

Longtime Faculty Member Entwisle Named Vice Chancellor for Research



Dr. Barbara Entwisle, Kenan Distinguished Professor of Sociology who has been a leading researcher at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for 26 years, has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor for Research.

The appointment, effective March 25, was approved March 24 by the University's Board of Trustees. Entwisle has been the Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development since last August.

"Barbara has been a great addition to our administrative team and already has effectively championed the University's research enterprise in her interim role," said Chancellor Holden Thorp. "She brings extensive experience in leading the Carolina Population Center, one of our most distinguished research units. She understands multidisciplinary research - a hallmark of this Univer-

sity -- extraordinarily well and has the skills and insights we need to help keep Carolina competitive nationally."

Entwisle succeeds Tony Waldrop, who served as vice chancellor until leaving last summer to become provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Central Florida.

As vice chancellor, Entwisle leads a campus-wide research program that attracted \$803 million in contract and grant funding in fiscal 2010 - more than double the amount from a decade ago. Helping spur that growth has been the construction, made possible in recent years by public and private investments, of key research facilities including the Carolina Physical Science Complex. The vice chancellor leads efforts to connect academic units across the campus with University priorities and manages research support offices as well as select centers and institutes.

Entwisle, a social demographer who studies population, health and environment, joined Carolina's department of sociology in 1985. From 2002 until last summer, she directed the Carolina Population Center, and within the last decade assumed additional faculty appointments in the department of geography, curriculum for the environment and ecology, curriculum in international and area studies, and department of Asian studies.

The Carolina Population Center routinely attracts funding from the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies and helps drive related social science and

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Summer 2011

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2010-2011: A Time of Transitions

2010-2011 was an academic year full of transitions in our department. On March 25, 2011, **Barbara Entwisle** was appointed Vice Chancellor for Research at UNC-CH. You'll find more information in our cover story, which gives an overview of the leadership and research experience she brings to the new position. Our congratulations to Barbara!

Within the department, we had one major change this past academic year: **Sherryl Kleinman** took over the directorship of the Social and Economic Justice (SEJ) Minor, continuing the program started by our department's own **Judith Blau** – the previous director of this College of Arts & Sciences undergraduate minor. Helping Sherryl with this transition has been graduate student **Jordan Radke**, the new Assistant Director.

2011-2012 will prove to be a time for change as well. Within the department, **Karolyn Tyson** will be taking over as Director of Undergraduate Studies. Helping her will be graduate student **Robin Gary**, who took over as Assistant Director of the Undergraduate Program, and who has, for the last year, been ably assisting **Kenneth Andrews**, the director of the program for the past five years.

Many honors and recognitions were bestowed upon our faculty this past

academic year. Notably, Howard W. Odum Research Professor **Glen H. Elder, Jr.** was honored at the 2010 ASA Annual Meeting with a pre-conference symposium entitled "Celebration of Life Course Studies - Honoring Glen Elder's Contributions to Sociology."

Our department also continued to be prominently featured in the media this past academic year. Whether it was **Lisa Pearce** addressing the religiousness of young people, **Andrew Perrin** discussing grading policies, **Charles Kurzman** on Islamic movements, or **Yong Cai** on China's one-child policy, UNC Sociology played an important role in the public discussion of many pressing social issues.

To aid future news-makers, our department strives to prepare our undergraduate students for academic and research-oriented careers. As showcased in our feature written by **Lisa Pearce** and **Karolyn Tyson**, there are numerous UNC-CH mentoring programs that attempt to increase diversity in the social sciences by exposing underrepresented undergraduate students to social science research and the world of academia early on in their academic careers. With many successes already, these programs continue to act as catalysts, jump-starting a passion for social science research that will lead these students on to successful careers in the academic, public, and private sectors.

As of July 1, 2011, Oxford University press became the official publisher of our Journal, *Social Forces*. The decision to move to OUP was a result of many years of deliberation about the best publishing arrangement for *Social Forces* and six months of negotiations with the many publishers who responded to a request for proposals from us. **Arne Kalleberg** will continue as the editor and **Neal Caren** as the book review editor, and we will continue to have student associate editors. The managing office of the journal will move to Oxford University press's local office in the Research Triangle. This new arrangement will substantially improve the long-term financial health of the journal, and the department should begin seeing the benefits of this next year.

There is one final change worth mentioning: our new website! The site is scheduled to go live as of the online publishing of this newsletter and will be similar in appearance and functionality to the main UNC-CH site. To provide users with a cleaner look and a more intuitive interface, we have simplified navigation and made vital information easier to find by adding many quick links and navigation portlets to the sides of content pages. What's more, we will be updating the content regularly with upcoming events, news, honors, awards, and activities. This will make it much easier for users to keep abreast of the goings-on in the department. We hope that you enjoy the new UNC-CH Sociology online experience!

UNC Sociology in the Media

Since its inception, UNC Sociology has played an important role in the public discussion of many significant sociological issues. The department continues to do so today, operating as a go-to source for many media outlets when they need thorough and well-researched analysis. As such, UNC Sociology continued to be prominently featured in the media last year.

Yong Cai was quoted numerous times and featured in [Science Magazine](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#), [The New York Times](#), the [Associated Press](#), and other outlets, discussing China's thirty-three-year-old one-child policy and its implications for China's future. His research shows that the Chinese government has overstated the number of births the policy has prevented. Furthermore, Cai contends that economic pressures and social development would have led many Chinese families to have only one child regardless of the policy. Low fertility, in combination with other demographic factors, is creating a looming social crisis in China: a shrinking number of people of working age, a rapidly aging population, and an imbalance in the sex ratio. Hence, many demographers argue for an adjustment or phase out of the one-child policy.

