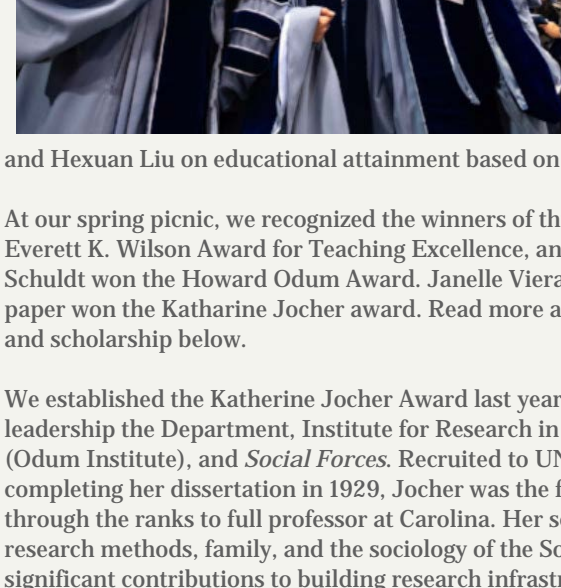


Spring 2018

UNCurrents Newsletter

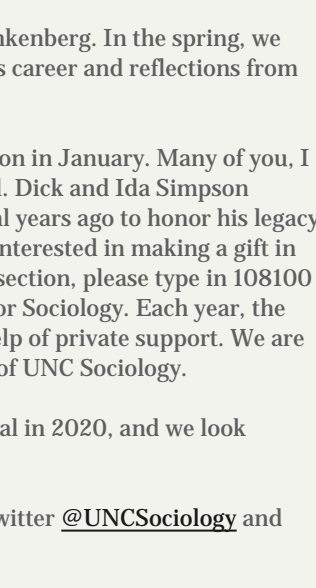
Letter from the Chair: Kenneth (Andy) Andrews

I hope everyone is having a wonderful end to the spring semester. We just celebrated graduation weekend at UNC. As you can see from the pictures, this is always a very happy occasion for our students and faculty.



I'm excited to let you know that UNC Sociology will be hosting a reception for our alumni at ASA this year – co-sponsored with *Social Forces* – on Saturday, August 11, 6-8pm. I've heard from many alumni over the years who wished for an opportunity to reconnect with one another and the department at ASA, and I look forward to seeing everyone there. We will follow up with a formal invitation and details soon. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in Philadelphia! Our graduate students continue to do amazing work. If you'd like a small sample, check out the **current issue** of the *American Sociological Review* for articles by Ali Kadirav on mass movements and democratization and Hexuan Liu on educational attainment based on their dissertations.

At our spring picnic, we recognized the winners of three graduate student awards. Karam Hwang won the Everett K. Wilson Award for Teaching Excellence, and Ricardo Martinez-Schuldt won the Howard Odum Award. Janelle Viera and Josh Wassink's paper won the Katharine Jocher award. Read more about their teaching and scholarship below.



We established the Katherine Jocher Award last year in honor of her leadership the Department, Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (Odum Institute), and *Social Forces*. Recruited to UNC in 1923 and completing her dissertation in 1929, Jocher was the first woman to advance through the ranks to full professor at Carolina. Her scholarship focused on research methods, family, and the sociology of the South, and she made significant contributions to building research infrastructure and to the larger discipline – serving two terms as president of the Southern Sociological Society, *Social Forces* editor from 1951 to 1962, and as Vice President of the ASA in 1942.

In our fall newsletter, I welcomed our newest faculty member Elizabeth Frankenberg. In the spring, we wish Sherryl Kleinman the best in her retirement. Read more about their former students below.

We were very sorry to mark the passing of Professor Richard ("Dick") Simpson in January. Many of you, I am sure, knew Dick Simpson well as a mentor, scholar, colleague, and friend. Dick and Ida Simpson established "Richard L. Simpson Faculty Support Fund for Sociology" several years ago to honor his legacy and to continue the support of our outstanding faculty members. If you are interested in making a gift in the memory of Dick Simpson, please click [here](#). Under the Gift Information section, please type in 108100 in the search field and select the Richard L. Simpson Faculty Support Fund for Sociology. Each year, the Department continues to grow and excel, but this is only possible with the help of private support. We are so appreciative of the generosity of our alumni, donors, parents and friends of UNC Sociology.

