, and cooking.

Sonny Smart teaches Introduction to Sociology, Child Welfare, Orientation to Native American Social Work, Social Work with Native American and Other Culturally Diverse Families, Human Behavior and Social Environment, and Problems in Family Interaction, and other Special Topics in Social Work courses. He works with the State of Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association. Currently, he is working on codifying Chapter 48 (The Children's Law) of the Indian Child Welfare Act, so that social workers can clearly interpret how this law applies to their practice. Professor Smart is traveling to Washington DC in the Summer of 2009 for the Council of Social Work Accreditation, as part of the creation of the Social Work major in the Department of Sociology. Professor Smart has also made presentations on American Indian family structure at UW Madison, UW Milwaukee, UW Green Bay, Wisconsin Tribal Colleges, and Central Michigan University. He provides mental health and child welfare consultation to the State of Wisconsin, and provides cultural competence training as well. He has written a foreword for a book published through the DC Everest School district, *Tribal Nations in Central Wisconsin*.

Bob Wolensky will spend the fall 2009 semester on sabbatical researching the sociology of work labor relations among anthracite coal miners in eastern Pennsylvania. He will spend the spring 2010 semester part-time at the Center for 21st Century Studies, UW-Milwaukee, conducting similar research on the anthracite coal region. He teaches Social Problems, Environmental Sociology, Urban Sociology, The American Community, Sociology of Planning, and frequently teaches other Special Topics in Sociology courses.

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Helena Alden	Social Psychology, Gender Roles	346-3750	CCC462
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 228
Kathleen Lamb	Family, Social Psychology	346-3749	CCC 458
Sonny Smart	Native American/Rural Social Work	346-3748	CCC 448
Robert Wolensky	Urban and Community	346-2708	CCC 451
Laurie Scheunemann	Dept. Assistant	346-3060	CCC488A

Emeritus Faculty

Woody Bishop	Social Psychology, Sociology of Mental Health
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

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Written By: Robert Wolensky

Professor John H. Natzke has been teaching Introductory Sociology over the past two years as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Sociology. John recently returned to his home area near Rhinelander after having served as a professor of sociology for 30 years at Wilkes University in Pennsylvania. He retired in 2005 and is an Emeritus Professor at Wilkes. John earned a doctorate in Sociology from Western Michigan University.

Janet Dehn is an instructor in the Department of Sociology. She taught Sociology of Mental Health through the Collaborative Degree Program during the 2008-2009 school year.

Cate Gitter is an adjunct instructor in the Department of Sociology. She taught Social Welfare Policies and Programs and Rural Social Work during the 2008-2009 school year.

Visit the UWSP Department of Sociology Web page at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/sociology/>

STUDENT BENEFITS FROM SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM ON OUR LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH UNIT

Written by: Melissa Couillard & Amy Boelk

Melissa Couillard is graduating in May of 2009 with a major in psychology and a minor in sociology. Originally from New London, Wisconsin, she has had past volunteer experience with the Special Olympics and Students Against Drunk Driving. She is completing a two-semester placement on the Mental Health Unit at St. Michael's Hospital under the supervision of master's level clinical social worker, Michelle Nelson. Her major responsibilities as an intern include conducting psychosocial assessments, providing supportive counseling to patients, linking patients to resources, facilitating groups, working as part of a team, and documenting patient information. She has also taken on primary responsibility for the unit's follow-up program, which attempts to assess how patients function following discharge. This program was first implemented by another social worker intern, Samantha Casey, last semester. Through this internship, Ms. Couillard has also become a member of the Suicide Prevention Committee in Portage County. Ms. Couillard intends to work in the social service field for a year or two to gain additional experience and then hopes to pursue her master's in social work (MSW) through the UW-Oshkosh/UW-Green Bay collaborative program. She plans to specialize in mental health and would eventually like to practice psychotherapy. When asked to comment on her internship experience, she indicated that "I feel I have learned so much during my internship that simply cannot be learned in the classroom. I have learned so much about mental illness and addiction and feel that I have greatly improved my skills by working in the field. This internship has only reinforced in my mind that I am pursuing the right profession for my future."



