DEPARTMENT NEWS

From the Director of Graduate Studies

Welcome to the start of a new academic year! Classes are well underway and the new cohort is adjusting well to graduate school. That said, a few students, both old and new, are starting to experience difficulties. Here, I offer some advice on how to prepare for challenges with your studies should they arise.

Nearly all graduate students are motivated to get an MA and enter our program in the spirit of a “Weberian sociological calling.” Yet, soon after starting the program, many face challenges. These challenges have included things such as difficulties managing multiple roles (parent, employee, student, partner, etc.), having self doubts about being prepared for graduate work, questioning whether our program is a good fit, increases in anxiety and depression due to feeling overwhelmed, not being challenged enough, being overly challenged, feeling isolated from fellow students, family and friends, etc. Sometimes the Department faces difficulties that may also create challenges for graduate students such as feeling disconnected from faculty or being afraid to raise concerns about your experiences in the program.

Below are some words of advice from Fred Pyrczak’s book on Completing your Thesis (2000, pgs: 69-72) to help students better manage these challenges.

1. Don’t wait until things get tough to establish an emotional support system. Recruit your family, friends, and others now. Make them an active part of your program.

2. People who are negative about your efforts are usually reflecting their own fears, personal frustrations, or jealousy. Some family members might resent your intense involvement. They may feel a loss. A friend may regret not getting his/her own higher degree. Refuse to see negative attitudes as personal attacks. Fall back on your emotional support to deal with negatives in a positive way.

3. Don’t hesitate to get professional help if you feel overwhelmed. Our University has excellent mental health services for students. See information on Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) later on in this newsletter.

4. Create an educational support system such as through forming a cohort study group. See yourselves as problem solvers with different strengths that can help each other. The weakest member of a group can often turn out to be the most valuable.

5. Recruit professors to help solve problems or act as mentors to the group.
6. Meet with your first year advisor and your permanent advisor on a regular basis. Having ongoing face-to-face meetings will facilitate your progress through the program.

7. Share your most serious challenges with a couple of faculty members. Remember, we have all been where you are and understand the difficulties of graduate school. By sharing concerns with more than one faculty member, you will get two views and be better equipped to address it.

No one can anticipate all the problems that come along while working towards an advanced degree. By having an emotional and educational support system in place to anticipate common problems, you CAN avoid being overwhelmed when unexpected difficulties arise. Most students don’t quit because of one big problem, but because of the cumulative effect of smaller problems and because of increased isolation as you become engrossed in the process. By including others in your plans, you are more likely to keep on track and finish.

I will offer a few short words of advice as well that stems from an experience I had this summer. I had the privileged opportunity to visit one of the new Seven Wonders of the World this summer – Machu Picchu in Peru. “In the 15th century, the Incan Emperor Pachacútec built a city in the clouds on the mountain known as Machu Picchu ("old mountain"). This extraordinary settlement lies halfway up the Andes Plateau, deep in the Amazon jungle and above the Urubamba River. It was probably abandoned by the Incas because of a smallpox outbreak and, after the Spanish defeated the Incan Empire, the city remained 'lost' for over three centuries. It was rediscovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911” (wikipedia.com). http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machu_Picchu

The photo to the right is me at the top of Putukusi, which is a shear cliffed, jungle covered mountain that rises over two thousand feet above the Urubamba valley across from Machu Picchu (which is eight thousand feet above sea level).

So why share this information? Well, one thing I experienced in this magical place was a sense of unsurpassed solitude and peace, an experience that is often missing from the mundane everyday world that confronts us on a daily basis. Indeed, working in the “academy” is extremely challenging at times to the point where members may wonder if they chose the right path in life. It’s not just faculty who face challenges in the academy, but our graduate students often do as well. It’s easy to overlook students, especially when we, the Department, face challenges of our own.

