



Sociology

Newsletter

May 2017

From the Department Head:

The 2016-17 academic year was a year of significant achievements for OSU Sociology. In July, 2016, the Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events (CSDEE) was relocated to the Sociology Department and I was appointed as Director by Dean Danilowicz. The CSDEE is a College of Arts & Sciences research center providing a support system whereby disaster research capabilities from across disciplines and colleges at OSU can be developed and coordinated. In September, Dr. Sharon Bird took a leave of absence to pursue opportunities at the National Science Foundation and I became Interim Head of Sociology.

As this newsletter demonstrates, Sociology faculty, students, and staff were engaged in a variety of activities and received various appointments and accolades. Undergraduate Coordinator, Dahlia Molloy, took a team of undergraduate sociology majors to Denver to compete in the Judith Little Problem Solving Competition at the annual meeting of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. Dr. Stephen Perkins was recognized for his summer research on the Pacific Island of Betio. Dr. Andy Fullerton was appointed to the Editorial Board of the *American Sociological Review*, the discipline's premier journal. Sociology graduate students were active in presenting at professional conferences and during OSU Research Week.

There were other notable happenings this academic year. The Bradford Gray Lecture Series in Sociology sponsored two nationally recognized sociologists: Dr. Joanne Nagel from the University of Kansas and Dr. Paul Mohai from Michigan State University. L. Patrice Latimer (BS in Sociology, 1975) was inducted into OSU's Diversity Hall of Fame. We inducted 13 members into the OSU chapter of *Alpha Kappa Delta* and some of our most talented undergraduate students received scholarships and special recognitions.

Continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

Judith Little Problem Solving Competition	2
A Message from the Sociology Club	3
International Field Research	4
Fullerton Appointed to ASR Editorial Board	5
Faculty Welcome	5
Faculty Farewells	6 & 7
Catching Up With Alumni	8 & 9
Undergraduate Commencement Fall 2016	10
2016 Graduate Degree Recipients	11
Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees	12
Graduate Student Presentations and Publications	13
Congratulations!	14 & 15
Bradford Gray Lecture Series	16

Judith Little Problem Solving Competition

Three undergraduate sociology majors—Bashira Reed, Marissa Moore, and Catherine Monterrubio—competed in the Judith Little Problem Solving Competition at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology (AACCS) Meetings in Greenwood Village, Colorado. Teams compete to offer the best sociological solution for an issue facing a local agency or organization. This year, AACCS partnered with the African Community Center of Denver, whose mission is to help refugees and immigrants rebuild safe, sustainable lives in Denver. The African Community Center serves over 580 refugees, asylees, and secondaries each year. Students competing in the Judith Little Problem Solving Competition exercised their sociological knowledge and skills to help address the need for affordable housing in Denver for ECDC refugees. On the last day of the conference, teams present their



Dahlia Molloy, Bashira Reed, Marissa Moore, and Catherine Monterrubio at AACCS.



solutions to AACCS members and agency representatives. The OSU sociology team's mentor and advisor, Dahlia Molloy, said that she was "proud of the team. In this competition, they are able to apply sociology in real-life settings, not just academe. They worked nearly around the clock for three days and presented a feasible and well informed solution to the problem. I think, in reality, they impress even themselves at being able to approach a real life problem and propose a solution using their sociological knowledge, concepts, theory and methodology."

From the Department Head— on page 1

The Department continued to build capacity. We welcomed Dr. Benjamin J. (BJ) Gray in February as a Post-Doctoral Research Assistant on the EPSCoR project. We also hired Dr. Mike Long, who will rejoin the faculty in January after three years at the University of Northumbria.

The 2017-18 academic year promises to be one of continued success as we build on our strengths and continue to address socially relevant issues in our research, teaching, and service. I invite you to take time to learn more about the recent happenings in Sociology in the following pages and on our Departmental website (<http://sociology.okstate.edu/>) where you will find a wealth of information about our faculty, students, alumni and programs!