Andrew Perrin's efforts to tackle grading policies have been the subject of much debate and discussion at UNC-CH. Most recently, the *New York Times* ran a [feature](#) on the ongoing struggle to clarify just what grades mean. In the article, Perrin discusses his work with a committee that he heads at UNC-CH, formed to implement new policies for reporting the context of grades. Moving forward, student grades at UNC-CH will now be looked at relative to the performance of other students in the course.

Charles Kurzman made headlines

recently in [The Guardian](#), [CBC](#), [CNN](#), [Fox News](#), [NPR](#), and other media outlets. According to his research, attempted or actual terrorist activity by the Muslim-American community declined significantly over the past year and a half. The threat of terrorism can not be discounted altogether, but research shows that the public's perceived threat is much greater than the actual threat. When compared to ordinary violent crime in the U.S., the threat is, in fact, slight.

Over the last year, many of our faculty were interviewed or took part in panel discussions on WUNC's *The State of Things*. Most recently, **Judith Blau** and **Rafael Gallegos-Lerma** were [interviewed](#), discussing human rights issues in the Abbey Court neighborhood in Carrboro and their work with the Human Rights Center, a non-profit started by Blau. **Philip Cohen** was also recently on the [show](#) talking about a Pew Research study of marriage. According to the study, marriage is increasingly seen as a privilege of the well-off and highly educated. Furthermore, Americans seem to be getting married less often and later in life.

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Providing Undergraduates with a Window into the World of Academia

Numerous reports and studies have highlighted the need for and benefits of increasing diversity in academe at large and the social sciences in particular. One way in which UNC sociology faculty are working to increase diversity in the field is to participate in undergraduate mentoring programs that expose students from underrepresented groups to social science research and the world of academia. There have been a variety of these programs in action at Carolina over the past twenty years. One of these programs is the Moore Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (MURAP), named after accomplished UCLA Associate Professor of Sociology Mignon Moore, who was the program's first Ph.D. recipient. Professor Moore was mentored by Judith Blau as a MURAP participant. Professor Karolyn Tyson served as co-director of MURAP (with Professor Karla Slocum in the Department of Anthropology) from 2003-2006, in addition to her continuing involvement as a mentor in this program and others. In its 22-year history, MURAP has provided mentoring and research experience to almost 400 undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds, more than half of whom have

gone on to pursue a graduate degree in the social sciences, humanities, or fine arts. Jessica Welburn and Geniece Crawford, two of Professors Tyson's previous mentees, are among the many success stories of the program. Both students are currently enrolled in the sociology graduate program at Harvard University.

Another long-running program at UNC was the Student Pre-Graduate Research Experience (SPGRE), which has since ended. In past years, Professors Philip Cohen, Glen Elder, Jackie Hagan, Lisa Pearce, and Karolyn Tyson have mentored SPGRE students. One example of the successes achieved by sociologists participating in that program is that Nicole Steward-Streng, a past mentee of Pearce's, subsequently achieved a master's degree in sociology from Penn State University and now works at Child-Trends, a nonprofit, nonpartisan research center. Current UNC sociology graduate students Allison Mathews Brown and Niobra Peterson both participated in SPGRE. Peterson credits the program with helping to strengthen her research skills and encouraging her to pursue a Ph.D. Brown was already thinking of

pursuing a Ph.D. and SPGRE solidified her plans. She says "It was an honor for me to participate in SPGRE because it showed me that as a person of color, I could pursue a Ph.D. as a way to help my community."

For several years, the Carolina Population Center has been providing resources, support, and training to Undergraduate Research Interns who work with Faculty Fellows, and in the last three years, the program has expanded to include regular GRE preparation classes, a journal club that exposes them to different Faculty Fellows and their research, a weekly professional development/research skills workshop, and a course on programming for statistical analysis. This program is overseen by Jan Hendrickson-Smith, CPC's Training Program Coordinator. Sociology faculty who have served as preceptors for participants in this program include Professors Philip Cohen, Kyle Crowder, Barbara Entwisle, Margarita Mooney, Ted Mouw, Lisa Pearce, and Peter Uhlenberg.

Pearce has been working with recent UNC graduate Taylor Hargrove for two

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Lisa Pearce (center) with Taylor Hargrove (left) and Jessica Dilday (right)

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years through the CPC Undergraduate Internship program. They have co-authored two papers together, one on Nepalese adolescent attitudes toward living with elderly parents when they become adults, and one on how local farmers in Nepal perceive the causes and consequences of environmental problems. In the summer of 2010, Hargrove and Pearce traveled together with UNC sociology graduate student Shradha Shrestha, to conduct focus groups with farmers in Nepal. This was Hargrove's first international travel experience, and she reports,

“As a rising senior thinking about post-graduate plans, this opportunity couldn't have come at a better time. It gave me a chance to see what international research is like and what goes into a data collection study, from writing proposals and completing applications to organizing participants and actually collecting and cleaning the data. I was able to discover the various things that I enjoy and do not enjoy so much about conducting research. This trip is extremely rewarding in that it has given me the opportunity to experience something that I will be doing in the near future.”

