

Section on Mental Health

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Message from Newsletter Editor

From the Chair's Desk: Robin Simon, Wake Forest University



Greetings and welcome to the last Mental Health Section Newsletter before heading off to the ASA's! I hope everyone is having a great summer and look forward to seeing you all in Seattle.

In addition to details about the program for Mental Health Section Day, this newsletter contains information about other items of interest – including call for papers, profiles of graduate student on the market, details about mental health paper sessions at the annual SSSP meetings and the regular mental health paper sessions at ASA as well as our joint reception with medical sociology.

Since this is my final newsletter before passing the gavel to incoming Chair Kristi Williams at the close of the 2016 meetings, I want to take this opportunity to reiterate what I see as our major challenge as well as some exciting opportunities for you and the section as we move forward.

Declining Student Membership

As I mentioned in previous newsletters, student membership has been steadily declining over the past several years. Why is this a concern? The number of section-sponsored sessions we get each year from ASA is based entirely on membership and we will continue to have two paper sessions as long as we meet the 300-member requirement; if we are below 300 members in any given year, we will only receive one session for the following year's meetings. The great news is that the most recent membership report from July indicates that we currently have 296 members; we're just four members shy of securing two paper sessions for the 2017 meetings in Montreal.

The not so great news is that we only have 63 student members (which represents slightly over one-fifth of our total membership) so we clearly have to do a better job recruiting graduate students to the section. Justin Lini at ASA informed me that sections with less than one-third student members tend to have a difficult time sustaining and growing membership over a long period of time.

From the Chair's Desk (continued)

With this in mind, please remember that the gift of student membership is an excellent way to not only maintain our membership at 300 but get the next generation of mental health scholars involved in the section.

ASA has streamlined the process of making a tax-deductible gift and it's easy to use. As Chair of the Membership Committee, Stephanie Hartwell will talk about her ideas for increasing membership at the business meeting and we welcome your ideas as well.

Reinvigorating the Mentoring Program please

In recent e-mail discussions with both current and in-coming council members, I learned that several people would be happy to serve as mentors for junior members of the section; our student-council members also assured me that graduate students (and Assistant Professors) would benefit from being matched with a senior section member who could serve as a mentor. To this end, Kristi and I will solicit names of people who would like to be mentors and mentees at the close of the business meeting and we will do our best to match pairs based on their shared substantive interests after the meetings. Beyond having a senior scholar from whom they could get career and research advice, reinvigorating the mentoring program will hopefully help integrate junior people into the life of the section and may increase student membership down the road as well.

Consider Organizing a Special Topics Sessions for the 2018 Meetings

I also mentioned in earlier newsletters that special topics sessions are an excellent mechanism for our section to have additional time to share ideas about research, policy and/or grant writing in the

area of mental health. I encourage anyone interested in developing a special topics session for the 2018 meetings to talk with me about the process. The ASA Council approves all requests for these sessions and proposals must be submitted to ASA a year and a half before the intended meetings. Any section member may apply for one and each section is allowed up to two for a given year. If you have an idea for a special topics session for 2018, you should also touch base with Kristi since she will get the next call for proposals in January-February 2017.

Mental Health Section Day Events and Reception

Both the council and business meetings, the two section-sponsored paper sessions as well as our section's awards dinner will be on Mental Health Section Day, which falls on Sunday, August 21st. Consistent with previous years, the awards presentation and Pearlman Award Talk will be held during the 2-hour business meeting time slot. The awards presentation and Deb Umberson's talk, "*A Legacy of Loss: Race, Exposure to the Death of Family Members, and Mental Health*," are scheduled for 2:30-3:30pm; the business meeting will be held immediately after from 3:30-4:15pm. Keep in mind that our joint on-site reception with Medical Sociology will be at 6:30pm on *Monday, August 22nd*. I was involved in ordering the food, which will hopefully be both plentiful and good.