Duane A. Gill, Ph.D.
Professor and Interim Head

A Message from the Sociology Club

Throughout the academic year, we have sought to make a difference in our community. We contributed time and effort to supporting the Wings of Hope, a nonprofit organization that helps the homeless in Stillwater. To help the ones that are most in need, we gathered donations from stores and a hotel to help with supplies as well as making some food.

We also acknowledge that this world has inequality that we must address. To learn more we watched a movie portraying profiling. We wish to make an impact in the future by standing for what's right. It is said that fighting for what is right is not easy, but will always be rewarding. We can reduce inequality and change policies to better support the unfortunate.

As time passes, issues are only becoming more and more apparent to us student sociologists. For that reason, it is the club's civic duty to give other students the opportunity to make a difference. With the help of the Sociology Department, we are here to educate, learn, and put into action what we recognize is right for our society. We all learn from studying society and from one another. We are very grateful for the help that OSU Alumni have given to the Sociology Department as well.



Earlier this spring, the Sociology Club hosted a department mixer at Mojo's Rock 'n' Bowl Grill. Thanks to all the students, faculty, and staff who participated!

International Field Research

This past summer, **Dr. Stephen Perkins** spent 3 weeks on the island of Betio, now part of the most populous area of the nation of Kiribati. Working in association with the non-profit History Flight, and the Department of Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), Dr. Perkins helped bring home Marines who have called this wounded piece of paradise their final resting place for decades. Betio was the central location for the Battle of Tarawa, where more than 1,000 Marines and 600 sailors were killed in a bid to take a Japanese airfield on the island. With 78,000 MIAs still unrecovered on foreign battlefields from WWII, according to Perkins, History Flight invited an anthropology team to search the island for missing American servicemen.



According to Dr. Mix, farms like this provide about 70% of the food available to the tables of the Brazilian people.

Dr. Tamara Mix traveled to Paraiba, Brazil to meet with representatives of four IFPB campuses (Joao Pessoa, Cajazeiras, Picui, and Campina Grande). She toured three of these campuses and traveled throughout the region to see community partnerships in action. This included a visit to a co-op that grows a fiber rich form of agave (sisal) used in rope and hand-crafted baskets, a co-op that juices and processes local fruits, and a family farm. OSU students will be able to join Dr. Mix in Brazil next summer by enrolling in her study abroad course!



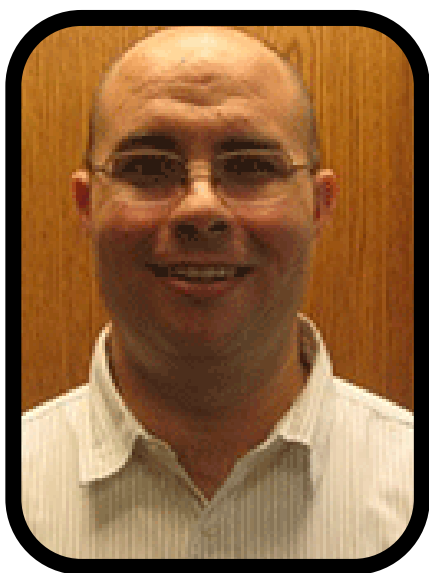
IFPB Picui is involved with creating recipes to use cactus, common to the unique Caatainga (semi-arid) landscape.

Fullerton Appointed to ASR Editorial Board

Dr. Andrew Fullerton, Professor of Sociology at OSU, was recently named to the editorial board of the American Sociological Association's most prestigious scholarly journal, the *American Sociological Review*. The *American Sociological Review* serves to promote original, innovative works from all areas of sociology. His membership to the editorial board comes after having peer-reviewed several articles for the journal. His duties as a board member began in January and will conclude after three years with each edition published bimonthly. Dr. Fullerton joins approximately sixty other sociologists nationwide in sharing this high honor. Dr. Fullerton began his career at OSU after receiving a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Connecticut in 2007. Since then, he has focused much of his work on social stratification and job insecurity. He teaches undergraduate courses on social stratification and research methods as well as quantitative research methods at the graduate level. Several of his own articles have been published in highly regarded journals. He hopes to continue to make valuable contributions to the discipline while inspiring and educating young minds in the area of sociology. Dr. Fullerton was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in 2016. Congratulations, Andy!