After weighing her offers of admission and support from multiple highly ranked psychology and sociology graduate pro-

grams, Taylor has selected to begin the Ph.D. program in sociology at Vanderbilt University this fall. She is interested in studying racial/ethnic health disparities, one of that department's many research strengths. Before becoming a CPC Undergraduate Intern, Taylor was planning for a career in occupational therapy and her major was psychology with a minor in religious studies. Her experience working with Dr. Pearce turned her on to research and the possibility of an academic career. Her decision to pursue a Ph.D. in sociology was a direct result of her participation in the CPC program.

Another UNC undergraduate Pearce has worked with for the past year is Jessica Dilday, a sociology major who completed an honors thesis on patterns of meditation among adolescents in the United States this past spring. Pearce has also served as her mentor within the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. The McNair Scholars Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, provides assistance to students from underrepresented backgrounds, low-income families, and first-generation college students. Jessica will pursue graduate training in sociology at UNC-Charlotte this fall. Pearce is encouraged by the growth in the number and quality

of these programs over time. She says,

“I feel very lucky to have had excellent mentors in college and graduate school who took the time to introduce me to the options in academe — a completely unknown world to me at the time. Like so many others, had I not been exposed to the possibility, I would never have discovered the research and teaching career I so enjoy. I appreciate the opportunity to extend this favor to others, and my research projects benefit greatly from the assistance and contributions these students make to my team of graduate students and postdocs. We all learn from each other.”

Authors Lisa Pearce and Karolyn Tyson are Associate Professors of Sociology in the UNC-CH Department of Sociology.

For more information on these programs:

MURAP: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/murap/about.html>

CPC Undergraduate Internships: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/training/interns>

UNC's McNair Scholars Program: <http://mcnair.web.unc.edu/>

“It was an honor for me to participate in SPGRE because it showed me that as a person of color, I could pursue a Ph.D. as a way to help my community.”

Allison Mathews Brown



UNC-CH Sociology graduate students Allison Mathews Brown (left) and Niobra Peterson (right)

Department Welcomes New Faculty



Dr. Chris Bail will join the department in September 2013, after completing the Robert Wood Johnson Post-

Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Michigan. Prior to receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard University in May 2011, Bail studied at the London School of Economics and the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques in Paris, where he developed

his interest in cultural and political sociology.

Bail's research focuses on the interplay of social movements, social policies, ethnicity, and emotions. His mixed-method research has appeared in the *American Sociological Review*, has been recognized with awards from the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and is supported by the National Science

Foundation, the German Marshall Fund, and the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy.

Bail is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *Terrified: Fringe Movements, Emotions, and Islam*. This book explains how radical social movements exerted powerful influence upon the representation of Muslims in the policy process, the media, and everyday life since the September 11th attacks.



Dr. Laura Lopez-Sanders will join the department in September 2013, after completing a Robert Wood

Johnson Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of California - San Francisco. She earned a BA in Communication Sciences from the Jesuit University of Guadalajara, Mexico (I.T.E.S.O.), an MA in International Education Policy at Harvard University, and an MA in Social Sciences and Education at Stanford.

Lopez-Sanders has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants, including the Diversifying Academia Recruiting Excellence (D.A.R.E.) Doctoral Fellowship, the Gerald J. Lieberman Fellowship in the Social Sciences (declined), the National Science Foundation Dissertation Research Grant, the Ernesto Galarza Prize for Excellence in Graduate Student Research, and two American Sociological Association awards for Outstanding Graduate Student Papers from the Race, Gender, and Class section and the Latino section.

Lopez-Sanders' dissertation, "Is Brown the New Black? Latino Immigrant Incorporation in the Contemporary South," examines immigrant integration and its impact on race and ethnic relations in destinations that had not experienced much immigration since the 19th century but that are now being transformed as a result of immigration. Her research is based on fifteen months of participant observation research in which she studied inter- and intra-group relations by working and living alongside Latino immigrants, African Americans, and whites in the South.

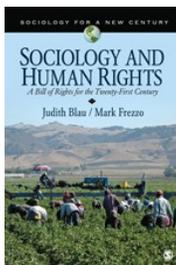
Department Welcomes New Postdoctoral Fellow



Dr. Mosi Ifatunji joined the Department of Sociology and Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in July 2011. Ifatunji completed his Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). He also holds two bachelor degrees in African American Studies and Psychology from UIC. He held several academic and research fellowships throughout his graduate training, including the prestigious American Sociological Association Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (2007-2010).

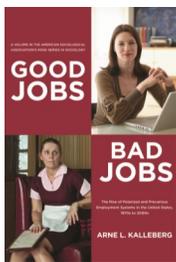
Ifatunji's primary research interests include racial ideology and inequality, immigration and migration, and mixed-methods research methodology. Broadly speaking, his long-term research goal is to understand how race works throughout the Black Diaspora. Much of his work to date has focused on various structural factors that are associated with the ways in which African Americans think about and experience race and racial inequality. His dissertation was entitled, "Are Black Immigrants a Model Minority? Race, Ethnicity and Social Inequality in the United States." In his dissertation, he employed the case of the "Negro Immigrant" as a naturally occurring scientific experiment in an effort to isolate the relative roles of "color" and "culture" in the production of persistent racial inequality in America. Going forward, Ifatunji is particularly interested in socioeconomic and political disparities between African Americans and black immigrants (from Africa and the Caribbean) and how these black ethnic disparities help shape black poverty and racial inequality in the US. He is also working on two theoretical papers on race and racism in the US. For more information on Mosi Ifatunji, please visit his website: <http://www.ifatunji.com>.

