Message from the Chair
Professor Zhenchao Qian

Thanks to you all, the transition to semesters in 2012-13 was a success. Of course, the end of the past academic year was hectic at least administratively as we had to wrap up all the activities one month earlier than in the past. I know that it caught everybody by surprise that we had our annual department awards luncheon in April. Now we look forward to another semester, right after ASA! Summer went by quickly.

Let me begin to highlight some of the news in the past year. Randy Hodson and I were elected AAAS Fellows, Andrew Martin received the college honors’ faculty award, Justin Schupp received the Graduate School Graduate Associate Teaching Award, Lora Lassus secured a three year NSF graduate research fellowship. And, one of our alumni, Columbus Police Chief Kimberly Jacobs was a recipient of the 2013 College Distinguished Alumni Award.

Sociology at Ohio State is thriving. We are ranked 17th in the nation (US News and World Report, 2014). We continue to strengthen our faculty by bringing in excellent new colleagues. Robert Bond and Neha Gondal will join us this autumn. They are social networks scholars, who received their PhDs from UC San Diego and Rutgers, respectively. Robert’s primary appointment is in the School of Communication. Ryan King, a criminologist, comes to us from SUNY Albany. Finally, Corinne Reczek, with research expertise in family, gender, and health, joins us from the University of Cincinnati. Also joining us this year is David Martinez, who will be working with Lindsey Chamberlain and Shannon Phlegar as an academic advisor.

Our graduate students keep doing well on the job market (see details as you read further in the newsletter). This is a great achievement! I’m also pleased to welcome 11 students – the 2013 cohort to the department. They are Alexandria Fraga, Micah Gaffney, Timothy Grix, Alexandra Kissling, Elizabeth Klainot, Marta Kolczynska, Aaron Miles, Anna Muravev, Corey Pech, Jenny Piquette, and Aimee Yoon. Welcome!

Finally, I’d like to thank Jane Wilson for editing the newsletter.
New to the Department

Robert Bond will join the university in August 2013 as an assistant professor. He will hold a 75% appointment in the School of Communication and a 25% appointment in Sociology. Robert’s current research focuses on the use of methods from computational social science to study political behavior and communication. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego.

Neha Gondal will join us in August 2013 as an assistant professor. She will hold a 75% appointment in Sociology and a 25% appointment in the School of Communication. Neha’s research interests lie at the intersection of social networks and culture. She received her Ph.D. from Rutgers.

Ryan King will join us in August 2013 as an associate professor. Ryan’s areas of interest are criminology, law and society, criminal punishment, and intergroup conflict. He was an associate professor at the University at Albany, SUNY and received his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.

David Martinez will be joining us in August 2013 as an advisor in our Undergraduate Student Services office. David has worked as an academic counselor at Ohio State for four years in Arts and Sciences Advising/Academic Services office. David earned a B.A. degree in English and Anthropology and M.A. in Anthropology, both from The Ohio State University. We are very pleased that David will be joining our advising staff.

Corinne Reczek will join us in August 2013 as an assistant professor. She will hold a 75% appointment in sociology and a 25% appointment in Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Her research is in the fields of family, gender, and health. Corrine was an assistant professor at University of Cincinnati and received her PhD from University of Texas – Austin.

Welcoming the 2013 Cohort

Alexandra Fraga
Undergraduate Institution: Ohio State University
Research Interests: Work and Social Movements
Hobbies: I enjoy watching documentaries, reading non-fiction, playing spades, and racquetball.

Micah Gaffney
Undergraduate Institution: University of Georgia
Research Interests: Political Sociology
Hobbies: I enjoy cooking, camping, hiking, reading the news, other reading (especially non-fiction in the realm of the social sciences), and travel.

Timothy Grix
Undergraduate Institution: Ohio State University
Research Interests: Sex/Gender
Hobbies: I enjoy video games, Legos, reading fiction or fantasy, biking, and playing tennis.

Alexandra Kissling
Undergraduate Institution: University of Cincinnati
Research Interests: Social Movements, Political Sociology
Hobbies: I enjoy watching TV and movies on Netflix. I love eating food of all kinds, especially anything at an Indian buffet.