Faculty Welcome



Dr. Michael Long is returning after 3 years in the Department of Social Sciences at Northumbria University in the United Kingdom. He was an Assistant Professor here at Oklahoma State from 2010-2014. Mike studies the political economy of green crimes and the relationship between green and state-corporate crime. He has also worked in the areas of ethical consumption, food insecurity, and quantitative methodology. Welcome back, Mike!

Faculty Farewells

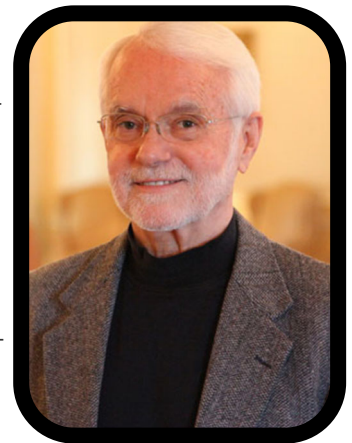


Dr. Beth Caniglia left OSU to become the Director of the Sustainable Economic & Enterprise Development (SEED) Center at Regis University in Denver. Beth has been a member of the Department of Sociology since earning her Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame in 2000. Her research focuses on the intersection of social movements, organizations, and policy making, especially related to the environmental movement. We'll miss you, Beth!

Dr. J. Micah Roos has accepted a faculty position in the Department of Sociology at Virginia Tech. He joined OSU in Fall 2015 after earning his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of North Carolina and working as an IES Postdoctoral Training Fellow at University of California, Berkeley. His primary research examines contested areas of knowledge in the United States, such as human evolution. Good luck in your career, Micah!



Dr. Riley Dunlap, Regents Professor of Sociology and Laurence L. and Georgia Ina Dresser Professor, retired at the end of the Fall 2016 semester after a distinguished 45 year career. Dr. Dunlap received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon before beginning his career at Washington State University in 1972. Dr. Dunlap helped launch the field of Environmental Sociology in the mid-1970s, and has been a major voice in the field for over four decades. He held prestigious positions around the world, such as the Donner Professor at Åbo Akademi University in Finland, before joining OSU in 2006. In recognition of his outstanding career, Dr. Dunlap was elected to the Sociological Research Association in 2016, joining an elite group of leading members of the sociological research community.

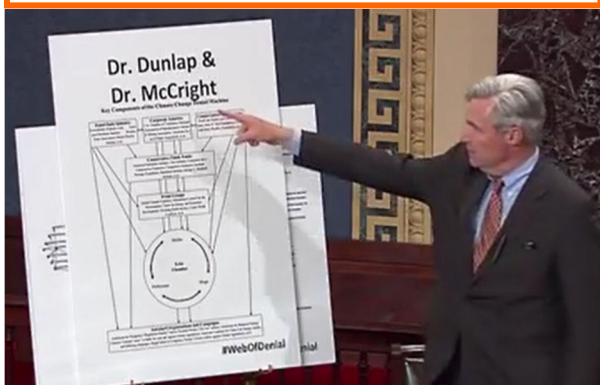


Dr. Dunlap's recent research program has focused on climate change—tracking public opinion toward climate change, examining the growing political polarization over climate change, and analyzing the sources and strategies of the orga-

nized campaign to deny the reality of human-induced climate change. His work in this area has led to a number of important recent accomplishments and committee appointments. His *Sociological Quarterly* article "The Politicization of Climate Change: Political Polarization in the American Public's Views of Global Warming," co-authored with Aaron M. McCright, was one of the 10-most cited sociology articles published between 2010-14. Dr. Dunlap chaired the American Sociological Association's Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change, and is senior-editor of *Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspectives* (Oxford University, 2015) produced by the task force, which won the Outstanding Publication Award from the American Sociological Association Section on Environment and Technology. Dr. Dunlap is currently serving on the federal Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment, which is charged with providing advice to the U.S. Global Change Research Program regarding its congressionally mandated national climate assessments. He was also recently appointed to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment. Dr. Dunlap's research on climate change has also garnered much attention in the media and has been cited in Congress by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island.