Finally, we are in the early stages of planning for the Department's Centennial in 2020, and we look forward to sending you updates on that in our fall newsletter.

In the meantime, you can keep up with the Department by following us on twitter @UNCSociology and read past newsletters on our [website](#).

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Department News

Department Launches New Health and Society Minor

Sociology launched a new Health and Society minor in response to the growing demand of students for courses related to health from a sociological perspective. In addition, the program builds on substantial departmental strength with expertise in how health is shaped by family, social class, race, culture, and politics. Our long tradition of scholarship and teaching in the study of health is being carried forward by recent faculty hires – Elizabeth Frankenberg, Taylor Hargrove, and Bob Hummer.

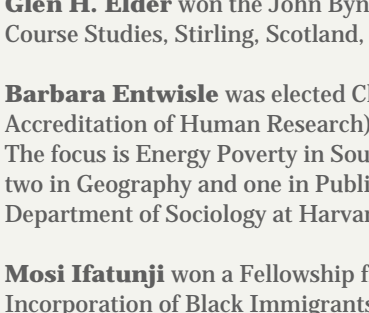
- The Health and Society curriculum addresses crucial questions for contemporary societies including:
- To what extent, and why, is U.S. population health stratified across key subgroups such as age, gender, race/ethnicity, immigrant status, and socioeconomic status?
 - How might population health in the U.S. be amenable to change through effective public policy?
 - Beyond healthcare policy and its controversies, are there alternative options that policymakers and other institutions should consider for improving overall US population health and reduce/eliminate disparities?

The minor has a threefold mission to provide students with: 1) an opportunity to examine contemporary population health patterns and trends in the US and around the world; 2) an understanding of the social construction of health and illness in modern societies; and 3) a grounding in sociological concepts and theories so that they can apply them to the study of population health.

The curriculum for this minor brings together courses focused specifically on linkages between health and society, along with courses in sociology concepts and theories. Together, this set of courses will provide students with insights into the ways that societies define health and illness and how social contexts are important in influencing population health patterns and trends.

Sherryl Kleinman

Sherryl Kleinman retired this year, and we want to express our appreciation for all of Sherryl's contributions to UNC Sociology over the years. Sherryl has studied many different domains of social life throughout her career, but there are central threads running throughout including a commitment to symbolic interactionism, feminist sociology, and the study of social inequality. In addition to numerous articles, Sherryl is the author of several major books including *Equals Before God*, *Opposing Ambitions*, *Emotions and Fieldwork* (co-authored with Martha Copp) and *Feminist Fieldwork Analysis*. Currently, she is completing a new book titled *Teaching to Transform: Making Inequalities Visible*.



In the profession, Sherryl has played important leadership roles in the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction, Sociologists for Women in Society, and the Society for the Study of Social Problems. In the department, she has led our successful minor in Social and Economic Justice. On campus, Sherryl has been a key organizer on many different efforts to make Carolina a more just and equitable institution.

Sherryl also has a remarkable record of mentorship and teaching. Not surprisingly, Sherryl's won many awards for her teaching and mentorship including the Carolina Women's Leadership Council Faculty Mentoring Award (2013), the Women's Advocacy Award, from UNC - Chapel Hill (2007), the Feminist Mentor Award from the Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction (2002), and the Tanner Faculty Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (multiple years). She's also won the graduate student's Excellence in Teaching Award several times.

Having spoken with many of her students over the years and read many of the comments that her students have written, it is humbling to see what a profound impact she has had through her teaching of students at Carolina. On that note, we end with reflections from two of the students that Sherryl worked with at Carolina.

Martha Copp, Professor of Sociology at East Tennessee State University, says:

Sherryl eschews calling the many people she's mentored "my students"; we become her lucky friends and colleagues after we enter her orbit. I loved studying and writing with Sherryl while at UNC. But I've learned and benefited *much* more from Sherryl's mentoring since then. Sherryl taught me how to think, write, and teach as a sociologist, and, just as important, how to live a sociologically meaningful life. In turn, I share these gifts with the students I mentor, whose writing I edit as critically as Sherryl edited mine. I've also benefited from witnessing Sherryl's social justice activism to learn how to put sociology into practice. She is a role model for how to live in and respond to the social world with integrity and courage.