Elizabeth Klainot
Undergraduate Institution: University of Wisconsin
Research Interests: Social Movements, Political Sociology
Hobbies: I enjoy spending time outside (hiking, camping, trail running, etc.). I also love going out to eat.

Marta Kolczynska
Undergraduate Institution: Warsaw School of Economics
Research Interests: Political Sociology
Hobbies: I enjoy long-distance running, hiking and camping, griddlers and sudoku, and everything related to the Balkans

Aaron Miles
Undergraduate Institution: BYU
Research Interests: Stratification
Hobbies: I enjoy watching sports, specifically football and basketball. I’m into science fiction movies and books. I enjoy video games.

Anna Muraveva
Undergraduate Institution: Saratov St University
Research Interests: Family, Population and Health, and Gender
Hobbies: I am from Saratov, Russia, but I lived in Indianapolis, Indiana for almost six years. Several months ago my husband and I moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. My hobbies include reading, especially 20th century American and British literature, travel, volunteer work, and sports.
Corey Pech  
Undergraduate Institution: George Washington University  
Research Interests: Work and Political Sociology  
Hobbies: I like to read a lot; I’m currently making my way through a collection of Ray Carver short stories. I enjoy exploring cities, finding news bars, and cheap places to eat.

Jenny Piquette  
Undergraduate Institution: Smith College  
Research Interests: Criminology, Gender  
Hobbies: I am a huge Patriots fan and play fantasy football each year. I enjoy going to the gym and am getting certified as a Zumba instructor this summer. Otherwise, I enjoy reading fiction and traveling.

Aimee Yoon  
Undergraduate Institution: UCLA  
Research Interests: Stratification, Education  
Hobbies: I’m sort of a homebody, so my pastimes include watching movies and reading books. I also love board games and can become quite competitive. When I do venture out of my home, it is usually to eat.

Births

September 2012  
12th - Isaiah Raphael  
DeShauna and John Jones

April 2013  
30th - Matilda Vivian  
David and Jaymie Ramey

June 2013  
28th - Aidan Jonathan  
David and Stacy Martinez

July 2013  
22nd - Declan  
Lindsey and Nick Myers

Sociology Faculty Newsflash

Paul Bellair was quoted in the May 9, 2013 issue of The Columbus Dispatch regarding the three women who were rescued from a Cleveland house after ten years of captivity.

Janet Box-Steffensmeier, a professor of Political Science and a courtesy professor in the Department of Sociology was the recipient of two prestigious awards in 2013, the Political Methodology Career-Achievement Award and the Warrant E. Miller Award for Meritorious Service to the Social Sciences.

Claudia Buchmann has been elected to the University Senate for a three-year term beginning autumn semester 2013. Claudia appeared on an MSNBC interview to discuss the rise of women in education and the growing gender gap in schools.

John Casterline was re-appointed as director of the Institute for Population Research. His term will run from July 1, 2013 to August 31, 2017.

Elizabeth Cooksey was elected as President of the Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies in 2012. She was also elected as a Member-at-Large of the Section on Social, Economic and Political Sciences, AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science). Her four-year term is February 19, 2013 through February 20, 2017.

Rachel, Dwyer, Randy Hodson, and Laurie McCloud (former OSU graduate student’s) Gender and Society article on Gender, Debt and College Completion was highlighted in the February 25, 2013 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Dana Haynie been elected as an alternate member of the University Senate beginning autumn semester 2013.

Randy Hodson and Zhenchao Qian were elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS). Randy Hodson, for distinguished contributions to the study of organizational effectiveness and dignity at work through the study of power and its abuses and Zhenchao Qian, for distinguished contributions to the field of population studies and sociology, particularly for the studies of marriage, cohabitation, interracial marriage and assortative mating patterns.

Steve Lopez has been elected to the University Senate for a three-year term beginning autumn semester 2013.

