



# Sociology Newsletter

JUNE

Dear Friends of the OSU Sociology Department:



I'm excited to share all of the wonderful events that have happened over the course of this year! We continue to be proud of our undergraduate and graduate students as they use the skills gained in our program to pursue careers in Sociology and a wide range of related occupations.

We have had a lot of exciting changes. I write to you as the incoming Department Head. Dr. Sharon Bird leaves us this summer to join the faculty at West Virginia University as Director of the Center for Women's and Gender Studies. After 50 years of service for Dr. Ken Kiser and almost 30 years of service for Dahlia Molloy, both will be leaving the department to pursue other adventures in retirement. We are grateful to them for their diligent service and will miss them as colleagues and friends.

As OSU Sociology looks forward to the next academic year, I welcome alumni to be in touch to tell us about your experiences, accomplishments, and life transitions. It is always a pleasure to hear from you! Feel free to visit us on social media or on our website at <https://sociology.okstate.edu/>.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer!

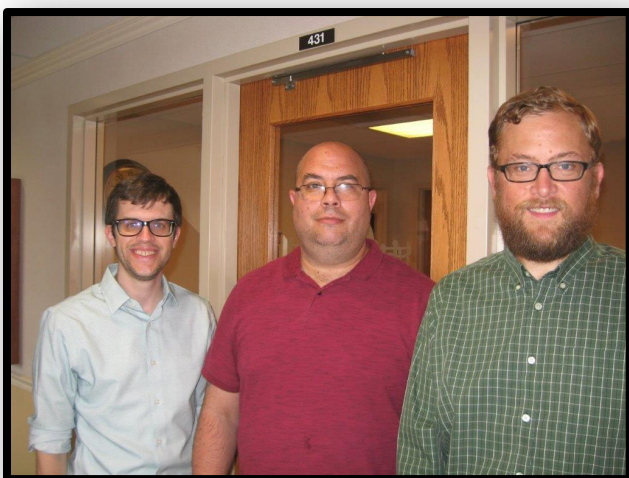
*Tamara L. Mix*

Tamara L. Mix, PhD  
Laurence L. and Georgia Ina Dresser Professor of Rural Sociology  
Department Head of Sociology

## Inside this issue:

Introducing the New Editorial Team of TSQ	2
New Books by OSU Sociologists	3
OSU Faculty and the National Academies	4
Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events	5
Faculty and Staff Transitions	6-7
John Roberts named Distinguished Alumnus	8
Catching Up with Alumni	9
2018 Graduate Degree Recipients	10
Research Week 2019	11
Graduate Student Presentations	12-13
Graduate Student Accomplishments	14-15
Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees	16
Undergraduate Student Awards	17
Client Problem Solving Competition	18
Meet our Undergraduates!	19

# Introducing the New Editorial Team of *The Sociological Quarterly*



Department of Sociology faculty **Drs. Andrew Fullerton** and **Michael Long** have been named as the new co-editors of *The Sociological Quarterly* (TSQ). The journal publishes cutting-edge research and theory in all areas of sociological inquiry and is the journal of the Midwest Sociological Society. **Dr. Jonathan Coley** will also serve as the deputy editor. This honor speaks volumes about the research profiles and international reputations of Drs. Fullerton, Long, and Coley, and brings distinction to our Sociology program, the College of Arts and Sciences, and to the university.

When asked about their new appointment, Dr. Fullerton said, “our editorial team is thrilled to have the opportunity to edit TSQ, and we are looking forward to the challenges ahead as we build on the journal’s strengths and seek to increase its academic and public impact.” Having TSQ at Oklahoma State University will also create new opportunities for our graduate students, including a paid assistantship for the managing editor and opportunities to serve as ad hoc reviewers for the journal. The editorial team will start receiving manuscripts in January 2020.



2017  
Impact  
Factor  
1.610

the sociological quarterly

Official Journal of the Midwest Sociological Society

## Follow us on Facebook

Like our page to keep up to date with all the most recent news and events from the department:

[www.facebook.com/OKStateSociology](http://www.facebook.com/OKStateSociology)



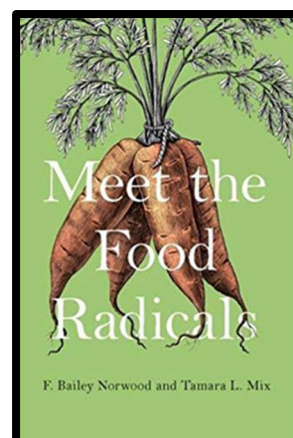
# Hot Off The Press!