Section Officers and Council Members

Since this is my last newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our continuing officers and council members for the invisible yet time-consuming work that they did on behalf of the section while I was Chair. Robyn Brown, Andre Christie-Mizell and Stephanie Hartwell have been

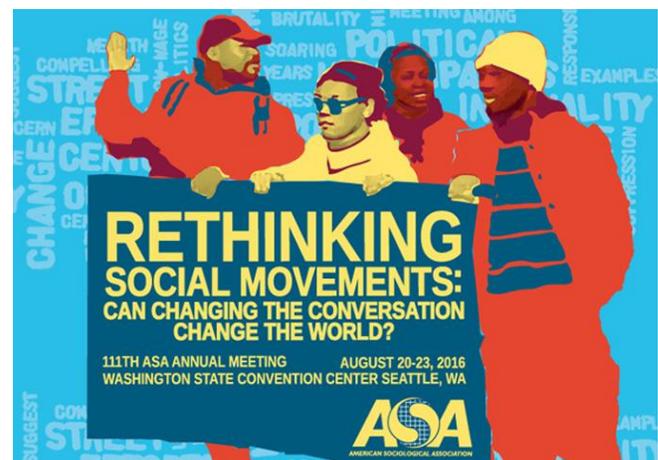
great additions to council. I'm especially grateful to Jason Schnittker for his work on the Awards Committee during the past three years (and for answering my many questions about section governance), Eric Wright for his tireless work as Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Adams for his stalwart efforts as Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, and last but not least, Elaine Wethington for her leadership as Editor of *Society and Mental Health* as well as her enthusiastic ideas for improving our section. Finally, I want to thank out-going officers and council members – including Bruce Link for his leadership as Awards Committee Chair, Bill Avison for his work as Nominations Committee Chair, and Mathew Grace for his service as Student Representative on Council.

Although they don't officially begin their respective terms until after the 2016 meetings, I welcome all in-coming officers and council members (including our next Chair Kristi Williams, Chair-Elect Scott Schieman, Awards Committee Chair Melissa Milke, Nominations Committee Chair Christina Falci, and Student-Representative William McConnell) to attend this year's council meeting that will be held bright and early Sunday morning. If you don't show up to the 7am meeting, I'll understand.

In closing, please continue to send me announcements for inclusion in my weekly e-mail blasts during the next couple of weeks and don't hesitate to e-mail me your suggestions for the section and/or topics you would think would be worthwhile to discuss at the business meeting. Your ideas for recruiting students to the section and reinvigorating the mentoring program are especially welcomed. At the close of the 2016 meetings, Kristi will take over the section's list-serve and she has some great ideas for increasing our presence on social

media in addition to other ideas for the future of the section, which by all accounts is doing well despite decreasing student membership. And lastly, thank you for the opportunity to serve our section as Chair this year.

See you in Seattle,
Robin Simon



**11th ASA Annual Meeting
August 20-23, 2016 | Seattle WA
Washington State Convention
Center**

MENTAL HEALTH SESSIONS

**Section Council Meeting:
Sunday, Aug 2, 7:00 am - 8:15 am**

**306 - Section on Sociology of Mental
Health Invited Session: Mental Health
Section Awards, Sunday, August 21, 2:30
to 3:30pm**

Pearlin Award Talk: Debora Umberson, A
Legacy of Loss: Race, Exposure to the Death
of Family Members, and Mental Health

306 - Section on Sociology of Mental Health Business Meeting, Sunday, August 21, 3:30 to 4:10pm

Joint Reception: Section on Medical Sociology; Section on Sociology of Mental Health, Monday, August 22, 6:30 to 8:00pm

Section Sessions

266 - Section on Sociology of Mental Health Paper Session. Social Inequalities and Mental Health, Sunday, August 21, 12:30 to 2:10pm

Organizer: Jennifer Caputo, Indiana University

Presider: Jennifer Caputo, Indiana University

Discrimination in a Mental Health Care Market: A Correspondence Audit Study, Heather Kugelmass, Princeton University