So, in addition to having a strong network of support, I also recommend that graduate students find a place of solitude and peace where you can escape from the mundane world from time to time. Upon experiencing the serenity and peace of Machu Pichu, I suddenly felt my energy and spirit returning from a difficult year and indeed, was reminded that my calling was right. So what does this mean? It means that an occasional disappearing act from your studies may be just what you need during some of the most challenging times of getting your MA degrees. Take a day off from studying, go have fun, treat yourself to something special. For some of the most challenging times, taking a semester off may do the trick (remember you have five years to complete your degrees).
Whatever it is, reward yourself from time to time to escape the mundane world as getting a higher degree is not easy and you deserve a break once in a while.

I will close with one of my favorite pictures from my Peru trip. I have traveled in a wide array of places and often take photos of meat and vegetable markets to use in my Sociology classes to illustrate the gendered division of labor and how it varies in different parts of the world. Everywhere I have gone cutting meat is always a man’s job. In the Arab Middle-East both meat and vegetable markets are almost exclusively male work. In Mexico, marketing vegetables is women’s work and marketing meat is men’s. Never have I encountered a meat market where being a “butcher” is a women’s job.

The little girl in the picture to the left could not have been more than 7 years old but was using a knife nearly a fourth of her size and handling the meat as if she had been doing such work for years. In fact, all of the meat markets I visited in Peru were run by women (this young girl was the youngest I saw). In Peru, it seems being a “butcher” is a women’s job. Not sure what this says about Peruvian society or gender norms, or if it says anything at all. However, the qualitative researcher in me couldn’t help thinking about this little girl afterwards and how wonderful it would be to have the opportunity to spend some time with her to discover and understand how she experiences the world. I bet there is a lot she could teach us about managing challenges of work, school, and life, even at the tender age of seven.

“Wishing everyone a productive and fruitful year in 2008-2009!”

Carrie Foote, Assistant Professor and Director of Graduate Studies

Welcome New Graduate Students!

The Department welcomes nine new graduate students for Fall semester for a total of 11 in the 2008 cohort! Jularut Padunchewit who prefers to be called Dew and Sarah Aktepy started last spring.

Barry Barker: BA. Sociology. Indiana University Richmond; Interests: work and organizations
Brian Barnes: BA. Sociology. University of Evansville, Indiana; Interests: family and gender
Gara Burnett: BA. Sociology. IUPUC, Columbus, Indiana; Interests: family and gender
Sommer Case: BA, Sociology. Marian College, Indianapolis Indiana; Interests: medical sociology
Mary Cox: BA, Sociology, IUPUI. Interests: sociology of sexuality
Brandon Hensley: BA, Journalism, IUPUI. Interests: work and organizations
Regina Pessagno: BA, Sociology. IUPUI. Interests: criminology and medical sociology
Gina Romano: BA, Sociology and Anthropology. IUPUI. Interests: family and gender
Amanda Zimmerman: BA, Sociology, Ball State University. Interests: family and gender
Welcome New Faculty!

Please welcome Dr. Tamara Leech to our Department! Dr. Leech's areas of expertise include Adolescent Health Risk Behavior, Urban Communities and Neighborhoods, Racial and Gender Contexts, and Health Disparities. Dr. Leech's previous academic experience has focused on racial and ethnic variations in adolescent wellbeing. She is currently involved in an ongoing project focusing on health risk behaviors among adolescents, and is starting research on social organization in Indianapolis neighborhoods.

Welcome Returning Faculty!

Please welcome Dr. Robert White as he returns to his position as a full time member of the department! Dr. White’s areas of interest are political sociology, social movements, political violence, and terrorism. He has written extensively on Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, and his life and politics as an Irish Revolutionary. Dr. White is also the new Director of Motorsports Studies in Liberal Arts. This program will complement the new BA and Certificate in motorsports studies that are offered by the School of Engineering and Technology. In the short term, one goal is to develop a Certificate in Motorsports Studies that would be housed in the School of Liberal Arts. Dr. White recently was driven around the track by Sarah Fisher, at approximately 175mph! In a word, he says “the ride was AWESOME”. Below is a photo of him in a driver's uniform. The person in the car is Ms. Fisher. This year, as you may recall, IUPUI sponsored her in the Indianapolis 500. Perhaps the sociology of sport is not too far in the future for Dr. White!
Our Faculty in the News!