Book Publications



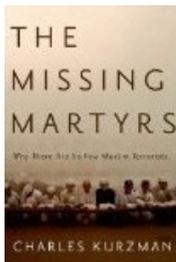
Judith Blau & Mark Frezzo (Eds.) — Sociology and Human Rights: A Bill for the Twenty-First Century (Pine Forge Press, 2011)

This groundbreaking anthology examines the implications that human rights have for the social sciences. The book provides readers with a wide-ranging collection of articles, each written by experts in their fields who argue for an expansion of fundamental human rights in the United States. To provide an international context, the volume covers the human rights treaties that have been incorporated into the constitutions of many countries throughout the world, including wealthy nations such as Spain and Sweden and impoverished countries such as Bolivia and Croatia.



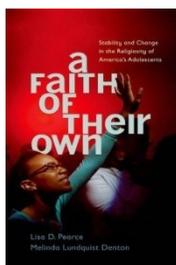
Arne Kalleberg — Good Jobs, Bad Jobs: The Rise of Polarized and Precarious Employment Systems in the United States, 1970s to 2000s (Russell Sage, 2011)

Kalleberg describes and explains how social, political, and economic forces have radically transformed the nature of employment relations and work in America since the middle of the 1970s. These changes have led to a growing polarization between high-skilled, good jobs and low-skilled, bad jobs and a decline in semi-skilled, well-paying jobs that has shrunk the size of the middle class. Kalleberg provides insights into theories of work organization and social stratification and underscores the need for a new social contract to enhance both the competitiveness of the American economy and the quality of life experienced by individuals and their families.



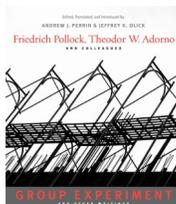
Charles Kurzman — The Missing Martyrs: Why There Are So Few Muslim Terrorists (Oxford University Press, 2011).

Charles Kurzman draws on government sources, public opinion surveys, election results, and in-depth interviews with Muslims in the Middle East and around the world. He finds that young Muslims are indeed angry with what they see as imperialism — and especially at Western support for local dictatorships. Kurzman notes that it takes only a small cadre of committed killers to wreak unspeakable havoc. But that very fact underscores his point. As easy as terrorism is to commit, few Muslims turn to violence. *The Missing Martyrs* provides a much-needed corrective to deep-seated and destructive misconceptions about Muslims and the Islamic world.



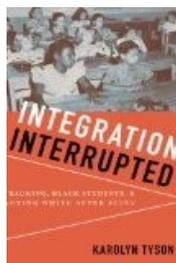
Lisa D. Pearce & Melinda Lundquist Denton — A Faith of Their Own: Stability and Change in the Religiosity of America's Adolescents (Oxford University Press, 2010)

Pearce and Denton take a mixed-method approach to chart the spiritual trajectory of American adolescents over a period of three years. The authors find that religion is an important force in the lives of most youth — though their involvement with religion changes over time, just as teenagers themselves do. The authors offer a rich understanding of the dynamic nature of faith in young people's lives during a period of rapid change in biology, personality, and social interaction. Not only do degrees of religiosity change, but so does its nature, whether expressed in institutional practices or personal belief.



Friedrich Pollock, Theodor W. Adorno and Colleagues; translated and edited by Andrew J. Perrin & Jeffrey K. Olick — Group Experiment and Other Writings (Harvard University Press, 2011)

During the occupation of West Germany after the Second World War, the American authorities commissioned polls to assess the values and opinions of ordinary Germans, concluding that the fascist attitudes of the Nazi era had weakened. Theodor W. Adorno and his Frankfurt School colleagues were skeptical. In *Group Experiment*, edited by Friedrich Pollock, they published their findings on group discussion experiments that delved deeper into the process of opinion formation. Andrew J. Perrin and Jeffrey K. Olick make a case that these experiments are an important missing link in the ontology and methodology of current social science survey research.



Karolyn Tyson — Integration Interrupted: Tracking, Black Students, and Acting White after Brown (Oxford University Press, 2011)

When students understand race to be connected with achievement, it is a powerful lesson conveyed by schools, not their peers. Drawing on over ten years of ethnographic research, Karolyn Tyson shows how equating school success with "acting white" arose in the aftermath of *Brown v. Board of Education* through the practice of curriculum tracking, which separates students for instruction, ostensibly by ability and prior achievement. The book's rich narratives throw light on the complex relationships underlying school behaviors and convincingly demonstrate that the problem lies not with students, but instead with how we organize our schools.

Selected Faculty Awards & Honors

Howard Aldrich was given the 2010-2011 Graduate Student Association Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Kenneth Andrews received a \$136,347 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant for his two-year research project (2011-13) on "Protest, Politics, and Economics in the Desegregation of the U.S. South."

Judith Blau received the "Most Influential Faculty" award, given by the Alpha Iota Chapter of La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda. She is also acting president of the International Sociological Association, TG 03; chair of the Human Rights Section of the American Sociological Association (ASA); and president of Sociologists without Borders (membership > 1700).

Kenneth Bollen was selected as a fellow of the American Statistical Association. Nominated by their peers, Statistical Association Fellows are members of established reputation who have made outstanding contributions in some aspect of statistical work.