Richard Lundman was chosen as the August Rec Sports Star of the Month, Recreation and Physical Activities Center, Ohio State Recreational Sports.
Andrew Martin received the 2012-13 College of Arts and Sciences Honors Faculty Service Award. The award recognizes Andrew for excellence in honors advising, honors instruction, honors committee work, and other honors initiatives and responsibilities.

Dr. Joseph E. Steinmetz, Exec. Dean, Arts & Sciences and Dr. Andrew Martin, Assoc. Prof. Dept. of Sociology


Zhenchao Qian was quoted in a Wall Street Journal article, Mother, Can You Spare a Room? in the Weekend Investor section of the May 4/5, 2013 issue.

Vinnie Roscigno has been selected to co-edit Social Currents, the new official journal of the Southern Sociological Society, along with Dr. Toni Calasanti of Virginia Tech.

Kristi Williams and Adrianne Frech's (former OSU graduate student) study was discussed in an article written by Stephanie Coontz in the May 25, 2013 issue of the New York Times titled When Numbers Mislead.

Kristi Williams’ op-ed on “should Women Delay Motherhood?” was published in the July 8, 2013 issue of the New York Times.

Hui Zheng was quoted in Time Magazine regarding his recent study published in Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Why Marriage Is Good for Your Health – Until You Get Sick.

Interview with National Geographic

Kim Lopez has been a lecturer in our department for four years. Her areas of expertise are thanatology, social psychology, and child and family. On August 30, 2012 a team from National Geographic filmed an on-camera interview with Kim. Nat Geo is working on a documentary series and one of their topics is death and the paranormal. Kim was asked about how religion, culture and death affects beliefs about paranormal experiences. Stay tuned for an air date.

Students Thank Instructors

The Ohio State University Center for the Advancement of Teaching offers an online site called Thank-a-Prof where students can thank an instructor “for the hard work, dedication and effort that gave him or her an unforgettable learning experience.”

Our congratulations to the Sociology instructors who received unsolicited thanks:

SU12  Mr. Paul Carruth  
SP12  Dr. Deborah Wilson  Dr. Heather Schoenfeld  
AU12  Dr. Greg Matthews, Newark  Dr. Deborah Wilson  
SP13  Dr. Kristi Williams

On the Tenure Track

Robert Anthony, Asst. Prof., Shepherd University  
Aubrey Jackson, Asst. Prof., University of New Mexico  
Jennifer Jones, Asst. Prof., Univ. of Notre Dame  
Salvatore Restifo, Asst. Prof., Univ. of Texas, Pan American  
Brian Soller, Asst. Prof., University of New Mexico

Graduate Student Bulletin

Nicholas Jordan received Sociology’s Summer Methods Training Award to advance his dissertation research.

Lora Lassus received a three year National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

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Ryan Scarrow was presented the Silverman Research Award which supports research in human rights.

Justin Schupp was one of only 10 OSU Graduate Associate Teaching Award winners for 2013. This is one of the Ohio State’s highest forms of recognition for graduate students. Justin was honored at the 41st annual Graduate School Spring Awards Reception on April 16, 2013. 2013 – 2015 Justin will be a Visiting Assistant Professor at Kenyon College.

Trent “Tate” Steidley received Sociology’s Summer Methods Training Award to advance his dissertation research.

Sri Thakkilapati was awarded the Silverman Research Award which supports research in human rights. Sri was also awarded a grant from the OSU Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

Lisa Williams was awarded the Silverman Research Award which supports research in human rights.

SGSA OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2013-14

President: Matt Stearmer
Vice President (Finance): Matt Schoene
Vice President (Student Affairs): Tate Steidley

Committees:
Teaching: Jonathan Vaughn and Emily Shrider
TO Grad Student Offices: Sarah Layton and Siqi Han
Grad Studies and Grad Admissions: Rachel Durso
Diversity and Inclusion: Denise Obinna
Graduate Placement Committee: Michael Nau
Computer/Laboratory: Jonathan Dirlam
Faculty Recruitment: Paul Carruth and Lisa Williams
Form/Huber Colloquia: Christopher Keenan
Spring Sociology Awards Luncheon: Alicia Croft