Dr. Marci Littlefield is the new Director of the Undergraduate Diversity Scholars Research Program through the IUPUI Center for Research and Learning! Dr. Littlefield was recently featured on the Liberal Arts website.

http://in-lart-linux1.indysla.iupui.edu/features/faculty-staff/littlefield.php

Dr. Jay Howard wins ASA Sociology Teaching Award! Dr. Howard was awarded the 2008 Hans O. Mauksch Award for Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Sociology. In his 16-year career at IUPUC, Howard has earned 15 teaching-related honors and awards, presented nearly 40 papers since 2000, sponsored more than 40 student paper presentations at sociology conferences, and been published in more than 45 refereed publications, textbooks, and other educational media. Howard was selected from a highly competitive pool of sociologists, all dedicated to excellence in undergraduate education. Howard, a native of Mishawaka, earned a B.A. from Indiana University South Bend and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Notre Dame. Part of his research has established him as a nationally recognized leader in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Sociology. His other research interest, which deals with religion and popular culture, have led to a popular book entitled "Apostles of Rock: The Splintered World of Contemporary Christian Music" (co-authored with John M. Streck).

Meet the Graduate Student Representative!

Jodie Atkinson (BA Sociology, Berkeley Calif.) was elected as the official Graduate Student representative to the department’s Graduate Committee for 2008-2009. She also won the School of Liberal Arts election as the SLA graduate student representative to the University Graduate Student Organization (GSO). Mary Cox was elected as an alternate to the GSO in the case that Jodie can’t attend a meeting.

Please share any concerns, challenges, or suggestions with Jodie and she will work to improve your experiences as graduate students. In addition, if you would like to become a member of the Graduate Student Sociology Club please contact Jodie as the club is already planning its first event. Email Jodie at: atkinsoj@iupui.edu
Congratulations to our Graduate Students!

Congratulations to several of our students for making progress on their MA degrees!!

Spring 2008 MA Degrees Awarded:

**Tiffany Smith:** Thesis: *Are you my Nurse? An Examination of Men in Nursing.* (Chair: Prof. Linda Haas)

**Rachel Katerjohn:** Girls Inc. Internship (Chair Prof. Linda Haas)

**Andrea Freund:** Thesis: *Expectations and Experiences of First-Time Mothers* (Chair: Prof. Carol Gardner)

**Amanda Richey:** Internship: Jameson Camp Evaluation Project (Chair: Prof. Sue Steinmetz)

Congratulations to those students who have met their Thesis/Internship Proposal Requirements! **Sarah Hossler, Sarah Hampton, and Sam Jones**

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Graduate Student Funding Awards

Congratulations to **Amanda Zimmerman** for receiving the highly competitive University Fellowship award for her first year in our program.

The department awarded four students with Department Teaching Assistant positions. **Gina Romano, Gara Burnett, Chris Conner,** and **Ben Drury** are working as TAs with Instructor David Strong (Intro to Soc), Prof. Robert Aponte (Intro to Soc), Prof. Ain Haas (Statistics) and Prof. David Bell (Research Methods).

We have several departmental funded Research Assistants as well: **Barry Barker** (Prof. Najja Modibo), **Breinne Compton** (Profs. Carol Gardner and Bill Gronfein), **Jodie Atkinson** (Profs Peter Seybold and David Bell), **Somer Case** (Prof. Linda Haas), and **Regina Pessagno** (Prof. Pat Wittberg).

Profs David Bell and Carrie Foote are funding **Mary Cox** (and part of Jodie’s tuition) as an RA on their NIH funded HIV prevention study. In addition, Carrie Foote is funding two students through her NIH funded childbearing and HIV project and her work with the Indiana and Ohio State Universities’ Partnership to Study Health Outcomes of Vietnam War Amputees. **Christine Torrence** and **Jodie Atkinson** both work as RAs for her.

**Gina Romano** and **Regina Pessagno** also received service learning scholarships to assist Profs. Linda Haas and Wan Ning Bao, and Instructor David Strong with the service learning components of their courses.