Matt Ezell, Associate Professor of Sociology at James Madison University, writes:

Sherryl Kleinman made a lasting impact on the field of sociology in her career in numerous ways. Not only did her scholarship and writing reshape the field of the sociology of emotions, symbolic interactionism, and feminist fieldwork, but she spent over three decades shaping the scholars who were entering these arenas, pushing us to critically engage ourselves, our participants, and the world around us. She is, hands down, the best and most impactful teacher I have ever encountered. Further, she continues to be an example of what it means to live your sociology, to apply sociology not just to the study of the world but to the shaping of it. And yet, as far reaching as Sherryl's impact continues to be within sociology, when I think of her the word that most immediately comes to mind is: friendship.

Best wishes to Sherryl, and many thanks for her scholarship and commitment to teaching, mentorship, and social justice.

Faculty News

Howard Aldrich won the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award at the 2017 meetings in Montreal. He also won the Schulze Entrepreneurship Educator of the Year Award from the EIX Exchange in September, 2017, Minneapolis, MN.

Ken Bullen won the 2018 Career Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Psychometric Society, and he was elected Fellow of the Association of Psychological Science in 2017. Ken spent the fall semester as a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at Harvard University.

Glen H. Elder won the John Byrner Award from the International Society of Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, Stirling, Scotland, Oct 2017.

Barbara Entwisle was elected Chair of the Board of Directors for AHRPP (Association for the Accreditation of Human Resources), and she is co-PI of an NSF PIIR award that began January 1, 2018. The focus is Energy Poverty in Southern Africa. Three PhD students will be joining the program this fall, two in Geography and one in Public Policy. Barbara spent the fall semester as a Visiting Scholar in the Department of Sociology at Harvard University.

Mosi Ifatunji won a Fellowship from UNC's Institute for African American Research for "The Political Incorporation of Black Immigrants" and a Junior Faculty Development Award, Office of the Provost for "Nativity and Black Political Participation in the United States: A Comparative Study of African Americans and Black Immigrants."

Charles Kurzman received a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to hold data analysis workshops in the Middle East and launch an Arab social science data archive along with UNC's Odum Institute for Research in Social Science and the Arab Council for the Social Sciences. In addition, his research on Muslim-American involvement with violent extremism – including the finding that there have been zero fatalities in the United States by extremists from countries on the "travel ban" list – was cited by The New York Times, National Public Radio, and other outlets, and became a meme that was featured in a Doonesbury cartoon.

Liana Richardson was selected as a Carolina Women's Center Faculty Scholar for 2018-2019. The award supported her project: "Understanding the Accelerated Physiological Aging of African American Women: The Embodiment and Expression of Intersectional Inequality"

Karolyn Tyson won a Schwab Academic Excellence Award from the Institute for Arts and Humanities and the Excellence in Mentoring Award from the Department of Sociology's Graduate Student Association.

Kate Weisshaar's research on parenting and the labor force (*ASR* 2018) received extensive media coverage including a write up in *Harvard Business Review*. She was selected for the Work and Family Researchers Network Early Career Fellowship

Anne Hastings retired a Teaching Associate Professor this spring following over twenty years of teaching and mentorship at UNC. She will be missed by students and colleagues alike.

Graduate Student News

Graduate Student Awards

Akram Al-Turk won a 2018-9 Dean's Fellowship.

Tania Cabello-Hutt won a 2018 Pre-dissertation Summer Field Research Travel Grant from the Institute for the Study of the Americas for her project "Perceptions of Parental Leave Taking in Chile."

Claire Chipman won the Institute of African American Research Graduate Student Summer Research Grant for her project "The Choices and Burdens of Diverse Spaces: An Ethnographic Analysis".

Samuel Fishman won a UNC Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

Sarah Gaby won the Graduate Education Advancement Board's "Impact Award" for outstanding graduate student research that directly contributes to the educational, economic, physical, social or cultural well-being of North Carolina citizens. She also won the Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Ricardo Martinez-Schuldt won a Kenan Graduate Fellowship and a Dissertation Completion fellowship for 2018-9.

Shreya Parikh won the Ruth Mitchell-Pitts START (Student Travel and Research Term) Fellowship from the Center for European Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill for summer field research in France on religion-state relations.

Anna Rybinska won the Lovick P. Corn Dissertation Fellowship from the Roper Society of Fellows, Harriet Irsay Scholarship awarded by the American Institute of Polish Culture, and the Best Poster Award at British Society for Population Studies Conference.