## New Books by OSU Sociologists



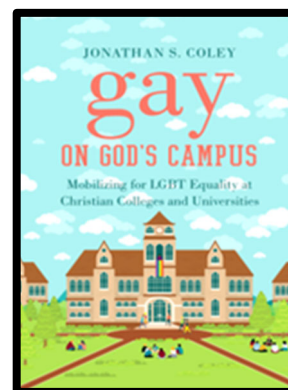
**Dr. Tamara Mix** recently published a new book with Dr. F. Bailey Norwood called *Meet the Food Radicals*. The book features interviews with 27 farmers, activists, and others who are creating or proposing radical changes in how food is produced and distributed. The food radicals include molecular biologists, undercover animal rights investigators, and those who are “changing how we farm, how the food system operates, and how we eat.”

*“No two are the same, but all are far from ordinary.”*



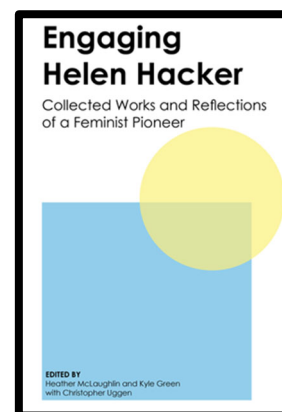
**Dr. Jonathan Coley's** new book, *Gay on God's Campus: Mobilizing for LGBT Equality at Christian Colleges and Universities* was the 2018 winner of the Stanford M. Lyman Distinguished Book Award from the Mid-South Sociological Association, which recognizes books that advance knowledge and include perspectives that have often not been heard. The book examines how and why student activists mobilize for greater inclusion at Christian colleges and universities, and how these students “apply their skills and values after graduation in subsequent political campaigns, careers, and family lives.”

*“Serving as change agents in their faith communities for years to come.”*



In January 2019, **Dr. Heather McLaughlin** released an edited book, *Engaging Helen Hacker: Collected Works and Reflections of a Feminist Pioneer*. Co-edited with Kyle Green and Christopher Uggen, the book brings together fifty years of scholarship by Helen Hacker, a foundational feminist scholar and tireless social activist. The collection also includes personal interviews with Hacker and several unpublished manuscripts that showcase her “intellectual curiosity, personal grit, and commitment to marginalized groups.”

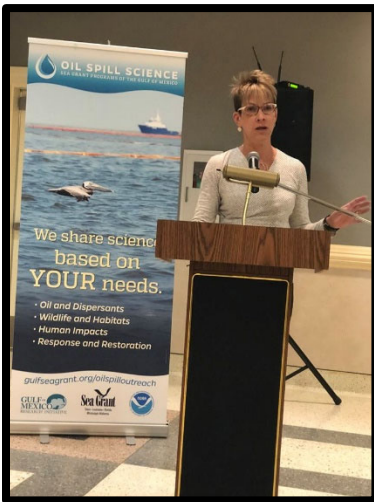
*“Never do in private what can't be shouted from the rooftops.”*





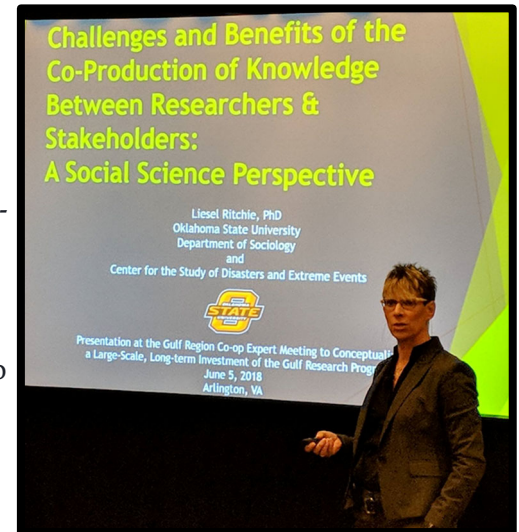
# OSU Faculty and the National Academies

**Dr. Liesel Ritchie**, Associate Professor of Sociology and Associate Director of OSU's Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events, has given a number of invited talks in regional, national, and international settings. In June 2018, she spoke at a workshop of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Gulf Research Program (GRP). Dr. Ritchie, who also serves as a GRP Advisory Board member, was among a select group of 35 experts from across the U.S. who met in Arlington, Virginia to present research pertinent to long-term investments for the Gulf region. Dr. Ritchie's presentation focused on the co-production of knowledge between researchers and community stakeholders.