Physical-Psychiatric Comorbidity: Implications for Health Measurement and the Hispanic Epidemiological Paradox, Christy LaShaun Erving, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Postsecondary Education and Mental Health: Effects of Earned Credits versus Credentials, Anna Zajacova, University of Wyoming, and Sarah Burgard, University of Michigan

Status-based Stress Exposure and Well-being in the Legal Profession, Jonathan Tomas Koltai, University of Toronto, Scott Schieman, University of Toronto, and Ronit Dinovitzer, University of Toronto

The Harder They Fall? Sex and Race/Ethnic Specific Suicide Rates in the U.S. Foreclosure Crisis, Jason N. Houle, Dartmouth College, and Michael T. Light, Purdue University

230 - Section on Sociology of Mental Health Paper Session. Social Relationships and Mental Health, Sunday, August 21, 10:30am to 12:10pm

Organizer: Tetyana Pudrovska, University of Texas-Austin

The Emotional Cost of Distance: Geographic Social Network Dispersion and Distress among Survivors of Hurricane Katrina, Katherine Ann Morris, Harvard University, and Nicole Deterding, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Reproduction of Mental Health and Social Class through Parenting Behaviors, Dara Renee Shifrer, Portland State University and Heili Pals, Texas A&M University

Time Deficits with Children: The Relationship to Mothers' and Fathers' Mental and Physical Health, Melissa A. Milkie, University of Toronto

Under-rewarded Boss: Gender, Workplace Power, and the Distress of Perceived Pay Inequity, Scott Schieman, University of Toronto, and Atsushi Narisada, University of Toronto

Regular Sessions

145 - Regular Session. Mental Health: Social Antecedents, Saturday, August 20, 4:30 to 6:10pm

Organizer: Elbert P. Almazan, Central Michigan University

Presider: Fernando I. Rivera, University of Central Florida

Using the Stress Paradigm and Hispanic Health Paradox to Examine Psychological Distress among Different Latino Subgroups, Fernando I. Riveria, University of Central Florida, and Ethel G. Nicdao, University of the Pacific

The Role of Heteronormativity on Gender Differences in the Expression of Mental Health Problems, Elbert P. Almazan, Central Michigan University, and Michael C. Craw, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

99 Problems, Is Depression One? Examining the Effect of Incarceration History on Depressive Symptoms, Stacey Houston, Vanderbilt University

ADHD Labeling and Depression during the Transition to Adulthood, Lindsey Wilkinson, Portland State University, Hyeyoung Woo, Portland State University, and Melissa Thompson, Portland State University

Victims and Survivors of Sexual Assault: The Role of Identity in Distress and Well-being, Kaitlin M. Boyle, Virginia Tech

538 - Regular Session. Mental Health: Social Consequences, Tuesday, August 23, 12:30 to 2:10pm

Organizer: Elbert P. Almazan, Central Michigan University

President: Sigrun Olafsdottir, University of Iceland

Seeing Professional Boundaries through Similar Eyes?, Sigrun Olafsdottir, University of Iceland

Contextualizing the Biological Turn: The Important Role of Belief Configurations for Mental Illness Stigma, Matthew Andersson, Yale University, and Sarah K. Harkness, The University of Iowa

Race and Gender: Exploring the Intersectionality of Mental Health Treatment Seeking Among Active Duty Military Personnel, Sean Matthew Vina, Indiana University Bloomington

Adolescents' Symptoms of Depression and Social Network Integration: Differences by Gender and Substance Use Status, Sonja Elayne Siennick, Florida State University, and Mark Feinberg, Pennsylvania State University

570 - Regular Session. Mental Health: Economic and Education Antecedents, Tuesday, August 23, 2:30 to 4:10pm

Organizer: Elbert P. Almazan, Central Michigan University

President: Lindsay R. Wilkinson, Baylor University

Financial Strain and Mental Health among Older Adults: Resilience During the Great

Recession?, Lindsay R. Wilkinson, Baylor University, Bethany Smith, Baylor University, and Jeffrey A Tamburello, Baylor University