Congratulations on your inspiring career, Riley, and thank you for your many contributions to our department and the discipline.

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island uses Riley Dunlap's and Aaron McCright's diagram of the "denial machine."



Dr. Duane Gill and Dr. Riley Dunlap at Dr. Dunlap's retirement celebration.



OSU professor appointed to lead federal climate change program

Oklahoma State University sociologist Riley Dunlap has been appointed the American Sociological Association's lead representative to work with the Social Sciences Coordinating Committee (SSCC) of the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) to strengthen the use of social science perspectives in the federal government's research on climate change.

The USGCRP coordinates efforts of thirteen agencies including NOAA and NASA on climate change, and is responsible for the nation's quadrennial national climate assessment. Social scientists from these agencies have invited the American Sociological Association, American Anthropological Association, American Association of Geographers, and Society for American Archaeology to assist them in more effectively incorporating social science perspectives, methods and findings into their work.

Dunlap, Dresser Professor and Regents Professor of Sociology at OSU, will lead a team of six sociologists in collaborating with comparable teams from the other social science associations and members of the SSCC in developing white papers on topics of central concern to the USGCRP. He will also help organize a workshop in which the papers will be presented and polished. The goal is to help the USGCRP do a better job of dealing with the socio-cultural dimensions of climate change.

Dunlap recently chaired the American Sociological Association's Task Force on Sociology and Global Climate Change, and is currently serving on the federal Advisory Committee for the Sustained National Climate Assessment (ACSNCA) charged with providing advice to the USGCRP regarding its congressionally mandated national climate assessments.

He attributes his appointment to the ACSNCA, as well as his new role with the American Sociological Association, to the positive reception received by the volume produced by the task force, *Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspectives* (Oxford, 2015), which he co-edited.

C a t c h i n g U p

David LoConto

After receiving his Ph.D. in 1999 here at Oklahoma State University, Dr. David LoConto is now Head of the Department of Sociology at New Mexico State University. Speaking very highly of the faculty, Dr. LoConto re-



calls the department being like his family. Having a big head in the academia world is extremely common, but he recalls never seeing that while at Oklahoma State. LoConto remembers the faculty being very friendly, but when it came to academics, he

and his fellow students were extremely competitive with each other.

Alongside all of his work, Dr. LoConto was also able to visit Italy and visit with some of his family. He states, "I saw where my family is from and where many of my attitudes and values developed." His advice for current students is to "enjoy yourself. Don't burn bridges. Do the work for school, but have fun too. Co-curricular activities are just as important. You need to network, get involved. Study abroad."

Serving as Department Head doesn't give him a lot of spare time for research, but he has been involved with the Developmental Disabilities Quality Assurance Project for the past several years. Dr. LoConto is currently in the process of writing a book titled *Sociology and Star Trek*. His research pro-

"Enjoy yourself. Don't burn bridges. Do the work for school, but have fun too. Co-curricular activities are just as important. You need to network, get involved. Study abroad."

jects range from SEC football fans to the Bureaucratic Ritualism in America to the relationship between tattoos and identities.

Keep in Touch with OSU

Are you an alumni with news to share?

Let us know and you might be featured in a future newsletter!
You can contact us through email at deborah.s.sweet@okstate.edu
or by calling us at (405) 744-6105.

W i t h A l u m n i

Michael Collins

Dr. Michael Collins, who received his Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University in 1995, is now a Professor of Sociology at William Penn University and the Chair for the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Collins enjoys studying the "value and relevance of sociology in contemporary society." He told us, "It's fascinating to me that sociology was born during times of turbulent social, cultural, political and philosophical change and since such changes are accelerated today, the relevance of sociology must be augmented."