Yong Cai was awarded the Grier/Woods Presbyterian China Initiative Fellowship from the Carolina Asia Center. The award is for his project "One Child is Enough: The Emergence of Low Fertility Norms in China in a Comparative Perspective." Cai also won a University Research Council Award for the project titled "Regional Mortality Variation in China, Inequality and Homogeneity."

Philip Cohen and **Jessica Pearlman's** co-authored paper with Matt Huffman (UC-Irvine), "Engendering Change: Organizational Dynamics and Workplace Gender Desegregation, 1975–2005," was awarded the 2011 W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship in an Article from the Organizations, Occupations, and Work section of the ASA.

Glen H. Elder, Jr. was honored with a pre-conference symposium entitled "Celebration of Life Course Studies - Honoring Glen Elder's Contributions to Sociology" at the 2010 ASA Annual Meeting. Additionally, he was honored with a symposium entitled "Life Course Approaches to Child Development" which included presentations by

four leaders in the field of developmental psychology at the 2011 Society for Research in Child Development in Montreal.

Guang Guo was elected president of the Evolution, Biology & Society section of the ASA for the 2012-2013 academic year. Guang Guo has also been appointed to the Social Sciences and Population Studies Study Section at the Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health.

Jacqueline Hagan received the Aix-Marseille Institute for Advanced Study (IMERA) Fellowship Award for the months of June and July 2011. She was also awarded the Woodrow Wilson Center Fellowship Award for the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 semesters. In addition, Hagan was awarded the UNC Kenan Leave Award for the Fall 2012 semester.

Arne Kalleberg was elected a foreign member of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters in January 2011 for his outstanding accomplishments to sociology and the social sciences. Last year, the Andrew W. Mellon foundation approved a grant of \$175,000 to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in support of the Sawyer seminars program on the comparative study of cultures entitled "Precarious Work in Asia." Kevin Hewison (Asian Studies) is the co-PI for this award.

Sherryl Kleinman received the 2010-2011 Graduate Student Association Award for Excellence in Community Building.

Charles Kurzman was elected to the American Society for the Study of Religion. His research on Muslim-American terrorism was cited by Representatives Peter King and Keith Ellison and mentioned in *The New York Times*, CNN, Fox News, and other news media during the spring of 2011.

Ted Mouw was awarded a 2011-2012 Fellowship at the Global Research Institute, part of the Global Education Center at UNC-CH.

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Selected Faculty Awards & Honors

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Andy Perrin & co-investigators **Neal Caren**, and Eliana Perrin & Asheley Skinner (UNC Pediatrics) were awarded an R03 grant from the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health. This is for a project called "Systematic Cultural Observation: A Method for Observing Place-Based Health Related Culture," to be carried out in Lenoir County, NC in 2011-2013. The grant is \$100,000 in direct costs and will be administered through the Odum Institute.

Ron Rindfuss, along with collaborators David Guilkey (UNC Economics), Phil Morgan (Duke) and Oystein Kravdal (University of Oslo), received an award from ASA's Population Section. His paper, "Child-Care Availability and Fertility in Norway," is the winner of the 2011 Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Population Award.

Michael Shanahan received an R01 grant from National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) to study the role of genetic candidates in the

SES-health gradient. The project covers five years and includes collaborators in the medical school and at the Universities of Colorado-Boulder, Denver (a departmental alumnus, Richard Miech), and Minnesota. It provides \$1.7 million in total funding. Shanahan's R01 is based on Add Health data, particularly the genetic data collected at Wave IV. He also received a T32 training grant with Martha Cox and Peter Ornstein (both at UNC Psychology) that will provide funding for post-docs and pre-docs in developmental science. The grant provides the 21st through 25th years of continuous funding for this training program, located at the Center for Developmental Science, and will provide over \$2.4 million in resources. In addition, Shanahan was elected to the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research.

Karolyn Tyson received the 2010-2011 Graduate Student Association Award for Excellence in Mentoring.

Yang Yang was elected to the American Sociological Association's Methodology Section Council.

Selected Faculty Activities

Howard Aldrich participated in an October 4, 2010 White House Women's Entrepreneurship Conference in Washington, D.C. "The meeting was called to provide feedback on a number of Obama administration initiatives in support of women entrepreneurs," said Aldrich. The White House Council on Women and Girls sponsored the meeting. About 80 participants, including women entrepreneurs and representatives of universities and think tanks, recommended steps for submission to the Small Business Administration and the National Women's Business Council.

Glen H. Elder, Jr.'s contributions at the national level are evident in the increasing influence of the life course perspective in studies of health and health policy. This perspective is reflected in a new model

at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Healthy People 2020 and in the U.S. Maternal and Child Health Bureau's new strategic plan. One of the initiatives involves the development of a life course network at UCLA that includes more than 400 members from a variety of disciplines.

Victor Marshall gave the invited inaugural address, "Vulnerability, Risk and the Life Course" to a newly funded research program at The University of Lausanne, Switzerland, on March 21, 2011. The research program, funded by the Swiss Research Council, is called LIVES: Vulnerability and Risk in the Life Course. Marshall also presented two additional seminars at The University of Lausanne and The University of Geneva's Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Gerontology.

Graduate Student Awards, Honors, & Activities

Joe Bongiovi was inducted as an Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces in Society (IUS) Fellow in January of 2011. He was also awarded a research assistant position with the Mellow Foundation's Sawyer Seminar on precarious work in Asia in January of 2011. In May of 2011, Bongiovi was appointed Faculty Advisor for the UNC-CH Chapter of the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM).