Dr. Ritchie was also a featured speaker for the National Academies/Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative Sea Grant collaborative workshop series, "Regional priority setting for health, social, and economic disruption from spills," in Louisiana, Alaska, and Virginia. Her participation involved presenting a synthesis of what scientists have learned about social impacts from disasters like the *Exxon Valdez* and *BP Deepwater Horizon* oil spills.

You can see the presentation at: <https://youtu.be/g6BNifAvZxE>



OSU Provost and Sociologist **Dr. Gary Sandefur** was named to the Advisory Committee for the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. This distinct honor attests to Dr. Sandefur's many research accomplishments in family, demography, poverty, American Indian populations, education and intergenerational mobility. Throughout his career, Dr. Sandefur has won numerous prestigious awards, including election as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the William Goode and Otis Dudley Duncan awards from the American Sociological Association for his book, *Growing Up with a Single Parent* (Harvard University Press, 1994), and the Chancellor's Award for Teaching at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



# Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events



Disasters and extreme events pose complex problems for Oklahoma, the nation, and world that are best addressed by combining multiple disciplines and professions. The mission of the Center for the Study of Disasters and Extreme Events (CSDEE) is to provide a support system whereby disaster research capabilities at Oklahoma State University can be coordinated, matched with funding sources, and developed to produce information relevant to the citizens of Oklahoma. The Center seeks to facilitate effective collaborative research, particularly that which enhances community resilience and well-being.

Led by Regents Professor, **Dr. Duane Gill**, this year has been an active one for the CSDEE. Collaborators on five different research grant proposals have included faculty and students from the Department of Sociology, Political Science, and the Departments of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; Materials Science and Engineering; Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering; Horticulture and Landscape Architecture; and Plant and Soil Sciences. For example, Drs. Gill and Liesel Ritchie, Associate Director of the CSDEE, worked

with researchers across OSU's campus to develop a National Science Foundation proposal entitled *Food, Energy, and Water for the Future: Innovative Technology and its Influence on Agriculture and Perceptions of Produced Water Reuse*.

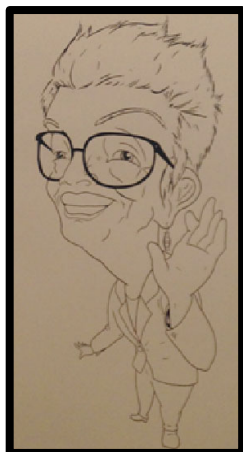
The Center is also involved in two out of four of OSU's "HIBAR" initiatives, designed to promote Highly Integrated Basic and Applied Research with on-campus researchers, as well as with external researchers and business and industries from around the state, the region, and the country.

Through the efforts of Drs. Gill and Ritchie, the Center has been active in public engagement. Dr. Ritchie is a member of the Disaster Resilience Network (DRN), a non-profit organization based in Tulsa with a goal of enhancing disaster resilience throughout the state. Dr. Gill is a member of the Disaster Resilient Business Council, a part of the DRN dedicated to helping small businesses throughout the state prepare for hazards and disasters.



Recent flooding and severe weather in Stillwater, Oklahoma underscores the need for research on disasters and extreme events, especially projects that can help communities effectively prepare and respond.

## Faculty and Staff Retirements



**Helen Clements** retired from Oklahoma State University in Fall 2018 after a long and distinguished career as Reference Librarian in the Research and Learning Services Division. Helen was a tireless advocate of our faculty and students, serving as our department liaison for many years. The Oklahoma Library Association described her as “an inspiration and a mentor to many librarians and library leaders across the state.” Throughout her distinguished career, Helen served in numerous leadership roles in organizations such as the Oklahoma Library Association, The Oklahoma Chapter of the Association of Research and College Libraries (serving as Board President from 2004–2006), and the American Library Association. In recognition of her outstanding career, Helen was given the Distinguished Service Award in 2017, the highest honor given by the Oklahoma Library Association.