Some of Dr. Collins fondest memories at OSU include the collaboration between the students and the professors during his classes. He now enjoys working with students and helping impact their view of society.

When asked what advice he would give to current sociology students at OSU, he said, "Study. Work hard. Collaborate. Recognize that your professional career begins here. Begin engaging in habits concomitant with your career goals."



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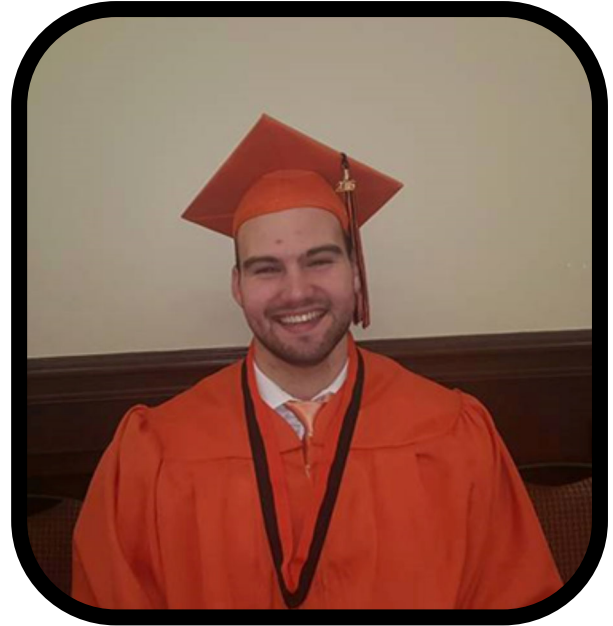
Keep up to date with all the most recent news and events from the department by liking us on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/OKStateSociology/



Undergraduate Commencement Fall 2016

Psychology and Sociology major **David Thompson** was selected as the Orange Gown for the College of Arts & Sciences at the Fall 2016 commencement ceremony. In addition to earning a 4.0 GPA, David worked as a research assistant in the OSU Psychology lab, was chief of staff in the 1 in 4 club, a member of the Psi Chi national psychology honors society, and a member of the psychology club. Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, explained that the Orange Gown program “provides the opportunity to recognize a truly outstanding A&S graduate—someone who has earned the confidence of the college that they possess the ability and determination to change the world for the better.” David plans to earn a master’s degree in forensic psychology and work in federal law enforcement as a criminal profiler. Congratulations and best wishes, David, and all of our other 2016-17 graduates!



2016 Graduate Degree Recipients — Where are they now?



Don Adkins completed his M.S. thesis, "Perceptions of Women and Physical Fitness Assessments at the United States Air Force Academy," in Fall 2016. Together with his advisor, Dr. Heather McLaughlin, he will present his thesis findings at the 2017 ASA Annual Meeting. Don now works for the Air Force's 1st Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field. He recently got engaged to his partner of three and a half years, Sara Nicolas.



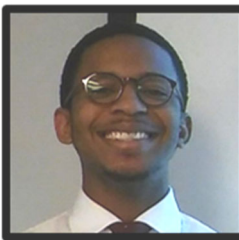
Alli Holmes earned her M.S. degree in Spring 2016 after successfully defending her thesis, "Women's Perceptions of Disaster Response: A Case Study in Moore, Oklahoma." Her advisor was Dr. Duane Gill. Alli works as a site supervisor at the Rockaway, New York office of SBP, a disaster resilience and recovery organization.



Mark Beaven earned his M.S. degree in Spring 2016. His thesis, "Hydraulic Fracturing as Technological Hazard: Applying the Community Capitals Framework to Stakeholder Narratives in an Oil and Gas Community," was advised by Dr. Tamara Mix. Mark works at Newell Brands in Atlanta, Georgia as a Consumer Care Analyst. He got engaged on New Year's Eve and will marry his fiancé in November 2017.