Colin Campbell was awarded the 2011 Matthew J. Burbank Summer Research Fellowship by the UNC Graduate School.

Heather Edelblute received the Latino Migration Research Award from the UNC-CH Institute for the Study of the Americas.

Jason Freeman was selected by the Carolina Consortium on Human Development at the Center for Developmental Science (CCHD) as a Predoctoral Fellow for the 2011-2012 academic year. As part of the program, he is provided one year of formal support as well as research training under the supervision of a faculty advisor and mentors chosen during the application process. Freeman's research explores the interplay between biological factors and religious environments (i.e., religious service attendance) in the etiology of health and behavioral outcomes. Freeman was also elected to the Sociology Graduate Student Association (GSA) as a co-president for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Michael Gaddis received the 2011 Ferdinand Summer Research Fellowship awarded by the UNC Graduate School. Along with Andrew Payton, he won the 2011 graduate student paper award given by the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), Educational Problems Division. Gaddis will be presenting the paper at SSSP this August in Las Vegas. He

also received two conference travel grants: one from the International Sociological Association (RC28) and another from the Center for the Study of the American South, UNC-CH. Gaddis was also elected to the Faculty Recruitment and Selection Committee of the GSA for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Sarah Gaby will be the new Tech Liaison for the UNC Sociology department for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Brandon Gorman was awarded the Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace to study Arabic at the graduate level at the Middlebury Language Schools during the summer of 2011.

Jonathan Horowitz was elected to the Graduate Studies Committee of the GSA for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Amy Lucas received a Dissertation Completion Research Fellowship from the UNC-CH Graduate School for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Allison Mathews is the founder of the Race/Ethnicity Interdisciplinary Working Group at UNC-CH. In July of 2010, she conducted HIV Awareness and LinCS 2 Durham informational workshop at Triangle Black Pride Conference in Raleigh, NC. More recently, she organized an HIV Awareness Fashion Presentation at the Durham Juneteenth Festival, and she is currently co-organizing a Triangle Race Workshop Conference, to be held in the spring of 2012 in collaboration with Duke, UNC-CH, and NCCU graduate students.

Autumn McClellan was elected to the Faculty Recruitment and Selection Committee of the GSA for 2011-2012.

Continued on page 11

Amy Lucas and Vanesa Ribas Receive Odum Award

The Odum Award for Excellence is given to a UNC-CH Sociology graduate student who has successfully defended a dissertation proposal and completed all comprehensive examinations in a timely manner and with excellence; who plans to be on the job market in the fall of the year that the award is given to the student; and who has a record of creativity, productivity, and professionalism that holds exceptional promise for a career of distinction.



In response to winning her award, Lucas said, "I am very honored to be a recipient of this award. The faculty in the department have been excellent mentors, and I greatly appreciate how their mentorship has helped me grow and develop as a researcher. I also very much appreciate the faculty's recognition and encouragement of my work."



Upon winning her award, Ribas said, "It's an honor to be recognized by faculty for my work. I've been fortunate to have the guidance and support of excellent mentors in the department, especially my advisor Jackie Hagan, who has helped me develop my skills as a sociologist from day one."

Graduate Student Awards, Honors, & Activities

Continued from page 10

Andrew Payton, along with Michael Gaddis, won the graduate student paper award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems - Educational Problems division.

Jessica Pearlman's co-authored paper with Matt Huffman and Philip Cohen, titled "Engendering Change: Organizational Dynamics and Workplace Gender Desegregation, 1975–2005," was awarded the 2011 W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship in an Article, from the Organizations, Occupations and Work section of the ASA.

Richard Perry was reappointed to the Orange County Human Relations Commission by the Orange County Board of Commissioners at its November 4, 2010 meeting. His new term will end June 2013.

Kivan Polimis was awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions. Fellows benefit from a three-year annual stipend of \$30,000 along with a \$10,500 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees, opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.

Polimis was also elected to the Sociology Graduate Student Association as co-president.

Jordan Radke will attend the Future Faculty Fellowship Program Seminar in August 2011. Radke was also elected to the Graduate Studies Commission of the GSA for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Charles Seguin was awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions. Fellows benefit from a three-year annual stipend of \$30,000 along with a \$10,500 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees, opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.

Ashton Verdery won the ASA Mathematical Sociology Award for Best Student Paper for the work he did for his MA thesis. The award will be presented at the 2011 ASA meeting in Las Vegas. Verdery was also elected to the Faculty Recruitment and Selection Committee of the GSA for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Andrea L. Lazar and Amy Lucas Receive E.K. Wilson Award

The Wilson Award for Excellence in Teaching is given to a UNC-CH Department of Sociology graduate student in honor of Everett K. Wilson, a scholar who devoted his entire career to the advancement and dissemination of sociology as an intellectually challenging and broadly relevant discipline. In 1968, Wilson came to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He had already established himself as an outstanding pedagogue and scholar. He designed and was the initial coordinator of the Department's first-in-the-nation formal program for teaching graduate students how to teach sociology.



Upon receiving the award, Lazar said: "It's really exciting that our department recognizes the work and effort of our graduate student instructors. It legitimizes what we do. Through teaching, I try to meld the scholarly with the personal in order to make sociology seem real yet research-grounded. I think of teaching as a tremendous responsibility and honor, and I couldn't have been more thrilled and appreciative to be recognized by the faculty for this effort."