**Ken Kiser**, Professor of Sociology, is retiring from the Department of Sociology this summer after nearly fifty years at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Kiser earned his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University and joined our department in 1970. His teaching and research centers on two primary areas: organizational change and the relationship between work and family in contemporary American society. In addition to authoring two books with Marshall Sashkin—*Total Quality Management* and *Putting Total Quality Management to Work*—Dr. Kiser has conducted field research and consulted with private and public sector organizations for over 20 years. He is also a beloved teacher. His students describe him as an enthusiastic and entertaining Professor who pushes them to engage with course ideas. Years later, one student shared that they “still refer to some of the incredible debates that were had in his class.”



**Dahlia Molloy** will be retiring from OSU after an almost 30 year career as the Sociology department’s Academic Advisor. Since beginning her advising career in August 1989, Dahlia has received multiple awards for her work at OSU, taught and mentored hundreds of students in Applied Sociology and Sociology Intro courses, and coached multiple award winning OSU undergraduate teams at annual Association for Applied & Clinical Sociology conferences. Dahlia has left a strong impression on her students and colleagues, impacting their careers and lives in countless ways. As one student recalled, “It takes a special person to not only care about the students while they are there, but also long after they are gone. I wouldn’t be where I am today” without Dahlia’s guidance. Her outstanding teaching contributions, thankfully, will continue because she plans to teach even in retirement!



## and Other Transitions



**Sharon Bird** has accepted a new position as Professor of Anthropology and Sociology and Director of the Center for Women's and Gender Studies at West Virginia University. Dr. Bird has served as Department Head since joining our faculty in 2015. Her current research examines institutions of higher education and initiatives for enhancing the recruitment and advancement of women and underrepresented minority faculty and students in STEM fields. We are incredibly thankful for her service to the department and wish her luck in her new position!



**Corinne Schwartz** will be joining the OSU faculty in Fall 2019 in Sociology and Gender and Women's Studies. Dr. Schwartz earned her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Marquette University. Her interdisciplinary research focuses on the relationships between identity, policy, geography, and advocacy with respect to sex and labor trafficking.



Students, staff and faculty from Sociology and from across campus gathered with Helen in October 2018 to recognize her many contributions over the years and to help celebrate her retirement.





# John Alberts Named Distinguished Alum-



**John Alberts** was inducted into the College of Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame in September, the highest honor the college bestows upon its alumni. Each of the 22 Distinguished Alumni recipients “demonstrated excellence and leadership in their careers and made significant contributions through distinguished

service.” Sociology’s Distinguished Alumnus, John Alberts, earned his B.S. degree in 1987, and then attended law school at Oklahoma City University.

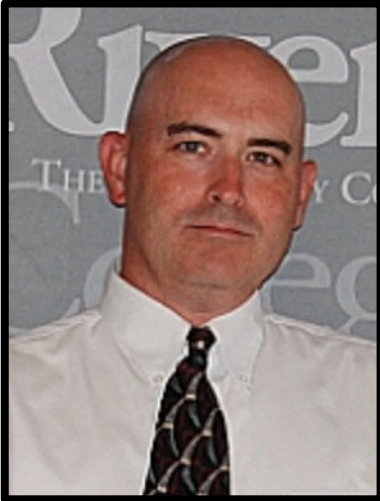
He began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Kay County, Oklahoma before starting a private practice in the Oklahoma City area. In addition to practicing law for over 25 years, John served as Mayor of Yukon, Oklahoma and is a current member of the Yukon City Council. He and his wife Carla enjoy spending time at their family farm and cheering for the OSU Cowboys and Oklahoma City Thunder.



**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](mailto:deborah.s.sweet@okstate.edu)  
or by calling us at (405) 744-6105.