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GRADUATE STUDENT FOCUS – SARAH AKTEPY

After four years of service in the Navy, obtaining a nursing degree, and finishing her undergraduate Sociology degree at Old Dominion University in Virginia, Sarah Aktepy decided to return to her home state of Indiana to pursue a Masters Degree in Sociology. Sarah has been focusing her studies in two of our concentrations: Medical Sociology and Family/Gender Studies.

One of Sarah’s dreams is to conduct research on the health care experiences of female veterans within the VA system. As Sarah points out in her thesis proposal, “Women have carried arms in virtually every conflict ever fought by the U.S….today there are more than 1.7 million female veterans. Females account for as many as 1 in 5 enlisted troops in some service branches. As a result the number of female veterans is greatly increasing.” Yet, most VA health systems are not prepared to provide women specific health services such as OB/GYN or prenatal care. More critically, some research has shown that as many as 25% of women veterans using VA services report military sexual trauma while serving active duty and are more likely to experience post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. These issues give rise to complex health needs that may not be met through the VA health system. These factors highlight the need to understand female veteran’s experiences using the VA services such that the Veteran Health Administration can develop better approaches to providing care for women veterans.

Well to Sarah’s credit, her dreams are about to come true. Sarah has worked incredibly hard this past summer to gain access to a population of female veterans through the VA hospitals across the Midwest. This has involved working closely with her thesis chair, Dr. Carol Gardner in sociology, and Prof. Neale Chumbler, and Dr. Krebs who both work at the Roudebush VAMC. After going through special clearance, taking several tests, and meeting with various people, Sarah has secured herself a place as a volunteer research associate of the VA. She has her own official badge and clearance to access the Veterans Health Services Research and Development department of the VAMC on campus. Dr. Krebs will work closely with her to recruit 12-15 female veterans from Operation Endurance Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sarah plans to complete in-depth interviews with the women about their experiences as women in the military, female veterans, and using VA health services. She will also interview 4-5 key informant providers. Findings from the study should provide insight about the health needs and experiences of female veterans so that the VA may better meet the health needs of the fastest growing segment of the veteran population - women. Congratulations Sarah! This is a tremendous accomplishment for a MA student.

And for those of you who need to de-stress or want to complement standard medical care with a more holistic approach to health, Sarah is also a Level 3 Healing Touch therapist and offers her services at a very reasonable price! For more information on Healing Touch, see: http://www.healingtouchinternational.org/
GRADUATE STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS


Erica Reichert was accepted into the Sociology PhD program at IUB and was offered a fully paid package.

Erica Reichert manages the Sociologists for Women in Society’s listserv.

GRADUATE COURSES FOR SPRING 2009

* All 2008 Cohort students must enroll in S659, Qualitative Methods

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TRAININGS

IT Training is again offering very useful free STEPS workshops for students including introductions to SPSS and EndNote. These workshops are free to students. I highly recommend that you learn EndNote, a software program for creating in-text citations and bibliographies for your research papers. You can register for STEPS workshops at: http://ittraining.iu.edu/iupui/

Want to stay another year in Indy? Consider also getting a specialized graduate certificate to complement your degree. Many of these certificate programs can be obtained at IUPUI. See: http://www.iupui.edu/~iuihome/certificate_table.php For those interested in further study in methods, consider a certificate in survey research through Political Science http://www.iupui.edu/~polisci/surveycert.htm
Interested in a career in teaching after graduate school? Sociology students can teach at the college/university level with a MA degree. Consider participating in the IUPUI’s Preparing Future Faculty Program: [http://center.iupui.edu/Units/SCAP/ppf.asp](http://center.iupui.edu/Units/SCAP/ppf.asp) Our department also continues to offer teaching appointments to graduate students. A student must be making adequate progress towards their degree and normally have completed nearly all of their coursework. Any students offered these opportunities are expected to continue to make adequate progress towards their degree. We are always looking for ways to increase teaching training opportunities for students and hope to develop more opportunities in the future.

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2009 CONFERENCE NEWS

Interested in attending or presenting at the 2009 conferences? See the links below for more information.

