From the Chair’s Desk (Dock?)

The Department continues to shine brightly. Over the past few months, Helga Hallgrimsdottir became President of the Faculty Association. Professor Garry Gray and Dean Catherine Krull joined the Department from Harvard and Queen’s, respectively. One of our first graduates from the Ph.D. program, Dan Grace, was appointed at the University of Toronto. Colleagues remain strong in publishing and grant acquisition. Student approval ratings have never been higher in the course evaluation surveys. Last, but certainly not least, Ruth Kampen keeps producing a fantastic newsletter.

Heading into the academic term, the Department is reviewing the graduate training program and assessing opportunities for growth in the undergraduate curriculum. It promises to be a busy period. I hope everyone has a fabulous year. If nothing else, be sure to enjoy the kind weather we are receiving. The rain will be here before you know it!

~Sean Hier

New Faculty of Social Sciences Dean

The Sociology department would like to extend a very warm welcome to Dr. Catherine Krull, the new Dean of Social Sciences, who began her 5-year term this summer. Dean Krull is also a new member of our department. Prior to joining UVic, Dr. Krull was an Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and Professor of Sociology and Cultural Studies at Queen’s University. Her research/teaching areas include: 1) Latin America with a specific focus on Cuba; 2) women’s equity, family diversity and Canadian policies; 3) repressive politics (the latter two have a strong emphasis on indigenous issues) and 4) immigration, transnationalism and internationalism. Her work has been presented at numerous international academic conferences and published in a variety of disciplinary journals and in various countries, including Social Forces, Cuban Studies Series, Policy Studies, Psychology of Women Quarterly, Annals of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Diplomacy and Statecraft and Sociological Inquiry. Recent book publications include Cuba in Global Context: International Relations, Internationalism and Transnationalism (2014); Rereading Women and the Cuban Revolution, (with Jean Stubbs, 2011); A Measure of a Revolution: Cuba, 1959-2009 (with Soraya Castro, 2010) and New World Coming: The 1960s and the Shaping of Global Consciousness (with Dubinsky, et al, 2009). Currently, she is working on two monographs entitled Generations, Memory and Political Consciousness: Women’s Daily Life in Cuba and the Cuban Diasporas in Canada and Europe (with Jean Stubbs, University of London). A new research project focuses on Entangled US/Cuban Terrains: Memories of Guantanamo (with Asa McKercher, Queen’s University). She is past editor of Cuban Studies and current editor-in-chief of the Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

We hope she feels at home in our department and within the larger UVic community and wish her much success in her new position. For more detailed information on Dr. Krull’s research and publications, see the department’s website.
Profile on New Faculty Member, Dr. Garry Gray

Can you tell us a little about yourself – academic background/previous position(s) before UVic?

I spent the last three years (2011-2014) as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University. In the two years prior to that (2009-2011) I was a research fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health. During my time at Harvard, I was also part of a team of 5 researchers (representing medicine, psychology, sociology, biomechanics and engineering) who co-designed, taught and introduced into the curriculum a new course on transdisciplinary research.

I completed my PhD in Sociology at the University of Toronto (2008) with comprehensive exams in crime and deviance and qualitative methods. My Master’s degree was in Criminology from the University of Toronto.

What drew you to UVic? How do you see yourself “fit” in the department?

The University of Victoria is the top comprehensive university in Canada which is attractive because I love both teaching and research. The faculty members in the Department of Sociology are also extremely productive, producing many important publications. The faculty are amazing, and have been really welcoming. I feel lucky to have found such a nice fit with such a wonderful group of colleagues.

What is your current research program focused on?

I conduct research on the social organization of behavioural ethics inside institutions of public trust. I am continuing with this research here at UVic and also as a Network Fellow at Harvard’s Center for Ethics. I’m particularly interested in issues of integrity, trust, and implicit forms of corrupting practices inside organizations and across professions. I am also involved in research that examines the role of integrity in the pursuit of knowledge, and the influence of organizational culture on medical errors inside hospital settings.