## Catching Up with Alumni



This year, we're proud to highlight **Shawn Westbrooks**, one of our alumni. Shawn has been a commissioned law enforcement officer for 26 years and has instructed at the college level for 15 years. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education

at OSU in 1993 and a Master's Degree in Corrections at OSU in 1996. Shawn began his career in law enforcement as a deputy sheriff for the Haskell County Sheriff's Department in Stigler, OK. He then served as a probation and parole officer for the Department of Corrections from 1995 until 2000, based out of Stillwater and Perry. From 2000—2004 Shawn was a

traffic accident investigator with the Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Police Department.

In 2004, Shawn joined Three Rivers College in Poplar Bluff, Missouri as a criminal justice instructor, and also served as chief of police for the campus police department at one time during his career at Three Rivers College. Shawn is now the program manager and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Three Rivers, where he continues to hold a commission with the Poplar Bluff Police Department. Given his focus on his students, he holds adjunct professorships at both Central Methodist University and Hannibal-LaGrange University. These university partnerships allow his students to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice while remaining at the Three Rivers College Poplar Bluff campus.

Shawn and his wife, Janice, own a farm in Ripley County, Missouri, where they are homeschooling their six children.



OSU Sociology alum **Gabe Lowe** visited Dahlia Molloy's *Applied Sociology* class to talk about his work as Director of Youth Development at [Youth Services of Tulsa](#).



## 2018 Graduate Degree Recipients — Where are they now?



**Chelsea Bullard** earned her PhD in December 2018. Her dissertation, *Mental Health Courts: A Theory-Driven Program Evaluation* was chaired by Dr. Kelley Sittner. Dr. Bullard currently works as an adjunct professor in Sociology at OSU-Tulsa and in the School of Forensic Sciences at OSU-CHS. She is currently applying for funding to evaluate offender reentry initiatives and is advancing publications from her time in graduate school. Chelsea has thoroughly enjoyed catching up on sleep, remodeling her house with her husband Luke, and actually seeing the sun since graduating!



**Jake DeFlich** earned his Masters degree in Spring 2018. His thesis, *Twitter Narratives During Hurricane Matthew: Evaluation of Immediate Disaster Stages* (chaired by Dr. Duane Gill) helped prepare him for his current job as a meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Seattle, Washington. Aside from daily forecasting for both aviation and marine purposes, Jake researches and identifies practices to build engagement with community partners and the public through social media, providing foundational knowledge of how to use social media during large events.



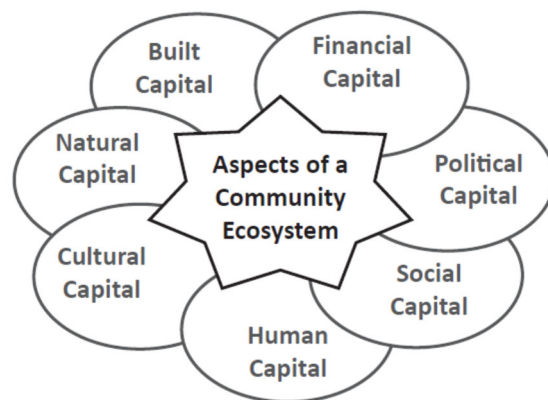
**Dakota Raynes** earned their PhD in December 2018. Their dissertation, *They Underestimate the Persistence of Our Red Dirt Resistance: Community Responses to Technological Risks in Oklahoma's Oil and Gas Plays*, examined how people understand emergent technological risks (such as injection-induced earthquakes), how those risks affect their everyday lives, and why some engage in anti-fracking social movement activities. Dr. Raynes is writing several articles from their dissertation data and have opened a new line of research into the resurgence of white nationalist/supremacist organizations and free speech issues. Dr. Raynes is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at OSU.



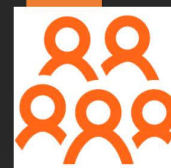


# Research Week 2019: Sociologists share their expertise

**Drs. Cornelia Flora and Jan Flora** visited OSU in February as part of the Bradford Gray Lecture Series. Cornelia (Neal) is the Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University. Jan Flora is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Iowa State University. The Floras are well-known for their community capitals framework, which allows researchers and practitioners to understand the impact of policies/practices by analyzing a community's investment in seven different types of capital. They have studied rural development in Spain, Uruguay, Peru, and other communities around the world. Their talk, "Community Capitals in the US in 2019: Polanyi, Neo-liberalism and Our Common Wealth," was also the keynote address for the *Sociology Research Symposium*, organized by the Sociology Graduate Student Association.