Bronica Taylor won Institute of African American Research Graduate Student Summer Research Grant for her project "Publicly Pushed Out: Race and Disability in Alternative Schools for Suspended Students."

Kate Tierney won the Best Theory to Practice Paper at the 2017 Academy of Management Conference - Health Care Management Division.

Janelle Viera won the Institute for the Study of the America's (ISA) Pre-dissertation Summer Field Research Travel Grant and the Sociology Department's Pilot Study Research Grant to begin dissertation research on Puerto Rican migration and social mobility in Orlando, Florida.

Josh Wassink won an NSF postdoctoral fellowship at the Office of Population Research at Princeton University. He will be working on his project titled "Return Migration, Labor Market Mobility, and Repeat Migration in Mexico" over the next two years.

Recent PhDs

Sally Cote *Cultivating Effectiveness: Leadership and Participation in Local, Voluntary Groups*

Mike Dunn *Making Gigs Work: Career Strategies, Job Quality and Migration in the Gig Economy*

Shane Elliott *Consuming Craft: The Intersection of Production and Consumption in the North Carolina Craft Beer Market*

Holly Straut Eppsteiner *Constrained Choices: Latina Immigrants Negotiating Work, Family, and Legality in the New South*

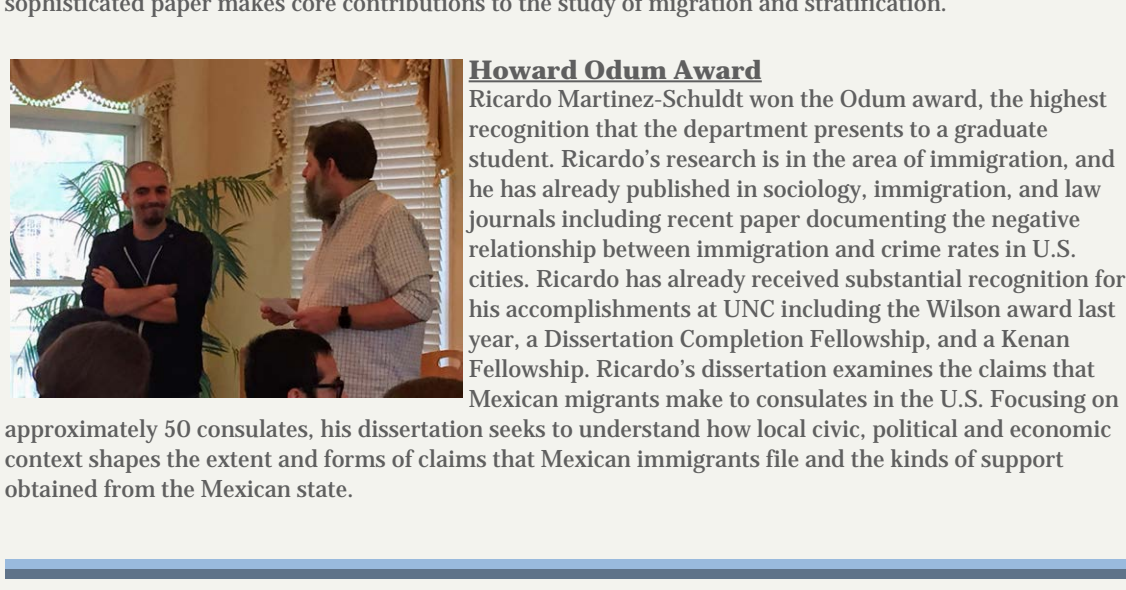
Sarah Gaby *Becoming Activists: How Organizations Engage and Politicize Youth*

Jane Lee *Young Women's Family Schemas, Intimate Partner Violence, and Education in the Transition to Adulthood*

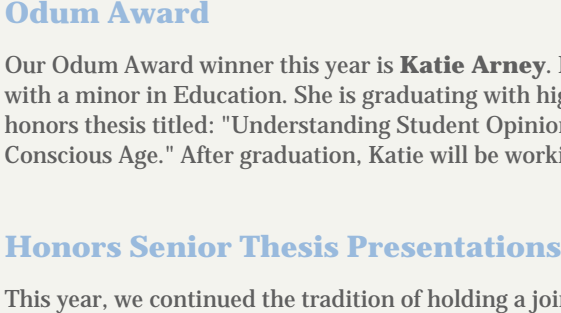
Autumn McClellan *Social Psychological Influences on Participation in Online Collective Actions*