My most recent publication, written with Susan Silbey of MIT, focuses on how people across the various hierarchies and positions inside organizations interpret and experience rules and regulation. This work is being published in the American Journal of Sociology.

What courses will you be teaching in the Fall and Spring?

I am currently teaching Crime and Deviance, and in the spring I will teach Regulation and Social Control and Qualitative Research Methods. I am also developing a possible future course offering on white-collar crime.

What are you looking forward to about teaching and/or why is teaching important to you?

My goal moving forward is to put a great deal of my research into practice, and one key way to do this is to try to inspire my students through research findings, and also teaching them about how to conduct research and critically reflect upon research practices. There is a quote from Plutarch: “The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled” that has deeply inspired my teaching.

What do you hope that your students will remember long after the final exam?

My goal is to help students learn the key concepts and theoretical skills to evaluate public policy and laws. Everyone seems to have an opinion on crime, so the question becomes how one turns the conversation around into an informed debate that draws on research and evidence. For example, in my crime and deviance course, I am providing guidance to my students on how to communicate criminological research to the general public. So, after they write a traditional academic essay for me on a particular criminological topic, they must then use that academically informed piece of writing to develop a short Op-Ed geared towards conveying the key messages of the research to a general public audience.

How have you settled into life in Victoria so far?

Victoria is even more beautiful than I imagined. It is an environment that is conducive to teaching, writing, and knowledge discovery. I think that the natural beauty here inspires a strong sense of curiosity and appreciation for the natural and social world. I’ve also started to discover many of the wonderful hiking trails, and I enjoy taking daily walks along the ocean and through Beacon Hill park with my spouse and my dachshund, Chewie. I have even joined a recreational hockey team! I feel that the city of Victoria and the University of Victoria are extremely welcoming. I am very happy to be here.
Faculty News and Highlights

In May, **Bill Carroll** was elected Program Co-Chair for the Society for Socialist Studies. He is busy organizing the 2015 conference, to be held at the University of Ottawa. In addition, this summer, Bill became a Research Associate at UVic’s Institute for Studies & Innovation in Community-University Engagement. Bill organized and presided at the Economy and Society sessions of the International Sociological Association in Yokohama (July), where he finished his four year term as Economy and Society President. Bill continues as past president on the Economy and Society Executive. He also was elected to the Executive of the International Sociological Association’s Futures Research Committee.

**Karen Kobayashi** was an invited keynote speaker at the inaugural Forum 55+: Perspectives on the Future of Senior Care Meeting in Poland. The conference took place in Warsaw on June 17, 2014. Her paper, *Caring for People with Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADR D): New Trends and Research Observations* received media attention in Poland. She has now established an academic relationship with researchers at Collegium Medicum at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Bydgoszcz.

Summer Research in China—Min Zhou

China and Japan are two important countries, but their relationship can be very turbulent due to historical and territorial disputes. Anti-Japanese mass demonstrations have erupted in China periodically in recent years. As part of the SSHRC-funded project on anti-Japanese social activism in China, Hanning Wang (my research assistant, current MA student) and I successfully conducted a large-scale survey in Beijing in June 2014. The purpose of this survey was to investigate the experience and motivation of Chinese college students’ participation in anti-Japanese activism (e.g., street protests and consumer boycotts). Eventually we would like to use the collected data to reveal what social factors make individuals more prone to anti-Japanese activism.

For this survey, Hanning and I recruited a survey team from each of the three top Chinese universities—Beijing (Peking) University, Tsinghua University, and People’s (Renmin) University. Each survey team consisted of 5-7 people and surveyed 500 students from their respective university. Altogether the originally planned sample size was 1500. We did strict stratified sampling based on students’ dorms and also trained recruited interviewers before the survey. Thanks to careful pre-survey preparations and responsible interviewers, 1458 completed questionnaires were returned and 1033 of them were complete and valid. We were extremely happy about this high response rate!

A big “thank you” to **Hanning Wang**! Her assistance made the survey a smooth and successful one! We are currently coding the collected questionnaires and analyzing the data. Based on the analysis, we will start writing our first paper shortly.