Srijana Karki completed her M.S. thesis, "Assessing Women's Motivation for Returning to School: A Study Among Women Attending Secondary School in Kathmandu, Nepal," in Spring 2016. She is now a Ph.D. student in the Department of Sociology at Oklahoma State University. Her areas of interest include gender, inequality, and research methods. Srijana's advisor is Dr. Tamara Mix.



Stanley Collins earned his M.S. degree in Spring 2016 (M.S. thesis, "Social Disorganization, Gentrification, and Delinquency"). He works at the School District of Philadelphia as a Research Intern with the Leadership Development and Evaluation Team. He will begin the Ph.D. program in the Department of Sociology at Temple University in Fall 2017. His advisor was Dr. Kelley Sittner.

Erin Moore completed her M.S. thesis, "Rural Disenfranchisement and Food Access: A Case Study of Two Oklahoma Towns," in Spring 2016. She is currently living in Quito, Ecuador and teaches English at Centro de Educación Continua de la Escuela Politécnica Nacional (CEC-EPN). Her advisor was Dr. Tamara Mix.



Devon Krey earned his M.S. degree in Sociology in Spring 2016. He completed his thesis, "Gender Symmetry, Anger, and the Co-Occurrence of Violence," under the direction of his advisor, Dr. Kelley Sittner. He is now pursuing his Ph.D. in the Department of Sociology here at OSU. His primary interests are in quantitative methodology and statistical analysis.



Grant Samms earned his M.S. degree in Spring 2016 (M.S. thesis, "The Saudi Arabia of Wind: Energy Identities and Conflict in a Historic Oil Town"). He lives in Maryland where he works as the ShorePower Project Coordinator at the Center for Environment & Society at Washington College. His advisor was Dr. Beth Caniglia.



Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees

Earlier this month, 13 graduate and undergraduate students were inducted into the international sociology honors society, *Alpha Kappa Delta*. Founded in 1920, AKD promotes excellence in the study of sociology, the research of social problems, and other social and intellectual activities that will lead to improvement in the human condition. AKD now has over 115,000 lifetime members affiliated with more than 650 chapters. The Oklahoma State University chapter, Gamma of Oklahoma, was founded in 1969. Eligible students must hold an overall GPA of 3.3 or higher. Congratulations to our newest AKD members: Justice Andrews, Rebecca Corbin, Sarah Dixon, Jamie Du, Amy Herrington, Ahmad Michael Jamaledine, Raleigh Austin Jobes, Srijana Karki, Grisha Rawal, Janna Lynell Martin Rogers, Madeline Simpson, Josie Sorrelle, and Jessica West.



From left to right, Dr. Monica Whitham inducts AKD members Justice Andrews, Janna Rogers, and Austin Jobes.

Graduate Student Presentations

Our graduate students have been busy presenting their research at conferences and meetings around the country. Students represented the Department of Sociology at meetings of the *American Sociological Association*, *Association for Humanist Sociology*, *Midwest Sociological Society*, *Oklahoma Sociological Association*, *Sociologists for Women in Society*, and *Southern Sociological Society*, as well as other conferences and events around the country. In addition, 6 graduate students traveled to Austin, Texas in mid-April to present their research at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association. Presentation topics included environmental protests in China (Jamie Du), gender, race, and emotions in television (Michelle Estes), food justice and social capital (Amy Herrington), women’s educational attainment in Nepal (Srijana Karki), lynching in the Jim Crow South (Kevin Johnson), a review and critique of tornado research (Kevin Johnson), and older adult body image (Kate Reddick).