OSU RESEARCH WEEK: 2019 Bradford Gray Lecture in Sociology



OSU Department of  
Sociology

**"Community Capitals in the US in 2019: Polanyi,  
Neo-liberalism and Our Common Wealth"**

**Cornelia Flora and Jan Flora**



The Department of Sociology also collaborated with OSU Women's Faculty Council and others to bring **Dr. Rebecca L. Sandefur** to campus. A native Oklahoman, Dr. Sandefur is Associate Professor of Sociology and Law at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Faculty Fellow at the American Bar Foundation. She studies access to civil justice from all angles—from how ordinary people think about their justice problems to the relative efficacy of lawyers, non-lawyers, and digital tools in resolving legal issues. Dr. Sandefur received a 2018 MacArthur Fellowship, commonly known as a "genius grant," to fund her efforts to "bring new attention and new energy to solving what has been so far an intractable problem, the critical issue of access to civil justice."

# Graduate Student



Ph.D. graduate student **Christine Thomas** traveled all over the United States presenting her work on Native American Boarding Schools. She's pictured here in Carlisle, Pennsylvania at the first conference of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition where she gave a presentation entitled "Expanding the Circle: Evaluating Trauma from Childhood to Childhood." Christine has also been working with a tribe in Oklahoma to develop an appropriate suicide prevention program.

In Fall 2018, **Srijana Karki** participated in a series of Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competitions at OSU. She placed 2nd in the College of Arts and Sciences 3MT Finals and received the People's Choice Award for her presentation titled, "Menstrual Practices in Kathmandu, Nepal: From Mechanism of Control to Source of Liberation."



she placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Right, she is pictured with Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Jeannette Mendez. Srijana is also the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the International Sociology Honor Society *Alpha Kappa Delta* graduate paper competition for her paper, "Nepali and Indian Media Coverage of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake."



College of Arts & Sciences  
Three Minute Thesis



**Martha Sibley**, Ph.D. student, represented OSU at the February Sea Grant Workshop in Anchorage, Alaska. The workshop focused on Setting Priorities for Health, Social, and Economic Disruptions from Oil Spills. Martha's work provided a foundation for this series of five Workshops, which are being held in coastal communities around the United States.



# Presentations

## Recent Presentations (July 2018—Present)

- |                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Zachary Carlisle</b>   | "Hidden in Plain Sight: Men's Lived Experiences with Sexual Violence on College Campuses." 2019 Research Week: <i>Sociology Research Symposium</i> , Stillwater, OK.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Maggie Chamberlain</b> | "Are Global Neighborhoods in Houston Less Polluted? A Preliminary Analysis." 2018 <i>Race, Ethnicity, and Place</i> Conference. Austin, TX.<br>"Student Social Movement Groups, Social Media Use, and Employment of an Intersectional Frame" (with Tamara Mix). 2019 <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Jamie Du</b>           | "Environmental Justice Studies in the U.S. and China—Can we apply U.S. research frameworks to China?" 2019 <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Srijana Karki</b>      | "Nepali and Indian Media Coverage of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake" 2019 <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Jericho R. McElroy</b> | "Adderall in Every Hall: Integrating Criminological and Gender Theories to Explain Undergraduate Misuse." 2019 Research Week: <i>Sociology Research Symposium</i> , Stillwater, OK.<br>"Adderall in Every Hall: Assessing the Prevalence of Adderall Prescription Misuse among Undergraduate Students" (with S. Huss, J. E. Stobaugh, & J. Ulsperger). 2018 <i>48<sup>th</sup> Annual Arkansas Sociology and Anthropology Association</i> , Conway, AR.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Grisha Rawal</b>       | "Understanding Pro-Environmental Behavior of Local Stakeholders in the Mount Everest Base camp Region." Fall 2018 Community Meetings in Namche Bazaar, Nepal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Adam Straub</b>        | "Cultivating Disaster Resilience in Rural Oklahoma: Community Disenfranchisement and Relational Aspects of Social Capital" (with B.J. Gray, Liesel A. Ritchie, and Duane A. Gill). 2019 <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Christine Thomas</b>   | "Examining American Indian Boarding Schools through the Lens of TribalCrit." 2019 <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.<br>"More than Mechanisms: Colonization's Enduring Influence on Indian Boarding Schools." 2019 The Newberry Consortium Center for American Indian Studies, Chicago, IL.<br>"Clueless: What Adults Just Don't Understand about Facilitating youth Focus Groups." 2018 <i>Native Connections</i> Regional Conference, Tulsa, OK.<br>"Expanding the Circle: Reframing the Lifespan of Trauma from Childhood to Childhood." 2018 National Native American Boarding School Healing Conference, Carlisle, PA. |