**American Sociological Association**

**Society for the Study of Social Problems**
[http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/341](http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/341)

**Association of Black Sociologists**
[http://www.blacksociologists.org/conference.htm](http://www.blacksociologists.org/conference.htm)

**North Central Sociological Association**
[http://www.ncsanet.org/meetings/index.html](http://www.ncsanet.org/meetings/index.html)

**Midwest Sociological Association**

**Sociologists for Women in Society**

Some of these associations offer graduate student travel funds if you present a paper. I can also recommend up to two students to receive travel funds from the IUPUI Graduate School. Let me know if you are presenting.  [http://www.iupui.edu/~gradoff/students/travelfell.html](http://www.iupui.edu/~gradoff/students/travelfell.html) Students might also consider joining one or more of these associations which provide valuable information such as career opportunities through the ASA Job bank.

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**GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**The Kinsey Institute Students Research Grant Program**
The Kinsey Institute confers sexuality research grants to emerging scholars through The Kinsey Institute Student Research Grant Program. This program confers sexuality research grants to emerging scholars and seeks to fund significant and innovative research, from a wide array of disciplines and perspectives, that deals with human sexuality. **Deadline October 1**
http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/research/student_grants.html

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**Grad Grants Center:** For information on funding for graduate students, including research grant information, try the Grad Grants Center available for IUPUI graduate students at
www.indiana.edu/~gradgrnt/index.html

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**The Graduate Student Organization** funds the Educational Enhancement Grants.
http://www.iupui.edu/~gradstu/

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**Indy Pride Scholarship Program:** Each year, Indy Pride, Inc. provides scholarships to students who have worked to make Indiana a better place for the GLBT community. Monies for the scholarship are obtained through fundraising events such as Laugh Out Loud and the annual IN Pride Festival. The scholarship deadline this year is October 1st. Scholarships are awarded in November at the annual Indy Pride Community Thanksgiving Event. For more information see their website: www.indyprideinc.com

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**USA Access to Education Scholarship Program**
http://www.usafunds.org/planning/access_to_education_scholarship/index.html

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**IUPUI Sociology Department Thesis Research Expense Grant**
This grant will be given to a Sociology graduate student to assist with future (not past) out-of-pocket thesis expenses, such as (but not restricted to) data gathering travel, postage for questionnaires, purchase of secondary data, purchase of tapes for audio recording, payment to research participants, etc. Applicants can request up to $400. For more information, please see Appendix D in the Sociology Graduate Handbook.

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**Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality Awards and Grants**
The Society sponsors a number of awards, some presented annually and some periodically. Application instructions are provided for Student Research Grants, the FSSS Grants-in-Aid
program, and for nomination as Fellows of the Society. Other awards are presented at the discretion of the Society's Board of Directors. http://www.sexscience.org/awards/index.php

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IUPUI Office of International Affairs Graduate School Funding.  
http://www.iupui.edu/~oia/SA/GradSchoolAid.html

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FALL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, September 27, 12:30-2:30  National Day of Action to Build a Green Economy  
Please join the newly rejuvenated Graduate Student Sociology Club on September 27, 2008 from 12:30 - 2:30 as part of a National Day of Action for Green Jobs Now! There are two crises occurring at this point in history, environmental and economic both of which disproportionately affect people on the lower end of the socio-economic levels. We are expecting some exciting speakers, live music, consciousness raising, we will be collecting signatures on a petition asking the U.S. Government to begin creating green jobs that will lift people out of poverty and taking a group photo, we will also have an open-mic session. You may go to www.greenforall.org to learn more about the organization who began this movement and RSVP to attend. We will be in the UC Courtyard, behind Cavanaugh and in front of the old UC building.

Jodie Atkinson, Pres. GSSC, gssc@iupui.edu

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Thursday and Friday, October 2-3 Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program

Many of you have heard about the Inside-Out Prison Exchange courses that have been taught at IUPUI. The program brings college students together with incarcerated men and women to study as peers in a class taught behind prison walls. So far, three Inside-Out classes have been taught at IUPUI, two at the Plainfield Reentry and Educational Facility and one at the Indiana Women's Prison.

On October 2-3, there will be a conference on the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, here at IUPUI. Students are encouraged to register for the conference and there is no cost for students. You will meet both IUPUI students who have participated in Inside-Out courses and you'll visit the prisons where these classes have been taught and meet some of our "inside" students.