The Transgender Archives Book

**Aaron Devor**, founder and Academic Director of the Transgender archives, has recently published a book under the University Libraries’ imprint, *The Transgender Archives: Foundations for the Future*. This book showcases and celebrates the transgender history found at the Transgender Archives, held at UVic, which is the largest collection of transgender archival materials in the world.

*The Transgender Archives: Foundations for the Future* provides historical context for the collections from the 19th century to the present day, recounting the origins of the Transgender Archives and highlighting its range of books, periodicals, personal papers, organizational records, media and ephemera.

The book is accessible as a PDF via an Open Access, Creative Commons license, through the University Librarian’s office at: [http://www.uvic.ca/library/about/ul/publications/](http://www.uvic.ca/library/about/ul/publications/)
Recent Research Grants

Aaron Devor
$254,000 SSHRC grant
LGBTQ Oral History Digital Collaboratory Project
2014-2019

André Smith
$7,000. Internal Grant
Antipsychotic prescribing for persons with dementia in residential care: A focus on caregivers’ experiences and concerns

Bill Carroll
$20,000 SSHRC Planning Grant
Mapping the power of the carbon-extractive corporate resource sector.
A partnership project to be hosted at UVic.

Cecilia Benoit
$100,000. CIHR Operating Grant
Socio-Cultural and Environmental Health Risks and Resilience among Street-Based Women and Transgender Sex Workers.
Orchard, T., Benoit, C. co-PIs
2014-2015

Karen Kobayashi
$25,000. CIHR, Planning Grant
Partnering to Promote Health Care Equity for Ethnic Minority Older Adults.
Co-Investigator (PI: Sharon Koehn)

$6,300. SSHRC funded Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster Grant
(In)Visible Minorities in Canadian Health Data and Research.
Co-PI with Sharon Lee.

$10,000. Vancouver Foundation Development Fund Grant
Dementia Outreach with Ethno-cultural Minority Communities: Addressing Issues of Culture, Stigma and Social Isolation.
Co-PI with Cathy Makihara (Nikkei Seniors Housing Society). André Smith and Mushira Khan are on research team. Oct 2014—Oct 2015

Neena Chappell
$94,832. Canadian Consortium on Neurodegeneration and Aging Grant
Dementia Family Caregivers who are Employed in the Canadian Workforce
PI: Joel Sadavoy, N Chappell: Co-investigator with others 2014 - 2019

Zheng Wu
$164,000. SSHRC Insight Grant
Zheng Wu, PI; Margaret J. Penning, Neena L. Chappell, and Feng Hou CIs
2014-2017

$200,000 RMB. National Social Science Foundation of China (Operating Grant).
Cross-sectional study of health and aging in rural China.
Weihong Zeng, PI; Zheng Wu CIs 2014-2017

Post-Doctoral student, Kate Roland, has received a 2-year Michael Smith FHR postdoctoral award that will fully begin in September (MSFHR has been topping up her CIHR grant for the past year). This grant is for her research "Unique contributors to caregiver well-being across neurodegenerative diseases that present with dementia." Kate has authored a paper with Neena Chappell, her post-doc supervisor, in Ageing & Society. This fall Kate will be presenting at various conferences including CAG, GSA and the International Conference for Alzheimer’s disease and Associated Dementias in Valencia, Spain.
Adapting an Open Source Textbook

For the last several months I have been working on an interesting project to adapt an American, open source, introductory sociology textbook for Canadian students, with Canadian material and data. The original textbook was produced for OpenStax College, a non-profit organization affiliated with Rice University in Houston Texas. The OpenStax website states that their mission is to provide free, open source textbooks on a variety of topics through Creative Commons Attribution Licenses. In this case, OpenStax engaged a number of US sociologists to write the American version of the book. This edition is freely available and easy to find through the OpenStax website, BCcampus, openculture.com, and similar sites.