# Graduate Student



**Maggie Chamberlain**, Ph.D. student, attended a workshop at the Disaster Research Center at the University of Delaware as a Bill Anderson Fund (BAF) fellow in October 2018. The BAF was created to honor William Averette (Bill) Anderson, who studied the causes and consequences of hazards and “the extent to which marginalized groups are among those who suffer the worst consequences when disasters do strike.” In recognition of her BAF honor, Maggie was featured in the College of Arts and Sciences' Student Spotlight!

## Fellowships and Awards

<b>S M Asger Ali</b>	2018. 3MT Participation Award, Oklahoma State University (\$100) 2018-19. BAF Fellow, William Averette Anderson Fund
<b>Maggie Chamberlain</b>	2018. Dave and Louise Maher Scholarship Oklahoma State Doel Reed Center for the Arts Award (\$1250) 2019. AKD Travel Grant Award (\$400)
<b>Leah Cortez</b>	2019. O.D. Duncan Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Dept. of Sociology
<b>Jamie Du</b>	2019. Sarah Belusko Award, OSU Department of Sociology
<b>Michelle Estes</b>	2019. Richard Dodder Award, OSU Department of Sociology
<b>Srijana Karki</b>	2019. Alpha Kappa Delta Graduate Paper Competition, Third Place Winner (\$100 + \$1,000 travel) 2019. Society for Menstrual Cycle Research Conference Travel Award (\$300) 2018. 3MT University Finals, Third Place, Oklahoma State University 2018. 3MT Finals College of Arts and Sciences, Second Place 2018. 3MT Finals College of Arts and Sciences, People’s Choice Awards
<b>Jericho McElroy</b>	2019. Sarah Belusko Award, OSU Department of Sociology
<b>Adam Straub</b>	2019. AKD Travel Grant Award (\$400)



# Accomplishments



Ph.D. student **Jericho McElroy** was the co-recipient of the 2019 Sarah Belusko Award. In memory of Ph.D. student Sarah Belusko, the award represents commitment to community, engagement with innovative classroom strategies, and the pursuit of creative research endeavors. Jericho brought public sociology and social activism to his *Social Problems* classroom by working with students to craft letters to a Member of Congress (MOC). As Jericho explained, “This course strikes me as the perfect environment for introducing critical thinking as well as providing an actual opportunity to possibly incite social change.”

Students selected from four major topics discussed in class: poverty, immigration, incarceration, and prescription drug misuse. Students were also tasked with identifying five references to help them frame and strengthen their letter to an Oklahoma representative. Asking students to select their own topic helped to more directly connect them to the issues. Jericho said, “The four topics I selected gave students a bit of flexibility in what they wanted to bring to the attention of an MOC based on what interested them most this semester, but remained narrow enough that several similar letters

were sent to the same MOC.” Jericho was pleased to share that “Students are much more eager about this opportunity to have their voices heard than I ever expected when I developed the assignment!”

## Publications

### Srijana Karki

Karki, Srijana and Tamara L. Mix. *Forthcoming*. “My Family are Supportive... But People in My Village Mock Me’: Bonding and Bridging Capital among Women Pursuing Secondary Education in Kathmandu, Nepal.” *Sociological Perspectives*.

### Destinee McCollum

Fullerton, Andrew S., Destinee B. McCollum, Jeffrey C. Dixon and Kathryn Freeman Anderson. *Forthcoming*. “Job Insecurity Inequality and the Relationship between Precarious Work and Self-Rated Health in Europe.” *The Sociological Quarterly*.

Dixon, Jeffrey C., Destinee B. McCollum, and Andrew S. Fullerton. 2018. “Who is a Part-Time Worker around the World and Why Does It Matter? Examining the Quality of Employment Measures and Workers’ Perceived Job Quality.” *Sociological Spectrum* 38(1): 1-23.