Perceived Purchases: The Effects of Financial Strain on Depressive Symptoms in Early Adulthood, Ashleigh Rene Hope, Vanderbilt University

A New Perspective on Maternal Employment and Child Mental Health: A Cautionary Tale, Blair Wheaton, University of Toronto, and Patricia Joy Louie, University of Toronto

The Buffering Role of the Welfare State on SES differences in Depression, Matthew Parbst, University of Toronto, and Blair Wheaton, University of Toronto

Academic Marginalization in High School as a Predictor of Depressive Symptoms in Midlife, Tim Werwath, University of Texas at Austin, and Chandra Muller, University of Texas

Other Meetings:

[The Society for the Study of Social Problems, 66th Annual Meeting, August 19-21, 2016, Westin Seattle Hotel, Seattle, WA](#)

Session 13: Immigration and Mental Health, Friday, August 19, 8:30am-10:10am

Session 25: Health and Well-Being across the Life Course, Friday, August 19, 10:30am-12:10pm

Session 53: Age and Mental Health, August 19, 4:30-6:10

Session 96: Drugs, Mental Health and Stigma, Saturday, August 20, 12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 150: The Dark Side of Religion, Sunday, August 21, 12:30pm-2:10pm

Session 160: Crime and Mental Health, Sunday, August 21, 2:30-4:10

[The Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction \(SSSI\) Annual Conference, August 19-21, 2016, W Hotel, Seattle WA.](#)

Sheldon Stryker

IU's Department of Sociology is sponsoring an event at the ASA meetings in honor of Sheldon Stryker, who as most of you know passed away last spring. The event will take place in the Metropolitan Ballroom A-B, Third Floor at the Seattle Sheraton on Saturday, August 20 between 6:30 and 7:30 pm.

The event will begin with some comments by a few invited speakers, and then the floor will be opened for others who may want to give some brief comments.

2016 Election Results**Chair-Elect:**

Scott Schieman, University of Toronto

Nominations Committee Chair:

Christina Falci, University of Nebraska

Awards Committee Chair:

Melissa Milkie, University of Toronto

Council - Student Member:

Will McConnell, Indiana University

Bylaws Amendment: Approved**Graduate Students on the Job Market**

Mariana Craciun
Postdoctoral Fellow
Science in Human
Culture and
Sociology
Northwestern
University

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Dissertation: Embodied Expertise: The Science and Affect of Psychotherapy

Mariana Craciun is an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at Northwestern University in the

Science in Human Culture Program and the Department of Sociology. She obtained her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Drawing on ethnographic, interview, and document-based methods, her work examines the construction and legitimation of knowledge in the field of mental health. Her dissertation was a comparison of psychoanalytic approaches with those identified as "evidence-based," such as cognitive behavioral, interpersonal, and dialectical behavioral. Over a period of eighteen months, she observed the talk therapeutic training that psychiatry residents, psychologists, and social workers received at an outpatient mental health clinic. Additionally, she conducted sixty interviews with practitioners of various talk therapeutic orientations. Three articles based on this research are in the process of publication. The first draws on a comparison of psychoanalytic and cognitive behavioral practices to elaborate a theoretical framework that better accounts for emotions in expert work. The second article, conditionally accepted at Qualitative Sociology, focuses on the role of time in medical practice and shows that the relationship between the temporal frames characteristic of different therapeutic orientations and clinicians' time-bound understandings of illness is mediated by patients' own time work. A third article, forthcoming at Theory and Society, focuses on the cultural practices by which professionals maintain institutionalized charisma.

Craciun is currently working on a book project, tentatively titled Chasing Freud's Dream: Science and Emotion in Psychotherapy. This work brings together her existing ethnographic and interview data with new research on changing notions of "evidence" in the field of mental health. The project is organized around two complementary questions: first, how did methods for establishing the efficacy of pharmaceutical interventions, namely

randomized controlled trials, come to characterize research about the efficacy of talk therapy? and second, how has this regime of evidence impacted clinical work with patients? The book captures psychotherapy in a contested moment, as cognitive and behavioral approaches establish themselves as “scientific” and “evidence-based” while psychoanalytic clinicians attempt to align with evidence-based medicine and neuroscience. It demonstrates that psychoanalytic ideas and practices, though disavowed by devotees of evidence-based interventions, continue to hold sway as clinicians face the challenges of understanding and treating their patients’ ever-elusive problems.