GRADUATE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Chelsea Bullard	Bullard, Chelsea Elizabeth and Ron Thrasher. 2016. "Evaluating Mental Health Court by Impact on Jurisdictional Crime Rates." <i>Criminal Justice Policy Review</i> 27(3): 227-46.
Michelle Estes	Estes, Michelle L. <i>Forthcoming</i> . "If there's one benefit, you're not going to get pregnant: The sexual mis-education of gay, lesbian, and bisexual individuals." <i>Sex Roles</i> .
Rachel Gurney	Gurney, Rachel M. 2016. "Early American Voices." Pp. 89-124 in <i>Rise of Environmental Consciousness: Voices in Pursuit of a Sustainable Planet</i> , edited by Beth S. Caniglia, Thomas J. Burns, Rachel M. Gurney, and Erik L. Bond. San Diego, CA: Cognella Academic Publishing.
Dakota Raynes	Raynes, Dakota K. T., Tamara L. Mix, Angela Spotts, and Ariel Ross. 2016. "An Emotional Landscape of Place-based Activism: Exploring the Dynamics of Place and Emotion in Antifracking Actions." <i>Humanity & Society</i> , 40(4): 401-423.
Jerrold Yarosh	Dunlap, Riley E., Aaron M. McCright, and Jerrod H. Yarosh. 2016. "The Political Divide on Climate Change: Partisan Polarization in the U.S. Public Widens." <i>Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development</i> 58(5): 4-23.

C o n g r a t u



Kate Reddick, pictured above with the winner of the Outstanding Professor Award, Dr. Chad Malone, was awarded the O.D. Duncan Outstanding Graduate Student Award. This award recognizes excellence in the areas of research, teaching, campus involvement and Sociological practice. Kate is considered to be an “amazing” Teaching Assistant, and recently defended her M.S. thesis on gender, age, and body image.

The winner of the Richard Dodder Scholarship—which recognizes outstanding applied sociological practice—was M.S. student **Amy Herrington**. Amy has received high commendations from faculty, and her students describe her as “helpful, supportive and knowledgeable.” She is conducting research with an emerging local food justice organization, Our Daily Bread.

Ph.D. students **Srijana Karki** and **Devon Krey** were co-recipients of the Sarah Belusko Award, given in honor of former and greatly missed Ph.D. student Sarah Belusko. Srijana studies women’s educational attainment in Nepal and Devon is interested in how sex and gender roles influence intimate couple violence. Devon is known for his willingness to assist both undergraduate and graduate students with methods and statistics, and students described both award recipients as “enthusiastic, knowledgeable, engaged, and caring.”



Ph.D. candidate **Dakota Raynes** (above) was also recognized in Spring 2017 for their social activist work. Dakota is a core organizer for Stop Fracking Payne County and the Oklahoma Coalition Against Induced Seismicity. Their research and activist work has received considerable attention from local news outlets (e.g., *Stillwater News Press*) and they have given numerous formal and informal presentations with community organizations and research centers. In honor of this work, Dakota was recently awarded the Sierra Club Oklahoma Chapter’s Activist of the Year Award and was the recipient (with Dr. Tamara Mix) of a Piper Fund Judicial Independence and Environmental Justice Project Grant.



Amy Herrington accepts the Richard Dodder Scholarship from Dr. Duane Gill.



l a t i o n s !

M.S. student **Jake DeFlicht** was awarded the Advanced Study Program’s Graduate Student Fellowship by the National Center for Atmospheric Research. Jake studies environmental sociology, and is interested in the interaction between meteorologists and society. Last fall, he published a *Washington Post* article about his research in coastal Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina interviewing locals after Hurricane Matthew about their evacuation decisions. Jake is also involved in an NSF-funded research project, Tornadic Winds: In-situ and Radar Observations at Low Levels (TWIRL), which collects data within tornadoes. He is co-founder of SunsetWx, a company that uses an algorithm to predict how colorful a sunset or sunrise will be. Their mobile application is expected to debut this summer.



Jake Deflicht chases down an EF4 tornado in Katie, Oklahoma in May 2016 as part of the NSF project, TWIRL.