To find out more about the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program and the conference, and to register for the conference, please see our Web site: http://www.iupui.edu/~inout/conference.html You can just attend the conference if you like; or, if you would like to earn 1-credit, you can also register for a 1-credit course, SPEA J260: Making Good: Life After Prison. The course will be taught by reentry expert, Professor Roger Jarjoura (SPEA). The course will take place for one full day on Friday, October 3rd at the conference, with a follow-up session from 9:00-5:00 on Friday, October 10th (place TBA). Once you register for the course, you will automatically be registered for the conference and you will be able to access the Oncourse site with all of the information you need to earn your one credit.
Any students who register for the 1-credit course will have priority for admission to our Spring Inside-Out courses. Professor Jarjoura will teach a course for men at Plainfield Reentry and Educational Facility on Thursday mornings during Spring ’09; Prof Hyatt in Anthropology will teach a class for women at the Indiana Women's Prison on Wednesday afternoons, 1:30-4:30. For more information contact Dr. Susan Hyatt in Anthropology. (317) 278-4548 suhyatt@iupui.edu

Saturday, October 11th    Indianapolis AIDS Walk

It’s that time of year again! The Indiana AIDS walk will take place on Saturday October 11. Events start at 11 a.m. and the walk kicks off at 2pm. The Sociology Team is aiming to raise more money than any other year - $6,000. You can join the team and/or make a donation to the team at the following website (thank you Sarah Lynn for setting up our webpage!). http://indianaaidswalk2008.kintera.org/iupuisociology
Encourage your friends and family to support the team as well! I will circulate more detailed information, regarding where and what time to meet, as we get closer to the event. Thank you for your support! Contact Dr. Carrie (foote@iupui.edu) or Sarah Lynn (slbabb@iupui.edu) for more information.

Wed. October 15  1:30-3pm  National Latino Student AIDS Awareness Day

Sociology undergraduate student, Amanda Bonilla, in conjunction with the Latino Student Association (Faculty advisor Prof. Robert Aponte), has organized an AIDS awareness event on campus to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS among Latinos. Special Guest Speaker :Jeremiah Vialpando http://hopesvoice.org/speakers- jeremiah.php The place of the talk will be announced soon.

Friday, October 24 1:30-3:00 pm   Research Presentation by Sociologist Devon Hensel

Sociologists Devon Hensel who works in the Medical School and whom is in the process of securing adjunct faculty status with our department is scheduled to give a presentation on her research regarding adolescents at risk on October 24 at 1:30 pm. Exact title and place of talk to be announced.

November 6-8, 2008    Cancer Stories: The Impact of Narrative on a Modern Malady

A Medical Humanities Symposium: “Cancer Stories" is a free public three-day symposium organized around the premise that narratives about cancer have influenced the ways in which cancer is experienced. Leading scholars in illness narrative, physicians, nurses, patients, artists and
advocates will explore how the making and dissemination of narrative--including prose, poetry, performance and the visual arts--have changed collective knowledge about the disease. Sociologist Arthur Frank from the University of Calgary is among the key note speakers and is known for his books, *The Wounded Story Teller* and *At the Will of the Body*.

Dr. Lynn Pike from our department will present in a breakout session titled “Female Identity and the Language of Breast Cancer; Scar Photography: Elements of Style”. To sign up for this free event, see [http://medhumanities.iupui.edu/symposium_2008.htm](http://medhumanities.iupui.edu/symposium_2008.htm)

"Cancer Stories" is made possible by an Indiana University New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities grant and the generous support of the Complete Life Program of the IUSCC. For registration and more details:

REMINDERS

- First year graduate students should continue to meet with their first year academic advisors through the spring semester. Full time students should identify a thesis or internship chair by the end of their second semester in the program and finalize a thesis topic or identify possible places to intern.

- Graduate students have 5 years to complete their MA degree but normally a full time student is expected to complete their degree in 2 years, a part-time student in 3 years. Courses older than five years will not count towards your degree. Should extenuating circumstances exist, a student may petition for an exception but this is rare and the student will still need to revalidate courses should they go beyond the five year limit.