Matthew Grace
Indiana University

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Dissertation Title: Fractures in the Medical Education Pipeline: The Social Determinants of Program Attrition Among Early Career Premedical Students

I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at Indiana University. My teaching and research interests include medical sociology, the sociology of mental health, social networks, aging and the life course, and quantitative methods. My research centers on stratification processes that unfold within the contexts of medical education and medical practice. My dissertation examines whether and how social resources—including egocentric social networks, social support, and network-based social capital—contribute to patterns of mental health and attrition among early career premedical students. I use both quantitative and qualitative data

collected from freshman and sophomore premedical students at a large, public, Midwestern University to interrogate these issues. Longitudinal analyses indicate that a variety of financial, interpersonal, and academic stressors intensify premedical students’ experiences of psychological distress and burnout. These deleterious mental health outcomes, in turn, exacerbate the likelihood that respondents will depart from the premedical track. Contrary to study expectations, with the exception of increasing premedical homophily (i.e., egocentric networks with a higher proportion of premedical peers over time), no other social relationship measure operates directly on premedical attrition. Rather, changes in social network composition reduce premedical attrition by moderating the negative consequences that distress and burnout pose for premedical attrition.

In another line of research, my co-author Jane VanHeuvelen and I focus on the mental health of healthcare workers. Our article, “Ties Received, Support Perceived: A Test of the Theorized Relationships among Workplace Networks, Social Support, and Mental Health in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU),” published in *Society and Mental Health*, examines the relationships among workplace networks, social support, and mental health. In a second article (under review), we explore whether and how variation in occupational status among healthcare workers in the NICU translates into discrepancies in emotional labor and experiences of burnout.

I am also dedicated to teaching and have had the opportunity to teach several courses at the undergraduate level at IU including introductory sociology, medical sociology, and the sociology of mental health and illness. Currently, I am serving as the student representative for the ASA Section on the Sociology of Mental Health

ANNOUNCEMENTS**New Book**

Dawn Norris, Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of Wisconsin- La Crosse, published her book *Job Loss, Identity, and Mental Health* with Rutgers University Press in June 2016. A brief description of the book:

Our jobs are often a big part of our identities, and when we are fired we can feel confused, hurt, and powerless—at sea in terms of who we are. Drawing on extensive, real-life interviews, *Job Loss, Identity, and Mental Health* shines a light on the experiences of unemployed, middle-class professional men and women, showing how job loss can affect both identity and mental health, and illustrating the social factors that facilitate or constrain various coping strategies

Awards

Dawn Norris, Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of Wisconsin- La Crosse, received the university's College of Liberal Studies Research Excellence Award in Spring 2016

Call for Papers

Call for Papers: Volume 14: e-Health: Current Evidence, Promises, Perils, and Future Directions Editors: Timothy M. Hale, Wen-Ying Sylvia Chou, and Shelia R. Cotten
Emerald Studies in Media and Communications is inviting submissions of original, unpublished papers for Volume 14 on eHealth. The volume will be published in December 2017. The submission deadline is November 15, 2016.

Contributions will be peer-reviewed through editorial screening and anonymous refereeing by external reviewers.

For more information, please email: ehhealth@emeraldmediastudies.com or see the series' submissions page at

<http://www.emeraldmediastudies.com/Guidelines.html>.

Call for Papers: Methodological Advances in the Study of Health and Health Care of LGBT Populations. Deadline: December 31, 2016.