Undergraduate Student Updates

Dept. of Sociology 2013 Undergrad Awards

Outstanding Senior Criminology Student ............... Julia Berry
Outstanding Senior Sociology Student ............... Katie May

Alberta Garber Scott Fellowship recipients ............ Gregory Lavins, Kathryn Bartolomucci, Alexandria Smith, Kelly Angle, Yucheng Wang, Brian Jewell, Kyiesha Anderson, Emma Jackson, Julia Columbro, Ashley Bailes, Kayla Kilar, Jennifer Taylor

Dr. Frederick E. Lumley Memorial Scholarship ...... Abigail Camp, Alexandra Brown, Cara Corcoran, Amanda Lanning, Jane Lankes

Sociology seniors who completed honors thesis and graduated with distinction: Marc Rostan and Alexandria Fraga.

Madelaine Keim, Gregory Lavins and Mallory Tiddim received an honorable mention on their poster, “The Green Brewing Movement: Moral Accountability, Fiscal Responsibility, or Small Business Bandwagon?” at the Denman. This year the Department of Sociology had a great showing at the Denman, a total of nine Sociology posters, not in small part due to the hard work and strong mentoring of Professor Andrew Martin and Dr. Lindsey Chamberlain.

Marc Rostan carries a double major in Sociology and Political Science. In September 2012, Marc was awarded a Social and Behavioral Sciences Undergraduate Research Grant for his project, Who’s invested in their neighborhood? Comparing landowners and their effects in Cleveland and Youngstown.

Sociology Undergrads Win Study Abroad Grants

Congratulations to our undergraduate students for their great achievement of obtaining grants for research and study abroad in The Ohio State University in Social Sciences in Warsaw “Central and Eastern Europe in Comparative Perspective: Assessing Social and Political Change” for 2013. This OSU Study Abroad Program in the Department of Sociology is organized by the Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (CONSIERT), Director, Sociology Professor Emeritus K. M. Slomczynski. CONSIERT guides students through the grant application process.

The awards and their recipients are Abigail Camp, Sociology, OSU Undergraduate Research Office (URO) Research Fellowship and the OSU Office of International Affairs Francille M. Firebaugh Study Abroad Scholarship; and Vittoria Rice, Sociology, OSU SBS Undergraduate Research Award. For OSU students’ participation in the 2013 OSU Warsaw Summer School the Undergraduate Student Travel Grant awarded by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology at the Polish Academy of Sciences to Abigail Camp and Beth Bodenstejn, Sociology and Anna Dewan, Psychology.

Our Alumni News

Gustavo Mesch, Ph.D., 1993
The Ohio State University (committee chair, Professor Kent Schwirian) is currently a Full Professor of Sociology at the University of Haifa. He served as department chair from 2001-04. Early in January 2013 Gustavo was elected as Dean of Social Sciences at the University of Haifa, Israel.

Matthew Painter, Ph.D., 2010
The Ohio State University and currently assistant professor of Sociology at the University of Wyoming won their Promoting Intellectual Engagement in the First Year or “PIE” Award. This award recognizes faculty who do outstanding work teaching and engaging first-year students.
Laurel Richardson, Prof. Emeritus received the Lifetime Achievement Award 2013 from the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, an association of approximately 6,000 members from thirty countries and sixty different disciplines or practices.

Gene Sharp is a graduate of Ohio State University with a B.A. in social sciences and an M.A. in sociology, and of Oxford University with a D.Phil. in political theory. He was a researcher at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, for nearly 30 years. He received the Right Livelihood Award on December 7, 2012 in Stockholm at a ceremony in the Swedish Parliament. The award was established in 1980 to honor and support those “offering practical and exemplary answers to the most urgent challenges facing us today”.

