Dr. Renzuli, Dept Head, surprised Dr. Lindsay Hamm with the presentation of the Excellence in Instruction Award for Lecturers

Dr. Lindsay Hamm received The Excellence in Instruction Award for Lecturers. This award honors academic staff with the rank of continuing lecturer for outstanding undergraduate teaching on the West Lafayette campus. Recipients of the award will receive a $5,000 award. It is the highest teaching honor for lecturers at Purdue.

Spencer Headworth as the recipient of the Kenneth T. Kofmehl Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award for 2020-2021. This award is chosen by the Liberal Arts Educational Excellence Awards Committee and the Dean on the basis of student and faculty nominations, student ratings, teaching and scholarly excellence, and peer evaluation. He will receive an award of $5,000 from CLA.

J. Jill Suitor was selected as a College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher for 2020-2021. The award is chosen by the Liberal Arts Educational Excellence Awards Committee and the Dean on the basis of student and faculty nominations, student ratings, teaching and scholarly excellence, and peer evaluation. She will receive an award of $2,000.

Award for Exceptional Teaching and Instructional Support during the COVID-19 Pandemic based on Innovation, In-Person Learning Environment, Mentoring, Student Support, Graduate Students and Other

Sociology Awardees: Lindsay Hamm, Brian Kelly, Dan Olson and Jeremy Reynolds

RENZULLI REPORT

The usual hustle and bustle on the third floor was largely absent this year. Office doors were closed and lights were dimmed, but zoom screens were working at full capacity. Despite the challenges professionally and personally that this year brought, I can say from my vantage point, that the sociology department endured. The racial unrest and the Covid pandemic highlighted the need for sociological thought and commitment. The work this department produced over the year in various venues shows our dedication to these issues.

We welcomed two new faculty - Brandon Jackson and Josh Doyle -- to the quiet halls, and though we were not able to welcome them with our usual fanfare, we are all thrilled to have them as colleagues. As you will read, we wrote grants, collected data, published papers, defended AP thesis, and earned PhDs. I was told to think about our work this year and reflect on “what did we accomplish given what was possible.” This department exceeded anyone’s expectations. I know too well that it meant committing many hours (more than normal) to the mission of higher education – learning, discovery, and engagement. I do hope everyone finds some peace and relaxation in the coming weeks.

HIGHLIGHTS & AWARDS CONTINUED

Trenton Mize received the Outstanding Recent Contribution in Social Psychology Award from the American Sociological Association’s section on social psychology. Trent’s paper “Precarious Sexuality: How Men and Women Are Differentially Categorized for Similar Sexual Behavior.”

Lindsay Hamm - Service-Learning Fellows for Fall 2021

Linda Renzulli - Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program Fellow for the 2021-2022 academic year
NEW TO SOCIOLOGY

BRANDON JACKSON
Associate Professor

Dr. Jackson’s research employs ethnographic methods to examine emotion cultures and social support among black men. This work has won awards from the Association of Black Sociologists and the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and has appeared in the ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Sociological Inquiry, Symbolic Interaction, and the DuBois Review. He is currently completing a book manuscript tentatively titled “Brotherhood University: Friendships among Black Men in College,” (under contract with Rutgers University Press). Born and raised in Texas, he received his B.A. in sociology from Southern Methodist University, and his Ph.D. from Florida State University. Specialization: Social Inequality: Class, Gender, Race/Ethnicity, and Sexuality.

JOSHUA DOYLE
Assistant Professor

Dr. Doyle is a sociologist who studies how culture influences decision-making. Currently his research focuses on social trust as a predictor of cooperative behaviors and support for environmental protections. Dr. Doyle uses a mixture of experimental methods and statistical analysis of observational data in his research. Specialization: Social Psychology, Culture and Action, Environmental Problems, Social Trust, Cooperation.

ALMA GARZA
Postdoctoral Research Associate

Dr. Garza recently completed her PhD in Sociology at the University of California, Irvine, her dissertation “Treading Borders: How College and Community Cultures Shape the Upwardly Mobile Experiences of Mexican-Origin Students”.

Center on Religion and Chinese Society is broadening their mission and expanding the focus to religion in the “Global East,” including societies in East Asia and the East Asian diaspora. To reflect this expanded vision, we have changed our name to the Center on Religion and the Global East (CRGE).


GRANTS

“Mental and Physical Health in Children of Latino Migrant Farm Workers: A Multi-Level Longitudinal Examination of Risk and Resilience Factors.” Funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (1R01MD014187-01A1), Yumary Ruiz and Zoe Ellen Taylor Principal Investigators. J. Jill Suitor, Co-Investigator ($3,138,472) 09/23/2020 – 03/30/2025

NSF award for Linda Renzulli: 03/15/2021 - 02/28/2023 Project: Collaborative Research: School family nexus and educational differences during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond With PI Thurston Domina at UNC Chapel Hill. Total $380,000 – Purdue $230,000


Welcome to our 2020-2021 Cohort

MALLORY BELL
B.A. - DePauw University
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Ferraro
Interests: Health inequalities in chronic illness

BING HAN
M.S. - Zhejiang University-China
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mize
Interests: Health behaviors, religion