In response to winning her award, Lucas said, "I am very honored to be a recipient of the Wilson teaching award. I find teaching to be incredibly rewarding, as I have found that teaching helps keep me intellectually active in the discipline. I also learn a great deal from my students and very much enjoy the connections and interactions I make with them. I very much appreciate the recognition of the time and effort I devote to teaching from the faculty in our department."

Incoming Graduate Cohort

Daniel Auguste

BA: Covenant College
Area of Interest: Inequality and Stratification

Courtney Boen

BA: Tufts University
Area of Interest: Inequality and Stratification

Raquel Coutinho

MA: Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
Area of Interest: Demography/Population Studies

Bruce Foster

BA: University of Mississippi
Area of Interest: Race and Ethnicity

Karen Gerken

BA: Rice University
Area of Interest: Demography/Population Studies

Michael Good

BA: Miami University
Area of Interest: Demography/Population Studies

Kristen Schorpp

BA: Rutgers University
Area of Interest: Sociology and Biology

Holly Straut

BA: University of Massachusetts
Area of Interest: Immigration

Didem Turkoglu

MA: Bogazici University, Turkey
Area of Interest: Culture

Hajar Yazdiha

MA: CUNY, Brooklyn College
Area of Interest: Race and Ethnicity

Doctorates Awarded in 2010 - 2011 Academic Year

Tianji Cai

Assistant Professor
University of North Texas

Janette Dill

Postdoctoral Fellow
Sheps Center, UNC-CH

Michele Easter

Postdoctoral Fellow
Duke University

Rajesh Ghoshal

Assistant Professor
Goucher College

Jamie Lewis Thomas

Statistician/Demographer
US Census Bureau

Andrew Payton

Postdoctoral Fellow
Rutgers University

Alexis Silver

Assistant Professor
SUNY-Purchase College

Ria Van Ryn

Assistant Professor
Yeshiva University

Undergraduate Awards & Honors

Natassia Rodriguez Receives Odum and Joseph R. Feagin Awards

Congratulations to UNC Sociology undergraduate **Natassia Rodriguez**! This past year, she won both the UNC Sociology Howard Odum Undergraduate Award and the Joseph R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award, offered by the Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (SREM) of the ASA.

The Howard Odum Undergraduate Award was established in 1967 in honor of Professor Howard Odum, who founded and first chaired the UNC Sociology Department. Odum was a pioneer in American sociology and a major influence on the discipline. The Department faculty selects the recipient of the annual award on the basis of grades and other demonstrations of academic talent and accomplishment as an undergraduate.

Rodriguez has distinguished herself in undergraduate and multiple graduate courses at UNC. In February 2011, she presented research she conducted last summer 2010 at the Eastern Sociology Society meetings, and in April, she presented research from her senior honors thesis at the Southern Sociological Society meetings. Her thesis examines disparities in educational attainment among Latinos in the U.S.

Upon receiving the award, Rodriguez said, "I feel honored to receive this prestigious award as recognition for my undergraduate work. Being chosen by my long-time mentors at UNC-CH is truly flattering because the department faculty and staff have been invaluable resources. Moreover, receiving this award has made

me more confident that pursuing a Sociology Ph.D. is the right path for me."

The Joseph R. Feagin Distinguished Undergraduate Student Paper Award recognizes the best undergraduate student paper that focuses specifically on the relation between or issues relevant to socially defined racial and ethnic groups; uses an integrative race, class, gender analysis; and/or makes an important theoretical, methodological, or empirical contribution in the field of Race/Racism/Race Relations Studies. Rodriguez received this award for her paper entitled "Made it to America, Now What? Understanding the Educational Achievement Differences among Latino Subgroups". Rodriguez will attend Stanford University in the fall to obtain her Ph.D. in sociology.

Phi Beta Kappa Initiation

The Sociology Department would like to recognize the following Sociology and Management and Society majors who were initiated into the Alpha of North Carolina Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa during the Spring 2011 semester:

Autumn Bailey
Jennifer Kay Barnes
Patrick John Dowd
Elizabeth Shuford Miller
Jonathan Muñoz
Natassia Rodriguez
Sarah Summers
Alyssa Ventimiglia
Elizabeth Ann Weaver

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest undergraduate honors organization in the United States. The Society has pursued its mission of fostering and recognizing excellence in the liberal arts and sciences since 1776. Congratulations to our Phi Beta Kappa inductees!

Lisa Pelehach Receives Public Service Award

Ten individuals and organizations received awards Friday, April 1, 2011 at the Carolina Center for Public Service's annual Public Service Awards Celebration and Showcase. "These award recipients represent the best of public service and engaged scholarship at UNC," said Lynn Blanchard, director of the Carolina Center for Public Service. "Their work is responsive to needs of those across North Carolina and brings life to Carolina's mission of teaching, research, and service."

During the Ceremony, sociology major **Lisa Pelehach** received the Robert E. Bryan Public Service Award, which recognizes individual students and faculty for exemplary public service efforts. She was chosen to receive the award because of her efforts in creating the SMART Mentoring program. In partnership with the nonprofit Volunteers for Youth, this program has connected 15 UNC undergraduates as mentors to 15 children in low-income neighborhoods in Chapel Hill. We congratulate Lisa on this huge accomplishment!

Excerpted from UNC News, <http://uncnews.unc.edu/content/view/4437/107/>. Originally published on April 4, 2011.