### Jericho R. McElroy

McElroy, Jericho R. *Forthcoming*. “Autoeroticism.” *Encyclopedia of Sex and Sexuality: Understanding Biology, Psychology, and Culture*, edited by H. Armstrong. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.



# Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees

In April 2019, six 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 improve the human condition. AKD now has over 130,000 lifetime members affiliated with more than 670 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:

**Asger Ali, Madeline Bostic, Dhruva Sinha, Elizabeth Hall,  
Adam M. Straub, and Katherine Henry**



New members Dhruva Sinha (left), Asger Ali (center left), and Adam Straub (right) receive their new member certificates from *Alpha Kappa Delta* faculty advisor, Dr. Jonathan Coley (center right) at the 2019 Induction Ceremony.



# Undergraduate Student Awards

**O.D. Duncan Award**

**Elizabeth Rodman & Kristen Ball**

**Richard Dodder Award**

**Kiera Jackson**

**Mabel Dixon Looper Award**

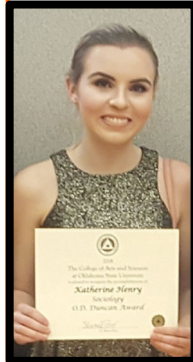
**Leigh Welch**

**Benjamin Gregory Wood Award**

**Carol Kennedy & Chloe Cavins**

**Outstanding Senior Award**

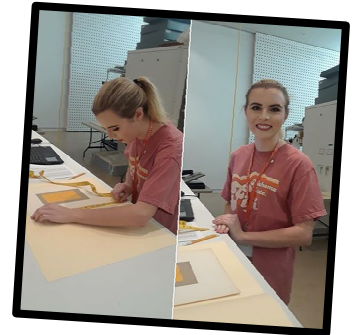
**Katherine Henry**



Sociology and Geography major

**Katherine Henry** received the

2019 Outstanding Senior Award, the most prestigious award given by the Department of Sociology. She previously received the O.D. Duncan Award (2018), the Mabel Dixon Looper Award (2017), and several other OSU awards and scholarships. Katherine completed internships at the OSU Museum of Art (pictured above), the Stillwater History Museum at the Sheerar, and at the mining company Freeport-McMoran. She also spent two months in Muscat, Oman studying Arabic on a state department scholarship.



Leigh Welch accepts the Mabel Dixon Looper Award from Department Head, Sharon Bird.



Kiera Jackson (Richard Dodder Award winner), Kristen Ball and Elizabeth Rodman (O.D. Duncan Award winners), and Carol Kennedy (Benjamin Gregory Wood Award winner) celebrate at the CAS Awards Banquet with Interim Dean Jeanette Mendez.



O.D. Duncan Award winner, Kristen Ball (back row, second from the left) was also named one of the Top 10 Seniors at the annual College of Arts and Sciences Awards Banquet.

# Client Problem Solving Competition



Department of Sociology Academic Advisor, Dahlia Molloy traveled to Norfolk, Virginia with three OSU students to compete in the [Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology's Client Problem Solving Competition](#). This year's team—Hallie Mitchek, Laura Stephenson, and Kiera Jackson—competed to offer the best sociological solution for an issue facing [REACH](#), a local organization that works to improve literacy and education for children, especially those living in poverty. Volunteers for REACH read, craft, and donate books to children in homeless and domestic violence shelters. Students in the Client Problem Solving Competition have two days to use their sociological tools to address how REACH can increase the number and amount of donations, paying particular attention to patterns of giving from donors of different generations.





# Meet our Undergraduates!

Fall 2018



Spring 2019



Graduating seniors and members of the Department of Sociology pose with Warren and Lori Coomber (center), the parents of Janelle Coomber (pictured below) who posthumously received her B.S. degree in Sociology.



Sociology Club officers Katy Hites (President), Austin Sensintaffer (Treasurer), and Dylan Sears (Vice President) hosted a Department of Sociology bowling night in April.



**GIVE  
NOW**

**Contact Us:**

Department of Sociology

Oklahoma State University

431 Murray

Stillwater, OK 74078-4062

(405) 744-6105 Office

(405) 744-5780 FAX