YUFU JIANG
M.A. - University of Southern California
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Suitor
Interests: Intergenerational family relationships

ALEX MONTGOMERY
M.A. - Brandeis University
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Stryker
Interests: Gender identity, Greek-letter organizations

OLIVIA NEFF
B.A. - DePauw University
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Thomas
Interests: Health inequality, political sociology, corporate power

TONY TAN
B.A. - National University of Singapore
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Stryker
Interests: Sociology of law, modern slavery

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

2021-2022 CLA DEAN’S CONTINUING GRADUATE EDUCATION SUPPORT FELLOWSHIP

ELLE ROCHFORD

LYNN-ROSS FELLOWSHIP

YIFEI HOU (Under the direction of Dr. Jill Suitor)

EICHHORN AWARD

ROBERT FRASE

LOIS K. COHEN GRADUATE EDUCATION ENDOWMENT

YOUGEUN NAM

WALTER HIRSCH DISSERTATION RESEARCH AWARD

VASUNDHARA KAUL

DEAN KNUDSEN PHD DISSERTATION AWARD

BO BLEW, HISTORY

VASUNDHARA KAUL

JASMINE JACKSON, POLITICAL SCIENCE

OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTOR

ADAM KOTANKO

BEST PAPER

YIFEI HOU

"New Structure, Traditional Essence: Patterns of Helping Non-Coresident Parents by Own and Sibling(s)' Gender in China" that is coauthored with Marissa Rurka and Siyun Peng and is forthcoming in the Research on Aging journal.

MADISON SAUERTEIG

“Life Course Stressors and Functional Limitations in Later Life among White, Black, and Hispanic Adults: Deleterious, Hardening, or Benign?” that is coauthored with Kenneth F. Ferraro and Shawn Bauldry and is forthcoming in the Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

CATHERINE STEPNIAK

Catherine Stepniak has shown outstanding service to this department’s graduate students through her numerous individual acts of kindness as well as her dedication to solidarity among grad students and commitment to using her seniority to amplify student concerns. She is a foundational pillar of support in our graduate student community, and without her service, our department would not be the same.

STEPHANIE WILSON - Scholarship Research Creative Arts (SRCA) Award, Applied and Clinical Sociology Conference, Fall 2020.
WRITTEN IN STONE

Grad Student news continued

JOB PLACEMENT

AMY PETTS - LIBRARY ASSESSMENT MANAGER AT BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
MARISAA RURKA - SENIOR ANALYST AT THE CENTER FOR HEALTH AND RESEARCH TRANSFORMATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SOCIAL MEDIA IN SOCIOLOGY

ELLE ROCHFORD launched a social science and baking podcast called “Proofing and Lies” which is available anywhere podcasts are found. It features public and applied sociology topics as well as political science and science communication. https://anchor.fm/proofing-and-lies

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO WARREN DUKES

Warren Dukes, Academic Program Manager, has accepted an amazing opportunity as Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion with United Way of Greater Indiana.

Warren has been with the department of sociology in various capacities since 2015. Along with many other accomplishments in the department Warren spearheaded the creation of the Digital Criminology Major with collaboration from the Purdue Cybersecurity program.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM EXPANSION

The department of Sociology ushered in the 2020-2021 academic year with an expansion of its undergraduate degree program offering. Seeking innovative ways to prepare our students for 21st century career readiness, the department launched a four-year interdisciplinary degree program in Digital Criminology. Collaborating with the Purdue Polytechnic Institute (PPI), this degree program combines our Law and Society discipline courses with coursework in cybersecurity. This advanced degree program will prepare our students with the investigative tools for careers in digital crimes investigations such as fraud, computer terrorism, data theft, and technical espionage in all levels of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, and private industry.

SPOTLIGHTING EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

MS. HALEY MILLER
LAW & SOCIETY MAJOR

“This past summer (Summer 2020) I had the opportunity to participate in a virtual internship with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the Division of Facilities & Security, Security Management Operations Branch. I worked full time, collaborating with the Senior Security Specialists on daily operations and even assisted in developing new and innovative defense strategies to protect the U.S. NRC's campus. This internship allowed me to connect concepts and theories I was learning in my Law & Society classes directly with what I was doing at the NRC. I was also introduced to a whole new field that directly applied to my major that I never even considered before.”

https://anchor.fm/proofing-and-lies

SOCIAL MEDIA IN SOCIOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY at Purdue would like to know what our alumni are doing. Please send your news to the below email to let us know about your current position, exciting award, or any other news worth sharing. We would like to share this information in the next issue of WRITTEN IN STONE.

MAIL TO:
Department of Sociology
RE: Written In Stone Sociology at Purdue
Stone Hall, 700 W State St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2059

FAX: 765.496.1476
EMAIL: sociolgy@purdue.edu
WEB: cla.purdue.edu/academic/sociology/index.html

Please provide your the following information when mailing or emailing your news for WRITTEN IN STONE:

1) Name, address, Purdue degree & year, email and phone number
2) News/event title, date of event, picture (if any) and information about news/event

GIVING TO SOCIOLOGY

Your contribution helps us extend the excellence. Please use Purdue’s secure online system or an option below. Every dollar contributed to our department directly impacts our students and faculty. Thank you for your generosity.

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