A New Website for the New Academic Year

Department of Sociology

UNC COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

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Alumni Updates

Click here if you would like to update your contact information or just want to tell us what you've been up to lately.

Terrorism: Perception vs. Reality

UNC sociology professor Charles Kurzman specializes in Middle East and Islamic studies, but he knows his American history, too.

[Read More »](#)

Also available in presentation mode... Text

News Headlines

Mike Shanahan Elected to the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research

All members of the Academy are elected to membership after being nominated by two Academy members and being voted by the Membership Committee of the Academy.... [more](#)

Yang Yang's Research on Obesity and Longevity Featured in *The Economist*

A new study shows that American life expectancies may drop in years to come as the obesity epidemic progresses. [Click here to read full article.](#)

« August 2011 »

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
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| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Ph.D.s On The Market

Click here to see a list of current Ph.D.s searching for positions.

UNC Sociology has been working hard to give you a better online experience. To provide users with a cleaner look and a more intuitive interface, we have simplified navigation and made vital information easier to find by adding many quick links and navigation portlets to the sides of content pages.

What's more, we will be updating the content regularly with upcoming events, news, honors, awards, and activities. This will make it much easier for users to keep abreast of the goings-on in the department. We hope that you enjoy the new UNC Sociology online experience!

Alumni News & Notes

Paul A. Buescher (Ph.D. 1977) recently retired from the State Center for health Statistics in October 2009 after 32 years of state government service in North Carolina. He is working part time as a consultant for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and enjoying the benefits of a more leisurely life-style.

Henry J. Steadman (Ph.D. 1971) is currently the President of Policy Research Associates. On August 14, 2010, he received the William Foote Whyte Distinguished Career Award from the ASA Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology for his lifetime of work and public service in mental health and criminal justice.

Alumni Updates

If you would like your alumni news included in the next issue of our newsletter, please fill out the "Alumni Notes" form on the last page of the newsletter. Include pictures, extra pages, and contact information as needed. To just leave us text updates and comments, you can also contact us through our new website [contact page](#).

Continued from page 3

Often, our faculty will discuss research in open forums, on nationally syndicated blogs, or in opinion-editorial columns. A good example of this would be the recent article in the [Huffington Post](#) by *A Faith of Their Own* authors **Lisa Pearce** and Melinda Lundquist Denton (Clemson University), discussing their research addressing the religiousness of young people. They offer a new and unique way to classify religiousness: a set of profiles of religiousness based on common patterns in how individuals combine their religious beliefs, practices, and salience.

Sometimes an article comes out that is especially timely, striking a resonant chord with the public. Such was the case with a paper written by Quynh Nguyen (Gillings School of Global Public Health), co-authored by our department's own **Kathleen Mullan Harris** and other members of the Add Health Team. The team analyzed data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) on more than 14,000 men and women between the ages of 24 and 32 years old in 2008. They concluded that 19 percent of participants had elevated blood pressure or hypertension.

According to Harris, the findings were significant because they were from the first nationally representative, field-based study of blood pressure focused on young adults. The findings were mentioned in various media outlets, including [The New York Times](#), [The Washington Post](#), [CBS News](#), [The Independent](#), [NPR](#), and many others.

A recent article by Eric Reither (Utah State) and co-authors S. Jay Olshansky (University of Illinois-Chicago) and UNC Sociology's **Yang Yang** has received widespread attention from media outlets such as [The Economist](#) and [Futurity](#). The article utilizes a new three-dimensional method forecasting technique to look at the US obesity epidemic. Their research shows that future death rates and health care expenditures could be much worse than currently anticipated.

As the public continues to be affected by and interested in the areas that we study, the media will continue to rely on our department to provide insight on important sociological topics. If the most recent academic year is any indication, UNC Sociology will continue to play a prominent role in the public discussion.



Continued from page 1

health research projects across campus. Last year, the center was engaged in more than 43 active research projects, and brought in more than \$47 million in external support. Faculty, staff, and students affiliated with the center work in 85 countries around the world.

Entwisle won Carolina's Distinguished Teaching Award for Post-Baccalaureate Instruction in 2003. In addition, she has been honored several times for excellence in mentoring, teaching, and research training by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Sociology Graduate Students Association.

She is a past president of the Population Association of America (PAA), a former editor of *Demography* (the PAA's flagship journal), and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She has been elected to serve as president of the Sociological Research Association in 2014-2015. Entwisle also serves on numerous advisory and review groups for the National Academy of Sciences, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Environmental Protection Agency, and NASA.

A native of Springfield, Mass., Entwisle grew up in Baltimore, Md., and graduated from Swarthmore College. She earned master's and doctoral degrees in sociology from Brown University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan. She served as assistant professor of sociology at Dartmouth College before moving to UNC.

Entwisle was one of three finalists identified for the vice chancellor post as part of a national search. Karen Gil, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, chaired the search committee.

Originally posted at: <http://uncnews.unc.edu/content/view/4408/107/> and http://research-edit.unc.edu/news-events/VCR_ANNOUNCEMENT

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If you have questions about giving to Sociology or would like additional information, contact Ali Kroeger, Assistant Director of Capital Gifts, Arts and Sciences Foundation, at ali.kroeger@unc.edu or 919/843-3919.

Alumni Updates

UNCurrents would like to know what our alumni are up to. Please fill out the form below to let us know about your current position, exciting award, or any other news worth sharing. We will publish this information in the next issue of UNCurrents.

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