The Canadian adaptation I worked on was sponsored through the BCcampus Open Textbook Project. It is part of their ongoing contract with the BC Ministry of Advanced Education to produce 40 textbook adaptations for BC students in an effort to provide cheaper and easier access to higher education in the province. (http://opencampus.ca/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=43cd1346-348f-4153-9f39-5270fd965ac8&contributor=&keyword=&subject=Sociology). The book will be provided free of charge to students who wish to access it digitally, or for a nominal charge for a paper version. Moreover, as an open access educational resource, the book can be freely modified by instructors who wish to add, subtract, adapt or update content to suit their particular purposes, done through a fairly simple software interface.

The point of the Open Source movement is to de commodify knowledge and make it as free and accessible as possible. As such, I felt that adapting this Introduction to Sociology textbook was a worthy project. I can’t say it has always been a pleasant project, however. It’s been several hundred pages of pretty grueling work. It seemed to me that whenever the authors had a decision to make between making the text interesting, detailed or contemporary, or making it feeble, abstract or dated, they chose the latter. Although the budget was not there for it, I worked diligently to provide a stronger analytical framework for the book but ultimately came away with an increased respect for textbook authors. The book is due to be released through BCcampus at the end of September. It should be available then to see on their website (http://bccampus.ca/open-textbook-project/) for those who are interested. *Bill Little*

New Director of Human Dimensions of Climate Change

Martha McMahon is the new director of the Human Dimensions of Climate Change (HDCC) program. This undergraduate interdisciplinary minor program was established in 2009. HDCC recognizes that climate change involves complex networks of inseparable natural and human problems. Policy discussion about climate change has tended to come mainly from the natural sciences and economics but HDCC recognize that the social sciences, arts and humanities have key contributions to make both to understanding the causes of human induced climate change and responding to it, as well as the inadequacy of current responses. Not least of these contributions is sociological work on how societies are organized as high carbon-economy-society systems (some use the term carbon military-industrial complex) and need to be reorganized as low carbon. Here relations of power, gender, inequality etc. that are often invisible in scientific accounts become indispensable to analysis. No lesser a well know and prolific sociologist than Anthony Giddens has weighed in with a book on the politics of climate change and John Urry has recently outlined “10 commandments” which seek to place sociology within the urgent academic and policy debates around climate change.

HDCC is profoundly interdisciplinary if not trans-disciplinary and draws from the disciplines of psychology, economics, geography, anthropology, law, philosophy, political science, sociology, business, environmental studies and others. In addition, it works closely with the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. Effective policy dealing with climate change will require a transformation of how we think about the issues. Employers will increasingly want graduates who know something about the human aspects of climate change. The responsibilities and challenges of citizenship will require it.

As it stands now, the program includes two courses of its own: HDCC 200: A team-taught survey introduction (Prerequisite is GEOG/EOS 110, or permission of the Director) and HDCC 400: A capstone course with projects designed and conducted by students with faculty guidance, and 16 elective courses, from which 6 units must be taken to complete the minor. The program plans to expand its core offerings in the years to come. For additional information see: http://web.uvic.ca/hdcc/
Recent MA Grads

Who: Denise Mahon (May 2014)
Thesis: The Influence of Civil Remedies and Proceeds of Crime Grant Programs on Canadian Street Surveillance Systems: Lessons from Six Cities in Ontario
Supervisor: Sean Hier

Who: Mushira Khan (August 2014)
Thesis: Negotiating Tricky Territories: Filial obligation, caregiving experiences and processes of acculturation among recently-landed South Asian immigrant women
Supervisor: Karen Kobayashi

Who: Martha Jansenberger (July 2014)
Supervisor: Cecilia Benoit

Who: Albrecht Berg (August 2014)
Thesis: Gezi Spirit on Russian Streets? The Emergence and Potential of Russia’s Contemporary Left
Supervisor: Peyman Vahabzadeh

Welcome New Graduate Students!