Undergraduate Student Award Winners

O.D. Duncan Award

Kerry Scroggie

Richard Dodder Award

Ashley Donovan

Mabel Dixon Looper Award

Katherine Henry

Raegan Chambers

Benjamin Gregory Wood Award

Wendy Miller

Hannah Sipe

Outstanding Senior Award

Ahmad Michael Jamaledine

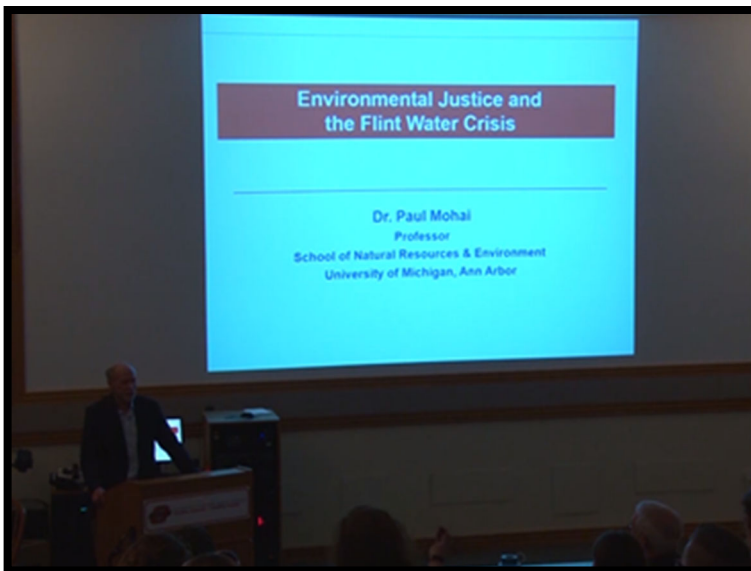
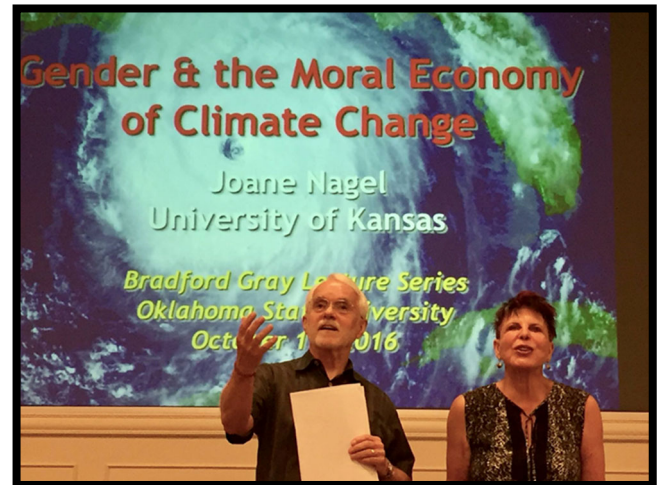


Janna Rogers (Outstanding Senior for American Studies), Hannah Sipe, Ahmad Michael Jamaledine, Katie Henry, Raegan Chambers, Wendy Miller, Dr. Chad Malone (Outstanding Professor Award), Ashley Donovan, and Dahlia Molloy (Undergraduate Academic Counselor) celebrate at the Arts & Sciences Banquet.

Bradford Gray Lecture Series

Two speakers visited OSU this year as part of the Bradford Gray Lecture Series. In October 2016, **Dr. Joane Nagel**, University Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of Kansas, spoke to the campus community about gender and climate change. Dr. Nagel studies ethnicities, genders, and sexualities in the U.S. and in the global system, militarization of science, and global climate change.

During OSU Research Week in February 2017, **Dr. Paul Mohai** served as the keynote speaker for the Sociology Research Symposium, an event organized by the Sociology Graduate Student Association. Dr. Mohai is a Professor in the School of Natural Resources & Environment at the University of Michigan. His research focuses on environmental justice, public opinion and the environment, and he is co-founder of the Environmental Justice Program at the University of Michigan and has been a member of the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Dr. Mohai's lecture focused on the ongoing water crisis in Flint, Michigan.



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