Renee Ryberg *Inequality and the Transition to Adulthood*

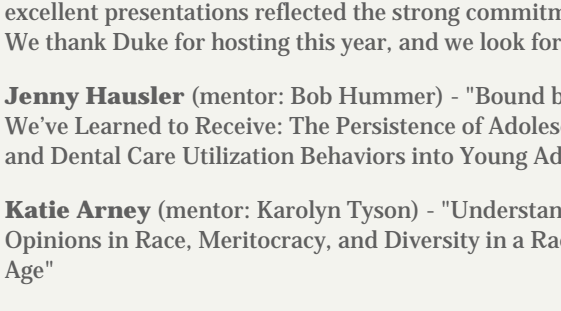
Joshua Wassink *Three Papers on Self-Employment and US Migration among Mexican Men and Women*



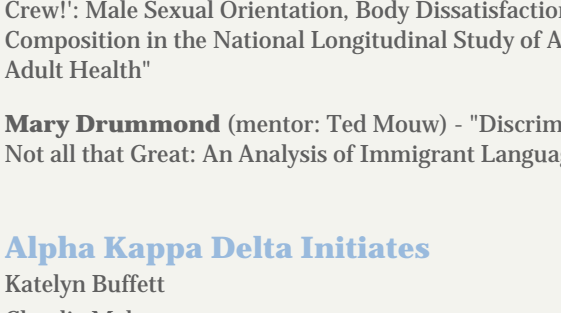
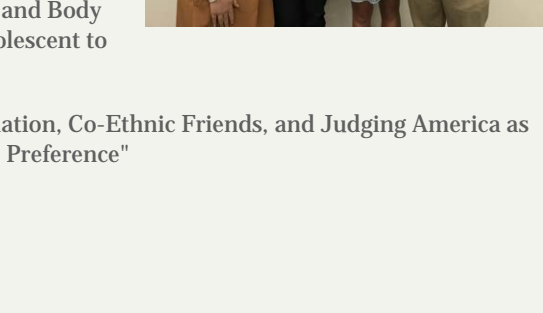
Graduate Awards



Everett Wilson Award
Karam Hwang won the Wilson award in recognition of outstanding teaching. Karam has taught multiple sections of Sociology 101 and Theory in recent years. She employs creative assignments to help students develop a deep understanding of sociological ideas and research. For example, in Karam's theory course she has students design and perform a collective ritual to learn many of Durkheim's central ideas. Students describe the great lengths Karam goes to help them understand ideas and her commitment to making sure everyone understands the central ideas of the class.



Katherine Jocher Award
Janelle Viera and Josh Wassink won the Jocher award that recognizes the best article-length paper authored or co-authored by graduate students. Their paper - "Bringing Back Opportunity: Paternal Return Migration, Wealth Accumulation, and Intergenerational Mobility in Mexico" - investigates a classic question regarding the impact of parents and children's educational attainment. Janelle and Josh analyze nearly 900,000 children based on data from 2010 Mexican Census. Their analysis shows that living with a father who was a return migrant has a significant impact on educational attainment – mostly because these families accumulated greater wealth allowing children to stay in school longer. Their theoretically and methodologically sophisticated paper makes core contributions to the study of migration and stratification.



Howard Odum Award
Ricardo Martinez-Schuldt won the Odum award, the highest recognition that the department presents to a graduate student. Ricardo's research is in the area of immigration, and he has already published in sociology, immigration, and law journals including recent paper documenting the negative relationship between immigration and crime rates in U.S. cities. Ricardo has already received substantial recognition for his accomplishments at UNC including the Wilson award last year, a Dissertation Completion Fellowship, and a Kenan Fellowship. Ricardo's dissertation examines the claims that Mexican migrants make to consulates in the U.S. Focusing on approximately 50 consulates, his dissertation seeks to understand how local civic, political and economic context shapes the extent and forms of claims that Mexican immigrants file and the kinds of support obtained from the Mexican state.