- Please keep the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) informed of any academic graduate student activities such as presentations, publications, major progress towards the completion of the MA, acceptance to Ph.D. programs. It is critical to have this information when completing year end graduate program reports for the school. E-mail the DGS a description of the activity including the title, date, other authors, etc.

- Several resources are available on the graduate student mailbox book case including: Examples of thesis and internship proposals, graduate student grant proposals and travel applications, and professional resources such as letters of intent for Ph.D. programs, letters for teaching jobs, etc. You may make copies but please leave the originals in the order that you found them. Completed Master Thesis papers of past students are available in the Sussman Library CA 316. Please do not remove these from the library.

- If you or your fellow classmates have a disability or are experiencing mental health problems while a student at IUPUI, there are a variety of resources available to help you. Please do not hesitate to call for assistance. These resources are provided by the university to help students succeed and get the most out of their education at IUPUI. You are also welcome to talk with me about any issues or needs you may have.
• Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS): (317) 274-2548; web: http://www.life.iupui.edu/caps/

• Adaptive Educational Services (AES): (317) 274-3241; web: http://www.life.iupui.edu/aes/

OTHER NEWS

New Director of Graduate Studies to Start in 2009.
Dr. Carrie’s term as Director of Graduate Studies will end this year and the department is currently in the process of identifying her replacement. This will allow her to devote more time to teaching and her newly funded research projects. She has several exciting projects, including a 5 year NIH funded study on social factors and heterosexual HIV risk behaviors. She has also recently agreed to supervise the qualitative data analyses of a large multi-university mixed-methods study to better understand the long-term care experiences of veteran amputees. This research is conducted through the Indiana-Ohio Center for Traumatic Amputee Research. https://www.vietnamwaramputee.org/ It is her hope that these and other projects will increase research assistant opportunities for graduate students in the program.

Resurrection of the undergraduate and graduate student sociology clubs!
Want to get more involved in sociological activities? Join the newly resurrected Sociology Graduate Club! In addition, both undergraduate and graduate clubs will be hosting events throughout the year. Keep your eye out for these events. Contact Jodie for information on the grad club. atkinsoj@iupui.edu

Students can buy a year license of NVIVO 8 (qualitative software) from the Math/STAT lab. For more information contact Kevin at smsale@indiana.edu or a description of the software, see: http://www.qsrinternational.com/products_nvivo.aspx

Free weekly Tai Chi sessions in the Courtyard:

Dr. Jing Wang, a new Assistant Professor of Chinese, will begin T’ai Chi instruction this Monday, September 15, at noon, in the courtyard to the east of Cavanaugh Hall. T’ai Chi is a "soft" form of Chinese martial arts that is widely practiced today as a flowing form of group exercise. Everyone is welcome--students, staff, and faculty. Please spread the word and join her at noon on Mondays for weekly sessions.

Disappearing Acts: Dr. Patricia Wittberg will be on sabbatical during the Spring 2008.

Final Internship Papers are now Available: I have started to file some of the final internship proposal agreements and internship papers in the Sussman Library besides the MA theses. Students pursuing the internship option instead of the thesis may wish to review these. You are welcome to make copies but please do not take them home.
Thinking of pursuing a Ph.D.? I recently ran across some useful on-line articles for students considering entering a Ph.D. program. See:

http://www.csus.edu/indiv/t/tumminia/Grad.htm
http://www.phd-survey.org/advice/advice.htm
http://www.phd-survey.org/advice/sociology.htm
http://sociology.boisestate.edu/majors/graduateschool.shtml

Examples of letters of intent for doctoral sociology programs are available in the professional resource binder on the graduate mailbox bookcase.

Pass the Mic Series Begins! The Fall 2008 "Pass the Mic" Civic Engagement Series began last Thursday, Sept. 18 at Democracy Plaza (chalkboards in front of UC), and we ask your help in continuing this valuable IUPUI tradition. Every Thursday, from 12-1 pm for the next six weeks, Liberal Arts students in groups of five lead discussions on issues important to them. This week's topic is "The Gay Marriage Debate." Look for posters in Cavanaugh Hall for future week's topics. * Free Pizza and Soda is served.