PhD Students:
Robert Duncan (recently transferred in from the MA to PhD program) - supervisor Helga Hallgrimsdottir
Mushira Khan—supervisor Karen Kobayashi
Michael Lang—supervisor Bill Carroll
Grace (Zhuolin) Li—supervisor Zheng Wu
Sara Naderi—co-supervisors Bill Carroll & Dorothy Smith

MA Students:
Ashley Berard—supervisor André Smith
Ryan Butler—supervisor Bill Carroll
Kaitlyn Fraser—supervisor Martha McMahon
Wrenna (Veronica) Robertson—supervisor Sean Hier
Nicola Temmel—supervisor Sean Hier
James Watkins—supervisor Zheng Wu

Current Graduate Student News

Logan Macnair is in his second year of the Master’s program. He has finished all of his course work and defended his thesis proposal this summer. This fall he will be working on his thesis, entitled, “Mourning 2.0: Experiences of Death, Memorialization and Bereavement on Facebook”, supervised by Steve Garlick. In addition, Logan will be doing TA work as well as tutoring for the Resource Centre for Students with Disabilities (RCSD).

I am completing my second year of studies in the Master’s Program. My areas of research interest include the social dimensions of health, vulnerable populations, HIV/AIDS, social movements, and the European Union. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to present the results of participant interviews, which were gathered in Iceland in 2012 and 2013, at the annual conference of the Nordic Sociological Association in Sweden this past summer. My Master’s research takes as its core focus the criminalization of HIV-nondisclosure in Canada.
~Bryan Benner

Gaëlle Nicoussi, a third year MA student in the department, has been working on a quantitative research project under the supervision of Doug Baer. She plans on defending her extended essay, titled "Attitude towards Inequality and Public Funding in Health Care: Investigating Religiousity in Eight Western Nations", by the end of the Fall.

Jacqueline Quinless (PhD) defended her first comp this Spring and is currently studying for her second one. In June, she attended the Global Studies Conference in China. She recently published a quantitative paper, “Family Matters”: Household Size in Relation to the Aboriginal Children’s Well-Being in Aboriginal Policy Studies and has submitted another paper, Indigenous Well-Being in Canada: Understanding Sustainability in the Context of Knowledge Networks, Community Cohesion and Interconnectedness in the Global Studies Journal, which is under review. She is also working on a book Chapter on Applied Sociology for The Cambridge Handbook of Sociology and have a contract with Cambridge University Press.
Graduate Student News

I began studying Sociology at UVic in September 2010 and completed my BA in Spring 2012. Social theory and research methods inspired me to pursue further studies and I began the MA program in September 2012. My Master’s research explored the feminization of care work in immigrant families, and the complexities inherent in intergenerational relationships within the diasporic South Asian community. Over the past two years I worked as a TA for numerous courses which provided the opportunity to deliver guest lectures on occasion. I found the TA work rewarding and particularly enjoyed interacting with students. In addition, I have gained valuable experience working on several SSHRC and CIHR funded projects as a research assistant. I defended my thesis on August 25, 2014 and am very excited to begin the PhD program this fall. Under Dr. Karen Kobayashi’s supervision, my PhD research will continue to explore the ways in which structural barriers and the multiple intersections among various axes of inequality are represented in the subjective lived experiences and everyday interactions of immigrant South Asian women.

~Mushira Khan

Karen and Mushira celebrating her successful defense.

My name is Hanning Wang, and I am a second-year MA student. My research interests are social movements and collective action. I am very honored to work with Prof. Min Zhou on his SSHRC project studying anti-Japanese social activism in China. As a former undergraduate student studying in Beijing for four years, I was glad to go back there this summer to conduct a survey among three universities - Beijing (Peking) University, Tsinghua University, and People’s (Renmin) University. The familiarity with these universities helped us to comprehensively collect student dorm information – we used stratified sampling and systematic sampling among 69,744 students living in 84 student dorm buildings. With the great help of 17 responsible interviewers, the survey procedure fulfilled our expectations very well. Now we are looking forward to investigating our finding on Beijing students’ participation in anti-Japanese demonstrations. Being part of the whole process, from questionnaire design, sampling, interviewer recruitment to data coding and analysis is definitely a wonderful opportunity for me to contribute what I have learned in the program and to learn more from Prof. Zhou. Thanks to Prof. Zhou for letting me have this valuable sociological research experience!