New, open access journal, *Social Sciences*, has a call for papers on a special issue on the methodological advances in the study of health and health care of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) populations. For the past ten years, large, representative health surveys in the United States have included sexual orientation and gender identity questions. This Special Issue focuses on empirical and methodological papers that use LGBT samples from large, representative health surveys.

Studies using representative samples of LGBT populations from local and national health surveys are welcomed. Papers can be of any length and should be written in a nontechnical style that can be read by a broad audience. The deadline for this special issue is December 31st, 2016. Open access publication fees are waived for papers submitted by the deadline. Information on manuscript submission is at <http://www.mdpi.com/journal/socsci/specialissues/LGBTpopulations>

Any questions can be directed to the guest editor, Dr. Elbert P. Almazan (Central Michigan University, USA) at almazlep@cmich.edu

Call for papers for Volume 35 of *Research in the Sociology of Health Care*, now published by Emerald Press. The major themes for this volume are Health and Health Care Concern among Women and Racial and Ethnic Minorities.

Papers dealing with macro-level system issues and micro-level issues involving health and health care concerns for women, and racial and ethnic minorities are sought. This includes examination of health and

health care issues of patients or of providers of care especially those related to concerns for women and for racial and ethnic minorities in different countries, including but not limited to the United States. Papers that focus on linkages to policy, population concerns and either patients or providers of care as ways to meet health care needs of people both in the US and in other countries are solicited.

The volume will contain 10 to 14 papers, generally between 20 and 35 pages in length. Send completed manuscripts or close to completed papers for review by February 1, 2017. For an initial indication of interest in outlines or abstracts, please contact the same address no later than November 15, 2016. Early inquiries by email are encouraged. Please email Jennie Jacobs Kronenfeld, Professor Emerita, Sociology Program, Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics, Arizona State University, phone 480 991-3920; E-mail, Jennie.Kronenfeld@asu.edu. Initial inquiries and can occur as soon as this announcement is available.

From the Newsletter Editor

I continue to remind everyone to please send me information about your activities that you would like to share with section members. Please put "newsletter" in the title of the email.

Here is a partial list of other possible contributions for future newsletters:

- Upcoming conferences, calls for papers, grant opportunities or special issues of journals.
- Newly published books by section members. Please include publication date and publisher information.
- Graduate or post-doctoral students on the market and would like to be profiled. Please send your picture, title of your dissertation, email address,**

affiliation, and a brief statement of your work (200-300 words).

- Congratulatory information (e.g., promotions, new jobs, awards, honors, grants).
- Short articles on topics that cross boundaries with other sections, such as animal-human interactions and mental health. We ask that you keep submissions brief (no more than 500 words).
- Descriptions of class activities/books/films for use in undergraduate sociology of mental health and illness classes or general tips and strategies for teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate level.

Don't forget to look at other Associations for conference presentations:

[Society for the Study of Social Problems](#)

[American Public Health Association](#)

[AcademyHealth](#)

If there are other venues where sociologists can present their work, please let me know.

Please visit the Section's website for resources and links to graduate programs focusing on mental health and illness.

The next Newsletter will come out this Fall about six weeks after the meetings in Seattle. It is a perfect place for graduate student profiles for those of you on the job market.

Finally, I want to express my sadness over the death of Sheldon Stryker. He was the Chair of my Dissertation and was extremely supportive of me and my career efforts. A great mind and a big heart. I'll miss his mentorship, guidance, and friendship.

Thanks,
Richard

SMH

SOCIETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

[The Journal of the ASA Section on the Sociology of Mental Health](#)

Editor: Elaine Wethington, Cornell University
Past Editor William R. Avison, University of Western Ontario

Editorial Scope of SMH: Society and Mental Health publishes original articles that apply sociological concepts and methods to the understanding of the social origins of mental health and illness, the social consequences for persons with mental illness, and the organization and financing of mental health services and care. Its editorial policy favors manuscripts that advance the sociology of mental health and illness, stimulate further research, inform treatments and policy and reflect the diversity of interests of its readership.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically at
<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/smh>

For more information about the Journal go [here](#) or contact:

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