Undergraduate Student News

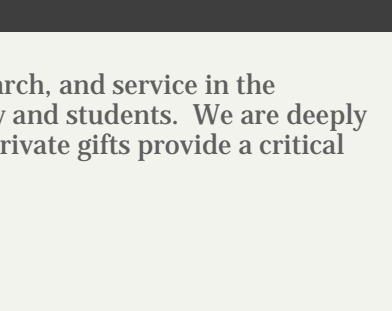
Odum Award

Our Odum Award winner this year is **Katie Arney**. Katie is a Sociology and Public Policy double major with a minor in Education. She is graduating with highest honors after completing a mixed methods honors thesis titled: "Understanding Student Opinions in Race, Meritocracy, and Diversity in a Race-Conscious Age." After graduation, Katie will be working for Teach for America.

Honors Senior Thesis Presentations

This year, we continued the tradition of holding a joint research symposium with Duke to have our undergraduate Honors students from both Duke and UNC present their senior theses. The excellent presentations reflected the strong commitment to undergraduate research at both universities. We thank Duke for hosting this year, and we look forward to inviting them to UNC next spring!

Jenny Hausler (mentor: Bob Hummer) - "Bound by the Care We've Learned to Receive: The Persistence of Adolescent Health and Dental Care Utilization Behaviors into Young Adulthood"



Katie Arney (mentor: Karolyn Tyson) - "Understanding Student Opinions in Race, Meritocracy, and Diversity in a Race-Conscious Age"

Jamie McLaughlin (mentor: Liana Richardson) - "'Oh Pit Crew!': Male Sexual Orientation, Body Dissatisfaction, and Body Composition in the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health"

Mary Drummond (mentor: Ted Mozur) - "Discrimination, Co-Ethnic Friends, and Judging America as Not all that Great: An Analysis of Immigrant Language Preference"

Alpha Kappa Delta Initiates

Katelyn Buffett
Claudia Malone
Jamie Rollins

Diana Scott
Lauren ShumPERT
Meghan Watts

Reminiscences

In Memoriam: Dr. Richard Simpson

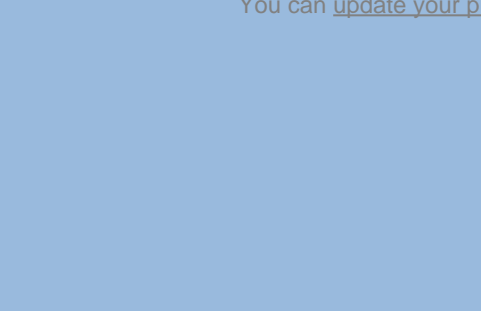
After a period of declining health, Dr. Richard Lee (Dick) Simpson passed away in his sleep on December 30. The son of Donald Duke and Lottie Lee Simpson, he was born in Chevy Chase, Maryland and graduated in 1946 from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. After receiving a Pepsi Scholarship to the University of North Carolina, he moved to Chapel Hill and began his long relationship with the University. He graduated in 1950 with a degree in sociology, then completed a Masters degree from Cornell University in 1952 before returning to UNC to complete his PhD under the direction of Dr. Rupert Vance. Following short sojourns at Penn State and Northwestern, he returned to join the UNC Sociology faculty in 1956. He remained at this position until his retirement as Kenan Professor of Sociology in 2004 where he gained an international reputation for his innovative research into the sociology of work and organizations. He served as departmental chair from 1972-75 and editor of the journal *Social Forces* from 1969-72 and again from 1983 until the end of his professional career.



During completion of his Ph.D. studies, Dick met fellow graduate student Ida Ann Harper and they married in 1955. She embarked on her own academic career in the sociology department at Duke University and remained his wife for 62 years until separated by his passing. He is also survived by his son Dr. Robert Simpson, daughter-in-law Catherine Matsen, and granddaughter Caroline Simpson, all of Wilmington, Delaware. A second son, Frank, predeceased him in 2017. Soft-spoken and even-tempered, Dick was a master in turning phrases and possessed a delightfully droll sense of humor that delighted colleagues, friends and family. He was a voracious reader of all print media from Wall Kelly's Pogo cartoons to the multi-volume "Dictionary of American Regional English." He had a long standing love of music in its many guises but most especially baroque instrumental compositions. He possessed absolute pitch and this allowed him to play many tunes on his trumpet without receiving any formal music training.

Make a Gift to Sociology

Help continue the tradition of distinguished teaching, research, and service in the Department of Sociology by making a gift to support faculty and students. We are deeply grateful to all our friends and donors for their generosity. Private gifts provide a critical margin of excellence for our students and faculty.



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