Blair Wilkinson started his PhD in September 2010 and anticipates completing the program by the end of spring 2015. His dissertation investigates the work of university security personnel and how this work is influenced by the university organizational culture. The dissertation draws upon Blair’s fieldwork, which included interviews with 56 people and almost 250 hours of observations on five university campuses across Canada. The dissertation is supervised by Sean Hier.

Since the start of his PhD he has published three, co-authored articles, one sole-authored chapter and presented at various conferences. This summer he taught his first course for the department, Soci306: Crime and Deviance. He found the 6 week course to be a great learning experience and very rewarding. He hopes the students felt the same way. This fall he will be working on his dissertation chapters as well as TAing.

I am currently working on my dissertation “The social structural production of risk behaviour among marginalized drug users: a comparison of injection drug users and non-injection drug users”, supervised by Cecilia Benoit. The study is exploring how the lives of drug users in Vancouver’s downtown east side are shaped by broader socio-political structures. I’m also interested in comparing people who inject drugs with people who do not inject but use drugs by other methods in terms of risk behaviours, social networks, and other socio-cultural factors. It’s a mixed-methods project, involving a quantitative survey and an in-depth semi-structured interview. Right now I’m in the middle of data collection, interviewing study participants in the downtown east side.

I am a CARBC affiliated grad student and RA and I was recently interviewed by CBC radio about prescription heroin. http://uvic.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?u=acddebd9f9fe5389092716b28&id=623abbdd70&e=68b50705a2

~Andrew Ivsins
Where are they Now?  Graduate Alumni News

In February 2015, Dr. Daniel Grace will begin his new role as an Assistant Professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. After finishing his PhD in Sociology 2012, Daniel was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of British Columbia, Faculty of Medicine. Since that time Daniel has continued postdoctoral research in the UK at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Public Health and Policy.

Geoff Zachernuk (MA, 2012) is currently involved in landscaping and renovation work in Victoria. At times the renovations involve asbestos removal.

Since graduation Amy Cox (MA, 2010) has been busy working as a research assistant in the Faculty of Nursing for Dr. Marjorie McDonald, Dr. Gweneth Doane, Dr. Kelli Stajduhar, and Dr. Bernie Pauly, on many different projects within the health field, spanning End of Life Care, Homelessness and Health, to Public Health and Knowledge to Action. After three years in Nursing and at the Centre on Aging, she is happy to be back 'home' in Sociology, where she has been working with Ruth Kampen on Karen Kobayashi’s research project evaluating a Residential Care Delivery Model change in the Fraser Health Authority. In June of this year she completed a 1000 hour teacher training program, and now teaches Bikram Yoga in Saanich and Sidney.

Edward White completed his MA in 2013 and enjoys being in the department so much he hasn’t left! Over the last three summers he has worked as a line cook at Mt. Washington Alpine Resort in Courtney. Last school year he was the tutorial coordinator or wrangler. He is pleased to be back working in the department this fall as the TA Coordinator and Consultant. During this 9 month contract Edward will provide tutorial support for Soci100A and Soci100B TAs and will assist Bruce Ravelli with the overall administration and smooth running of this program. In addition, he is a resource and for graduate students who TA for other courses. The coffee pot is on whenever he is in his office so grad students and faculty are welcome to stop by and say hello (Cor A331). Edward enjoys cooking and baking so departmental members often get to enjoy the fruits of his labour.

I am starting year three of my PhD at York University, in the sociology department (of course). While I have yet to defend my proposal, my research will focus on the male cruising culture (men seeking men in public, for sex... in public).

Interestingly, my preliminary field work and interviews challenge the notion of the Cruiser as an isolated, closeted, ‘gay’ male. Rather than expressing feelings of shame or a need to hide their activities from others, initial research indicates that some Cruisers are quite eager to talk about their experiences. This has led me to consider the possibility of ‘pleasure-cruising’ as a quasi-counter-conduct. Simply put, I suggest that if we want to learn about cruising, we should start by talking to Cruisers about cruising. This approach is surprisingly lacking in most of the research on cruising. More complicatedly put, I will draw on Foucault’s analytic of governmentality to understand how power is exercised through (heterotopic) space and (dividing) practices.