CONSIRT Report

Kazimierz Slomczynski, Professor Emeritus and Director of CONSIRT reports that in the 2013 May Session of the Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program – CONSIRT (consirt.osu.edu) at the Ohio State University (OSU) and the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) organized the Workshop on Panel Design and Analysis (POLPAN Workshop), featuring the Polish Panel Survey POLPAN 1988 – 2013. This longitudinal survey is conducted on a national sample of Polish citizens in five year waves beginning with 1988. The POLPAN Workshop was open to graduate students in the social sciences. Funding for the Workshop came from the POLPAN grant, the OSU Department of Sociology, and the OSU Polish Studies Initiative. The first segment of the POLPAN Workshop (week one, May 6-12), devoted to practicalities of designing and collecting longitudinal survey data, was held at PAN, in Warsaw. Participants attended lectures by, and discussed with, experts in methodology who designed POLPAN and administered it over the last two decades. Topics ranged from sampling to item design, including special topics on the history of sociological panel studies in Central and Eastern Europe, and life-course studies.

The second segment (week two, May 20-26) took place on OSU Main Campus, in the Department of Sociology. It featured POLPAN to train participants in quantitative analyses of panel data and included advanced statistical topics, from multilevel modeling to latent class growth models. In addition, the Columbus workshop devoted a Special Session – open and free of charge to interested faculty and students – to Health and Wellbeing in Dynamic Perspective. Participants discussed substantive and methodological issues that could be addressed with POLPAN.

The unique structure of the POLPAN Workshop involved the participation of two groups of graduate students. The international exchange group consisted of two OSU and three PAN students who attended both the Warsaw and the Columbus segments of the Workshop. CONSIRT also selected a second group of graduate students who met on the premises of the host institutions – in Warsaw and in Columbus, respectively. While participants in the second group did not travel over the Atlantic, they had the opportunity to engage in international collaboration with their peers in each of the workshop’s cities.

On the Bookshelf


Rachel Woldoff, PhD., 2003, The Ohio State University and currently associate professor of Sociology & Anthropology at West Virginia University received the 2013 Best Book Award from the Urban Affairs Association for her book, White Flight / Black Flight, The Dynamics of Change in an American Neighborhood (Cornell 2011)
THE RISE OF WOMEN: The Growing Gender Gap in Education and What it Means for American Schools

Thomas A. DiPrete and Claudia Buchmann

Reconstructing Rage: Transformative Reentry in the Era of Mass Incarceration

Townsend Price-Spratlen and William Goldsby
Police Chief Kimberly Jacobs
2013 College Distinguished Alumni Award winner

Chief Jacobs serves on the Board of Directors for the Center for Family Safety and Healing, the Board of Trustees for the Ohio Law Enforcement Foundation, and is a member of the United Way’s Women’s Leadership Council and Pride Council.

“I grew up at Ohio State. I met people from all walks of life and from different backgrounds. I found my calling in the sociology and criminology classes.”

Chief Jacobs entered the Columbus Division of Police in October, 1979. This was only four years after the Division first started training women to work in Patrol. She was the first woman in the Division to be promoted to Commander in 1995, to Deputy Chief in 2009 and to Chief of Police in 2012.

Promotional Background & Assignments

- Entered Division on October 21, 1979, and upon graduation was assigned to Patrol and worked on the west side of Columbus. During that time served as a Field Training Officer (FTO) for several years.
- Promoted to Sergeant in 1987, assigned to Patrol and the Patrol Administrative office.
- Promoted to Lieutenant in 1991, assigned to Patrol Zone 3 and served as the Patrol Deputy Chief’s Administrative Staff Lieutenant.
- Promoted to Commander in 1995, assigned to Communications, Internal Affairs, Patrol Zone 4, and the Training Bureau.
- Promoted in 2009, Deputy Chief, Patrol East Subdivision, Patrol South Subdivision and then the Administrative Subdivision.
- Promoted to Chief of Police in 2012.

Columbus Police Chief Kimberly Jacobs is one of the recipients of the 2013 College Distinguished Alumni Award. The Department of Sociology Awards Committee: Randy Hodson and Reanne Frank submitted the nomination and Richard Lundman, Professor of criminology drafted the nomination letter.

Chief Kim Jacobs holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from The Ohio State University and was a 4-year letter winner for the OSU Women’s Track team. She is a graduate of the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) and the Certified Law Enforcement Executive program (CLEE).

Police Chief Kimberly Jacobs
(BA, Sociology, OSU 1979)