STUDENT CAREER IS GUIDED THROUGH TWO APPLIED SOCIOLOGY INTERNSHIPS

Written by: Dru Heier & Amy Boelk

Earl "Dru" Heier is graduating in May with a major in sociology and a minor in small cities analysis. He is originally from Webster, Wisconsin. During the fall semester of 2008, he completed an internship with Choices to Change, Washington House Group Home in Plover, WI. The goal of the program is to return habilitated individuals to their communities through addressing thinking errors, irresponsible choices, and negative behaviors in a safe, positive, and therapeutic environment. Mr. Heier assisted with all aspects of the program, including conducting individual and group sessions, providing education and independent living skills training, recreational/social activities, and addressing day to day concerns in the facility. This semester, Mr. Heier is completing a second internship with the Stevens Point Police Department, under the supervision of Sgt. Marty Skibba, as well as other law enforcement personnel. Through this internship, Mr. Heier has been exposed to all aspects of the Department, has received important training, and has taken it upon himself to visit other law enforcement organizations and institutions. Mr. Heier plans to pursue a career in law enforcement. He will be attending Madison Area Technical College for Recruit Training, which will be the last piece of needed education before he is employable as a law enforcement officer in Wisconsin. He noted that "this internship has taught me many things that I otherwise would not have been able to be exposed to until working as an officer. These experiences will make me more prepared to work as a law enforcement officer as well as give me an advantage when I go to interview for open positions."



SOCIAL WORK INTERN GAINS VALUABLE EXPERIENCE WITH ELDERS

Written by: Genny Radley & Amy Boelk

Genny Radley is graduating in May with a major in Sociology and a minor in Native American and Rural Social Work. She is originally from Wild Rose, Wisconsin. In addition to a variety of volunteer experiences, she has previous work experience at Crossroads Mental Health Services, Home Instead, and Creative Community Living Services. She completed her first internship at the Adult Day Center within the Lincoln Center. Following that internship, she decided that she wanted to gain a different type of experience with older adults, and was accepted as an intern at the Stevens Point Care Center, under the supervision of master's level social worker, Kathi Stoner. She has just completed her second semester there. Her main responsibilities as an intern included taking in referrals, facilitating admissions, and conducting assessments on residents at the nursing home. Having successfully completed her internship, she was recently hired by the Stevens Point Care Center as a social work assistant. Ms. Radley hopes to continue her career as a social worker with older adults and gain social work certification. When commenting on her internship, she noted "my internship at the nursing home has definitely been a rewarding, positive, enriching, and educational experience and is already opening up doors for me within the agency and hopefully will lead to something more permanent."

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ALUMNI UPDATES

Written by Robert Wolensky

Michelle Cisewski ('08) works for Community Care Central Wisconsin (CCCW) as a social worker for the Developmentally Disabled population.

Tracy Smith Dorler ('81) is employed in the Community Support Program of the Portage County Health and Human Services Department.

David B. Haecker ('07), a graduate student in the Sociology Department at UW-Milwaukee, has authored an article in *Sociological Imagination* (Vo. 44, 2008: 17-26) titled, "Crossing the Line Between Entertainment and Reality: A Sociological Analysis of Collective Behavior in Professional Wrestling." Dave first presented his ideas on this topic at the UWSP L&S Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Lindsey Moffat ('05) completed an MSW at Augsburg College, Minneapolis, in June 2008. She recently moved to Madison to accept a position at Mendota Mental Health Institute where she is a social worker in the forensics program on a maximum security unit.

Andrew Bushard ('01), earned a M.A. in Sociology from MSU-Mankato in 2004, with a thesis title, "From Prohibiting Alcohol to Treating Alcoholism: A Comparative Frame Analysis of the Prohibition Movement and Alcoholics Anonymous." Andrew has been traveling around the world (South Africa is next), before considering a return to graduate school for a doctorate.



University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point
Sociology Department #607600
1801 Fourth Avenue, Room 488A CCC
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481
(715) 346-3060 Fax: (715) 346-2250
Email: sociology@uwsp.edu