I have recently presented on this work at the Society for the Study of Social Problems 2014 conference in San Francisco, titled, “I’m Not a Special Snowflake:” The Conduct of Public Sex. The forty minute question period was rapid-fire.

I’ve also presented on some updated work at the CSA this year, titled, “A Queer Exploration into the Authenticity of (Virtual) Sex.” It was great to see some old UVic friends and meet some of the subsequent cohorts. They made my breakfasts a lot more interesting.

And a bit of personal info - Dennis and I are still together as he has been unable to trade me in for a newer model. My daughter’s entering grade 7 (as well as the ‘i’m smarter than you’ phase). And, we’ve added a 7 year old son to our non-normative family unit.

~Dann Hoxsey

A recent family portrait.
Undergraduate News and Updates

The Bureau of Sociology Students (BOSS) is a collective of students from the Sociology Department at the University of Victoria.

As a student-run organization governed by UVSS policy, our aim is to promote the study of sociology, to foster a sense of community on campus and, to create a positive and inclusive environment for sociology students by promoting both social and academic experiences. BOSS coordinates a number of events throughout the year, including movie nights, study groups, and information sessions, mixers and pub crawls, and organizes group attendance at lectures and information sessions.

Working with the faculty and staff, BOSS hopes to provide sociology students with the resources needed to succeed at the undergraduate level and beyond. The Bureau of Sociology Students is a great way to become involved on campus and offers students a forum to engage with sociologically relevant material outside the classroom. Fun social events are planned as well. Last year, these events included ice skating and two Social Nights held in night clubs.

Membership is open to any and all students taking an undergraduate-level sociology class during the year. Students are encouraged to join our Facebook group or send us an email with any thoughts you may have.

Weekly BOSS meetings will be held Tuesdays at 1:30 in COR A121. If you are interested in getting involved or would like to provide input on upcoming events, feel free to drop by!

Honours Program

The Sociology honours program offers dedicated undergraduate students the opportunity to engage in original, innovative, cutting-edge research under the supervision of a full-time faculty member. The program provides a high level of training in critical reading, writing, and thinking.

Seven students are entering the program this year. Stay posted for more information on their research projects in the next newsletter. Also, congratulations to Jason Miller, Renay Maurice and Zachary Lewis for receiving a Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award (JCURA) for 2014-2015. This award supports exceptional students wanting to engage in research, typically within an Honours program.

Dr. Dorothy Smith was award an honorary doctorate by the University of Edinburgh in July.

Isabela Vera (BA, Honours, 2014) received the Alan B. Hedley Award for best Honours thesis.

Hanning Wang, is this year’s winner of the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) Student Essay Competition, for her paper, “An Alternative State-Centric Explanation of Chinese Citizens’ Preference of the Xin-fang System”.

Questions?

Departmental members to contact if you have questions or concerns regarding our programs:

Bruce Ravelli—Undergrad Advisor
André Smith—Honours Advisor & Co-op REp
Karen Kobayashi—Grad Advisor
Edward White—TA Coordinator & Consultant

And of course, the always helpful and friendly office staff:

Carole Rains—Department Secretary
Zoe Lu—Graduate Secretary
Aileen Chong—Office Receptionist
Undergraduate Co-op Program

Sociology Co-op: What’s in your Future?
How does a degree in Sociology prepare you for life after graduation? As a Sociology student you are developing skills and competencies that employers look for but how do you make that bridge between university and work once you graduate? Sociology Co-op can help! As a sociology co-op student you can combine full-time work experiences into your degree program.

This summer, Sociology Co-op student Rheana Slack completed a co-op term with LifeCycles Project Society. She had little previous experience but by the end of the term she was writing policies, compiling organizational statistics, writing reports, working with databases, facilitating staff meetings, and organizing tours for LifeCycle’s funding representatives. “It was a busy summer and a fantastic one. I feel more confident with my abilities, focused, and excited for my next work term.”