Problems with TIME clocking in system for workers

We are working hard to try to resolve some of the frustrations with the TIME system for student workers. We apologize for the difficulties experienced and are confident that we can solve some of the problems by next semester. Thank you all for your patience as we try to solve some of the difficulties with TIME.

GRADUATE FUN PAGES

http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.freewebs.com/akswebquest/cartoon1.bmp&imgrefurl=http://www.freewebs.com/akswebquest/creditsandhumor.htm&h=558&w=328&sz=180&hl=en&start=11&usg=__DChmoJyr_FG626XRLJtQBq8FJl=&tbnid=H7B1BG228Wrt3aM:&tbnh=133&tbnw=78&prev=/images%3Fq%3DGraduate%252BStudies%252Bcartoons%3Bgbv%3D2%26hl%3Den
Below are some photos taken at our annual Summer Picnic, held at Prof. Wan Ning Bao’s house. Enjoy!

The Sociology gang gathers at Wan Ning’s (Wan-Ning is in the Center)

Robert babysitting Grad Alumni Merih’s Baby Solomon.

The infamous and now retired Jim Hunter and Connie make a surprise entrance!

Some of the gang escapes the hot weather for the air conditioned dining room.

Our newest faculty member Tamara and her husband “strike a pose”

Lynn and Gary Pike relaxing on the deck.

The kids rolling on the grass.

Dave and Neale become blurry

Our new office Coordinator Whitney and her mom!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjunct Gail Whitchurch visits with Linda and Ain Haas</th>
<th>Sociologist Devon Hensel makes an appearance (currently applying for adjunct status)</th>
<th>Thanks to the cook – Paul!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grad Student Rep – Jodie Atkinson and her partner cheer!</td>
<td>Grad Student Sarah Lynn gets caught off guard for a photo</td>
<td>Marci Littlefield gets serious.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology Graduate Alums Jeremy and Merih make surprise visits</td>
<td>Carrie holds her son Sami back from terrorizing the crowd 😊</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Merih Tzeggai Bennett (MA 2006) became the proud mom of a baby boy in May 2008! Congratulations! Also see the sociology picnic pictures for a photo of mom (with graduate Jeremey Roseberry) and three-month-old Solomon with Chair Robert Aponte). Merih continues to work full time for G&S Research.

Tysha Hardy Sellers (MA 2006) is the new director of the Edna Martin Christian Center, in the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood (near NE-side) or Indianapolis where she grew up. Incidentally, that is also the area where Prof. Linda Haas grew up.

Gisela Decca (MA 2006) moved back to Argentina but that’s all we know. If anyone has more details, let us know.

Deanna McQuillan (MA 2007) began a PhD Program in Health and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Colorado, Denver this semester. For more information on this interesting degree, see: http://thunder1.cudenver.edu/clas/hbsc/phd.html

Sarah Vincent (MA 2007) no longer works for IUPUI. She now works full time for the Indianapolis ART Institute as an instructor of Sociology.

Tiffany Smith (MA 2008) works as a part-time instructor for our department. She is teaching Social Factors in Health and Medicine and Introduction to Sociology this fall. Tiffany is also getting married in October. Congratulations! Some of you have asked about whether she is registered anywhere. She and her fiancé are registered at Bed Bath and Beyond and Crate and Barrel. Search under her fiancé’s name Jake Stergar.
Do you have some graduate program or graduate student news to share?

We are especially interested in hearing about what former graduate students are doing. Please e-mail your news Brief to the Director of Graduate Studies.

SUPPORTING GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY

Do you want to make a Contribution to the IUPUI Sociology Department?

To make financial contributions to the Department, please make checks payable to the IUPUI SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT PROGRAM and send them to:
Whitney Hendress
Sociology Department Office Coordinator
IUPUI Sociology
CA303, 425 University Blvd
Indianapolis, IN 46228
whendres@iupui.edu

The foundation account currently provides money that supports conference travel and thesis expense grants for graduate students.

Newsletter Editor: Assistant Prof. Carrie Foote

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