David Bakvis graduated with a Sociology co-op degree which included work term experiences with the BC Ministry of Health, Literacy Victoria and Red Seal Recruiting. Now working in Communications with TD Bank David offers this advice “sociology really expands your way of thinking. It enables you to more easily get a grip on other people’s perspectives. Take advantage of co-op – the program helped me to identify my strengths and what kind of work I wanted to do long term.”

To apply to the program
If you’re in at least second year and have a B average, you are eligible for the Sociology Co-op Program. The deadline for applications is September 20th. Download an application form (http://www.uvic.ca/coopandcareer/assets/forms/pdf/ss_application%20form.pdf) or pick one up from the Social Science Co-op Office in DTB A204. Please visit the Sociology Coop website for further information (http://www.uvic.ca/coopandcareer/studentsalumni/coop/programs/soci/index.php) or contact André Smith, Sociology Co-op representative.

Co-op and Career Fair

When: September 23 & 24, 2014
10am-3:30pm
Where: Michele Pujol Room, SUB

Looking for work? Exploring career options? Connect with over 50 employers from a wide range of organizations at the UVic Co-op and Career Fair. Talk to professionals in your field and companies that are actively recruiting students and grads. Don’t forget your résumé!

Our Career Services team will be on site across the hall in the Upper Lounge to help you research employers at the fair, give you résumé feedback and help you prepare questions to ask company reps.

This event is open to current students and alumni.

Pet Pictures

Garry’s imposing dachshund “guard dog” Chewie.

Andre’s dog, Kuper, wants to know where his kibbles and bits have gone.

Gaëlle’s dog Saxy has enjoyed attending numerous classes over the years — perhaps she will get an honorary degree? (also pictured are Lei Chai and Rudy Scherban)
Recent Publications

Undergraduate Rising Stars Awards


Benoit, C. 2014. “The state of midwifery and maternal health in Canada.” **Transition.**

Butler, K., & Benoit, C. 2014. “Citizenship practices among youth who have experienced government care.” **Canadian Journal of Sociology.**


Smith, Dorothy E & Susan M Turner. 2014. *Incorporating Texts into Institutional Ethnographies.* Toronto: University of
Toronto Press.


**Presentations** (Conference Papers/Invited/Guest Speaker/Posters)


Benoit, C., Jansson, M., Kennedy, M.C., Ouellet, N. *Sex workers’ views on whether Canada’s prostitution laws promote or inhibit their health and safety*. Fourth Biennial Bilingual Conference of the Canadian Society for Sociology of Health. Montreal, Quebec, May 5-6, 2014.


Benoit, C., & Kennedy, M.C. *Male sex workers’ experiences on healthcare quality & safety as they navigate intersecting stigmas*. MEN’SCAPES 2014: Reshaping the terrain of men’s lives on Vancouver Island, Victoria, BC. April 4, 2014.


Carroll, Bill. *International Networks of Banks and Industry Revisited: the financial crisis*. Presented at the World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, July 2014, with Eelke Heemskerk and Meindert Fennema as co-authors.

Carroll, Bill. *Transnational Alternative Policy Groups in Global Civil Society: Enablers of post-capitalist alternatives or carriers of NGOization?* Presented to the Society for Socialist Studies Annual Meeting,, Brock University, St. Catharines ON, June, 2014 with J.P. Sapinski as co-author.

Carroll, Bill. *The rich ambiguity of political sociology in Canada*. Presented to the annual meeting for the Canadian Sociological Association, Brock University, St. Catharines ON, June. 2014

Chappell, Neena. Keynote: *Why Caregiver’s Institutionalize Family Members; Examining Gender and Relationship Intersections.* European Society for Health and Medical Sociology, Helsinki, Finland. August 2014.

Chappell, Neena. Keynote: *Family Caregiving to Older Adults,* Luther Court Society, Victoria, May 2014.


Jansson, M., Benoit, C., Kennedy, M.C., Ouellet, N. *Love the one you’re with: How sex workers are supported by their partners.* Fourth Biennial Bilingual Conference of the Canadian Society for Sociology of Health. Montreal, Quebec, May 5-6, 2014.


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